

The Dancing Moon

December, 2011

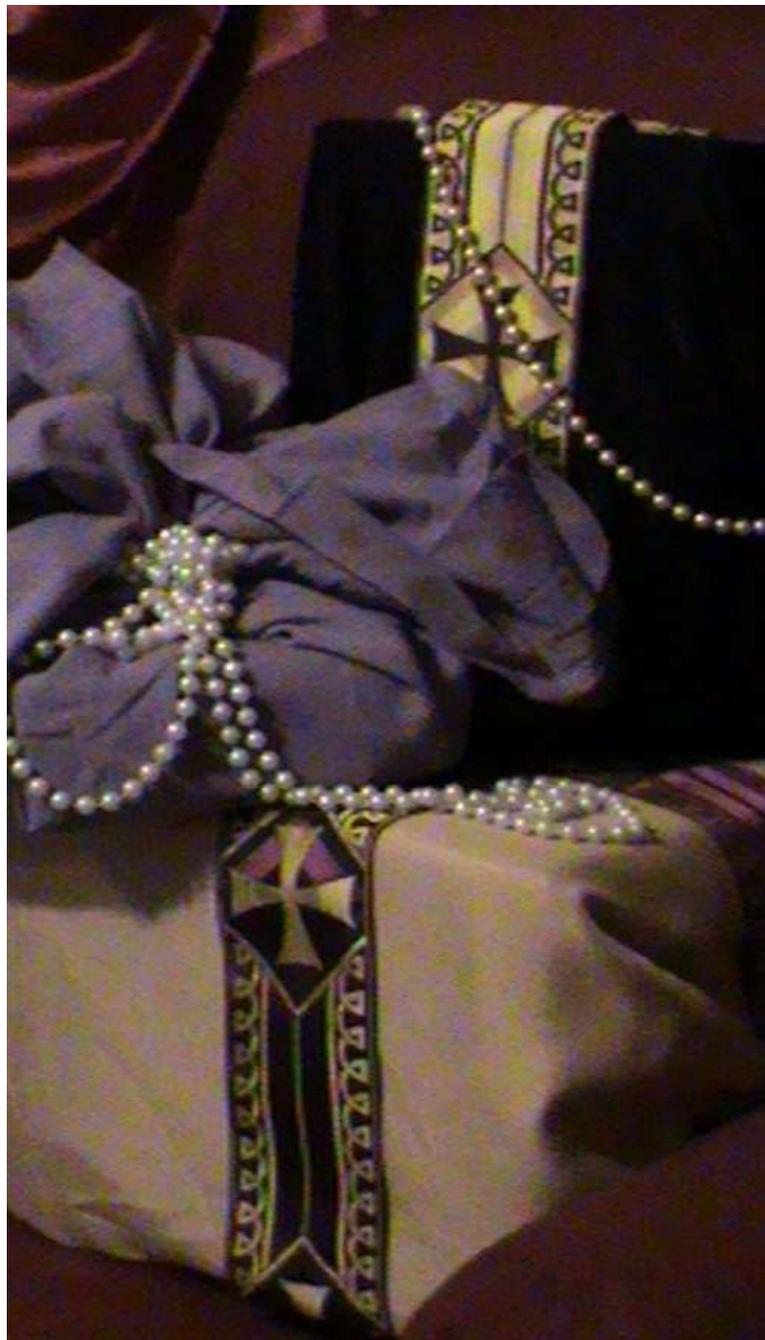


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Christmas Giving!



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Lady Katherine at Queen's Prize

Local Announcements:

The Shire Holiday Party will be held on Saturday, December 17 at James and Aesa's House at 7 PM. Bring a dish and a wrapped gift for the book exchange game.

Because no one, including me, has had time to create new content for the newsletter this month, I will be reprinting articles from earlier news letters. The theme is Christmas presents and the articles are how-tos that could be made as gifts.

Dulcie

If you find an error that needs correcting in the shire newsletter or the shire website, please inform your webminister/chronicler ASAP. It may make her grumpy, but she needs to know.

Please submit January announcements to the Chronicler by December 26.



