



## A Cleftlands (Middle Kingdom) Newsletter - 9/30/2022

### News of the Realm

#### The 104th Reign of the Middle Kingdom Begins

The Midrealm welcomed a new Crown this past weekend, as King Dag Thorgrimsson and Queen AnneMarie de Garmeaulx ascended to the Dragon Throne at Coronation.

This marks His Majesty's eighth time ruling the Kingdom. He was previously King during the 42nd (1990), 47th (1993), 58th (1998), 61st (2000), 75th (2007), 80th (2009), and 86th (2012) reigns.

Her Majesty AnneMarie joined him on the throne for the 75th, 80th, and 86th reigns, so this will be her fourth time as our Queen.

You may not know: Their Majesties' food preferences are listed on-line for any planning to gift them consumables, or for the purposes of planning feasts: <https://trh.midrealm.org/their-highnesses/> (as of this writing) - and eventually at <https://trm.midrealm.org/their-majesties/>



### News of the Barony

- Awards from Coronation: the Order of the Evergreen for Baron Syr Calum, and the Order of the Royal Vanguard for THL Jolicia. Huzzah!
- Bids are being sought for 2023 events, including Regular Event! Interested? Contact [seneschal@cleftlands.org](mailto:seneschal@cleftlands.org).
- October 26 will be the Cleftlands Masquerade Revel! Come with a mask to show off (either wearing it or displaying), and a dish to share. If you choose to accept the challenge, the Cooks' Challenge is to make a "disguised" food. There will also be spooky bardic performances, so practice your ghost stories and songs.
- Congratulations to the Cleftlanders and honorary Cleftlanders who will be fighting in Crown Tourney!
  - Count Nikolai Grigorevich Petrov for Countess Serena Kimbalwyke
  - Sir Crispin de la Rouchefoucauld for Baroness Gianna Vettori
  - Syr Wigthegn the Younger for Sergeant Neassa O'Cathasaigh
  - Sir Ivan Shishov for Boiarynia Katelena Ivaniaia zhena Shihova
  - Sergeant Tariq Al Sanna Af Fjall for Dame Honor von Atzinger
- In addition to the above, other Cleftlanders (and neighbors you may know) were invited to participate, but due to a miscommunication on dates were not able to accept if they were interested. Those who were so honored:
  - Warder Brice Calquhoun
  - Baroness Constanza de Mendoza
  - Baron Edward Brackenburye
  - Sergeant Kari Garanhirson
  - Forester Muldonny McVriw
  - Sergeant Neassa O'Cathasaigh
- Applications for Seneschal (term beginning Jan 1, 2023) will be accepted from Oct. 1-31. See page 2 for more.

### News of the Kingdom

- Crown Tournament is coming up on October 15. Volunteers are sought for retaining. Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090a49afab2fa5f49-royal2>
- The complete list of combatants and inspirations for Crown Tournament is here: <https://trm.dag-annemarie.com/crown-tournament>
- RUM is November 12 and seeking teachers! Sign up here: <https://rum.midrealm.org/register-to-teach/>

# Cleftlands Seeks New Seneschal

On October 1, applications will be accepted via the website for the position of Seneschal. The submissions will be reviewed at an officers meeting with a final decision made by the Seneschal, Baron, and Baroness. The deadline for applications is October 31, 2022, and the tenure will begin on January 1, 2023.

The seneschal is the legal and administrative representative of the Barony, the equivalent of a president. They are responsible for communicating and enforcing laws and regulations to make sure everyone in their group is in compliance, as well as heading the administrative concerns of the Barony. This position works closely with the Baron and Baroness in all matters to determine policy. The Seneschal is the only one who can sign contracts for the Barony, and is one member of the Financial committee to vote on expenses. The Seneschal will review event bids and prepare them for review by the Baronial officers, will act as a deputy event steward to all events, is responsible for any sites contracted by the Barony, runs business meetings for the populace and the officers, supports the officer corps, and generally keeps things ship-shape.

## Qualifications:

- Paid member of the SCA (required)
- Age 18 or above (required)
- The ability to be at every Baronial meeting as much as possible, and stay until the site is cleared and locked.
- Able to serve at least 2, but no more than 3, years.
- Previous experience as an officer, or good working knowledge of how the officers' group functions.
- Social media savvy - most communication from Kingdom and the BoD is first provided via Facebook now, so to be on top of things an active presence at least on that platform is highly recommended.
- Experience managing teams.
- Excellent communication skills.
- Cool under pressure.
- Comfortable attending in-person activities in most circumstances.

