

Official Newsletter for the Barony of Shadowed Stars



Constellation Region of the Middle Kingdom

THE SHADOW PRESS

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A LETTER FROM OUR BARON Ulrich Halfdon Ulfsson

Hailsa!

Greetings and well met everyone. Well, this has been both an incredibly eventful and, at the same time, quiet year so far. We find ourselves living in momentous times indeed. Unfortunately, our SCA dream has been on hold for most of this year and we are still waiting to see when events and activities can begin again. When we hear anything from Kingdom we will pass it on as soon as possible, until then we will continue virtual meetings on the normal schedule.

The time is coming very soon that I will be stepping down as Baron and we will celebrate the investiture of my successors. If you are contemplating running please feel free to reach out to me for any questions you might have. Think seriously about what it would mean to you and what you can bring to serve the Barony. I have faith that whoever is selected will be great boons to our beloved Barony.

Until we an see each other again, take care and stay safe.

In service,

Syr Ulrich



<http://clipart-library.com/clipart/dc9poLdc7.htm>

BARONIAL CALENDAR AT-A-GLANCE

NOTE:

For the times, locations, class information, and most up-to-date info on these and other Shadowed Stars activities, please visit the Baronial Calendar online at:

<http://shadowedstars.midrealm.org/calendar>.

Also check recent posts on the Shadowed Stars Facebook group page for last-minute updates and possible cancelations or schedule changes.

Introduction to our new Chatelaine

Kolfinna

Chatelaine

Photo Courtesy: Leandra



Hello, Kolfinna here.

I would like to say what a joy it has been to be around so many talented people in my time as Minister of Arts and Sciences! I have learned a lot and found some new ideas for projects I want to work on in the future. I will miss serving Shadowed Stars as MoAS, but I know I am leaving you in hands of Aoife, who is a

skillful artisan herself and more than capable when it comes to her new office.

As much as I am confident in our new MoAS, I'm extremely excited to still be serving the barony as the Chatelaine. This is a new roll for me and I can't wait to be of service to help foster new people to the SCA and to our Barony.



Maps of the World

Chart of the Mediterranean, Black Sea, and the coasts of western Europe and northwest Africa

Mateus Prunes, anno 1559.



Introduction to our new MoAS

Aoife inghean Eoghean

MOAS

Photo Courtesy: Leandra



I am Aoife inghean Eoghean, pronounced EEfa inen Owen.

I have been playing in the SCA since Faelan and I discovered it on a road trip in Oregon in 2014. I mostly focus on fiber arts, but I also participate in rapier activities.

I look forward to some fun classes in the future. I am anticipating a dyeing workshop, a block printing workshop, and many others.

Given the information that small gatherings may be permitted in July, I am hoping to start getting some classes scheduled. If anyone has any suggestions or requests for classes, I would be happy to try to find someone who can teach. Meanwhile I have printed the meeting attendance form and the required precautions notice in preparation for when we are allowed to hold meetings. In case you have not seen the required precautions, the link is here: <https://library.midrealm.org/mdocs-posts/guide-meetings-required-precautions/>. Well to be honest, I took this job because I am hoping I can do better at this than as Chatelaine.

Arts and Sciences are those skills, crafts, and technologies that were practiced within the time period and the cultures covered by the SCA.

Examples: Beekeeping, Sewing, Coining, Cooking, Historical Martial Arts, Blacksmithing, Weaving, Brewing, Jewelry Making, Woodworking, Painting, Calligraphy, Illumination, Papermaking, Embroidery, Shoemaking, Tent design and creation, Research, Music, Perfumery, Hair braiding, Fabric Stamping, Sword-Smithing, Book Binding, Falconry, and ETC.

Being a Voice for Change

Mistress
Maggie
MacKeith

Photos courtesy
of Maggie
MacKeith and
Leandra Corzi



Being a voice for change

This month, I was talking with a friend about the recent trend of peers and others, making a pledge to support diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives, as well as standing against racism, discrimination, and bigotry. The conversation turned to what someone else had said to them, about being worried that people would leave the SCA...that others would drive them out for not making a public declaration.

