



# The Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc.

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March 8, 2024

From: John Fulton, President of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc.  
To: Participants of the Society  
Re: President's Board Report

Greetings everyone,

Please find below my report, from the Board of Director's meeting, held on January 28, 2024. A recording of the meeting should be available soon for viewing. Information on how to view the video of the meeting for those who are interested, can be found under "News/Events" on the SCA website.

My continual disclaimer: This report contains some highlights and information from the January 28, 2024 meeting. It has publishable summaries and commendations from all Society and Corporate officers that submitted reports. All officer summaries and commendations were placed in this report exactly as presented in the original reports.

Sanctions and other items done under Executive Session (the closed part of a Board meeting in which personnel and sensitive issues are discussed and handled) are at the end of this report.

Remember that this report does NOT replace the Minutes from the meeting. Approved Minutes from past meetings can be viewed by SCA members at <https://members.sca.org>, under Marketplace.

Here are other items of interest from the meeting.

## **Quarterly Meeting Schedule:**

When reviewing the following dates, please keep in mind that they are tentative and based on the current assumption that the meetings will be virtual. If a decision is made to hold a live meeting, the date will shift to a day earlier to allow for travel. All meetings, whether live or virtual, will be recorded for viewing at a later date.

1. April 14, 2024, Quarterly Board Meeting – Virtual (Tentative)
2. July 21, 2024, Quarterly Board Meeting – Virtual (Tentative)
3. October 20, 2024, Quarterly Board Meeting – Virtual (Tentative)

### **Tentative Conference Call Schedule:**

Two conference calls are currently scheduled this quarter. The dates of those calls are tentatively set for February 26, 2024 and March 25, 2024.

### **Status Changes Requiring Board Action:**

The Board acknowledged the creation of the following new groups:

1. Artemisia: Shire of Dragonmarch (Uintah Basin, Utah).
2. Artemisia: Shire of River Serponnde (Twin Falls, Idaho).
3. Atlantia: Shire of Ursus Bay (Craven and Pitt Counties, North Carolina).
4. Ealdormere: Shire of Champcorbeau (Chatham-Ken County, Ontario).

The Board also approved to dissolve the following groups at the request of the Society Seneschal:

1. East: Shire of Le Dragonet, (near Montreal, Quebec)
2. Middle Kingdom: Shire of BlackHawk (Rockford, IL)
3. Trimaris: Stronghold of Nan Crioich Tuatha (Jacksonville Beach/Mayport, FL)

### **Board Nominations**

As of the October 2023 meeting, there were forty-five (45) candidates on the list of Board nominees with fifteen (15) kingdoms represented. A breakdown by kingdom is as follows:

Æthelmearc	3	Ealdormere	0
An Tir	6	East	2
Ansteorra	0	Gleann Abhann	7
Artemisia	1	Lochac	1
Atenveldt	0	Meridies	1
Atlantia	5	Middle	6
Avacal	4	Northshield	1
Caid	2	Outlands	1
Calontir	3	Trimaris	2
Drachenwald	0	West	0

Of particular note, is that several kingdoms (Ansteorra, Atenveldt, Drachenwald, Ealdormere, and the West) currently have no representation. New nominations and commentary on current nominees are always encouraged. Questions should be sent to Board member Gabrielle Fisher at [recruiting@sca.org](mailto:recruiting@sca.org).

### **Board / Corporate / Society Officer Meet & Greet Panels**

Many thanks to the Kingdom of An Tir, the Barony of Blatha An Oir, and a consortium of Western Regional Baronial Family Members, for their hospitality at An Tir's 12<sup>th</sup> Night held January 12<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>.

A Board and Corporate/Society Officer Meet and Greet is currently scheduled to be held at Gulf Wars in the Kingdom of Gleann Abhann for Friday, March 15, 2024, from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm in Bede Hall.

The Board is currently looking for additional opportunities to set up meetings at different larger local, non-kingdom events. If any groups are interested in hosting one at their event, please send an email to the Executive Assistant at ea@sca.org for more information.

### **Requests for Commentary**

A large number of items were approved for submission to the membership and participants for commentary.

The following items have been or will be presented to the membership and participants for commentary. The proposals would normally be listed in this letter; however, due to large number, it was decided that the presentation of these items would be staggered to allow interested individuals time to consider each matter separately. Please refer to the News and Events page of the SCA website for additional information. <https://www.sca.org/news-events/>

Those items approved are as follows:

1. Corpora IV.A – Royalty Selection – revised proposal language;
2. Omnibus Peerage Proposal;
3. SCA Patron Membership;
4. Proposed Corpora changes eliminating Courts of Chivalry/Inquiry;
5. Proposed Corpora changes as to newsletter requirements for Officers;
6. Proposed Corpora changes as to newsletter access to the membership and participants;
7. Proposed Corpora changes regarding Rules of the List; and,
8. Proposed Corpora changes related to Marshallate activities;

### **Membership Fee Increases**

The SCA has not raised its membership fees in over a decade while business costs have continued to rise. As a result, it has become necessary to raise the SCA's membership fees. The following increases were approved effective February 15, 2024:

1. Sustaining Membership from \$45 a year to \$55 a year.
2. Associate membership price from \$30 to \$40 a year. (This represents a \$0.83 cents per-month increase over the previous monthly rate.)
3. Family Membership from \$10 a person a year to \$15 a person a year. Family membership will have a 3-person cap at \$15 a person. This means that anyone purchasing a Sustaining Membership can add Family Members for \$15 a year a person. After three Family memberships are purchased, there is no charge for additional Family memberships.

At this time the International Membership fee will remain \$56 per year.

### **Management of Email Lists**

Motion by Gabrielle Fisher to uphold the joint policy interpretation by the Society Webminister and the Society Communications and Social Media Officer, that while technical management of email lists remain under the Web Ministry, expected behaviors of people using them are consistent with Social Media expectations and the enforcement of contraventions of those behaviors remains with the Office of the Seneschal. Second by Krista Capps. Opposed: None. Absent: Jennifer Krochmal. Motion carried.

