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A LETTER FROM OUR BARONAGE

Good Tidings to All -

The snow and ice have melted away, as the warm spring winds start to blow across this fair land. Soon all we look upon will be growing green once again. The sun will linger longer in sky allowing us time to once again be together in its warmth. We have many things planned for the upcoming months and will rejoice with you joining us on these ventures.

Our progress for the spring includes Better War Thru Archery on March 26, Dressed to Kill on April 9, Grand Tournament of the Dragon on April 23, and Spring Coronation on May 7th. We will then travel to Spring Crown & Kingdom A&S Tournament the last weekend in May and to Three Saints June 4th.

We are very pleased to schedule a Baronial Spring Court on Saturday, April 16th at One o'clock in the afternoon at the Lions Park in Fort Wayne. We will ask the populace of Shadowed Starts to present themselves at this Court so that we may recognize the good deeds, acts prowess and service. There will be a fighter practice afterwards along with social time for everyone. There will be more details to follow so pay heed to the FB and Web announcements.

We are so happy that our Barony will be hosting spring Coronation! We ask you to please write award recommendations to the Crown for their Court. We have so many worthy people among us that deserve to be recognized. We will be premiering the Baronial children's award at this event in the evening Court. If you have not taken the time to volunteer for the event please do so, many hands make light the tasks of running an event. Not sure where you can help? Then reach out to the event steward Dame Maggie, we always have place where you can contribute to the success of this event.

One Midrealm!
Baron Ronan & Baroness Hadley



Photo by Hjalmr Njalsson



Photo Courtesy of Leandra Corzi

BARONIAL CALENDAR AT-A-GLANCE

Baronial Practices and Chats:

A&S Zoom Chats—1st Monday of the Month, 7-8 pm EDT.

A&S Classes—Please see Facebook or Calendar, schedules vary

Unarmored Combat — Sundays 10:00 am-12:00 pm EDT

Armored Combat—Thursday, 6:00-8:00 pm EDT

Archery—Wednesday, 6:00-8:00 PM EDT; for location please check online calendar

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>.

Business Meetings

April 25th 7:00 PM

May 23rd 7:00 PM

June 27th 7:00 PM

We we are hosting Coronation on My 8th, please check out details for the even on the website.

<https://shadowedstars.midrealm.org/spring-coronation/>

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

A Word
From Our
Seneschal
Warder
Rashid al-
Sanna

Photo Courtesy of
Leandra Corzi

Hello and well wishes to the Barony of Shadowed Stars!

It is your humble and honored seneschal Rashid here with an update to COVIDSafe guidelines that we are following in the Midrealm. As of March 7th the requirement to gather contact tracing information and/or preregister for an event was lifted.



There will still be the expectation to post the COVID disclaimer on all event websites and prominently on site, and we are still required to check for either proof of vaccination or proof of a negative COVID test result at every event, including meetings and practices. This will occur at gate for events and at the beginning of each practice or meeting held by the group.

The COVIDSafe attestation document must be submitted to the waiver deputy within 30 days of the event/meeting/practice that was held. Likewise, each person at said interaction must have their proof checked by someone and they must sign the COVIDSafe attestation form, similar in nature to our other waiver forms. Hopefully with this change it is a sign that our game will get back to normal, whatever normal is for a SCAdian. In all seriousness, if you have any questions please reach out to me and thank you for your time.

YIS, Warder Rashid al-Sanna, Seneschal for the Barony of Shadowed Stars

Draco Invictus!

Master
Fergus
Macpherson

Photo Courtesy
of Leandra Corzi



Draco Invictus!!

