



Full Tilt

BARONY OF DELFTWOOD June 2012 AS XLVII vol 23 no 2



Liverpool Library Demo
June 14th, 2012

Full Tilt

June AS XLVII (2012)

Vol. 23 No. 2

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Important Deadlines

Full Tilt - July

Submissions Due: July 6th

Æstel - August

Submissions Due: July 1st

Pennsic Pre-reg

Online: June 15th

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PUBLICATION:

The Full Tilt is published online every month except August, with an Arts & Sciences issue published once a year. It is available on the baronial website www.delftwood.org. Paper copies are available for those without internet access. Please contact the chronicler with an address to have a paper copy mailed to you.



SUBMISSIONS:

Any gentle wishing to submit articles, artwork, poetry, etc., to the Full Tilt are invited to do so. The Chronicler reserves the right to edit, refuse, or reprint any submissions. The submission deadline for the Full Tilt is the first Thursday of the month of publication.



CORRECTIONS:

If there are any corrections or changes on articles that need to be made, please contact the Chronicler.



BARONIAL DISCUSSION E-LIST:

To subscribe to the barony discussion e-list, send an email request to: webminister@delftwood.org.



BARONIAL WEB PAGE:

www.delftwood.org

Baronial Champions

ARCHERY:
Lord Andreas
Schmidt

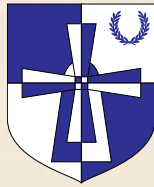
ARTS & SCIENCES:
Baroness
Clarice Roan

BARDIC:
Reinaldr bjór-tappr
(called Auld)

FENCING:
Matthew the Wrong

HEAVY WEAPONS:
Lord Marcus
Claudius
Cincinnatus

**THROWN
WEAPONS:**
Lord Vilhjálmr
Eðvarðarson



Letter from the Baronage



Greetings Unto Delftwood's Populace,
This past month we went to
Æthelmearc War Practice. We were
well represented by Lord Marcus, who
unfortunately became injured, and then by Earl Yngvar who
graciously stepped in to finish the tournament. Our thanks
and appreciation goes to both of our valiant fighters.

We also went to Melee Madness where there was
a large contingent from Delftwood. Much fun was had
doing the melees and then fighting over the barricade in
conjunction with the heavy fighters.

We have our own Tournament of the Windmill
coming up at the end of the month. We wish all the entrants
good luck and know that they will fight with honor.
Many hands make light work and as such, we encourage
everyone to check with Meisterin Felicity or Lord Fridrich
Flussmuellner to see what assistance they need.

We are in need of someone to step up and autocrat
the investiture of our heirs Don Fergus and Lady Helene
at the event closest to February 15, sometimes known as
Seven Deadlies.

This is shaping up to be a wonderful event filled
summer, we encourage everyone to get out and enjoy
themselves as much as possible.

In Service to the Dream,
Edward and Anastasie

Letter from the Chronicler

Greetings Delftwood!

The Full Tilt is in desperate need of artwork and photos! I know I've seen a lot of the populace taking pictures and drawing things at events, practices and meetings - please send them in!

Delftwood's history is back in it's box, and in its stead, is a new series! Lade Helene's Garden, will chronicle her medieval herb garden every month from tilling to harvesting.

I am now accepting articles for September's Arts & Science Issue. Got a project that you are working on? Write up an article and send it in! Got pictures of your project? Send them in!

Thank you to everyone who has sent in articles and photos. Keep them coming!

In Service,
Desiderata Drake



Liverpool Library Demo

Thursday, June 14th

Instead of A&S, we've been invited to do a Demo at Liverpool Public Library!

Time: 6:30-8:30pm

Set-up at 5:30

310 Tulip Street
Liverpool, NY 13088

All A&S and Martial arts welcome!

Contact Desi for more info: chatelaine@delftwood.org

Demo: ARISE & Ride at the Farm

Date: July 28, 2012 Time: 11 AM - 4 PM

Location: ARISE at the Farm, 1972 New Boston Road, Chittenango, NY 13037

Setup can be July 27, 2012 after 5 PM

For people not going to land grab weekend at Pennsic, we have a fantastic demo planned as part of the ARISE & Ride at the Farm event on July 28, 2012.

We will be part of the entertainment during the day.

We are looking for heavy fighters and fencers, and also people to demonstrate a gentle-arts. Day shades would be an awesome addition.

We're looking to have about 200 people stop by the Farm, so this is a great way to get our name out in the community.

Please contact Lady Helene at alZarqa@gmail.com if you can participate.

Tournament of the Windmill

Hosted by the Barony of Delftwood

Saturday, June 30th, 2012

Fighters of Aethelmearc!

The Barony of Delftwood invites you to join in their preparations for war on Saturday, June 30, 2012 with an entire day dedicated to heavy weapons fighting. Teams of five combatants should make ready to arrive on the shores of Lake Oneida to test their metal in the style of a German Tournament Association. If you do not come as a team, you will be able to assemble one that morning. There will be both team and individual formats featured throughout the day, as well as a tournament to choose the next Baronial Heavy Weapon Champion.