### **Laurel Principal Queen of Arms – Approved SENA Changes**

The following changes to SENA (Standards for Evaluation of Names and Armory) were approved either by motion or consensus:

1. Revised A3A2 “Fieldless Designs” to clarify how to avoid the appearance of presumption when using charges that otherwise might be considered a form of heraldic display such as hearts or lozenges.
2. Revised A3A3c “Augmentations of Honor”, based on period evidence, to allow augmentations through quartering to appear in either the first and fourth quarters or the second and third quarters of a device.
3. Revised A5E5 “Change of Posture of the Primary Charge Group” to clarify the difference granted for orientation/type between ordinaries.
4. Added examples to A5G1c “Change of Style of Partition Lines” to illustrate when difference is, and is not, counted when changing lines of division in multiply divided fields.
5. Revised PN1B2a “Attested Name Phrases” to clarify the recognition of name phrases from oral traditions as attested when the source cited uses scholarly standards. Examples of when such name elements can, and cannot, be used are included.
6. Revised PN1B2b “Constructed Name Phrases” to guide submitters on how to use name phrases reconstructed from pre-written languages.
7. Updated Appendices A, E4, G, and M to include patterns for Greek names in Egypt, additional household name designators, additional elements considered a step from core practice, and more information on conflict checking birds.
8. Updated Table 4 “Conventional ‘Proper’ Colorings” and Table 5 “Conventional S.C.A. Default Postures” to include yet more definitions for various charges such as opossums and leeks.
9. Added Table 7 “Default Arrangements” to clarify the default arrangements on a field for various numbers of different types of charges.

10. Updated links to online copies of sources in Appendix H “Sources That Do Not Require Photocopies to Laurel”.

11. Alternative Titles Revisions

### **Marshalate Handbook**

Motion by Pug Bainter to approve the revised and updated Armored Combat Marshal’s Handbook as requested by the Society Marshal. Second by: K.T. Sheppard. Opposed: None. Absent: Jennifer Krochmal. Motion carried.

### **Committee Dismissals**

Due to the completion of their assignments, both the Census Committee and the Peerage Committee were disbanded.

### **Ombudsman Assignments**

There were no changes to any ombudsman assignments. The current assignments can be found here: <https://www.sca.org/about/officers/#board> .

### **In closing:**

Again, please remember also, that the officers’ reports below are cut and pasted from the officers’ reports directly to this document.

Finally, if you have suggestions, comments, or questions, about this report please contact me at [president@sca.org](mailto:president@sca.org).

In service and respect,

John

John Fulton  
Duke John the Bearkiller  
President, Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc.  
[president@sca.org](mailto:president@sca.org)

### **OFFICER REPORTS:**

#### **President – John Fulton (John the Bearkiller)**

Commendations: I would like to say thank you to Jennifer Smith (Magistra Emma de Fetherstan) who is just stepping down as the Society’s Laurel Sovereign of Arms. Jennifer did an excellent job as Laurel and also made a focused and professional effort to maintain and update the policies which handle that highly important office and keep all those incredible heralds informed and organized. Thanks again Jennifer for all your work.

To Sam Davis (Thomas Blackmoore) SCA, Inc.’s Manager of Information Technology please

accept my grateful kudos for all you do for the organization and working so hard to help improve not only our communications but also for taking my calls at odd times and dispensing common sense in all areas tech related.

The work Caroline Richardson (Baroness Tetchubah of Greenlake) as Corporate Treasurer and Bonnie Stringer (Mistress Marcel Orillion) as Society Chancellor of the Exchequer have done in the last year maintaining the financial responsibilities of the organization, Kingdom, and groups was essential. Carolyn's leadership on the budget also has been necessary for the continued existence of the organization.

The above are just a small number of the good people who do magnificent work at all levels of the Society. There are never enough thanks, hugs, or high fives to go around to those who work unselfishly for others.

Continued thanks to Charles, Travis, Carolyn, Brigid, Eben, Katie, Louise, Lis, Stacy, Laura, LLF, Marla, Nataalya and so many others for working with me on an almost daily basis and offering help when needed.

My April 2024 will most certainly have a more complete list of commendations.

**Publishable Summary:** As a benefit to Members of the SCA, Katie Gilroy (Lady Margery Heron) our Corporate Marketing officer and Travis Schenck (Lord Ramon De Javier) the SCA Librarian/Archivist are working on compiling material from multiple sources that might be interesting for Members on the SCA.org website. This has been in the works for a few months and hopefully there may be a starting date set by the January 2024 Board meeting for this project. Rights to all material must be obtained if possible, including all Archived items of course, and there will be a testing phase to ensure this can be done through the website with no hindrance to users. You would log into the SCA.org as a member and this material would be available to you.

Please keep in mind that the SCA Archives is a resource that can be utilized by anyone, and Travis will continue to help with any inquiries he receives. He has more plans in the works for this valuable resource beyond the member benefit project. But there are many suggestions on ways to fully utilize the website and adding something that may be an additional plus to being a member of the Society is a goal that is a positive one to pursue.

The SCA will be going through some interesting officer changes on the Corporate and Society level in 2024. The last couple of years have made it obvious that now is the time to perhaps reimagine how to assist and perhaps redefine the roles of some offices and what those jobs should be doing. That may be in the creation of new positions at the Society level such as the possible addition of a Society DEIB office, (which will require a change to Corpora of course) and others but 2024 will also see a new Society Seneschal and a new President in those positions.

It has been an especially rough three years for all of us, but it has also been a challenge for SCA, Inc. the business. As mentioned earlier in my current report's Request for Board action area the cost of an SCA membership has not risen in over a dozen years. Membership numbers dipped between 2020 and 2021 and though those numbers have gone up over the last two years the SCA still finds itself needing to address membership fees. The SCA, Inc. yearly budget was cut significantly in 2021 and carefully monitored in each year after. Travel for the Board and officers

was dropped for the most part and there has been only one in person Board meeting since January 2020. The SCA business office was moved in 2022 with a significant savings on rent and upkeep. But even with budgetary responsibility and some savings all other costs for operating a not for profit have continually gone up since the last membership fee increase. Kingdoms and groups understand this themselves as event fees have had to also be increased. SCA, Inc. has legal business (we pay for an independent audit yearly which has been going on I believe the last six years), insurance, salaries and stipends, and a host of other expenses that allow the SCA to function as a not-for-profit Corporation. Those costs have increased steadily.

