

# Oldentales



## Chinese New Year

(Year of the Tiger)

Oldenfeld Style (other wise known as Lion's Tourney)

February 8<sup>th</sup> ~ 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008

YMCA Camp Indian Springs: 238 Bloxham Cut-Off Road Crawfordville, FL 32327

[http://www.geocities.com/indigo\\_726/tourney2008/](http://www.geocities.com/indigo_726/tourney2008/)

### Co-Steward:

Lady Marie le Mains

Denise Chin

1827 Homewood Road

Tallahassee, FL 32303

850-491-9718 (before 9 pm)

sun204@hotmail.com

### Reservations:

Muirgein the Divided

Kelly Fountain

4174 Chelmsford Road

Tallahassee, FL 32309

850-228-3092

muirgein@gmail.com



### Site Fees:

Daytrip/One night: \$15

Two nights: \$25

Feast: \$10 (limit 40)

Non-members add \$3

Children 12 and under  
admitted free

Make checks payable to  
"SCA - Oldenfeld"

Site opens at 5 pm Friday and closes 11 am on Sunday

Reservations open from 5 pm February 8th and closes at 2 pm, February 9th

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

- Feb. 8-10: Chinese New Year (Lion's Tourney) (Oldenfeld)
- Feb. 15-17: 30th Anniversary Event (Starhaven)
- Mar. 9-16: Gulf Wars XVII King's Arrow Ranch (Lumberton, MS)
- Mar. 28-30: Spring Coronation (Camp Ocala)



*Society Seneschal Ruling regarding waivers  
(Cross-posted from various Trimaris boards, with the Kingdom Seneschal's permission)*

The Board upheld the ruling of the Society Seneschal that Any member of the SCA, Adult or Minor, who presents a membership card proving they have a valid waiver on file with the SCA, Inc., will not be required to sign a duplicate waiver at SCA functions.

This ruling is effective immediately.

How this affects Trimaris:

- Effective immediately NCR forms ARE NOT required to be signed unless the individual cannot provide a membership card proving that they have a valid waiver on file with the SCA, Inc. (currently a BLUE membership card).
- Individuals working gate will NOT require anyone to sign the NCR form, but may remind the person that if they do not have proof a waiver on-file they will be required to come back to gate to sign the NCR form.



- Individuals working reservations ARE required to ensure that ALL members who cannot provide a membership card proving that they have a waiver on file with the SCA, Inc. (currently a blue membership card) have signed the NCR form. This may mean requiring the member to return to gate with the pink and goldenrod copies to match up with the white and yellow copies for their signature.

This is just a validation of the current policy effective in Trimaris.



*Medieval Archeology Volumes 1-50 available online*

This was posted online as message #9643 on the Oldenfeld list, for everyone's information:

[http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/library/med\\_arch/](http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/library/med_arch/)



## Taboos and Superstitions of Chinese New Year

### House Cleaning:

The entire house should be cleaned before New Year's Day, because on New Year's Eve, all cleaning equipment is put away; sweeping or dusting should not be done on New Year's Day, so that good fortune will not be swept away!

When you do clean, begin at the door, sweeping to the middle of a room, then place what you sweep in the corner and don't throw it out until the fifth day of the New Year. Don't step on it!

In sweeping, there is a superstition that if you sweep dirt out the door, you will sweep one of your family away. Also, sweeping dirt out of your house by the front entrance will sweep away your good fortune; it must always be swept into the center of the room, picked up and then carried out so no harm will follow. All dirt and garbage must be taken out the back door.

### Bringing In the New Year, Expelling the Old:

Shooting off firecrackers on New Year's Eve is the Chinese way of sending out the old year and welcoming in the New Year. On the stroke of midnight on New Year's Eve, every door and window in the house has to be open to allow the old year to go out.

### New Year Activities:

All debts must be paid by the end of the year. Nothing should be lent on New Year's Day, as anyone who does so will be lending all year long. Back when tinder and flint were commonly used, no one would lend them on this day or give a light to others.

Everyone should refrain from using foul language and bad or unlucky words.

Negative terms and the word "four" (Ssu), which sounds like the word for death, are not to be uttered.

Death and dying are never mentioned and ghost stories are totally taboo. References to the past year are also avoided as everything should be turned toward the New Year and a new beginning.

If you cry on New Year's day, you will cry all through the year; therefore, children are tolerated and are not spanked, even if they are mischievous.

### Personal Appearance/Cleanliness:

On New Year's Day, we are not to wash our hair, because it would mean we would have washed away good luck for the New Year.

Red clothing is preferred during this festive occasion; it is considered a bright, happy color, sure to bring the wearer a sunny and bright future. It is believed that appearance and attitude during New Year's sets the tone for the rest of the year.