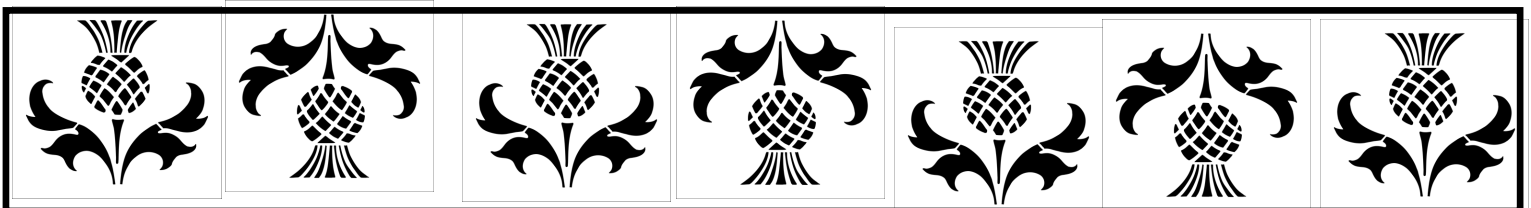
Spring has sprung!! The temperatures, for the most part, are on the rise. Outdoor events are in our near future. I am excited to get back into the swing of things. Events last summer were few and far between. With the Covid restrictions being lifted a bit, we can look forward to more fun in the sun.

Like many of you, I spent much of the past couple of years insulated from the SCA.... At least physically. We had many online events, that I participated in, but fewer in-person ones. More fighting, dancing, walking, riding, and other fun activities to be had.

Two years off has taken its toll on many of us. Let's call it the "covid 20." Lack of physical activity has made it harder to get back into the swing of things. I need to lose weight and start moving more. I'm older and I'm having more joint problems than I did. I'm going to start slow.

Any physical activity can take its toll on the body. Please go slow when starting back up. The first thing we should do when returning is to be safe. Don't rush into it. The Dragon Army General has been telling people to be safe and have fun. I think that should be everyone's mantra for all activities.