The increase is reasonable in my opinion considering how long it's been since our last bump.

There are many areas of Corpora that will be open to review in 2024 as well as updates on several Society officer Handbooks. This January 2024 meeting will be a starting point for some of those changes by several Society officers. I believe that the trend of reviewing our rules, method of doing business, and considerations of fundamental needed change will continue this coming year.

### **Manager for Information Technology – Sam Davis (Thomas Blackmoore)**

Commendations: None.

Publishable Summary: After a busy 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter has shown a relative slowdown. Work continues on the IT policy document. Three more people have joined the working group to give us a fresh perspective on the draft document. The Office 365, Exchange, and SharePoint migration project is scheduled to kickoff January 23<sup>rd</sup>. That is when we will meet with Tech Impact, the contractor performing the work on behalf of Tech Soup.

### **Communications & Social Media - Brigid Costello (Anne de Tournai)**

Commendations: The Gleann Abhann Reaper Challenge was a success. A BIG thank you to Sir Titus Lupinus who supplied content for his Kingdom. Content was shared on YOUTUBE and TikTok

A big thank you to Mistress Rosalind bint Mihrimah who by the time of this meeting will have completed a wonderful term as Kingdom Social Media Officer for Gleann Abhann

The Calontir Social Media team are working with the RUSH Minister and Chatelaine on virtual classes.

Lady Margery Heron for her continuing work as Marketing Deputy – thank you for all your ideas and actions.

The Trimarid Discord has grown! The team have been heavily promoting it during the last couple of reigns and it has shown. We're excited to see what the new Deputy Lord Konrad does in his care of it.

Their Majesties of Trimaris have been super supportive in the promotion of Their Kingdom's social media platforms. They have created and pushed out various promotional materials with links to our online spaces provided. An example is business cards to hand out to new people at fighter practices and demos that have QR codes on them linking to our Discord, Facebook, and Website.

Heraldic QR Codes with links to local group social media outlets have been created for most of the Trimaris local groups at this time. It has helped tremendously with recruitment efforts. Congrats to all involved

My thanks as always to Katie, John, Charles, Lis, Leslie, Sam and Nicholas and all the amazing content creators across the Known World who continue to communicate the opportunities and benefits inherent in our community.

**Publishable Summary:** Effective communication creates trust and builds understanding. In 2023, the Communications team will continue to work with officers and participants across the Known World to build the understanding of the mechanics of our organisation, realise opportunities to improve it and continue to learn and grow. We thank everyone who has provided feedback and assistance with the improvements that have been made so far and those we will make in the future.

### **Society DEI Officer – Charles Burk (Charles de Bourbon)**

**Commendations:** None.

**Publishable Summary:** This quarter has been a busy quarter for DEIB in the SCA. We delivered an assessment and recommendation for a new LMS to the board in November. The Known World Chatelaine Symposium, Dec, 2023 featured a DEIB track focused on resources for Chatelaines, which was part of the items the board approved in April. The first annual Known World DEI Collegium is occurring in Jan, 2024 hosted by the Kingdom of An Tir. I attended Ansteorra's Coronation in October to hold DEIB listening sessions and meet with the Queen. I will be facilitating the board and officer meet and greet at An Tir's 12<sup>th</sup> night.

### **Vice President for Operations (Society Seneschal) - Lis Schraer (Elasait ingen Diarmata)**

**Commendations:** Robyn Bainter (Mistress Myfanwy ferch Eifion) stepped down in November 2023 as Ansteorra's kingdom seneschal. During her tenure Robyn oversaw the early days of the new Principality of Vindheim, various changes to Ansteorra kingdom law, and some crises and issues that might have daunted lesser humans. Through it all she displayed courtesy and professionalism. Here's hoping she can enjoy family and personal pursuits for awhile!

Kendra DeVaughn (Mistress Kendra Dey) ended her term as kingdom seneschal of Gleann Abhann in December 2023. Kendra stepped into the job after a couple of shorter terms and had some clean-up to do simply because of that fact. She oversaw the resumption of Gulf Wars as the SCA's first large multi-kingdom event to occur following the pandemic shutdown and displayed a cool head when issues emerged, as well as beginning a needed review of kingdom laws. Kendra has held several positions recently and I hope she can also enjoy more personal pursuits for a little while.

Louise Smithson (Mistress Helewysse de Birkestad) also ended her term as the Middle Kingdom seneschal in December 2023. Helewysse's good humor and no-nonsense approach helped her kingdom run smoothly during her tenure, and she worked to streamline procedures and help small groups recover after the pandemic. I know she has many interests to pursue in "retirement".

Mandy Grayson (Mistress Attia Prima) will, by the time this report is shared, have turned over the office of kingdom seneschal of An Tir after three fairly tumultuous years. An Tir is one of the largest kingdoms in both territory and population, and Attia worked hard to keep everything running smoothly as we emerged from the pandemic and beyond. I hope she enjoys a well-deserved break.

Kingdom Seneschal is a very important job that often goes unrecognized. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with all four of these ladies and I wish them well in all future endeavors.

From the kingdoms I have the following commendations:

An Tir: Principality Summits Seneschal Seamus steps down in December. He is ready to be done. I can't say how much I appreciated his humor, and levity he brought while in the office. I had the privilege to work with him, and can honestly say he taught me more than me him. He would be an asset to any office....if you can get him to do another office.

Atlantia: I found the value of a good emergency deputy, Edan Lowery. Also, I would like to commend my regional deputies, Mistress Avice Claremond (Maryland), Tiama Lughaidh O' Murchadha (Virginia), Lord Alesander Davison (North Carolina) and Dame Morwenna Trevethan (South Carolina/Georgia). They have been doing a great job running the Baronial Pollings, of which we have had many this year, and being my first responders when there is an issue in their area. I can't do it without them!

Caid: We held the extremely successful 25th Anniversary Great West War in October. The War Stewards, Sir Gavin MacDhomhnuill and Mistress Cara Michelle DuValier, deserve recognition for their service and dedication to event and the kingdom.

