

# the Adrian Herald

DECEMBER 2003

## From the Imperial Crown

Unto Our fair Empire do We send Our greetings and well wishes.

The Empire is busy and so is the Imperial government. Even though it has only been 37 days, We have several large projects underway (as discussed in last month's Herald), and a few are nearly ready for access across the Empire. It is Our goal to have as much information readily available from the Imperial government as possible, and are pleased with Our ministers' efforts in that regard.

During the final pre-check before release stages for some of these projects local Crowns and ministers have been, and should expect, contact from several Imperial Ministers. We would remind each subdivision that timely reporting is of the essence. The Imperial government will move forward and complete its work regardless of contact. However, it is our desire to have the input of individuals and their subdivisions. If a Crown, minister, or member of the Empire does not respond with at least contact information, binding decisions will be made on their behalf without their voices being heard.

The Imperium only functions efficiently with timely and complete information. Please remember that just as the local ministers report to the Imperial counterpart, each Imperial Minister and Local Crown is required to report to the Imperial Crown. These reports are expected monthly, and the Crown will be notified which reports are late.

In this light the following ministers should expect contact and to give details to the Imperial Crowns and their ministers:

**Local Crowns** - to start reporting themselves, or assign ambassadors to report, to the Imperial Web Minister of local ministry information for the Imperial Site.

**Local Stewards** - to amend the current reporting standards in an effort to bring quarterly financial statements to the Imperial Estates meeting.

**Local Sovereigns of Arms** - a website is up and running. Data from all sources is currently being entered, and local sovereigns will be asked to check the site for correctness before it is released to the populace-at-large. An accurate timeline with more details on this will be in the next Herald, but We believe (due to the diligence of those entering the data) the local ministers may be contacted before its release.

We again thank the populace for their time, and may you all have a good holiday season.

*Lord Wright, Emperor*

*Dame Aislynn, Empress*

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*"I am not a veteran of the  
battle of Cresy, but I have  
talked to those who were."  
~ Sir Karl von Katzburg*

# Imperial News

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## Huntingdon Herald

Good Members of the College of Arms, for his long standing service to the College and the Empire at large do I, Sir Alaric Thorne Fleur de Lis King of Arms bestow the Heraldic title of Huntingdon Herald to Sir Nigel of Huntingdon. Without Sir Nigel we would not have the College, and he is invaluable to all of us. He will continue as a most learned Herald to answer questions of precedence, and history of the college on my behalf. And I do willfully, and cheerfully acknowledge him.

*reprinted from the College of Arms e-list*

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## Physicker's Office

Greetings to the members of the Adrian Empire. I am putting out a call to the Empire for Deputy Physickers. What I seek are highly motivated individuals with CPR, First Aid, and a desire to give service to their Kingdom and Empire.

I would like to see all areas of the country represented. If you wish to serve as a Deputy Imperial Physicker or if you know of someone who would do well in this position, please e-mail me with your intentions, qualifications, certifications or licensure, and contact information. I will review these requests and attempt to select several deputies that will serve our Kingdoms and Empire well.

My e-mail address is [physicker@adrianempire.org](mailto:physicker@adrianempire.org). The Imperial Physicker discussion group is: [adria-physickers@yahoo.com](mailto:adria-physickers@yahoo.com). Even if you are not interested in becoming a Deputy Imperial Physicker, please use the discussion group and my e-mail to voice your ideas, questions and concerns regarding safety and first aid within our Empire.

I look forward to your input and interest in the health and welfare of our Empire.

*In service to the Empire, Count Sean Brodaire Esq. (Tim Vietmeier RN) Imperial Physicker*

*reprinted from the Adrian Empire e-list*

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## Joust and War

I, Sir Gwyllum Ap DuDrane, do bid you greetings.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as I am the new Imperial Minister of Joust and War. I can be reached via email at [JoustandWar@adrianempire.org](mailto:JoustandWar@adrianempire.org) (or [sirgwyllumofaragon@yahoo.com](mailto:sirgwyllumofaragon@yahoo.com)).