The event will take place at Saint Andrew's Camp, 1280 State Route 49 Cleveland, NY 13042 from 10am to 8pm. There will be an all-day dayboard of filling food to please a fighter's palette provided by Baroness Olivia d'Anjou (olivia1475@gmail.com), a chance to throw a friend (or foe) in the lake, and a bonfire to bring everyone together at the end of the day. All of this is included in the price of \$10 per adult, \$5 for children 5-14, children under 5 are free, and the non-member surcharge of \$5 applies. There is a family cap of \$30.

Reservations should be sent to:

SCA Inc, Barony of Delftwood

PO Box 6694

Syracuse, NY 13217

Please make checks payable to "SCA NY – Barony of Delftwood".

Questions should be directed to the event stewards: Meisterin Felicity Flussmuellnerin, mka Ciarrai Eaton, and Lord Fridrich Flussmuellner, mka Fred Eaton, 617 Beverly Drive, Syracuse, NY 13219 via email: felicity@faerhaga.org or shropcop@gmail.com or phone: 315-214-3405 (between noon and 9pm).

Directions:

From the East: Take I-90 West to exit 34 Canastota/Chittenango to NY 13 North. Take Route NY 13 North 10 miles to NY 49 West. Site is 8.4 miles on the left.

From the West: Take I-90 East to exit 36 to 81 North. Take exit 32 Central Square to NY 49 East. Site is 17 miles on the right.

From the North: Take 81 South to exit 32 Central Square to NY 49 East. Site is 17 miles on the right.

From the South: Take 81 North to exit 32 Central Square to NY 49 East. Site is 17 miles on the right.

Tentative Event Schedule:

10am – Gate Opens

11am – Inspections Begin

11:30am – Baronial Championship
run by Lord Marcus

FIRST COURSE OF FOOD

12pm –

German Tournament Begins

Multi-team Melee

Accuracy Round

Stamina Round

Three Man Melee – Shield and
Support

Kill the Hauptman

2:30pm –

SECOND COURSE OF FOOD

Allied Melee

Sword and Shield Round

Great Weapon Round

Spear Round

Barricade Round

Dagger Round

5pm –

THIRD COURSE OF FOOD

5:30pm –

Baronial Court and Awards

Bonfire to Follow

8pm – Site Closes

Save the Dates

A Shoot In The Wildewoods

August 31st – September 3rd

Wildwood Sports Center

5740 Fikes Rd, Memphis, NY 13112

Day Trip (1 day): Weekend (including camping):

Age 15 and up: \$10 Age 15 and up: \$15

Youth aged 6-14: \$5 Youth aged 6-14: \$7

Youth 5 and under free. There is a \$5.00 non-member surcharge.

Site opens at 5PM Friday and everyone must be off site by 12noon Monday.

There will be shooting and throwing Friday, Saturday and Sunday. There will be archery, thrown weapons, archery, a night shoot, archery and a night throw.... did we mention there will also be archery?

Test your skills by trying to hit the enemy from a castle arrowslit, at night, by firelight. There will be more archery with the possibility of a walking range, royal rounds, and of course there is the chance to become Delftwood's next Archery Champion. Come support your Barony's champion during the Seven Pearls Archery shoot. Last but not least, help Delftwood defend against the invasion of Monsters. The youth of the Kingdom need to capture and rehabilitate the monsters.

Like throwing things? There will be a night throw, royal rounds and a chance to throw to become Delftwood's Baronial champion.

Lunch, as in the past, is a pay lunch provided by the site. In past years, they have offered chicken/beef on a stick, salt potatoes, corn on the cob, venison stew, and much more.

In lieu of feast, Delftwood will host a Stone Soup kitchen for any who stop by. There will be soup available as soon as the first batch is finished each day, and many varieties will be cooked up long into the night. This is food shared by a common fire, contributed to by many, and available for anyone. No one will be turned away. Please bring meat, veggies, spices, bread, cheese etc. to contribute. Monetary contributions are also accepted. We welcome help cooking, prepping, and in general, sitting around the fire and sharing in our community. Any dietary concerns can be directed to Baroness Anastasie at lovetoo76@verizon.net.

There is ample room for camping, and a shower is now available on site.

The site is wet, but we request that you purchase any domestic beer and wine products from the site owners if available.

Merchants are welcome, at no additional fee. Merchants are responsible for providing their own tables, chairs, and pavilions. Please contact Dragos Pelikanos (cjburke@hauntedparsonage.us) to reserve your spot or if you have any questions.

Event Stewards:

Baroness Anastasie deLamoure
mka Samantha Moore
107 Saslon Park Drive
Liverpool NY 13088
lovetoo76@verizon.net
315-461-0171

Dragos Pelikanos
mka Chuck Burke
452 Main St.
Phoenix, NY 13035
cjburke@hauntedparsonage.us
315-480-5553

Reservations:

Make checks payable to: "SCA NY - Barony of Delftwood"

Send payment to:

SCA NY - Barony of Delftwood
PO Box 6694, Syracuse, NY 13217

** Please indicate number of adults, youth and if there are any monetary contributions for the Stone Soup.

For more information: <http://www.delftwood.org/wildwood.htm>



Delftwood Yule

Saturday December 1st, 2012

The theme of the day will be an Alsatian Yule. This area changed allegiances several times during the middle ages, making the culture a wonderful mix of German, Swiss, Dutch and... OK, French traditions. The Yuletide traditions also reflect this rich diversity, including the first documented use of an indoor Christmas tree!