Northshield: THL Gal Mergen has had great ideas on getting others to contribute and participate. Including having long time members participate in a jumble sale to help newer members get more gear that is "SCA". Syr Hjorleif Ottarrson has been a fresh air for the UP group and has been a calming force. He is an excellent member of the SCA. Master Farolfus filius Richardi for helping solve a missing step in our inclusiveness on event packets. He was a guiding light in making a quick revision.

Publishable Summary: The SCA abides. Most kingdom seneschals are reporting that events, local activities, and participation numbers are returning to pre-COVID levels, albeit somewhat unevenly in places. In some places with college/university proximity, I'm hearing reports of increased participation and interest from those communities. As someone who originally found the SCA as a college student, I love this news.

On a very hopeful note, for the first time during my 3+ years in this office, I am reporting more

newly official branches than requested dissolutions.

At the same time, I hear of the occasional person or group of people who apparently decide that it's "too much trouble" to put effort into helping young, new members "because they will just leave and go somewhere else." I would remind everyone that this has always been the way of things. We are a mobile society—small s—and some people move elsewhere with the skills and SCA culture they've learned, while others move in with what they've learned in other places. In this way is our organization pollinated.

Finally, please thank a volunteer at your next event. Whether it's a gate worker, a feast server, a marshal, or the person sweeping the hall after the event—so many people make large and small efforts to keep our beloved game going. All those efforts are valuable. And if you are one of those volunteers, thank you.

**Society Chatelaine – Michelle Hays (Jeanne-Marie la Verriere),**

No report this quarter.

**Society Youth Officer – Michelle Santy (Amytis de la Fontaine)**

Commendations: None.

**Publishable Summary:** Society Youth Activity Officers are meeting regularly to discuss ways of improving classes and activities for all ages, safely. We are actively working on different ideas and ways to get a variety of resources to parents, and officers to help with organizing, promoting and creating an inclusive atmosphere for all ages within the Society. These resources are including handbooks, web links, articles, games, and classes for youth and families.

**Vice President for Corporate Operations – Louise Du Cray**

Commendations: Commendations and well wishes are in order for Mazelle Attiya (Alysia Gabrielle De Fourgeres) who has stepped down after serving in the Society for many years, as Corporate Treasurer and then our dedicated Accounting Specialist. I wish her much rest and relaxation!

My thanks as always to Treasurer Carolyn Richardson (Baroness Tetchubah of Greenlake) and Exchequer Bonnie Stringer (Mistress Marcel Orillion) for their fierce and constant work at overseeing the finances of the Society on both the Corporate and Kingdom levels.

And to our new Society Marshal, Dr. Melissa Midzor (Maestra Arabella da Siena), for all the work she is doing to update and streamline the digital presence of the Office of the Marshal.

**Publishable Summary:**

Following the completion of long-overdue system upgrades, the fourth quarter was relatively quiet. We look forward to a year of refining and formalizing processes. Out next planned projects include the reorganization of our corporate file-sharing structure, and an updated method to order and track insurance certificate requests.

Insurance certificate requests are at an all-time high – events have definitely bounced back since the beginning of the pandemic, and then some. The final count for 2023 was 709 unique certificates (which does not include the 91) certificates processed in December for 2004). This is an 56% increase from 2022, and 16% more than the average annual number for the five years prior.

Year	# of Certificates Processed
2004	130
2023	709
2022	453
2021	212
2020	244
2019	618
2018	635
2017	638
2016	569
2015	591

The 2022 Audit is in the final states of completion.

We are maintaining an Inbox-Zero level on memberships @sca.org. All membership emails received during business hours are handled that day, and messages received during off-time are responded to within one business day. Most membership issues can be handled in minutes. As a reminder, please treat the Corporate office and all Officers with the same courtesy and respect you would show any fellow noble.

We have produced a comprehensive series of videos as a visual aid to help members navigate through the member portal. These are available upon request and will be hosted live on the Member Portal FAQ very soon.

As always, please reach out to us at [membership@sca.org](mailto:membership@sca.org) if you have questions or need assistance with your membership;; at [insurance@sca.org](mailto:insurance@sca.org) for insurance questions and certificate requests; and for background check matters please contact [backgroundchecks@sca.org](mailto:backgroundchecks@sca.org) or your Kingdom Seneschal.

### **Publications Manager - Gloria Woodard (Honor of Restormel)**

Commendations: Kudos to Travis Schenck (Lord Ramon de Javier ) for the exceptional amount of work and innovation he has done with the Archives. He has settled into the job beautifully and is highly productive. Thanks to all members of the Publications Team for continuing to provide wonderful publications to the benefit of the SCA community.

Publishable Summary: The Publication Team continues to provide quality, informative publications for the SCA community. Submissions of artwork and articles are always welcome. To contribute, please contact your local or Kingdom Chronicler, or the Editors of Compleat Anachronist or Tournaments Illuminated. The new Archivist (Travis Schenck/Lor Ramon de Javier) has settled and is making wonderful progress wading through the decades of history in the archives.

### ***Tournaments Illuminated* - Dar'C O'Neal (Riordan MacGregor)**

Commendations: My thanks as always to the fine folks who provide *Tournaments Illuminated* with its wonderful content, to the staff who help produce each issue, and to the SCA Publications team who provide matchless support. *Tournaments Illuminated* would not be what it is without you.

Publishable Summary: *Tournaments Illuminated* Issue 221 is going to press. Issues 222 and 223 are in production.

### ***Compleat Anachronist* - Ellen Rawson (Ariel of Lindisfarne)**

Commendations: Thank you to Sara Rossi and Daniel Phelps for CA 202, *The Lucet Compendium*. Daniel previously wrote CA 151: *The Three Nights of Daniel Du Pau*, and he has now turned his attention to lucet. He “met” Sara Rossi via the internet, and they have collaborated on this CA. Sara has written the lucet history section, and he is responsible for the ‘how to’ part. Sara is not officially in the SCA and is wishing that there were an official group in Italy. I have put her in touch with people in Drachenwald who may be able to help her. Many thanks to both of them. Thanks also to E.C. "Stan" Field, who created the illustrations for Phelps’s practical section. Elise Fleming completed her usual fantastic copy editing, and I have no doubt that Sue Gilbert’s layout expertise will make this book superb.