In service,
Master Fergus MacPherson



A&S Activity tracking and how to do it

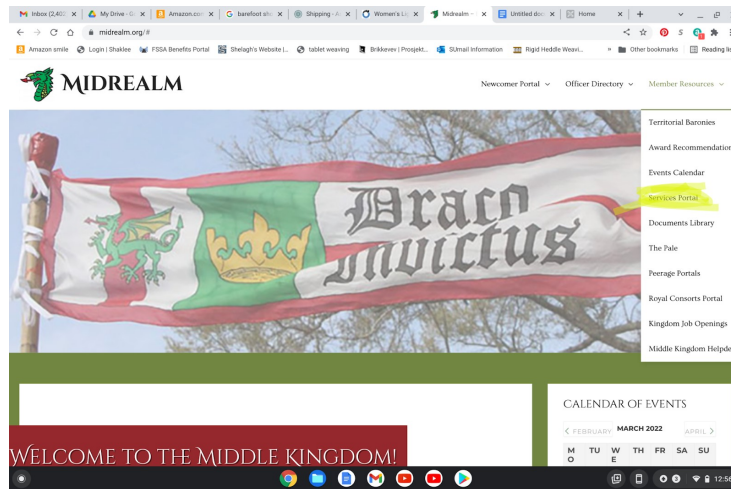
Lady Aoife

Photo Courtesy of Leandra Corzi

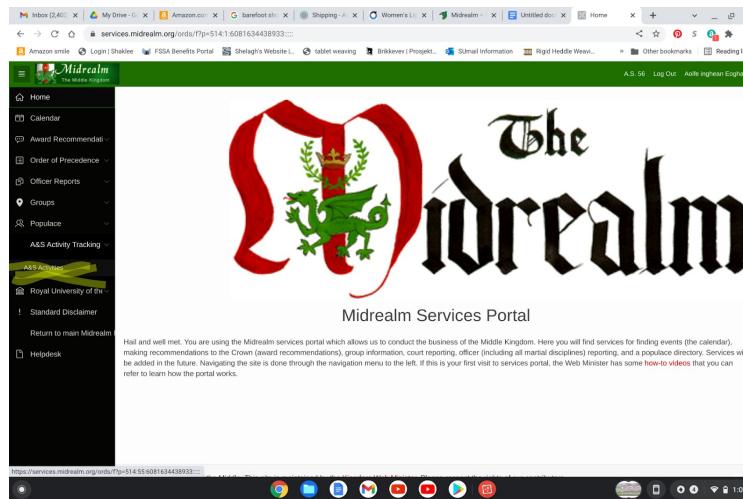


Go to the Midrealm Home page <https://midrealm.org/>

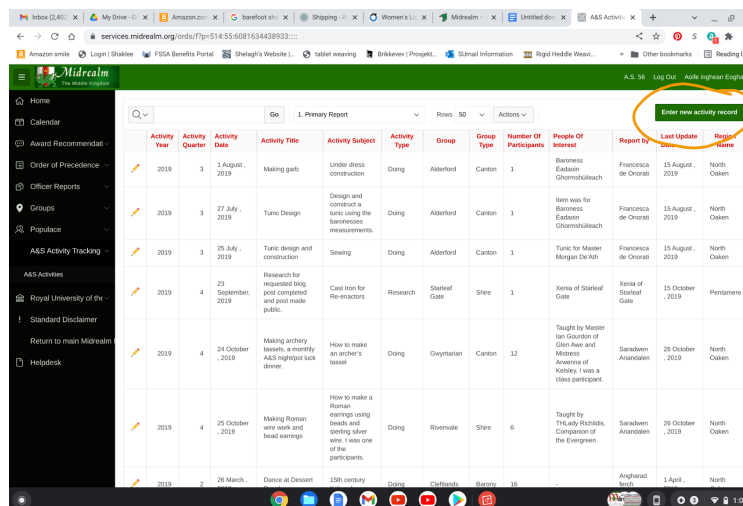
Select Member Resources Services Portal



Login - Select A&S Activity Tracking - A&S Activities



Select Enter New Activity Record



Enter activity information

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the Midrealm website. The page is titled "Edit Activity" and displays a form for entering activity information. The form includes a dropdown menu for "What type of activity or competition" which is currently open, showing options like "Interest", "Competition", "Displays", "Feedback", "Education", "Doing", and "Research". The "Interest" option is highlighted with an orange circle. Other fields on the form include "Person reporting the activity" (Adele inghram Eighan), "Activity Title", "Activity Subject", "Number Of Participants", "People Of Interest", "Activity Date", and "Last Update Date".

Click Create when finished

Super easy to do. You can enter things you are working on by yourself, an interesting class you attended, some research for new garb you want to make, or anything that is at all A&S related.

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

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.

Thrown Weapons

Greetings good gentles! It's getting warmer and the birds are getting louder. Time to work on your aim! Make sure to check on the condition of your throwing axes, knives, spears and trowels before the first practice. Be sure to sand and oil your handles, file off any burrs, make sure all are snug and well attached. Check for any cracks that may have developed. Also clean off the rust. See you on the range!

**Prudence, Dread Pirate
Thrown Weapons Marshal**

Armored
News

Baron
Ronan

Armored

Photos courtesy of
Leandra Corzi

Outdoor Practice

With the hopefully soon return of spring we will be transitioning back to outdoor Armored combat as soon as conditions allow it. We will be returning to our previous outdoor site at Lions Park on the north side of Fort Wayne. Watch for the Facebook events and the Barony calendar for further details.

COVID 19 News

As I hope everyone is aware, our kingdom has now lifted the requirement of masking indoors during events. However, proof of vaccination or a negative test must still be provided at any event or practice, even if that practice is occurring outdoors. For a negative test to be considered it must have been administered by a pharmacy, doctor's office, or similar medial professional. Marshals In order to regularly have any of our martial practices, we need a robust pool of marshals available to ensure everything goes well. I would like to encourage anyone who enjoys a martial activity to consider joining the ranks of our local marshals.

