



## ***Baronial News Online During Quarantine Times - 4/12/2020***

### **From the Herald**

As we are still on an extended leave, I would like to encourage everyone who hasn't yet created a log in for the Midrealm Services Portal to do so. <https://a12c.enciva.com/apex/f?p=331:1:10274565876354:::~&tz=-4:00>

This account lets you enter A&S activities, recommend awards, file reports, and look at all kinds of interesting data about the Kingdom and populace. Double check that you have Cleftlands listed as your home group. And if you have any issues, such as multiple listings or misspelled names, please contact the Kingdom Webminister ([webminister@midrealm.org](mailto:webminister@midrealm.org)).



While you're at it, check out the Cleftlands Wiki, <http://www.cleftlands.org/cleftlands-wiki/>

There's info on Baronial history, members of the populace, and more! I'm personally a fan of the Populace Armorial. Contact the Barony Webminister ([webminister@cleftlands.org](mailto:webminister@cleftlands.org)) to update or edit your own populace entry.

YIS,  
-Sgt. Njall Orkneyjarson

### **SCA News & Events**

The witness requirement for the adult combat waiver has been temporarily removed. To update your waiver, use the form "waiver-combat-single 2020" - print, sign, and scan. PDF preferred. Your modern name should be the name of the file, ie, "BobSmithWaiver.pdf." Email them to [rosterclerk@midrealm.org](mailto:rosterclerk@midrealm.org). A copy of the form was posted to the Cleftlands Facebook group.

Midrealm Court - Get on your garb, bring your cheese board, and join the Kingdom for Royal Court. Saturday, April 18, at 6:30 PM EST. Format TBD.

A Peerage Roundtable will be held on Sunday April 19, 2-4pm Eastern on Zoom.

Pennsic 49 War Point scenarios have been posted! They are available on the Kingdom FB page, and will hopefully be posted to the Pennsic website soon.

#### **Canceled Events Past April**

The Demo at Wildwood on May 9th has been canceled. We're working to see if something later in the year might work out.

Fletchings of Spring, previously scheduled for May 9, has been canceled.

AEthelmearc War Practice, to have been held at Cooper's Lake May 14 - May 17, has been canceled.

Border Skirmish at the Shire of Ravenslake, scheduled for June 4-7, has been canceled.

*This is an unofficial publication of the Barony of the Cleftlands of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc.. It is not a publication of the SCA, Inc., and does not delineate SCA policy.*

## Arts & Sciences

Museum crafts for kids (and the young at heart)! These activities from different museums are meant to be fun AND educational: <https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/culture-for-children-during-coronavirus>

SCA Virtual Classroom & Artisan Display: If you haven't seen something to inspire yet, try joining this group to see what's going on during down times in the world of A&S: [https://www.facebook.com/groups/virtualsca/?hc\\_location=ufi](https://www.facebook.com/groups/virtualsca/?hc_location=ufi)

Get updates on classes in the Google Calendar: [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/111-K3lIM958tlh\\_yiYj2L\\_-5sDZXjyEIS-3W4bX6gpdU/htmlview](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/111-K3lIM958tlh_yiYj2L_-5sDZXjyEIS-3W4bX6gpdU/htmlview)

Here are some really cool highlights from the #SCAathome challenge - take a look! [https://www.sca.org/news/scaathome-highlights-3/?fbclid=IwAR2R90HVB3C5BaH4gKehqXA6gEwSYjcSziYfla-JZ\\_FfZcDHS5G-PLnwoHIQ](https://www.sca.org/news/scaathome-highlights-3/?fbclid=IwAR2R90HVB3C5BaH4gKehqXA6gEwSYjcSziYfla-JZ_FfZcDHS5G-PLnwoHIQ)  
To participate, just share a post on social media with anything you've been doing for the SCA with #SCAathome.



### Virtual Classes for the Week of April 12 Through April 19

**April 13 3pm EST - Icelandic Sagas with Professor Gísli Sigurðsson -**

**<https://www.facebook.com/events/638664863364598/>**

**April 13 7pm EST - Pysanky Eggs - FB Live <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WubS6xsV78A>**

**April 14 7pm EST - Blockprinting 3: Stamping your Material - FB Live**

**April 15 7pm EST - Intro to Blackwork Embroidery -**

**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Za6i9CESM3k&t=538s>**

**April 16 7pm EST - Feast Planning 101 - Zoom**

**April 17 7pm EST - Understanding Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: Definitions and Concepts**

**April 18 2pm EST - Scroll Layout (3 Hours) - Zoom**

**April 19 5pm EST - Accessibility in the SCA (2 hours) - Zoom**

## Virtual Resources

*By Dame Alys Katharine*

To help you and yours pass the time while you are confined to home, here are three internet sites to explore. While some are specifically for children, adults may also enjoy the activities.