Interested? Contact the current seneschal (Claricia de la Mere) directly at [seneschal@cleftlands.org](mailto:seneschal@cleftlands.org). Or, if you're ready to apply find the link on the Cleftlands website on October 1: <http://www.cleftlands.org/news/>



---

## Holidays from History - Mid-Autumn Festival

*by Lady Claricia de la Mere*

September marked several holidays in the medieval world (read our [2020 issue](#) to learn more about Rosh Hashanah, Michaelmas, and Yom Kippur), and one that is still celebrated today is the Mid-Autumn Festival. This article is a brief overview, there is much more information available to give you a better look at this ancient tradition.

Also known as the Moon Festival, or Mooncake Festival, the occasion is recognized in China, Japan, Korea, Vietnam, and other countries of East and Southeast Asia. We can safely say that this was celebrated in period, as records of celebrations date back more than 2,000 years.

The festival is held on the 15th day of the lunar month in the Chinese calendar, or close to the autumnal equinox. Mid-Autumn Festival celebrates the gathering of loved ones and thanks for the harvest. It is said that the moon is brightest on this day.

The first reference occurred in "The Zhou Rituals", by Zhou Li, which detailed various rituals in the Zhou Dynasty. In the Song Dynasty (960-1279), the date was set, and mooncakes became a part of the celebrations during the Yuan Dynasty (1279-1368).

The ancient Chinese believed that the moon was associated with the moon and water. Offerings are made to Chang'e, the moon goddess of immortality, for luck and safety.

*Continued on page 4...*

# 5 Questions for Cleftlanders - Know Your Officer: Demo Coordinator Lady Shahzada al-Zahra (mka Eve Liebfried she/her/hers)

## 1. You started out your SCA life in another part of the Known World - what was that like and how is it different from the Midrealm?

I began my SCA life in the East Kingdom when I was 13 years old, after attending a demo at my middle school. It was exciting to join an organization that had so many interesting activities, and I jumped right into dance and music from the get-go. My experience growing up in the SCA had such an impact on my personal growth. It simultaneously encouraged personal responsibility and independence as well as working as a member of a greater community. The SCA fostered initiative and service, academic exploration and discourse, as well as finding new and intriguing hobbies to pursue. I began participating in demos shortly after I joined, which lead to a lot of public speaking confidence, and I began helping plan and execute demos as well! I truly haven't experienced very many differences between the Middle and the East, besides the names of awards being different. There are a few minor culture differences, such as specific dances taught and the style of combat (both armored and fencing) that spring to mind.



## 2. What are your two main activities in the SCA?

I honestly can say that I have dabbled in many activities in the SCA! I would say henna art (both performing as well as teaching) is a constant, and the second activity I focus on varies. Sometimes it's dance, sometimes it's music...

## 3. You're also the Kingdom Social Media Officer, and handled the Cleftlands social media for a while too - what's fun about handling SCA social accounts?

Being a Social Media Officer (SMO) is an exciting position! It's exciting to see how a lot of things work behind the scenes. Working with other officers like event stewards, Royalty, local officers, etc. helps you to meet other SCAdians-often from around the Kingdom. As an SMO, you are actively connecting people to each other, to their Kingdom, and the greater SCA at large. While often challenging, it's an incredible honor to be in a position that helps bring people and ideas together, and to have a guiding hand that encourages engagement and connection. On a less serious note, an aspect of the job I find fun is content creation! I love making graphics, editing photos, and seeing people share and participate on my posts online.

## 4. What is the best day you've had at an SCA event?

I don't think I've ever had just one Best Day at an SCA event! Every event is so very different and has such a different energy and atmosphere. To me, a great day at an SCA event is one where I can spend at least 30 minutes to just hang out and vibe with friends. We don't even have to be doing anything special-I honestly love sitting down and chatting. Especially if there's a fire involved, and a beautifully starry sky overhead! Other than that, I love events where I can watch a variety of armored combat activities like bridge battles, and there's a variety of merchants to peruse. I also love Royal Courts for the traditions, the ceremonies, and the feeling of community.

