

# NEWSLETTER



*The Shire of Lost Moor*



## SPRING GREETINGS

BY COLLETTE DE BELLEFAYE

Greetings and welcome!

I would like to extend our welcome to all the new members on social media, and in-person. Spring time is officially here, and with it, many upcoming events -- both in the Shire of Lost Moor, and the Kingdom of Calontir. As always, please feel free to reach out on social media, or through the website if you have any questions. And remember, 'sometimes it's fun to be Lost...' and we hope to see you throughout the upcoming months.

Thank you!

-- Lady Collette De Bellefaye

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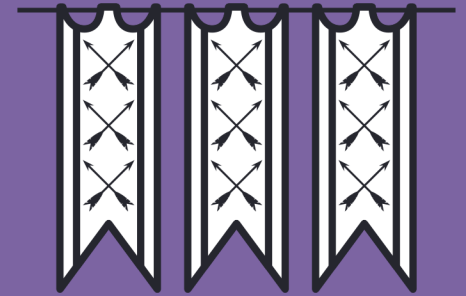
# SHIRE OF LOST MOOR NEWS

- Congratulations to Mkty Nakhthor, who was recently awarded the Golden Swan for research and the arts.
- His Lordship Rufus Tenstone has recently been appointed as Missile Weapons Marshal.
- Fighter and Archery practices are scheduled to begin the first week in May.
- Information for Vertigo (September, 2024) will be announced soon.



## Shire Financial Report

January 1, 2023: \$8,428.56  
 December 31, 2023: \$6925.28  
 January 31, 2024: \$6456.94



Shire of Lost Moor shirts are now available. Proceeds will go toward purchasing fighter gear.

Please consider supporting the Shire at:  
[www.bonfire.com/lost-moor/](http://www.bonfire.com/lost-moor/)

## MEET THE SHIRE'S POPULACE

### COUNTESS ELSPETH OF STONEHAVEN

The Countess is from Stonehaven, near Dunnottar Castle in Scotland. She took over and managed her father's estates from 1090-1120. She follows the French fashion, since her family allied with France, but she also incorporates Saxon style. The Countess has extensive knowledge in fashion and embroidery.



The Countess of Stonehaven currently serves in the Shire as the Minister of Arts and Sciences.



# IN THE SHADOW OF THE MOON

Lady Collette De Bellefaye

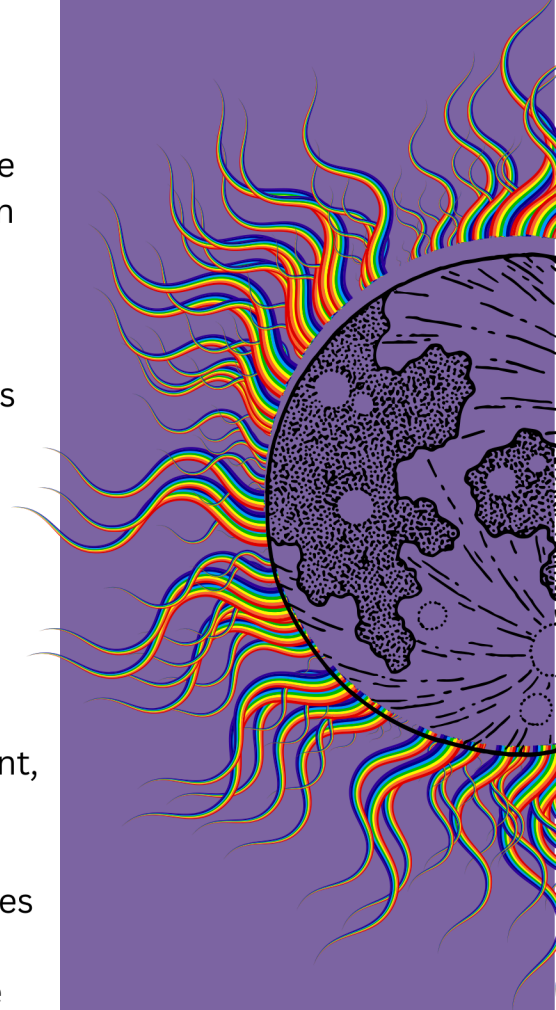
Monday, April 8, 2024 was a very exciting day. Much of the country took time between noon and 2 pm to go outside, wearing safety glasses to view the total or partial solar eclipse. The total eclipse pathway stretched from Texas to Maine. But no matter where people were at, it was still a spectacular event.

