



The Moonstone

Spring 2025

AS LV

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Photo by Wyck

Dear Malagentia.

Hi, it's me, Chronicler. I'm usurping the Seneschal's space, but don't worry, it's not a coup. This month is just an important one for me, and I have some things I'd like to mention.

It's a busy time right now for everyone, in both mundane and SCA circles. We're fully into summer now, as we were reminded just a couple weeks ago when the temperatures spiked, and then again when we were recently washed out by a sudden downpour. School's out, vacations are happening and more than a few of you have been looped into the organised chaos that is planning for the upcoming Great Northeastern War—the largest camping event in the Kingdom, held right here in our own (relatively speaking) backyard. Many hands make light work and I'm in awe at how much lighter the work has become, how many hands have reached out to take some of the load.

But that event is a couple weeks off, still. The one I want to talk about, the one I've built this issue around, happened just recently: Pride.

Not an official SCA event, but one that's become a highlight for many, Malagentia has once again taken part in the local Portland Pride Festival, marching in the parade and setting up a booth in Deering Oaks Park to chat with attendees and demonstrate what the SCA is all about. Acceptance. Caring. Kindness.

Sure, there's a recruitment/exposure aspect to it. But it's also a way show thousands upon thousands of people that the Province as a community is safe and welcoming and inclusive. And not just to the general public—taking part in the Pride Festival makes it clear to our own members that we care, including to those who may not be out yet, who may not know if they can be. It's a clear and public statement of who Malagentians are, in a time when it's more important than ever.

I wasn't able to march with the Province, but I'm one of those to whom seeing y'all turn out in force means so, so much. It's these moments and movements that make a difference. Thank you to everyone who showed up and helped or voiced support. I'm proud of a lot of things this June, and being Malagentian is one of them. I hope y'all are, too.

My favourite Province in the Known World.

Aesa, Chronicler (they/them)

From the Chronicler:



Dear Malagentia (again),

I think I said what I needed to say already, so I'll leave you with some photos from Pride.



Photo from Wyck



Photo from Diamond



Photo from Einarr



Photo from Diamond

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A Favour or Two



If you've attended any events, practices or garbed gatherings around Malagentia within the last two years, you may have noticed a number of people wearing a colourful woven belt favour, or with one attached somewhere on their kit. While the designs vary somewhat in colour or orientation (were I a less subtle person, I would draw some parallels here), they all sport the rainbow pattern that reflects the diverse spectrum within the queer+ community.

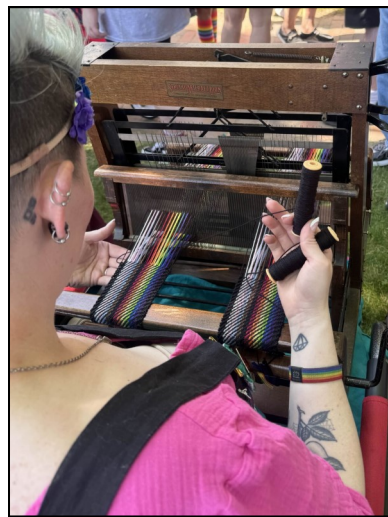
It started in 2023, when Malagentia's own Lydia Webbe, known for her skill and passion for weaving, created the first iteration of the Pride favours with the intent to distribute them to the local populace for the Portland Pride Parade in exchange for donations, 100% of which would go to a queer-focused charity organisation, with any extras given out on a first come, first serve basis. All of them had been claimed by the end of Great Northeastern War.

That wasn't the end of it. Last year, Lydia looped in help from a few others to keep up with demand and produced enough favours to not only furnish Malagentia and her ridings, but also send them further afield. Rainbows started popping up on belts as far as the Southern Region and Tir Mara, with enough funds raised to donate \$500 each to EqualityMaine and MaineTransNet.

We're now in the third year of the Malagentian Pride favours and going strong. Once again, the project is being tackled by a team of talented weavers, with a new variation on the design to include even more of the Pride community. Diamond Stone, who joined the team last year and is back again for another round, was behind the design for this year's version on top of offering her weaving skills.

Last year, Lydia Webbe asked myself and Collette D'Avignon if we wanted to help her weave up some Pride Belt Favors. As the creator of the original Pride Belt Favors for Malagentia, Lydia learned that the East is a very supportive community, and the demand was more than she could handle by herself. The Pride Favors are belt favors, woven in cotton thread, to show support for the LGBTQIA+ community. What started as a way to show support as we marched in the Portland Pride Parade turned into a yearly request from members of the society to show off their support at any and all events throughout the year. As a bonus, the money for the favors is donated to different organizations including The Trevor Project, MaineTransNet, EqualityME, etc. This year, we

are donating to Trans-LifeLine.



Diamond at her loom

The first year, the rainbow stripes were in a horizontal twill. Last year, the rainbow stripes were a vertical twill. This year, I was in charge of the design, and with the state of the current world and the lives of the Trans community needing more love

than ever, we decided to do the inclusive progress flag colors in the vertical twill weave. We also recruited Sulicena filia Vassurae to help us out, as the demand this year was much higher.

