

The VOX BOREALIS

SEPTEMBER 2024

Programme:

Poetry

Parallax

Puzzling Proofs

Regnum Ealdormerensis



Their Royal Majesties

King Evander MacLauchlan & Queen Marioun Golightly

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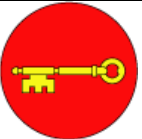


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This newsletter is available online at <http://enewsletter.sca.org/> for current Sustaining, Family,
& International members. Membership forms available at: <https://membership.sca.org>

Event Calendar

September 2024

1 Deadline for October Tidings

Aug 29-Sept 2 Gwyl y Fflam - Autumn Flames, Shire of Bastille du Lac (Havelock, ON)

14 Stone the Crows, Shire of Champcorbeau (Merlin, ON)

21 Brawl in the Fall IV, Canton of Petrea Thule (Codrington, ON)

28 Fall Coronation, Barony of Rising Waters (Rockton, ON)

October 2024

1 Deadline for November Tidings

5 Huntsman's Havest, Barony of Ben Dunfirth (Binbrook, ON)

19 Crown Tournament, Canton of Bryniau Twynnog (Shakespeare, ON)

26 Step Spritely, Canton of Monadh (Mississauga, ON)

November 2024

1 Deadline for December Tidings

9 Tentatively: Feast of the Hare, Canton of Caldrithig (Bells Corners, ON)

December 2024

1 Deadline for January Tidings

7 Wassail, Canton of Bryniau Twynnog (Shakespeare, ON)

Parallax by Duchess Kaylah the Cheerful



<https://ealdormere.ca/how-to-register-your-event-the-kingdom-of-ealdormere/>

Kingdom Event Rotation

2024

2024 Spring A&S: Rising Waters

2024 Spring Coronation: Ben Dunfirth

2024 Spring Crown: Septentria

2024 Fall Coronation: Skraeling Althing

2024 Fall Crown: Ramshaven

2025

2025 Spring A&S: Shires

(assist from Ramshaven)

2025 Spring Coronation: Rising Waters

2025 Spring Crown: Ben Dunfirth

2025 Fall Coronation: Septentria

2024 Fall Crown: Skraeling Althing

2026

2026 Spring A&S: Ramshaven

2026 Spring Coronation: Shires

(assist from Skraeling Althing)

2026 Spring Crown: Rising Waters

2026 Fall Coronation: Ben Dunfirth

2026 Fall Crown: Septentria

2027

2027 Spring A&S: Skraeling Althing

2027 Spring Coronation: Ramshaven

2027 Spring Crown: Shires

(assist from Septentria)

2027 Fall Coronation: Rising Waters

2027 Fall Crown: Ben Dunfirth

From the Guest Chronicler

Hi Ho! Kaylah the Guest Chronicler here, reporting live from my sewing room:

It has been my distinct pleasure to nag Sir Brand on his path to knighthood. As such, he generously allowed me to speak at his elevation. What could I possibly say to give depth, meaning and gravity to such an occasion of rare accomplishment?

Since Duchess Jocea was definitely going to bring the tears, it was my task to bring the laughs. Although during my poetic recitation there were tears in His Majesty Evander's eyes... such is the life of a poet.

Given that many folks couldn't attend Brand's knighting, and having spend so many hours composing and illustrating this epic poem in his honour, it seems only fitting to publish an issue of The Vox Borealis to share the joy with the populace.

So grab a tissue, sit back, and enjoy some sublime poetry and artful illustrations.

In Service,

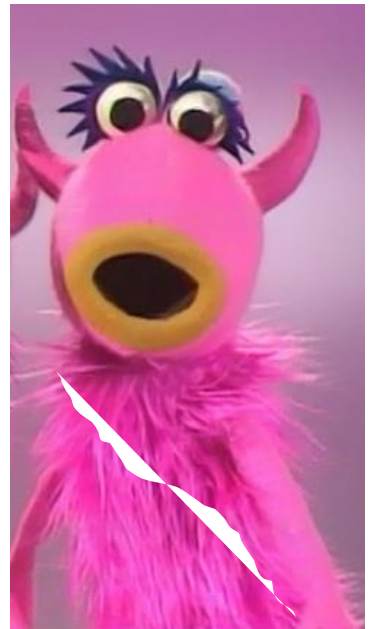
Duchess Kaylah the Cheerful

"Is this culture?
I don't think
this is culture."