## 5. What is your favorite thing to shop for at Pennsic?

For me, there are a few merchants I MUST visit every Pennsic! Hughes Pottery, Silk Road Traders (perfume oils), Auntie Arwen's (we literally have a cabinet of just her spices), and Traders of Tamerlane (for all things lanterns, and I love their Midnight Madness display).

## This Week in History

Sept. 28 1066 - William the Conqueror lands in England to begin the Norman conquest of the isle.

Sept. 29 1547 - Miguel de Cervantes is born. The Spanish writer is best known for "Don Quixote"

Sept. 30 1139 - A massive earthquake hits the Caucasus mountains and kills ~300,000 people.

Oct. 1 1533 - Mary I, Queen of England and daughter of Henry VIII, is crowned.

Oct. 2 1263 - The outnumbered Scots defeat the Norse at the Battle of Largs, ending 500 years of Viking raids.

Oct. 3 2457 BCE - [Hwanung](#) purportedly descended from heaven; South Korea's National Foundation Day.

Oct. 4 1582 - Pope Gregory XIII introduces the Gregorian Calendar. It is now used in most of the world.



# September - October 2022 Cleftlands Events

- Wed. October 5, 7:00-10pm - **Baronial Meeting** - St John of the Cross School, 140 Richmond Rd, Cleveland OH 44143. **Classes: Roman Women's Jewelry and Crochet & Crafting Corner**
- Thurs. October 6, 7:00pm - **Armors' Guild Meeting** - Ealdred & Clairiel's Garage: 234 Adams St, Berea, OH 44017; <https://bit.ly/3vBVzBR>
- Tuesday, October 11, 7:30pm - **Needleworkers' Guild Virtual Meeting** - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88261643621?pwd=UGx1TTdPcVdNNWtHZFhDZkxYR0d5Zz09>
- Wed. October 12, 7:00-10pm - **Baronial Meeting** - St John of the Cross School, 140 Richmond Rd, Cleveland OH 44143. **Classes: Crochet & Crafting Corner**
- Thurs. October 13, 7:00pm - **Armors' Guild Meeting** - Ealdred & Clairiel's Garage: 234 Adams St, Berea, OH 44017; <https://bit.ly/3vBVzBR>
- Wed. October 19, 7:00-10pm - **Baronial Meeting** - St John of the Cross School, 140 Richmond Rd, Cleveland OH 44143. **Classes: Working with Gold Leaf and Crochet & Crafting Corner**
- Thurs. October 20, 7:00pm - **Armors' Guild Meeting** - Ealdred & Clairiel's Garage: 234 Adams St, Berea, OH 44017; <https://bit.ly/3vBVzBR>
- Tuesday, October 25, 7:30pm - **Needleworkers' Guild Virtual Meeting** - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88261643621?pwd=UGx1TTdPcVdNNWtHZFhDZkxYR0d5Zz09>
- Wed. October 26, 7:00-10pm - **Baronial Revel - Dessert Revel & Masquerade** - St John of the Cross School, 140 Richmond Rd, Cleveland OH 44143.
- Thurs. October 27, 7:00pm - **Armors' Guild Meeting** - Ealdred & Clairiel's Garage: 234 Adams St, Berea, OH 44017; <https://bit.ly/3vBVzBR>

*Society Disclaimer: Although the SCA complies with all applicable laws to ensure the health and safety of our event participants, we cannot eliminate the risk of exposure to infectious diseases during in-person events. By participating in the in-person events of the SCA, you acknowledge and accept the potential risks. You agree to take any additional steps to protect your own health and safety and those under your control as you believe to be necessary.*