If you have any questions, please reach out to any of us.

Yours in service,
Ronan



Guess
What?!?!?

You're on
Vigil!!!!

Dame
Maggie
Mackeith

Photo Courtesy of
Astemari Zahra
Tesfaye



Guess What?!? You're on vigil!! (The joys and challenges of planning a surprise vigil)

I had been in the SCA for about 30 years when I was put on vigil for the Order of the Pelican, the Society's high level service award. It was at Kingdom A&S/Spring Crown Tournament and, that year, Shadowed Stars was hosting. It was Saturday evening and I was the last of six people put on vigil for the Order. It's a bit of a blur, but at least I had lots of time to plan—That was on May 27th and I was to be elevated at court at Mounted War Games in early September.

On March 26 of this year, at Better War Thru Archery, I was part of a big secret! My good friend, Baron Gareth, and I were allowed to ask the King and Queen of the Midrealm to place our protégé, Zahra Tesfaye, on vigil. How exciting!

To most folks watching, that's where the story started. But for Gareth and me, along with our spouses, it had been seven weeks of frantic planning to make sure this day was what Zahra would want. Their Majesties, Ullr and Annelyse, did not want to do what I had done: put her on vigil at one event and elevate her at another. This is due to concerns that, if COVID flared again and events were to stop, she would be on vigil for months, and they did not want that for her. They sent me an email in the first week of February, to let me know if their intent. We then decided together at what event it should be held, and I got busy planning. The first thing I did was contact Gareth and let him know what was going on. Then, I looked for the document that would be my biggest help incoming weeks. Her ICOP (In Case of Peerage) document. I found that and started contacting the people whose help I would need to make her day special.

We gathered new garb for her Ethiopian persona, strung African beads for her to give out to people who came to visit her, arranged a rental house for her scattered friends, planned and recruited food for her vigil guests, ordered a book in which people could write their well wishes and congratulations, planned for regalia (medallions, embroidered veil, cloak, cap of maintenance—all the things that show she is a Pelican!). Lucky for us, she is well loved and many people stepped forward to do things for her, from making food, to helping with the regalia, to researching and writing the scroll text. I was glad to have the time we did have, as it was a lot of moving pieces to put together.

When it was all said and done, she was very surprised (if a little sus) and thrilled with the things we'd arranged. This was my first protégé to be elevated and this was a bit of a baptism by fire, but I learned a ton!

If anyone has any questions, let me know. Happy to help!

Maggie MacKeith, OP and Proud Mama Bird



Photos Courtesy of Leandra Corzi

Book
Recom-
mendation

Eoforhild
aet
Wintanca
estre

kid's corner

Nobody Likes a Goblin by
Ben Hatke

Published by First Second,
2016

Target age 4-8 years with
adult directed text

Imagine an adventure
story from the point of view of
the “bad guys.” Goblin lives in

his home, which is a cozy, rat-infested dungeon, with his only friend Skeleton. They play with the treasure in the dungeon and live contented lives until one day an adventuring party of “heroes” comes in and shatter their peace. The party takes off with the treasure and his best friend Skeleton, so Goblin must venture out into the world where he discovers how those outside of his dungeon feel about goblins.

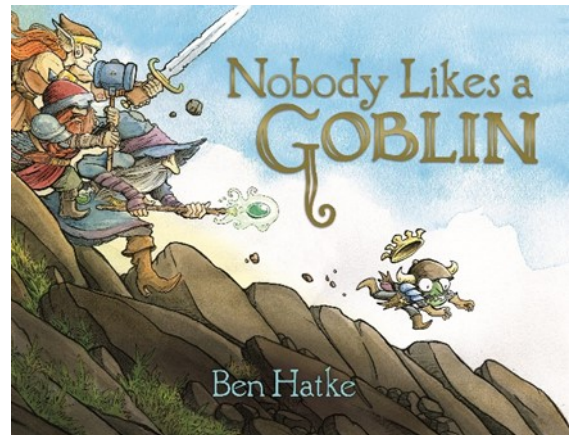
While this is not a book about the Middle Ages, it will certainly be of interest to those who like medieval and fantasy stories and will delight both children and adults. The illustrations are wonderful and at times adorable. They were created with India ink, Sakura Micron pens, watercolors, and assorted brushes. The themes of friendship, overcoming adversity and bravery will resonate at any age.

