Winter Nights...East! October 24, 2015, Barony of Carolingia (Berlin, MA)

Greetings to all bards and storytellers! The Barony of Concordia of the Snows has been running an annual event each October for the last several years. It is a place where storytellers and bards gather and challenge each other in a contest of skills and learning. In some years the challenges have been personal - one on one across an oxhide. Other years - it's been a challenge to entertain given topics drawn from a pouch. That event is called Winter Nights and is well known among bards.

This year, Carolingia and Quintavia are combining forces with Concordia to bring you Winter Nights in a new location for this year. Same concept, same ideas, same event, different location...

Doors open at 10:00am, competition to start about 11am and run till 9pm. There will be a rotating day-board all day and into the evening. There will be time for competition and time/space for schmoozing. Competition rules are still being defined in detail, but an overview is provided below. Crash space can be found for those from far away. Winner gets bragging right and the Winter Nights Arm Band - now carried by Mistress Anne of Framlingham (last year's winner). The agreement is that the Arm Band be returned at the next Winter Nights competition!

The event will be held in Berlin, MA, about an hour's drive from Boston. It will be held in the Camelot Housing Common Room. No site fee, but donations are requested to help pay for the day-board. Event is limited to 60 people, preference given to competitors. Further details of all activities and scheduled times will be added to the event announcement as they come in. Check back often!

Competition rules:

The competition will take place in rounds, the number of rounds depending on the number of competitors. First round, please state who you are and where you come from, then perform a short (3-8 minutes or so) piece of your own choosing. Second round will begin head to head challenges, now that we all know each other a little bit, across the Bardic Oxhide. Challenge pairs will be organized by the MOL. Pairs will issue bardic challenges to each other (topics such as "revenge", "true love", "anything *except* Norse sagas", etc -- be kind!), or if they're stumped for a topic, we will have curated inspiration cards to use instead. Each pair will have the length of the previous two performances to prepare to meet their respective challenges. Rounds will continue until we run out of time.

Performances will be judged by a rotating panel drawn from the competitors, with the following scoring format:

- Up to two points for issuing a friendly challenge that is, does the challenge you gave your competitor support and encourage them to extend themselves?
- Up to two points for answering your own challenge that is, does your performance embody the challenge given you? How well did you follow the spirit of the challenge?
- Up to three points for presentation skill that is, how polished was the performance? Was it SCA-appropriate?

Directions:

Take your best route to Route 495 in Massachusetts. Take exit 26 and follow the signs for MA-62W in Berlin. From 62W, turn left onto Sawyer Hill Road and drive 1.4 miles; the event site will be on the right. Please park in visitor parking along the main driveway (there will be parking attendants to help you find a spot) - please do not park in any spots marked for residents.

Site Address: Camelot Common House 46 Sawyer Hill Road

Berlin, MA 01503

Site is NOT accessible.

Site Opens: 10:00 am on Saturday, October 24, 2015 Site Closes: 11:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 24, 2015

Site Fees

Winter Nights...East is a free event, but attendance is limited to 60, so preregistration via the online form listed below is highly recommended.

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Feast Fees:

Monetary donations toward a rotating lunch and dinner dayboard are welcome but not required. Potluck food and beverage contributions are also welcome, but please label with ingredients.

Make Checks payable to: There is no fee for Winter Nights...East.

Send Reservations to: Please register online at

 $https://docs.google.com/a/brande is.edu/forms/d/1AICwq2PnEz85XHvAXhhNrPY-91PZ1nh85rHY_Xei_9I/viewform$

Autocrat contact info: Mistress Anne of Framlingham (Anne Rookey) 781-248-9372 anne@brandeis.edu

Sir Michael of York (Michael Tighe) 781-308-8709 tighe@rcn.com

Notice: If you do not receive an e-mail with instructions on how to edit your announcement within 24 hours, please e-mail eventform-help@eastkingdom.org.



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