Please send me your ideas for scenarios for our Imperial Wars. I look forward to hearing your ideas and any questions you might have.

I would like all of the local MOWAJ, to contact me with your contact information and subdivisions so that I can establish open channels of communication.

*In Service to the Empire, H.G. Gnyllum Ap DuDrane, Imperial Minister of Joust and War, Champion of the West to Her Imperial Majesty*

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## Imperial Website

We welcome a new Imperial Webmaster this reign. Morgan de Cameron has taken on this task. Many of the projects that were incomplete last year are on the front burner for this winter. Among them are sections for each ministry office where you will find information of use to you. Some of the upcoming additions you may expect to see:

**Rolls Office** - At first, we are aiming for posting of Imperial reports. We will eventually have all rolls records online.

**College of Arms** - The temporary armorial will be replaced with a complete and up-to-date version. Search capabilities and on-line submissions are also goals for this office's section.

**Chancery** - You may currently view all judicial and civil decisions in the minister's reports prepared for the Imperial Estates Meetings, or by request from your local chancellor. All these decisions will be made available in an easy-to-locate format.

<http://www.adrianempire.org>

*In service, Maedb Hawkins, Minister of Publishing*

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## Hospitaler's Goals/Expectations

Goals: first mine. Please note it is not always necessary to complete a goal but rather to strive for such.

- Complete the startup manual
- Create a document on the traditions and customs of Adria
- Listen and communicate with all hospitalers of the Empire
- Create standardized forms to be used in this ministry throughout the Empire
- Double the current amount of paid members in a year's time
- Get the word out that Adria is here and respond as quickly as possible to any and all inquiries and do my best to help new subdivisions to get started as well as offering assistance to smaller subdivisions who request such

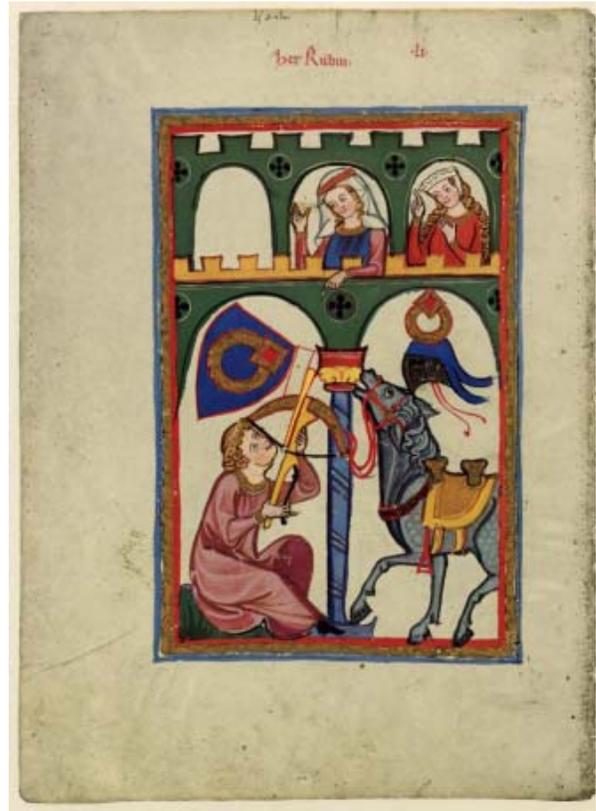
Now to achieve these goals will require comittment and dedication and a willingness from everyone in this ministry.