History Blog: <http://www.thehistoryblog.com/>

Hundreds of blogs for adults from 2006 until today. Use the Navigation list on the left to narrow down what you want to read. Examples: Medieval (658 blogs), Renaissance (323 blogs), etc.

FutureLearn: <https://www.futurelearn.com/>

Free online courses; explore the topics to find your interest(s). Courses can be accessed 24/7 and, in general, you can work at your own pace, going through all the sessions in one week if you desire. Narrow down your choices by subject and then courses within that area. You do not need to upgrade to a "paid" access.

Jorvik: <https://www.jorvikvikingcentre.co.uk/discover-from-home/>

A wealth of activities and links from the Jorvik Viking Centre in York, England, aimed at the younger set but of interest to any age wanting to learn more about Vikings. The site includes short(ish) videos on a number of items such as combs, bones, padlocks, and a story about Thor. There are downloadable pages to color as well as a mask of a Viking helmet (no horns!). Not enough activity yet? How about a word-search, puzzles, writing and runes? Other videos include 10th-century artifacts, Viking cookery, and pottery.

## Tips for the Combat Arts

Stay frosty, events will be back before you know it!

Armored Combat: His Highness Avery of Westfall, Prince of Insulae Draconis in the Kingdom of Drachenwald, has shared some of his training tips for armored combatants:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GHIhErUv-kw>

Fencers: A fencing at home training, exercises - nice production value:

<https://youtu.be/i1atn9N8ISw>

Archers: Adhering arrow nocks:

<https://youtu.be/AT6GdxZg-jPc>

## Call for Content

There are STILL a lot of things going on, and we want to make sure there's a central place to get information from 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](mailto:clariciadlm@gmail.com).

Thank you and stay well!

## 5 Questions for Cleftlanders

### Meet Edward FitzRanulf (mka Scott N. Hendrix)

#### SCA Name and Title:

THLord Edward FitzRanulf, CDH, CE, GoA,OW, APF\*, OCK, AOA, OSC, ASA. Many people call me Fitz.

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

My two main activities are rapier fencing, though I am on hiatus at the moment, and making mustards and sauces. I have also autocratted lots of events, and I dance periodically, and I wrote bad sonnets for a time.

#### How long have you been in the SCA?

Coming up on forty years. I joined in June of 1982.

#### Name a SCA activity you've always wanted to try?

Equestrian activities, I've always wanted to learn to ride.

#### What historical figure from period would you most like to have dinner with?

Queen Elizabeth the Great of England.

#### How do you define honor?

In period honor was mostly equated with reputation, but to me honor is an inward quality, being true to your best self and being the best person you can be. The heart of it is trying to hold yourself to a higher standard and treat others according to that standard.



## Crafting in Quarantine - A Heart FELT Story

*By Lady Aethelwynn Skerra Dimma*

Felt is a type of textile that is not woven but produced by matting, condensing, and pressing fibers together. Here I will tell you some basics about felting historically and modernly.

#### The History of Felt

Felting requires no loom or equipment and is considered the oldest form of fabric creation. The discovery of felting is told by many different legends such as:

"St Clement, the patron Saint of Hatters and St. Christopher, the patron Saint of travelers, are among those credited with the discovery of felt. Fleeing persecution and footsore, they and other early Christians tucked the sheep's fleece they found caught on the bushes into their sandals to cushion their feet. At a later stage in their journeys they found the loose fleece had transformed itself into felt shoes." - International Felt Makers Association.





# Crafting in Quarantine - A Heart FELT Story (continued)

"The origins of felt in Persia are ascribed to Solomon's son who was a shepherd. He was sure that his sheep's wool could be made into waterproof mats without the aid of a loom, but try as he might he could not make the fibers stick together, and stamped about on the fleece crying large tears of frustration. And behold! He had discovered felt." - The Art of the Feltmaker, M.E. Burkett. (<http://amzn.to/2exBkPV>)

"A favorite with school children is the legend of the felt carpet produced in Noah's Ark. Sheep, goats, camels and other animals herded together in the Ark shed their fleece and during the voyage trampled it underfoot. When the animals had left the Ark, Noah was amazed to find the floor carpeted in felt."- International Felt Makers Association.

However...