Children and unmarried friends, as well as close relatives are given lai see - little red envelopes with crisp one dollar bills inserted, for good fortune.

### More New Year Superstitions:

- For the most superstitious, before leaving the house to visit others, the Almanac should be consulted to find the best time to leave the home and the route which is most efficient.
- The first person one meets and the first words heard are significant as to what your fortunes would be for the entire year. It is a lucky sign to see or hear songbirds or red-colored birds or swallows.
- It is considered unlucky to greet anyone in their bedroom; that is why everyone, even the sick, should get dressed and sit in the living room.
- Do not use knives or scissors on New Year's Day as this may cut off fortune.

Lady Marie LeMains

And

Chin Shen Manchu

While many Chinese people today may not believe in these do's and don'ts, these traditions and customs are still practiced. They are kept because most families realize that it is these very traditions, whether believed or not, that provide continuity with the past and provide the family with an identity.

Most of the dishes served during Chinese New Year (also known as Spring Festival) are symbolic of something positive and hopeful. Chicken and fish, for example, symbolize happiness and prosperity - especially when served whole.

Dishes made with oranges represent wealth and good fortune because they are China's most plentiful fruit. Noodles represent longevity; therefore, they should never be cut! Duck symbolizes fidelity, while eggs signify fertility. Bean curd or tofu, however, is avoided because its white color suggests death and misfortune.

Dishes are also chosen based on homonyms--words that either are spelled the same or sound the same as other words. Fish (*yu*) is served because it sounds similar to the Chinese word for plenty; whole fish represents abundance. Turnips are cooked because their name (*cai tou*) also means "good luck."

Another popular Chinese New Year dish is *jiaozi*, dumplings boiled in water. In some areas of China, coins are placed in the center of *jiaozi*. Whoever bites into one of these dumplings will have an exceptionally lucky year.

**gōng hè xīn xǐ** — Happy New Year!  
(Gong hey shin shee)

## Oldenfeld Baronial Officers:

Coronets:

Baron Cedric & Baroness Genvieve



Seneschal: THL Grainne ni  
Aileen O'Cearbhaille



Constable:  
Lord Miklos Vizjec



Hospitaler: Baron Simon  
Maurus



Minister of Children:  
Baron Simon Maurus



Herald:  
Mistress Mairi Ceilidh



Heavy Marshal:  
Lord Tallon



Rapier Marshal:  
Ld Lachlan MacPherson



Combat Archery Marshal:  
*vacant*



Art/Sci Minister:  
Lady Etain ingen Cathail



Exchequer:  
THL Theadora Perplexa



Chamberlain:  
Count Ardion Dochessford



Chronicler:  
Lord Miklos Vizjec



Historian: Lady Jeva



Librarian: Deredere ingen  
Donnchaid meic Cormaic



Webminister:  
Lady Etain ingen Cathail

**Serve your Barony!**

## Luttrell Psalter, The Movie

This was posted online as message #9664 on the Oldenfeld list, for everyone's information:

This is possibly the coolest thing I have ever seen. - Ceddie

<http://www.luttrellpsalter.org.uk/>

## Overheard at the Officer's Meeting...

Grainne: "Would the Baron or Baroness like to say anything?"

Cedric: "...Penis."

\*Group conversation regarding a restroom with no stall barriers\*

Tallon: "I don't want anyone looking at my 'procedures'."

Ardion: "I need a tool."

Everyone else: \*looks at each other and giggles\*

Grainne: "Tristan was sick all over the sofa last week. Twice."

Miklos, to everyone else: "Enjoy your chili!"

Sir Cedric the Just,  
Baron Oldenfeld

Lord Miklos  
Vizjec



## Barony Activities

The Barony of Oldenfeld holds business meetings on the first and third Thursdays of each month; these meetings are held at the:

### Palmer Monroe Community Center:

**1900 Jackson Bluff Rd. - Tallahassee, FL 32304 - (850) 891-3958**

We have fighter practices (rattan, rapier and combat archery) on Sundays at 11 AM on the FSU campus Landis Green, in front of the Library.

We have dance practice on Monday and Wednesday starting at 6:30 at Meyers Park, near Apalachee Parkway, along with an unofficial rapier practice.

On the first and third Tuesdays from 6:30 - 9:30 PM are shop nights at the home of Ed & Michelle Costello.; their home phone number is 878-7565. Shop night is a chance for everyone to work on projects like armor and sewing together.

When there is no shop night, we have music practice (vocal and instrumental) on Tuesdays, at the home of David & Mary Stevenson (850-893-2462).