Expectations and goals of hospitalers from the subdivisions:

- Monthly Reports: This is very important, let me know what recruiting is happening in your area, how many new members joined this month, the establishment of any new cantons, demos your subdivision was involved in. If you are contacted by someone interested in Adria who lives outside of your subdivision contact me ASAP!!! What Advertising Recruitment done by your subdivision.
- Send me copies of any forms you are now using for this office
- Send me copies of any and all recruitment posters flyers, handouts etc your subdivision uses to find new members
- Set a personal goal for your office in your subdivision
- Talk to me, offer suggestions on how to improve this office, communicate
- Send me a copy of the history, culture, traditions and customs of your subdivision if such already exists, or create such and send it to me to be placed in the document on traditions of Adria

One other thing.. my persona is French. That's why I use the spelling "hospitalier" though technically the English spelling is "hospitaler."

*YIS, Lord Auberon, Imperial Hospitalier  
reprinted from the hospitaler's e-list*



*Illuminated page from the Codex Manesse*

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## Imperial Information

Mailing Address: Adrian Empire, Inc.

PO Box 46

Atwood, CA 92811-0046

Adrian Empire web site:

<http://www.adrianempire.org>

Imperial Steward web site:

<http://www.greypHis.net>

Contact List Manager:

[contact\\_list@adrianempire.org](mailto:contact_list@adrianempire.org)

Newsletter submissions:

[chronicler@adrianempire.org](mailto:chronicler@adrianempire.org)

Regional contacts are found on the Imperial web site.

# Regions

## Alhambra

Hear Ye, Hear Ye! House of the Silver Circle sends out an invitation for all to join us for an **Old World Yule Celebration!** The event will take place on Saturday, December 20th, 2003 from 10:00am-8:00pm.

We shall convene at the home of Duke Mikcos Douglas, Lady Lily (your local French gypsy in charge) and that rascal Bruno NoBeard (the mini-Pirate). A map to our home can be found in the Files section of the Alhambra Yahoo group. You may also e-mail for directions (fearlessfrip@hotmail.com)

Tournaments for Archery, and Shinai/Renaissance Schlager will be preceded by taking the appropriate Oaths. Also, for those of you who have taken your Oath, but do not have your Oath tokens, please advise Lady Lily as they are on hand.

The Tournaments will be held in concordance with Craft activities throughout the day. We shall be stringing popcorn and cranberries and making pinecones with peanut-butter and birdseed to decorate our beloved "Bruce, the Spruce" who grows near our Archery range.

Ada Cormack has graced us with the offer to host a Leather Tooling Workshop. She will be providing leather scraps that can be cut and tooled into pendants or ornaments. Please bring any spare awls you may have so we have enough to go around.

In celebration of Yule, we shall have a symbolic candle lighting to represent the returning Sun which comes after the longest night of the year (traditional Yule is on the Winter Solstice). A Yule gift exchange shall then commence. If you would like to participate, please bring one small gift per person (\$5.00 limit, please).

Our evening Court shall also be enhanced by the second level Ministry Knighting of our beloved Duchess, Dame Amara vai'Datha.

Our potluck dinner will provide:

- Venison, Lentil and Barley Dish
- Cheddar Broccoli Soup and Pie
- Rice Dish and possibly Squash
- Fresh Fruit and Apple Cider
- CHEESE!

Guests are asked to bring:

- Bread
- Salad or vegetables
- Snack items
- Additional drinks.

*[Editor's note: The day begins at 10:00 am, with dinner at 4:30, and evening Court at 6:00. A complete schedule is available from the autocrat or e-list.]*

*reprinted from the Alhambra e-list*

## Aragon

**Yule Feast Autocrat:** Skald Silverback

**Date:** December 14th, 2003

**Location:** Sunrise Library

**Time:** Subject to change if library adjust for winter hours. Setup is at 2:00 PM - Feast Begins at 3:00 PM - Ends at 5:00 PM