Here's the thing: people have reasons for speaking out, or not. I am not, nor is anyone else with whom I have spoken, keeping track of who is and who isn't making such a pledge. I understand that some people have more mundane business on their Facebook page than they do SCA business. I know that some people believe in what others are pledging, but don't want to be seen as jumping on the bandwagon. People have valid reasons for not making that pledge. And, again, no one is keeping score.

But, for the record, here is why *I* did it.

I feel it is important for many people, including leaders, to speak up on this topic. This sends a clear and united message that the SCA will not stand quietly by while marginalized groups, like BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color), LGBTQIA (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual), and those with physical, mental, or emotional disabilities, are subjected to bigotry, racism, discrimination, or exclusion.

I feel that it is important for me to make this pledge so that others know that I am, as much as I can, trying to help make the SCA a more welcoming and inviting place.

Some people have brought forward concerns that Republican conservatives are being driven out of the SCA...that the SCA is getting too political. Here's my take on that: asking that all people in the SCA be treated equally is not political. That's it. I know plenty of people who don't agree with me on everything (perhaps especially politics) but who also believe that equal treatment is not a political issue. I know people who have conservative religious views. That's fine, as long as they are not used as reasoning to discriminate against others.

The bottom line, for me, is this: be nice, be fair, and have fun.

Looking forward to the time we can all be together again.



SCA EVENTS ARE FOR HISTORY AND FUN.
IF YOU VIOLATE OUR CORE VALUES
YOU MAY BE ASKED TO LEAVE.
#CHIVALRYISCOURTESY

BY BEING HERE YOU AGREE 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.

[http://socsen.sca.org/updated-statement-of-core-values/
equity@sca.org](http://socsen.sca.org/updated-statement-of-core-values/equity@sca.org)

CORE VALUES ARE OUR CODE OF CONDUCT

Summer
Reading
Fun

Deorwolf
and Eoforhild
aet Wintance
astre

Photo

Courtesy:
Andries von
Voorburg
der Erlund

The Well Read Scadian

Doomsday Book by Connie Willis

Kivrin, a history student at Oxford in 2048, travels back in time to study life in a 14th century English village, despite the concern of her instructor. Of course, things do not go as planned.

Laurus by Eugene Vodolazkin

A book about a boy who was raised to be a healer in late 15th century Russia that touches upon the concepts of holy fools, faith, love, and redemption.

John the Pupil by David Flusfedder

This medieval road story features a boy who was raised at a Franciscan monastery in Oxford who is sent on a journey bearing a mysterious package by friar/magus Roger Bacon.

We All Fall Down by Daniel Kalla

The plague strikes modern day Italy as an ancient monastery is demolished to make way for modern buildings. The few remaining friars and priests may hold information that could help the investigators stop the epidemic, but they have hard feelings about the destruction of their monastery.

Lent by Jo Walton

Girolamo Savonarola is a Dominican priest who can see and banish demons and is a captivating preacher. This causes much tension in 15th century Florence and he ends up running the city in all but name. But Girolamo is not who--or what--he thinks he is.

Red Knight by Miles Cameron

The Red Knight is the leader of a band of mercenaries that specializes in dealing with the monsters that live in the Wild. This book blends history and fantasy in a wonderful manner where faith and magic work side by side. The magic system is unique in that it is based on the concept of memory palaces.

The Mere Wife by Maria Dahvana Headley

A retelling of Beowulf set in a modern day affluent suburb where Grendel's mother is a wounded soldier who was unable to re-adjust to civilian life.

Relic Master by Christopher Buckley

Set in the 16th century, a relic hunter named Dismas and his best friend Albrecht Dürer attempt to forge the Shroud of Turin because the relic business is booming!



