

Official Newsletter for the Barony of Shadowed Stars



Constellation Region of the Middle Kingdom

THE SHADOW PRESS

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Winter Edition 2020



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A LETTER FROM OUR BARON Ulrich Halfdon Ulfsson

Hailsa!

Season's greetings to everyone, I hope that this missive finds you all happy and well. As we enter the holiday season, I ask that we all reflect on the gifts and blessings we've received during the year. Looking forward into the new year the first thing that springs to mind is that it will be time to choose my successor(s). If this is a service you think you might want to pursue please feel free to ask me anything that might help you with your decision to enter the polling. As the time draws nearer more information will be forthcoming.

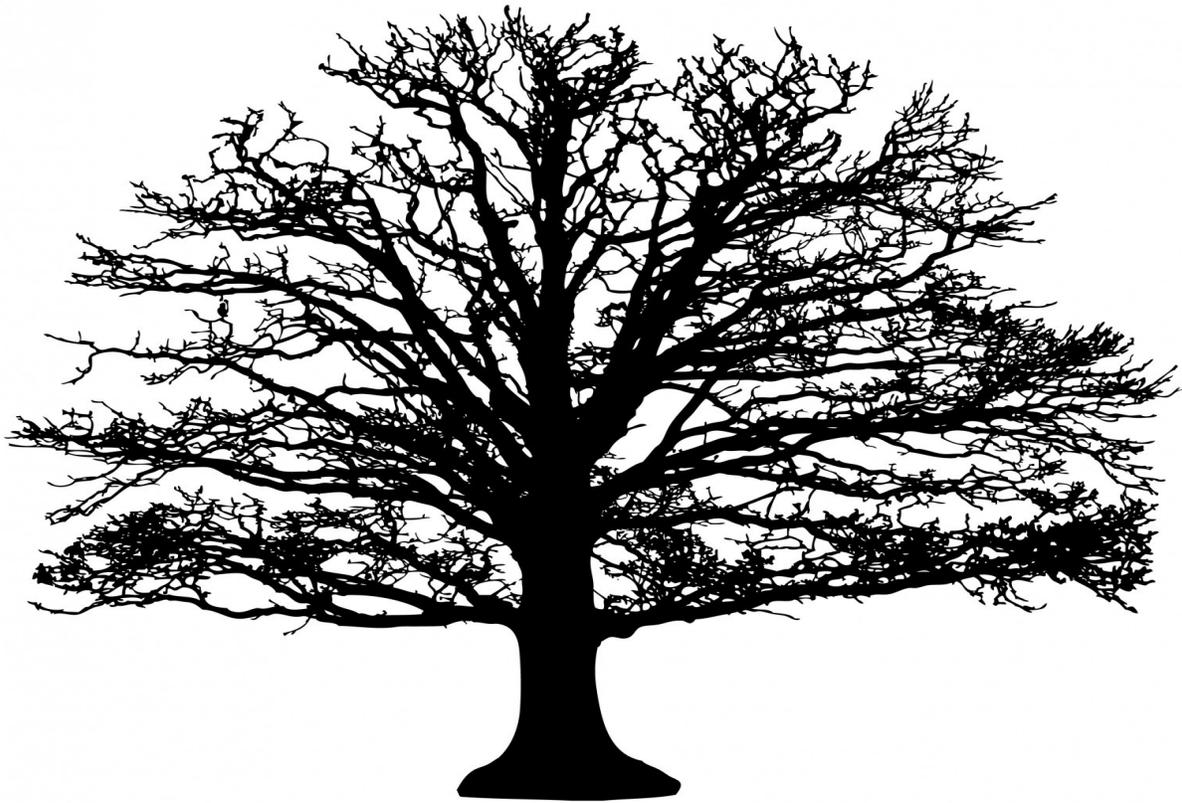
Our Baronial 12th Night is coming up soon and I look forward to seeing many of you there and enjoying a relaxing day filled with classes, friendship, and, of course, great food! After 12th Night I plan to attend St Valentine's Day in February and am hoping the Barony can have a good presence there. We are growing as a group as I see new people in heavy armor and fencing gear and this brings a smile to my face; please keep up the great work at recruiting.

Please remember that when you see a fellow Barony member do something cool that maybe they deserve recognition for that service, art, science, or prowess. Anyone can recommend another for an award. You can nominate someone for a baronial award by messaging me directly and kingdom awards by completing the form on the kingdom site.

Thank you all and please be safe through this holiday season, I'll see you next year.

Yours in Service,

Ulrich



BARONIAL CALENDAR AT-A-GLANCE

January 2020

Weekly Activities

Wednesday: Fighter Practice, and Fencing Practice

12th Night: Saturday January 18th

Business Meeting: Monday January 27th

March 2020

Weekly Activities

Wednesday: Fighter Practice, and Fencing Practice

Business Meeting: Monday March 23th

:

February 2020

Weekly Activities

Wednesday: Fighter Practice, and Fencing Practice

Business Meeting: Monday February 24th

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.

Do You like to Make Things?