Favorite parts:

Gianna (age 7) likes the scene where the goblins and their friends chase away the adventurers once and for all.

Francesca (age 5) loves the scene where Goblin is chased out of the inn because there is a cat.

Eoforhild and Deorwulf (adults) like the part where Goblin and Skeleton meet some new friends that help them avoid their doom.



Greetings
From
Our
Chatelaine

Forester
Gunnarr
Bogsveigier

Gold Key Garb

C O L V Y D X M I Y G T K C X
 O X W A U L M M N O J N M Z V
 T Y E U F I F S D L V J E E H
 E Y L Q L R R Z O R V D H J M
 H J E X A I S N U L N W Q E A
 A P W I M P L E B A T G T R N
 R C V Y C I U I L U C F U K O
 D J O S N P L E E L H T N I I
 I C F I V E P V T U E S I N B
 E L J O F P Q Z V A M L C G C
 A O R F U S G Q P Q I R I F W
 K A P O C X M S Q E S O N Y O
 P K H K T A B A R D E W I C T
 T J D S S U R C O A T I Q Y Z
 J V M J S L S C E H N Z Q Q L

TUNIC
 SURCOAT
 COTEHARDIE
 LIRIPIPE
 HOUPPELANDE
 CHEMISE
 CLOAK
 DOUBLET
 TABARD
 COIF
 JERKIN
 WIMPLE

Greetings unto all! Do you know of someone who might want to come check SCA activities? Please help direct them to Gold Key when they arrive so they may borrow some garb for the day! Rattan Fighting, Rapier, and Archery all have loaner equipment too! So come check things out! Walk around, take it all in...socialize, shop, fight, shoot, stay for a yummy feast! We hope to see you around!

YIS,
 Forester Gunnarr Bogsveigir
 Barony of Shadowed Stars Chatelaine

An
equestrian
adventure
at
Gulf Wars
30
Lancer
Gwendolyn

Midrealm swept the equestrian war points at Gulf Wars. Draco Invictus!

Gulf Wars 30 has been and will be a fond memory for me. I took a solo trip with my two equines across the country and shared them across kingdoms and with Their Majesties. Sharing food, hugs, and conversation filled my heart with joy. And jousting- my favorite thing!

The weather varied from mild to very cold, sunny to rainy, but overall, pleasant. I participated in mounted activities like Ride Before a Prince, jousting, archery, a challenge course, page's tourney, daiku, pony rides for non-equestrians, site riding among the camping populace and royal procession. I served as a mounted marshal for mounted combat, hosted buzkashi and a challenge course. And in my "spare time," I spent the evenings in the dance hall.

Baroness Halldora Egilsdotter, Lady Geneva de Saint Martin, and I all represented the Barony as we visited the kingdom of Glen Abhainn. My new horse, Zephyr is young- 4 1/2 years old. Her experience is limited and her skeleton is still growing, so she can't yet be expected to do all the things. My original horse, Kira is an old pro at 14 years old, but retired from the jousting list due to physical and neurological restrictions. Both of them behaved and performed phenomenally all week. With Zephyr, I was proud to win the mounted archery competition and the challenge course of various skills at arms, which was a war point. I was very pleased to earn second in the Ride Before a Prince competition. Here, you study the historical manuscripts of classical equine training and perform a routine of your own choreography to exemplify your mount's abilities. Additionally, Zephyr carried His Royal Majesty Ullr, while Her Majesty AnneLyse rode Kira; a great honor to be sure.

