

The Dredgings



Being the Voice of the Barony of Lochmere

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If you are new to the Barony of Lochmere, these websites should be of interest to you:

Lochmere Homepage: <http://www.lochmere.atlantia.sca.org>

Official SCA Homepage: <http://www.sca.org>

Kingdom of Atlantia Homepage: <http://www.atlantia.sca.org>

The Acorn: <http://www.acorn.atlantia.sca.org>

Event Calendar: <http://www.acorn.atlantia.sca.org/calendar.htm>.

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Concerts Around Town

Folger Consort

December 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22 and 23rd
Folger Elizabethan Theatre, Washington, DC

FLORENCE: Christmas Music of the Trecento In 14th-century Florence, lay religious fraternities began incorporating vernacular ceremonial songs known as laude into their worship. This popular form entered the homes of the city's courtiers, learned clerics, and middle-class urbanites. Hear these stirring laude performed along with cheerful dances and polyphonic works in joyous celebration of the season. With vocal ensemble Trio Eos, multi-instrumentalist Christa Patton, and period strings and winds

Twelfth Night ***“O Joyous Night”***

Armonia Nova's traditional concert of the season of Epiphany and Winter Solstice
Saturday, January 5, 2013 at 7:30 P.M.
St. Mark's on Capitol Hill
118 3rd St. SE, Washington DC
(Metro: Capitol South)
Sunday, January 6, 2013 at 6:00 PM
Christ Church
118 N. Washington St., Old Town Alexandria, Virginia
Goodwill donation requested



<http://www.armonianova.org/concerts.htm>



Falun Dafa Association of Washington, D.C. presents: *Shen Yun: Reviving 5,000 Years of Civilization* Jan. 29 - Feb. 3, 2013
Kennedy Center

Shen Yun Performing Arts, the world's premier classical Chinese dance and music companies, returns with a lavishly colorful and exhilarating show, all new for 2013. Shen Yun uses performing arts to present stories that bring to life the inner essence of China. This includes ancient legends, characters, and tales from history, and representative events from the modern world. In Shen Yun performances, themes like spiritual devotion, the benevolence of gods, good and evil, retribution, and the search for the meaning of life have appeared in dance stories and lyrics. Shen Yun Performing Arts presents classical Chinese dance, song, and music with choreography ranging from grand processions to legions of thunderous drums, with gorgeously costumed dancers moving in synchronized patterns.

Meeting Minutes November 12, 2012

Instead of doing the officers reports first we are going to do old business, new business and officer's reports. We are going to try this new format.

Old Business - Arianna: we had a postmortem with Storvik on Battle on the Bay- it was a very good meeting. No one was happy with the site. We have come up with some potential ways to fix this if we don't find another site. Medb and Avicé have offered to autocrat the September event. September 13-15, 2013 Yay!

We made \$ 1289 dollars on the event. It did well but there were communication issues that need to be worked out.

280 total adults 247/ children 33. The feast came in under budget. Next year will be Storvik's investiture and next year's theme will be a Viking raid.

January Event – Maddy

Everything is going well in the planning. During the day there will be dancing, A&S classes and competitions. There are a lot of fun things plans. We will have a captor's game, a version of the assassin's game and of course, the play and music performances. Lady Lisette and Syr Christian are cooking the feast. We can get in after 9pm on Friday to do set up. Please talk to Maddy about helping with the set up.

April event – Alric April 12-14 Night out of Town

I do have a list of jobs that I need help with- our A&S theme is going to be Traveling items. We have an offer for breakfast, so I hope to get people to stay over.

On Target – June 14-16 Who is doing on target? Arianna says she can do it but wants to offer the chance to someone else. Much discussion of who should be volunteered...

Coronet Designs were discussed with Fran- He brought several design ideas for the leather coronet designs.

Discussion of Storage unit rental- we would need a 10x10 ft unit to accommodate the poles etc. It would be expensive for a year. If we had a free fighter practice site it would be easier to plan on this but right now it would drain the baronies finances.

At one of our previous meetings it was proposed that a member of the populace be appointed for each new Lochmere autocrat regardless of whether they have autocrated another event in another group. We were discussing how to improve our events. This is an idea to help mentor folks coming into our group as every group does things differently. We will appoint a deputy to mentor them, an experienced Lochmere autocrat. (The group voted to do this).

