



The Cataract

Spring 2020 Issue



Virtual Barony Meeting - March 22 2020

The newsletter of the Barony of Rising Waters, The Kingdom of Ealdormere

April 2020, A.S. LIV (54)

Facebook: [Official SCA The Barony of Rising Waters](#)

Baronial Website: baronyofrisingwaters.org

The Cataract

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Any member who wishes can subscribe to receive an e-mail when the latest issue of the Cataract becomes available. In order to do so, please send an email to the chronicler: chronicler.risingwaters@gmail.com

Contribute to The Cataract

This publication is only as interesting as its content. Please consider making a contribution in the form of photographs, articles, art work, event reports, medieval recipes, items of historical interest etc.

The next issue, Summer 2020, will come out in July 2020 so please send in any submission by the end of June 2019. Thank you!

Corrections, Submissions, Suggestions, please send to the Chronicler, Lady Bera Oddsdottir chronicler.risingwaters@gmail.com

Barony of Rising Waters Online

The Barony of Rising Waters can be found online at:
<http://baronyofrisingwaters.org>



[The Barony of Rising Waters
Official SCA](#)



[SCA Barony of Rising
Waters Official Channel](#)



Rising Waters Destash Fundraiser

As springtime is nearly here the Barony of Rising Waters would like to assist in your spring decluttering and cleaning

What we can accept

CLOTHING:

Men's, Women's
and Children's

SHOES:

Men's, Women's
and Children's

TEXTILES:

Towels, sheets,
blankets, pillows,
curtains, tableclothes

ACCESSORIES:

Hats, mittens, scarves,
socks, purses, wallets,
backpacks, bags, ties

We present to you a way for you to donate your gently used clothing items and other acceptable goods which will turn into money for our Barony. We have teamed up with Value Village for this endeavour and they have kindly offered to pay us for any goods that are donated via this fundraiser.

If there are any goods that you feel you would like to donate to us but would serve better at auction please make sure to let us know and we will put these items aside.

For more information please contact:

Lady Rúna Sölveigardóttir (Gillian Barclay)
community.risingwaters@gmail.com

Rhys of Anglesey (Christian Bernard-Brewster)
rhys.of.anglesey@gmail.com

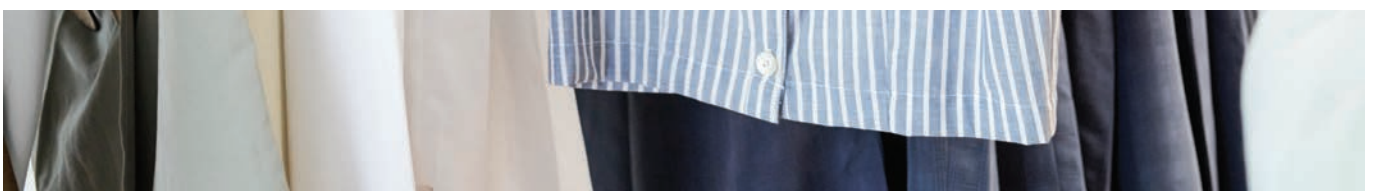




Photo: Angie Gott

Missive from the Baroness

from Baroness Sciath ingen Chaennaig

To all of our friends and family in the Barony of Rising Waters, I want to assure you that I have been taking every measure to make sure that as regulations change, so too do our plans within the barony. There has been much discussion about upcoming events and as Baroness of Rising Waters,

I want my people to know that their health and wellness are what matter to me. In an effort to support our community staying at home during this crisis, we have cancelled practices, and classes and moved to virtual, online platforms where possible to connect with our community. You'll find that we've added a section to our Baronial website - the virtual Barony - which includes information on all sorts of virtual classes and gatherings. You can check the Virtual Barony out here: <https://baronyofrisingwaters.org/virtual-barony/>

This year, Spring Coronation will be different from what we had planned, and updates will be posted as soon as we are able. The SCA Board has recently published a communication (link below) regarding coronation events. The Lady Mary Memorial Tournament is now officially postponed - we will look at rescheduling the event when possible. I want to assure you that my top concern is for everyone in the Barony, and traveling to our Barony, to remain safe and hale. We will remain vigilant and monitor the situation as it evolves.