**Cost:** \$5 per person, Children under 10 free.

**Menu:** First Course - Salad and Soup

Second Course - Chicken with vegetables and Roasted Potatoes

Final Course - Dessert

Drinks - Water and Cider

**Additional Information:** I am looking for volunteers to help serve (5-7 servers depending on number of guests). Servers will eat free. We have a stage available; if you would like to entertain at the feast please let me know. You may bring your feast gear; we will provide feast gear (or mundane equivalent) to those without. I would like to know how much food to buy. Please RSVP no later than December 6th if you plan on attending. Some additional food will be bought, but not much. You can pay ahead of time, or at the event, to the steward's office. If you would like to do something special during the feast (Knighting, Proposal, etc.) please let me know what you would like to do and we can arrange for it. For further questions please contact me at [captjustinkase@aol.com](mailto:captjustinkase@aol.com)

*Skald Silverback*

*reprinted from the Aragon Sun e-list*

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## Cambridge

### New Ducal Crown

The Duchy of Cambridge selected their new Crown the first weekend of October. Their Graces, Greylynd Winter and Mike Moondancer, ascended to the throne the last weekend of the same month.

### Yule

Yule will be on December 20th... It has been suggested by our Duke that the event be a "Pot Luck" and the meals will be judged for arts & science entries.

It is important that you notify me as soon as possible what you will be bringing so that we can try to be sure that we are not just having desert for dinner.

Meals should be prepared prior to the event, though you can warm them. If the dish you have chosen needs to be prepared at the location, please CALL me to be sure we can make arrangements. *[phone number removed: contact author at edmagick01@yahoo.com]*

Don't forget your documentation..

If you would prefer to enter an A&S on another subject, it is still important that you contact me prior to the event.

*Aine McKensie, Ministry of Arts & Sciences  
reprinted from the Cambridge e-list*



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**Their Graces, Lord Greylynd Winter and Mika Moondancer, Crown of Cambridge**

*photo (c) Mika Moondancer*

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## Sangrael

### Ducal War

It's that time of year again. It will be Dec. 6th, from 10am till 4pm at Summer Lake park, Lake Elsinore CA. We will be having a contested war between the Duke, Sir Roger Lamont, and Duchess, Dame Kathleen Lamont, and Sir Bear and Dame Isabella. This should be fun and eventful, to say the least. There will also be a "Damsel in Distress Barbie" battle. So come join us for some FUN and support your favorites. Steel\*Ren\* Arts\* Archery

### Sangreal Yule Feast

Period dancing, games, and live entertainment  
Dec.13 4pm to 8pm  
Meadowview Estate's Club house  
41065 Avenida Verde, Temecula

**Fees:** Adults \$10.00 (Children 5-13 \$5.00, under 5 free). Reservations are limited. Please pre-pay at war or you can send your pre-payment check made out to Adrian empire to: Susan Parsley, 27387 Bunkerhill, Corona, Cal. 92883

**Menu:** Breads, flavored butters

Green Salad  
Beef and Vegetable Soup  
Sausage and Onions  
Gingered Carrots  
Baked Apples  
Roasted Chicken  
Green Beans with almonds  
Pears in wine sauce  
Assorted desserts  
Apple cider, water, coffee provided

**Autocrat:** Dame Gwendolin if you need more info - please all rsvp to her

*Looking forward to seeing you all there.*

*In service, to the DREAM OF ADRIA, Lady Kirin  
S.Wallace Arryondo, Christopherson  
reprinted from the e-lists*

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## Terre Neuve

October had grand participation in all forms of combat; Finbar the Kneeling won both the Shenai and Sergeants Renn tourneys, Sir Ivan of Mannochemore took the win in Knights Renn and Jason the Dirty of Black Company was victorious in Armored Combat. Congratulations to all our fine combatants! Kudos to Squire Patrick for winning the prize for "Best Death"!

On the arts field at our monthly tournament, Mistress Juliet and Master Stan of Dundalk both had entries on the Knights list. Mistress Juliet entered a lovely necklace and earrings of real amethyst and pearl, while Master Stan's entry was a basilard; which is a special close combat dagger.

Due to the huge wildfires burning out of control in San Diego County on the day of the Archery Tournament, the list of participants was quite small, however we did have a win on the Bowmans list, Lazarus of Mannochemore.

