

The Crane's Call

Shire of Caer Dun March 2023 LVII



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March 2023



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

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Fighter Practice

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Kingdom of
Gleann Abhann



March 11 - March 19

Gulf Wars XXXI

Kings Arrow Ranch 222 Rault Dr, Lumberton, MS

March 31 @ 5:00 pm - April 2 @ 10:00 am

Gleann Abhann Spring Coronation

Elks Lodge Camp 67 Lomas Rd, Hattiesburg, MS

Spring Coronation 2023

Seneschal & Knights Marshal

Wow! We had a busy month! We had fighter practices almost every weekend! We had 2 Equestrian Practices ran by the incredible Maiôsara Azparou! We had horses! Rapier! & Heavy oh my!!! It was a wonderful, busy month! I want to thank Maiôsara for all the hard work she put in for the Equestrian Practices. Guys, she did all the prep and set up on her own! We are completely prepped for Equestrian in our region thanks to her! Gulf Wars is here this month! I hope everyone that is going has prepped! I'll be home for War so I still plan to run fighter practices as usual. We are still working to meet basic armor requirements for loaner gear. We have gotten some donations to help on this path. They are very appreciated! Hopefully we will be able to get our new fighters authorized quickly! There's still a lot of work to do! We will have our regular Sunday fighter practices and our Business meeting the 4th Wednesday of the month as usual. We are looking at making some changes to fighter practices to include more Rapier practice. Watch the Facebook page for updates and we will get them on the calendar as soon as cemented! We plan on having Equestrian Practice again in April! Perhaps even having our Shire Champion lists at that time! Stay tuned for more announcements! I hope you all have a great War!

**YIS Ld Karsas Sarmatae called Talan
Seneschal and Knight Marshal
Shire of Caer Dun**



CÉAD MÍLE FAILTE



CHRONICLER

I am off to England. If you are going to Gulf War, be safe and have a great time. I would like pictures and stories for the newsletter if possible.

If you have ideas for gatherings or outings then please let the Seneschal know so we can start doing more stuff. Great ideas were discussed at Business Meeting so be on the look-out for information, input and ways to help. Mysterious I know...hehehehe.

If you know of any festivals or public happenings we can get involved in be sure to let the Shire know. We need to do demos and such to get our name out there.

Until next month. Be safe and have fun.

**Baron Devin ODonnabhain
Chronicler**



HAPPY SAINT PATRICK'S DAY !

Arts & Sciences



As most know, Gulf Wars is looming on the horizon. I hope you are prepared or at least nearly prepared. A lot goes into making ready. I suggest a camping list. Many can be found on the internet. They are easy to customize to your needs. And trust me...they can help prevent any forgotten items. Items I suggest you include are a well-stocked First Aid kit, treatment for bug & insect bites, and sunscreen.

If you have special medical needs, please wear an Emergency bracelet or necklace listing your ailment. One other thing I want to suggest is an Emergency Buddy (or two.) This can be someone in your camp or close friend who will be an emergency contact.

Have a safe & great War.

**Baroness Bailey Rose Marsh
Caer Dun A&S Officer**



Roland the Farter: Medieval England's Celebrity Flatulist



A manor in Suffolk and a whopping 30 acres (12 hectares) of land was given to a person who was renowned for his ability to gas, quite literally, at the behest of King Henry II. Roland le Petour, also known as Roulandus le Fartere, was granted land in the late 12th century, which was typical for favored entertainers who serviced the king. He was most probably a jester, who on special occasions like Christmas Day had to jump, whistle, and fart to entertain the assembled guests!