I spent time training Zephyr for jousting at Gulf Wars but didn't want to overface her by entering her first tournament before she was ready. Lancer Arabella of the Outlands offered me a chance to ride her horse, Coda in his first joust tournament. While I immensely enjoyed my time holding a lance, we did not win, but I was so proud to watch my fellow equestrian, Mistress Lora Greymare take the victory during her horse's first tournament; another Midrealm war point earned.

Kira carried a number of children during pony rides and performed alongside them as kids raced on stick horses in the page's tourney. We strolled around campsites, stopping for pets from young and old. Lady Rosamund helped to take care of Kira and they placed in some competitions as well.

Daiku is a historical game from Japan, played like polocrosse with net-topped sticks, lobbing balls into a goal as a team. Everyone on the field shared in great sport and laughter. I hosted another team game called Buzkashi, a game from the east, where a facimile plush goat is passed like a football into the scoring zone before the other team. The rain cancelled a mounted combat game that I would have hosted as the third war point. I did host a challenge course that scored superior horsemanship alongside skills with weapons, which Lora Greymare won and Geneva helped me to score.

Their Majesties hosted a kingdom court, where they presented awards to worthy Mid-realmers and paid all of Their subjects with "war pay" of stamped coins for the fighting, participation, and volunteering that was done at war.

I wish that I had time for other war activities like Rossfechten- a mounted swordsmanship class and competition, cart driving, and combat archery.

Around 35 horses attended the war this year; that's about 20 fewer than normal. Spirits were high and the comradery was strong. Many meals and stories were shared around the campfire. It was hard to leave such a friendly community of people. I am grateful for my friends, Sofia Crivelli and Wolfgang von Metten of South Oaken for permitting me and my horses to overnight with them on my long journey. Travel issues included changing a spark plug and rewiring the trailer lights that broke en route home. Otherwise, it was a smooth journey and I can't wait to return.

Let the warm weather commence and the training intensify!

Yours in Service,
Lancer Gwendolyn of Shadowed Stars

Battlefield Communi- cation

Battlefield

Sir

Pellinor of
Shadowed
Stars

This is part of a class that Master Feargus and I taught for RUM.

The full class can be seen on Youtube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DirWg6slaNk&t=12s>

Communication is of vital importance on the battlefield. Battlefield communication needs to be clear and concise in order to be effective and efficient, especially in regards to communicating battlefield commands and orders.

Battlefield Commands Commanders utilize a variety of terms to communicate battlefield orders to their troops; a well-disciplined army maintains its effectiveness and efficiency through common language on the field. Battlefield orders should follow a 'command-execute' formula, such as "Prepare to charge: Charge!" The formula works by the commander priming his troops with a command ("Prepare to charge."), every troop in the unit receiving the order echoing the command, and the execution order ("Charge!"). By priming the troops with a 'prepare' order, every troop is given the opportunity to become aware of the order and process it; this is reinforced by their repetition of the command. Once the execution order is given troops are able to execute it without hesitation.

Maneuvering

The goal of basic tactical movement on the battlefield is to move a unit from point A to point B while maintaining unit cohesiveness, or battle order and formation for the purpose of creating positional advantage.

Advancing

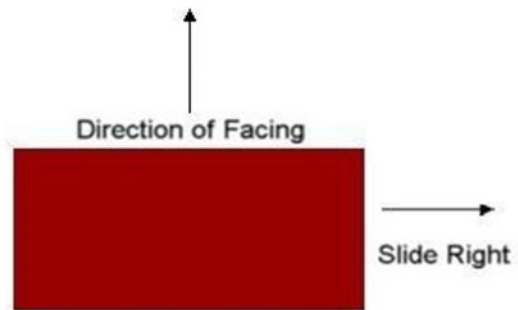
Units advance forward at a pace ordered by the commander, typically at a walk, fast-walk, or charge. Advances may be called on the step, such as when the commander orders the unit to advance five steps. When advancing, the unit moves as a single entity, with the rear ranks keeping pace with the front rank.

