A Cleftlands (Middle Kingdom) Newsletter - 9/27/2020

News of the Realm

SCA News -

- A Society Membership Assistance Fund has been established to allow people to donate funds so that those
 unable to renew their memberships can apply for assistance to have their fees covered from the fund. More
 information, donate, or apply: https://www.sca.org/news/establishing-the-membership-assistance-fund/
- Notice of date change: The 2020 4th Quarter Meeting of the Board of Directors for the SCA is now scheduled for Sunday, October 25 at 12 pm PT. It was Saturday, October 24.
- SCA President John Fulton has submitted a report on activities: https://www.sca.org/wp-content/up-loads/2020/09/September2020InterimPresidentsReport.pdf
- The Corporate office of the DEI now has a Facebook page where classes will be listed and updated: https:// www.facebook.com/SCADiversityEquityInclusion/
- Looking for entertainment? Check out the weekly online content guide on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/KWEGuide

Kingdom News

- Her Royal Majesty Madeleina has given us all a new challenge: She has asked that you check in on someone randomly, SCA or not. The act of kindness is what is important.
- Open position: Web Deputy to the Kingdom Seneschal. Download the description: https://bit.ly/3icKi0N and send your application to seneschal.webdeputy@midrealm.org by November 1, 2020.
- Congratulations to Lady Seonaid Inghean Ghriogair who will assume the role of Kingdom Chatelaine!
- Congratulations to Lady Shahzada Isfahani on becoming Kingdom Social Media Officer deputy!

Baronial News

- Reminder diversity classes wanted! Their Excellencies are looking for people to create or share virtual classes on topics of diversity throughout period history. Please contact them with your ideas.
- <u>Noblesse Largesse Exchange</u> Baroness Angharad thanks all 18 people who signed up to exchange handmade gifts. Everyone who signed up should have received their recipient. Contact Baroness Angharad with questions, via Facebook or email (baronessangharad@gmail.com).

A Medieval September

By THL Jolicia atte Northclyffe and Lord Tarmach ben Yehuda al-Khazari

The September calendar marks three holidays with roots in early history: Michaelmas, Rosh Hashanah, and Yom Kippur.

Michaelmas, or the Feast of Michael and All Angels, is celebrated annually on Sept. 29. The holiday dates back to the fifth century, when a basilica near Rome was dedicated in honor of Saint Michael the Archangel on Sept. 30, and celebrations began the previous day.

Michaelmas is associated with the beginning of autumn and the fall equinox. In period, it was the deadline for completing the harvest. It was also a time when new servants were hired and debts paid. On manors, a peasant was elected to serve as a reeve, or manager of a manor, on Michaelmas.

Sometimes the day was also known as "Goose Day." According to tradition, Queen Elizabeth I was eating goose when she heard that the Spanish Armada had been defeated, and she resolved to eat goose on every Michaelmas Day.

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From the MoAS - Cooks' Challenge: Michaelmas

Reminder - due September 30! Preserve food against the winter famine; then share info about what you've harvested and preserved with the rest of us. It doesn't matter what your preferred preservation technique is: salting, drying, canning, potting, smoking; or what your harvest is; fruit, vegetables, spices, meats. Just inspire us all with your well-planned winter larder by posting pictures, and recipes (pretty please?) to the Facebook event, or by email to me at BaronessAngharad@gmail.com



I'll be harvesting your pictures and recipes throughout the month of September, and will share the results with everyone after Michaelmas on September 29.

<u>Virtual Classes for September 27 through October 11:</u>

 Wednesday September 30 7pm Eastern - America's First Nations: Cree by Rojhon the Wanderer: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82725047641?pwd=QXhvRzRYYIZUa28xWVc0Vzh2QTI0QT09

- Sunday, October 4 7pm Eastern History of the Harpsichord by Jolicia atte Northclyfe: https://zoom.us/j/91545071080?pwd=WGFab3YrOFR1SVBhcHRzV3FoeXJsUT09
- Monday October 5 7pm Eastern Bardic Recitation by Breddelwyn ap Taliesin. https://zoom.us/ j/95042306466?pwd=OXppdVRsczZuOE9sT2IIRTRNT0IXUT09
- Tuesday October 6 7pm Eastern Spinning Our Tales: We Can All Be Bards by Aveline de Ceresbroch https://zoom.us/j/95927596409?pwd=Ny9RYzdkbVN5eFNyZG5jY3FiUlduQT09
- Wednesday October 7 7pm Eastern Performing in Persona by Mistress Zsof: https://zoom.us/ j/92661598137?pwd=ekdkUGhjTmxmSmZqVXhLU0dkU1pNZz09
- Friday October 9 5pm Eastern Cree Cooking and History of Food by Rojhon the Wanderer: https:// www.facebook.com/events/1003572333398136
- Sunday Oct 11 6pm EST- Taking the Teeth Out of Stage Fright by Sophia the Orange and Lucia Braganca a Firenze: https://www.facebook.com/events/1252472325128644?active_tab=about

Medieval September - continued

Of course, the rest of her court suddenly developed a craving for goose on Michaelmas Day, too.

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, two of most important religious holidays in Judaism, will be celebrated in September this year. Rosh Hashanah, also known as the Jewish New Year, took place Sept. 18-20 this year, and Yom Kippur is Sept. 27-28.