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**Ambitious inland Vikings build a boat!
(Completely out of cardboard!)**

Autumn Arrows Feast Recipes

Roselyn of Aberdeen – Feastocrat

Part 3 of 3

This feast was not a true A&S type of feast as all of the recipes were not specifically researched, nor were they all from the same country, time period, or culture. They did, however, work together to present a feast with a variety of colors, textures, and taste combinations to present a palatable meal for the modern palate. Here is part 2, the apple cake, stuffed caboges, and the roast beef with creamy garlic mustard sauce. Again, I will add that the recipes were found in various cookbooks and my notes included lists of ingredients, some notes on the redactions, and basically what I did (with much assistance from Gaston). Bon appetite!

Pickled Eggs

8 hard boiled eggs	1 16 oz jar beets	1 ¾ c white vinegar	1 c sugar
1 ½ T whole allspice	1 stick cinnamon	1 T whole cloves	

Boil and peel eggs. Add beet juice, vinegar, sugar, and spices. Pour over eggs & refrigerate – rotate jar daily for even coverage. (These were done about 2 weeks before the event.)

Chicken Tarts

2 c diced chicken	½ c shredded carrots	1 c fresh cheese	1 leek sliced
2 cloves garlic	½ t dill weed	¼ t salt & pepper	
1 egg – beaten	2 T slivered almonds	1 pie shell	

Combine chicken, carrots, cheese, garlic, dill, salt & pepper. Put in pie shell. Pour egg over. Sprinkle with almonds. Bake @ 375° for 30 – 35 minutes.
Note – you can substitute cottage cheese for fresh cheese.

Meranges

2 eggs	½ c sugar	2 t lemon zest
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Mix sugar and lemon zest. Add eggs and put over simmering pot till warm to touch (2-3 min). Whip till forms stiff peaks. Bake 1 hr. Rotate once during baking Turn off oven and leave overnight.

Lemon Custard

3 lemons	1 ½ c sugar	¼ c unsalt butter	4 x-large eggs	1 ½ c lemon juice
1/8 t kosher salt				

Mix, cook over heat till thick (about 10 min) stir constantly, once thick, cool, and refrigerate – serve. (Note – this did not set up for Gaston and me. If it doesn't set up for you, you might add a little cornstarch to the mix or cook it longer. – just a thought)

May your fires be warm, your foods well cooked, and your hearts be light!

Roselyn

How to Make a Mongol Hat

(One size fits all custom fit)

By Lord James Inn Danski

Materials required to make this hat are as follows:

5 to 8 ounce suede leather (suede splits are generally charged by the foot in a variety of colors. I would not use less than a 5 ounce grade)

A sailor's palm (sold as "Osborne #RH266 Sewing Palm Right Hand, pn # 3944-00 for \$17.99. Remember to ask for a left hander if you are not right hand dominant.)

OR

A sewing awl (sold as sewing awl kit pn # 1216-00 for \$15.99)

Heavy sewing needles for leather (Glover's needle size 3, 10/pk pn # 1191 for \$8.99)

Heavy waxed thread (waxed thread 25 yds black, pn # 11207-01 **OR** waxed thread 25 yds natural, pn # 11207-02 **OR** waxed thread 25 yds brown, pn # 11207-03 **OR** you can also purchase 4 oz rolls for the sewing awl))

Your choice of color felt for the lining. (Can be purchased at Wal-Mart for \$.20 a square ft, requires 3 squares to make one hat.)

Materials can be purchased anywhere you prefer, however they may also be purchased online at <http://www.leatherfactory.com/> Items indicated above were purchased through Tandy/leather factory. Prices are effective as of February 21, 2007.

STEP ONE: Using the attached template cut six matching leather and six felt pieces.

STEP TWO: Match two pieces of felt together sandwiched between two pieces of the suede. Place it so the side you want facing outward is to the outside away from the suede. Starting top center stitch the four pieces together to point a on the drawing. This is only a beginning stitch and will be cut out later so appearance is not important at this point.

STEP THREE: Continue in this fashion until all six panels are joined together with the felt to the inside. At this point place the hat on your head and have someone to mark the outside of the hat (with a light pencil or sewing marker as any mistake will show up on the leather) where the top lines should actually be and joining to letter a on the pattern. Otherwise you will have a really tall hat!

