

NORTHWATCH

VOL. 21 NO. 3 DECEMBER 2024 AS LIX

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE KINGDOM OF NORTHSHIELD

DUCERE

MINISTRARE

ILLUMINARE



Their Royal Majesties

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(Carter L. Cox)

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Their Royal Highnesses

Skio inn ríki & Aelina Aelinesdottir

(Steven J. Story)

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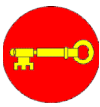
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The Stallari Council of Northshield



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Morgaine Scott Blood (Heather Wisner)



Kingdom Polaris Herald

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Ysolt Pais de cuer (Laura Knappenberger)
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Farolfus filius Richardi (Sebastian Renfield)



Kingdom Earl Marshal

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Landed Barons and Baronesses



Barony of Caer Anterth Mawr

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Ysolt Pais de cuer (Laura Knappenberger)

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Barony of Castel Rouge

Gabriel De Lion (Michael DeLine)

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Nadrah al-Zahara (Amy Pickard)

nadrahsca@gmail.com



Barony of Jararvellir

Athelyna de Chestre (Ty Patterson)

athelyna@jararvellir.org; (715)781-3833

Jois Corbet (Deena Patterson)

baroness@jararvellir.org; (608)628-5059 (No calls before 9am or after 10pm, unless emergency)



Barony of Nordskogen

Cynthia the Innocent (Cyndi Rauenhorst)

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Heliseus Morte d'Arbor (Stefanie Steele)

stefanie@juno-inv.com; (612)770-3614 (No phone calls after 10pm; text is fine, but may take 24hrs.)



Barony of Windhaven

Hamish de Nisbet of the Clan Nisbet

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Markéta Barfussin (Melissa Heenan)

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Northshield Event Calendar

NOTICE: All events are subject to being canceled if, at the time the event is to be held, modern civil authorities have issued restrictive orders related to public gatherings pursuant to their COVID-19 mitigation efforts.

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.

November 2024 (AS LIX)

- 16 **Toys for Tots Tournament**, Barony of Nordskogen (Minneapolis, MN)
- 20 **Deadline for January 2024 Northwatch (New Year)**

December 2024 (AS LIX)

- 7 **Feast of the Boar's Head**, Barony of Caer Anterth Mawr (West Bend, WI) ☞ ☝
- 20 **Deadline for February 2024 Northwatch (Love & Romance)**

January 2025 (AS LIX)

- 18 **Nordskogen Twelfth Night**, Barony of Nordskogen (Ramsey, MN) ☞ ☝
- 20 **Deadline for March 2024 Northwatch (Your theme here!)**
- 25 **Wacky Garb Ball: Blast From the Past**, Barony of Jararvellir (Stoughton, WI) ☞ ☝
- 25 **A Midwinter's Day Feast**, Shire of Schattentor (Rapid City, SD)

February 2025 (AS LIX)

- 1 **Feast of Lupercalia**, Shire of Rivenwood Tower (Garden City, MN)
- 14-16 **Adult Swim**, Kingdom of Æthelmarc (TBD) ☞ ☝
- 15 **Hertzkrieg 28**, College of Svatý Sebesta (Vermillion, SD)
- 20 **Deadline for April 2024 Northwatch (Your theme here!)**
- 22 **Fighter's School 2025**, Barony of Windhaven (Fond du Lac, WI) ☞ ☝

March 2025 (AS LIX)

- 1 **Silfren Mere Winter Games**, Shire of Silfren Mere (Pine Island, MN)
- 8-16 **Gulf Wars**, Kingdom of Gleann Abhann (Lumberton, MS) ☞ ☝
- 20 **Deadline for March 2024 Northwatch (Your theme here!)**
- 22 **Medieval Religions, Spiritual Practices, and the Supernatural Symposium**, Barony of Jararvellir (Madison, WI)



☞ Sovereign will attend ☝ Sovereign's Consort will attend ☞ Royal Heir will attend ☝ Royal Heir's Consort will attend
 ☉ Laurel Meeting ☪ Pelican Meeting ☉ Defense Meeting ☉ Chivalry Meeting ✦ Stallari Meeting

Society Seneschal

Lis Schraer (Elasait ingen Diarmata)
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Northshield Ombudsman

Jennifer Krochmal (Duchess Kalisa Aleksandrovna)
 jkrochmal@director.sca.org

Society Registrar (Memberships/Insurance)

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Art Credits: Group heraldry art and officer badges by the late Friedrich von Augsburg (*Windhaven*) and Osric of Fayrehope (*Castel Rouge*). Nameplate by Brynjolf Hrafnsson (*Orlova Dolina*). Cover image is "The Librarian" by Guiseppe Arcimboldo, a stylized portrait of Wolfgang Laz, Prague, 1562 CE, courtesy of Wikimedia Commons. Image on p. 2 by Hara Hana (*formerly of Svatý Sebesta*). "Dear Abbess" image on p. 9 from the Lucca Codex of the 'Liber divinatorum operum' courtesy of Biblioteca Statale (Italy). All other images are open-source or as credited. Proofreading Credits: Grateful thanks to Alys, Caoilfhionn, Kingdom officers, and the *Northwatch* staff for proofreading this issue.

For more information about the Society for Creative Anachronism and the Kingdom of Northshield, please visit our websites:

Northshield: www.northshield.org

SCA: www.sca.org

This is the December 2024 issue of the *Northwatch*, the official newsletter of the Kingdom of Northshield. Northshield is a branch of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., and the *Northwatch* is published as a service to the SCA's membership. Subscriptions are available only to members. Memberships are available from the Member Services Office, SCA, Inc., P.O. Box 360789, Milpitas, CA 95036-0789. Online version of the newsletter can be found at enewsletter.sca.org. All changes of address or questions about subscriptions should be sent to the Corporate Office. Membership information and a subscription form are included in the *Northwatch* as possible.