Falling Back

Retreating has little need or value in SCA combat, but there are times when it is tactically advantageous to fall back (for example: the unit has advanced beyond the target of its Mission Intent, or terrain is tactically superior behind the unit's present location, or to regroup). When falling back the rear ranks control the pace of movement and it is crucial that line commanders communicate from rear to front in order to keep the unit ordered during the movement; a pile-up of the ranks caused by the front moving too quickly into the rear can create a lethal situation against an assault.

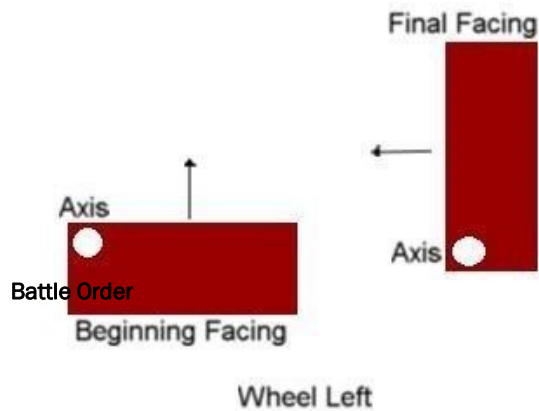
Slide

When sliding, the unit moves as a whole to the left or right while maintaining its current facing.



Wheel

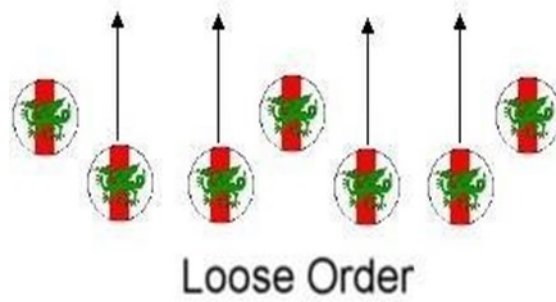
Wheeling is the act of turning a unit ninety degrees. It is performed by the unit moving around one of its front corners; if wheeling right the unit will move around its front right corner and if wheeling left it will move around its front left corner. That corner becomes the axis around which the unit pivots. The opposite corner of the front rank begins the motion of the pivot, with the rear ranks following.



Battle order is the tactical formation of a deployed combat unit. Battle orders include the column, the oblique/echelon, and the flying wedge and inverted wedge. Tactical order also refers to the physical arrangement of troops within a unit, such as in loose order, open order, or closed order.

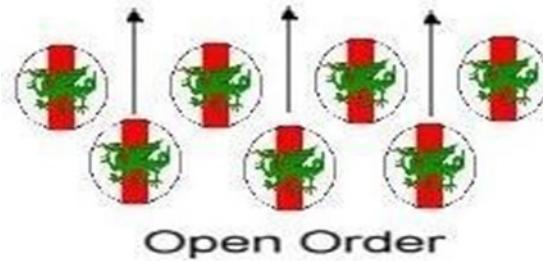
Loose Order

Loose ordered troops are generally deployed across a larger front, with greater spaces between individuals. Loose order allows for a greater fluidity of movement in the unit but loses the efficiency of easy communication down the line. Localized lance commanders must become more aware of the overall situation and prepared to react and lead as the situation unfolds.



Open Order

Troops deployed in an open order are generally arranged evenly spaced but fairly close to one another. This order gives spears and pole arms room to work in a shield wall while keeping them reasonably protected.



Closed Order

When deployed in closed order, troops are arranged in a tight formation designed to prevent penetration by enemy units. Shields generally form the front ranks and flanks of the unit, with spears and poles protected in the center, but limited in their effectiveness.



Artwork of the Middle Ages



Iranian Bowl, 14th century AD, Most like Jovein. Bowl with a 6 pointed star made with a composite body with underglaze paint. Huntington Museum of Art.