Wildfires threatened the homes of many Terre Neuvians, many of whom were evacuated to safety. We are grateful beyond measure that no lives or homes were lost in our Kingdom. Lost to the fires however were the garage and workshops/forge of the Tamura family and the Dawson family home sustained much smoke damage. If there are any who wish to assist these families, please contact our Crowns.

A wondrous time was had by all at our Pirate/Privateer Fun War autocrated by Sir Ivan and Lady Polgara of Mannochemore and Egan Skelly of Silver Talon. The privateers under the protection of the Crowns were declared the winners; the deciding point coming from our youngest members winning the children's jousting tournament!

Our Crowns awarded lands to Terre Neuvians who have distinguished themselves this year, Sir Sivax Wartongue was awarded the lands of La Jolla Cove, Earl Johan Warhammer was awarded lands along our Northern Border as an outpost upon his return to Terre Neuve, and Master Stan of Dundalk was awarded the lands surrounding the southern reaches of Cuyamaca Lake for mining operations. Queen Kendra and King Madoc also commissioned several new ships; the Starbuck owned by Lord Callon Bryn Corey; the Geomancer owned by Squire Patrick McLean and the LaPetite owned by Tailan Bran McNeil; who will also be commanding the Flying Dragon during the absence

of Sir Sean Patrick.

The second day of classes in our ongoing schedule of monthly Collegium Days went very well, and was well attended. The topics covered that day were covering the mundane, basic tunics & gowns, and basic trews (pants).

In December we will cover combat arrow construction, basic gambeson construction and making banners and flags. We are also looking forward to our Annual Masked Ball on November 22, to be held at the Lemon Grove Rec. Center; and our Twelfth Night Feast, a yearly tradition in Terre Neuve is being planned for January. Look to the Terre Neuve website for more information on these events as it becomes available. <http://www.kingdomofterreneuve.org/>

*Dame Claire of Eagle's Nest*

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## Dork

Unto The Great Populace of our Empire,

We, the new Crowns of York, would like to thank all for their attendance, well wishes, gifts and service at our Coronation this Friday past [*message dated November 30*]. While it was our first attempt at organizing such a large event we feel it went fairly well. It seemed that a good time was had by all. We even picked up 11 new members for our Empire at the event.

We would at this time like to make a couple special Thanks.

1.To the people that helped with all the cooking, the food was well received by all that we have spoken with. Your work in this area did not go unnoticed.

2.To the few that came to help set up the Hall, It was a visual splendor with what we had to work with.

3.To the Out Going Crowns for your Guidance and Encouragement.

4.To all of our Entertainment

5. And a Very Large thanks for the Members of Dragon Mist that traveled from far away Lands Baring Gifts for us.

We look forward to serving both the Populaces of our Grand Kingdom and Our Mighty Empire over the next year.

*In Service, HRM Sir Bleyz MacBruce and HRM Lady Fionnghualla, King and Queen of York*  
*reprinted from the e-lists*

# Miscellany

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## Turning the Pages

<http://www.bl.uk/collections/treasures/digitisation.html>

Turning the Pages is an award-winning interactive display system developed by the British Library to increase public access and enjoyment of its treasures.

Visitors can virtually 'turn' the pages of rare books or manuscripts in a highly realistic way, using touch-screen technology and animation. They can zoom in on the high-quality digitised images and read or listen to notes explaining the significance of each page. There are other features specific to the individual books. In the Leonardo Notebook, for example, a mirror button turns the text round so visitors can read his famous mirror handwriting.

**The Leonardo Notebook:** Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519) was one of the greatest thinkers of his age. The text is in Leonardo's characteristic 'mirror writing', written left-handed and from right to left. His original intention seems to have been to gather material for a treatise on mechanics, although his curiosity led him into numerous other topics from the movement of water to the flight of birds. This notebook is not a bound volume, but was put together after his death from loose papers.