Lisette A&S – Demo lite I have dates for the future. So I followed up with the Howard County Parks and Rec for the Demo Light in the spring. Originally, in my first email about this, it looks like April 14th was the only good Sunday in April or May based on the Kingdom calendar. Since we had to move the Lochmere event to that weekend, that Sunday is no longer available. See the original email below for additional details. This is the new analysis of the two months we may be able to hold it at pavilion A in Centennial Park. March 30-April 31: Easter weekend, so probably not a good public pull, April 6-7: Spring Coronation April 13-14: Lochmere Event weekend now...One event in VA and one in NC April 20-21: Golden Rose Tournament weekend April 27-28: Saturday the 27th is available!! There is an event in MD (Sergeants and Scholars in Roxbury Mills). Sunday, Pavilion A is not available. May 4-5: Spring Crown Tourney May 11-12: One event in Md and one in NC and Mother's Day May 18-19: Royal Archery Tournament in MD and Pavilion A not available May 25-26: Although it's not on the calendar, I believe this is the Gem Tourney weekend so IN SUMMARY.... it looks like the only optional day for Pavilion A is if we do this on a Saturday, April 27th.

Lochmere on Display idea- if you are interested in it please talk to me. I'll be glad to transport items to outside events.

New Business-

Bardic Circle will be on December 8 at Master Corun's - there was discussion about finding a more central location for this. Maddy generously offered to check into the practice site in Crownsville. (Dec 1, 2012 After discussion on the elist it was decided to find a more central location for next year.)

Alric- talking on the elist about reviving Kingdom Crusades- I am exploring the idea with others in the area. There was discussion at Holiday Faire about this, so there will be more information forthcoming.

Baron Galmr - we need to work on a draft of officer's policies - please send comments suggestions to me and to Arianna. Researching this has shown a huge variety of ideas in different groups. I had a really hard time finding our financial policy.

Simone asked if we could use the elist to hash out details on this with the group? Could we have the information for each officer's 'warrant' added to the website and newsletter- that way everyone knows. The training classes that are required can be tracked and the seneschal won't have to take over each office. That way when we encourage folks to take an interest in an officer's position they have an idea of a time frame.

Galmr - It would be great if we could have the baronial document online. Arianna stated she would ask Santiago about adding a 'docs' tab to the website.

Officer's reports

December 3rd Business Meeting next officers meeting February 4th.

B&B - The end of our first term will be coming up and we have to ask for a vote of confidence. This will take us to September of 2014. Seneschal will be sending an email to take care of this. The Kingdom seneschal will order the labels for the vote of confidence.

Seneschal - Unevent is December 1st make sure you contact your Kingdom officer about attending. There are several of us going. CC offered to go to meetings for officers that can't attend. My warrant was renewed until October 2014.

Chatelaine - Main street festival accepting applications now - Mothers Day weekend. Avice is now deputy Chatelaine - I'm planning to step down this summer if there is someone who wants to be chatelaine please contact me.

Chronicler - I've had an issue with the Baronial newsletter on the Lochmere website not being up to date. I had to request again that the webminister update it, which with help from Seneschal was resolved. The website was more than 3 months behind, putting the Barony out of compliance with Kingdom Chronicler's policies. I am always looking for articles for the newsletter and artwork. I'm trying to plan months in advance.

Exchequer - Third Quarter report was turned in. \$12001.30 in bank. Have a check to deposit for \$65 refund from new dance practice site. Received \$1289 for Battle on the Bay. Fighter practice check written. All paperwork is up to date and all reports are in. I had intended to continue as exchequer, but I find I cannot. I am resigning effective immediately. My successor Baron Vlad will be taking over.

Webminister - not present- nothing to report - still looking for a deputy. Alric- I'm not willing to be a deputy but willing to assist in keeping some things up to date if I can be given some permissions on the website.

Knight Marshal- Practice continues. Lost 2 practice days this month- still looking for new sites.

Archery Marshal- We are finished for the season will pick up again at the springtime change. Reynard and Robert have offered to host practice on a nice Sunday in between.

Chirurgion- Nothing to report- no events. I will be attending Unevent.

Chamberlain – nothing to report

A&S - warrant is coming due in December- I sent out an email if someone wants it please contact me and ask me about the office. I want to continue but if someone is interested please talk to me.
 Last combo night was dancing in October – next one is December 11th we will have dancing again! It was a lot of fun. Patches is coming to help us. 12th night looks like it will be great.
 Avice wants to remind us she needs items for the Library display.