But what about peoples during ancient and medieval times? We know they didn't have the nifty glasses to view the gradual motion of the moon. But what did people think?

As it turns out, eclipses have been observed and documented throughout the centuries. One Anglo-Saxon scholar, named Bede (d. 735), mentioned and defined what a solar and lunar eclipse was in his work, *De natura rerum*. In the manuscript, he provided mathematical and astronomical calculations that accurately illustrated what happened during a solar and lunar eclipse. The accompanying drawings presented a guidebook for scholars, who could later use the data to make predictions about the weather, stars' and planets' movements, and even make predictions about the future.

Medieval theologians also thought solar eclipses were important, albeit for a completely different reasons. Theologians connected eclipses to major events that took place in the Old and New Testaments. There was also an apocalyptic undertone with eclipses as well, especially with a Middle English book called the *Fifteen Signs Before Doomsday*, which explained that the first sign of the apocalypse is that the sun goes dark (Lawton & Drieshen, para. 7).

Other medieval observations throughout the world feature similar accounts, and some even go to describe the "bright ring," as one Islamic astronomer observed. But why is there not as much written evidence? There could be any number of reasons -- but one could argue that the event happens so gradually that unless the eclipse was 100% totality, there wouldn't be a lot of noticeable changes to make observations. What evidence we do have is still incredibly remarkable. But one thing is for certain, eclipses still capture people's fascination and imagination, and will continue to do so for many years to come.





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
				Fighter Practice (Hyde Park, 6-8 pm) & Moot		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Archery Practice (Pigeon Hill, 2-5 pm)				Fighter Practice (Hyde Park, 6-8 pm)		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Archery Practice (Pigeon Hill, 2-5 pm)				Fighter Practice (Hyde Park, 6-8 pm)		<b>Bluffwoods Renaissance Festival</b>
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
<b>Bluffwoods Renaissance Festival</b>				Fighter Practice (Hyde Park, 6-8 pm)		
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Archery Practice (Pigeon Hill, 2-5 pm)				Fighter Practice (Hyde Park, 6-8 pm)		

## Upcoming Kingdom of Calontir Events

**April 27-28** -- Unslung Heroes (Excelsior Springs, MO)

**May 3-5** -- RUSH: the Outdoor Camping Edition (Malvern, IA)

**May 4** -- War College (Hallsville, MO)

**May 10-12**--St. George and the Dragon (Springfield, MO)

**May 17-19** -- Cook & Combat May-Hem (Middle Amana, IA)

**May 24-27** -- 43rd Tournament Valor (Chelsea, KS)

Additional information can be found on the [calontir.org/events/](https://calontir.org/events/) webpage.

## References

Knispel, S. (2024, April 1). Surprising facts and beliefs about eclipses during medieval and Renaissance times. *University of Rochester*.  
<https://www.rochester.edu/newscenter/medieval-planetary-alignment-eclipses-middle-ages-renaissance-600022/>

Lawton, B. & Drieshen, C. (2017, August 21). Total eclipse of the Sun. *Medieval manuscripts blog, British Library*.  
<https://blogs.bl.uk/digitisedmanuscripts/2017/08/total-eclipse-of-the-sun.html>

Mozaffari, S. M. (2013). Historical annular solar eclipses. *Journal of the British Astronomical Association*, 123(1), 33+.

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