

# The Hawk's Flight

Volume III, Issue 4, May  
2003

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Madame Elizabeth de Nevell, CW

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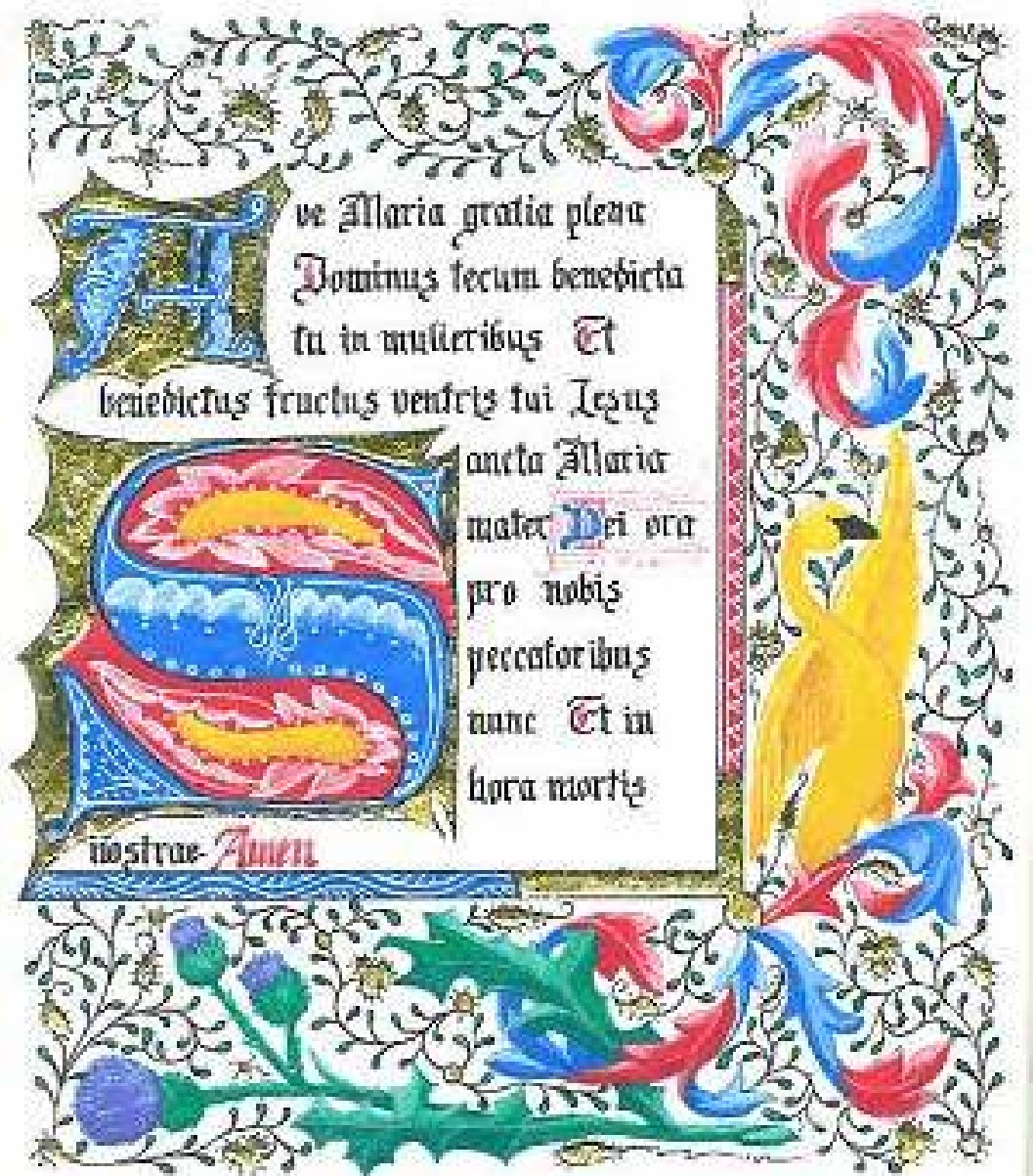
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This is the news letter for the Shire of Blackhawk of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. This is not a corporate publication of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. and does not delineate SCA policies.