The Barony is coming together to create online spaces to connect with each other and educate newcomers, to show non-members just how close of a community we can be. Baroness Gema, our Seneschal and I are looking forward to livestreaming on FaceBook this weekend (March 28 at 7pm) for a Baronial Check-in. Be sure to check it out, and check in! Let's show Ealdormere that we can rely on each other to weather this storm and come out stronger on the other side. We will serve as an inspiration in how Rising Waters loves and cares for its people. Please join me, and let's work together to calm these waters.

I remain in service to the Barony and Kingdom,
Sciath, Baroness of Rising Waters

On the topic of Coronation Events from the SCA Board:

<https://sca.org/news/recent-board-letter-to-the-crowns-and-kingdom-seneschals/>

Tournoi

The Council of Barons is held each reign, and provides Their Majesties (and Highnesses) the opportunity to meet with their territorial barons and baronesses. The meeting was brief, but the message was clear - there have been murmurings of war. Ealdormere will once again enter into inter-kingdom warfare - but, who will Their Majesties choose to fight for? I will be reporting the number of fighters that Rising Waters will have to contribute to Ealdormere's fight forces for war at Coronation. Please, warriors of the Barony, continue your training, arm yourselves and defend your Barony and Kingdom.

Moot

Our first moot in many years took place at the Niagara Falls Library on Sunday, February 16, 2020. I'd like to thank Countess Arlette for acting as our lawspeaker, and commend her for performing the role so well.

We are fortunate to have had Rhys of Anglesey as our Social Media officer, and in addition to the 16 participants at the library, we had 8 additional participants engaged in the Livestream event - for a total of 24 participants at our Moot!

The topics included: Baronial Selection Process, Officer Recruitment, Event Bid Process, and the Award/Recognition Process.

Thank you to all who attended, in-person and online. I hope that we will have moots annually so that everyone in the Barony has the opportunity to have their voices heard.



Getting ready to 'moot'. Photo is a screen-capture from the FaceBook Livestream video

Baronial Calendar

Normally, this would be the part of the Cataract where I would show the Calendar of events for the barony over the upcoming months. Due to current events however for at least the nearest part of our future has seen all in person meet-ups being cancelled.

Due to the up in the air nature I will leave that information to be available in it's most current format on the Barony Website and Facebook Page.

Stay everybody,
Bera

https://baronyofrisingwaters.org/event_calendar/

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/BaronyOfRisingWaters/events/>

Now Seeking

The Barony of Rising Waters is seeking applications for a few positions within our growing community.

Minster of Children

Responsible for programming activities and to support engagement with children and youth in the Barony.

Minister of Accessibility

Responsible for working with the baronial committee and event stewards to ensure baronial activities and events include accessibility concerns.

If you wish to apply please send an email application to both the Baronial Seneschal Baroness Gema Krasil'niKova seneschal.risingwaters@gmail.com and Baroness Sciath ingen Chaennaig risingwaters@gmail.com If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask.

Online Arts & Sciences

Facebook Groups

The Honorable Clover

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/967942963341698/>

SCA Virtual Classroom and Artisan Display

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/virtualsca/>

Ealdormere Internet Arts & Science Event

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/896001760844623/>

Online Universities/Learning

Harvard University Free Humanities Courses

[https://online-learning.harvard.edu/catalog?keywords=&subject\[\]=8](https://online-learning.harvard.edu/catalog?keywords=&subject[]=8)

Coursera Free History Courses

<https://www.coursera.org/browse/arts-and-humanities/history>

edX Free History Courses

<https://www.edx.org/course/subject/history>

My Mooc Archeology Courses

[https://www.my-mooc.com/en/moocs?search\[query\]=archeology](https://www.my-mooc.com/en/moocs?search[query]=archeology)

Online Universities/Learning

Hardcore History

<https://www.dancarlin.com/hardcore-history-series/>

Weird History

<https://www.weirdhistorypodcast.com/>

History on Fire

<http://historyonfirepodcast.com/>

[More?? big list of free e-learning resources](#)

Greetings from the Seneschal

Warm Greetings unto the Barony

This past while has been a unique and trying time for all of us. If you are still working and providing essential service to us, THANK YOU! If you are like me, you are at home filling the time with work, crafting, catching up on shows and movies, playing games or filling time with other pursuits.

