

# The Citadel *(under siege!)*

APRIL 2020

*During the Reign of:*

*Their Royal Majesties Seto-Heika and Reina Ynes and their Royal Heirs,  
Their Royal Highnesses Prince Felix and Princess Madeleina*

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## Newsletter of the Barony of Cynnabar in the Midrealm

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The Citadel is available in pdf format from the webpage at [cynnabar.org/Citadel](http://cynnabar.org/Citadel)  
or from Christina Monarch, write to: [cynnabar.chronicler@midrealm.org](mailto:cynnabar.chronicler@midrealm.org)

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## Letter from the Chronicler (and an introduction)

After a dry spell there's much to be said and revisited, it's been a busy 6 or so months and I got a late start (my own fault, but there ya go!) I am Lady Gabriella Hamilton, Esq. I have been in the SCA for going on 27 years with some absent times where I cheated on the middle ages with the Civil War and farming – and parenting. I have 4 children, ranging from 19 down to 8, 1 boy and 3 girls, I do believe all of them have been to a fight practice as an infant to fall asleep to the music of bashing shields and swords. 😊 My husband is a well-known knight (hey, I know him pretty well), Sir Kieran McLeod, sometimes known as the Lion of the Middle – especially when he tells the story. Over the last year and a half – or has it been two years already? We've managed to become more active and move back home, which for us in the SCA, is Cynnabar. With a side of Roaring Wastes cause they have rockin' fight practices and awesome folks too. In the midst of living in "interesting times" – which might be an ancient Chinese curse or not, my SCA family is showing strong on Facebook – so far our Barons have been posting regularly - HE Malachy and his footnotes, am I right?, HE Óláfr and some drool-worthy recipes, I saw a video with Sir Gregoire, although I didn't watch all of it, I think he managed to make a really cool thing without cutting himself (even with a dull graver)! Some folks have been posting exercises (I have not been so ambitious as to try them yet) and our Chatelaine has been checking in on us!

So – what's been happening? (besides that germ thing, nobody wants to hear more about *that!*) We had a Pennsic, the Vikings Came Home (early so my family missed it darn it!), a Grand Day with the Baronial Investiture, there was Wassail and 12<sup>th</sup> Night, several things we didn't make it to and then Val-Day and I made it to a Quest that was about stitching I think, I didn't get any sleep so it's a little fuzzy... I think most of the officers have changed over to new folks, we have new Majesties and their Heirs, Coronation will be held online live, Crown should be really interesting in terms of logistics, tons of cancelled events, great gas prices, and all sorts of stir crazy to mix in with the already cabin fevered populace.

Right now I have a lamb bleating at me in my living room work area and my boss needs me to do the company stuff, so that's all for now. There may be an interim issue if I get ambitious, send me stuff and ideas and opinions (no politics please!) [cynnabar.chronicler@midrealm.org](mailto:cynnabar.chronicler@midrealm.org)

## Words from their Excellencies, an Introductory letter, April 2, 2020:

Dearest Barony,

“Where were you when the siege happened? How did you fare?”

Documenting our lives and our stories is dear to Our hearts. We had hoped that Our first letter to the Citadel for Our term would be a happy one, looking forward to the many things We would do together this coming Summer. Instead, we all find ourselves in troubled times and a likelihood that all of us are to be confined to our manors throughout the season.

The gentles in Our Barony, and our friends and family throughout the Society, have come together. Those in need of motivation for activity have not been lacking in it, nor have they been in want of contact among like minded souls. Many have shared their skills, their art, their song... and even their exercise programs. For several of us, the Island of Lost Projects will lose some of their children.

For some others, quiet and comfort has been needful. Please remember to reach out to your friends and family, if necessary. We're here for you.

We encourage all to remember that we are makers and storytellers. Our histories are built as we live our lives - and as we document them. Each moment you commit to memory, no matter how trite, is a moment that has a bit of its own life. Find yourselves a way to document your stories - whether that is set to paper, or set to screen.

When we happily get together after long confinement and for celebration, we'll have our stories to tell each other. We'll share the things we've learned. We'll take glory in tournament, feasting, music, and dance. And most of all, take joy in each others' company.

For the nonce, we must weather the siege. Keep yourselves safe, and keep yourselves happy as best you may.

Hopefully,

Malachy and Óláfr, Barons Cynnabar

# Events

- Terpsichore at the Tower and Spring Revel have both been cancelled, there are rumors of plans to expand programming for an exciting Fall event.
- The Cynnabar University and Showcase :
  - Cynnabar University will be available via ZOOM – you must sign up for hosting or viewing/participating, please contact our Chatelaine at [cynnabaruniversity@gmail.com](mailto:cynnabaruniversity@gmail.com)
  - Cynnabar Showcase will be less formal, to offer more opportunities to share the AMAZING things that you do! Please use [#CynnabarShowcase](https://twitter.com/CynnabarShowcase) so we can link the amazing together!