## Meeting Minutes For May 2003 Officer Reports



*Seneschal Lady Meadhbh Winters*  
Report is in!



*Exchequer Lady Hendrijke Duin*  
Current Account Balance is \$1,448.03. At present there is about \$500.00 in outstanding bills, plus \$100.00 to \$200.00 in deposits that will be made after the meeting.



*MOAS Lady Caenell Verch Ailwyn*  
Current projects include a Kimono, weaving, bobbin lace, beading and other arts.



*Chirurgion Arthur von Brandenburg*



*Rapier Marshall Lady Morgana Corva*  
Nothing new to report



*Herald Lord Sebastian Elgar*  
A Silver Oak was awarded! [ed note. Sorry I forgot to copy down the name. I will make a special announcement in the next Flight!]



*Heavy Weapons Marshall Sir Gunther Von Brandenburg*  
Nothing new locally to report. The Regional Heavy Weapons Marshall has left his post. More information will follow.



*Chronicler and Web Mistress*  
*Lady Antine Andersen, Acting Officer*  
Nothing New to report!

### Old Business-Tinker Demo

*The May 4<sup>th</sup> Demo was a great success. We had a total of 9 fighters (a mix of heavy and light), plus demonstrations of bobbin lace, bead work, armor, leather crafting weapons, book binding and scroll work. Plus the SCA handled the children's craft tables, which saw over 30 children participate in 5 different crafts designed by SCA members. In total we had 15 SCA members participating in the demo. We did receive some financial compensation, plus we were given exposure in the center page of the "Go Section" (plus being mentioned in five other Rockford Register Star Articles on the event. We were also on the front page of the Rock*

*River Times and were featured on two different television stations (Channels 13 and 17). Great Job everyone!*

### End of May Meeting

| Officer          | SCA Name                    | Phone #'s |
|------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Seneschal        | Lady Meadhbh Winters        | 968-0065  |
| Deputy Seneschal | Lord Olaf Bygolly           |           |
| Herald           | Lord Sebastian Elgar        | 962-7306  |
| Exchequer        | Lady Hendrijke Duin         | 964-5523  |
| H.W Marshall     | Sir Gunther von Brandenburg | 965-1318  |
| Rapier Marshall  | Lady Morgana Corva          | 874-4074  |
| MOAS             | Lady Caenell verch Ailwyn   | 965-1318  |
| Chirurgion       | Arthur von Brandenburg      |           |
| Chronicler, Web  | Lady Antine Andersdottir    | 398-6175  |

## Midrealm Calendar

### June 2003

- 6-8 - Castle Fever {Silfren Mere} [Oronoco, MN]
- Death and Taxes {Dun Traigh} [Walhalla, MI]
- Dragon Under the Hill {Drakelaw} [Ashland, KY]
- Grand Tournament of Archery {Fasach Mor} [Troy, MI]
- Known World Heraldic Symposium {Calontir} [St. Louis, MO]
- Murder & Melee {Dark River} [Blue Grass, IA]
- Northern Oaken War Maneuvers {Cleftlands} [Wellington, OH]
- 7-9 - DEMO: Don't Bluff Me {Coille Stoirmeil} [Oakdale, WI]
- 13-15 - Baronial Border War {Rimsholt} [Grand Rapids, MI]
- Spring Fling {Windhaven} [Oshkosh, WI]
- 14 - Raider's Paradise {Afonlyn} [Farmland, IN]
- 14-21 - Lilies War {Calontir} [Smithville Lake, MO]
- 20-22 - Cowards and Conscripts {Rivenwood Tower} [Fairmont, MN]
- Encampment at the Castle {Three Towers} [Mansfield, OH]
- Jubilee Olde English Faire {Illiton} [Brimfield, IL]
- Thatsa Mare {Marea Amethystinum} [Thunder Bay, ONT]
- 21 - Tyger Hunt {Hawkland Moor} [Davisburg, MI]
- 27-29 - DEMO: Howell Balloon Festival {Weald Lake (Northwoods)} [Howe]
- Siege of Talonval {Talonval} [Leslie, MI]
- Swine and Roses {White Waters} [Oceola, IN]
- Unnamed XI {Rudivale} [Grand Forks, ND]
- 28 - Border Raids {Meridies} [Ft. Knox, KY]