Both Coronation and Lady Mary seem to be in question, and we are trying to get information as soon as possible. We are required to uphold Government Law and not have any gatherings. This is currently in place for the safety of everyone and the hopes to 'flatten the curve'. We have several members (including myself) who are in a vulnerable state and can be seriously affected by Covid-19. Even if you feel fine you may be infected or carrying, please keep that in mind.

As I write this several virtual gatherings have taken place and continue to socialize and learn. Thank you to all the artisans, teachers, crafters and bards who have filled our electronic communication with your works. I encourage you to participate in these gatherings, it makes a world of difference. At one point someone said I looked like I was falling asleep, but truly I was just soaking in the friendships, laughter, voices and love that was clearly shown. We will get through this together!

I am available as always via email or messenger should you have any questions or concerns. I encourage Barony members who require assistance to let us know so we can make sure everyone is taken care of.

In Service to the Dream

Baroness Gema Krasil ni'Kova

Seneschal of Rising Waters

Greetings from the Signet



Photo: Angie Gott

First, I'd like to welcome Jessica as Deputy Signet! She has taken the lead in the Known World Scribal War - and we are rallying scribes of Ealdormere to come do battle (or, er, make art!). [Find out more about the Scribal War on FaceBook.](#)

Yours in Scribally Service,
Sciath the Signet



Greetings from the Office of the Webminister

Due to what's going on out in the mundane world, there have been a few updates to the site. For one the new events feature that was in the sidebar of the event page has been temporarily disabled, with a notice explaining why.

We've also added a "Virtual Barony" page to help highlight what online activities are available while we're all stuck at home. Read a message from the Baroness and see the online events here: <https://baronyofrisingwaters.org/virtual-barony/>

Good day fine Gentles, Its your friendly neighborhood Chatelaine! Here to talk to you about some newcomers information found in the Known World Handbook.

Since I have recently aquired myself my own copy, I figured I give you a bit of insight into this amazing book!

At first glance, you will see the cover. Full of examples of great scribe arts with a beautiful calligraphy style which gives the reader a glimpse into what is covered inside. It does looks like a beautiful scroll.

When you open the book, the first page is the introduction and acknowledgments, followed by the table of contents. Which brings you to the Glossary of Terms starting on page 7.



This glossary of terms is, as it states itself in the editor's note, is more like a lexicon than a true glossary of terms. The meaning of lexicon basically means the vocabulary of a person, language, or branch of knowledge as found on the Webster Dictionary online.

As I still consider myself new to the SCA. There is always something to learn. I did know much of the vocabulary, but not all, as some terms have not been used in my own presence as I recall. There are almost 4 pages of alphabetically listed helpful terms to learn!

One thing I really did like about the glossary itself was that every once in a while it would refer to a page number for more information. Now I really liked this for a couple of reasons. The fact that the glossary itself is in the front of the book makes a huge difference to understanding the literature that follows. As well as if you wanted to just jump ahead to a specific topic, you can do so with as much ease to navigate as the table of contents.

In my opinion this glossary was very well written and very inclusive to everyone. I can't wait to read the next chapter on the history!

Please, if you have any questions, dont hesitate to get in touch! I would like to hear from our newcomers more.

YIS Chatelaine of The Barony of Rising Waters,
Lady Ragnheiðr Hróaldsdóttir

Recent Historical News

Here are some of the latest articles about historical studies and discoveries that might be of interest to our members:



[Lost gateway of fabled Medina Azahara unearthed in southern Spain](#)



[Archaeologists make 'exciting' discovery in Caernarfon](#)



[Dublin's earliest Viking settlement seen in new light](#)



[12 Famous Museums And Galleries You Can Visit Virtually From Your Own Couch](#)



Ingredients

3+ cups flour (I usually use a mix of wheat and rye or whole wheat and unbleached.
It works better if at least 1 cup of unbleached flour is used.)

½ tbs salt (I use coarse salt)

1 cup Sourdough starter

1 cup warm water (I use hot tap water, the same temperature you
would use to activate baker yeast.)