Lady Kolfinna

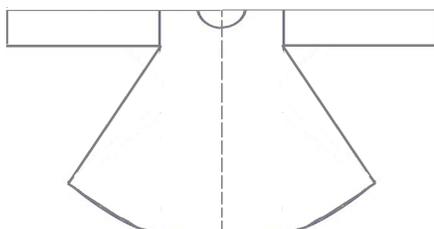
Art/Photo Credit: Leandra Corzi

Do you like to make things?

Ever look at some ones garb or jewelry or weaponry and think " I would love to learn to make that!"



Well, chances are, you aren't alone in that thought and I bet there is some one willing to teach you. We have had classes on calligraphy, coin making, and tunic making just to name a few.



If you would like to teach a class or have a particular interest in learning something, let me know and I will set it up because we have an amazing partnership with Tek Venture.

We have free run over anything in the building. If you want to learn pottery, wood working, lathing, some metalsmithing, to name a few then let me know and we can utilize these areas of the building and make some really cool items to use in the SCA.



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, Swordsmithing, Book Binding, Falconry, and ETC.

Another Great Year for Rapier in the Barony

Rapier

Andries von
Voorburg der
Erlund

2019 saw growth in our own rapier community here in the Barony of Shadowed Stars. We have had four rapier fighters authorize with their initial authorizations. These newly authorized members are Roeland, Aoefa, Tyrhawk, and Rafe. With the addition of the new fencers taking the field officially, we have had several new faces join us for regularly for practices. Showing the need for a focus on loaner equipment that we had previously been lacking. These needs have been almost entirely met by the generosity of members of the barony.

While we have had new faces in the crowd at practices, we've also had the return of familiar friends join us, coming out to rejoin the fun at our weekly practices. This year we've also had travelers join us from other parts of the kingdom for practices including even a couple distinguished guests here on town for business. We have had visitors from other Kingdoms, including at Spring Coronation which we had hosted this past year, His Majesty King Vincent Furnier.

As we head into this new year, we are looking to continue growing our own rapier practice by scheduling a second practice on weekends for those whom are unable to attend the weeknight practices or want to continue honing their skills with more time on the field. We also invite armored fighters to pick up the steel and join us as we look to add cut and thrust fencing to our curriculum.

Also, I want to hear from you, the members of the barony on how to improve rapier practices. ideas on how to improve our numbers, and most importantly, understand what you would like to learn. As well as what you would like to work on in order to advance your own sword skills. For all of this feedback, I'd ask that you contact me directly by emailing myself at andriesvonvoorburg@gmail.com.

In service,
Andries von Voorburg der Erlund

How the Awards system in the Midrealm Works

Mistress Maggie MacKeith

I can't believe that! How the awards system in the Midrealm works

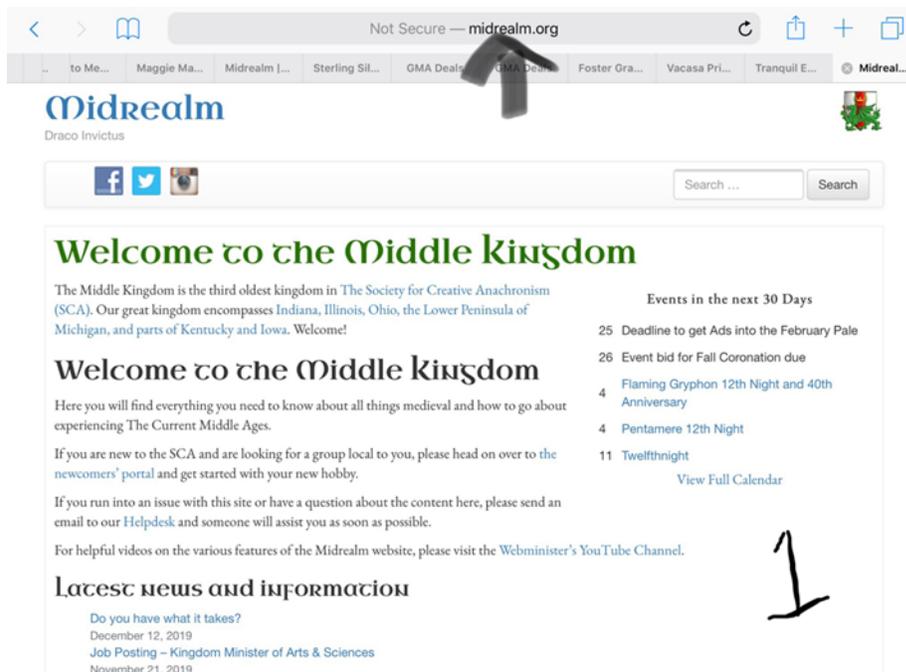
Have you ever attended Court at an event and observed someone receive an award that you thought they already had? "I can't believe that! I thought _____ had their AoA/Purple Fret/Willow/whatever already!" Did you feel like you couldn't understand how that person was overlooked for so long? Well, you can do one thing to fix that, for future Courts.

Our wonderful King and Queen are two people in a Kingdom of thousands. They are typically from one region, often from the same local group. If they are based in Pentamere, how would they know of the good works of a gentle in South Oaken? Someone wrote and told them!

