



Nobilitatis, honorem , et gaudium vite !

"Nobility, Honor, and Joy of Life"

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY
BARONY OF ATENVELDT

SEPTEMBER 2013

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Retinue of the Barony of Atenveldt

Baron Seelos and Baroness Elena

(Thomas and Tina Batt) Atencoronet@Baronyofatenveldt.com



Warrants Expire 4/28/15

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Baronial Hard suit champion- Mitsuhide Shinjiro
Baronial Rapier Champion: Alice of Atenveldt
Baronial Archery Champion: Sveinbiorn Halbiornson
Baronial Arts & Sciences Champion: Aiofe Oisín
Baronial Bardic Champion: The Pfryed Pipers
Baronial Youth Archery Champion: m'Lady Atalie

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Words from Their Excellency's



Salve!

We hope that this missive finds all well and prosperous.

We are truly excited by all of the upcoming events this fall! In Our barony alone, we have Anniversary in September, Champions in October and Yule in December. The fine event stewards of each of these events are working diligently and with much creativity to provide what We are sure will prove to be fun and unique experiences.

Additionally, on October 5th, 2013, We will be travelling down to The Shire of Grandholme to attend Pillage, Plunder, Pluck & Poke. This is Our nearest shire's only annual event and We feel that it is important to help support this shire in its endeavors. Many of our wonderful populace members have agreed to assist in this event as well. If you'd like to help, please contact HE Elena.

On August 10th, We attended Kingdom A&S Competition. Dame Jennifer Trethewy proved herself quite the Event Steward as the artisans of our great kingdom competed to become the newest Kingdom A&S Champion. The Second Annual Deaton's prize tourney was held and Count Sir Morgan rose as victor receiving the beautiful gauntlets donated by Iron Pug Armory. Thank yous to all that helped with set-up, tear-down and clean-up of the site.

The weekend of August 17th-18th We were privileged to be able to get out of the heat of Our fair barony and travel north to the pines and Ered Sul for their event, Too Hot. The weather was perfect and the event had something for everyone. We witnessed Ered Sul proclaim their new champions and had an amazing time reveling with their populace and all that travelled to attend.

Our travels then took us to The March Barony of Mons Tonitrus for Mace & Greatsword the weekend of August 24th-25th. We particularly enjoy the site that this event is held with its trees and running stream. We witnessed the beautiful pageantry of the investing of Our newest cousins, Finnian and Brigit as they became the new Baron and Baroness of that fine barony. Once again, thank you to Lady Auelene for providing such beautiful gift baskets to be able to provide largesse for the newest Baron and Baroness of this Kingdom.

The Barony of Atenveldt is hosting the Baron & Baroness' dinner at next year's Estrella War. Lady Valdis and Tode Haulle have stepped up to coordinate and cook for this opportunity for our barony to shine. Fund raisers are in the works and will be announced shortly.

Now, on to more temperate weather.

Forever Inspired by the Populace of The Barony of Atenveldt

Baron Seelos & Baroness Elena

15th Coronet of The Glorious Barony of Atenveldt

Primo Baroniam de Societate

Their Excellency's Progress

In Kingdom Progress for TE Seelos and Elena

September

7th-8th – Crown Tournament (BMMT)
14th – BofA Anniversary
21st-22nd – Champion in the Pines (BGM)

October

5th-6th – Pillage, Plunder, Pluck & Poke (SG)
11th-13th – Great Western War (TBD-Kingdom of the West)
25th-27th – BofA Champions

November

2nd-3rd – Coronation
7th-11th – Southern Crusades (BMMT/BTY)

December

7th – BofA Yule
14th – Yule (BSD)/Tavern Tourney (BTM)

In addition, either or both of us will be attending BA/BSD Archery Practice at El Osa park on the second Sunday of the month. Please join us and help slay some evil targets!

Message from the Chronicler

Hello everyone

Please remember I am looking for unique and informative articles to include in the Palm Prints in addition to our normal announcements. Please be sure to copy me on any article you send to the Southwinds. For those of you post events on Facebook and Yahoo groups please send me a copy as well for the Palm Prints. Please send submissions to me directly at: rockysmomy@gmail.com or chronicler@BaronyofAtenveldt.org . Deadline for Submissions to the Palm Prints is preferably the 28th of each month, to be included in the next month's issue.

