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# Cleftlands *Internebbles*

## *A Cleftlands (Middle Kingdom) Newsletter - 3/6/2022*

### Cleftlands News

#### **Cleftlands Meetings Return In-Person As Restrictions Eased**

After reviewing the current, local information on the latest Covid surge, the officers met and decided to begin meeting in person once more. Meetings will be held every other Wednesday through March and April. The goal is to return to meeting every week when able to go outside in May (providing there are no further restrictions or worsening of the pandemic).

The next meetings are scheduled for March 9, March 23, April 6, April 20, and May 4. Please join us at St. John of the Cross School, 140 Richmond Road, Cleveland, OH 44143 from 6:30-9:30pm.

What's more, Kingdom and Society have changed their Covid restrictions and procedures. Masks are now optional indoors (and out), and there are no restrictions on food. Pre-registrations are no longer required for weekend events, and attendance will no longer be taken at other activities. The other restrictions are still in place: Attendees of age 5 and over must show a proof of Covid vaccination or negative test result taken within the last 3 days before the meeting. Attendees 18 and over must also show a valid ID or SCA membership card. At SCA activities there will now be a waiver that all attendees (including staff) must sign to indicate they provided the required information. Those waivers are sent to the Kingdom waivers deputy after the activity has ended. Anyone hosting an in-person activity must also include the Society disclaimer on the invitations and also at the event (seen on page 4).

#### **Cleftlands Baronial Poll Has Closed**

The polling period to provide feedback to Their Majesties as to who should be the next to wear the Cleftlands Baronial Coronets has closed. Many thanks to the candidates for their time and for putting themselves forward for consideration.

With much gratitude to each person who took the time to submit their thoughts, we ended up with 51% of residents participating - much over what was expected! There were a total of 149 polls submitted: 107 residents and 42 who live outside of Cuyahoga county.

The polls have been reviewed and collated and sent to Their Majesties for Their perusal. Their Majesties will inform the candidates and Their Excellencies (current) of the decision, and then the populace will find out.

The new Baronage will be elevated at the Dressed to Kill event on April 9. This will also be a Royal Court, so submit award recommendations for your compatriots!

More information is on the Dressed to Kill II event website: <http://symposium.cleftlands.org/>

Submit your Kingdom-level award recommendations here: <https://midrealm.org/award-recommendations/>

#### **Even More Cleftlands Events Are Coming**

That's right, events are back! In addition to Dressed to Kill II, two additional bids for events have been approved. Look forward to more information soon for:

- Fletchings of Spring VI: May 21, 2022, Punderson State Park, Newbury, OH. A day of archery challenges, with lunch provided. <http://fletchings.cleftlands.org/>
- Northern Oaken War Maneuvers: June 11, 2022, Ukranian American Youth Association Resort, Wellington, OH. Field heavy and rapier combat, archery and thrown weapons, crafts and merchants, games, and more! This will be a one-day event, no camping. <http://nowm.cleftlands.org/>

# News of the Realms

## SCA News -

- Baroness Tetchubah of Greenlake, OL, OP, has been appointed to the role of Corporate Treasurer for the SCA: <https://www.sca.org/news/people-on-the-move-corporate-treasurer/>
- The President's Report for January 2022 is now available here in PDF, with a link to a video of the meeting: <https://www.sca.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Jan2022BoardMeetingPresidentsReport.pdf>
- Duke Thomas Blackmoore, KSCA, OP, OL, is the new Society Manager of Information Technology: <https://www.sca.org/news/people-on-the-move-manager-of-information-technology/>

## Kingdom News

- To read the article on the Kingdom's updates to Covid policy, go here: <https://midrealm.org/blog/2022/03/06/additional-changes-to-covid-policies-effective-date-3-7-21/?fbclid=IwAR2gzrQSztoVspYSdzztH6FKfQxIhrly-8C6pXeLJNzkFVYH0Y-0VvkqG9uLc>
- Congratulations to the staff of the virtual Winter Rum event - despite the last minute shift to the digital realm, there were 278 unique logins on the day. Well done to the organizers, teachers, and attendees for making use of this opportunity! Did you miss it? You can see it online:
- Opening remarks and keynote address by Cleftlander Countess Serena: [https://youtu.be/84p4\\_JvbFnY](https://youtu.be/84p4_JvbFnY)
- So many classes! See them here if you missed them: <https://www.youtube.com/c/RoyalUniversityoftheMidrealmRUM/videos>

## Baronial News

- Cleftlands is still looking for a Rapier Marshal, Social Media Officer, and Demo Coordinator. Apply here: <http://www.cleftlands.org/officer-application/>
- Many thanks to several Cleftlanders who taught at Winter RUM (Royal University of the Midrealm): the fantabulous Baron Syr Calum taught "To Acid Etch on Steel" and "How to Plan and Teach a Class" was taught by Master Brendan (apologies if I've missed anyone).