Herald – the kingdom website for heralds is now working, so all my reports are in and up to date. My warrant comes up in December and I intend to ask for another year. I have two deputies, but I am looking for others to help with court and book heraldry. Baronial heralds need to be well rounded so I'd like to have folks who are willing to learn. I want to thank everyone for his or her help during this year.

MOL- nothing to report

Discussion about seneschal's failure to notify the group about her warrant renewal request. She stated she had forgotten it would be due and had to rush it and that she discussed it with their Excellencies and her deputy. A discussion of past traditions concerning warrant notifications for renewal ensued.

Activities and Events Calendar December 2012



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						Day of Dance - Bright Hills Towson, MD
2	Business Meeting 3	Fighter Practice 4	5	6	7	Hanukkah begins Holiday Party at Master Corun's 8
0	10	Fighter Practice A&S and Dance 11	12	13	14	15
Hanukkah ends 16	17	18	19	20	Winter Solstice 21	22

		Christmas			Holy Innocents Day	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
		Happy New Year!				
30	31	January 1				



Event Announcements

Baroness Roana de Laci Day of Dance VI

December 8, 2012
Barony of Bright Hills

In loving memory of Baroness Ro come to the last event (well almost) of 2012! Day of Dance VI: A Celebration of the Performance Arts. As our performers grow and explore the various arts we wish to give everybody from Dancer to Bard from Poet to Storyteller a platform in which to display their talent. Whether you are a spectator or performer come and be welcome.

Arts & Sciences Activities: Dance instruction, dancing, bardic performance, plays

Cost:

Adult, Member: \$8.00 Day-Trip \$0.00 Feast
 Adult, Non-Member: \$13.00 Day-Trip \$0.00 Feast
 Youth (6-17): \$2.00 Day-Trip \$0.00 Feast
 Child (0-5): \$0.00 Day-Trip \$0.00 Feast

Make Checks Payable To: SCA-MD, Inc., Barony of Bright Hills

Cost Notes: A \$2 discount will be given to adults bringing a dish to share. (period or non-period).

Site: First Lutheran Church of Towson, 40 East Burke Ave., Towson, MD 21286. Site opens 10am, closes 7pm.

Site Restrictions: No pets. Alcohol - no hard liquor, beers and Wines allowed

Feast Information: Potluck Day board

Merchanting Information: Merchants are welcome; we do have limited space, contact Lady Livia

Other Information: Site Opens at 10 am, 9 am for set up

Autocrat's Information: Livia di Samuele (Sherrill Abramson), 7927 Mandan Road, Greenbelt, MD

20770, Phone: (301) 807-5476, E-mail: abramsonsm[AT]yahoo.com

Reservations: Send reservations to autocrat

Directions: Take your best route to I-695 N. Take Exit 27A MD-126 S / Dulaney Valley Rd toward Towson. Turn right at Dulaney Valley Rd / MD 146 S. At the traffic circle, take the 3rd exit, onto Delaney Valley Rd / York Road. Turn left at E. Burke Ave.

Yule

December 15, 2012

Barony of Caer Mear

Please come out and help Caer Mear celebrate Yule! We are planning an afternoon of games, dancing, music, a potluck feast and good friends.

Arts & Sciences Activities: Baroness' choice: best holiday table decor. Open A&S display: show off any projects, completed or not.

Make Checks Payable To: This event is free!

Cost Notes: Yes, this event is free but limited to 100 people due to the size of the hall so please email your RSVP to the autocrat.

Site: Battery Park Christian Church, 4201 Brook Road, Richmond, VA 23227 Site opens at 2pm and closes at 10pm

Site Restrictions: No pets, no open flames, smoking outdoors only.

Feast Information: We are having a potluck feast. Please bring 1 dish per person that will feed up to 8 people. There will be gang-plugs for crock-pots and other warming devices. Please do not plan on preparing your dish in the church's kitchen.

Merchandising Information: none -

Autocrat's Information: Ysabella Cacemoine (Pamela Raymor), 2055 Overbrook Road, Petersburg, VA 23805, Phone: (804) 896-1224, E-mail: otterpop63[AT]yahoo.com

Reservations: Send reservations to autocrat

Directions:

From North of Richmond: Take I-95 South to the Boulevard Exit (Exit 78). At the bottom of the off ramp, make a left onto 161 north. At the next light, make a long right onto Westwood. Once on Westwood, go 1/2 mile to the next light, which is Brook Road. Make a left onto Brook Road. At the second light, you will see the Church across the street to the right.