"That the felt produced in these legends was the first felt is undoubtedly untrue. There is archaeological evidence to prove the existence of felt long before Christian times. However, the stories do contain an element of fact. All the legends refer to the three things necessary to produce felt – fleece, moisture and agitation. For several thousand years felt, a textile made from sheep's fleece, played a central role in the lives of inhabitants in Central Asia, Mongolia and parts of the Middle East. Indeed, until about 150 years ago, for nomadic peoples in this region felt was virtually indispensable. From around 2500 years ago early nomadic peoples lined their tombs with felt, laid their dead on it, made decorations from it, wore felt clothes and dressed their horses in masks made from it."- International Felt Makers Association.

## Fiber, Agitation and Bonding Agents.

How do you make a felted item then? First you need fibers to work with. To stay historically accurate, you would use animal fibers. Yes, this can include the famous beaver hair, great for fine felting, but you could use the shed from your dog! I'm serious...



You might want to rethink using dog hair once I tell you that you need to get it wet. Laying the fibers over each other, dampening the felt but not soaking it, then agitating it or rubbing it, causes all the hairs to interlock. The same process happens when an animal gets mats or humans create dreadlocks in their hair.

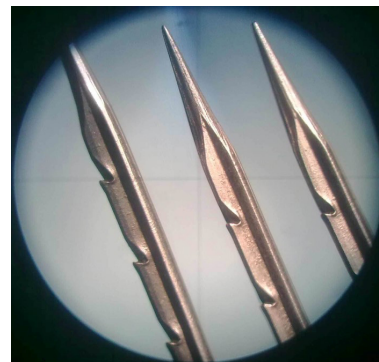
Check out this great page

AEthelmeare created instructing on how to create your own wet felt fabric! <https://aethelmearegazette.com/2018/05/03/felt-natures-nurture/>

And if you ace that, here is a great hat tutorial! <http://www.amagyarjarta.com/index.php/scythian-inspired-felt-hat/>

## Modern Felting

In modern felting, synthetic fibers have entered the mix. Not all fiber felts equally, even with natural fibers. Courser fibers mat together better. Some synthetic materials are hard to get to stick but it is said with enough agitation not many materials can't be felted or felted to. Synthetic fibers offer incredible colors and new textures. You can even felt onto items or create stand-alone three dimensional objects of felt all thanks to the felting needle.



## Crafting in Quarantine - A Heart FELT Story (continued)

These needles originated from large scale factory equipment used for felting. In the late 70's the parts were miniaturized and used to manipulate small scale artworks. A felting needle is a long needle with reverse barbs used to capture the fibers and pull them into the piece of felt over and over again until it holds shape.

When needle felting, you are essentially stabbing it into shape. (As a heavy fighter, this made a lot of sense to me) With enough time and stabby stabby you can create all manners of things. These items are unfortunately not a period creation because of the skill it would take to make needles with microscopic backwards barbs, however creating fur dolls or idols is not unheard of in the medieval world using the agitation method.

Thank you for reading about felting! You can contact me with any questions. I would love to help you start a new craft!

Here are some of my needle felted creations:



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## Call for Bards!

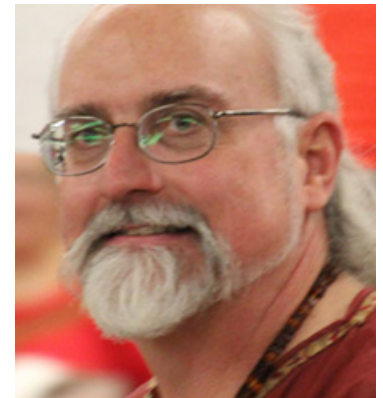
Greetings,

THL Brendan O Corraidhe of the Barony of the Cleftlands will be elevated to the Order of the Laurel at Northern Oaken War Maneuvers, June 12-14 in Wellington, Ohio. The vigil and elevation will take place on Saturday, June 13.

Your musical talent is requested! Brendan would like to have a steady stream of music of all types to entertain the guests at his vigil. Vocalists, instrumentalists and ensembles are welcome to sign up for a 30-minute performance slot between 11 AM and 3:30 PM Period or SCA-related music is acceptable.

Please contact THL Jolicia atte Northclyfe on Facebook (Julie Washington) or by email at [Washington.julie@gmail.com](mailto:Washington.julie@gmail.com) no later than Monday, June 1. Thanks for helping to make Brendan's elevation a tuneful affair!

-THL Jolicia atte Northclyfe



## This Week in History

April 12 1204 - The Fourth Crusade sacks Constantinople.

April 13 1598 - Edict of Nantes is signed to end Roman Catholic-Protestant religious wars in France.

April 15 1452 - Leonardo da Vinci is born.

April 16 556 - Pelagius I begins his reign as a Catholic Pope.

April 17 1524 - Present-day New York Harbor is "discovered" by Giovanni da Verrazzano.

April 18 1480 - Lucretia Borgia is born.