*Armored tournament 2019. Happy days will be here again soon!*

## **This Week in History**

March 6 632 - The Farewell Sermon of the Islamic prophet Muhammad is delivered during the pilgrimage of Hajj.

March 7 161 - Marcus Aurelius and L. Commodus (later Lucius Verus) become joint emperors of Rome.

March 8 1167 - Death of [Adela of Normandy](#), daughter of William the Conqueror, and twice regent of Blois.

March 9 141 BC - Liu Che begins a 54-year reign as emperor of the Han dynasty of China - a record for longest reign that held for 1800 yrs.

March 10 1535 - Tomás de Berlanga "discovers" the Galapagos Islands on his way to Peru.

March 11 1544 - Birth of Italian Torquato Tasso; one of the most widely read poets of the 16th-19th centuries, but not much remembered today (unless you look him up!).

March 12 538 - Vitiges of the Ostrogoths ends his siege of Rome after a year and nine days.

## 5 Questions for Cleftlanders - Lady Rose Summerfield (mka Marianne Sommerfelt) (she/her)

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

I first got involved in the SCA because Jolicia asked me to help her demonstrate how to wear a veil at January event in 2012 at Berea fairgrounds. It was the veil demo. I hated how I looked - it made me feel like a nun! I usually wear hats now.

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

My 2 main activities are archery and attending embroidery classes.

### 3.) What is your favorite thing to do at events?

My favorite thing to do at events is socialize and meet new people.

### 4.) What are your favorite things to make?

My favorite things to make are kumihimo and embroidery.

### 5.) What's the best thing you've ever eaten at an SCA event?

The best thing I've eaten at an event is baklava.



*Regular Event 2012 with the soon-to-be Lady Rose at the veil class.*

## Book Review for the SCA: “Powers and Thrones: A New History of the Middle Ages”

*By THL Jolicia atte Northclyfe*

Right up front, historian Dan Jones tells readers that his new book “Powers and Thrones: A New History of the Middle Ages” (Viking, 636 pp, \$35) encompasses more than a thousand years and every continent except Australasia and Antarctica.

Buckle up and settle in for a lively and complicated ride, Jones seems to be warning us.

“The book you are about to read tells the story of the Middle Ages,” Jones writes. “It is a big book, because that is a big task. We are going to sweep across continents and centuries, often at breakneck pace. We are going to meet hundreds of men and women, from Attila the Hun to Joan of Arc. And we are going to dive headlong into at least a dozen fields of history — from war and law to art and literature.”

In lesser hands, a book of this scope, on this topic, would read like one of those shallow books your well-meaning relatives buy you for Christmas, with titles like “Five Things You Didn’t Know About Rome!” or “The Crusades for the Marginally Interested.”

But Jones is writing for people who want a deep immersion in this subject, and who will delight in his insights and ways of tying the events and attitudes of the Middle Ages to our modern times. Fun fact: some of history’s biggest events were touched off by climate change and pandemics.

“Powers and Thrones” starts with the Roman Empire, then moves to examinations of monks, knights, the Crusades, scholars, and builders. We move along through the late Middle Ages and early Renaissance by way of Da Vinci, the Medici family, Christopher Columbus, and Martin Luther.

Jones is such a marvelous writer. His passion and enthusiasm bubble off the page, and his wickedly witty observations are gems. His ability to organize several mountains’ worth of facts into something digestible is miraculous.

Jones, a New York Times best-selling author, also wrote “Crusaders,” “The Templars,” “The Plantagenets,” “The Wars of the Roses,” and “Magna Carta.”

All serious history buffs should read “Powers and Thrones.” It’s one you’ll pull off the shelf and read again and again, striving to increase your understanding of the big forces that turned the Middle Ages into the modern world.