Lion's Head Tavern

January 5, 2013

Barony of Bright Hills

Come to our day of feasting and fun on the Eve of the Epiphany. Bring your Bardic entries and your brewing delights for our competition. Enjoy a day of feasting, music, dancing, and tale telling. The Bright Hills Cooking Guild will be providing a day board and mid-winter feast. Wear your finest and celebrate the season.

Arts & Sciences Activities: Bardic competition. Brewing competition.

Cost:

Adult, Member: \$5.00 Day-Trip \$10.00 Feast
Adult, Non-Member: \$10.00 Day-Trip \$10.00 Feast
Youth (13-18): \$10.00 Day-Trip \$10.00 Feast
Child (0-12): \$8.00 Day-Trip \$8.00 Feast

Make Checks Payable To: SCA-MD, Inc., Barony of Bright Hills

Cost Notes: Family groups of 4 or more will pay a maximum of \$20.00 for the event. Sorry, but no discounts are available for the feast and day board. If you pre-register you will receive a \$2.00 discount for the event.

Site: Trinity Lutheran Church 101 Greenwood Ave. Chestertown, MD 21620. Site opens 9am, closes 10pm

Site Restrictions: service animals only. This is a wet site.

Feast Information: The Day Board and Feast is being provided by the Barony of Bright Hills Cooks Guild. Please contact them with dietary restrictions or questions about the food provided.

Merchanting Information: The merchant space for this event is already spoken for.

Feast Information: Bright Hills Cooks Guild

Autocrat's Information: Philipp Hartrat (Keith Less), 10 8 Cedarwood Dr., Galena, MD 21635, Phone: (443) 480-3075, E-mail: revkeith54[AT]yahoo.com

Reservations: Send reservations to autocrat

Directions:

From the Bay Bridge, take MD 213 north to Chestertown. Bear to the left at the second traffic light, which becomes Washington Ave. Up the hill on the right at the corner of Washington and Greenwood Ave. is the site.

From the north. Take your best route to MD 213 south and enter Chestertown. Site will be on the left on Washington Ave.

Kingdom Twelfth Night

January 11- 13, 2013

Canton of Charlesbury Crossing

The year is 1543, and Henry the Eighth, by the Grace of God, King of England, France, Defender of the Faith and Lord of Ireland has invited His Brother Atlantia, and the whole of the Atlantian Court, to celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany at Hampton Court Palace... Please join the Canton of Charlesbury Crossing as we recreate the grandeur and majesty that was the Tudor Court at Hampton Court Palace as we come together to celebrate Atlantian Twelfth Night. All Atlantia is invited to join in the fun and pageantry that is unique to Twelfth Night. But don't expect this to be like any Twelfth Night you've attended before! The Elm Street Center, in the heart of downtown Greensboro, NC, with its spectacular Empire and Regency Ball Rooms, will take on the aspect of Hampton Court. Activities are inspired by all the goings on of the English Court of that era. Games, quests, intrigue and adventure will all fill the palace with mirth. And, after a marvelous Yuletide Feast, Henry VIII will host the Queen of Hearts Ball! The Queen of Hearts Ball will be a dance of grand and glorious proportions -- not to be missed under any circumstances!

Website: <http://twelfthnight.atlantia.sca.org/>

The Nitty-Gritty Stain Guide

Lady Christiana Irina Chaykinaia

The holidays are upon us with lots of opportunities to wear our favorite outfit and join in the merriment of drinks and dinner. Unfortunately that also means lots of opportunities to wear that onion dip, red wine, candle wax, or gravy. For SCA folks the holidays are fraught with even more peril, as those get-togethers aren't just in our mundane togs but also in our period finery that isn't always easy to launder!

Enter CC's nitty-gritty stain guide!