Sonnets

Poetry
Andreas
Blacwode

I

Look how her eyes are as bright as sunlight fair
And yet behind her thoughts exists a mask
She tells me she has been she knows not where
Her lips shape queries she dare not ask.
I hold her and give her my living love
She shakes her head and waits for me to go
I search for answers in the sky above
No answers there, nor in the earth below.
So I will look for answers in my heart
I'll share them with you as we live our life
So trust me as our travels we do start
But trust does not come easily out of strife.
Our love is fine, but better it can get
I want all of my hopes, dreams to be met.

II

True love is rich and full drunk from the vine
That ripens slowly in the summer sun
It does not wait for us to realize time
Prepares for discovery and is never done.
For though young grapes may swell sweet over the night
And burst on tongues, oh! quenching passion's flame!
Long life demands an aging of the light
That quality and number are the same.
So do not be quick to have cork pop
And have wine flow unstrained upon your skin
Instead, distill this speed out from the top
To not allow this love to come so thin
And after we have quenched our thirst quite through
Remember my eternal love for you.

III

I will not say that I've not loved before
But oh, my light, my muse, be not distressed
Those young think moments last eons, or more
I, too, was like that once, I do confess
But no my lovers past are like a dream
Forgotten at the plainest break of day
They are pale ghosts, do they fragmented seem
In the wholeness of exuberant play?
Like waves of mist they pass unnoticed here
As if I've heard a bird sing from afar
So do not think you're scorned and shed a tear
My true love I have found and thus you are
I do not seek the memories of long past
For you have giv'n me memories that will last.

IV

Please let me help you dream of peaceful lands
So that you cease to cry out in the night
Sleep quietly beneath my calming hands
Until the day breaks simply with sun's light.
When happy, you do walk with careful grace
When sad, you break the comfort of my heart
Please hold my hand, walk at my steady pace
Don't put life's horse before your burdened cart.
For our progress is towards a far plateau
As walk begins, it'd hard to find the trail
The journey will get better as we go
Though you are small, I know you are not frail
Come with me on this voyage of our dreams
And know my love be strong as it does seem

Draco
Invictus!!

Baron
Fergus
Mac-
Pherson

Photo Credit:
Fergus Mac-
Pherson

Draco Invictus!

Strong and mighty is the Great Midrealm Dragon. However, I believe the people of the Midrealm are what makes it great. In this modern plague, we have found ways to be together across the kingdom and the Society.



Ways to support one another. Ways to still live the Dream.

In the final few courts of Seto and Inez, we witnessed, the first, virtual elevations in the Midrealm. Necessity is the mother of invention, and the populace has stepped up and adapted to the new reality. This was not ideal for everyone, and some will have vigils and ceremonies once we are allowed to be together again.

The members who run the Royal University of the Midrealm, have gone out of their way to schedule classes in a variety of subjects. Hopefully some of you were able to take advantage of them. I know I have enjoyed a number of different courses. Some I took while working from home..... Don't tell my boss.

I am not a great fan of Facebook, but it has allowed us to stay together in these trying times. Some say politics should never be a part of the SCA, but we all know that isn't possible. Many of us have seen the cost of politics on Facebook... it can drive people apart. It can ruin groups. I believe everyone has a part in this "dream" we choose to live in.

We are the Mighty Dragon!

I have renewed my oath to make the society a better place and to support the people around me. I am here for you, as a Pelican of the Society.

The Quar- entined Archer

Velos tou
Patmos

Archer

Photo Cred-
it: *Velos tou
Patmos*

:



July brings with it the possibilities of archery practices recommencing, while there are dates set in place the future is ever changing. With the possibility of archery practices, events, and social interaction comes the need for equipment management.