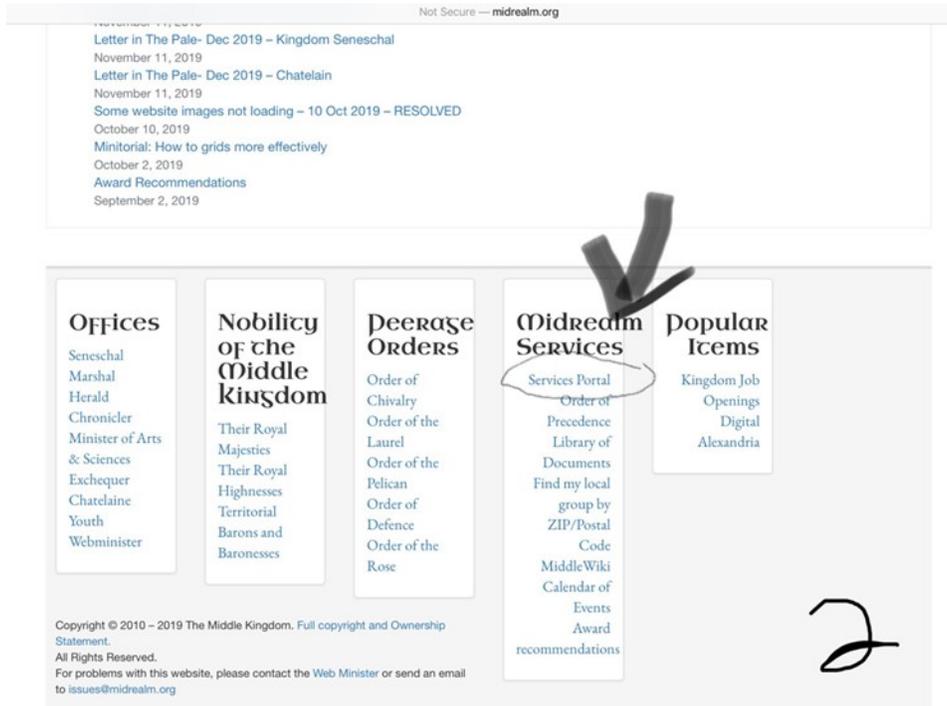
In this modern age, it's easier than ever to set up a profile on the Midrealm.org services portal. Once you've done that, you can use the Order of Precedence to see what awards someone has received and write them in for others.

Let's go through it, step by step.

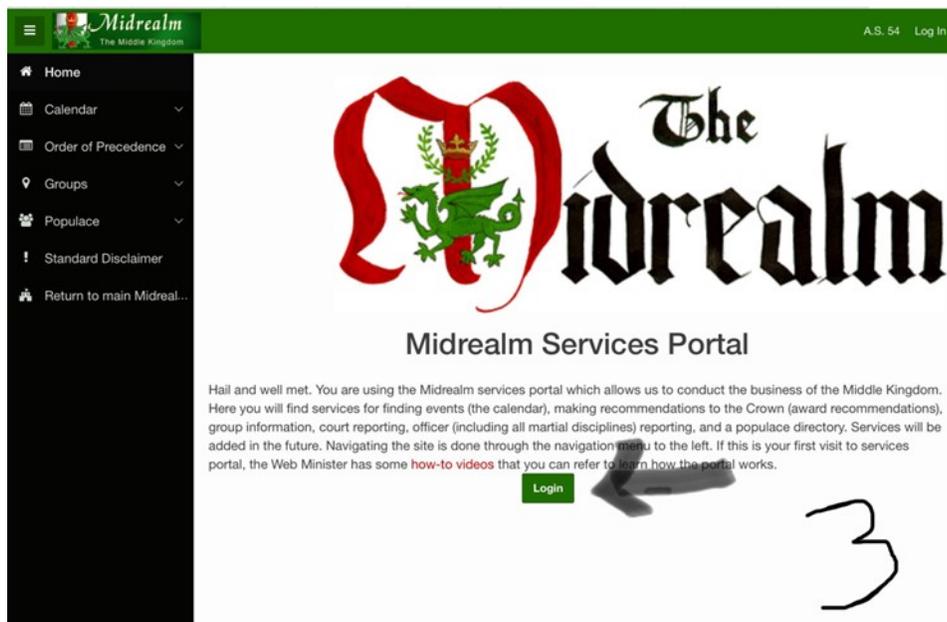
First, go to www.midrealm.org:

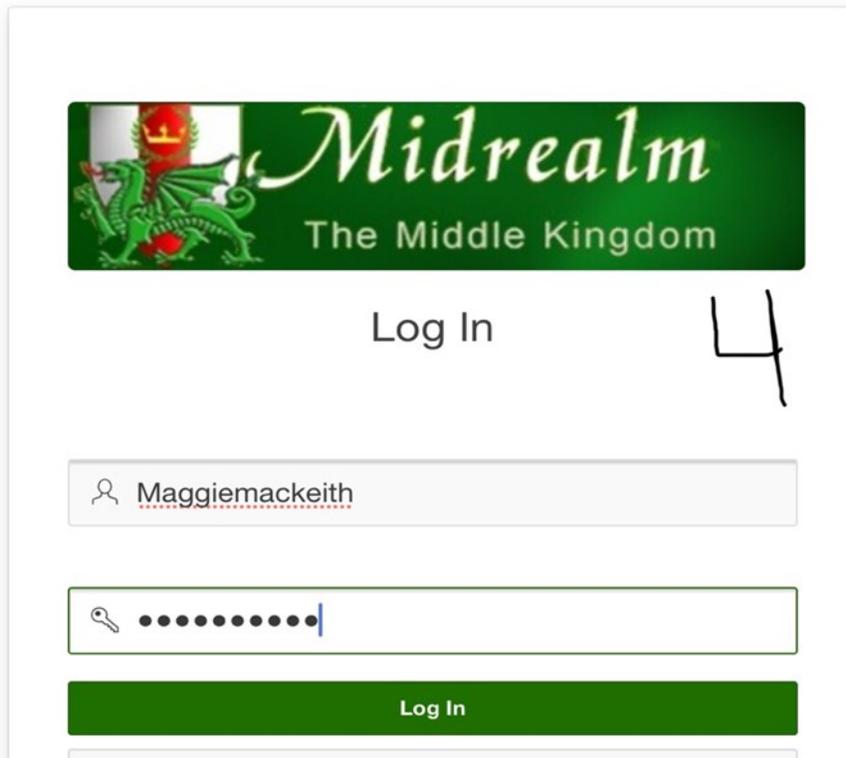


Then, go to the Services Portal....scroll to the bottom of the home page of MidRealm.org:

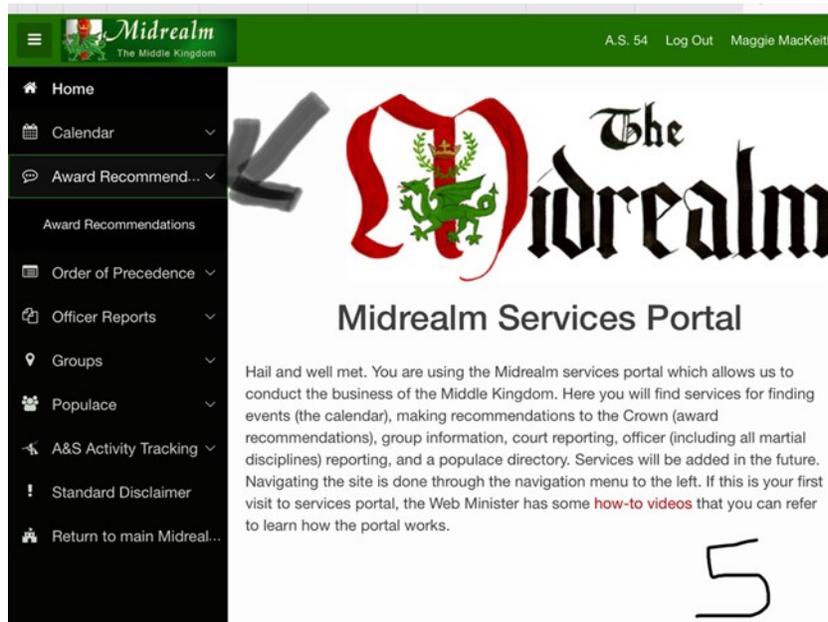


Then, log in to the Services portal. If you haven't built a profile/username, watch some of the 'How To' videos available on that login page:





Now that you're all logged in, there are a lot of things you can do, using the drop down menus on the left side of the screen. For this article, we are going to look specifically at the awards part.



Maybe you're not sure what all the awards are or what they mean. There is a helpful section for that, too!

Midrealm The Middle Kingdom A.S. 54 Log Out Maggie MacKeith

Search [] Go

Rows 50 Actions

Award descriptions Make a new recommendation

Recipient Sca Name	Recipient Real Name	Gender	Minor Yn	Entry Date	Last Update Date	Recommender sca name	Award name
							6

Midrealm The Middle Kingdom A.S. 54 Log Out Maggie MacKeith

Search [] Go

Rows 50 Actions

Award pic	Award Name	Award Abrev	Award Letters	Title	Formal Address	Sort Key	
	White Lance	OWL	C.W.L	The Honourable Lord/Lady	His Lordship/Her Ladyship or Companion of the White Lance	540	7

Once you know what award is appropriate, you can write a recommendation, which will be seen by the Royal Family. It will ask questions about the person you are recommending, including at which events they are expected to be in attendance.

Midrealm The Middle Kingdom A.S. 54 Log Out Maggie MacKeith

Search [] Go

Rows 50 Actions

Award descriptions Make a new recommendation

Recipient Sca Name	Recipient Real Name	Gender	Minor Yn	Entry Date	Last Update Date	Recommender sca name	Award name

8

Midrealm The Middle Kingdom A.S. 54 Log Out Maggie MacKeith

Edit recommendation

* Recommended By **Maggie MacKeith (Wendy Martin-Glick)** Need Help?

Existing Recipient []

New Recipient SCA Name []

New Recipient Real Name []

* Award []

Recommendation Reasons []

Persona Gender []

Recipient's Group []

Recipient is a Minor [No]

Return to Award Recommendation List **Create**

9

There! You've done it! You have recommended someone for an award. Great! Now that you know how, be on the lookout for people you see doing cool things and let the Crown know....they cannot know everything that happens, so it is up to all of us to tell them.