Removing Stains:

There are a couple of things that are key to removing stains:

- 1) Treat stains promptly! The sooner you get to it the better, as fresh stains are always easier to remove than old ones.
- 2) Know your fiber. If that silk or wool is dry clean only, get thee to a laundress, and make sure you point out the spot and let him/her know what caused it. If you know that your material is good for home laundering, make sure you are not using a cleaning product that will damage your item (acetate and acetone are not a good combination).
- 3) Do not mix stain removal products. Chlorine bleach and ammonia (even that window cleaner with ammonia in it) produce hazardous fumes.
- 4) Have patience! It takes a little time and effort to save that doublet or tablecloth but it's totally worth it.
- 5) Not all stains can be removed. Let's face facts, that pomegranate syrup stain from five years ago is in for the long haul, thus rule number one.

Stain removal steps:

- 1) Absorb any excess on the surface. This can mean blotting with a white paper napkin or sprinkling a little salt or cornmeal on the surface to suck up as much liquid as possible so as not to push more of the staining matter into the fibers of the fabric.
- 2) Keep wet stains wet, and dry stains dry. For most liquid stains you will want to run cool water from the backside to the front of the stain. This helps keep the stain from settling further into your material. For dry stains such as mud, you want to allow it to finish drying (or to stay dry) so you can brush off the majority of the staining matter prior to treating.
- 3) Place your item face down onto a clean absorbent surface; I use white kitchen towels or paper towels for this. Work your cleaning solution into the back of the stain. I've used anything from a soft toothbrush to just my fingertips. Make sure you follow the directions on your stain remover if it is a commercial product. When unsure, always spot test a product.
- 4) Work from the outside to the center of the stain. Hopefully you won't end up spreading it any further.
- 5) Make sure you thoroughly rinse the cleaning product out of your material prior to washing. There is always the chance that it will come in contact with another garment and cause a problem.
- 6) Check the garment prior to drying. Once you heat set the stain it will be almost impossible to get the remainder of it out. So check and re-treat if necessary prior to drying.

Types of Stains

Different stains need different treatments to effectively remove as much of the offending spot as possible. Most of stains can be broken down into one of five categories:

- 1) Protein- any kind of animal product, meat, egg yolk, blood etc.
- 2) Oil/Fat- butter, mayonnaise, cooking oil etc.
- 3) Tannin- plant based product, coffee, tomato juice, grass etc.
- 4) Dye- any item with a strong color, beets, blueberries, red trim on your white tunic.
- 5) Combination- items that contain more than one of the above categories: lipstick, pen ink, shoe polish etc.

Here are some of the most common stains I've encountered and some recipes you can make at home for stain removers and laundering solutions.

Protein

Blood - start with blotting the excess off. Then, from the backside of the material, you can rinse with cool water and treat with any commercial stain stick. If the material is not a strong color and is unlikely to fade you can also use hydrogen peroxide instead of water to help remove the blood from your material. It will fizz a bit but once most of the stain is gone you can proceed with regular laundering and all should come out fine.

Egg yolk- if it's wet, blot and rinse. Treat with a stain stick or a homemade solution (recipes at the end) from the back of the material. If it has already dried, flake off as much as possible using a table knife or stiff brush depending on your fabric. Place the material stain side down onto an absorbent surface, towels, and gently work the stain remover/treatment into the back from the outer edge to the center of the stain. Rinse and repeat as needed prior to laundering.

Oils/Fats

Butter - sprinkle with cornstarch and then blot. Try to let the starch absorb as much of the oily residue as possible. From the back side of the stain, gently rub in an enzyme cleaner or you can make your own at home (recipe is at the bottom). Let stand for 15-20 minutes but not long enough for it to dry. Rinse with the hottest water your fabric can take and wash as usual. Always check to make sure the spot is done before you dry the item. Note: If you didn't catch the spot early on, don't panic. While I do not recommend this for silk, it works wonders on linen, cotton and wool. Spray the butter stain with a little WD-40 and work into the dried stain. Treat as though the stain were fresh and launder.

Grease- we're talking the hinge, car, and tire changing type here. You want to absorb as much liquid as possible using cornstarch or baking soda. Shake off the powder and with the material over an absorbent pad work a dry cleaning solution into the back of the stain, changing the absorbent pad out frequently. Be sure that when the stain is gone you thoroughly rinse the material and make sure there is no cleaner left prior to laundering

Tannin

Grass- remove any solid debris and then treat with an enzyme cleaner. If the stain is particularly tough, treat with a washing soda (recipe at the bottom) and water paste followed with a good washing soda soak prior to laundering. Once again, check that the stain is gone before drying.