The Bow

Bow care extends to the placement and resting place of the bow, whether hanging the bow on various hooks, laying it bow under one's bed, closet, attic, etc. The archer should never leave their bow leaning against a wall in a standing position. A bow is made of various materials; however, they are usually constructed of wood, regardless of the material the standing position will indeed cause the bow to bend under its own weight. A bow with bent limbs is dangerous, to the archer and those around them, because the integrity of the bow has been hindered and the friction from shooting can in fact cause additional damage to the bow and vice versa the archer shooting with it. The bow should be unstrung and laying flat when stored,

The bow should also be kept in a weather safe environment, water, extreme heat and cold, as well as other elements can also damage the bow.



The Bowstring

Have you ever been asked, "How often do you wax your string?" The question is regarding proper preservation and maintenance of your bowstring, waxing helps prevent fraying and compromise to its integrity. The bowstring is made of many fibers, and can thus be hindered due to wear, water, dirt, friction from clothing, etc., applying wax to your bowstring provides a protective barrier that will preserve the life and integrity of the string.

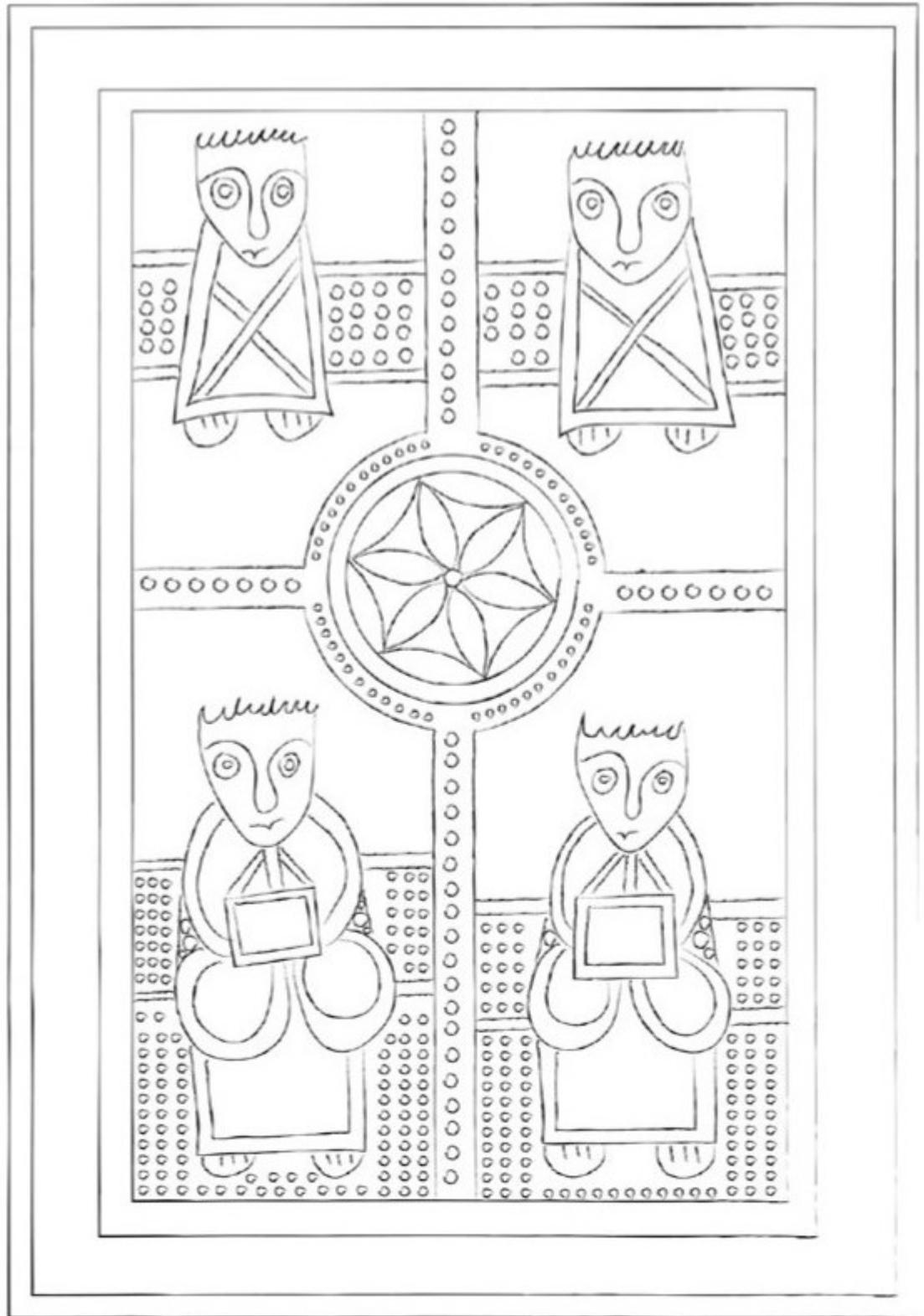
Arrows