Advertising rates: \$50 for 1/2 page, \$30 for 1/4 page, \$25 for 1/8 page. All advertising is on a pre-paid space-available basis. Checks should be payable to "SCA, Inc. – Kingdom of Northshield."

For details, contact the *Northwatch* Editor at northwatch@northshield.org or visit <http://northshield.org/Posts/Display.aspx?ID=2477>.

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Listing your event on the calendar does not place an ad in the *Northwatch*. To submit your event advertisement for publication in the *Northwatch*, submit the required information to the Event Information Officer (calendar@northshield.org) before the 15th of the month before the month of publication (i.e., May 15th for the July issue). To contact the Northshield Event Information Officer, send a message to calendar@northshield.org.

QUARTERLY BOARD MEETINGS

All meetings start at 10:00 am. Note: Attendees are asked to wear modern clothing to Board meetings. (Agenda deadlines are first of month of meeting.) **Meetings are tentatively scheduled for the following locations; however, depending on "safer-in-place" regulations in effect, meetings may be handled by VoIP.
 January 2025 meeting: TBD. April 2025 meeting: TBD. July 2025 meeting: TBD.



Their Royal Majesties

Hail, Northshield!!

We have Heirs! Congratulations to Their Royal Highnesses Skio and Alina for Their victory at Crown Tournament!

Crown Tournament was fantastic, if a lot of work for a lot of people. Thank you to everyone who participated and helped make the event a great day. It was great to hear the court laugh and have fun and to see the enthusiastic response to placing Arnbjorn on vigil for Pelican, and for his excellency Abelard being set to vigil for the Chivalry. It sounded good even in the videos.

By the time you read this we will have returned from the SUN in the great north, which should be a great event.

In December we will be at Boar's Head, one of our favorite SCA, Inc events. It will be a busy day with a lot going on in the two planned courts. We do ask all with ceremonies in court to be respectful of time. That will be a special day for a number of people and a few Baronies.

We shall have to see what additional signs of the Great Wyrn the portents warned us of and our scouts have reported on the northern borders. The team of Thirteen will be busy.

Lastly, award recommendations, please! It takes a minimum of eight weeks to go from award recommendation to a court, if we are to be courteous to the scribes. The recommendation process is an ideal place for all the Orders to make their recommendations for candidates. Those will come to Us, as well as Their Highnesses.

Thora & Thorbrandr

Their Royal Highnesses

No missive this month.

Skio & Aelina



Kingdom Seneschal

Dearest Northshield,

The Feast of the Boars Head is here! I hope to see many of you there!

I wish your homes and hearths warmth, prosperity, and cheer! May your cups be full and your plates bountiful!

While we wait for the sun to warm our northern halls I encourage you to gift yourself with something new, perhaps a new SCA experience, a new piece of garb, a new food delight, or even new friends.

I wish you many wonderful gifts this holiday season however you celebrate.

Please do not be a stranger! Come say hi!

Yours In grateful service

Morgaine



Kingdom Polaris Herald

No missive this month.

Ysolt



Chancellor of the Exchequer

No missive this month.

Æsa



Kingdom Minister of Arts & Sciences

Greetings!

As we prepare to close the door on 2024, I invite each of us to look back and think about what A&S project (or any learning or making you might have done in the SCA) over the past year was most meaningful for you. Is it something you are especially proud of? A thing you learned something important from, even if it was a failure? A gift to a cherished friend? I encourage you to share it – post a picture, bring it

to an event to show off, or both – along with the story behind it.

Farolfus



Kingdom Chronicler

Merry Yuletide Season unto the populace of Northshield,

News the First: A reminder to all local chroniclers, webministers, and social media officers, your annual Domesday reports are due by Monday, November 25, 2024.

News the Second: I have applied to extend my term to June 1, 2025, the end of a full third year in office. At that point, I will be term limited and must step down. Letters of Intent are due by March 1, 2025, to chronicler@nortshield.org, to provide time for Stallari to review the applicants, and provide training to my successor. Should anyone wish to apply and step up into the office before then, I will gladly retire earlier. The office is a required office for a kingdom. It is a largely administrative position, overseeing the specialized deputies who do much of the day-to-day work of their areas. The Kingdom Chronicler is also a voting member of the Stallari Council and Kingdom Finance Committee. If anyone has any interest in serving in this office, or any of the many deputy positions, please let me know, I am always glad to talk about what is involved with the offices.

News the Fourth: bantiarna Grainne Dhonn, the Northwatch Editor, has announced that she wishes to step down from the post next autumn, after what will be five years in office. Letters of Intent are due to chronicler@northshield.org by May 1, 2025, to give plenty of time for training, as the Deputy Editor.

Please review the help wanted section in the Northwatch and the kingdom website.

Twenty years of the Kingdom of Northshield

Ever wonder why we wear black in the summer? It's because we voted for that design. In 1994, as the Stallari committee is organizing the efforts to establish the principality, there was a poll of what the official arms should be.