**The Lindisfarne Gospels:** One of the world's greatest books. It was probably made between 715 and 720, in the island monastery of Lindisfarne. Founded by Irish monks in 635, it lies off the coast of the former Anglo-Saxon kingdom of Northumbria (North East England). Although remote, it was certainly not cut off culturally. The Lindisfarne Gospels reflects many influences: native British, Celtic, Germanic, Roman, Early Christian, Byzantine, North African and Middle Eastern.

**Sultan Baybars' Qur'an:** This early 14th-century manuscript is one of the finest Qur'ans of the Mamluk period. It is considered a masterpiece of Islamic calligraphy and illumination. The script is written entirely in gold. This Qur'an was commissioned by Rukn al-Din Baybars al-Jashnagir, who later became Sultan Baybars II. This version was made possible by the generosity of The Noon Foundation.

**The Sherborne Missal:** the most lavishly decorated medieval service-book to survive the Reformation. It contains 694 parchment pages. Made for the Benedictine Abbey of St Mary's in Sherborne, Dorset, at the opening of the 15th century, it is a masterpiece of the International Gothic style. This version was made possible by the generous contribution of the Headley Trust.

*excerpted with permission from the British Library*

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## Medieval Illuminated Manuscripts

<http://www.kb.nl/kb/manuscripts/>

The website Medieval Illuminated Manuscripts presents almost 11000 unique illustrations from 400 illuminated manuscripts from the Koninklijke Bibliotheek and the Museum Meermanno-Westreenianum (<http://www.meermanno.nl/>) in The Hague, The Netherlands. The website provides a varied array of beautiful illustrations for specialists in Medieval Art as well as for occasional visitors looking for mere pretty pictures.

There are three ways for searching images:

- Theme's (Highlights) provide a general overview of the richness of the materials of the 15 chosen theme's such as: Fabulous Animals, Christian Holidays, The Book of Genesis and Saints.
- 'Browse by subject' using Iconclass offers users the possibility to search directly for images using chosen subjects such as: Classical Mythology > Roman legends > Story of Aeneas.
- Search in the database ('Expert Search') provide easy access for specialists using the indexes to place names, names of artists, dates, iconographic themes, types. E.g. a user can search for illustrations of Maria in manuscripts from the town of Delft that were produced between 1400 and 1500.

*excerpted with permission from the K.B.*

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## Basics of Illumination

*This is a much-condensed article, gleaned with permission from a wonderful how-to article by Randy Apslund. I cannot stress enough how enjoyable and informative his information is: <http://www.randyasplund.com/browse/tournpge/tipg.1.html>*

First the page is prepared. Very smooth, white calf, goat, or sheep skin parchment is a good medieval choice. Sand it lightly with a very fine sandpaper to raise a slight nap. This gives the paint a good purchase upon the surface. Decide on margin sizes, leaving plenty of white page around the design area, and mark with pin pricks where the ruling lines would be placed.

Plan for large areas where illustrations would be placed, but execute the calligraphy before the painting was penciled. This is the stage where text columns are created and written. The medieval page was ruled uniformly through the book by stacking the leaves and punching pin-prick holes through several sheets at once. These holes, near the edge of the page, indicated the spacing of columns, margins, and line height. The tool Randy used to prick the holes was a stylus sold as a ceramics probe. It is just a pointed wire in a wooden handle, and it is a direct parallel to the pointed wire stuck in a bone handle used in the middle ages.

After the holes are pricked, a straight edge is laid along them and ruling lines are drawn. Randy used a bow pen filled with dilute brown watercolor as ink to draw the ruling lines on front and back. The medieval counterpart would have been either ink in a quill, or they would use a lead wire, or a dry, colored marking stick called a crayon.

The next step is the calligraphy. Medieval calligraphy was written with either a hand dipped pen made of a reed, or a quill made from a bird's primary feather and stripped of the fletching, or a metal quill style pen.