Publishable Summary: ***Current Issue:*** 2024 Q4 CA 202 *The Lucet Compendium*

Several techniques for making braids with fingers or tools have existed for thousands of years, many of which are still in use today. The lucet is said to be one of those braiding tools of ancient origin, a device used to help speed up a process that could be done on the fingers of one’s hand but is nowadays mainly given over to machinery. A lucet is a handheld tool whose main features are two prongs, or horns, on top. Those two protruding finials are used to braid a cord whose length is not predetermined; crafters can freely establish the desired length as they go without the need to pre-cut the yarn. Lucet-made cords are square in sections, slightly elastic, and strong. They can be used for a variety of purposes, from practical uses like laces and bag handles to ornamental purposes such as jewelry and embellishments.

Although many people in the SCA use lucets to create cords, the history of the lucet is rather unclear, with archaeologists and researchers disagreeing with each other in various ways.

Part I of *The Lucet Compendium* explores what we think we know and what we do not know for sure about the origin and the evolution of the lucet. Part II is the practical section, detailing how to use a lucet to make various types of cords. Learn about the history of the lucet and then try it out for yourself!

### **Society Chronicler – Krystal Smith (Cecilia Blythe)**

Commendations: None.

**Publishable Summary:** Thanks to all the kingdom chroniclers for their work! Special thanks to Countess Honor for being a great boss and resource!

### **Society Archivist Travis Schenck (Ramon De Javier)**

**Commendations:** The Archive would like to thank Melinda Sherbring known in the society as Mistress Eowyn Amberdrake for her permission to digitize “The SCA Book of Questions”

The Archive would like to thank Pam Perryman known in the Society as Her Excellency Yseult of Broceliande for her consultation on digitizing works in the “Elf Hill Times Song Book”

The Archive wishes to express gratitude to the Merewyn of Ynys Taltraeth Chronicler of the Barony of Wintergate for sending published copies of the Gatekeeper regularly to the archive. We look forward to receiving it in the mail.

**Publishable Summary:** Currently the archive continues its mission to collect newsletters and other documents associated with the SCA. Efforts are underway to select publications to help create a sampler archive for members to access as an added value of membership in the future. Part of this work has been ascertaining copyright of certain work and reaching out to those copyright holders to obtain permission to digitize and publish those works online. Should any creator, author, or copyright holder wish to donate their document for online publication please reach out to the archive at [archivist@sca.org](mailto:archivist@sca.org)

### **Corporate Treasurer – Caroline Richardson (Tetchubah of Greenlake)**

**Commendations:** I would like to commend Mazelle Attiya for her more than 17 years of service to the SCA as our treasurer and accounting specialist. Mazelle has wisely elected to move on in her professional career and has resigned from all her offices at the corporate level. She’s leaving some very big shoes to fill for such a small person.

**Publishable Summary:** The Treasurer’s report is once again a tale of doom and gloom regarding the state of our finances. We are still in the process of completing the audit of the 2022 books for the SCA as a whole, and with Mazelle’s impending departure it is likely that the revised workbooks will be later than usual getting back to the kingdoms, which will start us off late for 2023’s audit and tax preparation. It appears very likely that our losses for 2024 will be even greater, putting us into the red again. I urge the Board strongly to consider ways to stem the flow of red ink and this needs to be given priority, otherwise in a couple of years there may not be an SCA to need a Board.

### **Society Exchequer - Bonnie Stringer (Marcel Orillion)**

**Commendations:** Many thanks to Dawn Reed for serving as Outlands Exchequer – she stepped out and right back in office. Her successor is doing well. Thanks to David Harvill. He served as East Kingdom’s Exchequer for several years. Welcome Susan Sackett as Society PayPal deputy. Many thanks to Mazelle for 17 years of service as Corp Treasurer and the tax specialist.

**Publishable Summary:** Kingdom’s, War’s and groups all need to remain vigilant with income and spending. Keep expenses within budgets when possible. Please remember we

need to publish Kingdom and group budgets. Finances should be transparent. All expenses have increased. Cost to attend events will also increase to cover expenses. There will be open office hours the second Wednesday of the month that Kingdom and local exchequers & seneschals are welcome to attend. Please remember to use the new NMR form as of January 1, 2024.

### **Laurel Principal Queen of Arms – Jennifer Smith (Emma de Fetherstan)**

**Commendations** We want to commend two heralds this month for adding to our store of optional titles for different languages: Kallinikos Gavras, Rouge Scarpe Herald of the Midrealm for his research on Nahuatl titles; and Nest verch Gwilim, Crane Herald of Atlantia for her work updating Welsh titles.

I'd like to commend all the Board ombudsmen I've had the pleasure of working with: Dan Watson (Bartholemew Hightower), Alaric Drake (Craig Carter), and Phelim Gervaise (Pug Bainter). You've all been very supportive and a joy to work with. I'd also especially like to thank Sam for being indulgent and understanding with the technology terror that heralds can be, and Lis for all the support and advice of the more "fun" aspects of being a Society officer.

I could not have done this job, of course, without the support of my staff and fellow heralds: my predecessor Juliana who naturally gave good advice; my invaluable sovereigns Oddr and Iago and Elizabeth, without whom I definitely couldn't have done this work; the machines that are Thorkell and Jeanne Marie and Lilie and Shauna and now Ollivier and Helena; the more behind-the-scenes folks like Herveus and Istvan and Reis, without whom none of this would be online; Cormac and Ragna for all the artwork; all of our previous sovereigns and senior heralds and new heralds alike who are engaged and researching and advising and hopefully having fun while still learning. Heraldry is a team sport, and ya'll are my team.

**Publishable Summary:** As I write this, the Virtual Known World Heraldic and Scribal Symposium has not yet occurred but will be on its last day when the board meeting is held. Many thanks to the staff, drawn from several kingdoms, for holding what I am sure will be yet another fantastic event.

The next in-person KWHSS will be held the weekend of June 29-30, 2024 in the Kingdom of the East. Hosted by the Bailiwick of Iveyrust, the event will be held at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, PA. More information coming soon!