---

## News of the Society

- There is a contest to create the cover for the Pennsic 50 site book: <https://www.sca.org/news/pennsic-50-art-contest-announced/>
- Additional resources have been made available for SCA demos: <https://www.sca.org/news/updated-resources-for-sca-demos/>
- The Society Minister for Arts & Sciences has released guidelines for the recognition and approval of oral tradition: <https://www.sca.org/news/guidelines-for-the-recognition-and-approval-of-oral-tradition-in-the-arts-and-sciences/>
- Baroness Margaret Lad (mka Megan Ladd) is the new Society Chatelaine. <https://www.sca.org/news/people-on-the-move-society-chatelaine/>
- Effective December 1, 2022, any Covid-related restrictions will be removed. This means that Kingdoms will no longer have the option to implement additional restrictions for their areas. However, individuals or sites can decide their own restrictions, as long as those are publicly announced with invitations to the activity. The one thing that is staying is the disclaimer language, which must still be posted with any event notices, online announcements, and invitations to in-person events. <https://www.sca.org/news/board-resolution-amendment-to-covidsafe-policy-effective-1-december-2022/>
- The SCA archives are being sorted and prepared to move to a new home! The effort will cost several thousand dollars, so if you wish to help you can donate towards the effort. Read more: <https://www.sca.org/news/donations-preserving-our-past-for-the-future/>
- The SCA website is being updated to make it more resilient, so you may notice some blips on Monday, October 3. <https://www.sca.org/news/increasing-the-resilience-of-sca-org/>

## Upcoming Midrealm Events

**Sept 30 - Oct 2 - Rendezvous at the Bridge XXXII;** Rapier, armored, thrown weapons, classes, contests, treasure hunt. Lincoln City, IN.

<https://shireriviereconstelle.org/rendezvous-at-the-bridge-2/>

**Oct 1 - Courtiers Tourney & Clown Tournament;** Rapier, armored, A&S, hound coursing, courtiers tournament. South Logansport, IN.

<http://placeforstuff.net/events/2022-ClownTourney/>

**Oct 8 - Red Dragon;** Rapier, armored, ranged, cooking contest, A&S, youth. South London, OH.

<https://timewydd.midrealm.org/red-dragon/>

**Oct 8 - Artisans' Day at Ravenslake;** A&S classes & discussions. Lake Villa, IL.

<https://ravenslake.org/events/artisans-day/>

**Oct 15 - Fall Crown Tournament;** Crown Tourney, large derby. Wooster, OH.

<http://midrealmfallcrown2022.weebly.com/>

**Oct 21-23 - Crystal Ball XXX-VII;** Barony of the Shattered Crystal 40th anniversary & investiture. Combat, feasting. Mulberry Grove, IL.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/553645446211450>

**Oct 22 - Quest for the Golden Seamstress;** Team garb-making competition. Berkley, MI.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/553645446211450>

**Oct 22 - Brawl at Crooked Dragon;** Rapier, armored, tavern brawl. Oberlin, OH.

<https://falconsquarry.midrealm.org/brawl/>

## Random Period Object - Cleveland Museum of Art



Page from the Hours of Queen Isabella the Catholic, Queen of Spain: Fol. 10v, September. Flemish, 1444-1519.

<https://www.clevelandart.org/art/1963.256.10.b>

Size: About 9x6"

Vellum with ink, tempera and gold.

At least five manuscript painters from Ghent and Bruges worked on this book, but the principal illuminator was Alexander Bening. These artists are known for the intricate decorations on the borders of their pages. You can see here the life-like flowers, birds, and butterflies - typical of their work.

A "book of hours" is a prayer book, often used by the clergy, but also known to be commissioned for lay-people as well. This one was made for Isabella I of Castile. She was Queen

of Castile from 1474-1504, and Queen consort of Aragon from 1469-1504 through her marriage to King Ferdinand II of Aragon.

Likely, this was a gift from someone looking to impress Isabella. One theory is that Cardinal Francisco Jimenez de Cisneros commissioned it, as he saw advancement in the ranks through Isabella's patronage.

## Mid-Autumn Festival - continued

Lanterns are also a meaningful part of the holiday. A wide variety of carried, tower, or floating lanterns decorate festival areas. Some people follow the tradition of writing riddles on the lanterns for people to guess.

One of the best-known aspects of the festival is the making and sharing of mooncakes. There are many varieties of mooncakes, but the Cantonese version is a round pastry with a thick filling of lotus seed paste (or sometimes red bean paste, jujube paste, or mixed nuts), sometimes around an egg yolk. When cutting the cake, the egg yolk forms a yellow circle "moon." In Chinese culture, the round shape is used to represent reunion, and eating the mooncakes with family represents familial unity. The top crusts often have symbols pressed into them, usually the name of the bakery and the type of cake.