¼ cup + olive oil

Optional

Toppings and additives such as raisins, walnuts, sundried tomatoes (chopped), olives, sesame seeds, poppy seeds, spices, etc... let your imagination go wild. I like to make bagels or bread with cinnamon, raisins and walnuts.

Egg wash for bagels.

1 egg

1 tbs water. Whisked together.

Measure 3 cups of flour into bowl add salt and any spice that you decide to use.

Stir with a whisk to combine. In a 2 cup measuring cup at 1 cup of hot tap water.

Add sourdough starter until liquid comes up to the 2 cup point. Put this in a large bowl (I use a ceramic bread bowl as this holds the heat, which helps with the rising process.) Whisk until starter is dissolved, add flour and any addivites. Stir with a wooden spoon until the flour comes away from the sides of the bowl.

Turn out onto a floured surface and using as much flour as needed. (unbleached white flour is what I usually use.)

Knead dough until it forms and nice elastic/smooth ball. About 10 minutes.

Drizzle about 2 tables spoons of oil into bowl.

Place dough into bowl and cover with a damp cloth. Let rise until double in bulk. This takes about 5 hours, but can vary depending on the warmth of the kitchen. I've seen it be as little as 3 hours and as much as 12.

Shape loaf or bagels (this recipe makes 6 – 8 bagels), cover with damp cloth and let rise until double in bulk. This can be done for another 5 hours or so at room temperature or can be but in the fridge overnight. If you use the fridge method the take loaf/bagels from the fridge and let stand for at least an hour before going on to the next step.

Preheat oven to 400 or whichever temperature you like to bake bread at.

For bread: place in baking tray or pan and bake for 35 – 40 minutes or until bread sounds hollow when knocked on the bottom. This will vary depending on you chosen baking temperature. The times listed are for 400. If I bake any hotter it sets of my smoke alarm. My apartment does not have a range hood.

LOL

For bagels: fill an SS sauté pan fill $\frac{3}{4}$ full of water and bring to the boil. Add 1 tablespoon baking soda. Add bagels to boiling water and boil for 30 seconds, flip them over and boil other side for an additional 30 seconds. I find just counting to 30 slowly works. Do not crowd the pan. It usually takes 2 batches with my pan. Brush with egg wash and top as desired.

Bake for 20-25 minutes or until they sound hollow when knocked on the bottom.

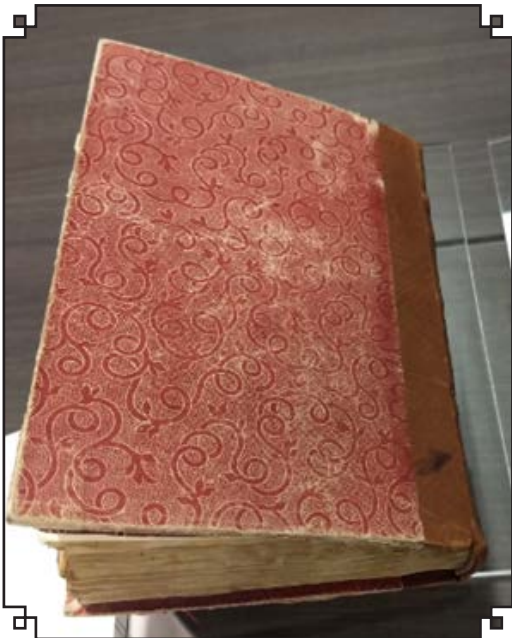
Enjoy!

Manuscript Visit ~ Gelleia le Vinter

On March 4th, lady Gelleia le Vinter travelled to the Barony of Ramshaven to study the manuscripts at the University of Guelph on loan from Les Enluminures (France) until May 20, 2020. There are 9 available for viewing on the 2nd floor of McLaughlin Library in the special collections room during weekdays.

After 3 hours of studying, note taking and photographing, only four books were viewed! Most notably was the book of hours dating 1526. She also viewed a book of the dead dated 1487 (with added pages from 1727 which look like a ledger), a book of sermons from 1460-1475 and a confessional from 1468.

The confessional was written in Latin and Italian and featured one illuminated letter though the entire book and a fancy P on the following page. Gelleia thought ahead and brought rulers to show how small the artwork was, the capital C was a mere 15 mm square. The pages were approximately 110 mm x 150 mm with text columns on a justification of 100 mm x 70 mm.