### **Marshal – Melissa Midzor (Arabella da Siena)**

**Commendations:** *The Society Marshal* would like to give a hearty thanks to Sam David (SCA IT), Marla Lecin (SCA Webmaster), and Brigid Costello (SCA Communications), and Leslie Luther-Fulton (EA BoD) for all their help in getting the Society Marshal's office set up so quickly. This included numerous new accounts and change-overs, finding lost files and account accesses, many warrants, and recruiting and promoting our new deputies and activities.

*The Deputy Society Marshal for Armored Combat* commends Sir Davin Kinnaird MacAilean (KEM of Caid) and his team for a well run Great Western War.

*The Deputy Society Marshal for Equestrian* would like recognize Earl Edward Ian Anderson (KEO of AnTir) for his work in creating ways to motivate equestrians to continue their activities despite

the issues we have with increased gas prices and distance across the kingdom. He created a way to do a kingdom championship that would extend through-out the year, and would be done in each of the participants' local area, then reported to him to keep track. The first year had 14 participants!

*The Deputy Society Marshal for Thrown Weapon* commends Eadgyth aet Staeningum, Ranulf of IDD, Onora Glencairn. These members of the East Kingdom are taking lead on the development and presenting virtual Thrown Weapons Marshal classes in Tir Mara. Tir Mara has few TW marshals and a large geographical area so this program is assisting in creating more marshals with our Canadian members. This program may help becoming a TW marshal an easier process.

*The Deputy Society Marshal for Rebated Blades* commends Duchess Seonaid for helping me with research, and Arabella.

*The Deputy Society Marshal for Rapier* commends the Rules rewrite team-Master Simon Morcar, Master Aeron Harper, Master Donald MacDonald, Mistress Erny Ormarrsdottir. Together they are writing, and asking the "what about..." questions that will lead to a revised set of rules and marshals handbook. Also, helping get those new items formatted and sent to the Society Marshal and myself is the way too energetic Alesone Gray. A personal shout out to Master Miles (Ansteorra) for getting his report in 48 hours before his wedding.

*The Deputy Society Marshal for Youth Combat* would like to personally praise Ivor (of Gleann Abhann) and all those who helped run YC at War of the Rams. In Artemisia, high praise to the great YC team of Lady Isabel Cordera, THL Baron Morgan the Bald, Lady Hextilda Frederici, Milady Anna Elizabeth Sasson, Milord Wulfgar Steinhauer, THL Lord Ramon de Javier, Lady Freydis Bjornsdóttir, Sir Roger de Palermo and also Milord Jak Graeme of Ardmoor. From Aethelmarc, Ld Abelard recognized Antolin el Tunante de Trebugos and Luftwine Byrnsmiþ in the Shire of Inner Sea, especially for their welcoming approach to practice. I'd also like to recognize Oda Umi for her superb work in Midrealm building Youth Rapier there, and she has just finished their new YR Manual. She wanted to recognize Master Anton du Marais, a previous Deputy Earl Marshal for youth rapier who taught her everything she needed to make Youth Rapier really successful there. She also praises Lord Bartelmeu Le Wis whose consistent on time reporting, communication and interest stands out way above all the other marshals in my Kingdom. She also praised the Middle Kingdom Earl Marshal, Duke Cellach MacChormach for being a wonderful teacher, leader, and motivator. From the East Kingdom, Mathghamhain praised Karrah the Mischievous and Eikaterine tin Elliniki, and so do I!, They have continued to do fantastic work for the Youth Combat kids there, and as always I saw the miracles they worked at Pennsic 50 like so many other times!

*The Deputy Society Marshal for Siege* - I would like to give my thanks to Dirk Edward of Frisia of the Middle kingdom. His reporting is always very through and informative. His was the best I received this quarter.

Publishable Summary:

New Deputy Society Marshals: Target Archery, Adam Burnham (Master Viði Hovdestad); Thrown Weapons, Jon Libby (THL Pandaulf); (under DSM Rapier) Deputy Rapier Experiment, Wendy Marques (THL Panda)

New links on *SCA.org/Documents* for the Society Marshal's office. This will provide an easier and timely method for this office to disseminate information. They are:

What's New document,

Society Marshal reports (New Policies, Publishable summary, Commendation sections only)

Current experimental programs (including POC and status)

Other publicly releasable data (e.g. Participation data)

The Seasonal Society Archery Competition (the Lucky Shoot) concluded, with 184 archers from over 12 different kingdoms. Top 5 in each category included in Publishable Summary section.

Northshield – Now has Rebated Steel.

Atenedlt: Online Authorization system

AEthelmearc (Barony of Jararvellir) has amazing growth in Youth Combat, with almost every adult in armor taking turns to train a YC fighter.

East Kingdom - developing virtual Thrown Weapons Marshal classes.

## Projects

There are two major projects under way under the auspices of the Society Marshal Office.

Rules Modernization - Review and update all the Marshal handbooks and Corpora to better reflect the current programmatic structure and safety best practices.

### *Status:*

Draft Handbook template is 80% complete.

AC and C&T are drafting their rules into the new format as a pilot for review and comment with the KEMs and Deputies.

Chain of Command update in progress, incorporating input from the KEMs, and reconciling with Governing documents, officer policies.

Proposed changes to Corpora and Governing Document submitted for review.

Experimental Programs – Develop clear and detailed processes. Develop standard models/categories, based on risk and expected participation, that include measurable goals, go/no go criteria, and risk mitigation. Ensure quarterly review of progress and challenges.

*Status:* Current programs, POCs, and status will be posted on the new Marshal public folders on SCA.org. Folder is created and active.

General Status per Discipline

*Armored Combat:* As we move to feasting season in most kingdoms I encourage all fighters to look to their armor. Now is a good time to replace that strap, fix that rivet and repad that helm. Armored Combat rules rewrite is well underway and on track. I would like to give a huge thank you to the Marshals and Staff at Caid's Great Western War.