Those pointy things with feathers that are usually filling a leather quiver also require inspection and maintenance. Arrows that are properly cared for will provide more accurate shooting, for a bent arrow flies bent, and straight arrow flies straight. The bend of an arrow can be seen by looking down the length of the arrow, FROM THE KNOCK NOT THE TIP! Please do not poke your eye out with the tip of the arrow. Arrow maintenance requires a delicate hand for readjusting an arrow, straightening arrows can be done with a straightening tool or steam and a little pressure from the archer (delicately, so you do not snap the arrow). The nock and tip should also be tested, this can be done by grabbing the knock or tip and giving it a slight wiggle to see if it is loose. Finally, the feathers, ruffled feathers can be straightened out with the help of some steam, and like the nock and tip the adhesive that binds them to the arrow can become compromised. When checking one's feathers run your finger along the spine with the direction of the feather as indicated to prevent ruffling the feather.



The proper care and management of one's equipment will extend its life and quality. Well, arrows tend to be lost due to archery circumstances, yet keeping them maintained will provide more quality shots. Those who have the ability to shoot safely in their backyard without endangering their neighbors should practice, those without this ability and are looking forward to events and practices should maintain their physique. A bow is weighted specifically for the archer; however, with the lapse in time from shooting the muscles have been impacted. Doing some minor weight lifting, push-ups, and physical exercise will benefit one's health as well as provide them the ability to shoot comfortably without exhausting themselves due to the weight of their bow.