The "Guide to Arms Proposals" [as listed on the 1994 letter] were:

1. Proposed colors: Blue and white field, red mullet, red laurel wreath, red border, white coronet
2. Proposed colors: Red and white field, red chief, white coronet, white laurel wreath
3. Proposed colors: Blue and white field, red chief, white mullet, white laurel wreath
4. Proposed colors: Red field, white pile, white pile, white dogs (mastiffs, other?), counterchanged mullet and laurel wreath

5. Proposed colors: Black field, white compass rose, gold laurel wreath, gold coronet
6. Proposed colors: Black field, white compass rose, gold laurel wreath, gold coronet, gold border
7. Proposed colors: Blue and white field, gold coronet, gold laurel wreath, gold border
8. Proposed colors: Blue field, white mullet, gold laurel wreath, gold coronet
9. Proposed colors: White field, black horse, black mullets, black coronet, black laurel wreath

10. Proposed colors: Black field (the center of the field), gold corners, gold laurel wreath, gold coronet

The proposed emblazons:

Ever in service to Crown, Kingdom, and you,

Arnbjørn



Northwatch Editor

Cén scéal? What's the news?

I am looking for a successor! The Newsletter Editor position involves about 10 hours of work per month. Reach out; I'm happy to tell you all about it! In this issue, please enjoy some book recommendations on several subjects. Our upcoming newsletter themes are as follows, but please submit art and articles about anything at all for the edification of the kingdom.

- November 20 – New Year, New You? – What are your goals for the new year?
- December 20 – Love & Romance – Share your songs or art or stories of loooove.
- January 20 – Beasts and Bestiaries – Which creatures are unfairly maligned by medieval and ancient zoologists? Which fantastical creatures mean something to you?

Please send all questions or submissions to northwatch@northshield.org.

Grainne



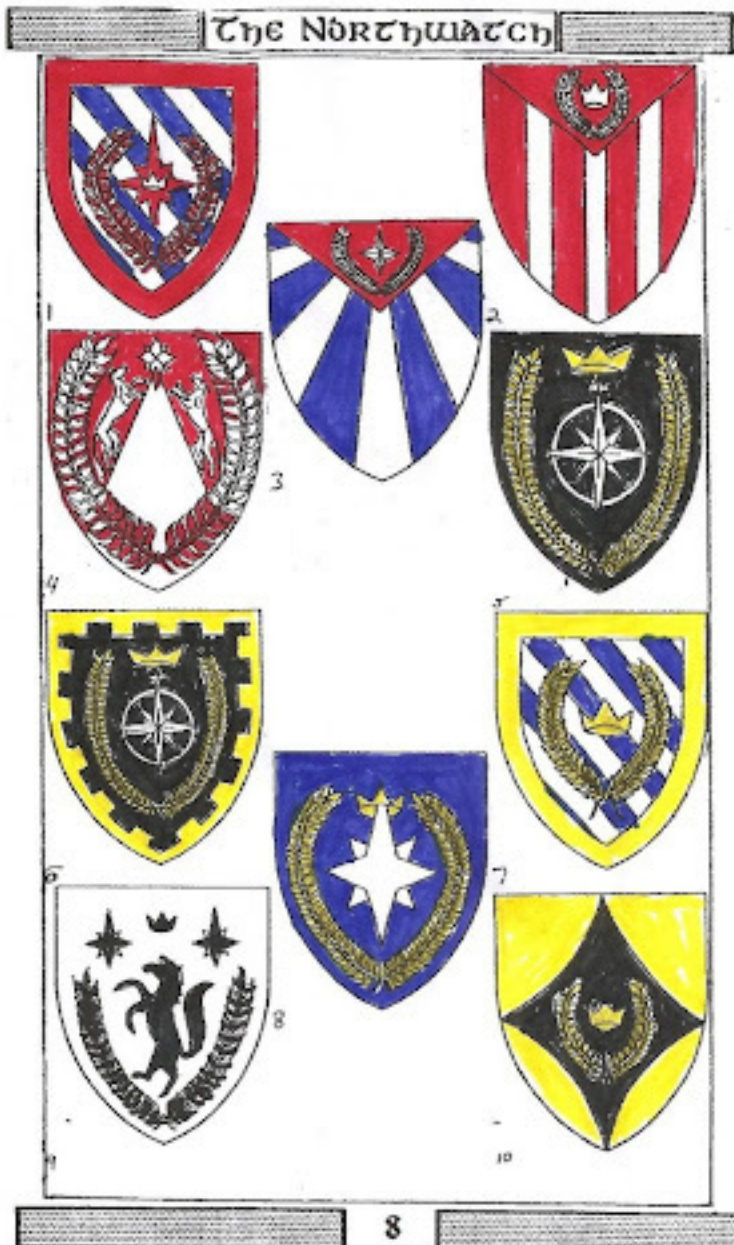
Kingdom Earl Marshal

No missive this month.

Armond



**SCA Corporate
Announcements
Proposed Changes to
Corpora – Commentary
Request**



The Board of Directors is currently considering the following proposed changes to Corpora and invites commentary from the membership and participants. You'll find an explanation for the suggested update to each section right after the marked up paragraph. New text is included in italics, with removed text struck out.

I.C.7: General—Role of the Board—Communications with the Board of Directors of the SCA, Inc.

c. Any *written* communication with the Board is considered public, *subject to any confidentiality provisions of Corpora, Corporate Policy, and approved Officer Handbooks*, unless the author stipulates at the time of writing that the document is to be considered confidential. *Any communications regarding sanctions and/or Board/Officer work-product are deemed confidential communications. Confidential documents will not be distributed outside the corporate staff unless the author's permission has been obtained.*

The Board reserves the right to declare any communication confidential subject to the author's right to republish the communication. Reasonable requests for copies of other communications must be made in writing to the corporate office, and all such requests are automatically considered public documents.