In service,
Maggie MacKeith, OP

P.S. I am happy to help anyone with the process or the recommendations themselves. Feel free to ask, anytime.



Photo Credit
Leandra Corsi

La Storia
dell'A-
mante
(Lover's
Story)
Part 1

Lady Zilia
Degli Giudici



13th Century Italy; Province of Foggia; Vico Del Gargano

In the dead of night a band of Vikings landed on the coastline of Italy. They quietly forged into the nearest village and briskly seized the inhabitants and their goods for themselves. They would keep what they want, throw away what they do not and those who wanted to stay would do so and conform to the ways of the village. Those who did not stay would make sure to leave there mark and move on. No matter the things they would do, stay or go, the village would never be the same again.

While all of this was happening, a sleepy little cottage several miles away would stay untouched and those who dwell inside would remain through the night unaware of all that took place in their beloved village.

A woman, not quite a crone, but whose husband had long past been delivered into the ground, startles awake in the wee hours of the morning. Sweat dripping from her brow, her mouth dry as cotton, she gathered her senses and calmly retrieved a drink. Realizing she was not going to be able to return to her restless slumber, she began preparing for her day.

She went into the next room, leaving a note for her children, who would be up at sunrise. This way she would avoid their concern at her absence during breakfast. She gathered bread and cheese in a cloth and tucked them into her apron then, proceeded to gather several blankets and pieces of clothing she had finished, they were to be used to obtain things she needed in the village. She would acquire food she could not grow near her cottage as well as more materials to make more blankets and clothing, if she still had a blanket or two left once she had gotten what she needed, she would trade for some silver or gold wares to tuck away in her linen chest. She almost had enough to be able to help her oldest daughter marry and then she would start saving for her youngest daughter.

Of course, she would not force either, not like she was. She raised her girls to be able to care for themselves without any assistance from a man. They were able to do all the things a gentlewoman should do, but they were perfectly capable of fighting as a man. She was able to get away with teaching them because she also has two boys and since they live far enough outside of the village, they had plenty of space where no one would see her boys teaching her and the girls how to fight with swords and shields. Her eldest boy was a craftsman, he made the finest horse shoes in the province.

He helped her maintain the taxes on their cottage and land and he helped her purchase the materials needed for him to make the girls armor and swords. She often wondered, would a woman catch his eye in the near future or would he be old and geriatric as her husband was when she was forced to marry him? Not that her husband being young and spry would have made a difference. Zilia, truly had no desire to ever marry and was quite angry with her father for making her do so. She was so angry, she did not tend to him on his death bed. With no siblings to leave his belongings, she was the sole heir. However, she has not been back to his home since she left as a young, bride of barely 16. Some did consider her an old maid by this age, but Zilia would have felt it was too young not matter what her age. Zilia could have been 100 years old and forced to marry and she would still have felt far too young to be married. Well, if her son marries or not, it is perfectly well enough for her. He makes his own way and is a good, kind gentleman, a mother cannot ask for more.



Zilia settles all of her goods into the small wagon her younger son had built for the family and sets off toward the barn to put the horse together and hitch him to the wagon. As Zilia is heading toward the barn, she thought she heard a slight sound in the brush. She stopped dead in her tracks, moved her head cover from over her ear, listened for a good while, decided it had to have been a nearby wild animal and continued on with her task.

Once she had her horse ready, she started to lead her horse out toward the wagon, again, she heard rustling in the brush. Zilia decided to just ignore it since it seemed to be nothing before.

After the horse was hitched, Zilia set out toward the village. She always loved her travels to the village, it was peaceful and relaxing. Soon after she set out, the sun started to peak out, just in time for her to enjoy basking in it along the way. Zilia tilted her head up, closed her eyes, stretched her arms out wide and took as much of the sun in as she possibly could. Her horse knew the way to the village with his own eyes closed so, she did not have worry about getting lost. Just as she started taking the sun in, a beautiful breeze blew by ever so slightly. Zilia drew in a deep breath, the air was salty and perfectly damp. She was immensely relaxed, so much so that, she did not see the dark figures in the brush watching her, studying her, waiting for the right moment...

BAM!!!!

To Be Continued...

Draco
Invictus!!

Baron
Fergus
Mac-
Pherson

Photo Credit:
Fergus Mac-
Pherson

Donsday



Draco Invictus!!

As the New Year begins, we are ready to make new resolutions. From weight loss to increased reading, there are many things we want to improve about ourselves. Take this time to include a better SCA experience. If you are wanting to improve yourself, try to do a little more research into your persona. This was one of the first things I did, years ago. I didn't have enough money (or talent) for period clothing, so I checked into the 14th Century Scottish culture. I found out quickly that kilts weren't period for me at all. Clothes were my next target. I slowly started to introduce the proper materials and later the proper styles. I dressed like a Viking for some time. Although comfortable, it wasn't appropriate for a Scottish Noble. Over the years, we have improved our camping gear, feast gear, and my armor. Small changes here and there allowed me to become more immersed in the SCA and the Dream. However, there is one thing we can all do to help others to become more immersed..... Be kind. We have heard stories about the one person that comments on "out of period" gear/clothing. Just don't be that person... reach out and help them. We should all drag people up instead of pushing them down. So, please add a small resolution to the list you create. Be 10% better.... It doesn't always require money.