Coffee- Black coffee is a pure tannin stain; blot with a cool wet cloth and treat with a mild laundry soap. If it still won't come out, try a mixture of laundry soap and white vinegar. Rinse and launder as usual. Coffee with cream is a tannin and protein stain; blot as usual but use a mild (non-bleach) laundry soap with a little ammonia as your treatment. Rinse and blot again using an enzyme cleaner. Rinse thoroughly and launder as usual.

Dye

Red wine- Fresh stain: sprinkle with salt and allow it to absorb as much of the wine as possible. Rinse from the back side of the stain with cool water. Work liquid laundry soap into the back of the stain and rinse. If the stain is still there treat with an enzyme cleaner or paste and allow to set for 20-30 minutes. Rinse thoroughly and launder. For a Dried stain: soak the stain with a bit of white vinegar and blot. You can also try a mixture of ammonia and hydrogen peroxide. If you are working on a tablecloth you might also try taking a bowl and a rubber band and stretch the stained spot over the bowl (like a drum) cover the stain with salt and pour boiling water through the material until the stain disappears. You will want to

follow up with a good washing.

Colored fabric bleed over- If you happened to launder your favorite red T-shirt with your whites you may want to try laundering those whites again with a commercial color remover or you could try a washing soda-borax-dishwasher soap mix (recipe at the bottom). If the two fabrics are attached to each other, you will need to spot treat the stained area and look at trying to make the offender less prone to bleeding, perhaps with a saltwater set. If things continue to bleed you may want to consider making that garment a dry-clean-only item.

Combination

Lipstick- gently blot the stain with vegetable oil trying not to smear or spread the stain. You will want to change out your cotton ball or towel as it gets more of the lipstick on it. Once most of the color is gone you'll switch to ammonia. Once again lightly blotting the stain. Once the majority of oily residue is gone a little dish liquid dish soap should take care of the rest. Launder as usual. This also works for eyeliner.

Pen - Most of us use hairspray but it contains more than just alcohol so I recommend using straight isopropyl alcohol to get out most pen inks. Saturate the mark or stain over an absorbent pad of paper or cloth towels and gently blot. Rub a small amount of liquid dish soap into the area and rinse well. Launder as usual. If it's permanent marker, you need to treat it right away. No waiting or allowing it to dry. Try running cool water through the stain from the back of the material until you see no further reduction in color. Pat dry. Then blot with a dry-cleaning solvent or nail polish remover. Pat dry again. Rub a bit of ammonia into the stain and rinse. If you still have a stain, go with an overnight soak in warm water with washing soda and a bit of Oxyclean. Launder and hope for the best. If you are really determined, and the fabric can take it, repeat the process before drying.

Two things that doesn't really fit any of the stain categories, but seem to happen on a regular basis are gum and candle wax. Both are a pretty easy fix. For gum: Ice the area and chip off as much as you can without mashing the gum further into the fibers. Then break out the petroleum jelly and work that into the remaining solids. Let sit for about half an hour. Continue to clean as an oil stain. For candle wax you want to also chill and scrape off as much as possible. Then you want to get out the iron you don't love, clean/plain scrap paper and paper towels. Set the iron to a wool temperature with no steam. Place your waxed material between layers of paper (and over the paper towels) and press. Let the heat melt the wax into the paper. You will need to move the papers around to keep absorbing the wax. When the papers come away "dry" you're ready to tackle any color that's been left. Treat as a dye stain and launder.

Recipes:

Enzyme cleaner- this takes about 3 months to ferment and needs to be clearly labeled with the contents and date. Brewer friends will turn this process into an art but anyone can do it.

1 Cup brown sugar

3 Cup citrus scraps/peels - pineapple works amazingly well but orange, lemon, grapefruit, or lime is fine

4-5 Cup warm water

A large enough container with a tight fitting lid to fit everything- for the brewers out there a 1-gallon carboy with an air lock works beautifully

Shred the citrus scraps as finely as you can. In your container combine the brown sugar and warm water stirring till the sugar is dissolved. Stir in your citrus bits and cover. Stash in a cool dry place you can check regularly. The sugar provides the food that the bacteria need to do their jobs, but it can create gasses that need to be let off now and then. After about 3 months your cleaner is ready. Strain and pour into a spray bottle clearly labeled with the contents and the date. This should keep for about six months in a cool dry place.