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Bowl_with_six-pointed_star,_Iran,_probably_Jovein,_end_of_14th_century_AD,_composite_body,_underglaze_painted_-_Huntington_Museum_of_Art_-_DSC04988.JPG

Website Updates

Baroness
Hadley

Webminis

Content! Content! Content! Pictures from a recent event? An announcement for the Barony? New project idea to share? I am always seeking new content for the website! I am diligently working with officers to create new information for the website. We are working a newcomer's page and an upcoming A&S page. The big focus has been the weekly updates for spring Coronation. The Mounted War Games event page is now live, and we will continue to update it as we have more information.

I am looking for deputy for the Webminster position if you are interested then please reach out to me via email or FB. You do need to have a PC/laptop to work from and basic knowledge of Word documents.

Yours in Service!
Dame Hadley

Online Resources

Baronial Website : <https://shadowedstars.midrealm.org/>

Middle Kingdom Website: <https://midrealm.org/>

SCA Website: <https://www.sca.org/>

Calendar: <https://shadowedstars.midrealm.org/calendar/>

Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ShadowedStars>

Coloring Pages



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Woodcuts from Konrad Lykosthenes, *Prodigiorum ac ostentorum chronicon*, Basel: Heinrich Petri, 1557 (Gc.3.20)

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Online Classes

Just a reminder, that while events are starting to happen in-person again, for those who are still at home there are some wonderful resources online.. Many of our fellow scadian have taught many wonderful classes, including but not limited to classes on teaching, various arts, and marital activities.

While the two classes listed below are aimed at those who are inclined towards the martial activities, both classes are an insight for those who are thinking about teaching or taking students in their art. As both martial and creative art practices have some teaching metrics that overlap in their usage.

How to Understand the Mind of Your Student and Develop a Teaching Approach for them. Taught by Warder Gwenneth verch Luaen

<https://youtu.be/nip1Pru6ZLQ>

Creating a Safe Training Environment for Non-Male Student. Taught by Warder Gwenneth verch Luaen

<https://youtu.be/PQeDCZDjq94>

Have you spent more time in the kitchen these last couple of years, learning how to make bread or expanding your knowledge of different cooking techniques, why don't you check these classes out.

Teganitai: Roman Fried Bread. Taught by Baroness Lote Winterborn.

<https://youtu.be/EOUYugDN3vQ>

Barrels and Barrel Aging. Taught by THL Oswyn of Badon

https://youtu.be/rf_H2Eb7qnU

While these are just a few of the classes that are available for perusal, don't hesitate to find, watch, and share others.

A word from our Chroni-
cler

Chroni-
cler

Leandra
Corzi



I have been a member of the SCA for more than 20 years now, and have seen my friends come and go. Shadowed stars have gone from a Shire to a Barony. I have gone from a young twenty something who joined for the dances to a Chroni-
cler that gets a chance to document a group that has grown with me. I get to look at the pictures that I have across the decades of my involvement, the times and people change, as the society has changed over the years. It is a small change that can barely register but it is there, it's just that in the last couple of years it's been big changes. Some of these changes have been the loss of friends and family, and some are changes to the society itself.

I have heard some of my friends talking about going back to events. Some of them are scared to be in crowds, and others have express concerns that they aren't themselves. We have all been through a ton of stuff, and it's okay to not be okay. We all have our paths, and our journeys, and no two are alike. Friends will be here, we may be changed, but we are here. We are here. We are all still here, and we will continue to be here.

Our relationships may change, friends will become housemate, students will become teachers, and others will become peers. We will go forward and support, take care of, and lean on each other. This is the greatest strength that we have, our care and support of each other.



Photo Courtesy of Aiofe

Photo Courtesy of Baroness Hadley



**BARONIAL
OFFICERS**

Seneschal

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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 June 20, 2021, 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.

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