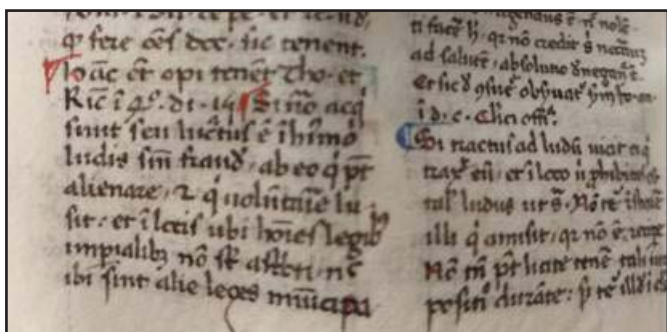
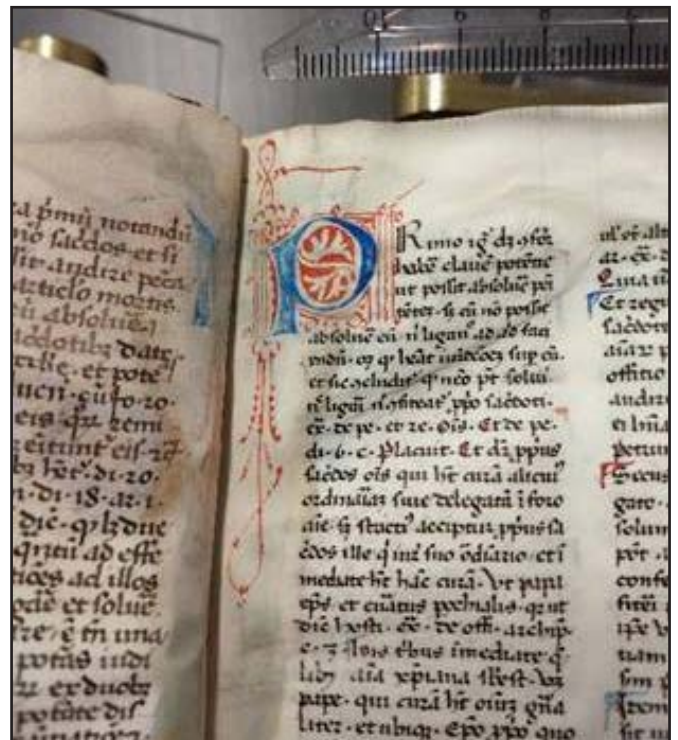


“Although tiny and compact like many miscellanies used by the mendicant friars, this manuscript was an expensive production. It is copied in a formal script by well-trained scribes and includes an illuminated frontispiece at the beginning of the main text, the Confessionale of Bartholomaeus de Chaimis, an influential but rare text that still lacks a scholarly edition. Dated by the scribe, this is perhaps the oldest surviving copy and may have been produced under the direct supervision of the author.”

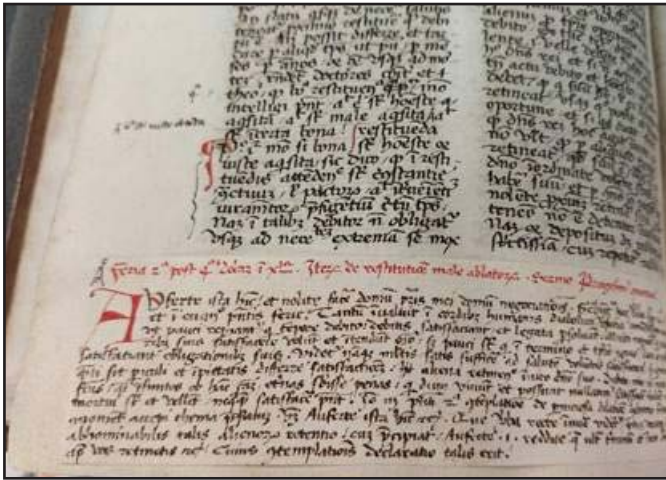
(Text Manuscripts Les Luminures)



Text Manuscripts Les Luminures



Blue and red ink were used periodically to denote "and" as well as something else. There are many abbreviations used for common words or particularly long words (for example *imperpetuum* would be shortened to *imppm* (Collections).) and though she tried to find the meaning for both symbols, wasn't able to find the proper meaning of the perpendicular lines with a diagonal intersecting at the meeting point.