The event will take place at Sts. Peter and Paul BINGO Hall, located at: 412 North Lowell Ave, Syracuse, NY 13204. The site will be open from 10am – 8pm and is handicapped accessible. The fees for the day, which include entrance and feast, are: \$15 per adult, \$8 for children 5-14, children under 5 are free, and the non-member surcharge of \$5 applies. Questions should be addressed to the Event Steward: Meisterin Felicity Flußmüllnerin, mka Ciarrai Eaton, via email at: felicity@faerhaga.org or phone: (315) 214-3405 from 12 - 9pm.

Reservations should be sent to:

SCA Inc, Barony of Delftwood
PO Box 6694

Syracuse, NY 13217

Please make checks payable to
"SCA NY – Barony of Delftwood"

An All Day Alsatian Feast will be included for the entrance fee. There will be a traditional Boar's Head Procession and the food will be a tasty mix of Lowland, German, Swiss, and French cuisines brought to you by Lady Lijsbet de Keukere, mka Keirin Ralff, (lijsbet.vandelfthout@gmail.com).

There will be a dance class offered on the dances of Alsace, including Allemandes, Pavaues, and Basse Danses. There will also be a chance to try the dances learned later in the day. We are pleased to be hosting the Baronial Bardic Championship competition, the Baronial A&S Championship competition, and Baronial Court.

Directions:

From the North or South: Take your best route to 690 and follow the East or West directions.

From the West: Take 690E to Exit 8 Hiawatha Blvd. Take a right at the end of the ramp onto Hiawatha Blvd. Take a left onto State Fair Blvd at the fork in the road. At the end of State Fair Blvd. there is a light, turn right onto Genesee Street. Continue 1/2 mile on W. Genesee, then turn left onto Lowell Ave (there is a Byrne Dairy immediately before the turn). Hall is the second building on the left.

From the East: Take 690W to Exit 10 N. Geddes Street. Turn left at the end of the ramp onto Geddes Street. At the first light, take a right onto Genesee Street. After about 3/4 of a mile, turn left onto Lowell Ave (there is a Byrne Dairy immediately before the turn). Hall is the second building on the left.

June Business Meeting Minutes

Respectfully submitted by Amalie Reinhardt

Meeting open by Yngvar at 7:00 PM.

Yngvar thanks all for coming out.

Announcements: All Baronial officers please copy Yngvar on your reports sent to your Kingdom Officers.

OFFICER REPORTS:

Baron & Baroness- His Excellency reports it has been a busy month with Crown Tournament, War Practice, & Melee Madness. There is a demo next week and our tournament at the end of the month. It is a heavy event season. If you are traveling, be safe.

Pursuivant- Olivia has accepted the role of drop dead deputy until February. Thanks Helena for her time as deputy.

Alheydis asks that anyone putting in for the Pursuivant officer position to do so by September, so a decision can be made in October. This will give time for transferring the position. If you are interested in the position and are going to Pennsic, it is recommended to spend time at Herald's Point. Currently Alheydis is working on processing some names and devices.

Chronicler- The Full Tilt will be out next week. Desi is asking for people to submit art, articles, and so on. She has the A&S June schedule but not July. Please send Desi ANYTHING as she'd like a fatter newsletter. Deputy Chronicler is Amalie.

Web Minister- There is not a lot to announce. Andy is stepping down. Dana is Deputy Web Minister. The change of position takes place at Wildwood.

Arts & Sciences- Felicity thanks all who taught, gave ideas, and came to classes in the past year. She has thoroughly enjoyed her time as A&S Minister. Lisbjt is the new A&S Minister. Lisbjt thanks Felicity again for reigniting the A&S spark in the Barony.

Lisbjt is looking for teachers for classes. Currently July 12 & 19 are open. June 14 is the Liverpool Library Demo (Desi is in charge); June 21 - Period Pavilions by Caryl; June 28 - Loaner Inventory and Armour Clinic (this might be after the July Officers Meeting, dependent on peoples' schedules)

There was a (primarily) A&S-based demo

on May 18 at Van Buren Elementary. Lisbjt thanks all who came to help. Van Buren gave an \$85 donation for materials. Participants are asked to please submit receipts for reimbursement.

Lisbjt is looking to start a Delftwood Beautification Committee. This will focus on: How can we decorate halls/create sense of cohesiveness? There will be classes and a think tank for ideas. If you are interested, please contact Lisbjt. (This committee will meet regularly.)

Felicity will be A&S Deputy until new one found.