Yours in service

La Juana

rockysmomy@gmail.com

Baronial Announcements

The first Thursday of every month (unless otherwise announced) is at 7:30pm and is now at JB'S restaurant located at 35th ave and northern in the back room. Please come early so we can all order and receive our food before the meeting begins.

Baronial court is held on the fourth Wednesday of each month at fighter practice

Tri-Baronial Youth & Family Archery Event First Sunday of Each Month

Come one, come all, and join the Baronies of Twin Moons, Atenveldt and Sundragon as we come together with our youth and families for a great time on the archery range! Our shoot is on the first Sunday each month to alternate between El Oso and Papago archery ranges. **Start time is approximately 8:00 (subject to change)**

*There will be standard and other interesting targets and scenarios for youth and adults alike as well as a variety of classes offered to hone your skills!

*If you are a beginner or know one, this is a great opportunity to get out there and see what fun archery is! Loaner gear is available and site is always FREE!

* Water and other beverages will be provided. Everyone is invited to bring a light snack to share if they like.

*BE SURE TO CHECK THE BARONIAL CALANDER OF EVENTS SCHEDULE for the location each month at baronyofatenveldt.org

LOCATIONS:

El Oso Park (Peoria) 3451 N 75th Ave Phoenix, AZ 85033

Papago Park Archery Range is located on the NW corner of 64th street and McDowell road in Phoenix, AZ

Thrown Weapons Practice

C'mon out Friday evenings between 7:00 pm and 9:00 pm to hone your skills in the Thrown Weapons and earn your badges!

Practices are hosted by Baronies of Atenveldt and Sundragon and will be held at Lord Jerome's residence:
6925 W. Wilshire Dr.
Phoenix, AZ 85035

Proposed schedule is as follows;

September-2013...Friday 6th and 20th

October-2013.....Friday 4th, and 18th

November-2013....Friday 1st,15th and 29th

December-2013....Friday 13th and 20th

Please watch your FB pages and group lists for details as dates are subject to change.

Please bring your own axes, knives and spears to throw as there is no loaner gear available at present. Please bring your own chair.

Cold bottled water and sodas will be provided.

This activity involves the handling of live weapons and is restricted to adults only at this time.

For more information, please call Lord Jerome the True (602) 617-3586 OR Lady Edeline de Diekirche (602) 647-0726

Arts and Sciences

* A&S classes are on the first Wednesday of each month at fighter practice classes start at 8:00pm

*Bardic circle is on the second Wednesday of each month: Come and sing a song, tell a tale, teach or just listen to others! Bring your drums, voice and recorders to Fighter Practice from 8:00pm to 9:00pm

*Third Wednesday is A&S Populace Showcase and Youth display table: Youth bring and show us your work completed or not.

*Fourth Wednesdays are for the Artesian display's completed or uncompleted, no documentation needed. Artisans, we know you've been working on something and we would love to see

Scriptorium

Ever wondered how those scrolls in Court are made? Find out at Scriptorium! Learn calligraphy or illumination.

All are welcome of any skill level, supplies available for newcomers!

Every Thursday 7:00pm to 10:00pm 8413 E. Sheridan St. Scottsdale

Fighter Practice Wednesday Nights

Atenveldt Baronial Fighter Practice every Wednesday at Encanto Park located at 1202 W. Encanto Blvd., Phoenix, AZ from 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm starting September 4, 2013

*The first Wednesday of each month is regular practice

*The second Wednesday of each month will be dedicated to special training of our fighting forces and

*The third Wednesday of each month is melee night

*The 4th Wednesday is reserved for tournaments, court Night and Competition

If there is a tournament that you would like to run or see ran, please contact Mitsuhide Shinjiro

BARONIAL EVENTS

Barony of Atenveldt Proudly Presents its 3rd Annual

STAG SHOOT & ROAD KILL BUFFET COMPETITION

Sunday, September 15th at 9am at El Oso Park Archery Range in Phoenix

Yes! It's that time of year again! C'mon out and bring the family to earn those badges shooting 3D stag and other befitting static targets while we partake of the infamous Road Kill Buffet!

Please bring a tasty creative dish to share to compete. A PRIZE will be awarded for most creative. Last years winner was "Highway Hash", a delectable layered shredded potato dish with sausage and cheese. Yum! In years past we have seen wonderful entrees such as "Moose Mash", "Carriage Catastrophe" and others!

This garb event is always a riot, so mark your calendars and bring the kids!