The popularity of the Mid-Autumn Festival peaked from 1368-1912, during the Ming and Qing dynasties. After that, many traditional activities started to disappear, as more and more people saw it as simply a public holiday. However, new traditions emerge as people find different ways to spend time with their loved ones.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mooncake#Traditional\\_styles](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mooncake#Traditional_styles)

<https://www.chinahighlights.com/festivals/mid-autumn-festival-history-origin.htm>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mid-Autumn\\_Festival](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mid-Autumn_Festival)



# Cleftlands Officers' Contact Information

- Baron: Barone Pietro Nicolo da San Tebaldo; [baron@cleftlands.org](mailto:baron@cleftlands.org)
- Baroness: Baronessa Aurelia Rosetti; [baroness@cleftlands.org](mailto:baroness@cleftlands.org)
- Seneschal: Lady Claricia de la Mere; [seneschal@cleftlands.org](mailto:seneschal@cleftlands.org)
- Exchequer: The Honorable Robert atte Northclyfe; [exchequer@cleftlands.org](mailto:exchequer@cleftlands.org)
- Chatelaine/Gold Key: Lady Jaqueline la Deiciere; [chatelaine@cleftlands.org](mailto:chatelaine@cleftlands.org)
- Herald: Sergeant Njall Orkneyjarson; [herald@cleftlands.org](mailto:herald@cleftlands.org)
- Minister Arts & Sciences: Mistress Angharad ferch Tangwystl; [moas@cleftlands.org](mailto:moas@cleftlands.org)
- Social Media Officer: Lord Hrafnkell inn Raudi Eykelsson; [social@cleftlands.org](mailto:social@cleftlands.org)
- Knight's Marshal: Baroness Constanza de Mendoza; [knightsmarshal@cleftlands.org](mailto:knightsmarshal@cleftlands.org)
- Rapier Marshal: Lord Reinhardt mit dem Bart; [rapiermarshal@cleftlands.org](mailto:rapiermarshal@cleftlands.org)
- Archery Marshal: Forester Cadfan of the Autumn Wood; [archery@cleftlands.org](mailto:archery@cleftlands.org)
- Web Minister: Baroness Gianna Vettori; [webminister@cleftlands.org](mailto:webminister@cleftlands.org)
- Chronicler: The Honorable Lady Jolicia atte Northclyfe; [chronicler@cleftlands.org](mailto:chronicler@cleftlands.org)
- Minister of Youth: Lord Rojhon the Wanderer; [youthminister@cleftlands.org](mailto:youthminister@cleftlands.org)
- Demo Coordinator: Lady Shahzada al-Zahra; [demo@cleftlands.org](mailto:demo@cleftlands.org)
- Iron Key: Lord Tryggr Gillason; [ironkey@cleftlands.org](mailto:ironkey@cleftlands.org)
- Youth Marshal: Sergeant Bastian Eychener; [youthmarshal@cleftlands.org](mailto:youthmarshal@cleftlands.org)
- Quartermaster: The Honorable Lady Sarra Bossard; [quartermaster@cleftlands.org](mailto:quartermaster@cleftlands.org)



Cleftlands Group Photo - September Dessert Revel 2022

- Photo of Lady Shahzada al-Zahra courtesy of Lady Shahzada al-Zahra.
- Photo of Their Majesties by Baron Sor Crispin.
- Photo of the Baronial populace from September 2022 is shown courtesy of Lord

The image of the page from the Hours of Queen Isabella is courtesy of the Cleveland Museum of Art. As of January 23, 2019, the Cleveland Museum of Art is an Open Access institution, using the Creative Commons Zero (CC0) designation for high-resolution images and data related to its collection. This means the public now has the ability to share, collaborate, remix, and reuse images of many as 30,000 public-domain artworks from the CMA's world-renowned collection—all without asking permission. In addition, portions of collections information (metadata) for more than 61,000 artworks, both in the public domain and those works with copyright or other restrictions, are now available.

This is a publication of the Barony of the Cleftlands, part of the Middle Kingdom of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc.. This is the September 30, 2022 issue of *Internebbles*, a publication of the Barony of the Cleftlands of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA, Inc.). *Internebbles* is edited by and available from Karin Strippel ([clariciadlm@gmail.com](mailto:clariciadlm@gmail.com)). It is not a corporate publication of SCA, Inc., and does not delineate SCA, Inc. policies. Copyright © 2022 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.

## Call for Content

If you have an idea for content for the newsletter, please contact me: [clariciadlm@gmail.com](mailto:clariciadlm@gmail.com). Thank you and stay well!