Washing Soda- Heat your oven to 450F and on jellyroll pan spread a layer of baking soda (not powder)

about a half inch thick. Bake for 30 minutes or until the fine power consistency changes to more of a fine salt texture. Allow to cool and place in a container with a tight fitting lid. You want to clearly label this; it's not exactly tasty when mistaken for a baking ingredient (experience talks).

CC's Ultimate Anti-Dingy Soak

- 1 Cup powdered laundry detergent
- 1 Cup powdered dishwasher detergent
- ½ Cup borax
- ½ Cup bleach

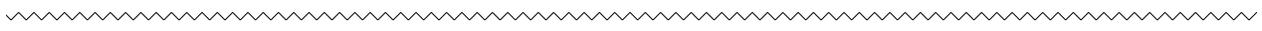
Boiling water to cover--You really do want as hot a water as you can get.

In a container just enough for the item and some swish-about room, combine all the ingredients and stir till dissolved. Add your garment and work into the solution till thoroughly wet. Cover and leave over night. I always have a hard time with this as I keep checking for progress, so I just stir it a bit now and then as an excuse. In the morning, dump the contents into your washer and run on hot. Take a look at the garment when the washer is done. If it's not quite where you need it, repeat. Otherwise dry as usual. If you want to do this for something that's not bleach safe just omit the bleach and substitute 1/2C washing soda. This is a low to no sudsing product and works rather well in carpet cleaners. However, always check to make sure you aren't going to void the warranty on your cleaner by using this.

There are entire books and manuals dedicated to stains and their removal. I've only touched on a few here that seem to crop up on a regular basis. If you run into a stain you really aren't sure about, check with the manufacturer of what caused the stain. Often the MSDS (Material Safety Data Sheet) will be available on-line and have directions for how to remove the offending product. If you still aren't comfortable dealing with the stain, go to a professional. Make sure you tell them what caused the stain, how old it is, and any treatments you may have tried.

One last tip: if you think you won't be able to locate the original stained spot on the material, mark it with a safety pin prior to washing it.

Best of luck!



Poetry Corner



***Canterbury Tales* The Knight's Tale Book I**

By Geoffrey Chaucer
translated by John Dryden

In days of old there lived, of mighty fame, A valiant Prince, and Theseus was his name;
A chief, who more in feats of arms excelled, The rising nor the setting sun beheld.
Of Athens he was lord; much land he won, And added foreign countries to his crown.
In Scythia with the warrior Queen he strove, Whom first by force he conquered, then by love;
He brought in triumph back the beauteous dame, With whom her sister, fair Emilia, came.

With honour to his home let Theseus ride, With Love to friend, and Fortune for his guide,
 And his victorious army at his side. I pass their warlike pomp, their proud array,
 Their shouts, their songs, their welcome on the way; But, were it not too long, I would recite
 The feats of Amazons, the fatal fight Betwixt the hardy Queen and hero Knight;
 The town besieged, and how much blood it cost The female army, and the Athenian host;
 The spouses of Hippolyta the Queen; What tilts and turneys at the feast were seen;
 The storm at their return, the ladies' fear: But these and other things I must forbear.
 The field is spacious I design to sow With oxen far unfit to draw the plough:
 The remnant of my tale is of a length To tire your patience, and to waste my strength;
 And trivial accidents shall be forborn, That others may have time to take their turn,
 As was at first enjoined us by mine host, That he, whose tale is best and pleases most,
 Should win his supper at our common cost. And therefore where I left, I will pursue
 This ancient story, whether false or true, In hope it may be mended with a new.
 The Prince I mentioned, full of high renown, In this array drew near the Athenian town;
 When, in his pomp and utmost of his pride Marching, he chanced to cast his eye aside...

To read more of The Knight's Tale go to:

<http://www.poets.org/viewmedia.php/prmMID/21452>

Geoffrey Chaucer was born in London sometime between 1340 and 1344 to John Chaucer and Agnes Copton.

www.poets.org

The Officers of the Barony of Lochmere



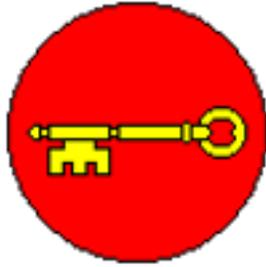
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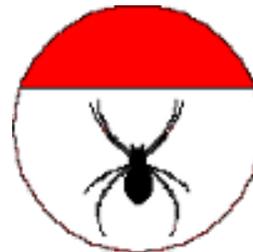


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