Next draw a fairly complete linear rendering of the design with what a medieval craftsman called a crayon. The medieval crayon was much like a pencil, being made of hardened pigment paste. Gilding would be the next step in the process, which is also the most difficult. Gold is stuck onto the page by laying it on a thick ground called gesso, and letting it dry. Then it is burnished.

And now comes the painting. Medieval paint was usually made up on the spot. It consisted of the binder (a glue like substance such as some kinds of tree sap called gum, or it was made from egg white, or sometimes egg yolk), mixed with color. Medieval color came in powder form, or as dyes trapped in cloth, or as powders stained with color. The color was mixed in proper proportions with the binder in sea shells or small pots/cups and used like cakes of watercolor or gouache are today.

Whatever brush you choose, those should be your main considerations: good springiness, hold a point well, carry plenty of fluid, and the hairs are just right for drawing curved lines.

Begin by blocking in the base colors. Be very careful to use smaller, less fluid brush strokes, because if you make too much of the parchment wet at a time it will cockle up on you. Parchment is made from animal skin stretched and dried on a rack under high tension. If it gets wet in a big area while being painted, it tends to change the size and thus warp the page. Once the base colors are down, the pattern designs which make the backdrops are painted.

*If you are interested in more details about how to accomplish any step of this process, please check out the complete article located at <http://www.randyasplund.com/browse/tournpge/tipg.1.html> Randy Apslund has gone into great practical detail.*



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## Pattern Books

“Pattern books usually included various studies from life and copies made from all sorts of works. They were often handed down from one artist or workshop to another. In the late Middle Ages some highly finished pattern books may also have been used as advertisement, to show the artist's capabilities to potential customers. Illuminated manuscripts were always widely circulated and copied. Especially sumptuously decorated codices were given as diplomatic or wedding gifts. Traveling scholars and monks carried books with them and brought them to their home libraries. In the late Middle Ages some single-leaf miniatures were created specifically for the art market, and often for export. These decorated sheets were then inserted into already bound codices for decoration. As such practice hazarded the market positions of local workshops, the guilds sometimes forced illuminators to mark their own work with a stamp and forbade the import of single-leaf miniatures from elsewhere. Such a decree was issued in Bruges in 1426.”

*excerpted from Medieval Manuscript Manual*



*St. Augustine in his study,  
from his Soliloquii, Florence 1491*

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## Medieval Manuscript Manual

This on-line manual was created at the Department of Medieval Studies at Central European University, Budapest. It offers basic information, but is very complete, ranging from bookbinding, to illumination, to general history.

<http://www.ceu.hu/medstud/manual/MMM/contents.html>

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## Calligraphy Tip: Covering a Hole

When you make a mistake, you can usually just erase it. Sometimes, though, you can erase a hole right into your parchment. That is easily fixed with a small patch of “fish glue.” Moisten it slightly and press it onto the goof. Clean up both sides by painting over it.

~ Randy Apslund

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## Cennini Cennini

A few surviving paintings are attributed to him, but he is best known as the author of *The Craftsman's Handbook* (c. 1390), the most important sourcebook on artistic practice in the late Middle Ages.

His detailed descriptions of tempera and fresco painting reflect the technical procedures of the great Florentine painting tradition. He believed that painting held a high place among occupations because it combined theory or imagination with the skill of the hand.<sup>1</sup>

A complete translation of this book is available in bookstores, or on-line at <http://www.noteaccess.com/Texts/Cennini/index.htm>.

Cennino D'Andrea Cennini. *The Craftsman's Handbook. The Italian "Il Libro dell' Arte."* Translated by Daniel V. Thompson, Jr. New York: Dover Publications, Inc. 1933, by Yale University Press.

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1. "Cennini, Cennino." *Britannica Concise Encyclopedia*. 2003. Encyclopædia Britannica. 02 Dec, 2003 <<http://concise.britannica.com/ebc/article?eu=385454>>.