*Combat Archery:* Combat archery activities have mostly wound down during the past quarter. Some Kingdoms are reporting to me that they're having difficulties in recruiting individuals to qualify as combat archery marshals. It would be a good idea for each Kingdom to analyze what might be deterring individuals from becoming warranted marshals. They should also look at their procedures for training and warranting marshals to determine if this might be contributing to the issue.

*Equestrian Activities:* The equestrian program is slowly increasing again. We are having more events and practices than last year. We have been having great success with our online MIT zoom meetings. Still seeing some challenges to our participation this quarter due to increased gas prices, weather and contagious equine disease.

*Rapier Combat:* Experiments continuing in an organized and well controlled manner. This has many exciting possibilities for the future. Injuries appear down, unknown if this due to better comportment on field or folks hibernating early. Multiple folks as listed above have taken an active hand in helping improve things for all.

*Rebated Blade (Steel) Combat:* Work is underway to conduct a review of the rebated steel activities. This will include a weapons and armour review. We have been doing this for some time now and this would be a good time to see where and how we are doing.

*Siege:* The kingdoms have reported that siege is starting to pick back up which is good to hear. The Target Siege initial proposal of the rules is in progress.

*Target Archery:* 15 out of 20 kingdoms reporting. Planning additional outreach to ensure good contact information for the archery leader in each kingdom. Looking into improving reporting: sync time frames with other reports, time frame to report, and numbers (how, what, and why). Numbers are improving post-covid, but not quite back to 2019 activity. A common theme emerging from kingdom reports is that marshals are choosing not to renew membership and as a result marshal numbers are lower. In good news a number of kingdoms reported on new members to their Grant Orders and score improvements for their archers Royal Round scores. The shoot for this quarter was called the Lucky shoot, based on a period target with 25 scoring boxes, and had a total of 184 archers in Open Handbow, Period Handbow, Open Crossbow, Period Crossbow and Youth. There are 2 different society wide shoots that are available over the winter. The Society Seasonal Archery Challenge (SSAC), which runs for 3 months, and the Gwyntarian Winter Challenge which lasts 6 months.

*Thrown Weapons:* Thrown weapons is thriving through the SCA. Many areas report growing popularity and growth of the program. The East Kingdom is developing virtual Thrown Weapons Marshal classes, to assist in creating more marshals with our Canadian members. This program may help becoming a TW marshal an easier process.

*Youth Combat:* The eastern and northern Kingdoms are rapidly growing back to former activity levels, while the south and west have a ways to go. I expect once the 2023 holidays are over that we will begin to see YC at numerous events once more, especially with the excitement and interest I am seeing.

Experimental Programs – Status now on SCA.org/Document, Marshal section:  
<https://www.sca.org/resources/document-library/#marshal>

### **Minister of Arts and Sciences – Sarah M. Nobel McGee (Hildegard Bergerin)**

Commendations: I offer commendations to the following individual artisans, and in some cases groups:

I commend all Kingdom and local Arts and Sciences officers for their good work in the Arts and Sciences community. I am proud of everyone who facilitates, plans, and participates in A&S activities.

Congratulations to the winner of An Tir's Kingdom Bardic Competition, Margaret inghean Domnail.

Commendations to Master Hrólfur á Fjárfelli and Mistress Elska á Fjárfelli, of Æthelmearc, for their excellent terms of service as Kingdom Ministers of Arts and Sciences.

Commendations to Aoife inghean Michil for becoming Royal Artisan, she is Ansteorra's first experimental archeology winner.

Commendations to Marguerite de Montagne and Tti'iana Zoia Aleksieva for mastery of their arts in the Kingdom of Artemisia.

Congratulations to Atenveldt's new King's Champion, Emeludt von Zerssen for her display of metalwork in Finnish garb, and to their New Queen's Champion, Mistress Catlyn O'Sullivan for her work in Illumination.

Commendations to Olamnh Jeane Kilmeny for her successful term of service as Atlantia's University Chancellor. Congratulations to Tempore Atlantia winner Anauved de Mona, who won the competition with her birch bark hat.

Commendations to everyone who helped make Drachenwald's in-person University event a success.

Commendations to the following people in East Kingdom: Maestrina Chiaretta di Fiore, the other organizers, and the staff of the St. Eligius Arts and Sciences competition for a job well done. To Aurelia Colleoni a'Buccafurno for her excellent work creating the topical guides to help local A&S ministers. Thank you to Mistress Amalie von Hohensee, of East Kingdom, for sharing her idea of #NoviceNovemberSCA, and encouraging artisans of the Known World to share their novice attempts at arts and sciences, reminding us that we all began somewhere.

Congratulations to Gleann Abhann's new Kingdom Champion of the Arts & Sciences: Lailiane Ausonia. Royal Artisan: Robert the Just. Gulf Wars Champions: Lailiane Ausonia, Robert the Just,

Maymunah al Siqilliyah, Cyprian an Doire, and Adalind. Alternates for Gulf Wars Champion: Beatris Pollock, and Colleen of Ironox.

Congratulations to the winners of Lochac's Star and Lily Competition: Solveig Ulfsdottir, and will Orlando. The winners of Taillefer: Lowrans Wilyamson, Duarte de la Guitarra, and Griete van Groningen. Winner of Cockatrice: Thomas Boardmakere.

Commendations to Baron Bjorn of Thor's Mountain in Meridies for his incredible tablet weaving which includes creating prizes for a charity tournament, and to Lord Yamamoto Shingern from Nant-y-derwyddon for building a portable pizza oven which has been used for a demonstration at art night and to make pizza for an elevation. Additional commendations to Mistress Ellen de Lacey for her constant dedication for an online presence.

Commendations to a very new member, Magnus White-hair, of Middle Kingdom for sharing the leatherworking skills and knowledge he brought into the SCA by teaching and demonstrating.

Commendations to all the people who greatly contributed to the success of the recent Stellar University of Northshield.

Commendations to Mistress Marion Forester for her time as Outlands Kingdom Minister of Arts and Sciences.

Commendations to Mistress Ambra in the Kingdom of Trimaris, who has been adding the final touches to their new Kingdom Ministers of Arts and Sciences handbook.

Commendations to Constance Frazier, who is working on a German to English translation of Hundt. This is a great service to our Historical Martial Arts community.