Water and sodas will be provided and loaner gear is available!

Hope to see you!

Lord Jerome the True

Captain of Archers

Barony of Atenveldt

Unto the populace of this great Kingdom

let it be known that on the 14th day of September the Society's premier Barony will celebrate its forty fourth year.

Their Excellencies Seelos and Elena, 15th Baron and Baroness invite one and all to join them and their populace at the Southwest Indian Ministries Center at 14202 N. 73rd Ave., Peoria, AZ 85381. This is a dry/no smoking site.

The day's theme will be the Grimm's Fairy Tales, and the current Lord and Lady of Love will hold a competition for the popula...ce to select the next couple to represent the Barony's courtly graces for the next year. The competition will include 'a best re-enactment of a scene from the fairy tales'. Letters of intent for Lord and Lady of Love should be sent to His Loveliness, Master Kedivor (Please see the Southwind for contact information.) no later than 6pm Wednesday the 11th of September. Please be advised that the winners of the Lord and Lady of Love competition will be expected to run the next year's Anniversary event.

Keeping with the theme of the day there will be a hard suit prize tournament titled "The Big Bad Wolf," and a dessert contest using desserts or ingredients found in Grimm's tales, with the winner being chosen by the popular vote.

There will be a light repast ('a tea') prepared by Mistress Dascha and Master Voron. It is also possible that live musicians will attend and provide entertainment for all.

The site will open at 11 am and close by 8pm. The site fee is \$10 for adult members; \$5 NMS applies, Youth 17 and under are free. Feast fee is \$5 for adults and children; menu to follow shortly. Come join us as we celebrate 44 years of the oldest Barony in the Known World.

How to Advertise Your Barony of Atenveldt Event

#1. The Article

After your event has been approved, you will need to an article to let potential attendees know what your event may have in store for them. Your write-up should include:

- a. Name and theme of your event.
- b. Date, time and name and address of the location of the event.
- c. All costs. (Site fee, parking fees, feast fee, class fees, etc.)
- d. Names and contact information for all event stewards.
- e. Specific site rules. (i.e. smoking, alcohol, flames, pets, parking, etc.)
- f. Details:
 - a. Tournaments? (Hard suit, rapier, archery, youth.)
 - b. Feast? (Full or Potluck. Feast gear? Reservations?)
 - c. Games? (Adult/Youth)
 - d. Court time(s).

Each event and site will have its own flavor. Details may vary.

#2. Publishing

For an event to be considered an official calendar event, you must submit your approved/signed event bid and your article to the Kingdom Chronicler and Calendar Office so that it may be published in the Southwinds and entered into the Kingdom Calendar. You must submit it no later than the 1st of the month prior to the month your event will be held. (i.e. your event is on September 15th, your submission should be done by August 1st.) Certainly, earlier advertising is always best to make sure that the word gets out. There is no limit to how early you may advertise as long as the event has been approved. Following are the e-mail addresses that your article and event form must be sent to:

- a. Chronicler@Atenveldt.org
- b. Calendar@Atenveldt.org
- c. Cc: Seneschal@Atenveldt.org
- d. Cc: Seneschal@BaronyofAtenveldt.org
- e. Cc: Chronicler@BaronyofAtenveldt.org
- f. Cc: SocialMedia@Atenveldt.org

#3. Continued Advertising

Once the Kingdom Social Media office has been notified of your event, you may request a Facebook page be created. The media office will create the page with your article and will allow the event stewards to administrate the page. Choosing a picture for your event page that depicts the theme of the event is very helpful. If you retrieve the picture from the web, please give credit for the picture in your page description. The Facebook page will allow you to maintain it and post updates so that those who would like to attend can be kept current on what they can expect when they attend.

Not everyone uses Facebook. Making sure a copy of your article and regular updates are posted on the Barony of Atenveldt Yahoo Group will help to keep the largest number of people informed.

Social media has allowed event stewards opportunity that was not available in the past. Not so long ago the only information populace members would get on an event was what was published in the Southwinds and The Palm Prints. Event stewards are now able to provide updates instantly to all that are interested in the event. Social media is an amazing tool, if used wisely. Think of it as advertising and not where a person can air their issues or make inappropriate comments and social media can be a great asset when advertising for an event.

*This is an unofficial aid to assist event stewards with the advertising of their events. Should you choose to autocrat and event, please refer to the Seneschalate for questions.