SCA-wide we have the cancellation of April events, meetings, in-person gatherings in line with government direction. The Board of Directors will be reviewing the situation at the end of April to decide if there will be further suspension of activities to stay in line with the current recommendations and requirements.

May 2, 2020: Coronation of Their Highnesses will be presented in a live-streaming format and broadcast to the kingdom with permission from the SCA BOD

May 23-24, 2020: Crown Tournament has not been cancelled at this time but my understanding is that it will be modified to protect the participants and populace in general, please stand by to be informed of changes or updates due to the quarantine

At this time, Pennsic 49 is being planned with no changes, Aethelmearc War Practice is the weathervane (May 14 @ Cooper's) for any modifications to the planning (less in-person, more on-line planning) I'm keeping my fingers crossed!

Please check the Midrealm Calendar and announcements at [Midrealm.org](http://Midrealm.org) for the latest updates

**Normal meetings/fight practice/dancing/herald nights**, check [Cynnabar.org](http://Cynnabar.org) for content:

**(Thursdays 6:30 PM - 10:00 PM)** - People's Presbyterian Church, located at [210 Smith St, Milan, MI 48160](https://www.google.com/maps/place/210+Smith+St,+Milan,+MI+48160) **(Suspended until government and SCA BOD allow)**





# Cynnabar Officers

Note from our Knight's Marshal, Baroness Jorun Arragunrsdottir:

Update on Armored combat waivers: The Clerk of the Roster has said that because of the break in activities, fighters will be able to sign new waivers at the list table/practice when we resume normal activities so we can ensure witness signature. These will then be scanned and sent to the Clerk of the Roster.

Thank you to everyone who's already gotten their waivers in.

Also, Sir Gregoire and Sid Midair are currently running an accountability challenge for physical activities during the shutdown. Please see their post in the Facebook group for more details.

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## More things that caught my attention (Squirrel!):

What has been your favorite posting trend on FB? Most of us have been keeping in touch on Facebook – I’ve seen some amazing things and I’ve lost more hours than I can get back (you know, that one video you watched despite your better judgement?) I especially like the challenges, although I’ll be darned if I’ve tried any of them. Have you seen Sir Gregoire’s posts? Old SCA photos, demos and live videos, challenges for keeping in shape (and sane). Aaron Z. (Go ahead, tell me how to spell his SCA name cause I can’t find it!) has amazing workouts posted (and both he and HG Aenor (Briar) have been keeping us up to date with the drinks – I think those are *my* inspiration!) There’s a Scribal War, Yaacov’s archery, UFOs, an unofficial Discord server, heraldry day, Gulf Wasn’t Merchant relief – you name it, you can find it! Ooooh dancing, I forgot the dancing, our own Mistress Alina (with Sir Midair and amazing children of course)! What’d I miss? No really, I’d like to hear! 😊

I’d love to publish a list of Awards since before Pennsic, our folks have been busy doing all the amazing things! Please, send me a list of what you remember best, or who got the cool thing.

My cave troll of a teenaged daughter won’t come out to play with us at SCA events (side quest, send me ideas for a “cave troll” SCA name for her). We had a plot to lure her out by tying in Anime, which is what she’s enjoying right now – what anime’s do you know of that have historical – stories, characters, settings, etc. Are they fiction or an animated version of a historical happening? What historical item did they research that impressed you? Or did they do... the horrible thing... and winch a knight in armor onto his joust horse? (That’s a family pet peeve!)

Send me (or post) your old SCA photos! If you can get the photo and participant waiver, send them in! [cynnabar.chronicler@midrealm.org](mailto:cynnabar.chronicler@midrealm.org) Tell us the story that goes along with them.

Do you have a plague doctor mask that is functional? I think we all need grocery store pictures (only for necessary items of course!). As well as your research ideas! How effective do you think they are, and why?

What does it do? Send us pictures (and publication permissions) of items you have made/researched etc. that have that mystery to them – I want to at first glance ask what on EARTH did they do with that? Or did you have an epiphany and figured out HOW they did something? I’m especially interested in well digging, cause if our electric goes out, our well doesn’t function and we have no water. (hah!)

I could go on for days asking for submissions on things that interest me, cause I absolutely LOVE hearing what other folks have researched, and obviously I love the sound of my own keyboard. If we get enough interest, an interim issue of the Citadel can be published before the July deadline (there’s a minimum, but no maximum, so if ya’ll really like, we can be weekly!)

In the meantime, be excellent to each other!

YIS,

Gabby