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## Painting on Food

For fancy meals and feasts, the cooks of upper-class households would decorate the food they served, particularly the desserts. Sugar plate, icing, and marzipan were popular choices for this because they could be colored. When thinned, they could be used to paint tarts, pies, cakes, and other foods. (You didn't think decorated birthday cakes were a recent invention, did you?)

What designs did they use? Heraldry was always popular. Imagine serving a pie with the arms of your guest painted on it? Or your own arms (depending on what kind of impression you wanted to make, and whether your guest was more important than yourself)?

Since winter is a time that we are all cooped up inside, it's a great time to play in the kitchen. Here are some recipes that you can experiment with. Enjoy.

### If you would make good marzipan

First take a half pound of almonds and soak them overnight in cold well water, take them out in the morning. Next pound them well until they become oily, pour a little rose water on them and pound them further. When they become oily again, then pour a little more rose water thereon. Do this until they no longer become oily. And pound the almonds as small as possible. After that take a half pound of sugar, pound not quite all of it in, leaving a little left over. Next, when the almonds and sugar are pounded well together, put them in a bowl, take the lid from a small box, loosen the rim completely, so that it can be detached and put back on again, however leave the lid and the rim together. Take wafers and make them about as wide as a pastry shell, very round. Spread the almond paste described above with the fingers onto the wafers, moistening the fingers with rose water and dipping the almond paste into the sugar, which you have kept in reserve. After that, when you have spread it out evenly with your hands, take the sugar that you have reserved and sprinkle it through a sieve evenly over the marzipan. And take a small brush and dip it in rose water and sprinkle the marzipan overall, so that the sugar is dissolved. Then let it bake. Check it often, so that it is not burnt. It should be entirely white. The amount of a half pound is necessary, so that the oil remains.

*Recipe 27. Sabina Welserin (1553)*



### To make ymages in suger.

And if 3e will make any ymages or any o[th]er [th]ing in suger [th]at is casten in moldys, sethe [th]em in [th]e same manere [th]at [th]e plate is, and poure it into [th]e moldes in [th]e same manere [th]at [th]e plate is pouryde, but loketh 3oure mold be anoyntyd before wyth a litell oyle of almaundes. Whan [th]ei are oute of [th] moylde 3e mow gylde [th]em or colour [th]em as 3e will. 3if 3e will gilde [th]em or siluer [th]em, noynte [th]em wyth gleyre of an egge and gilde [th]em or siluer [th]em, and if 3e will make [th]em rede take a litell gum araby, and [th]an anoynt it all abowte and make it rede. And 3if 3e will make it grene, take ynde wawdeas ii penywey3te, | ii penyweyte of saffron, [th]e water of [th]e gleyr of ii egges, and stampe all wele togeder and anoynte it wyth all. And if 3e will make it lightly grene, put more saffron [th]erto. And in [th]is maner mow 3e caste alle manere froytes also, and colour it wyth [th]e same colour as diuerse as 3e will, and [th]er [th]at [th]e blossom of [th]at per of apel schull stand put [th]erto a clowe & [th]er [th]e stalke schall stand makes [th]at of kanell.

*Recipe 15, Curye on Englische*

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# Events

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**December 6: Sangrael Crown War**

Summerlake Park, Lake Elsinore, CA

**December 6: Terre Neuve Collegium Day**

Location TBA (San Diego, CA area)

**December 13: Esperance Coronation (Jubilee)**

Yorba Linda Community Center, Yorba Linda, CA

**December 13: Sangrael Yule**

Meadowview Estates, Temecula, CA

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**January 24: Brandenburg Investiture**

Poway, CA

**January 13: Imperial Estates Deadline**

For agenda items, and estates status

**January 17: Sangrael Coronation**

Meadowview Estates, Temecula, CA

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**March 13/14: Imperial Estates Meeting**

Location TBA

*Revelers at Terre Neuve's recent Masked Ball*



*photo (c) Seti*

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**the Adrian Herald**

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