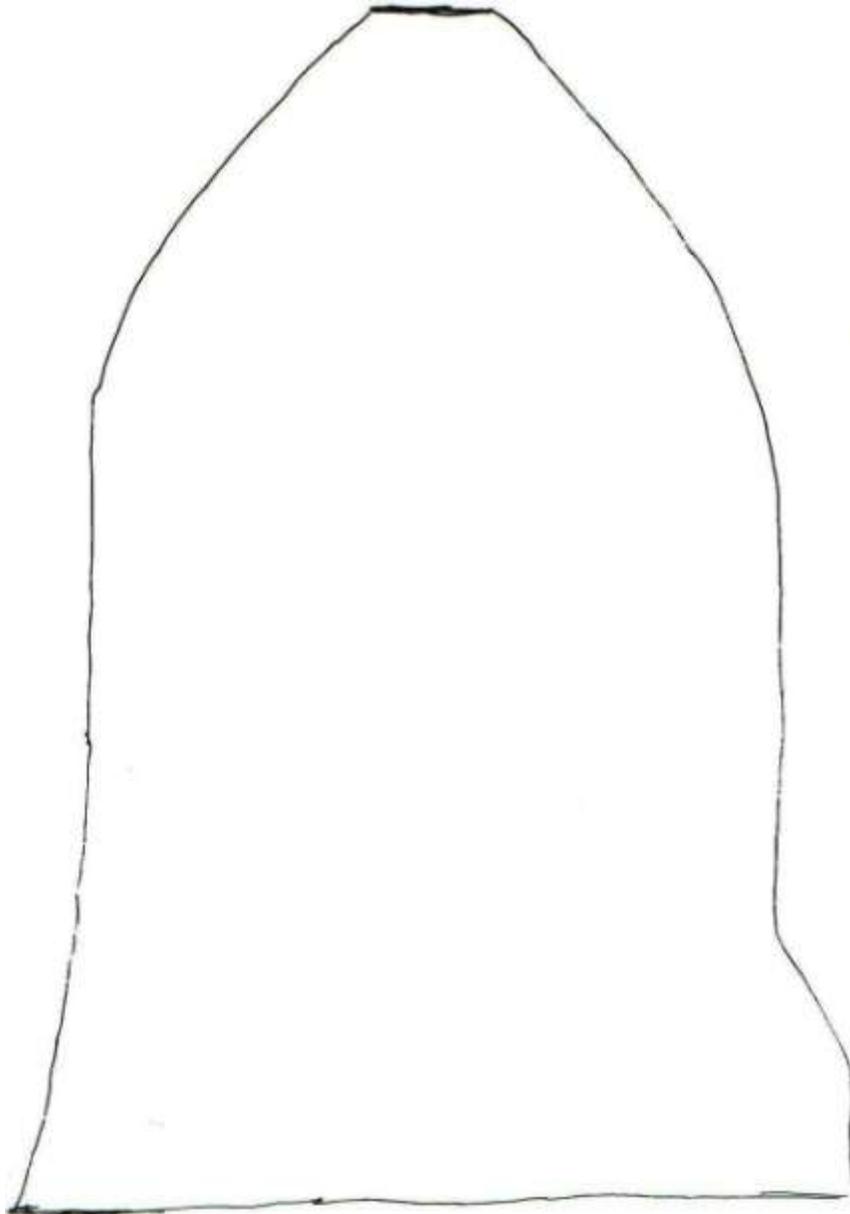
STEP FOUR: Once again stitch (this one will show) just below the marked lines. Once this is done cut along the pre-marked lines. Fold the bottom of the hat up to the desired brim. If the hat still falls down over your eyes you may need to trim it again.

STEP FIVE: The brim can be done one of two ways. I suggest either way you tack it in place once you turn it up. Either sew the fur on the brim and fold the brim up tacking it in place or tack the brim into place and stitch the fur in place. Either way the fur should start from inside the hat and go over the top of the flap back between the hat and the flap. This will leave a nice finish on it.

STEP SIX: Using a heavy thread starting at the top, make a round about whip stitch down each side. This will hold the pieces more firmly together and makes for a really finished look.

Other than personal preference or slight adjustments this pretty well completes the hat. You can add a tassel or a few pieces of horsehair to spruce it up and either would be quite period. Also, if used for extreme cold weather you can make a drape to fasten inside to the back which would cover the neck and ears and also be fairly realistic.