In Service, Baron Fergus MacPherson

BARONIAL 12TH NIGHT

COME JOIN US JANUARY 18TH FROM 10 AM UNTIL 9 PM AT TEK VENTURE IN FORT WAYNE TO CELEBRATE WITH THE BARONY.

THIS YEARS THEME OF OFF THE CANVAS INVITES YOU TO DRESS AS YOUR FAVORITE HISTORICAL PAINTING. SO DON'T FORGET TO BRING AN EXAMPLE OF IT ALONG SO WE CAN OOOOHHH AND AHHHH WHILE YOU GET YOUR PORTRAIT TAKEN BY OUR PHOTOGRAPHER IN THE PHOTO BOOTH.

THIS YEARS ACTIVITIES ALSO INCLUDES CLASSES, A SILENT AUCTION, DANCING, GAMES, FEAST AND COURT WITH HIS EXCELLENCY.

ATTENDEES ARE ENCOURAGED TO BRING A DISH FOR FEAST, BUT THE MAIN COURSE WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE BARONY. WE ASK THAT YOU INCLUDE A LISTING OF INGREDIENTS IN ANY HOME MADE DISH AND BE MINDFUL OF CROSS CONTAMINATION OF FOOD ALLERGENS.

MORE INFO IS FORTHCOMING, SO STAY TUNED AND LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL AT 12TH NIGHT.

10 Basic Steps of Archery

Gunnarr
Bogsveigir



1. Stance
2. Nocking
3. Finger Placement
4. Bow Arm
5. Drawing
6. Anchor
7. Aim
8. Hold
9. Release
10. Follow through

1. Stance:

Approach the shooting line with your bow arm shoulder pointing towards the target. Place your feet straddling the line, shoulder width apart.

2. Nocking

Arrows with 3 feathers will usually have 1 feather a different color. This is called the cock feather. When attaching the nock to the string, the cock feather should be facing you and the arrow should be on the same side of the bow you are.

3. Finger Placement (1 above 2 below or Split finger)

Your index finger should be above the nock with the 2nd and 3rd fingers under. Only the balls of your finger tips should be touching the string.

4. Bow Arm

DO NOT LOCK YOUR ELBOW! Your arm should be slightly bent. Recurve bows use the web between thumb and forefinger to act as a fulcrum with very little grip, using just enough to prevent the bow from slipping out of your hand. With a longbow the heel of your hand needs to steady the bow. More grip is required but not a stranglehold.

5. Drawing

Drawing is not arm strength but shoulder rotation. When drawing back your shoulder rotates and the arm should be horizontal and level with the wrist and arm straight. If the wrist is bent (broken) you are using your arm and not your shoulder.

6. Anchor

The tip of the index finger should touch the corner of the mouth.

*There are various methods for anchoring, you will find what works best for you. Essentially you want to find a point of contact on your face that you touch every time. This allows you to gain consistency.

7. Aim

The anchor point should put the string in front of the eye. Line up the string with the tip of the arrow so that you're looking down the entire length of the arrow. As you are looking at the target, line up the tip of the arrow below center of the gold area on the target.

*This is only one way to try for aiming. Keep in mind there are many instinctive shooters that don't "aim" at all or use a combination of different aiming techniques.

8. Hold

Hold for a moment to settle in and hold your breath as you would if taking a picture.

9. Release

Relax your fingers so that the string moves smoothly away with no jerky motion. Release your breath at the same time.

*I like to tell people to press their knuckles in which forces your fingers open and out. Doing this makes it less likely to pluck the string.

10. Follow Through

Once you've released the string hold your position so that your shoulders don't slump and your bow arm does not drop.

*I recommend having a secondary anchor point. Once you release the string find another point on your face or by your ear that you again touch. This will allow you to fine tune for more consistency.

Repeat as necessary and have fun!

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact us:



THL Forester Gunnarr Bogsveiger
Constellation Regional Archery Marshal
constellation.archery@midrealm.org
or
gmfitzsimmons@gmail.com

THL Forester Aelfric the Kestrell
Secretary to the Greenwood Company
Aelfric34@hotmail.com

