

# The Whetstone

May 2012

## Joelisms from Gulf Wars

A portion of the Joelisms as recorded by Mistress Marthe.

We're all going to have to change our hearing aid batteries. - Jyne Helene of Hope

More stalling... - His Royal Majesty Kenneth  
We're on it. - His Royal Highness Ailgheanan

Bribery is good. - His Royal Majesty Kenneth

Life can be fair. You just need the right attorney. - Master William

I sent him for rope, he brought back a stick. - Aislinn

It's too humid. The salt will continue to look sad. - Master William

That was Marthe's interpretive dance for 'I'm taking these walls.' - Mistress Liz

I will be able to see through time and not care. - Mistress Liz

He's attempting to find chocolate fishes. - Mistress Solveig

In the merchant area, I hear 'oh, look, there's the four year old pole dancer.' -  
Mistress Solveig

He made a good Paris Hilton. - Wolfram

I'm safer when they're aiming at me. - Wolfgang

Oh, look, I'm still a short person. - Mistress Roz

He hated water. - Rayne  
He's holding out for beer. - Wolfgang

Not dark enough for us to run behind the straight trees. - Master Alexander

I thought that was a water pitcher. Oh, wait, that's your beer mug. - Master William

Which level of hell do you want it on? - Aislinn

But I'm going to be a squire! - Rayne

Another vicious lie to keep the bald man down. - Wolfgang

Aislinn let me run off on my own. What was she thinking? - Wolfgang

I don't think you can talk to me without a Meridian representative. - Wolfgang

I just don't connect the dots together anymore. - Ariel

Hey, Liz, the yolks on you!  
How egg-citing! - Liz  
Eggzactly. - Will  
I'm not writing that down. - Marthe  
I'll do it! - Will  
It was egg-treme. - Liz

We have some special needs kids of our own. - Wolfgang

He kept threatening and he finally got it up. - John

If we hung up a mirror ball, we could say 'this is the hour of our disco tent.' - Master William

That's a very different party than I'm usually invited to. - Master William

Does someone have a broom? - Marthe

No, I brought the car this morning. - Ariel

I've used up my bend over for the day. - Marthe

## Recipes

Here are a couple of recipes from Mistress Rosemounde of Mercia from Gulf Wars.

### Pickled vegetables (serves 8-12)

1 small head green cabbage, outer leaves removed, chopped  
1 large white onion, peeled, sliced thinly  
1 large beet, peeled, chopped coarsely  
3 cups white vinegar, or enough to cover vegetables  
1/2 cup sugar  
1 teaspoon coarse salt  
1/4 teaspoon pepper  
1 teaspoon whole yellow mustard seeds  
5 whole cloves  
1/8 teaspoon ground nutmeg

Boil 3 quarts of water in a large saucepan. Add cabbage and blanch 1 minute. Drain immediately. Place cabbage in large non-reactive bowl. Boil 1 quart water in the same saucepan. Add beets and blanch 2 minutes. Strain and add beets to bowl. Add raw onion to bowl as well and toss to mix vegetables.

Mix sugar, salt, pepper, mustard seeds, cloves and nutmeg. Add to 1 cup of the vinegar and stir until sugar is dissolved. Add remaining vinegar and stir.

Pour vinegar over vegetables in the bowl. Stir. Add more vinegar if needed to cover vegetables. Cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate for 2-7 days as desired for sourness. Serve cold.

### Peas Porridge (serves 8)

1 quart water  
2 pounds frozen peas  
1 tablespoon olive oil  
1 large onions, minced  
3/4 teaspoon sugar  
3/4 teaspoon salt  
1/4 teaspoon black pepper  
1/2 teaspoon fresh thyme  
1/4 fresh sage leaf

Heat oil in a large pot over medium heat. Add the minced onion and saute until it turns golden. Carefully pour in the water and bring to a boil over high heat.

Add all remaining ingredients, reduce heat to medium, cover and cook until peas are soft, about 5 minutes. Remove from heat. Puree in a blender. If too thin, return to pot and cook over medium low heat, stirring occasionally, until it thickens.

Refrigerate or freeze until ready to serve. Thaw, then heat until steaming. Serve.

Honey-Ginger Sauce (serves about 8)

1/2 cup honey

1/4 cup red wine vinegar

1 Tablespoon freshly grated ginger

Mix ingredients in a small bowl until completely and smoothly blended. Divide in half. Use one half for basting the chicken while it grills and the other half as a sauce on the side.

This was a really good year for Gulf Wars recipes. Here are two from Mistress Solveig.