Mongol Hat Pattern (Not to Scale)



How to Make Early Period Sandals

by Lord Gaston de Lurs

Overview:

Carol van Driel-Murray documented Roman sandals with up to six layers of leather, joined by both thong and nails. The layers may have been split to increase flexibility, decorated on the top layer and available in shapes dictated by international fashion rather than comfort. (Goubitz, O., van Driel-Murray, C, Groenman-van Waateringe. 2007. *Stepping Through Time: Footwear in the North-Western Provinces of the Roman Empire*. Spa-Uitgevers: Zwolle) Van Driel-Murray states that during the Roman Empire, sandals were worn by women and children and that around 200 CE, men “abruptly” began to wear them. Women apparently ceased wearing them by our period. I conducted a survey of manuscripts, sculptures and mosaics across Spain, France, Italy, Russia and Byzantia. All of the women I saw were either shod (gillies, shoes) or barefoot—and I was looking for sandals on their feet.

It was not possible to determine if sandals in art were multiple layered when I made my first set. I used one layer of 3/16” thick vegetable tanned leather. I did not treat the leather in any way. This pair lasted two diamond wars, a Lilies, a Gulf and several events in between before my heel wore a 1/4” hole through the leather. They can still be worn—and may just need an additional layer of leather.

In researching this piece, I realized that my toe strings are not the most common form. Most depictions show just one string with a loop on the end rather than a complete loop through the bottom of the sandal. Additionally, I did not use pegs to secure the strap to the sandal at the toe. The set I make in this article laces up to the knee. There are a couple depictions of sandals with laces up to the knee, but this is arguably more fantasy than period.

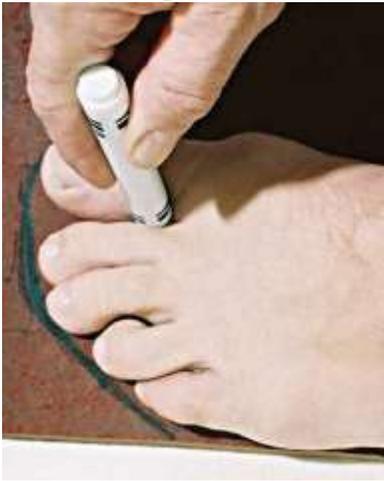
Materials:

- * Thick (14-16 oz, or 1/4” thick) leather
- * Leather shears
- * a means of putting holes in 1/4” thick leather
- * Cord, rawhide or other lacing
- * A small piece of scrap cardboard, 6” long by 1” wide (or so)
- * A magic marker

How To:

1. Plop the sandal leather on the floor ground side (bottom of the sandal) face up and put one of your feet on it.
2. Place the cardboard along the side of your foot and use it as a guide to trace around the foot. The cardboard needn't be thick; the sandal should almost exactly match your foot—maybe an extra 1/4” margin, but know that the front will “catch and fold” under your foot in wet grass.
3. Trace around the foot, avoiding gaps as shown.





4. Mark the toe string hole between your big and second toes—and get in tight.

5. Mark the leather under the center of each ankle.

6. Cut out this sandal.

7. Flip this sandal onto the ground side of the remaining leather. The foot side (top of the sandal) should be facing up.

8. Trace the other sandal.

9. Cut out the other sandal.

10. Place the two sandals foot side (top) together—with the first sandal on top.

11. Drill the toe hole mark you made on the first sandal. All of these holes should be just big



enough for one thickness of your lacing material.

12. Drill two holes at EACH ankle mark. Place them about 1/4" in from the edge of the leather, and about 1/4" apart from each other.

13. Put lacing material through the toe hole. I used rawhide laces, but doubt they are the common form in period. The ties don't "look

right" as compared to the mosaics. I tried jute, it's too weak. Linen cord or something similar might be more appropriate, but the rawhide lasts nearly as long as the sandals.

14. Tie a loop on the foot side (top) of the sandal.



15. Adjust the lace so the loop lays nicely above the bridge of your foot.

16. Turn the sandal over and tie a thick knot right at the hole. Leave a little extra lace—you probably won't notice it under foot, and it allows the string to move a little.

17. Feed one end of a longer lace into an ankle hole, thread through from foot side to ground side. Then, thread the lace through the other hole on that side from ground side to foot side.