A Cloth Doll

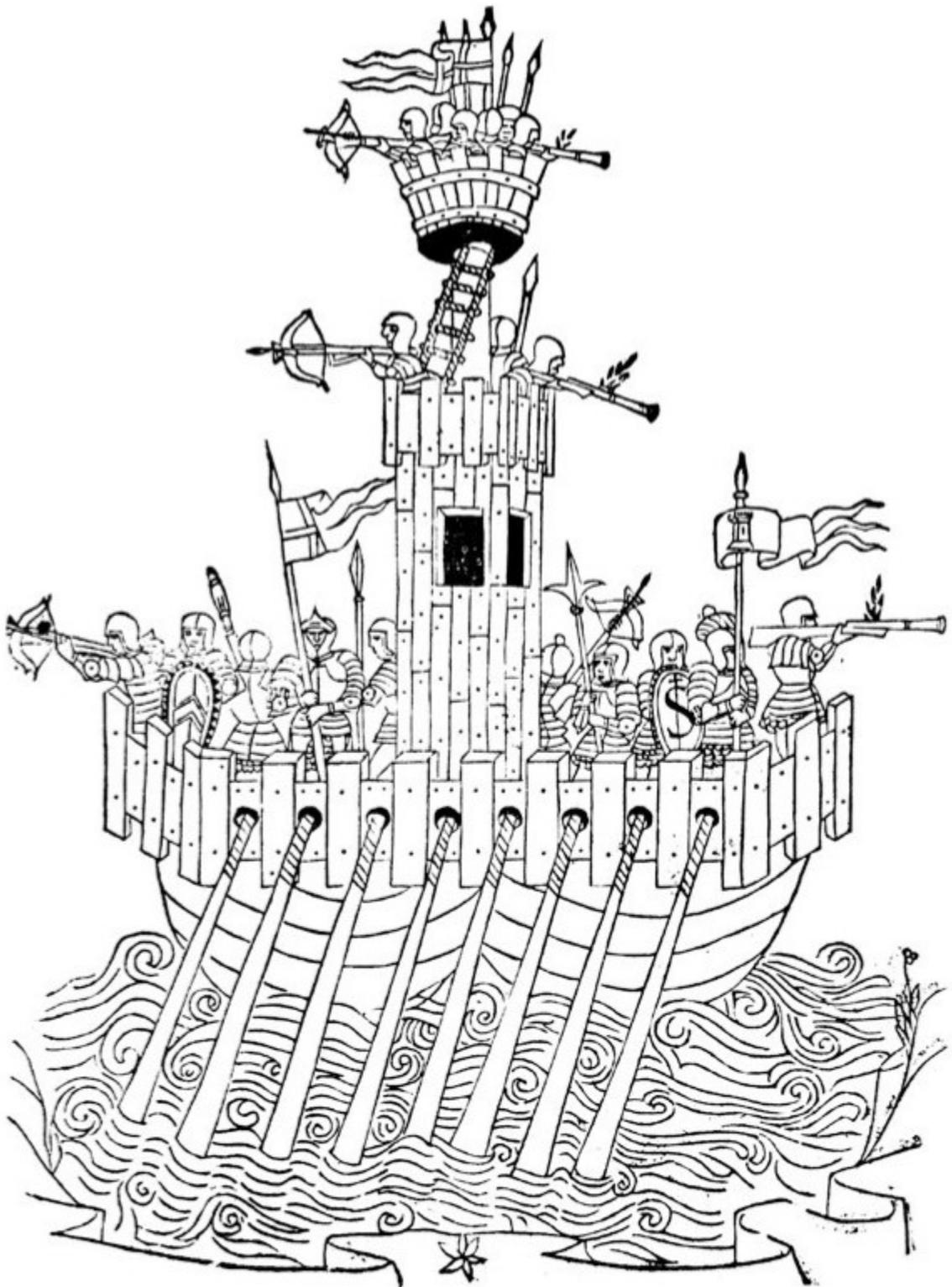
Lady Ann Meyer

Photos
Courtesy of
Lady Ann
Meyer

These pictures show one of the dolls that I designed as I make it. I draw a face on the largest panel, and I embroider it. I sew arms together. I fold legs and sew them. I turn these parts right-side out. I put openings in my seams to allow for stuffing. I assemble the body with pins or basting stitches to hold the arms and legs to the front panel. I fold arms and legs, and then I pin them on the other side of the cloth to keep the doll's hands and toes out of the seams. I sew the two back panels together, leaving an opening in the back panels. Next I pin the back panels to the front panel, and I sew around the perimeter of the front panel. I turn the doll right-side out. I stuff the entire doll, and I whipstitch the stuffing openings closed. I sew yarn to the head for hair, and I style this hair with a scissors. I finish by making clothes for the doll.