****UPDATE:** Kim is A&S Deputy. (This took place during the A&S portion of the night.)

Knight Marshal- Fighting is happening at the outdoor site now. Desi is thanked for coordinating the site. Dragos sent an email to list, regarding interest from passers by. There have been no injuries (, but car accidents??).

Deputy- any marshal is one of the deputies (as long as they are willing)

Knight Marshall would like to do a survey of loaner armor and weapons.

Fencing Marshal- Fencing has also moved outside to Onondaga Lake Park. Helena also thanks Desi for finding the site. Helena Watches the weather on Wednesday and posts the report to the list. She will continue to make the call between 5-530 if there is iffy weather.

People are having a great time at practice. There have been new people showing interest.

Melee work will be starting next week in addition to sparring and beating on Mathew. Helena thanks Heero and Dragos for lugging the loaner gear last night.

The Deputy Fencing Marshal is Baron Edward.

Thrown Weapons- Anastasie says she will post when Thrown Weapons is happening, but it IS currently happening. If you are interested or want to marshal, please contact Anastasie.

The Deputy Thrown Weapons Marshal is Baron Edward.

Minister of Lists- Failenn states that MOL has also moved outside. If you would like to learn how to become an MOL, please see Failynn. There is no Deputy MOL at this time.

Archery- Archery is happening, there is loaner hear available, and there is a new archer coming to practice. Yngvar did not care to hear who the Archery Deputy is, so there is no record for this in the minutes.

Chancellor Minor - Sultana is not present at the meeting. She does not currently have a known Deputy. Baroness Clarice reports that youth activities took place at Crown and is unsure if there will be youth activities at the Tournament of the Windmill.

Chatelaine - Desi reports there are lots of new people coming in, including a family of 6 that have attended fight practice. They will also be attending the Tournament of the Windmill as their first event. There is another person who saw us the first night at the Park and is now fencing. New people are coming to meetings and archery. People are stopping by all the time on Wednesdays at the park to watch the practices.

The Cicero Library might like a future demo.

Desi would like permission to purchase a few Known Worlde Handbooks (2-3) for a lending library. Felicity seconds this motion and the vote is unanimously in favor (for purchasing 3). (Olivia looks it up and reports that they are \$25 each.)

Desi also reports she is almost out of brochures and is going to get quotes for printing more brochures.

It has been suggested that we print a small amount now, and bigger amount later on -- after the pictures are changed.

AND Please send pictures of Delftwood people/events to Desi for updating the brochures!!

The Newcomers class for June is first event prep and camping in SCA. If you'd like to teach a class in July, August, or beyond, please contact Desi.

Continued on page 8

June Business Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

Historian - Oeric reports that history is still in a box.

Chamberlain - Jennet reports that "We have stuff." (in several boxes)

She has done a lot of shopping in past few months and has updated the inventory.

She is looking to transfer the Chamberlain position by the September Officers' meeting. She has been doing this job for 13.5 years. If you are interested, please let Jennet know.

Jennet believes that an 8x8 storage area should store all the Barony items, easily. If we store the list ropes too, then 10x10. (She wants to hold off until there is a new chamberlain. She also requests help with the impending move.)

The Deputy Chamberlain is her fabulous husband, who is not really her deputy.

Exchequer - After the report has been read, and Jennet pitching in her two cents, the Barony's account balance is \$3896.00.

We made \$642.20 from Crown (and we have paid the Kingdom an equal amount).

There currently is no Deputy Exchequer.

Seneschal - Yngvar made his report to Kingdom. The Deputy Seneschal is Alheydis.

EVENTS

Liverpool Library Demo: 6/14. 5:30 setup 6:30 – 8:30 Desi. She is all set. A&S next week is this demo. List ropes are needed. (Will be brought by Fergus/Helena)

The demo will be both inside and outside. There will be music. Fighting outside. A suggestion for a scroll table is made.

The library wishes to give us some \$ for the demo, in an unknown amount.

Tournament of the Windmill: 6/30 10AM site opens 8PM closes. Felicity and Fridrich.

Olivia is cooking and anyone who wants to cook please see her. The Cooks Guild will be making meat pie.

List ropes are needed. There will be 4 round robins at the same time and other fighting. This will be different than "normal" tournaments. And TRH are

attending.

There will be a fire all day for cooking, turning into a bonfire at end of day. Felicity would like info for a firewood source, if you have it. It was mentioned that firewood cannot be brought more than 50 miles without treatment.

Popups will be provided for troll, MOL, and something to do with the food. Please bring your dayshades.

Jennet, please bring the water coolers and (the awesome) SCA signs.

Marcus informs all that the entrants for the Baronial Heavy Weapons Tournament only need to be authorized and a resident of Delftwood.

If you would like to metchant, please talk to Felicity.

Olivia has the food menu (with many accommodations, too) and is looking for volunteers to help in kitchen.

The day fee will be \$10, including food.

(If you will need reimbursements, please bring receipts to the event.)

Felicity notes: It will be fun, of course, because it's German!

A Shoote in the Wildwoods Baroness Anastasie and Dragos. 8/31 – 9/3.

Anastasie has completed the event announcement. It will be up in the next couple days.