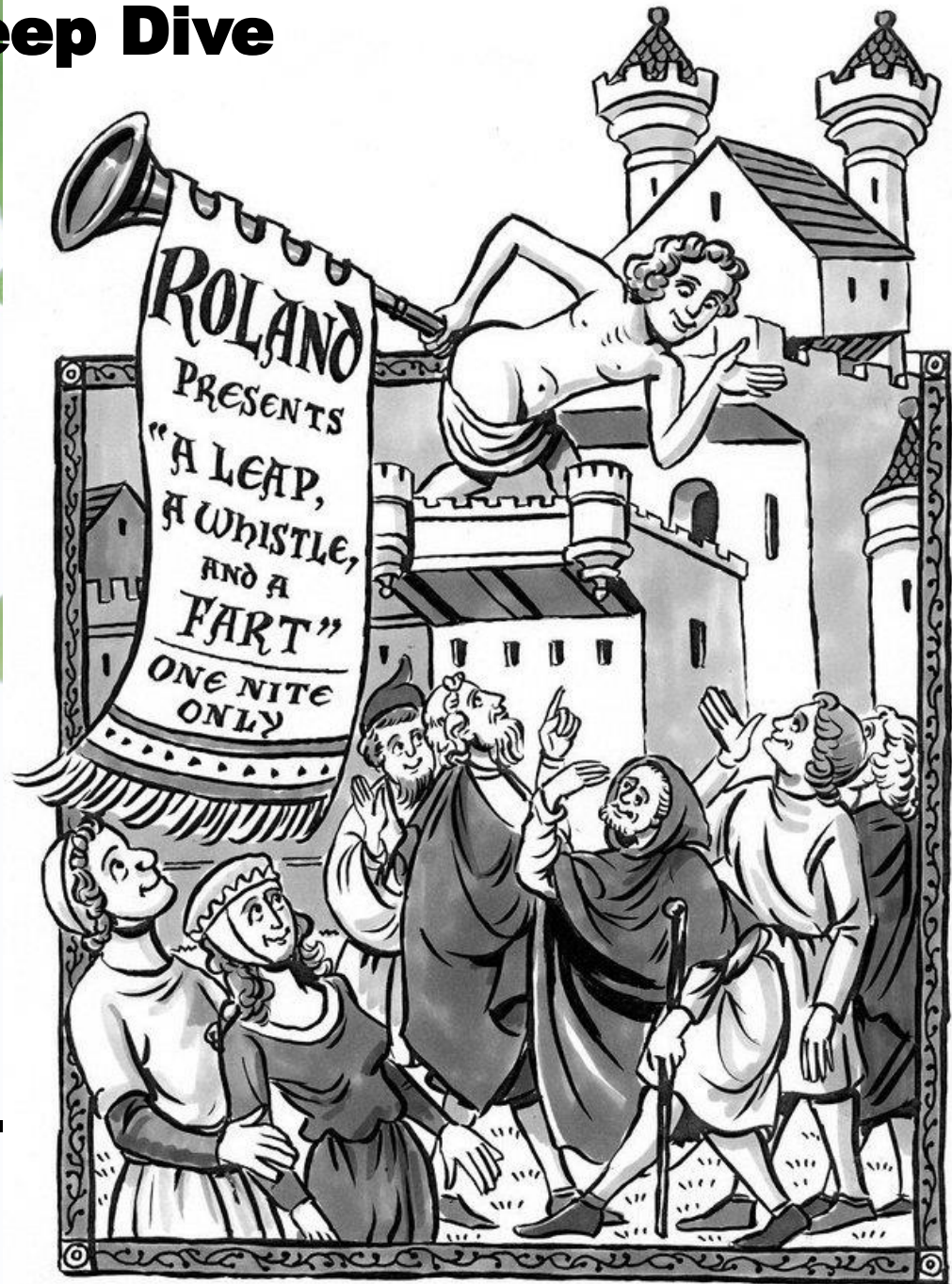
The historical reference can be found in the 13th century English *Liber Feodorum* (Book of Fees), a text that records feudal landholdings in England or lands effectively held by individuals directly from the crown. Roland's requirement of performing '*saltum, siffletum, pettum*', (i.e., a jump, a whistle, and a fart) was well recorded. He was clearly a standard buffoon, whose fart was his stock in trade in exchange for this absolutely massive expanse of real estate and staying in Henry's good books.

Specifically, he was granted a serjeanty, a term used to describe a form of feudal tenure, which was conditional upon rendering a specified personal service to the monarch, other than knight-service. This is how Roland was able to obtain his manor and lands, by way of serjeanty.

“From the translated version of *Liber Feodorum* : “The serjeanty, which formerly was held by Roland the Farter in Hemingston in the county of Suffolk, for which he was obliged to perform every year on the birthday of our Lord before his master the king, one jump, and a whistle, and one fart, was alienated in accordance with these specific requirements.” “

A Scarce Historical Record, and a Deep Dive into Flatulence

However, Roland's historical record is rather scarce, as investigated by Valerie Allen, who wrote a comprehensive historical account of Roland in her 2007 book, *On Farting: Language and Laughter in the Middle Ages*. Her research, based on fee ledgers, showed that Roland was possibly first working under King Henry I, and then with Henry II. By the time Henry III came along, Roland had been dismissed, with the king finding his service and talent rather "indecent". With this, Roland had to surrender his land and manor.