[**Explanation:** Confidentiality is an important topic in the Society, and it can sometimes be confusing. The rules about confidentiality are mentioned in a lot of different places, and over time, the wording in those places has changed a bit, which has caused some confusion about how the Society should handle confidential information. This update is meant to make everything clearer and more consistent, so it's easier to understand what is considered confidential, and what the limits or exceptions to that confidentiality are.]

II. B. Requirements for Participants at Society Events

Anyone may attend Society events provided they wear an attempt at pre-17th century clothing, conform to the *rules of the Society provisions in Corpora*, and comply with any other requirements (including but not limited to site fees or waivers) which may be imposed. At business meetings and informal classes, the requirement to wear pre-17th century dress may be waived. All participants are expected to

behave in an appropriate and respectful manner.

[**Explanation:** Corpora is not the only document where rules that SCA participants are expected to follow may be found. These rules may also be found in the By-laws, Corporate Policies, and various Society officer policies approved by the Board and contained in officer manuals. The proposed language makes clear that the SCA has rules which participants are expected to follow.]

VI.A.2: Society Officers—General Requirements and Benefits

d. No Society or Corporate Officer may serve as Crown or Coronet during their tenure in office. In order to fight or be fought for in a Crown or Coronet Lists, the officer must have served a minimum of one year in that office and must have an appointed deputy, approved by the Board, who is ready and willing to accept all responsibilities for that office. *Committing to become a Crown or Coronet Victory in a Royal List will be considered a resignation from office, effective no later than their Investiture.*

[**Explanation:** This change spells out current practice and defines the exact circumstances under which a Society or Corporate Officer will be expected to resign that office.]

VIII.E.2: Personal Awards and Titles—Reservations to the Board—Revocation of Awards and Grants of Arms

As with Peerages, the Board specifically reserves the right to revoke any Award or Grant of Arms. Kingdom law may make provision for offering such a recommendation to the Board. *Unless stipulated otherwise by the Board, the Board's decision in such a case applies only to the matter at hand. Nothing prohibits a person who has had any award or recognition revoked from being bestowed the award or recognition at a later date, should the Crown determine that the person in question now meets the requirements of the award or recognition being bestowed.*

X.B.4.d: Grievances and Sanctions—Sanctions—Reservations to the Board—Revocation of Awards and Grants of Arms

As with Peerages, the Board specifically reserves the right to revoke any Award of Arms or Grant of Arms. Kingdom law may make provisions for offering such a recommendation to the Board. *Unless stipulated otherwise by the Board,*

the Board's decision in such a case applies only to the matter at hand. Nothing prohibits a person who has had any award or recognition revoked from being bestowed the award or recognition at a later date, should the Crown determine that the person in question now meets the requirements of the award or recognition being bestowed.

[**Explanation:** The proposed added language already exists in Corpora VIII.E.1 and X.B.4.c., which discuss the reservation to the Board of the right to degrade a person from the Peerage and the ability of a Crown to bestow such an award at a later date should they determine it is deserved. This change is proposed to apply the same language to Board removal of an award or grant of arms.]

X.B.1: Grievances and Sanctions—Sanctions—Royal Sanctions

The Crown of a Kingdom may sanction subjects, residents, and visitors within the borders of the Crown's Kingdom for just and stated cause. Royal Sanctions take effect from the moment of proclamation but must be announced in court and also be published in the next available issue of the kingdom newsletter if the sanction is to remain in effect. Within 15 business days of the imposition of the sanction, the specific cause and occasion of the sanction must be explained in writing to the sanctioned individual *unless it is impossible to do so, in which case it should be done as soon as possible.*

[**Explanation:** If the Corporate office or the Kingdom do not have a valid current means of contacting the sanctioned individual, it is not possible to fulfill this requirement unconditionally. The proposed change acknowledges the possibility that a correct means of notification may not be known at the time of the sanction.]

X.B.2: Administrative Sanctions

Officers may impose Administrative Sanctions within their areas of authority, for just and stated cause, only in accordance with the rules defined in their office handbooks or specifically granted to their offices by the Governing Documents of the SCA. Only the Society Seneschal or the Board may impose an Administrative Sanction that precludes the holding of any office including that of Crown.

[**Explanation:** This proposed change acknowledges that either the Society Seneschal or the Board of Directors

has the authority to impose an Administrative Sanction that bars an individual from holding multiple offices. The Board already has ultimate authority over the rules of the SCA and over sanctions, as established in the By-laws, Section VI.A and Corpora I.C.1, so this simply adds language acknowledging that authority.]

Corpora, including the By-Laws, can be found in its entirety can be found here: <https://www.sca.org/resources/document-library/govdocs/>

Please email all commentary to SCA-Comments@sca.org and use the title "Clarifying Corpora" in the subject line.

NOTE: Do not use attachments in your commentary. Attachments will cause your message to be marked as spam, and it will be bounced.

Commentary regarding this proposed Corpora change must be received by the Board no later than December 31, 2024.

Volunteer Wanted – Developer

We are seeking a dedicated and enthusiastic volunteer to assist with the design, maintenance, and functionality of the SCA Inc.'s modern application integrations. Initially, this role is

intended to explore the capabilities of the NeonCRM platform, but the scope of this position is meant to expand over time.

This is an excellent opportunity for someone looking to gain experience in application development and integration, while contributing to additional capabilities and functions for the Society.

Key Responsibilities:

- Explore the capabilities available in software suites like NeonCRM.
- Scope use cases for those capabilities and data sets.
- Evaluate requests for data usage and integrations.
- Where necessary, develop filtered data views if beyond the scope of existing tooling capabilities.
- Provide support to Society needs at the Corporate and Kingdom levels.