Recipe for Quinoa casserole

1 cup Quinoa dried (red or white, but I used red)

¼ cup lentils dried

Add to 2 ½ cups water

Heat to boiling, then simmer with a lid for 15 minutes. When all water is about gone, let it sit to cool and absorb more moisture.

Sauté an onion chopped or minced (your choice) in a generous amount of oil or butter until soft and translucent. Heat a box of frozen chopped spinach, drain (not too dry, just to 'not drippy') and chop up even finer with scissors. Add the above to the quinoa/lentil mix once it has cooled/absorbed, and mix.

In a small bowl, beat 2 eggs, 1 tsp salt, and ¼ tsp pepper, along with 2 Tbs chopped garlic. Add the above plus 1 ½ - 2 cups shredded cheddar cheese to the quinoa mixture and stir well.

Spread in a flat bottomed square or rectangular dish - should be less than 2" thick (so like a 9x9 or 10x10 pan - 8x8 is too small). Cover top with about 6 oz of shredded parmesan (NOT powdered!) Bake at 400 degrees for 20-25 minutes, or until it looks a bit browned on top and around the edges. If you over bake it, it will be dry and less yummy.

Sweet potato recipe (serves 4ish as a side dish)

1 medium sweet potato

1 cup applesauce (preferably homemade or no sugar added)

2-3 Tbs butter

Prick sweet potato and wrap in plastic (or in plastic bag). Nuke for 4-5 minutes until soft. Allow to cool in bag on counter. Peel sweet potato while still warm and remove any bad spots. Add butter, and mash thoroughly with fork (or whatever). Should have no large lumps. (You should have at least a cup of mashed sweet potato.) Add applesauce and stir (adjust amount as needed, should be around 1 to 1 ratio,) preferably a bit more potato than applesauce. Add optional Faellan-bane (cinnamon) sprinkled on top if desired.

## **A Tale, as only can be told by Master William**

Excerpt from his blog, Will's Miscellaneous Musings, [www.willstuff.wordpress.com](http://www.willstuff.wordpress.com)

My most recent exploit was a visit to Gulf Wars, an annual gathering of about 3500 people down in Lumberton, Mississippi. Now, I'm still in stage three recovery from heart surgery, so I wasn't able to fight this year. I had hauled my kit down there, but two days of setup, pounding stakes, lifting canvas, and so on, convinced me that I wasn't fit. I was good for ten minutes of normal active human activity, but that had to be followed with twenty minutes of rest. Not gonna happen on the battlefield.

So I was a spectator for this one. There are quite a few stories to be told, but for your amusement, I'll instead share the story of my voyage home. I've not had a road trip like that in a few years.

First, we broke down camp on Saturday. This is hard for me; the War is still going on. You can hear the captain's commands from my camp. But all, and I mean ALL of my helpers want to decamp on Saturday so that they can have Sunday to recover. Accordingly, if I

want any help tearing down the common areas in camp, I have to do it Saturday. And it was very effective. I worked my fellow campers like rented mules and before the sun had set, only one tent, my sleeping tent, remained.

The next day, my neighbors came over to help, and all was packed and loaded by 11 AM. This is around four hours earlier than the previous record. And so my party, two ladies, me, and a four-year-old-blond noise, saddled up and headed north. Wow! Four Hours Early. Hell, we were going to get home before TEN!

Alas, hubris.

Not too terribly far up the road, my right trailer tire exploded. And it took the right fender with it. At about eighty miles an hour. By the time I had brought the two vehicles to a stop, the rim was rendered utterly useless. And "get a spare tire for the trailer" was still on my to-do list.

Before I had come to a complete stop, a lovely family from South Downs, Meridies stopped and loaned me a floor jack, saving me MUCH effort.

So here I sat, in rural Mississippi, on a Sunday afternoon, with no tire, no rim, and no local connections. It could have been worse. I was only a few minutes north of Meridian. While not a bustling metropolis, Meridian does have stores open on Sundays, and so my lead car and I were off on our quest. Sam's Club had a tire that would fit the rim, but no rim. Sears could get both items for me (tomorrow). Wal-mart, regretfully, could not help me at all. Firestone was closed. U-Haul had no spare parts. (What the hell is up with that? They had thirty trailers in the yard for rent. What if one of them has a flat?) Finally, Liz, the pilot of my lead car abruptly turned into an RV dealership.