"Well... it's *cultural*."

"Doo doo
doo
doo doo."



*An Epic Poem of Love, Friendship and Combat,
in just six pages.*

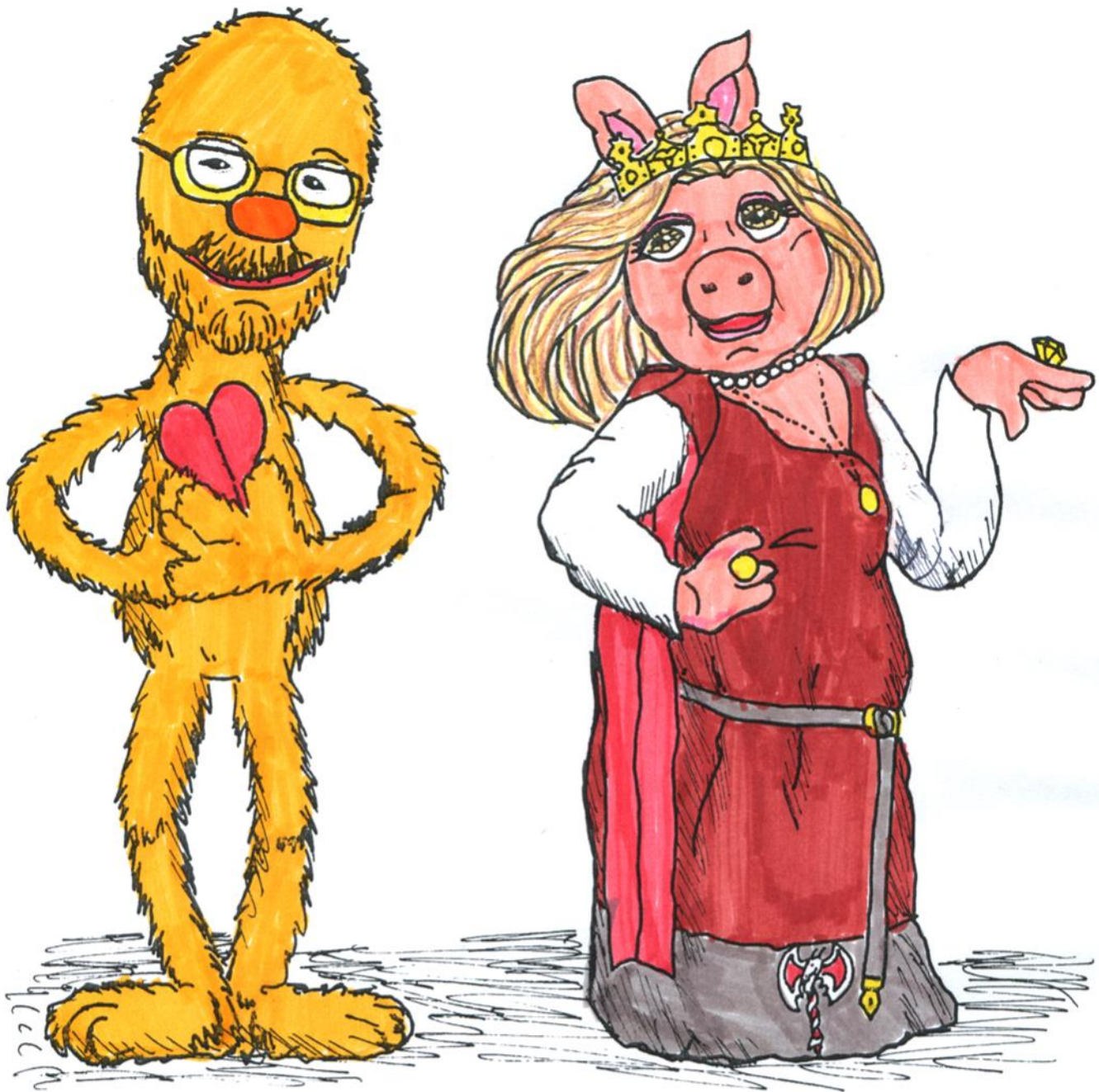
The Transmogrification of a Herald

Or

The Quest of Sir Brand Thorwaldsen:
An Odyssey into
the Fellowship of Thwack

*Composed in the style of the great old poets of renown
in tribute to Brand upon the occasion of his
Elevation into the Order of the Chivalry
at Pennsic War 51.*

*Poem written and illustrated
by Duchess Kaylah the Cheerful.*



**There once was a herald named Brand
Whose voice was much in demand.
He fell in love with a Duchess
She was so luscious,
Brand determined to win his love's hand.**

1



**A muppet-like fighter at best,
Brand's heart beat with love in his vest.
So his friend, she did nag
To improve his trick bag,
And our Herald set out on a Quest.**



“A Crown for my true love”, vowed Brand;
 His skills he planned to expand,
 In the smart car he jumped,
 Totally pumped
 And travelled all over the land.