Qualifications:

- Proficiency in one or more web programming languages (like PHP, C#, etc)
- Experience with JavaScript development, including integrating 3rd party libraries

- Understanding of data protection and least privilege principles
- Database management and/or integration experience
- Project management skills
- Excellent problem-solving skills and attention to detail
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills

Benefits:

- Gain valuable experience in application design and integration
- Opportunity to work with a dynamic and supportive team
- Make a positive impact on the Society and its mission

This is a non-stipend, volunteer position.

How to Apply: If you are interested in this volunteer opportunity, please send your resume and a brief cover letter explaining your interest and qualifications to resumes@sca.org. The deadline for applications is January 10th, 2025.

Hurricane Relief Membership Extension

The Board of Directors understands the challenges faced by our members in the FEMA-identified postcodes impacted by Hurricanes Helene and Milton. In response, we are providing an initial three-month membership extension to all affected members. This extension applies to both active memberships and those that lapsed in September 2024.

We will review the extension period in January 2025 to assess any further assistance needed. Our thoughts are with everyone affected, and we remain committed to supporting you during this time.

Thank you for being part of our community.

"GUILLAUME BUDÉ" BY JEAN CLOUET,
FRANCE, 1536 CE

COURTESY OF THE MET MUSEUM (NY)





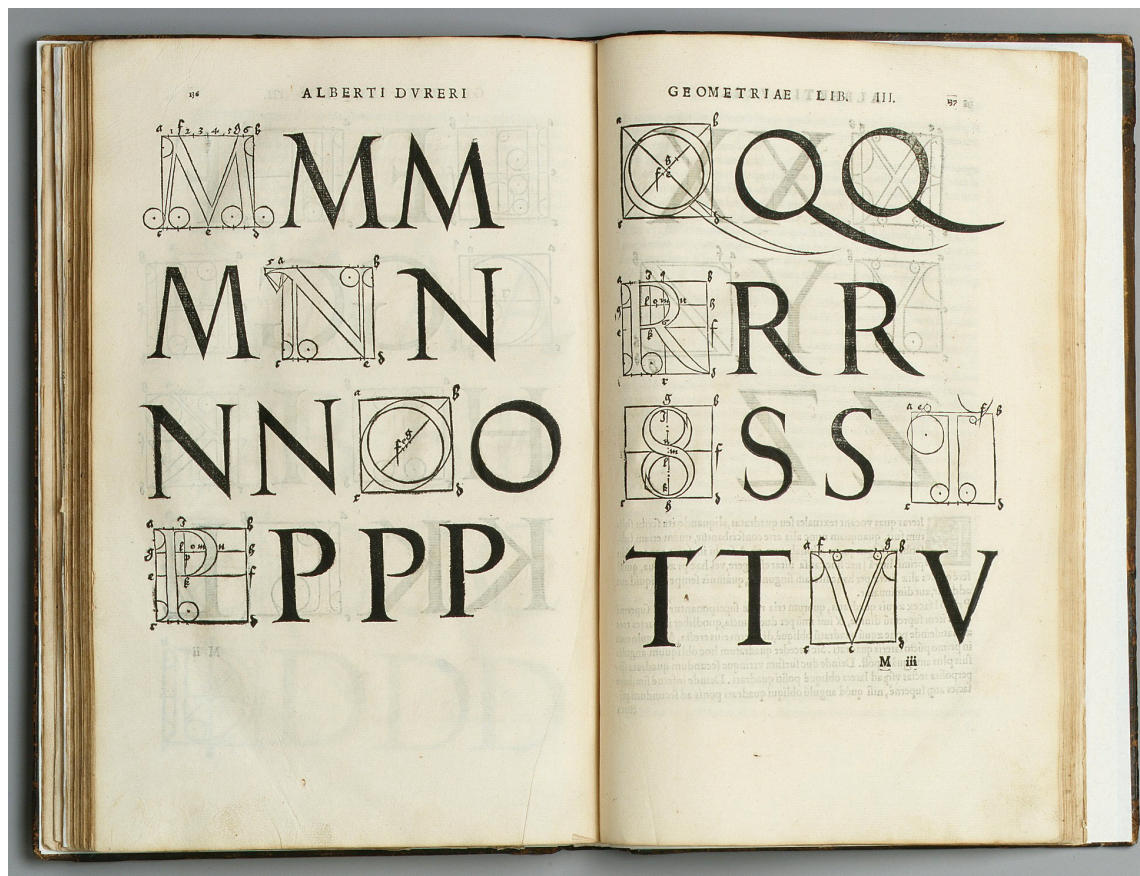
HELP WANTED

See the Kingdom website at <http://northshield.org/Posts/Display.aspx?ID=5722> or email the contact below for complete descriptions of the following positions; see email addresses on page 2. See Kingdom Directory for other current vacancies.