There will be a night shoot and other awesomeness.

Yule 12/1 Felicity Sts Peter & Paul Bingo Hall.

Lisjbet is cooking for the event and there will be a boar's head. There will be dancing, singing, and caroling, and Court. She also says we will celebrate the first bringing of a Christmas tree inside for the season.

Æthelmearc Twelfth Night w/ Coppertree. 1/5/13

(subtitle: Why Delftwood is awesome!)

Region 1 did not put in a bid, so Delftwood went in with Coppertree, upon their request.

They are providing the feastocrat. The site is in Oneida. Yngvar and Mathilde will be looking at it on Saturday.

Atmosphere will hopefully be provided by Lisjbet and the beautification committee.

Amalie steps up as Autocrat for the event.

Baronial Investiture (Seven Deadly Sins, etc) deadline is 1/1/13. For the 2/13 newsletter. 12/1/12 is better 1/13 newsletter.

If interested, please look for a site, and find a crew. (Date for close to February 15thish)

Please aim for September to present a bid.

OTHER BUSINESS

Desi: Delftwood schwag- There are currently not enough orders for the tote and "Got Wood" t-shirt.

Populace could purchase extras (for largess).

Desi will hold orders open for 1 more week for order placing before making the call to not order blue t-shirts.

Helena: Reminder that there is a mini-demo for ARISE on July 28 from 11-4 (plus setup and clean up).

We can put our brochures into the bags for participants. (Please make sure there are 200 brochures for these bags, Desi!)

The baby goats will be born by then.

Meeting closed at 7:49 PM by Yngvar.

Lady Helene's Garden

By Lady Helene al-Zarqa'

June 2012: Taming of the Shrub

"Medieval gardens, more than modern ones, used all kinds of hedges and palings, walls, ditches and banks to enclose the land, and in 1340 the gardener, Brother Peter of Dunwich, smartened up the ones at Norwich by having the gates and palings whitewashed." (McLean, p. 37)

When I purchased my property, there was a neglected herb garden in a corner made by the house. At one point, I attempted to maintain the herb garden, but it had fallen into benign neglect over the past few years. I decided to tame the herb garden, but to also use the project to make the garden more medieval. There was the benefit of having two walls already creating a border.

In order to turn the overgrown area into a functional garden, I had to clear the garden of weeds, save the herbs still growing, and create order out of chaos. As you can see by the photos, the garden was quite overgrown. Taking a weekend, Fergus and I did just that. While this is mostly my project, Fergus helped with the heavy lifting. He is useful that way.

The fences were created using garden stakes and Rose of Sharon branches and saplings cleared from the garden. While in period, the wooden stakes would not have been pre-fabricated and the woven wattle would have been made with willow or hazel, I happened to have a lot of Rose of Sharon branches and saplings on hand (Landsberg, p. 64-65).

The layout allowed for a pathway that echoed the corner of the house. All sections of the garden are easily reached from either the pathway or from outside the garden. Other modern concessions include laying anti-weed fabric and mulch over the pathway, so there is one less area that I will need to weed.

With this new structure and fresh soil in place, the garden is ready for planting.

See you next month!

Helene



References

Landsberg, Sylvia. *The Medieval Garden*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2003. Print

McLean, Teresa. *Medieval English Gardens*. New York: The Viking Press, 1981. Print.

Photos by Lady Helene al-Zarqa'

The Skep Beehive in Period

By Baroness Olivia d'Anjou

INTRODUCTION

This article was adapted from the documentation for my 2009 Ice Dragon entry on the skep. This article will examine the history, making, and use of the skep in period.

The skep is the universal symbol of bees, beekeeping, and honey. A skep is an inverted basket made of wicker or coiled straw used in period beekeeping for housing bees. The skep is over two thousand years old and is still used today in parts of Europe. There are many examples of skeps in period illustrations.

HISTORY OF THE SKEP

The earliest known remains of a wicker skep were from 1-200AD. The example found came from a peat bog near Wilhelmshaven on the North Sea coast of Lower Saxony (Crane 1999, p251). Wicker and coiled straw basket techniques were known since Antiquity and could have been used as skeps then.

The Germanic tribes west of the Elbe were the first to use the straw skep even before the Christian era (Fraser 1958, p11). The Germanic tribes brought the skep west towards the French Channel and north-west into Belgium, Holland, Denmark and Sweden. The Anglo-Saxons brought the skep into Britain (Fraser 1958, p12).

Straw skeps last longer than wicker because the dung and clay mixture, known as cloom, used to protect the hive adhered better to straw rather than wicker (Butler, Ch 3). This process is called cloaming or clooming (Alston, p11).

Straw replaced wicker as a common material around 500 AD when the straw skep was introduced to Britain (Alston 1987, p12). Skeps were not common outside of Europe where differing climates would affect the types of hives used. There were no significant changes to the way beekeepers used skeps until post-period.

MAKING THE SKEP IN PERIOD

Wicker skeps were originally woven on a whorl of thin branches of a spruce or fur tree. A whorl is a circular arrangement of like parts, such as leaves or flowers around a point on an axis (Dictionary.com). The branches formed the main stakes (Crane, p241). Stakes were bent down during weaving and other stakes were added for support as the diameter increased.