In the book of sermons, there was evidence of clergymen adding notes in Italian (either as a quick reference for themselves or ponderings on the interpretation from Latin?) in addition to the Latin text. In some instances, a paper was glued into the book instead of just adding notes to the margins.

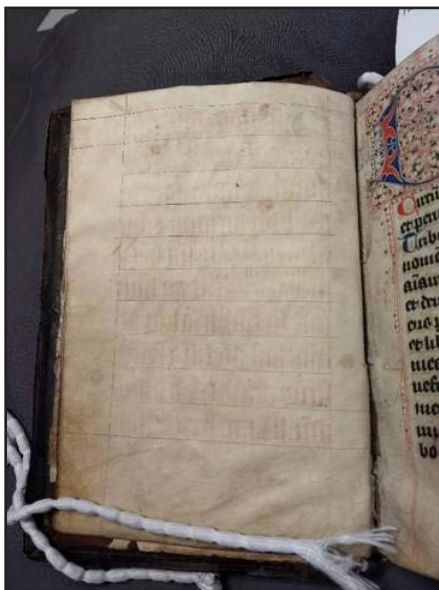
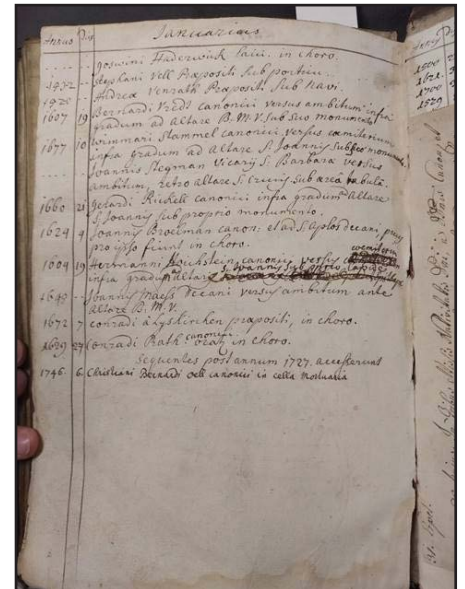
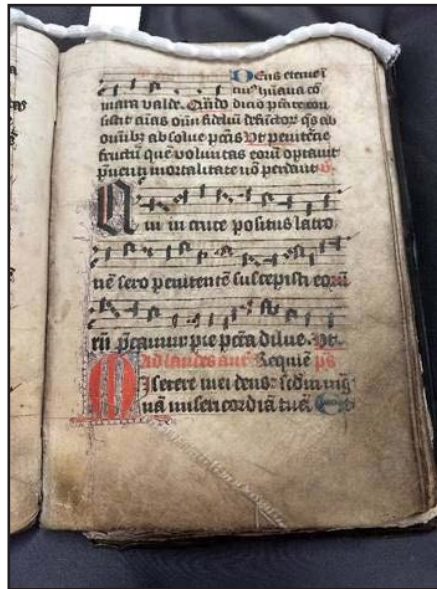
Other than being impressed by the font size and neatness of the calligraphy, she was impressed by the steadfastness of the ink as a few pages showed water damage however the words were still legible and not smeared. The water looked like it had mixed with the top layer of ink, pooled, and dried to leave a watermark over the page.

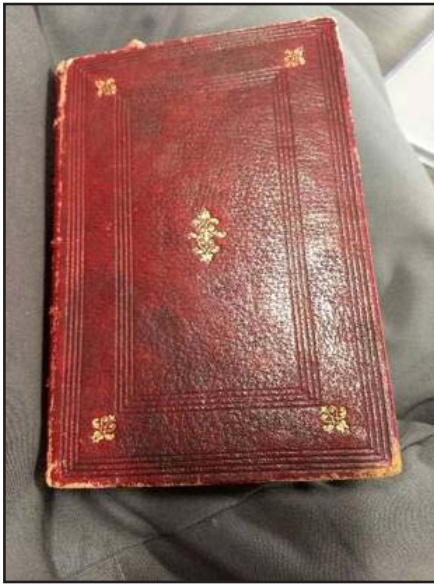
This was a very large volume and presumed to be only half of the sermons as this book started numbering on page 505 through to 1000. There were also headers used written in red ink to know one's place within the text. The leaves were a combination of parchment and paper, interestingly she could see and feel the difference between the two. One was much shinier and smoother in texture while the other held more dirt and had a porous appearance.