- **Kingdom Chronicler:** Inquiries & applications should be sent to the Kingdom Chronicler. Letters of Intent due 3/1/ 2025.
- **Kingdom Exchequer:** Inquiries & applications should be sent to the Kingdom Exchequer ASAP.
- **Kingdom Minister of Arts & Sciences:** Details for this role may be found at https://northshield.org/Resources/PDF/JobDesc/KMOAS_job_description.pdf Open until 12/31/2024. Inquiries and applications should be sent to the Kingdom Minister of Arts & Sciences at moas@northshield.org
- **Clerk of Precedence:** Inquiries & applications should be sent to the Polaris Herald ASAP.
- **Lakes Regional Deputy Seneschal:** Inquiries & applications should be sent to the Kingdom Seneschal. Open until filled.
- **Transitions and New Groups Deputy:** Inquiries & applications should be sent to the Kingdom Seneschal. Open until filled.
- **Woodlands A&S Regional Deputy:** Inquiries & applications should be sent to the Kingdom Minister of Arts and Sciences.
- **Kingdom Youth Officer:** Inquiries & applications should be sent to the Kingdom Seneschal. Open until filled.
- **Stallari Council Secretary:** Inquiries & applications should be sent to the Kingdom Seneschal. Letters of Intent due ASAP.
- **Emergency Deputy Kingdom Chronicler:** Inquiries & applications should be sent to the Kingdom Chronicler. Open until filled.
- **Emergency Deputy Kingdom Exchequer:** Inquiries & applications should be sent to the Kingdom Exchequer. Open until filled.
- **Kingdom Archivist/Historian:** Inquiries & applications should be sent to the Kingdom Chronicler. Open until filled.
- **Northwatch Editor:** Inquiries & applications should be sent to the Kingdom Chronicler. Letters of Intent are due 5/1/2025.
- **Deputy Northwatch Editor:** Inquiries & applications should be sent to the Kingdom Chronicler. Open until filled.
- **Western, Central, & Eastern Regional Deputy SMOs:** Inquiries & applications should be sent to the Kingdom Chronicler.



"ALBERTI DVRERI
 PICTORIS ET
 ARCHITECTI
 PRAESTANTISSIMI
 DE VRBIBVS..." BY
 ALBRECHT DURER,
 GERMANY, 1535 CE
 COURTESY OF THE
 MET MUSEUM (NY)



DEAR ABBESS:

I am a member in good standing of the Dyer's Guild in Venice and I have several young apprentices. The terms of their apprenticeship contracts stipulate that I am required to instruct them, house them, feed and clothe them, and also keep them clean. While most of these requirements are clear and easy enough to satisfy, I am struggling with how to "keep them clean." In the course of their duties, they are routinely stained blue and covered with urine, as am I. My question for you is this: how clean do they have to be for me

to uphold the terms of the contract? I myself am somewhat accustomed to these odors. Do I need independent verification of their cleanliness? And what do you recommend for cleansing them?

—VEXED IN VENICE

DEAR VEXED,



So long as they are kept clean enough that their health is not endangered and you are not offended by their odors, you need not worry excessively. See to it that they wash their hands and face with clean water daily, particularly before meals. Make sure they bathe weekly and ensure that they wear fresh linen underwear with the same frequency that you yourself do. In short, hold them to the same standards as you hold yourself to, and

through your own actions, demonstrate proper behavior — just as you demonstrate how a person should properly conduct themselves in all other aspects of the dyer's trade. If you have concerns about odors, you may also try scented water for washing the hands before meals. I recommend the following recipe, published in *Le Ménagier de Paris*, a helpful general household guidebook published in France in 1393. The author suggests boiling water with an herb such as sage, chamomile, marjoram, bay leaves, or even rosemary and orange peel. Strain the water and let it cool, then use it to wash your apprentices' hands (and probably yours too).

—ABBESS

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE TYPES OF CONTRACTS BETWEEN APPRENTICES AND MASTERS UNDER THE RENAISSANCE-ERA VENETIAN GUILD SYSTEM, TAKE A LOOK AT APPRENTICESHIP, WORK, SOCIETY IN EARLY MODERN VENICE EDITED BY ANNA BELLAVITIS AND VALENTINA SAPIENZA THIS INCREDIBLY IN-DEPTH BOOK, OR READ MORE ONLINE: COLAVIZZA, GIOVANNI & CELLA, RICCARDO & BELLAVITIS, ANNA. (2017). APPRENTICESHIP IN EARLY MODERN VENICE: https://www.researchgate.net/publication/318284139_Apprenticeship_in_Early_Modern_Venice.

Do you have a medieval problem or quandary? Send your message to northwatch@northshield.org and include "Dear Abbess" in the subject line to get some expert advice.

Book Recommendations

By Grainne Dhonn <kyria.thalia@gmail.com>

Medieval Kids Book Recommendations (for ages 8-12)

Fiction

- Crispin : the cross of lead by Avi (2002)

Crispin is a poor thirteen-year-old peasant in medieval England. Accused of a crime he did not commit, he has been declared a “wolf’s head,” meaning he may be killed on sight, by anyone. He flees his tiny village with nothing but his mother’s cross of lead. In the English countryside, Crispin meets a man named Bear, who forces Crispin to become his servant yet encourages him to think for himself. But as Crispin’s enemies draw ever closer, he is pulled right into the fortress of his foes, where he must find a way to save their very lives.

-The Midwife’s Apprentice by Karen Cushman (1995)

The girl known only as Brat has no family, no home, and no future until she meets Jane the Midwife and becomes her apprentice. As she helps the sharp-tempered Jane deliver babies, Brat – who renames herself Alyce – gains knowledge, confidence, and the courage to want something from life: a full belly, a contented heart, and a place in this world.

- The Beatryce Prophecy by Kate DiCamillo (2021)

In a time of war, a mysterious child appears at the monastery of the Order of the Chronicles of Sorrowing. Gentle Brother Edik finds the girl, Beatryce, curled in a stall, wracked with fever, coated in dirt and blood, and holding fast to the ear of Answelica the goat. As the monk nurses Beatryce to health, he uncovers her dangerous secret, one that imperils them all – for the king of the land seeks just such a girl, and Brother Edik, who penned the prophecy himself, knows why.