Coiled straw skeps were made only where suitable materials were grown. These materials were reeds, grasses, or long-stemmed cereals. The tools used to make a coiled-straw skep are a girth and an awl (Crane 1999, p242). A girth, made of leather or cow horn, kept the coils a consistent thickness (Crane, p242). A bone or metal awl was used to make holes in the straw to insert the binding cane. Long stems, such as bramble, were split and used to join the coils. Long, thin sticks were often placed



across the interior to help prevent comb breakage and anchor combs to the hive.

Wicker skep size and shape is determined by the size and shape of the whorl used. Coiled straw skeps can have flat or domed tops and can vary greatly in size and shape. The flight hole could be placed anywhere on the coiled skep. The flight hole is the hole or holes from which the bees come and go from the hive.

The skep above is a miniature version. When I started making the skep, I did not have enough straw to make one full sized. The model is too small to add the flight hole, though not all straw beehives had one. The beehive could be placed on a wooden stand with a carved channel on it to allow bees to get in and out. The channel would be carved the length of the board to allow for better air circulation and so rain would not build up in the hive.

USE OF THE SKEP IN PERIOD

Skeps are managed by swarm beekeeping. Swarm beekeeping is the practice of making a hive just big enough for the bees to make a home. When the colony becomes too big, it will swarm. Swarming is when the queen and some of the worker bees leave the hive to find a new home. The beekeeper then collects the swarm and installs it into a new hive. "The swarming months are two, Gemini and Cancer: one month before the longest day and another after." (Butler, Ch. 5).

This type of beekeeping was done in north-west Europe, as far south as the Pyrenees and Alps-Maritime of France where honey flows are in mid to late summer (Crane, p239).

Honey flows are the times of the year when nectar is plentiful and bees produce and store a great deal of honey. Swarm beekeeping takes advantage of this by adding swarms in late spring and early summer. Honey is produced in these hives from the later blooming flowers. Swarms were encouraged by making the skep too small. The recommended size ranged from nine to thirty-six liters and averaged about 20 liters. Today's Langstroth hives range from forty to eighty liters.

Beekeepers watched for swarms. This would involve a lot of time and implies that swarm beekeeping was for career beekeepers. The



Figure 33.4a Frontispiece to a French copy of the fourth of Virgil's *Georgics*, showing a beekeeper wearing a protective hood, tending a swarm, c. 1400 (Holkham MS 307, reproduced by permission of the Earl of Leicester, Holkham Hall).

Figure 1

Continued on page 11

The Skep Beehive in Period (cont'd)

beekeeper would tang the swarm to get the bees to move from one hive to another. (Crane p333) Tanging is striking two metal objects together to make a loud noise. See Figure 1. It was believed this would cause the bees to go into the new hive. The swarm would develop into a new colony, store honey, and may even swarm again that season.

The beekeeper finished the summer with many more hives than he started with. He only over-wintered stock hives with all of their honey for use in the spring. All of the honey was harvested from the remaining 50-80% of the hives. In 1609, Charles Butler recommended to harvest the heaviest and the lightest hives (Crane 1999 p240). He recommended harvesting the heaviest hives because they yielded the most honey and the lightest because the bees would starve to death anyways. This would leave the medium weight hives for the spring.

The bees were killed or driven from the hives for harvest. They were killed by sulfur fumes. This was done by placing the hive over a pit of burning sulfur. It was also done by placing burning paper impregnated with sulfur into the hive. The bees were also killed by drowning. The hive was placed in a sack and put in hot water. Charles Butler didn't agree with drowning the bees and writes it "hurteth the Honie, doth the Hive no good" (Butler, Ch 10). Driving out the bees could be done when there were sufficient late honey flows. At or near midsummer, the bees were driven out of an upturned hive into an empty one. In 1580, Thomas Tusser writes "At midsummer drive them, And save them alive". (Crane 1999 p240)

More detailed instructions were given by Butler.

Around midsummer, early in the morning, invert the skep to be driven. Cover the mouth of the full skep with an empty one. Wrap the join with a cloth to seal the opening. Clap rhythmically on the sides of the full hive. The bees will walk to the other hive. After most of the bees have walked to the empty hive, place it where the first hive was. Bees that are coming back from flight will go in there.

The hope of driving the bees was they would have time to build new comb and store more honey before winter. Driven bees often did not prosper. Driven bees could be added to another colony to strengthen it. An alternative harvest method was to only harvest the bottoms of the combs. (Butler, Ch 10). The bees could then rebuild the combs.

It was necessary to regulate the temperature and moisture in a hive. It is essential to keep the hive dry. Skeps were placed on wooden platforms to keep out pests and moisture (Butler, Ch. 2).

The hackle or coppet provided more shelter for the skep hive. (Butler, Ch. 3) The hackle is made from rushes, reeds, or long straw that was tied together to form a tent like hat for the skep (Alston, 30). To make a hackle, tie straw together at the neck and place it over the skep. See Figure 2. A gart, or metal hoop, was then placed around the hackle over the skep to keep it in place (Alston, 30).