According to tradition, God judges all people during the 10 Days of Awe between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, deciding whether they will live or die in the coming year. For many Jews, Rosh Hashanah is a time for prayer, good deeds, reflecting on past mistakes and making amends with others. Symbolic foods, such as apples dipped in honey to bring on a sweet new year, are enjoyed at festive meals. This was a practice started during the Middle Ages, as well as eating pomegranates.² In the 15th century, a tradition began of emptying pockets into bodies of water to "shed sin."

Yom Kippur—the Day of Atonement—is the culmination of the 10 Days of Awe. The holiday is observed with fasting and a special religious service. During the Middle Ages, *yahrzeit* candles were lit as a means of "atonement for the dead." This tradition continues as remembrance for those who have passed.

For more information:

- (1) https://www.medievalists.net/2015/09/rosh-hashanah-in-the-middle-ages
- (2) https://reformjudaism.org/jewish-holidays/yom-kippur/yom-kippur-customs-and-rituals

https://www.history.com/topics/holidays/rosh-hashanah-history

https://www.historic-uk.com/CultureUK/Michaelmas/

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michaelmas

For the Combat & Ranged Arts

Armored: Duke Eik's Polearm Advanced Guards:

https://youtu.be/4pw4zsAMzr0

Duke Eik's Discussion of Half Swording:

https://youtu.be/LXQ3-Qx1oHg

Fencers: Warder Velvet's Videos:

A mundane tournament:

https://youtu.be/EjKgacy0qcA

Master John Drake Dueling Master Adam:

https://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=el9r7UepSMI

Traps in Fencing: Recognizing and Setting Them:

https://youtu.be/vL6IMI2wnek

Youth Rapier:

https://www.facebook. com/msrlapin/videos/10220663540632213

Youth Rapier: Advanced Footwork:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5W2AAi5BySE

Call for Content

We want to make sure there's a central place to get information and see posts that might get buried, or resources that might not be shared.

If you have info to share - an upcoming virtual gathering, activity ideas, or a great website, please contact me: clariciadlm@gmail.com.

Thank you and stay well!

5 Questions for Cleftlanders - Lord Tarmach ben Yehuda al-Khazari (mka Richard Mandel) (he/him)

Protégé to Master Phillip the Pilgrim, OP. Formerly, up until 2007, I was Lord Shlomo Korobeinik. But he's dead, y'know.

1.) How long have you been in the SCA?

Since 1991. Our (Elizabella and I) first event was Pennsic 20, an experience that laid the foundation for "Forbidden Pennsic, the (filked) Musical."

2.) What are your two main activities in the SCA? Currently, Archery and Playwriting. Then there's photography...

3.) Tell us about a favorite moment as a photographic chronicler of SCA happenings.

So many moments to choose from! Photographing the magnificent Coronations, documenting friends as they receive awards, the dynamics of the lists. Pageantry, emotions high and low – I constantly look for new ways to capture these moments. I freely admit to pride seeing my photos being used by our Kingdom and the Society, and as people's own Facebook images. But, twice being "shot" by a sitting King during Their Royal Court, and with my own camera, was an unexpected delight and honor.

4.) How do you define "service"?

Service is a higher level of Participation in the World. See, people can make all kinds of excuses to show up and then be a passive part of the background, but the moment one starts to lend a hand, they cross the threshold into Making Things Better, for themselves and for others. Participation with a capitol "P." Real engagement. A wonderful thing about our Society is the amount of recognition bestowed on those who give service. Help move chairs, serve at a feast, wash dishes – the thanks I have witnessed have been heartfelt, making people encouraged to be more active in what we do. Motivated participation helps us thrive, and many I've spoken with who received such gratitude comment that they became better people outside of the SCA because of it.

5.) What is your favorite piece of garb that you own?

All of it, and I am grateful for every piece, most of which has been made for me by Lady Sarra Bossard. It is especially wonderful to arrive at an event in "mundanes," then change into my garb -- the drab day-to-day world just falls away, and I am Tarmach again, to Serve where Serve I may.

Random Period Object - Cleveland Museum of Art



Tomb Guardian with Animal Head - China, Xi'an, Tang Dynasty 618-907

Glazed earthenware, sancai (three-color)

Fierce creatures like these once guarded the entrance to a tomb, warding off evil and keeping the deceased's soul in place. This one is a qitou, or earth spirit.

Tomb sculptures were carried through the streets in a procession before taking their place at the tomb. Such gifts gave the deceased supplies for the afterlife, but also showed the wealth and dedication of their loved ones.



Cleftlands Officers' Contact Information

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- Quartermaster; Lady Sarra Bossard; quartermaster@cleftlands.org

This Week in History

September 27 1066 - William the Conqueror sets sail to begin the Norman conquest of England.

September 28 551 BC - Happy birthday to Confucius, a Chinese teacher, editor, politician, and philosopher.

September 29 1227 - Holy Roman Emperor Frederick II is excommunicated for not participating in the Crusades.

September 30 1520 - Suleiman the Magnificent becomes sultan of the Ottoman Empire.

October 1 1588 - Abbas I becomes Shah of Persia, considered to be one of the greatest rulers in Persian history.

October 2 1187 - Saladin captures Jerusalem after 88 years of Crusader rule.

October 3 1283 - Prince Dafydd ap Gruffydd of Wales is first nobleman executed by hanging, drawing, & quartering.

Upcoming Events

- Thursday, October 1 8pm EST Virtual Armorers' Guild Meeting https://www.facebook.com/ events/327411918397483/
- Thursday, October 8 8pm EST Virtual Armorers' Guild Meeting https://www.facebook.com/ events/327411918397483/

Photo credit of Lord Tarmach on page 3: Lord Miguel Garcia de Santa Ana.

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.

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