As a bonus (for myself) and my love of history (because have you met the SCA?) I am personally weaving my favors on my 1925 Structo Artcraft Loom. Knowing what

that loom has been through, the different events in the last 100 years from wars to the end of slavery, and now to support our LGBTQIA+ community...plus the history of weaving itself...I feel like I just had to do it.

-Diamond Stone

While most of this year's favours went out at the Portland Pride Festival last week, there are still some available for either \$10 or proof of donation to a LGBTQA2S+ charity of your choice. As noted above, the entirety of this year's proceeds are going to TransLifeLine, an amazing resource for the trans community, and one near and dear to my heart. Feel free to reach out to Lydia or one of the weavers noted above for more information.

Trans Lifeline is a grassroots hotline and microgrants 501(c)(3) non-profit organization offering direct emotional and financial support to trans people in crisis – for the trans community, by the trans community. For more information, visit <https://translifeline.org/>

Another Kind of Weaving



Photo from Stefania

One of the most amazing things to me about Malagentia is the sheer calibre of talent and skill we have in our local group. And even more than that, the generosity and care that comes with it. During the planning stages for this year's Pride Festival,

Stefania Leatherfoot Lhuissier–Forester, shoemaker, leatherworker and, as it turns out, basket weaver–inquired as to whether it would be of interest to raffle off a Pride themed item of largess in order to raise funds in support of LGBTQA2S+ youth. To that end, she offered to donate a handmade rainbow backpack basket as the item in question.

I have wanted to basketmaking a long time, but I am the type who needs an intro to a new craft and I learned about the classes at Wood Thrush Wilderness. The instructor really is great at teaching and I've taken a couple classes and now am hooked. I started to think how I could combine leather work and basketry and I am also a professional shoe designer. I had an image in my head, which is how I create.

I am still brainstorming things and thinking of items I could craft–beautiful items for the mundane world as well as SCA. This was the first basket on my own and I used the basic reed materials and techniques. With Pride coming up, I wanted to make something Pride themed. I have multiple family members who are trans, so it's important to me to support their fight. I originally offered the basket to my kin but it wasn't their style, so I offered it up for a raffle.

I like to use my skills and time to support groups and talented people. I have a lot of craft resources and have been very lucky in my life, so it is important to me to give back.

-Stefania Leatherfoot Lhuissier



Pride woven in

Upcoming Events:

Despite the rain that seems to show up specifically for the weekend and then disappear again during the week, it is, in fact, officially summer.

•**Monthly Province Meeting:** The first Thursday of every month, this upcoming Province meeting will be taking place virtually, on July 3rd at 7pm. Link will be posted on social media, and we'll be going over officer reports, upcoming events and general Province happenings. You don't need to be an officer to attend, all are welcome!

•**Great Northeastern War:** Malagentia's very own war event is just over a week away! The full schedule is available online, but there will be something for everyone—classes, meetups, camping, arts, science, combat of all kinds, archery, thrown weapons, family activities and just hanging out around a campfire spending time with great people. Full schedule of events available at <https://malagentia.eastkingdom.org/gnew/>

•**Dance, Scribal and Craft—and now Music! nights** continue to be held on their respective evenings. Please visit the website at malagentia.eastkingdom.org for more information.

•**Martial practices** continue to be held every Tuesday at Payson Smith Park, 5:00pm to dark. Free parking is available. Practice may be cancelled or moved due to inclement weather, but we'll try to notice up on social media as soon as possible. Check FB and Discord each week for updated info.

•**Check the EK Calendar** at www.eastkingdom.org/events for additional events across the Northern Region and neighbouring areas, including the demo at the Lewiston/Auburn Balloon Festival in August (Ravensbridge), Harvest Moon in September (Malagentia) and while not local, safe travels and fair weather to everyone travelling to Pennsic!

Hope to see you soon!

July - August

July 2nd - Craft Night
(Gorham) 7pm - 9pm

July 3rd - Province Meeting
(Virtual) 7pm - 8pm

July 10th - 13th - Great
Northeastern War
(Hebron, ME)

July 17th - Scribal Night
(Gorham) 7pm - 9pm

July. 25th - Aug. 10th
Pennsic War
(Slippery Rock, PA)

July. 28th - Game Night
(Standish) 7pm - 9pm

Aug. 6th - Craft Night
(Gorham) 7pm - 8pm

Aug. 7th - Province Meeting
(Virtual) 7pm - 8pm

Aug. 14th - Dance Practice
(Gorham) 7pm - 9pm

Aug. 21st - Scribal Night
(Gorham) 7pm - 9pm

Aug. 25th - Game Night
(Standish) 7pm - 9pm

**Officers — don't forget to
check the dates and
submit all required Officer
Reports!**

This is the June 2025 issue of The Moonstone, a quarterly publication of the Province of Malagentia of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA, Inc.). The Moonstone is available from J. Horowitz at chronicler@malagentia.eastkingdom.org. It is not a corporate publication of SCA, Inc., and does not delineate SCA, Inc. policies. Copyright © 2025 Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. For information on reprinting photographs, articles, or artwork from this publication, please contact the Chronicler, who will assist you in contacting the original creator of the piece. Please respect the legal rights of our contributors.