Now - I'm not saying that the lady running the parts department of the RV dealership was a lesbian. But if she was straight, she was being straight ironically. I don't think I've ever met a more butch, crop haired, comfortable-shoe wearing, forefinger-and-middle-nail-cut-short woman in my life. If there was a stereotype, she was living up to it. Except for one: the man-hating part. She was kind, gracious, and generous. They kept a spare tire around the lot in case one of the trailers had a flat, and she was willing to sell it to me. Sadly, they had no way to take the tire off of it, and it was the wrong size. But I bought it anyway, and we headed back to Sam's Wholesale Club, who thought they might have a tire.

Well, it turned out that Sam's *didn't* have a tire to replace my casualty. They were reluctant, but they did finally decide to sell me a tire that fit, but was designed to haul lighter loads. That was when we discovered that my pilot-car's driver didn't have her Sam's card with her. Off to customer service to get a new card.

Membership card in hand, we attempted once again to make the purchase. Cards expired. (Why didn't Customer Service notice this?) So - buy a new membership. Now we can buy, mount, and balance the tire that's really too lightweight to do the job.

Back to the stranded van and trailer, finally.

A quick efficient mounting, and we're ready to hit the road. At a reduced speed. To the very next exit. Where we would spend an additional hour shifting cargo from that flimsy, light duty tire to my heavy duty van. It took more than a little effort, but we moved about five or six hundred pounds off of the trailer and into the van by trading large, bulky, light objects for heavy, compact ones.

The sun was now golden in the west, and I was maybe ninety minutes into about a nine-hour voyage. But now we are truly on the road. For a while. Eventually the sun set, the sky darkened, and it was time for dinner. Now hopelessly behind, we declined to have a sit-down dinner, but instead opted to stop at Burger King for a brief rest. The ladies went in to order while I inspected the rig.

That was when I discovered that the trailer had no lights. No lights at all.

Did I violate a shrine or something?

I found the problem. Somehow, I'd managed to drag the harness on the ground and it had abraded through. Good news - I need no parts. This is something that I can fix with duct tape and a Leatherman. In the dark. On my back. In a Burger King parking lot, somewhere in northern Alabama.

It was shortly after that that Mistress Solveig sat on my dinner.

## Do you know Joe?

My next Barony member to introduce is Shannon Carey, known in the Society as Lady Muirenn ingen Ui Dunchada.



**Do you have an SCA name? How did you decide on it? If not, any particular time period or persona you're leaning toward?** My name isn't approved yet, but the one I've applied for is Muirenn ingen Ui Dunchada. I knew I wanted a pre-1000s Irish Gaelic persona, so I just looked through the St. Gabriel's site until I found something I liked.

**You are fairly new to the SCA, but not really. Your sister is in Nant-Y-Derwyddon, so how long have you been exposed to the SCA?** Well, Zac (Osric) and I actually encouraged my sister Erin (Etain) to join the SCA a few years back. She lives in Jonesborough, and we thought she wasn't getting out enough. Zac knew about the SCA through his brother and sister-in-law, who used to play in Atlantia. They even took Zac to Pennsic when he was a teenager. Anyway, Erin has always been into swords and archery and all things Medieval, and we thought she'd find kindred spirits in the Society. She took our advice and had a great time. Last year, we went to a Nant-Y event for her birthday, and we went back for All Things Pointy in October for my birthday. She gave me a bow for my birthday, so we threw in the towel and joined up.

**Your husband, Zac, is working on his authorization as a heavy fighter. How impressed have you been with the bruises he has come home with?** They're certainly colorful! I sometimes threaten to scold Tristram and Wolfgang to be nicer to him, but he claims that would just make it worse. But really, he's having a great time, so I'm happy.

**What are your interests in the SCA?** Archery, archery and more archery. I've discovered that I'm pretty fond of throwing axes. I've also taken up knitting. I know nailbinding is more period, but I just love the needles.

**What do you do professionally in your mundane life?** I'm the general manager of the Shopper-News. We have community newspapers in Halls, Fountain City, Powell, Bearden, Farragut, Karns and Union County.

## May Tourney News

There were 3 tournaments at May Tourney and all were well attended and well fought, and all won by our own. The morning saw 12 combatants take the field with great weapons. It is no surprise that THL Iastreb was victorious on this field with his glaive.

The second tournament of the day was the Queen's Rapier Champion tournament. It was an honor to be asked to host Her Majesty's tournament at May Tourney. All eleven combatants were required to satisfy His Majesty on the field of battle before he allowed them to pass and continue in the tournament during the second round. There were some spectacular bouts in this tournament but in the end Captain Tristram was victorious and was named Her Majesty Amber's Rapier Champion.

