

WELCOME

First, thank you for your interest in the scribal arts. Volunteering as a scribe is a great way to serve your Kingdom. In these pages, you'll find what you need to get started down the scribal path. This volume is not intended to be a stand-alone source, but a beginning.

Scrolls are a way for the Crown to recognize an individual's elevation to an order. A scroll is not required to receive an award. A scroll functions as a remembrance gift from the Crown. It's a nice way to commemorate an elevation, but it's not required to make an elevation official.

Even though scrolls are not necessary, they're awfully nice to have. They add magic to our courts and make the recipients feel special. The scribes of Calontir endeavor to create scrolls that bring honor to our Kingdom. All of our Grant of Arms (GOA) and Patent of Arms (POA) scrolls are original works of art, and our Award of Arms (AOA) scrolls are originally painted.

Many of our Kingdom's scribes got their start from painting AOA scrolls for the Kingdom. I suggest that you also begin with AOA scrolls as a beginning venture into your scribal career. The next page covers the information needed to get you started on AOA scrolls.

The following pages in Part I cover some of the basics of being a scribe. Part II takes things a step farther. The articles in Part III cover some advanced techniques. In addition to this handbook, please gather information from other sources, especially from the Kingdom's scribes themselves. Ask to see copies of their scrolls or ask about their personal favorite styles or sources of suppliers. These scribes are among our Kingdom's most valuable resources.

This handbook is designed to be kept in a three-ring binder with the idea that future class notes and handouts can be added along the way. In addition to RUSH classes, which are held several times a year, Calontir typically has a Scribes Symposium once a year. Calontir is also lucky enough to be the location of several non-SCA workshops and academic gatherings on the topics of calligraphy and illumination. Many towns have a calligraphy guild. And I encourage you to attend the St. Louis University Conference on Manuscript Studies (<http://www.slu.edu/libraries/vfl/events.htm>), typically held annually in October.

Happy Scribing!
Conna ingen Úi Chearbhaill
Falcon Signet