### July 2003

- 4-6 - Mad Dogs {Border Downs} [Sioux Falls, SD]
- 5-6 - Aethel XXI {Swordcliff} [Chandler'sville, IL]
- Summer Event {Dragonsmark} [Lexington, KY]
- 10-13 - Warriors and Warlords {Jararvellir and Nordskogen} [Black River Falls, WI]
- 11-13 - Fenix Pheon Festival {Fenix} [Union, KY]
- Oaken Melee School IV {Alderford} [Roswell, OH]
- 18-20 - Push for Pennsic {Hawkes Key} [Troy, OH]
- 19 - Brawl at the Crooked Dragon Tavern {Falcon's Quarry} [LaGrande, OH]
- Rose Tournay & Emprise of the Dragon's Chalice {Roaring Wastes} [Fenton, MI]
- 25-27 - Rabid Yale Hunt {Coldedernhale} [Rosebud, SD]
- Simple Day {Sternfeld} [Greenfield, IN]

## *Another Red Colour*

by Madame Elizabeth de Nevell, CW

What's Black and White and Red all over? A book of course! More precisely, it's a medieval manuscript.

Red is thought to be the first color man was able to distinguish. As early as the Neolithic period man believed that Red had life giving properties, and the word "magic" it's self pays homage to the Old Norse and Anglo-Saxon words for red ochre. A wide variety of substances have been used throughout history to impart Red onto the page, the following are but a few. Red Lead (Lead(II,IV)-oxide) was one of the first pigments produced and is still widely used today despite it's instabilities. Vermilion (mercuric sulfide) is an orange-red pigment which was discovered prior to the 6th century and was widely used for 1400 years. Substantially toxic Vermilion is rarely used today.[6] Imported to Europe in the middle ages Brazilwood (*Caesalpinia echinata*) has a yellowish-orange sap which matures into a vibrant deep red.[1]

Red inks can commonly be found in manuscripts between the 5th century and the 15th century.[2] A secular treaties written in the 12th Century tells us Red was considered to be a righteous and moral color in Christian Europe held in high regard by the medieval church. Red stood for passion, martyrdom, sacrifice and divine love.[4] In medieval manuscripts red letters are called rubrics and used to draw attention to a change taking place in the text such as a title, the beginning of a sentence or paragraph, the start of a new chapter. In a time with little punctuation and order Red played a key role in letting the reader know where he was in the text and what was to come.[3] Red highlighted important dates on the calendar, and "Red Letter Days" were born. In several locations Red also assisted the artist in the production of the manuscript. Red ruled lines and blocked out spaces for illumination it decorated it's boring black companion letters with delicate filigree pen work turning them into exquisite works of art.

So, what happened to red after all those years? It is possible that the decline of red in print is an example of modern technology stealing away the beauty of the bookmaker's art. The invention of the printing press and the difficulties in using multiple colors in the process without a doubt contributed to the demise of red ink in books. [2]

You can try making red ink for yourself from this late medieval recipe! The recipe comes from "A Boke of Secrets" on the ink corrosion website. This translation of a Dutch manuscript from 1596 contains several recipes for inks and dyes to be used by artists. It's possible that the Dutch text may have it's self been the translation of an earlier German work.[5]

"Mingle salt and honny together in a bason, let it stand eight daies, then seeth it, and it will be a red colour."[4]

### Bibliography

1. Armstrong, W.P.;"Wayne's Word Newsletter"; Escondido, <http://waynesword.palomar.edu/ecoph4.htm>, accessed October 2002.
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5. Philip, W.; "A Boke of Secrets", from: Manuscript Inks by Jack C. Thompson © 1996 The Caber Press; <http://www.knaw.nl/ecpa/ink/html/booke.html#vijf>, accessed October 2002.
6. "Pigments Through the Ages"; WebExhibits, 2001, <http://webexhibits.org/pigments/about/credits.html>, accessed October 2002.