The final tournament of the day was a Heavy and Rapier team event. Ten teams of fighters faced off on the field in a single elimination tournament in a best 2 out of 3 round with the 3<sup>rd</sup> fight, if needed, as a sudden death winner take all. Captain Tristram and his rapier counterpart, Captain Thomas O'Toole of Glaedenfeld won the tournament.

The Baronial Yeoman Tournament was a bit of a surprise as Baronial newcomer, but family member Lord Fergus Fletcher, formerly of Atlantia was named winner. Fergus is the son-in-law of Lady Gellis and Lord Guillaume. Lord Ronan's twisted little mind thought it would be fun to host a novelty shoot in which contestants shot an arrow through a pipe to extinguish the flame of a candle. The female winner was Lady Etain and the male winner was Lord Davoc.

The A&S competition had three entries. Lord Thomas Paumer and Lady Catelin the Wanderer of Nant-Y-Derwyddon entered two original Ram's Horn scrolls that they then donated to the Barony. Gul-nar Atun Begim (Marianne Barnes) entered her Persian Cloud Collar. Populace vote named Catelin the winner for Best French themed entry and Marianne the winner for general entry.

## Court News by Mistress Marthe Elsbeth

On the field of battle, during the Great Weapons Tourney HRM Ailgheanan presented Captain Tristram Jager von Bonn with the Order of the Argent Shield and during the Queen's Rapier Champion Tourney, HRM Ailgheanan presented Lady Rayne with the Order of the Argent Rapier.

The Court of TRM Ailgheanan and Amber was opened with thanks from His Royal Majesty to the Barony for hosting a wonderful event.

After naming Tristram QRC, The King decided he needed a Rapier Champion and named Lord Jack Marvell to the post.

By leave of TRM, the court of Mistress Godelind of Windmere, Baroness of Thor's Mountain, was opened. Lord Henry Fox of Oak Hill announced the new Daughter of Aduin is Lady Amya von Dornberg. Lord Henry presented her with the amber apple and a plate of apple tarts. The Crown kept Lord Henry in Their presence and inducted him into the Order of the Guiding Hand. The Court of Her Excellency was closed.

Castellana de Luna, Nicholina Beaumont, Ishikawa Yoshimasa, Serena, called Esmerelda Amelio, Muirenn ingen Ui Dunchada, Osric the Brewer were all given an Award of Arms.

Alexandra and Ysabella, daughters of Iastreb and Mariana, was brought into court to receive the Order of the Rising Swan.

THL Lord Fionn O' Cinneide of Dun na Gall was called forward to receive the Order of the Guiding Hand, as well as the Order of the Meridian Cross.

The Order of the Guiding Hand was also given to Lord Jack Marvell.

Lady Allesandra de Crosthwaite was awarded the Order of the Meridian Cross.

Lady Mariana Cristina Tirado de Aragon was Granted Arms.

Lord Eberhart von Dornberg received the Order of the Broken Bow, as did Lady Jyne-Helene of Hope.

As there was no further business to be done in the rain, court was closed.

At Feast, the Royal Court was reopened for more business. THLord Ronan came forward to represent the Order of the Split Arrow. Guiliame Sinclair was called forward to join this order.

Master Alexander Ravenscroft was called forward to be given an Augmentation of Arms.

With that, Royal Court was closed and a fabulous feast was enjoyed.

### **Joelisms from May Tourney**

Go that way for hugs. - Hank

Pardon me, that one's mine! - Iazzie

I don't think there's a rule about cell phones going off in court, but there should be.  
- THL Cynred of Gwent

If you've not received an award today, don't get under the royal pavilion. - His RM

She's crying folks, drink up. - His RM

Target archery rocks. Combat archery... Awesome. - His RM

Do not reward him for his bad behavior. - Baroness Celestine

I'm all about throwing him under the bus... no, supporting the children. Celestine

If we could just take a minute of your time... and we can... - His RM

Be it known that I constitute a group. - Ronan

Holy Crap! - Alexander (bet you can't guess when this exclamation happened???)

The Pelican showed up and is editing this comment. - Solveig

It's the freshly mown lawn look. - Aislinn

The Pelican stepped in. - Solveig

That sounds more like a challenge than a dietary restriction. - Wayland

What would their 'wa' be? - Solveig

It's going to be like hippos mating ugly. - Will

He's a naughty, naughty fighter with a super long sword. - Pooka

People who do what they're gonna do are gonna do what they're gonna do. - Bevin

White Cheddar Cheezits are made with the blood of kittens. - Bevin