A Cleftlands (Middle Kingdom) Newsletter - 6/21/2020

SCA Dance-Off: A Retrospective

The Midrealm threw down the gauntlet, and the answers have been awesome these past few months. Catch up or watch them again! Here are the links to all the dancing SCAdians I could find:

Kingdoms (only Avacal and Drachenwald are missing)

- 1. Aethelmearc https://youtu.be/IVp7MkUALug
- 2. An Tir https://youtu.be/jON2QHXy2b0
- 3. Ansteorra https://youtu.be/iSX GSQYNWU
- 4. Artemisia https://youtu.be/VrspD33moFo
- 5. Atenveldt: https://youtu.be/AffCjFOZoZY
- 6. Atlantia https://youtu.be/FL 2mRQ1S6M
- 7. Caid https://www.facebook.com/hyraxproductions/videos/10159045538838974/
- 8. Calontir https://youtu.be/gj08XQpTBXI
- 9. Ealdormere: https://vimeo.com/410450678
- 10. East https://youtu.be/C6uZOZ1FCHA
- 11. Gleann Abhann https://www.facebook.com/KingdomOfGleannAbhann/videos/2925861710863044/
- 12. Lochac https://youtu.be/j7vGJHWVT8Y
- 13. Meridies https://youtu.be/oHRE5UMudTc
- 14. Midrealm https://youtu.be/W5gyMUKRwql
- 15. Northshield https://youtu.be/Ssa-3n6npls
- 16. Outlands https://youtu.be/e9CZ6A8Gssg
- 17. Trimaris https://youtu.be/1ZTA4u2UJwU
- 18. West https://youtu.be/mH3Zp2TO7g8 AND https://youtu.be/yP7BOboPmGY

Other Dancers

- Outlands Dancing Queens: https://youtu.be/O3CKn8sL4nw
- College of Heralds https://youtu.be/cJdn2oNtFaU
- Known World Equestrians https://rb.gy/wgkui8
- Bogtown Thump https://youtu.be/vJfLOLA7wS8
- A compilation of #SCAdance videos https://youtu.be/SIMsW3eROws

News & Events

Baronial News

- A reminder that all SCA activities, including meetings and practices, are suspended until July 1. SCA heavy fighting, fencing, archery, and ranged weapons activities and practices are suspended until further notice. Please, no posts about any related happenings on the Baronial page.
- The next Baronial meeting will be Wednesday, June 24.

Kingdom News -

- The Midrealm is running a match-up of artisans with interested parties to discuss projects. There were
 15 entrants who need someone to talk to! To see the project and get details about how to sign up, see
 the post: https://www.facebook.com/groups/Midrealm/permalink/10158277538636181/
- Become one of Sultana Madeleina's Minsters of Mischief! https://rb.gy/ohwikj

SCA News -

- Try the SCA Magnificently Awesome Scavenger Hunt: https://www.facebook.com/events/590610531587536/
- SCA At Home Highlights #11 https://www.sca.org/news/scaathome-highlights-11
- See ALL the events at the Known World Entertainment Guide https://tinyurl.com/ybkqmygw

Fun Videos -

Fight practice! You might see some familiar faces:) - https://rb.gy/8au33j

From the Minister of Arts & Sciences -

- Two challenges for June are due the 24th!
 - <u>June Cooks Challenge: Cooking Over Fire</u>: *Try cooking something NEW over a wood or charcoal fire.*
 - June A&S Challenge: Heraldry in Any Medium: A heraldic display.
- Calum is hosting Virtual Armorer's Guild meetings every Thursday via Zoom please
 use the updated link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84704344487; or contact Calum@wowway.com
- Info for virtual guild meetings can be found as events on the Baronial FB page or on the Baronial website's calendar.
- Don't forget, the RUM classes are ongoing, and there are many, many other classes and events being made available virtually, from all over our kingdom, and the Knowne World. Connect with friends and strangers over a shared interest!

<u>Virtual Classes for the Week of June 21 through June 28</u> - https://www.facebook.com/royaluni-versityofthemidrealm/

- June 21 7pm EST MidRealm College of Heralds: Vocal Projection for the Herald https:// www.facebook.com/events/293323151848562/
- June 22 7pm EST Saints!: https://www.facebook.com/events/262668031831507/
- June 23 7pm EST How to Make Pants: Thorsbjerg Trousers and Hedeby (Rus) Pants: https://www.facebook.com/events/877178446095284/
- June 24 7pm EST Shakespeare's Fools: https://www.facebook.com/events/1116896498673276/
- June 25 7pm EST The History of Carriages: https://www.facebook.com/ events/616552448957848/
- June 26 7pm EST From Goodwill to Garber: https://www.facebook.com/ events/1446992872159249/
- June 27 4pm EST MidRealm College of Heralds: Introduction to Conflict Checking: https://www.facebook.com/events/260380982051442/

Crafting in Quarantine - Experimenting with Weaving Homespun Wool

By THL Jolicia atte Northclyfe

Like many of you, I am taking advantage of the shutdown to tackle long-delayed A&S projects. My project was weaving a small pouch using hand-spun wool and a small loom.

The wool and loom — a kids' craft kind of thing I bought at Walmart — had been gathering dust in my attic for years. I dug them out, and was pleased to find that I had already spun enough wool for this project on my drop spindle. The spun roving just needed to be plied, which is the process of twisting two spun threads together.

The tricky part of plying with a drop spindle is that, when you ply, you need to turn the spindle in the opposite direction used to spin the roving. It's akin to doing something with your non-dominant hand. When done correctly, you're rewarded with something resembling commercial yarn. There were a few times when this goal was not achieved, and I had to try again.