Southwind event articles

Champion in the Pines – Barony Granite Mountain

Hard on the heels of the highly successful and educational Collegium held here in the great highlands of Atenveldt, Their Excellencies and the Populace of the Barony of Granite Mountain would like to invite you to Champions in the Pines, the Baronial Champions competition for the Seventh Wonder of Atenveldt! Please come up and enjoy a day or two of tournament and general fun! This years theme will be "Going a-viking!" (How can that not be FUN?!?)

There will be tournaments in Archery, Rapier, Armored Combat, and in addition, a new martial endeavor: there will be a thrown weapons event the likes of which have never been seen in northern Atenveldt since the founding of the Kingdom! All tournaments will start after opening court on Saturday. Not a member of the Baronial populace? Please feel free to compete for Tournament Champion. The Champion of the Tournament will set down the scenarios for the following year.

The A&S Competition portion will be in three (3) parts. The Champion's competition will be populous choice. The general competition will be judged, with documentation optional. The Champion's Challenge will be a challenge by our current Champion, and the winner will be chosen by her.

The Bard of Wonder will be chosen during the Grand Feast on Saturday night. This Champion is chosen by Their Excellencies, Baron Brian, and Baroness Natalia.

The site for this event is the beautiful Bradshaw Pines Camp in Prescott, Arizona. This site is discreetly wet. Camping space is available among the plentiful trees. Stone privies and free showers are also available. This site will open on Friday at noon, and will close Sunday at noon.

A Grand Feast will be provided this year by Granite Mountain. Please make note, only 50 positions are available for the feast itself on a first come, first sign up at the gate basis. You are of course welcome to bring your own feast to the tables if you are not eating the prepared meal. If you would like to keep with our Pot Luck tradition, please bring a dessert, or other sweet to accompany our feast. Feast theme will be "plundered meat."

Fees are as follows:

Adult: Day trip/no camping \$10. Camping/weekend pass \$15. Feast is \$5.

Youth: site fee 12-17 is \$5. Feast is \$5.

Non-member charge of \$5 applies.

Site opens Fri Evening, and closes Sun at Noon.

Directions:

From the North – Take I-40 to HWY 89 into Prescott stay on Gurley St. Turn left on to Mount Vernon Ave (A.K.A. Senator Hwy) follow that for 6 miles. Turn right on to Marapai Rd and follow it for about 2 miles to Bradshaw Pines Campgrounds.

From the South – take I-17 to Cordes Junction. Take Hwy 69 into Prescott and stay on Gurley St. Turn left on to Mount Vernon Ave (A.K.A. Senator Hwy) follow that for 6 miles. Turn right on to Marapai Rd and follow it for about 2 miles to Bradshaw Pines Campgrounds.

Barony of Twin Moons Defender's Tourney

Hail, Twin Moons!

War is on the horizon as the time for Southern Crusades and Estrella approaches! Their Excellencies Bran and Deletha must be protected against all the rascallions and ill-doers that lurk in the shadows... and yet, Their defenders grow weary. Come, Twin Moons, gather 'round, spend time as one big family, and come together in friendly combat to determine the new year's Baronial Defenders.

This weekend long family event will surely include tournaments in Hard Suit, Rapier, Archery, Youth, and Arts and Sciences, as well as tall tales told by the fire, a delicious potluck meal, games, frivolity, the Baronial Boogeyman, and more. Join us October 25th through October 27th as we gather upon the fields of Schnepf Farms.

Site opens at 2pm on Friday, October 25th and closes at 6pm on Sunday, October 27th. Site is wet, leashed pets are permitted, fires permitted in contained fire rings or above ground. Adult member site fees are \$15 for the entire weekend, non member surcharge applies. Youths 5-17 are admitted for \$5. Children 4 and under may attend the event for free.

Directions to the site: Make your best way to Ellsworth Road, travel south to Rittenhouse. Turn left (east) on Rittenhouse, proceed approximately 4 miles to the entrance to the farm on the right. Once on farm property, proceed through the parking area, keeping to the right and following the signs.

College of Brymstonne's Chocolate Revel

O.C.D.? A little bit, or perhaps a lot? Have you noticed that something seems to be lacking in your life right now? Have your friends commented on your lack of enthusiasm? Are you searching for that special place in which you can do anything "over the top" and feel comfortable with it?