The book of the dead (hailing from Cologne, Germany) had an impressive front cover and was the largest of the books, each page with a justification of 170 mm x 100 mm. The book also had much larger calligraphy, approximately 5 mm high instead of the previously seen 2-3 mm in a gothic bookhand (Manuscripts of the Dead). Adding to the character, this book has some damage in the forms of a torn page repaired by thread stitches, and a child's crayon scribbles, a more modern addition surely. One of the back pages also seemed incomplete, as the margins were blocked out for calligraphy but never inked (image 9).

“...this carefully written and decorated liturgical manuscript from the important church of St. Kunibert in Cologne was used daily by the canons for the liturgy associated with death and burial. Dated and with a known donor, it is preserved in an elaborate sixteenth-century binding. It also includes an eighteenth-century necrology with names, dates, and burial location, making this an important document both as a record of people associated with the community and for the physical organization of the Church and its altars.” (Manuscripts of the Dead)

While Gelleia was visiting the manuscripts, students were also studying the book of the dead and were discussing how to translate the bars of music into chants to be sung as part of a class presentation.



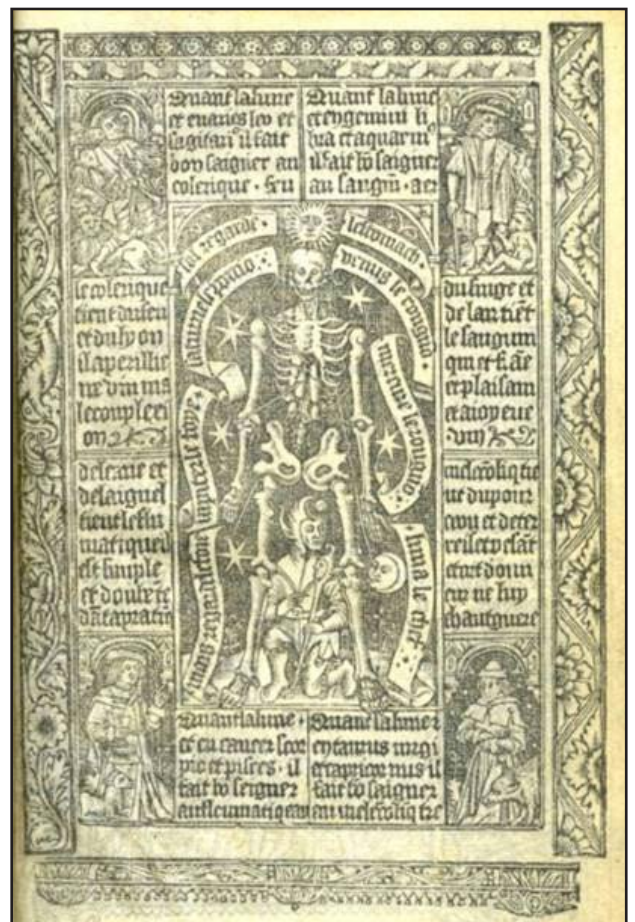
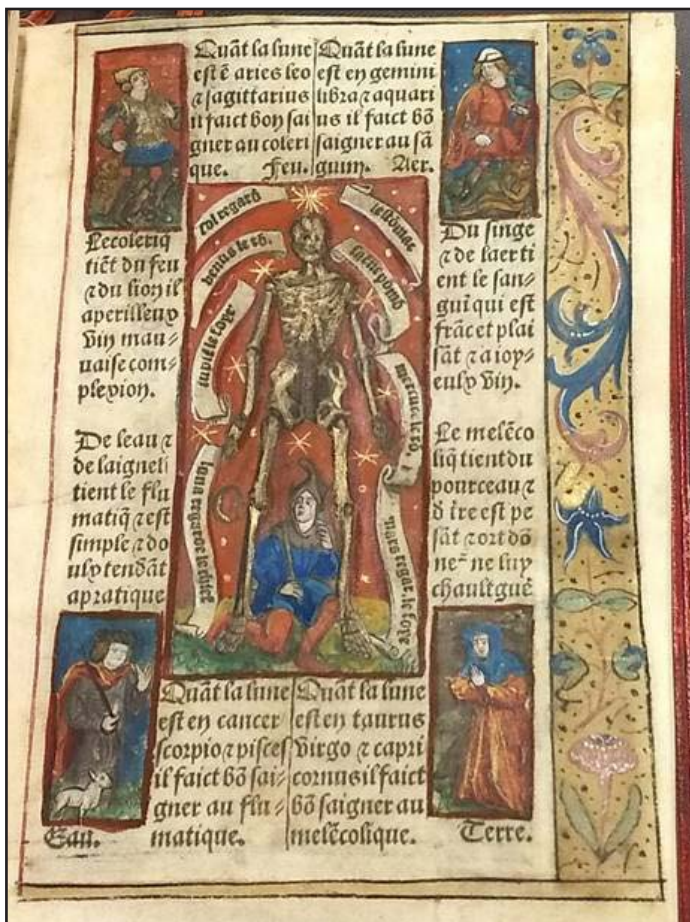