**Repetitious fight tales did not trouble him,
But our lovely Duchess just wanted cuddling,
Of fighting talk endless
Jocea could have heard much less,
And was tempted to pillow smother him.**



**To a diligent nag he responds,
Through practice his skill's passed Beyond
I attest firsthand
That Brand's damned left-hand,
Packs a whallop, no longer a fairy wand.**

5



**While focused on his true love's Crown,
On the list field our hero's renowned.
Now he's less of a muppet
And it's time for the buffet
Brand's inner stick jock has been found.**

6

Credits: The Cast & Characters

Sir Brand inspired by Grover



Duchess Jocea inspired by the glamorous Miss Piggy

Sir Menken played by Ernie



Duchess Kaylah
played by a Snowth
“Doo Doo doo doo doo”

Poem inspired by the frogs in the pond at St. Anne's Spa. Thank you for the ideas and the wine. Thank you to Jim Henson for Muppets.



Puzzling Proofs : The History of Limericks

The limerick is my favourite form of poetry. I love the AABBA rhyme scheme, and the galloping meter, “da-DAH-da da-DAH-da da-Dah-da”. Lots of fun packed into just 5 lines. But is it “period”?

According to internet sensation Fred Hornaday, <https://kingoflimericks.com/>, the first written poem that resembles a limerick was written by Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274). Given that humour was scarce in 13th century medieval monasteries, this poem is prayer-like. While exhibiting the AABBA rhyme scheme but not quite the meter of a modern limerick, we can see that Saint Thomas was on to something great in the world of poetry.

Here is the original Latin version, for those of you who really enjoy that sort of thing, and Mr. Hornaday’s translation.

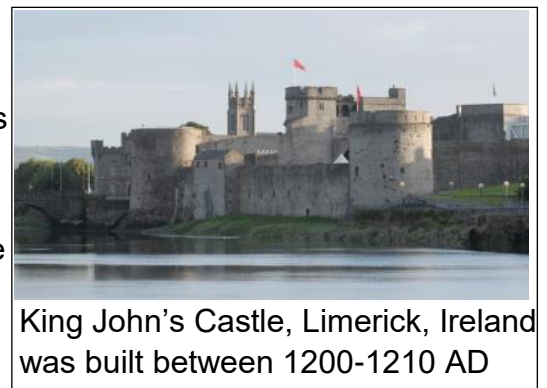
SIT VITIORUM MEORUM EVACUATIO
Concupiscentiae et libidinis exterminatio,
CARITATIS ET PATIENTIAE,
HUMILITATIS ET OBEDIENTIAE,
Omniumque VIRTUTUM augmentatio.

To circumvent brimstone and fire
Expelling unsav’ry desire
I piously pray
And devoutly obey
As my soul soars progressively higher.

Shakespeare wrote in iambic pentameter, but on rare occasions slipped into the anapestic meter of limericks. Shakespeare may be considered to have written the first English limerick in Othello, (Act II Scene III) in a nonsense drinking song. Shakespeare was a man ahead of his time.

And let me the canakin clink, clink;
And let me the canakin clink
A soldier’s a man;
A life’s but a span;
Why, then, let a soldier drink.

Wikipedia, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Limerick_\(poetry\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Limerick_(poetry)) claims that the name limerick may have come from a drinking parlour game in which players made up nonsense verses ending with “Will you (or won’t) come up to Limerick?”. This may refer to the city of Limerick in Ireland, which was founded by Vikings in 922 AD. <https://www.limerick.ie/discover/visiting/experience-limerick/our-history>



Edward Lear famously published “Lear’s Book of Nonsense” in 1846. His poems were not called “limericks” in Lear’s lifetime, but definitely popularized the form as playful poetry.

The earliest documented use of the word “limerick” appeared in “The St. John Daily News”, a New Brunswick newspaper on November 30, 1880.