The College of Brymstonne has the answer! You are suffering from "Outrageously Chocolate Deprived" symptoms and are in need of extreme "Opulent Chocolate Decadence"! Yes, The College of Brymstonne is hosting Chocolate Revel once again! Wear that outfit that you spent months, nay years, beading. Bring that masterpiece of chocolate delight that had you hunched over the stove in the wee hours of the morning. Sing that song that you spent weeks looking for just the right word. You will be among others that suffer from these and many other forms of OCD - and even celebrate it - at our annual Chocolate Revel. The festivities will take place on Saturday, September 28th 2013. Site opens at Noon and closes at 9pm

Site fees include the feast:

Adult members - \$17.00 for adult members

Youth (5-17 years of age) - \$5.00

Children (0-4 years of age) - free

A surcharge of \$5.00 will be applied to non-members

**Please see the Brymstonne website for pre-registration information (www.brymstonne.org)

Please join us at our NEW SITE:

14202 N. 73rd Ave

Peoria AZ 85381

Bring your dancing shoes as Mistress Jehanne will once again be taking over the dance floor and enticing all those tapping toes! And to continue the musical enjoyment... the Bard Garden will be returning for all those who wish to either share their amazing talents, or those whose talent is as an appreciative audience.

Make sure to bring your wallets as our annual Silent Auction will have some great finds! Items will be posted on the Brymstonne website as they come in.

And if that's not enough... there will be many competitions: chocolate desserts, edible displays, un-finished A&S items, gluten-free desserts, diabetic-friendly desserts, jousting, and many more!

Please watch your local lists, and visit the Brymstonne website to learn more about the competitions and other festivities planned at: www.brymstonne.org

Or contact one of the following:

Event Steward: Lord Fearghus Reamhar mac Maoil Domhnaich mhic Thoirdealbhaigh

eventsteward@brymstonne.org

Feast Steward: M'lady Rozzie feaststeward@brymstonne.org

A & S Documentation: What Do They Want?

By Mistress Ealasaid nic Suibhne

There have been many a discussion about what makes good documentation and whether creativity is better/worse than authenticity. I always need a nice clear example for things to really make sense to me. So in case there are others out there who also need examples, I've created a progression of Very Bad A&S Entry all the way through Very Good A&S Entry, at least in this Laurel's opinion. I hope it helps.

I'm going to use Embroidery as the category because that's what I know the most about. I promise on my honor that I am not using anything that I have judged. I'll be using my own progress as an artist and student of history as a basis for the examples, with a little imagination and some exaggeration.

The Worst:

The Entry:

A cross stitch worked in acrylic craft yarn on 5 count plastic canvas of a fairy dressed in cobwebs and leaves.

The Documentation:

none

Why it's bad:

No documentation at all is the worst. The judge doesn't know what you were trying to achieve. The judge doesn't know whether this is your very first embroidery or not. The judge doesn't know if you think this is what Medieval Embroidery looks like. The entry is not good because there is nothing medieval about it. The materials are man made and the subject matter and style are modern.

This doesn't mean it is a bad embroidery. It just means that it doesn't further the study of Medieval Embroidery. Medieval Studies is what we are supposed to be about. It doesn't mean you can't hang this embroidery in your camp, or use it as a cushion cover or a favor for your consort. It just won't get high points in competition.

Better, but still not good:

The Entry:

A cross stitch worked in cotton floss on 14 count Aida cloth, of a fairy in Fairy Tale Gothic garb sitting on the back of a unicorn.

The Documentation:

"In the middle ages embroidery was used a lot to decorate clothing, furnishing and church garments. Medieval people believed in fairies and unicorns because there is lots of mention of fairies in the folktales and there is that Unicorn Tapestry. Cross stitch is period. I saw a note on the Aten Arts list where Mistress StitchesALot said it was."

Why it's still not good:

While we have graduated away from man-made fibers in the fabric and thread, we are still not using the types of fabric and thread that were available during the middle ages. Linen, wool or silk fabric and gold, silver, silk, or wool threads were the most commonly used in Western Europe. Although the fairy now wears medievaloid clothing, it is still a modern looking design.

The documentation has some problems. The first sentence is correct, but it is not backed up by a legitimate source, such as a book on the history of embroidery. The fact that people believed in fairies does not mean they would have embroidered them. And there's no source stated for the fact that people believed in fairies, other than vague mention of "folktales" that could very well be Victorian in origin.