The hackle provided more protection from the elements. The hackle would reach almost to the base of the skep to provide protection from rain and snow. The hackle was removed occasionally to air out the hive and see if any pests have made nests in it or the hive.

CONCLUSION

It is important to note that the use of the skep is illegal in all fifty states of the United States. This is because the skep does not have moveable frames and cannot be inspected for pests and disease. Today many people purchase skeps as accents in their garden.



Figure 2

¹ Langstroth hives are a set of boxes with moveable frames that form the beehive. This is the most common hive type today.

APPENDIX



From Tacuino Sanitatis 13th Century



Woodcut by Johann Grüniger showing straw skeps in two simple bee shelters. 1502

Continued on page 12

The Skep Beehive in Period (cont'd)



Bees flying from three skeps in a simple shelter with mice in the foreground. Buch der Natur, 1475



From the book of Aesop fables published in Frankfurt in 1566, art by Virgil Solis

RESOURCES

1. Alston, Frank. Skeps: Their History, Making and Use. 1987.
2. Conrad, Ross; Natural Beekeeping: Organic Approaches to Modern Apiculture, 2007
3. Crane, Eva; The Complete History of Beekeeping and Honey Hunting, 1999
4. Brekelmans, Toon; Skep-Making, 2005
5. Butler, Charles; The Feminine Monarchie or A Treaties Concerning Bees and the Due Ordering of Them, 1609 (This book has only chapter numbers and no page numbers)
6. Dictionary.com; accessed on 11/5/08
7. Fraser, H. Malcolm; History of Beekeeping in Britain, 1958.
8. Reddy, Mike; "Mike Reddy's Skep FAQ", found at <http://homepage.mac.com/mreddygr/skepFAQ/>, accessed on 12/30/08

Thank You

Dated 5/23/12

Dear Ladies
Desiderata and Helene,

I just wanted to thank you for autocrating such a wonderful Spring Crown Tourney.

I only heard wonderful comments throughout the day.

The site was great as was the dayboard. Everyone seemed to be having a lot of fun and it was so nice to see the way the fighting field was set up with all the pavilions and sun shades around it.

Again, thank you for putting on such a memorable event (you make it look so easy) and please pass along my thanks to all your staff who helped you put on our Spring Crown Tourney on May 5th.

Yours in Service to
Aethelmarc,
Viscountess
Susan of Fox Meadow

JUNE 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 <i>Æstel Deadline</i>	2 Melee Madness (Endless Hills)
3 12:00 - 3:00pm Archery	4	5	6 6:30 - 9:00pm Flight Practice	7 7:00 - 9:00pm Business Meeting	8 <i>Full Tilt Deadline</i>	9 Central AE War Practice (Abhainn Ciach Ghlais)
10 12:00 - 3:00pm Thrown Weapons & Archery	11	12	13 6:30 - 9:00pm Flight Practice	14 6:30 - 8:30pm LIVERPOOL LIBRARY DEMO	15	16 AE Academy (Misty Highlands) Myrkfaelinn War Practice (Myrkfaelinn)
17 12:00 - 3:00pm Archery	18	19	20 6:30 - 9:00pm Flight Practice	21 6:30 - 9:00pm Arts & Sciences: Pavilion Class	22	23 Celtic Fire Festival (Hartstone)
24 12:00 - 3:00pm Thrown Weapons & Archery	25	26	27 6:30 - 9:00pm Flight Practice	28 6:30 - 9:00pm Arts & Sciences: Cooks Guild & Newcomers Meeting	29	30 TOURNAMENT OF THE WINDMILL (Delftwood)

JULY 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 <i>Æstel Deadline</i> 12:00 - 3:00pm Archery	2	3	4 6:30 - 9:00pm Flight Practice	5 7:00 - 9:00pm Business Meeting	6 <i>Full Tilt Deadline</i>	7 Pax Interruptus XXXVI (Thescore)
8 12:00 - 3:00pm Thrown Weapons & Archery	9	10	11 6:30 - 9:00pm Flight Practice	12 6:30 - 9:00pm Arts & Sciences: Delftwood Beautifi- cation Team Meeting	13	14 Wynterset Asylum (Wynterset)
15 12:00 - 3:00pm Thrown Weapons & Archery	16	17	18 6:30 - 9:00pm Flight Practice	19 6:30 - 9:00pm Arts & Sciences: Pennsic Prep	20	21 Bog Three Day (St. Swithin's Bog)
22 12:00 - 3:00pm Archery	23	24	25 6:30 - 9:00pm Flight Practice	26 6:30 - 9:00pm Arts & Sciences: Pennsic Prep & Newcomers Meeting	27	28 PENNSIC
29 12:00 - 3:00pm Thrown Weapons & Archery	30					

Meeting Locations

No special garb or reservation is required for meetings or practices.
All practices are weather-permitting

ARCHERY

SUNDAYS 12:00 NOON - 3:00 PM

Wildwood Sports Center

5740 Fikes Rd, Elbridge NY 13060

Directions: Take I-690 towards the Fairgrounds. Take exit 6 for State Hwy 695 toward State Hwy 5/Auburn. Merge onto 695 South. Take the State Hwy 5 W exit toward Auburn (bearing RIGHT). Merge onto RT-5 W. Take the exit toward W Genesee Turnpike/RT-5. Keep RIGHT at the fork, follow signs for Elbridge/Auburn and merge onto W Genesee Turnpike/RT-5. Continue to follow RT-5. Turn RIGHT at Fikes Rd. About 440 ft up the road is Wildwood Sports Center on the RIGHT.