Coloring
Pages

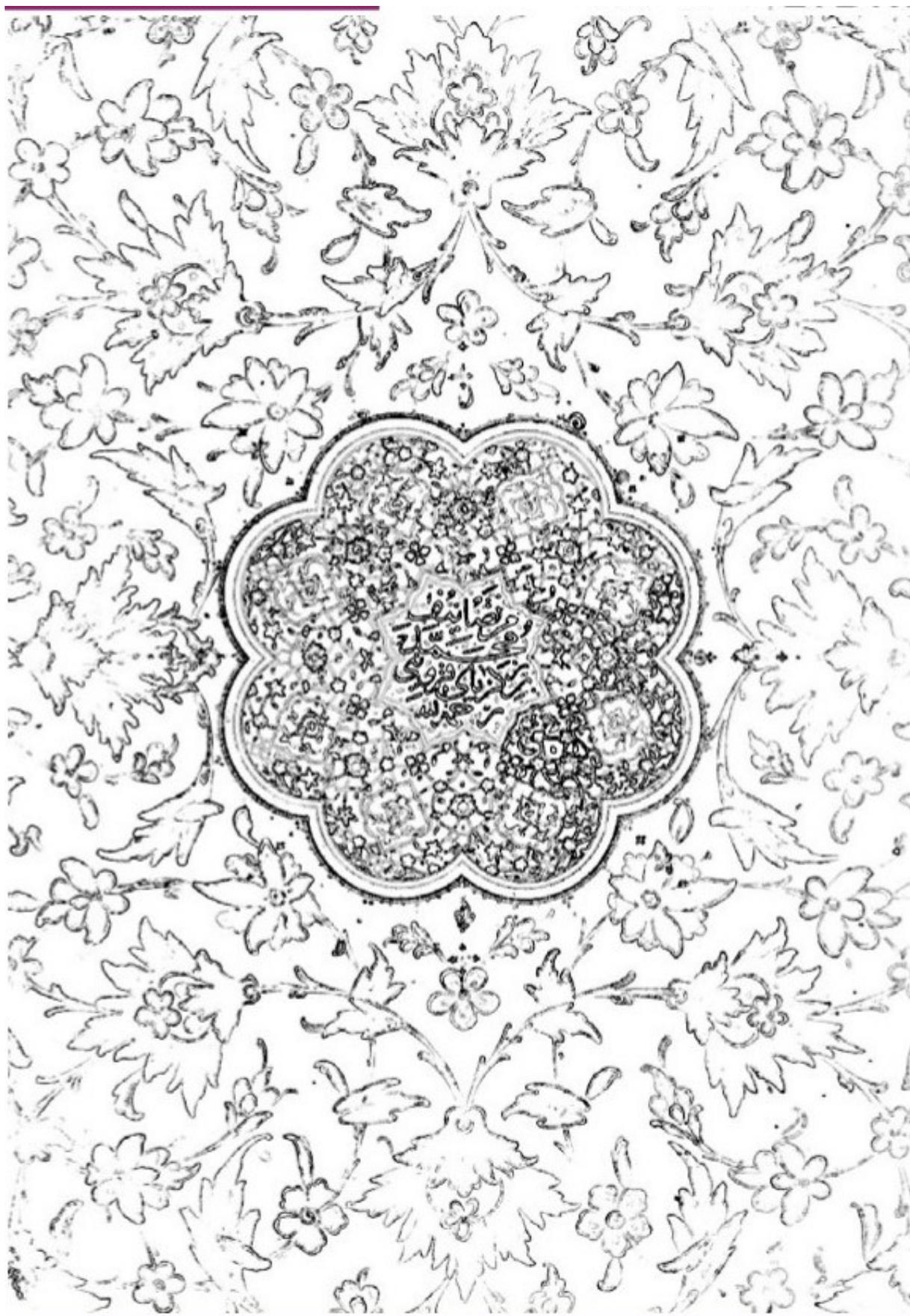


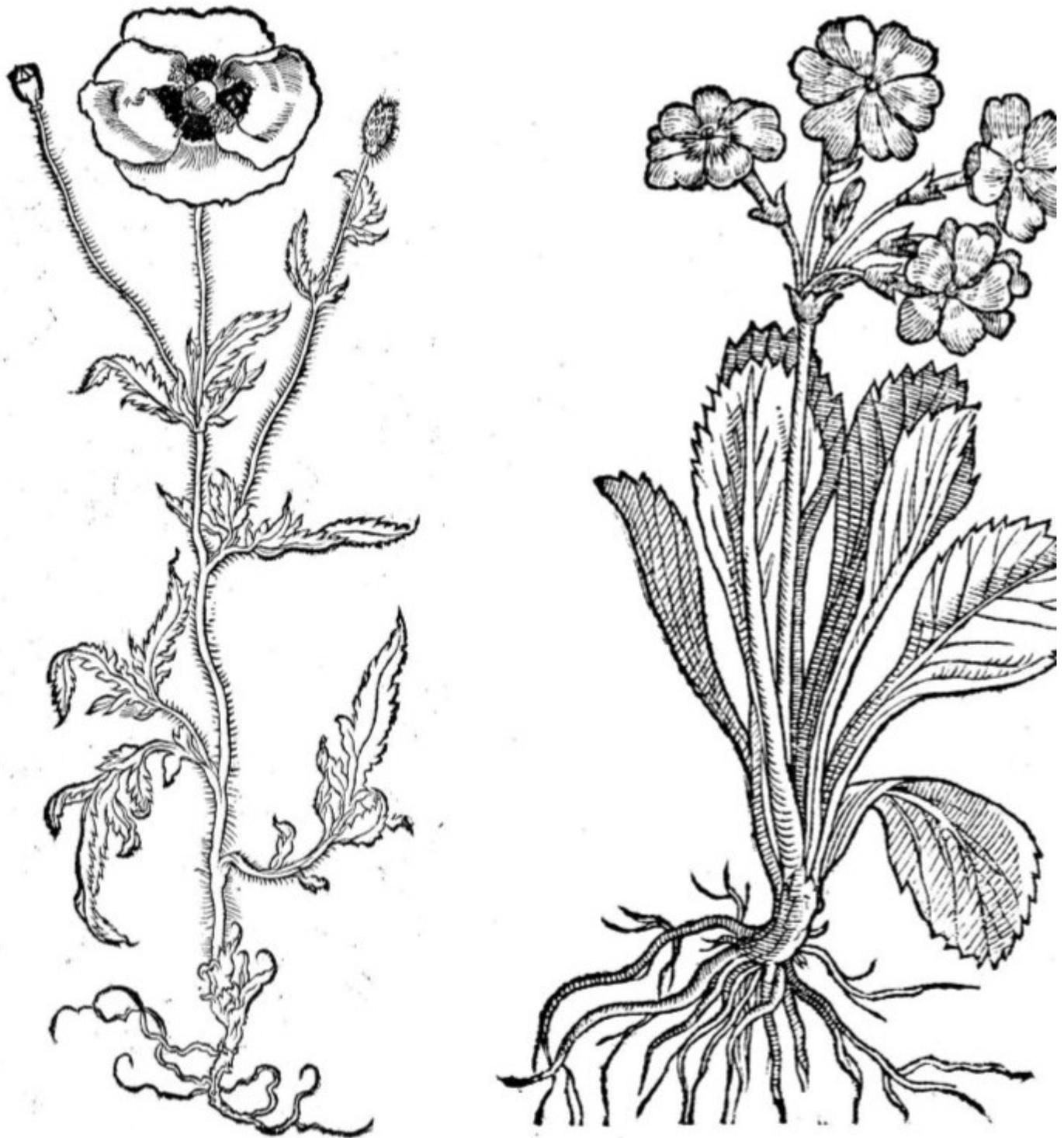
The *Book of Deer*, a Gospel Book from around the first half of the tenth century.

MS li.6.32, 1v

<https://cudl.lib.cam.ac.uk/view/MS-II-00006-00032/3>

A richly illuminated 16th Century copy of the Persian version of Qazwini's *The marvels of creation and the oddities of existence* (1566). MS Nn.3.74, page 3r
<https://cudl.lib.cam.ac.uk/view/MS-NN-00003-00074/7>





Health and wellbeing. You will find many astounding woodcut illustrations in the herbals which are held in RHS Libraries. Herbals offer descriptions of plants that could be used for healing in early medicine. You will probably recognise many of them as garden plants, but they were appreciated for their health giving benefits ahead of their aesthetic charms. On the left is a poppy from Otto Brunfels *In Dioscoridis historiam herbarum certissima adaptation* (Strasbourg: 1543, **615.3 BRU**), while on the right is *Primula auricula* from Carolus Clusius' *Rariorum aliquot stirpium* (Antwerp: 1583, **581.9 (4) CLU**). The leaves of the *Primula auricular* have traditionally been viewed as a remedy for coughs and against headaches.

For more coloring pages, visit ColorOurCollections.org

This image is from the collection of

Words
from the
Chronicler

Leandra
Corzi

Chronicler's Page



In these last few months since the last edition of our newsletter, many of us have been staying in our homes, and missing our friends as the SCA took steps to keep us as safe as possible by cancelling all our meeting, events and practices. As a population many of us have taken to having Zoom meetings with our friends, calling them on the phone, and spending more time on social media.

