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from "Cantigas de Santa Maria"

February 2026

Volume II, Number I

February Tidings

A happy Candlemas to you all; the new year is well upon us! Before we look forward into 2026, a quick word about 2025. Camlann saw an enormous groundswell of support this last calendar year, from those who had never heard of Camlann before to those who have been here for decades. Just as an example, the number of volunteer hours for interpreters just about doubled compared to 2024. If you're reading this, THANK YOU, whether you donated your time, came to a feast, stopped by for dinner, attended a village day, etc. Camlann would not be as well poised for another season as it is without your support.



We also want to express our gratitude to all those who made this recent Yule season such a success. A special thanks in particular to Rory and Aurora Linden for their incredible work welcoming weary travellers at the front gate and speaking with expertise and enthusiasm on the many handcrafted wares available in Camlann's gate shop. Even the historic floods in Snoqualmie Valley could not stop Camlann staff, visitors, and guests from enjoying the holiday festivities - we were grateful that so many were able to attend our rescheduled Yule Feast later in January.

This past Yule season also saw a few new events at Camlann, including two musical performances in the Bors Hede: first a concert by medieval trio Triplum in December, and then an appearance by Seattle Historical Arts for Kids in January. And we have more new programming in the upcoming months! For example, we have a mead workshop and tasting hosted by Jon Oppegard of Oppegard Meadery on the afternoon of Saturday, February 21. Some tickets are still available; see our Events page on our website for more details.

Looking even further ahead, our 2026 summer season calendar is now available on our website. We welcome you to pre-purchase tickets to one of our many feasts. Tickets to festivals and village days are, as always, available day-of at Camlann's front gate. Keep an eye on our Events page for more detailed descriptions of some of our summer village days as they approach; we have a lot of special appearances and activities planned, including our annual sheep shearing demonstration and monthly combat demonstrations, as well as a few new activities for this year, including dancing on the Tourney Field on second Saturdays, weekend sewing and leatherworking groups and classes, and more.

Camlann is always excited to welcome new volunteers and interpreters. Interested to join us? Email kimber.leiker@camlann.org for more information on how to volunteer this summer.

Until the weather warms enough for us to be comfortably outdoors again, I hope to see you at the Bors Hede for our next Third Thursday Game Night or for dinner on Friday or Saturday, where we'll have a warm fire to welcome you.

Lauren Poyer, PhD
Executive Director

Meet The Camlann Board

Each month we will be featuring one of our hardworking board members. They have volunteered countless hours, offering up their creativity and expertise to further the mission of Camlann Medieval Association.



Rory Linden has served on the CMA Board of Directors for the past 10 years and has been volunteering at Camlann Medieval Village for 20 years. His children practically grew up here. In fact, his son was dubbed "Elf on a Shelf" by Master Payne because he spent so much time trying to figure out the magicks performed at Payne's show.

Rory started with the archery concessions, and when it was discovered that he was a longbow craftsman, he was asked to give demonstrations. He was involved with this for a few years until his apprentice assumed the responsibility.

About the time Rory became a board member, Camlann Village lost its blacksmith, so Rory took over interpreting the role of Vincent the Smith. He has also used his skills to assist with village building projects, turning logs into hewn beams for the carpenter's shop and the sheep storage building, with the surplus beams being available for the next Camlann project.



Rhain and Tim have returned as blacksmiths, so Rory is once again the village bowyer. He also helps Iwa manage the gatheshop.

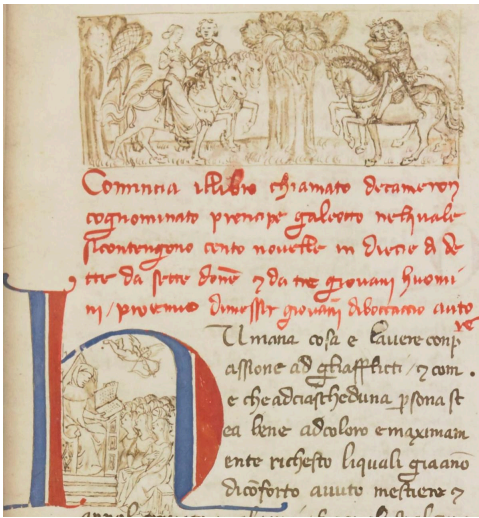
Donate here to support Camlann Village's development and general operations.

Faires, Feasts, and Gatherings

2026 Valentine's Day Feast:
February 14 - 4:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Sorry, tickets are sold out!

Mead Tasting with Oppegaard Meadery
(21+) February 21 - 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm
Reserve your tickets now!

2026 Valentine's Day Feast:
Bawdy Tales from Boccaccio's Decameron (21+)



On Saturday, February 14, from 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm, Camlann is hosting its first-ever 21+ event, a three-course feast of late medieval recipes designed to stimulate romantic and erotic sensations. Camlann entertainers will offer interpretations of stories from Boccaccio's Decameron that explore the tragicomedy of human sexuality and the lengths to which we go to achieve our greatest desires. The Decameron is famous for its frank depictions of female sexuality, queer desire, and the human body. Guests will hear how medieval Florentines loved, lusted, and laughed at themselves. Ribald music, dancing, puppetry, and storytelling will all be part of the fun.

This feast also includes an hour of medieval and Renaissance dancing before the seating begins. Those

who arrive early can learn a dance or two, or just enjoy the atmosphere! Drinks will be available for purchase.

Doors open at 4 pm; Dancing begins at 4:30 pm; Feast begins at 6 pm. Medieval clothing encouraged; costume rentals available. ***Due to limited seating of 40 guests, tickets are sold out.***

Mead Tasting with Oppegaard Meadery (21+)

This guided class, offered February 21, from 4:00 to 5:30 pm, introduces guests to the history of mead production, its role in medieval culture, and the methods used to create different styles. Participants will sample a selection of meads while learning how ingredients, fermentation, and aging shape flavor and character. Come step into the village of Camlann for this immersive mead tasting experience rooted in tradition and craft.



Set in the Bors Hede undercroft, the class offers a relaxed, educational tasting designed for both newcomers and seasoned enthusiasts, with time for questions and conversation throughout. ***Be sure to reserve your tickets now!***

Limited dinner options available after the tasting at additional cost upstairs in the Bors Hede.



Board Game Nights

Normally, the third Thursday of each month is our **Board Game Night!** Our next gathering is Thursday, February 19th, from 6-10 pm. Bring yourself, bring your friends, bring a board game or TTRPG, and spend an evening of good cheer in the Bors Hede. Learn and play a medieval game or two with our medieval

gamemaster Galfrey, play a historical or medieval-inspired one-off campaign with one of our drop-in DMs, or play a game you bring yourself. Snacks and drinks available for purchase. Free event, recommended \$10 donation. ***Registration required; see our Events page for a link!***

Bors Hede Inne

Relax and enjoy the warmth of the fire, savor a hearty meal, and give yourself over to the music and stories of the minstrels at our fourteenth-century village inne.

Our restaurant is open year-round, Friday and Saturday, with our first seating at 5 PM and our last seating at 7 PM. Reservations are required at least 24 hours beforehand. Schedule them **online** or call 425-788-8624.



Camlann Medieval Association is a 501(c)(3) Non Profit Organization registered with the Internal Revenue Service and the Washington State Secretary of State

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