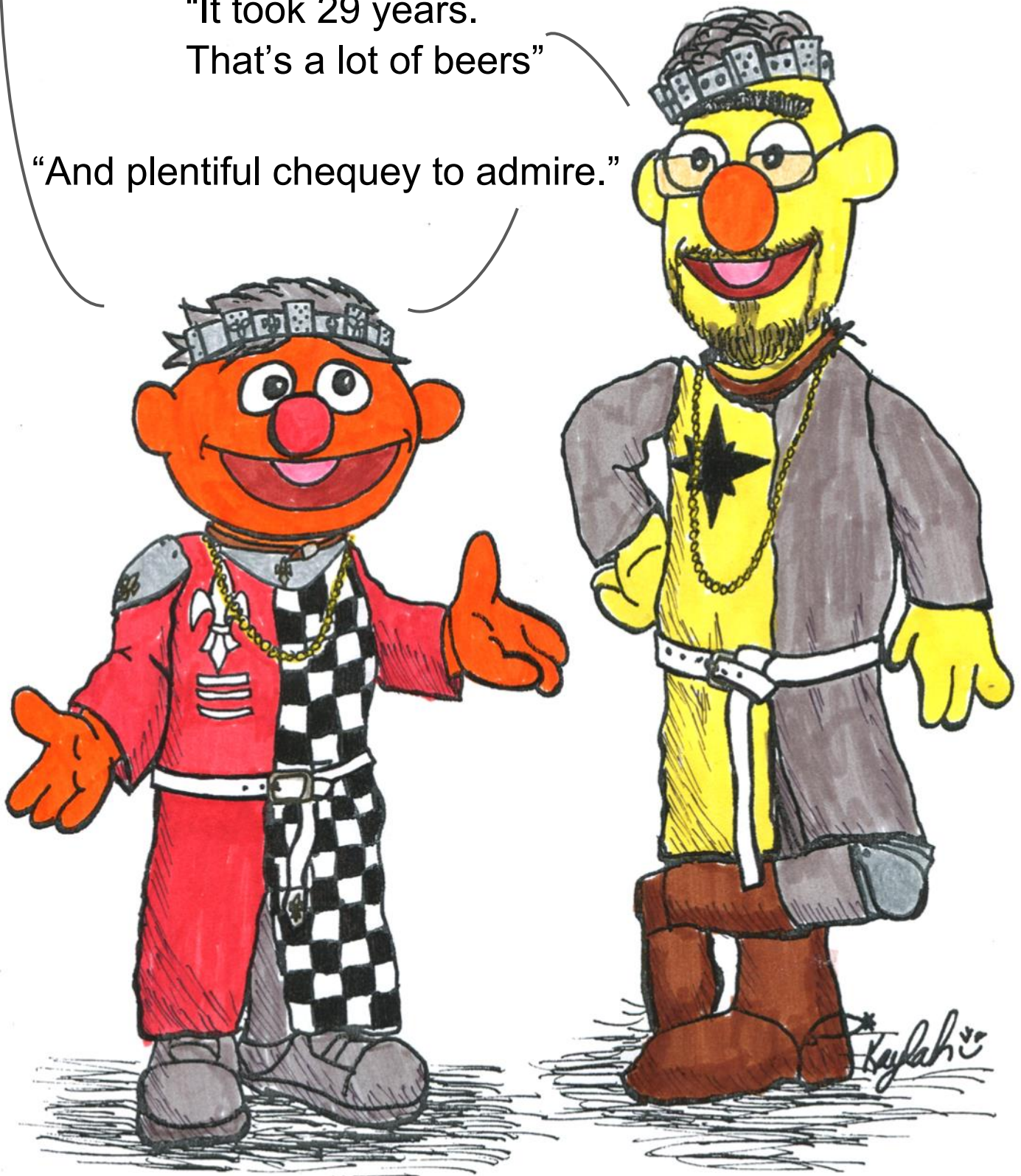
So in a roundabout way, limericks are sort of Canadian.

“Congrats on elevating your squire.”

“Now I need a young fighter to hire.”

“It took 29 years.
That’s a lot of beers”

“And plentiful chequey to admire.”





Cover Art

An Ode to The Muppet Show. Fan art composed by Duchess Kaylah the Cheerful

THE TIDINGS

A few things we're required to say...

This is the September 2024 AS 59 issue supplementing The Tidings, the official newsletter of the Kingdom of Ealdormere.

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