-The Inquisitor’s Tale: Or, The Three Magical Children and Their Holy Dog By Adam Gidwitz, Hatem Aly (2016)

1242. On a dark night, travelers from across France cross paths at an inn and begin to tell stories of three children. William, an oblate on a mission from his monastery; Jacob, a Jewish boy who has fled his burning village; and Jeanne, a peasant girl who hides her prophetic

visions. They are accompanied by Jeanne’s loyal greyhound, Gwenforte...recently brought back from the dead. On the run to escape prejudice and persecution and save precious and holy texts from being burned, their quest drives them forward to a final showdown at Mont Saint-Michel, where all will come to question if these children can perform the miracles of saints.

- A Ceiling Made of Eggshells by Gail Carson Levine (2020)

Surrounded by her large family, Loma is happy living in the judería of Alcalá de Henares, Spain, and wants nothing more than to someday have a family of her own. Still, when her intimidating grandfather, her Belo, decides to bring her along on his travels, she’s excited to join him. Belo has the ear of King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella, and Loma relishes her adventures with him, adventures that are beyond the scope of most girls of the time. She soon learns just how dangerous the world is for the Jews of Spain, and how her grandfather’s influence keeps their people safe.

- The Mad Wolf’s Daughter by Diane Magras (2018)

In 1210 Scotland, when invading knights capture 12-year-old Drest’s father, the Mad Wolf of the North, and her beloved brothers who make up his fearsome warband, she sets off to rescue them from the castle prison, taking along a wounded knight as her captive to trade for her family’s freedom.

- Queen of the Sea by Dylan Meconis (2019)

When her sister seizes the throne, Queen Eleanor of Albion is banished to a tiny island off the coast of her kingdom, where the nuns of the convent spend their days peacefully praying, sewing, and gardening. But the island is also home to Margaret, a mysterious young orphan girl whose life is upturned when the cold, regal stranger arrives. As Margaret grows closer to Eleanor, she grapples with the revelation of the island’s sinister true purpose as well as the truth of her own past. When Eleanor’s life is threatened, Margaret is faced with a perilous choice between helping Eleanor and protecting herself.

- The Book of Boy by Catherine Gilbert Murdock (2018)

Boy has always been relegated to the outskirts of his small village. With a hump on his back, a mysterious past, and a tendency to talk to animals, he is often mocked by others in his town – until the arrival of a shadowy pilgrim named Secundus. Impressed with Boy’s climbing and jumping abilities, Secundus engages Boy as his servant, pulling him into an action-packed and suspenseful expedition across Europe to gather seven precious relics of Saint Peter. Boy quickly realizes this journey is not an innocent one. They are stealing the relics and accumulating dangerous enemies in the process. But Boy is determined to see this pilgrimage through until the end - for what if St. Peter has the power to make him the same as the other boys?

- Sigurd and His Brave Companions by Sigrid Undset (2013)

Inspired by tales of the hero Vilmund Vidutan and his fellow knights, Sigurd Jonsson and his young friends Ivar and Helge set out to reenact these exploits on their medieval Norwegian farm. They carve swords and lances and spend hours making shields. With a little imagination, a pasture becomes a battlefield, an old boar their greatest foe, and they pass many hours jousting and dueling. But when the summer is nearly over, the three boys stumble into real trouble and must prove their courage in an adventure all their own.

Non-Fiction

- Stephen Biesty’s Cross-sections Castle by Stephen Biesty (2019)

Slicing through different areas of a medieval fortress, extraordinary views reveal the people busy inside, preparing for battle as an enemy army approaches. Find out what it takes to build a massive 14th-century castle, dress a knight in armor, or prepare a feast fit for a king or queen. From the drawbridge to the dungeon, the castle swarms with the people who keep it going – the workers, craftsmen, and servants.

- Who Wants to Be a Princess? What It Was Really Like to Be a Medieval Princess by Bridget Heos (2017)

Did you ever wish to be a princess? Have you ever wanted to wear a pretty pink gown, sing to your forest animal friends, and attend a fancy fairy-tale ball? Then meet Beatrice – she’s a princess from the Middle Ages. Beatrice is out to set the record straight. Pink gown? More like itchy wool! Sing to animals? Think archery and horseback riding instead. Beatrice’s life is no fairy tale, but she will show you that fact can sometimes be more fascinating than fantasy.

- *Outrageous Women of the Middle Ages* by Vicki Leon (1998)

Some were feisty and fiery. Others were cool and dangerous. All were incredibly courageous. *Outrageous Women of The Middle Ages* took on the challenge of their world – and didn't worry about ruffling a few feathers.

- *Castle: How it Works* by David Macaulay (2012)

Every part of the castle has a function. Walls keep the enemy out. Towers protect the lord and the soldiers. From the moat and portcullis to the great hall and dungeon, see how a castle works as an enemy army tries to storm the walls.

- *Minecraft Exploded Builds: Medieval Fortress* by Mojang AB (2016)

Have you ever wanted to create your own legendary medieval kingdom to rule over? Learn how to design, build, and customize every part of your castle and the surrounding area, from sturdy walls and deadly traps to dank, dark dungeons and sprawling villages. Each build has an exploded view to show you exactly which blocks to use, plus extra ideas to make every part of your kingdom unique.

- *Craco: the Medieval Ghost Town* by Lisa Owings (2017)

Craco’s historical happenings hint at a curse. The town faced a plague, then war, then earthquakes and landslides. In the end, the natural disasters dealt the final blow, causing Craco to physically collapse. Discover a medieval town that eventually lost its uphill battle for survival.