An example of a medieval embroidery of fairies would be good to include. The Unicorn Tapestries are mentioned, which is good documentation for the use of unicorns as a design element. A picture of the Unicorn Tapestry would be great to include.

Using a Laurel as an expert is not really a good idea, unless that Laurel really is a published expert in their field. That is, they have a Master's Degree in Medieval Studies. I can only speak for myself, but I am NOT an expert in the field of embroidery. The authors of the books in my library are the experts. Donald King or Santina Levey would laugh me out of the room if I made such a claim (both medieval textile experts and former curators of the Victoria & Albert Museum's Textiles Collection). You can, if you have to, reference that you got the information from Mistress StitchesALot's class handout, which references the "Big Uppity Book of 14th Century Embroidery in the West Side of London". That is: you mention the bibliography on the class handout you are quoting from. Better yet, if you can, ask Mistress StitchesALot if you can see her copy of the "Big Uppity Book of 14th Century Embroidery in the West Side of London" to do a bit of research.

Getting Better:

The Entry:

A cross stitch worked in cotton threads on linen fabric, of a lion rampant incised in a roundel.

The Documentation:

Mentions the Oxburgh Embroideries as support for the use of cross stitch. Includes a picture of the cross stitch of a camel that is part of the Oxburgh Hangings (dated 1570). Mentions the 13th century tiles in the Victoria & Albert Museum that have a variety of rampant beasties incised in roundels and includes a picture of one them. Mentions that this is going to appliquéd to a banner. Gives examples of embroidery being appliquéd to other fabrics during the middle ages and gives examples of embroidered and appliquéd banners.

Explains why the linen fabric is authentic, using examples of medieval embroideries worked on linen fabric. Explains that silk thread would be more authentic, but the artist chose to use cotton floss because of the expense of silk and because the banner is going to take a beating and will need frequent washing.

Includes a bibliography of two books on the History of Embroidery, a book about the Hardwick Textiles, the book on the V&A Textiles Collection and an article about Heraldic Display

Why it isn't perfect:

The style of embroidery is late 16th century. The style of the design is 13th century. I personally won't count off for using cotton floss, since you can't tell the difference by looking at it unless you are comparing it to very expensive single ply reeled silk thread. I might mention a source of affordable silk floss in case the artist wants to give it try. I will give brownie points to you if you do use silk floss. I'll be extremely impressed if you use reeled silk.

The documentation is very good. It would solve the 16th century vs 13th century issue if it included an example of a 16th century embroidery that mimicked 13th century style.

Almost There:

The Entry:

A cross stitch worked in silk thread on linen fabric, an exact copy of Bess of Hardwick's cross stitched Camel.

The Documentation:

Mentions the Oxburgh Hangings as support for the use of cross stitch. Includes a picture of the cross stitch of a camel in the Hardwick Textile Collection (1570 or so). References the book about the Hardwick Textiles and the book about the V&A Museum's Textile Collection. Mentions other medieval examples of the use of Cross Stitch and the use of animals as a motif. Mentions the choice of colors and what natural dyes would produce them. Mentions that this is going to be appliquéd to a banner. Gives examples of embroidery being appliquéd to other fabrics during the middle ages and gives examples of embroidered and appliquéd banners.

Explains why the linen fabric and silk thread are authentic, using examples of medieval embroideries worked on linen fabric with silk thread. Gives the stitches per inch of the Oxburgh camel embroidery and mentions that the entry has the same number of stitches per inch.

Includes a bibliography of two books on the History of Embroidery, the book on the Hardwick Textiles, the V&A Museum's Textile Collection, an article about dyeing with natural dyes and an article about Heraldic Display

Why it's good:

The design and the stitching technique come from the same century and culture. The entrant gives examples of the design, the stitches, and even goes the extra step to research the colors to use.

Why it's not perfect:

It's an exact copy of an extant embroidery. That extra step of taking what you've learned and creating something that is uniquely yours and yet would not look out of place in a museum or in a real medieval setting has not been taken yet.

The BEST:

The Entry:

A cross stitch, worked in silk threads on linen fabric, of the entrant's dog, sitting in profile and sniffing a violet, which happens to be an element of the entrant's heraldry.

The Documentation:

Mentions the Oxburgh Hangings as support for the use of cross stitch embroidery in the 16th century. Includes a picture of the cross stitch of a camel from the Hardwick Textiles Collection and a picture of the dogs in the Unicorn Tapestry's hunting scenes. References the book about the Hardwick Textiles and the V&A Museum's Textile Collection.