Commendations to Hellen of Haldane (of Northshield). and to Elizabeth of Roxbury Mill (of Midrealm) for teaching Scribal, both have taught frequently and as requested many times this year.

**Publishable Summary:** The Society for Creative Anachronism continues to fulfill its mission to research and re-create the arts, sciences, and skills of the pre-17<sup>th</sup> century world. The 4th Quarter has seen well attended in person activities, including Arts and Sciences classes, workshops, several local and Kingdom competitions. Some online and hybrid A&S activities including universities and classes have continued. Kingdom and local officers successfully continue to update the ways in which we do Arts and Sciences activities, including non-judged Displays, artisan roundtables, and working toward refreshing traditional A&S, competitions, and activities.

The Society Minister of Arts and Sciences has an official Facebook presence located at: <https://www.facebook.com/SocietyMinisterArtsandSciences/> This page allows members to receive information about arts and sciences activities throughout the Known World and encourages them to share their own projects, promote local artisans, and connect with others who share their interests. Recently, the Populace were invited to share banner, embroidery, and weaving projects. They were also invited to share in #NoviceNovemberSCA, Celebrating the Beginner in All of Us. They shared a beautiful wealth of novice A&S projects and experiences. Next, we will focus on A&S plans and goals for 2024.

As the Society officer, I continue regular outreach through the Kingdom officers to help encourage and support officers from Kingdom-level all the way through to the branch officers. I strive to maintain an email response time to warranted officers of no more than 48 hours (except for when I am away at in-person events, during storms, or holidays when response time may be significantly longer).

#### **Census Committee – Chair Julia Smith (Juliana de Luna)**

Commendations: As chair, I'd like to thank all the members of the committee for their hard work, but especially Trudi Crumpwright, Baroness Sciath ingen Chaennaig; this would never have gotten this done without her.

Publishable Summary: The 2020 SCA Census committee has (finally) completed its analysis of the data collected in 2020. We want to thank the Board for its faith in us, the people of the SCA for giving generously of their time and energy, and the members of the committee for their hard work. While the committee's work is done, we're open to continued work to answer questions of interest. Kingdom Seneschals (or individuals authorized by the Seneschal) can request data from the census by completing the online form at: <https://forms.gle/DUnwThuhjqek4LUa8>. Our reports should be available online soon; in the meantime, feel free to reach out for copies.

#### **Peerage Committee – Chair Julia Smith (Juliana de Luna)**

Commendations: Big thanks to Susan Carroll-Clark (Magistra Nika Dmitrieva doch' Zvezdina) for their quick turnaround in the requested board edits.

Publishable Summary: The Peerage committee, after exhaustive work and research over the last six years, including the information gleaned from the responses to the 2020 census, have placed a proposal before the Board outlining the Committee's justification of its conclusion that another peerage, inclusive of martial activities which are unable to be recognized by the Order of Knighthood, Order of Mastery of Arms, or Order of Defense, is desired by the membership.

After discussions with the Board, including previewing the proposal, and receiving no feedback to the contrary, the Proposal is again submitted with the board-requested changes. It is our hope that this version can be published to the populace for feedback.

#### **Sanctions**

Keith Caillouette (Ruphus Blacstone)

Motion by Gabrielle Fisher to revoke the membership of and deny participation to Keith Caillouette (Ruphus Blacstone) effective immediately. Second by Megan O'Shea. Opposed: None. Absent: Pug Bainter. Motion carried.

Julie DeVuono (Moresca of AnDubhaigainn)

Motion by Gabrielle Fisher to revoke the membership of and deny participation to Julie DeVuono (Moresca of AnDubhaigainn) effective immediately. Second by Megan O'Shea. Opposed: None. Absent: Pug Bainter. Motion carried.

Michael Henderson (Malcolme mac Enri)

Motion by Krista Capps to revoke the membership of and deny participation to Michael Henderson (Malcolme mac Enri) effective immediately. Second by Gabrielle Fisher. Opposed: None. Absent: Pug Bainter. Motion carried.

Dan Long (Grimmund Blackwing)

Motion by Gabrielle Fisher to revoke the membership of and deny participation to Dan Long (Grimmund Blackwing) effective immediately. Second by Krista Capps. Opposed: None. Absent: Pug Bainter. Motion carried.

Barbara Lowe (Mira Fastova)

Motion by K.T. Sheppard to revoke the membership of and deny participation to Barbara Lowe (Mira Fastova) for a period of three years concluding on January 27, 2027. effective immediately. Second by Krista Capps. Opposed: None. Absent: Pug Bainter. Motion carried.

Jeffery Klinghagen (NA)

Motion by Krista Capps to revoke the membership of and deny participation to Jeffery Klinghagen (NA) effective immediately. Second by K.T. Sheppard. Opposed: None. Absent: Pug Bainter. Motion carried.

Kevin McGlynn (Seamus O'Conal)

Motion by Gabrielle Fisher to revoke the membership of and deny participation to Kevin McGlynn (Seamus O'Conal) effective immediately. Second by Krista Capps. Opposed: None. Absent: Pug Bainter. Motion carried.

William Speed (Duncan Kincaid)

Motion by K.T. Sheppard to revoke the membership of and deny participation to William Speed (Duncan Kincaid) effective immediately. Second by Jennifer Krochmal. Opposed: None. Absent: Pug Bainter. Motion carried.

William Trudell (Richard Lepied)

Motion by Krista Capps to revoke the membership of and deny participation to William Trudell (Richard Lepied) effective immediately. Second by Gabrielle Fisher. Opposed: None. Absent: Pug Bainter. Motion carried.

David Willhoite (Freiman the Minstrel)

Motion by K.T. Sheppard to revoke the membership of and deny participation to David Willhoite (Freiman the Minstrel) for a period of five (5) years, concluding on January 27, 2029, effective immediately. Second by Megan O'Shea. Opposed: None. Absent: Pug Bainter. Motion carried.

Anthony Wright (Antonius Archer)

Motion by Krista Capps to revoke the membership of and deny participation to Anthony Wright (Antonius Archer) effective immediately. Second by Jennifer Krochmal. Opposed: None. Absent: Pug Bainter. Motion carried.