- *Knightology: Being a True Account of the Most Valiant Knights, of Their Great Chivalry and Wondrous Feats of Arms* by Dugald A. Steer (2017)

From the secret order of Round Table Knights comes a tell-all guide to the mythical occupation of knighthood – its history, mysterious quests, and puzzles that live on to this day. Inspired by the life of a most exemplary knight, this

fascinating book explores the art of mastering sword and lance, the essential (and prohibitively expensive) war-horse, the ins and outs of a castle that a knight might defend, and the skills needed to prevail in a jousting tournament, with all its pageantry.

- *The Thrifty Guide to Medieval Times a Handbook for Time Travelers* by Johnathan W. Stokes (2019)

A snappy, informative, illustrated travel guide with everything the sensible time traveler needs to know, like:

* Where I can find the best hovel?

* What are my healthcare options if I catch the Black Plague?

* How can I avoid being attacked by pillaging Huns?

* And most importantly, why on earth would anyone want to travel back to medieval times?

- *Gross Facts About the Middle Ages* by Mira Vonne (2017)

From leftover trenchers and stinky chamber pots to barber surgeons and the black plague, life could be really miserable for people during medieval times. Get ready to explore the nasty side of life in the Middle Ages.



Romances and “Romances” of Adventure (freely available on Project Gutenberg)

- *The Greek Romances of Heliodorus, Longus and Achilles Tattius* by Achilles Tattius et al. (c. 1st c. CE) <https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/55406> A collection of stories of romance and adventure.

- *Guingamor, Lanval, Tyolet, Bisclaveret: Four lais* by Marie de France (12th c. CE) <https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/46234> A collection of stories of adventure, romance, and the supernatural.

- *Layamon’s Brut* by Layamon (12th c. CE) <https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/14305> An early history of Britain and its legendary origins from Brutus to King Arthur to medieval times.

- *Parzival: A Knightly Epic* by Wolfram von Eschenbach (early 13th c. CE) <https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/47297> The quests of the knight Parzival and his search for the Holy Grail.

- *Cliges: A Romance* by Chrétien de Troyes (12th c. CE) <https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/2414> Cliges, a Greek knight at King Arthur's court and his love for his aunt.

- *Torrent of Portyngale* (15th c. CE) <https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/35190> The quests of the knight Torrent for the favor of the fair Desonelle.

- *Hypnerotomachia Poliphili: The Strife of Loue in a Dreame* by Francesco Colonna (late 15th c. CE) <https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/18459> A fantasy of a quest for love taking place in the realm of dreams.

- *Orlando Furioso* by Lodovico Ariosto (1516 CE) <https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/615> The madness of the knight Orlando during the war between King Charlemagne and King Agramant.

- *The History of Don Quixote de la Mancha* by Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra (1605 CE) <https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/35993> The confused adventures of Don Quixote, who fancies himself a medieval knight.



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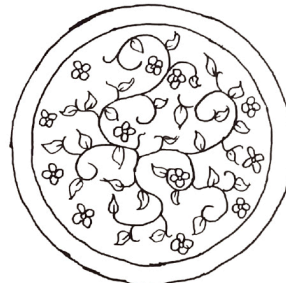
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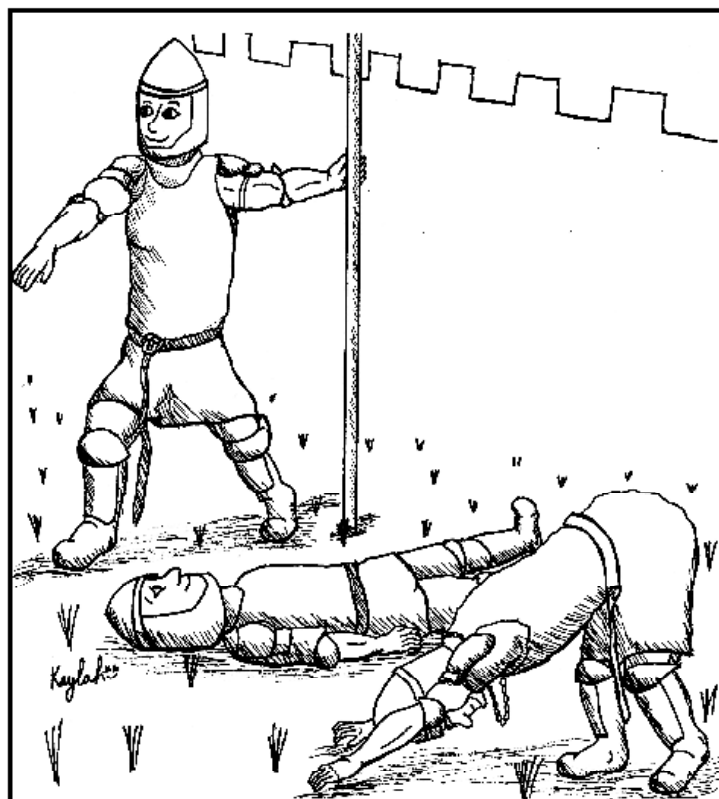
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To report a change of officer or contact info

(address, phone, etc.), please contact your kingdom superior - the Change of Officer form on the website is only for new, incoming officers. **New seneschals** must also send the appropriate paperwork to the Kingdom Seneschal to be listed.

Parallax by Duchess Kaylah the Cheerful



Post battle yoga:
warrior pose, corpse pose, and
downward facing duke.