While saving the most visually stunning book for last, the book of hours, did not disappoint. To touch and see this book was worth the travel alone!

This is actually a printed book from Paris, France (1526-1541) which has 17 large, 10 small and 16 medallions after the designs of Jean Pichore and likely hand painted in the Parisian workshop of Germain Hardouyn. (Printed Book of Hours (use of Rome)).

One of the librarians made note that the images in the book were metalcuts hand painted afterwards, and sometimes the artists would ignore the metalcuts and paint whatever they desired.

For example, in this copy there is a metalcut with the depiction of a skeleton and four figures in the border which has been painted yet in the copy from 1515, the metalcut is not painted and we can see the artistic license taking place. Black and white metalcut image borrowed from (Printed Book of Hours (use of Rome))



Each page has the same size text block with a 155 mm x 16 mm floral bar. The bars all have a painted gold background and a combination of blue and red flowers or acanthus leaves.



Below are some samples of the medallions (40mm x 40mm) and larger metalcuts (half page) found throughout the book. Of particular interest to Gelleia were the borders painted with gold paint instead of being gilded and the use of gold paint in a hatch stroke for shading on clothing.





This photo also shows the faint metalcut lines where the painter changed the background above the kneeling knight on the right. In the archway there is a country scene however when seen in person, there appears to be another knight standing and supporting his weight on a lance inked from the metalcut.





Baronial Officium

No calls before 9am or after 9pm unless by previous arrangement.

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Seneschal: Baroness Gema Krasil'niKova (Jennifer Etty)
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Minister of Accessibility: Vacant access.risingwaters@gmail.com

Minister of Children: Vacant ministerofchild.risingwaters@gmail.com

Minister of Horse: Vacant

Baronial Champions

Armoured Combat: Lord Eustace di Cordoba

Thrown Weapons: Lady Rúna Sólveigardóttir

Rapier Combat: Lord Hamish MacLeod

Arts and Sciences: TBD

Bardic Arts: TBD

Archery: TBD

Youth Champion: TBD



Kingdom Regnum

No calls before 9am or after 9pm unless by previous arrangement.

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Sir Menken Brechen (Michael Cohen)

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Rapier Marshal, Master Eyrny Ormarrsdottir (Kathleen Gormanshaw)

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Youth Rapier Marshal, Master Eyrny Ormarrsdottir (Kathleen Gormanshaw)

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Saborou Yoshitatsu (Yoshi) paul4791@gmail.com

Minister of the Lists, Master Kolbjorn skattkaupandi (Jason Kingston)

ealdormere.mol@gmail.com

Minor Armoured Combat, Baroness Seonag nic Thomais Ban Thegn

(Sandy Benetti) sandra.benetti@sympatico.ca

Thrown Weapons Marshal, Master Gunther Wahlstadt (David Clark)

ealdormere.thrown.marshal@gmail.com

Equestrian Marshal, Baroness Anne von Talstadt (Rowan)

(Stephanie Campbell-Heron) ealdormerequestrian@gmail.com