THROWN WEAPONS

SUNDAYS 12:00 NOON - 3:00 PM

Wildwood Sports Center

5740 Fikes Rd, Elbridge NY 13060

Directions: Take I-690 towards the Fairgrounds. Take exit 6 for State Hwy 695 toward State Hwy 5/Auburn. Merge onto 695 South. Take the State Hwy 5 W exit toward Auburn (bearing RIGHT). Merge onto RT-5 W. Take the exit toward W Genesee Turnpike/RT-5. Keep RIGHT at the fork, follow signs for Elbridge/Auburn and merge onto W Genesee Turnpike/RT-5. Continue to follow RT-5. Turn RIGHT at Fikes Rd. About 440 ft up the road is Wildwood Sports Center on the RIGHT.

HEAVY WEAPONS & FENCING

WEDNESDAYS 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM

Wegmans Landing, Onondaga Lake Park

Onondaga Lake Parkway, Liverpool, NY 13088

Directions from the South: I-81 N. to Exit 24, to Route 370W (Onondaga Lake Parkway) to park entrance.

Directions from the North: I-81 S to Exit 23, left onto Hiawatha Blvd, left onto Park St., to Route 370W (Onondaga Lake Parkway) to park entrance on left.

Directions from the NYS Thruway: I-90 (NYS Thruway) to Exit 38, right onto Rte. 57 to Liverpool, to Route 370E (Onondaga Lake Parkway) to park entrance.

BUSINESS MEETING

1ST THURSDAY 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

St Peter & Paul Orthodox Church Rec Hall

402 Hamilton St., Syracuse, NY 13204

Directions From the West: Take 690E to Exit 8 [Hiawatha Blvd]. Take a right at the end of the ramp onto Hiawatha Blvd. Take a left onto State Fair Blvd at the fork in the road. At the end of State Fair Blvd there is a light, turn right onto Genesee St. Turn left onto Lowell Ave. The Rec Hall is the second building on the left.

Directions From the East: Take 690W to Exit 10 N. Geddes St. Turn left at the end of the ramp onto Geddes St. Take a right onto Genesee St. Turn left onto Lowell Ave. The Rec Hall is the second building on the left.

ARTS & SCIENCES

2ND-5TH THURSDAY 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM

St Peter & Paul Orthodox Church Rec Hall

402 Hamilton St., Syracuse, NY 13204

Directions From the West: Take 690E to Exit 8 [Hiawatha Blvd]. Take a right at the end of the ramp onto Hiawatha Blvd. Take a left onto State Fair Blvd at the fork in the road. At the end of State Fair Blvd there is a light, turn right onto Genesee St. Turn left onto Lowell Ave. The Rec Hall is the second building on the left.

Directions From the East: Take 690W to Exit 10 N. Geddes St. Turn left at the end of the ramp onto Geddes St. Take a right onto Genesee St. Turn left onto Lowell Ave. The Rec Hall is the second building on the left.

Greetings Unto the throwers of Delftwood,

As I mentioned at Aprils business meeting I am looking for new thrown weapons marshals. Here is a list of days that thrown weapons will be held.

June 10th & 24th, July 8th, 15th and 29th

If you are just looking to throw and not become a marshal you are more than welcome to come out. And as always please keep an eye on the list for any cancellations.

In Service, Anastasie



Officers of Delftwood



BARONAGE:

Baron Edward Harbinger & Baroness Anastasie de Lamoure
(Bill & Samantha Moore)
baron@delftwood.org, baroness@delftwood.org



Seneschal:

Earl Yngvar the Dismal (Andy Biel)
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Marshal of Fence:

Lady Helene al-Zarqa' (Elizabeth Dunn)
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Exchequer:

Master Cyneric Drakenheorte (James Lienhart)
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Captain of Archers:

Lord Michael Gladwyne (Michael Oliver)
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Knight Marshal:

Lord Corbinus DeCuvis (Joel Weed)
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Minister of Thrown Weapons:

Baroness Anastasie de Lamoure (Samantha Moore)
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Minister of Arts & Sciences:

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Chirurgeon:



Windmill Pursuivant:

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Chronicler:

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Minister of Youth:

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Chatelaine:

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Minister of Equestrian Affairs:

Dame Sibyl Cairnfalcon (Karen Lienhart)

Historian:

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Chamberlain:

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Minister of the Lists:

Lady Failenn ingen Chernaich (Denise Simmons)
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