Continued on page 4.

Tips for the Combat & Ranged Arts

Armored: Duke Eik's Positional Footwork #1 Linear Forward and Back

https://youtu.be/nIX460NrFH4

Miss NOWM? Here are some old videos of battles. See if you can spot yourself or your friends:

2013: https://youtu.be/nQ2oW-cmjmEs

2018: https://youtu.be/9Ms_nkVjR_M

2019: https://www. facebook.com/ watch/?v=556659964859927

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 - Meet the Officers: Lady Claricia de la Mere, Seneschal (mka Karin Strippel) (she/her)

1.) How did you get involved in the SCA?

What a great question, Claricia, thanks for asking!
I saw my first SCA demo as a Girl Scout at Camp
Ledgewood in the early 90s (Baroness Angharad may remember these). I was really into the latest "Robin Hood" movie and astounded that the archer split his arrows for real! I begged people to take me to meetings, but didn't make it to one until college. In Dernehealde, I had a ton of fun trying things, but after graduation I popped into various groups as I moved around.

I got sucked into some LARPs, which I ended up running, but missed the SCA and rejoined Cleftlands after moving back to the area.

2.) Apart from officer duties, what are your two main activities in the SCA? Cooking and miscellaneous tasks/organizing, probably? I want to find a hand craft that I'm not terrible at, so I can make something that lasts. But I'm not a great hand-crafter, patterns don't make sense to me, so it's hard!

3.) How did you choose your SCA name?

I passed "Clarissa Campbell" my first year in Dernehealde, working towards a Scots persona ("Braveheart" was my next medieval movie obsession). Later, I got more serious about a persona and found that wasn't an authentic name combination. Then I put on a Burgundian dress and said "yes, that!" so registered a French name. I actually submitted it as "de la mer" to be "of the sea" - but got back "de la mere," so it's "of the mother." Promptly following that I joined a Rus household. I'm still trying to figure out a way to fit it all together...

4.) What's your favorite part of Pennsic?

I love just walking around looking at things (although I miss the hay wagons a lot). There are amazing arts on display, tempting wares from across the globe, spectacular garb, awesome camp setups... Also that I've been so many times but every year I can do something I've never done before. And people look happy!

5.) What are your favorite foods?

Too many! Chocolate, and sweets in general, and any and all bread-like products. Cheese. I love trying unique jams & jellies, I can't resist them!! Nothing hot, sadly.

Random Period Object - Cleveland Museum of Art



Raft Cup - China, 1345

Hammered silver with chased decoration

This rare silver cup in the shape of a hollow log bears the seal of the famed silversmith Zhu Bishan. An inscription on its back references the story of a man who got lost and ended up among the stars. He was transformed into a star, and met with the Weaving Maid, another star. The figure bears a tablet as a token of their encounter.

Weaving with Homespun Wool - continued

After the yarn was plied, it was soaked in cool water to set the twist. While it was drying, I set up the small loom, warped it with cotton twine and made a small woven piece using commercial yarn. The test went well, but when I tried weaving with my hand-spun, the white cotton twine showed through too much. This was because the twine was much thicker than my homespun. I tried again, this time warping with purple cotton crochet thread.

My homespun was in soft shades of browns, blues and purples. I wanted to incorporate all of the colors, but I didn't want to worry about a strict color scheme. I plan to weave two pieces of about 5 inches by 3 inches, and a flap that will be about 3 by 3. I will sew the two pieces making up the pouch together, and attach the flap. The strap will be braided homespun (or will the homespun be too stretchy? I'll find out!)



The most difficult part of weaving was not pulling too hard on the outer warp threads, and keeping the weaving even. I thought I my outer warp threads looks distorted, but when I took the piece off the loom, everything evened out and I was surprised that the woven piece had fairly even edges.



Another problem showed up after the piece came off the loom. The weaving seems loose, and the crochet thread isn't thick enough to hold the weft in place. I will double the crochet thread when I warp the loom for the second piece.

It feels good to finally see this project get off the ground. I doubt that my purse will be heavy-duty enough to hold much, due to the flimsiness of the first woven piece. But I can still use it to organize lightweight things inside a larger bag.

Next, I want to try inkle weaving with homespun as the weft. I have heard that it can't be done, and I have heard that it can. There's only one

way to find out for sure! But first, I'll have to grab my drop spindle and get spinning again!

For more details about spinning and weaving, please consult Lady Nadyezhda the Simple and Duchess Runa Eikbrandrskona, along with other experts in the barony.

What is your shutdown project? Share it with us by writing a story for Internebbles!

This Week in History

June 23 1314 - Battle of Bannockburn in Scotland is joined, beginning the First War of Scottish Independence.

June 24 1374 - Dancing mania in Aachen, Germany causes people to hallucinate and twitch until they collapse.

June 25 1579 - Hatano Hideharu, a Japanese warlord, is executed, causing the Hatano clan to dissolve.

June 26 1483 - Richard III becomes king of England.

June 27 1462 - Louis XII, king of France, is born.

June 28 1360 - Muhammed VI becomes the tenth Nasrid king of Granada after killing his brother-in-law Ismail II.

Cleftlands Officers' Contact Information

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Upcoming Events

• Please note that all official Middle Kingdom events, practices, meetings, and gatherings are canceled through June 30, 2020.

- Tuesday, June 23 Virtual Needle Workers' Guild https://www.facebook.com/events/829027847503448/
- Wednesday, June 24 Baronial Court Virtual, please see Facebook for details as they are available.
- Thursday, June 25 Virtual Armorers' Guild Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84704344487

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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