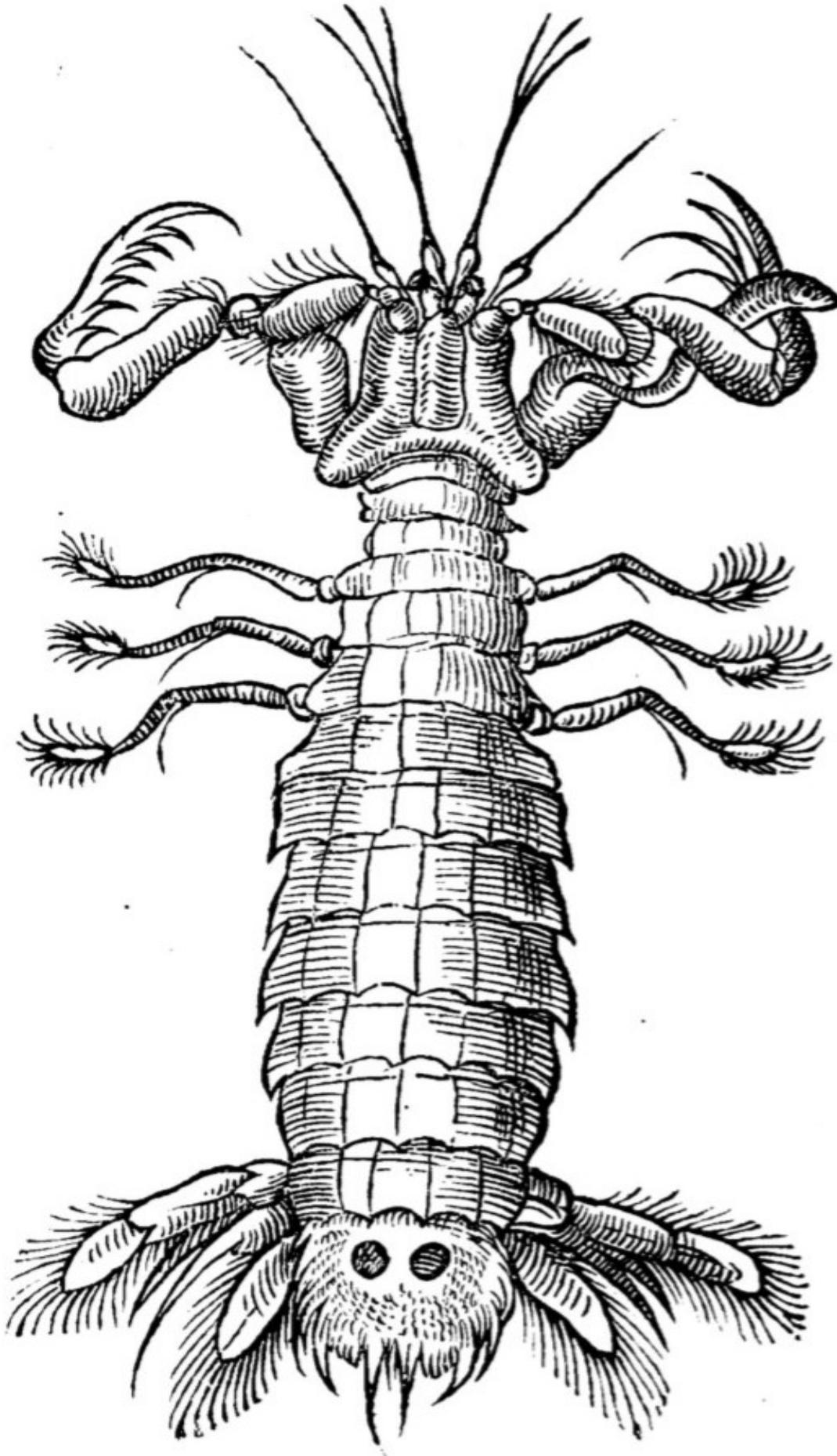


Coloring
Pages



A warship, illustrated in the military treatise *De re militari* by Roberto Valturio (Verona, 1472) SSS.4.14, leaf [186]v.

<https://exhibitions.lib.cam.ac.uk/incunabula/artifacts/valturio/>



Original Image
De aquatilibus.

By Pierre Belon. (1553).

Digitized by Harvard University, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Ernst Mayr Library.

www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/4770492

More BHL Coloring Pages

www.biodiversitylibrary.org/collection/ColorOurCollections

For more coloring pages, visit ColorOurCollections.org

Getting to Know your Fabrics: Part One

Lady Leandra Corzi

Photo Credit: Leandara Corzi



With the availability of so many fabrics, and how accessible the different types and blends, it can be really helpful if you know a bit about the different types of fabric. Part of familiarizing yourself with fabrics, is learning how to tell the difference between them. One of the most common tests is the burn test. Now, of course most stores won't let you burn fabric in the store, but other than thrift stores, you can usually get a small swatch that you can take home to test. (Or just outside to the parking lot.)

Burn Test

When doing a burn test, if you are using matches, please make note of the smell of the matches that you are using before lighting the fabric, so that you know which is the smell of the matches, and what is the smell of the burning fabric, as this can be very important. You will only want to test this on a small swatch, you can easily cut a 1 inch by 1 inch piece to test, and it should be plenty of fabric to test and it won't burn for to long. You may want a metal or glass dish to hold the swatch, so that you are not holding it while it burns, decreasing and/or eliminating the risk of burning yourself. AS well, please do this in a well ventilated area, with easy access to water should you need to douse your test swatch. As with mystery fabrics some things are quite fragrant and may continue to smolder depending on the fiber content.

With Cotton fabrics you will see it burn, and you can see the glow along the edges, as this burns it will not burn itself out, you will need to put it out.. The smoke that comes from this fabric will vary between white to grey, and have the smell of burnt paper. Once you blow this out, you will see that the ash is powdery and there is no little bubbles of melted things along the edges.



Pros and Cons

Some of the pros of Cotton fabrics are that it is easily accessible, often on the cheaper side of materials, and comes in a plethora of colors, weaves, and patterns. Cotton is a natural fabric that does breathe somewhat well, but not the best. It absorbs water very well, so that it will hold moisture for a good amount of time, this means that if you are wearing of shirt of cotton, it will absorb that sweat and just hold it there against your skin, however it will dry and you can easily feel the movement of air, it won't hold body heat in completely. I would consider it the middle ground fabric, that is a great place to start when making anything.



BARONIAL OFFICERS

Seneschal

Warder Mael Duin mac
Gilla Ennae

Chatelaine

Lady Aiofe
inghean Eoghain

Minister of A&S

Lady Kolfinna

Herald

Muirenn ingen Fáelchon 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 up to 3,000 words 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 March 20, 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.