It was unlikely that Roland could have actually lived the length of the reign of two kings, and reached a third's. However, what was likely was that he was a much loved and coveted figure, and his story has been a source of much joy and amusement.

The universality of flatulence meant that no position in the social classes was exempt; everyone had the anxiety of uncontrollable wind passing out from their bodies. According to Allen, there was an added layer (pun-intended), which was one of those 'more than meets the eye' kind of situations.

““Gas is the product of decomposition, so morally, theologically, a lot of the writers in the Middle Ages saw it as the mark of death. There was a lot of moralization about farts and sh, that they are the living daily reminder that we are going to die and that's all we are, we are mortal, and sinful as well,” she said.**

Flatulism in Other Cultures and Histories

Surprisingly, Roland was not some historical anomaly who held this unique position in society's annals. This profession was widespread in Ireland throughout medieval times, for example. A tradition of 8th century Irish records lists *bruigedoire*, or fartars, as those who held retainers in courts. Roland's contemporaries, a group of Irish fartars called *braigetori*, allegedly occupied a table at the banquet hall of the High King of Ireland.

“Not all performing fartars were land-owners,” cautions Allen, but there was an established, if not profession, at least specialty. “I should think that for festive occasions this kind of entertainment was central and necessary and must have involved high degrees of skills, a whole range of performance tricks,” she says, “They’re like circus performers .”



A Now when into their fenced holdes, the knaves are entred in,
 To smite and knocke the cattell downe, the hangmen doe beginne.
 One plucketh off the Oxes eare, which he euen now did weare:
 Another latching pannes, to boyle the flesh, his hide prepare.
 C These sheeves attend upon the fire, for seruing vp the feast:
 B And fyer smellicall sneaking in, doth please amongst the best.

3

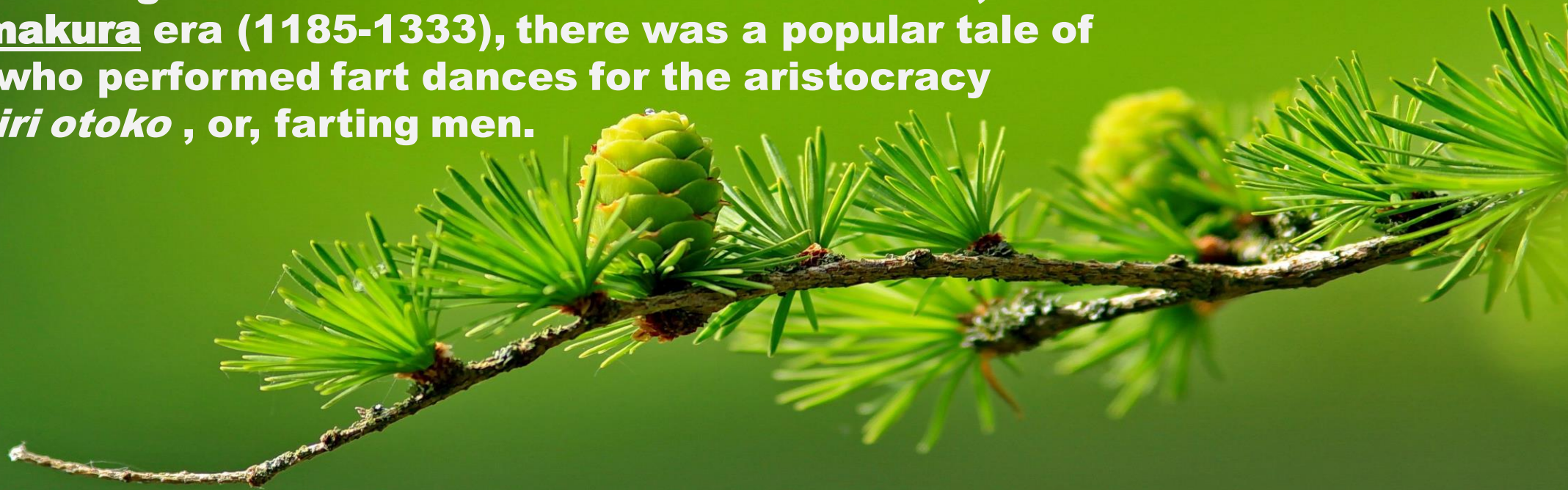
whoe
 For
 whic
 Exc
 D Bot
 Doe
 th in Romish toyes the Ape, by counterfetting Paul:
 they doe a ward him then, the highest roome of all.
 ing set, because the cheere, is deemed little worth:
 he same be intermixt, and lac'de with Irish myeth.
 sic, and Harper, is prepared, which by their cunning art,
 and cheare by all the gesses, with comfort at the hart.