The Middle Kingdom RUM has extended its reach so that now includes classes online through Zoom, Facebook Live, and YouTube, which enables one to attend, or teach as they may have at events or for local groups,. Through these classes one may still grow and learn in these times as there has been a variety of classes from Heraldry, cooking, some on Sewing, and many other areas. Some of us have been taking these classes occasionally, myself having watched and sat thru some classes on pant making and more stamping classes, cause it's always a good idea to brush up and learn new things.

We may all be feeling tired, anxious, depressed, or at odds with ourselves as it has been months since we have all been together. An important thing to remember is that as we start to shift to being able to do more things in groups, it might be a good idea to take things slow.. WE all want to see our friends and family, but we still want everyone possible to come out the other side of this happy, healthy, and safe.

Part of this means that many of us have made statements and pledges to call our the behavior that is harmful to those who are BIPOC, LGBTQIA, have disabilities of the mental, physical, or emotional. Our society is to be one of inclusion and that means that everyone is welcome. That means that we need to make sure that the SCA is one that is free of discrimination of any kind, no matter someone's color, gender, sexual orientation, mental state, physical capabilities, or anything else. This is not a political movement, or based in any kind of religious teaching, it is based on the fact that everyone deserves to be treated equally, no matter who they are.

BARONIAL OFFICERS

Seneschal

Warder Mael Duin mac
Gilla Ennae

Chatelaine

Lady Kolfinna

Minister of A&S

Lady Aiofe
inghean Eoghain

Herald

Muirenn ingen Faelchon Uí
Clerigh

Exchequer

Baron Fergus MacPherson

Knights' Marshal

Lord Gavin Hawkerton

Rapier Marshal

Andries von Voorburg der
Erlund

Archery Marshal

Velos tou Patmos

Thrown Weapons Marshal

Lady Prudence of
Colleah

Equestrian Marshal

Lancer Gwendolyn of
Shadowed Stars

Webminister

Lady Prudence of Colleah

Chronicler

Lady Leandra Corzi

Historian

Lady Zoe Dukiana

Bardic Coordinator

Lady Muirenn Ingen Fael-
chon Uí Clerigh

Social Media Officer

Hadley of Beckenham

FROM THE CHRONICLER

THE BARONY WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!

- ◆ We need everyone to submit content for our newsletter! Things like: Editorials, pictures, Event Reports, Persona Bios, Artwork, and short stories for the quarterly newsletter!
- ◆ If you would like to create a regular or semi-regular column or have ideas of things we can include in future issues, please contact us at chronicler@shadowedstars.org!



DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS:

- ◆ **Submit by Dec 15, 2020, for inclusion in the next issue.**

RULES FOR SUBMISSIONS:

- ◆ Release Form types:
 - * Creative - For all articles, poems, original artwork that is not a photograph, and the like // We bring this to you and we keep on file.
 - * Photographer - Photographs // We bring this to you and we keep on file.
 - * Model - For the recognizable person(s) in the photograph(s) // You get signed by people in your submitted photograph, turn it in with your photo, and we keep on file.
- ◇ Model Release Forms are available for download from midrealm.org/chronicler.
- ◇ **If you are unable to print needed Release Forms, please let the Chronicler know and they will be supplied for you.**
- ◆ Pictures:
 - ◇ Submit as many photos as you can of our Barony activities as well as events and happenings of the SCA groups around us!
 - ◇ Needed with Submission: Name of Event, date, location, SCA titles and names of those in the photo
 - ◇ Appropriate Model Release forms for those who are recognizable
- ◆ Images from the internet:
 - ◇ If you include an image from the internet with your submission, please make sure to include the active URL link to it.

This is the Fall 2018 issue of The Shadow Press, a publication of the Barony of Shadowed Stars of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA, Inc.). The Shadow Press is edited by and available from Leandra Corzi, email: gwerithkay@gmail.com. It is not a corporate publication of SCA, Inc., and does not delineate SCA, Inc. policies. Copyright © 2019 Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. For information on reprinting photographs, articles, or artwork from this publication, please contact the Chronicler, who will assist you in contacting the original creator of the piece. Please respect the legal rights of our contributors.