# March Cleftlands Events

- Monday, March 7, 7:00pm - **Virtual Scribe's Guild** - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82988129302?pwd=OWNleW-FQYVFGMGFsYUpHMmlRNmFQQT09>
- Tuesday, March 8, 7:30pm - **Needleworkers' Guild Virtual Meeting** - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88261643621?pwd=UGx1TTdPcVdNNWtHZFhDZkxYR0d5Zz09>
- Wednesday, March 9, 6:30-10pm - **In-Person Cleftlands Meeting** St John of the Cross School, 140 Richmond Rd, Cleveland OH 44143.
- Thursday, March 10; 7:00-10:00pm - **Armors' Guild Meeting** - Ealdred & Clairiel's Garage: 234 Adams St, Berea, OH 44017; <https://bit.ly/3vBVzBR>
- Saturday, March 12; 12:00pm - **In-Person Class: Casting Largesse Tokens** -
- Sunday, March 13; 4:00pm - **Virtual Gardeners Roundtable** - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89056355623?pwd=cDk2akZ2cDIGRVpW9zdEJnNXhtZz09>
- Tuesday March 15; 7:00pm - **Virtual Bardic Open Mic** - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89768898132?pwd=bn-Q3Nm5GQit1VVZKTDhFMnhEck5nUT09>
- Thursday, March 17; 7:00-10:00pm - **Armors' Guild Meeting** - Ealdred & Clairiel's Garage: 234 Adams St, Berea, OH 44017; <https://bit.ly/3vBVzBR>
- Tuesday, March 22, 7:30pm - **Needleworkers' Guild Virtual Meeting** - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88261643621?pwd=UGx1TTdPcVdNNWtHZFhDZkxYR0d5Zz09>
- Wednesday, March 23, 6:30-10pm - **In-Person Cleftlands Meeting** St John of the Cross School, 140 Richmond Rd, Cleveland OH 44143.
- Wednesday, March 23, 7:00pm - **In-Person Class: First Nation Quill Beads** At the Baronial meeting. St John of the Cross School, 140 Richmond Rd, Cleveland OH 44143.
- Thursday, March 24; 7:00-10:00pm - **Armors' Guild Meeting** - Ealdred & Clairiel's Garage: 234 Adams St, Berea, OH 44017; <https://bit.ly/3vBVzBR>
- Sunday, March 27; 4:00pm - **Virtual Gardeners Roundtable** - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89056355623?pwd=cDk2akZ2cDIGRVpW9zdEJnNXhtZz09>
- Wednesday, March 30; 7:00pm - **Virtual A&S Show and Tell** - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89827491345?pwd=UXJONkl4eEJIWIR3TTZrQ3pKZFpWZz09>
- Thursday, March 31; 7:00-10:00pm - **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.*

*Photo of Lady Rose used with permission of Bradley Sommerfelt. Photo of the 2019 armored tournament courtesy of Lord Tarnach ben Yehuda al Khazari.*

*The Luxury Ewer Extending Good Fortune to Its Owner 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.*

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## Upcoming Midrealm Events

**March 12-20 - Gulf Wars;** Lumberton, MS. Learn more:  
<https://www.gulfwars.org/>

**March 26 - Better War Through Archery;** Danville, IN. 9am. Learn more:  
<https://sternfeld.midrealm.org/BWTA>

**April 2 - Winter Revel for April Fools;** Ionia, MI. Check the Midrealm calendar for more information:  
<https://midrealm.org/events/winter-revel/>

**April 2 - Scribing and Imbibing at the Stone Dog Inn;** Midlothian, IL. 9am-9pm. Check the Midrealm calendar for more information:  
<https://midrealm.org/events/scrolling-and-imbibing-at-stone-dog-inn/>

**July 29-August 14 - Pennsic War; Cooper's Lake Campground, PA. Registration is now open:**  
<https://cooperslake.com/prereg/account/index.php>

## 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](mailto:clariciadlm@gmail.com).

Thank you and stay well!

## Random Period Object - Cleveland Museum of Art



Luxury Ewer Extending Good Fortune to the Owner; Iraq, 1223 CE

Brass inlaid with silver

~15" tall, ~5.75" diameter at base - <https://www.clevelandart.org/art/1956.11>

Look closely at the wide band around the body and you will see vignettes of daily life depicted. Scenes included falconry, hunting, dancing, and playing music.

The images are shown against an arabesque background, which as common in Islamic art. You can see the interwoven visual elements. The inscription around the shoulder calls for good fortune, peace, and prosperity for the owner. Later owners scratched their names into the neck - surely not what the master craftsman

(Ahmad al-Dhaki of Mosul) intended when he completed the piece.

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