18. Repeat last step with the other end of the lace and the other side of the sandal.

19. Did you catch that pun??!? “Sandals.” “Last step?” Oh.

20. Adjust the lace so both loose ends are about equal—just as you do on shoes—but leave a generous loop for the heel.

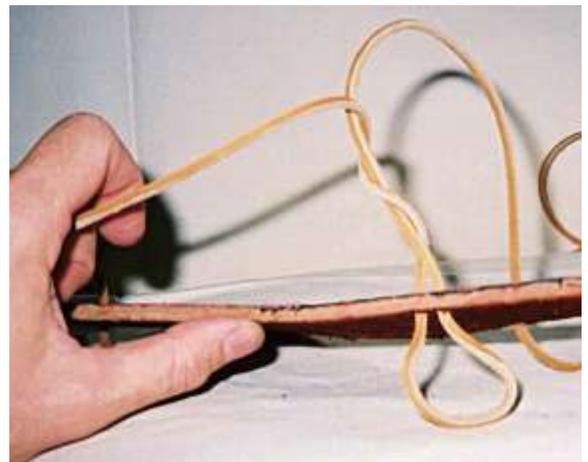


21. Wind each loose end through the heel loop two times.



This puts the twist into the laces. If you find your sandal doesn't stay under your foot, add another twist to just one side. It will either fix it or prove that you added the twist to the wrong side. I don't know why this works, but it does.

22. Thread the laces through the toe loop and tie to your liking. The most correct method appears to be a standard shoe-lace knot. I wrapped the lacing around my leg as many times as the lace length allowed, but most of the art shows only a single wrap around the leg. A sizeable minority shows two wraps around the leg, but more is exceedingly rare and arguable.



I wrapped the lacing around my leg as many times as the lace length allowed, but most of the art shows only a single wrap around the leg. A good minority shows two wraps around the leg, but nothing like what I wear. Not a problem. There's next to no documentation for the SCA-style belt either (you know—the one with a loose end dangling several inches below the waist).

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OPEN! *There are many requirements for this office. Contact*
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Shire Calendar - December 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Winter Court, Three Rivers, St. Louis, MO
4 2 PM: Archery Prac- tice Beaver Creek Conservation Area	5	6 6:45 PM: Weekly Meeting Project Night Newburg United Methodist Church, Newburg, Mo.	7	8	9	10 Kris Kinder Kansas City, KS
11 2 PM: Archery Prac- tice Beaver Creek Conservation Area	12	13 6:45 PM: Weekly Business Meeting Newburg United Methodist Church, Newburg, Mo.	14 Fighter Practice at St. Roberts Community Center – 6:30 PM	15	16	17 Shire Christmas Party 7 PM at James and Aesa’s House
18 2 PM: Archery Prac- tice Beaver Creek Conservation Area	19	20 6:45 PM: Weekly Meeting Project Night Newburg United Methodist Church, Newburg, Mo.	21	22	23	24 Christmas Eve!
25 Christmas Day!	26	27 6:45 PM: Weekly A&S Class Newburg United Methodist Church, Newburg, Mo.	28 Fighter Practice at St. Roberts Community Center – 6:30 PM	29	30	31 New Year’s Eve!



List of Shire Events - December

3	Dec		Winter Court, St.Louis, MO
4	Dec	2 PM	Archery Practice
6	Dec	6:45 PM	Shire Meeting – Project Night
10	Dec		Kris Kinder, Kansas City, KS
11	Dec	2 PM	Archery Practice
13	Dec	6:45 PM	Shire Business Meeting
14	Dec	6:30 PM	Fighter Practice
17	Dec	7 PM	Shire Holiday Party
18	Dec	2 PM	Archery Practice
20	Dec	6:45 PM	Shire Meeting--Project Night
27	Dec	6:45 PM	Shire Meeting—Arts and Sciences Class
28	Dec	6:30 PM	Fighter Practice

Driving Directions

Archery Practice: Beaver Creek Conservation Area: No Crossbows. No Archery in freezing temperatures (32° F). From Rolla, take Highway 63 south for several miles. The range gate will be on your left, immediately across the highway from the VFW post. Drive through the gate to the top of the hill, park and take the line!

Shire Meetings: Newburg United Methodist Church: Take I-44 to the Newburg Exit. Turn south. The church will be on your right, a little past the patrol car waiting at the bottom of the hill to catch all of you scoff-law speeders.

St Robert Community Center: Take I-44 to Exit 161. Turn towards Ft Wood (South). Immediately south of the highway, turn right. Take a quick left through the median and continue towards the Skate Board park. The Center is the big building near the radio tower.

Website: <http://www.shireofcalanaisnuadh.org>

Chat group: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/calanaisnuadh/>

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Electronic copies are also available on the Shire website a few days after the email version. Hard Copies are free to the first ten people who ask for one at the Shire Business Meeting. First Come, First Served.

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