Mentions other medieval examples of the use of Cross Stitch and the use of animals as a motif. Mentions illuminations of the 16th century that have dogs and/or flowers as a motif. Includes a picture of one or two. Discusses the symbolism of dogs and flowers, especially violets, in medieval art. Discusses the prevalence of animals displayed in profile in medieval art.

Mentions the choice of colors and what natural dyes would produce them. Mentions that this is going to be appliquéd to a banner. Gives examples of embroidery being appliquéd to other fabrics during the middle ages and gives examples of embroidered and appliquéd banners.

Explains why the linen fabric and silk thread are authentic, using examples of medieval embroideries worked on linen fabric with silk thread.

Includes a bibliography of two books on the History of Embroidery, the book on the Hardwick Textiles, the V&A Museum's Textile Collection, an article about dyeing with natural dyes, an article about Heraldic Display and an article of breeds of dogs popular in Britain in the 16th Century.

Why it's the best:

It is worked in as authentic a fabric and thread as can be managed today. The style of the design and the stitches are of the same time period and culture and they have the same look and feel as real medieval embroideries and illumination. The design includes motifs that are found in medieval art, yet the design is totally original. It's the perfect marriage of creativity and authenticity.

The documentation gives medieval examples of each element in the design and each choice of fabric, thread, color and stitch.

You will note that the entrant did not spin their own thread, weave their own fabric, dye their own floss or make their own needles. A medieval embroiderer wouldn't have done those things either. But you'll get extra brownie points if you do any of those things.

Random Thoughts:

Everyone who sets out to learn and practice medieval art walks this path. Everyone takes their own time on the path. Some linger longer at each step, savoring the creative process, some rush headlong towards the goal of authenticity and/or perfection. Neither choice is wrong. At first we do our art and then attempt to research to justify it. Later, we do the research first in order to do a more authentic piece. Eventually, we research just for the sheer joy of finding something new.

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And then we just have to make one of those cool things, with our own touch of creativity making it uniquely ours. It doesn't matter how long you take on the path. You have a lifetime.

Learning what makes a medieval design takes time and requires that you look at a lot of medieval art. Copying one or two along the way helps develop the "medieval eye."

(and yes, I've embroidered my share of fairies and unicorns and ladies in Fairy Tale Gothic dresses and done cross stitch on aida cloth – I just don't enter them in competition.)

HELP WANTED

But it is only a flesh wound! The Barony is in need of a chirurgon. Here are the Requirments Taken from the Chirurgon's Handbook:

The Chirurgonate is the volunteer first-aid organization of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., a non-profit educational organization devoted to the study of the Middle Ages and Renaissance. It is part of the "living history" movement, where members try to reproduce various aspects of the culture and technology of their period, as well as pursuing more traditional historical research. The SCA spons

ors events such as medieval tournaments and feasts, where members dress in Medieval and Renaissance styles, and participate in activities based on the civil and martial arts of the Middle Ages.

We use the medieval term "Chirurgon" instead of "first aider," "first responder," or "medic" in our efforts to maintain a medieval atmosphere at SCA events. We also use the Medieval

bloodletting device, the fleam, as the symbol of the Chirurgonate instead of the modern red shortarmed cross whose use is restricted by international treaty to organizations affiliated with

the International Red Cross and the military. The members of the Chirurgonate include Red Cross-trained first aiders, medical doctors, military medical corpsmen, nurses, paramedics, St.

John's and St. Andrew's ambulance volunteers, and many other medical volunteers and

professionals. We come from all walks of life and from many countries around the globe. We are united as members of the Chirurgonate for one purpose: to provide first aid at SCA events.

The members of the Chirurgonate provide first aid on a volunteer basis at SCA events. First aid performed in the SCA is Good Samaritan in nature, and is provided to anyone who asks at

no cost to the recipient. This has been our tradition ever since Bjo of Griffin, arguably the first-known Chirurgon, started bringing her first-aid kit to SCA events, back in the days when there

was but a single Kingdom. If you are interested in the Office as the Chirurgon or as a deputy please contact the Seneschal and their Excellencies with a letter of intent detailing your

experience and the role you wish to assume.

For a full listing of help wanted visit the Barony web age: <http://baronyofatenveldt.org/index.php?page=officer-openings>