“The Image of Irelande”, John Derrick, 1581. Two flatulists can be seen at the right part of the picture. ([Public Domain](#))

In Canada, in the mythology of the Innus, Matshishkapeu (literally, the Farting God) is a hugely powerful spirit. He is regarded as a legendary shaman, who can inflict gastrointestinal pain or relief upon others at will. He is even more powerful than the legendary Caribou Master, who Matshishkapeu cursed with a painful case of constipation, and had the Caribou Master beg for his forgiveness, before granting him complete relief.

Saint Augustine of Hippo (354-430 AD), too, mentioned certain performers who, in his words, had “such command of their bowels, that they can break wind continuously at will, so as to produce the effect of singing... a number of people produce at will such musical sounds from their behind (without any stink) that they seem to be singing from the region.”

There is even evidence of flatulist performers from the Edo period in Japan (the 1600s and the 1700s). Tokyo streets had performers called *misemonos*, who featured the kind of people populating ‘freak shows.’ One popular misemono star was Kirifuri-hanasaki-otoko. There is documented evidence of him from 1774, taking in quantities of air and releasing it in modulated flatulent arias. Earlier, in Japan’s Kamakura era (1185-1333), there was a popular tale of performers who performed fart dances for the aristocracy called *heppiri otoko* , or, farting men.





***Roland the Farther was not alone; several cultures appreciated the humor of flatulence.
Japanese drawing He-gassen (Fart Battle), 1864 (Public Domain)***

While flatulism has lost its popularity in recent times, there are a handful of performers still trying to keep the tradition alive, particularly with the advent of the internet and video networking sites like YouTube. However, it is fair to say that none can match the ‘airial’ prowess of Roland the Farter.

***Top image: Roland the Farter’s flatulence was seemingly so impressive that it garnered a gift of land from King Henry I. Painting of The Court Jester by John Watson Nicol, 1895. Source: [Public Domain](#)**

By Sahir Pandey. Article used with permission from <https://www.ancient-origins.net/>

Caer Dun Equestrian and Fighter Practice.

Pictures courtesy of Maiosara Azparou.











Meeting Places

Please note that the month of March has some changes for meetings and fighter practice. Please see the Calendar on page 4

Business Meeting; Held the 4th Wednesday of every month at Aunt Jenny's Catfish Restaurant, 1217 Washington Ave. Ocean Springs, MS. Meeting begins at 6:30 pm.

Fighter Practice; Held every Sunday. Check calendar for dates and the Shire Facebook page for any updates. Fighter Practice is held at the Vancleave Splashpad at Vancleave Complex, 5400 Ball Park Road, Vancleave, MS 39564.

Updated Statement of Core Values At the Board of Directors July 2018 meeting, the following policy was approved and is to be considered effective immediately: SCA Statement of Core Values In pursuing its mission, the SCA is committed to excellence in its programs, communications and activities and to act in accordance with the chivalric virtues of honor and service; value and respect the worth and dignity of all individuals; practice inclusiveness and respect pluralism and diversity; promote a safe and respectful environment for all SCA events; act with transparency, fairness, integrity and honesty; be a responsible steward of SCA resources; and, be committed to maintaining the trust of its members and participants. It is the expectation of the SCA that its members and participants, in all events and activities of the SCA, will conduct themselves in accordance with these tenets. Comments are strongly encouraged and can be sent to: SCA Inc. Box 360789 Milpitas, CA 95036 You may also email comments@lists.sca.org. This announcement is an official informational release by the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. Permission is granted to reproduce this announcement in its entirety in newsletters, websites and electronic mailing lists. Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion <https://www.sca.org/dei-office/><https://www.sca.org/dei-office/dei-resources/><https://www.sca.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/DEI-handbook.pdf><https://www.sca.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/DEIMissionVision>

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