From “The Spring”

Now that the winter’s gone, the earth hath lost
Her snow-white robes; and now no more the frost
Candies the grass, or casts an icy cream
Upon the silver lake or crystal stream:
But the warm sun thaws the benumbed earth,
And makes it tender; gives a sacred birth
To the dead swallow; wakes in hollow tree
The drowsy cuckoo and the humble-bee.
Now do a choir of chirping minstrels bring,
In triumph to the world, the youthful spring:
The valleys, hills, and woods in rich array
Welcome the coming of the long’d-for May.

by Thomas Carew (1640)

THANKS TO DARIN MERRILL

As he concludes his term as President of the RMMRA, we express our gratitude to Darin Merrill, who served generously and with much good humor (a necessary quality in the leader of an academic organization) during his two-year tenure. We acknowledge his dedication to the RMMRA, and to the profession at large, and appreciate all the considerable effort he committed to the association. You’re wonderful, Darin!

THANKS TO THE 2009 CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS

The RMMRA Conference was in good hands this year. Cynthia Kosso and Anne Scott did a tremendous job of organizing our conference April 2-5 in Flagstaff AZ. Their Herculean labors were in evidence in the smooth running of the conference, and conference-goers basked in our hosts’ hospitality. (I don’t think I’ve ever seen so much food at a conference!) The RMMRA offers profound thanks to Cynthia and Anne. We also appreciated the good attendance at conference sessions—attendance seemed to be up from last year, which is heartening in the current economy. As always, RMMRA showed itself to be a congenial, collegial gathering of folks who are genuinely interested in one
another’s work. If you couldn’t make the conference this year, we hope to see you in 2010, in Cedar City UT (see below for more details).

**QUIDDITAS**

In the wake of our successful conference, the Association solicits papers for *Quidditas*, the RMMRA’s annual journal. Please consider submitting article-length versions of your papers. For information about submitting to *Quidditas*, you may bookmark the following URL in your browser, or read on below: [http://www.uni.edu/~swanj/rmmra/quidditas.htm](http://www.uni.edu/~swanj/rmmra/quidditas.htm).

[From the RMMRA webpage]: *Quidditas* is an international, refereed annual of scholarship and criticism, concentrating on Medieval and Renaissance culture.

Although sponsored by the members of the Rocky Mountain Medieval and Renaissance Association, publication consideration is open to all scholars.

For editorial information on forthcoming issues, including information on submissions, please correspond with the editor.

James H. Forse  
Editor of *Quidditas*  
Department of History  
Bowling Green State University  
Bowling Green, OH 43402  
quidditas_editor@yahoo.com

**Volume 29** (2008) is now online at [http://humanities.byu.edu/rmmra](http://humanities.byu.edu/rmmra). As the editorial headnote to this volume indicates, it is the third to incorporate our new features: Notes, Review Essay, and Texts and Teaching, all designed to furnish readers and contributors venues not offered in most other journals. Editor James Forse continues,

Our Notes offer case studies in how inclusion (or lack thereof) in prominent biographical lexicons can affect the historical longevity of people once prominent in their own day, and how a Shakespearean phase (“sea-change”) has been appropriated by the news media. Our Review Essay examines books useful to teach medieval history within a broader, global context. Our Texts and Teaching discusses books dealing with “love” and “fatness,” and how these books can facilitate a student’s understanding of the of history and literature. Our articles reflect the eclectic nature of the journal, ranging from the cult of St. Dunstan in Durham during the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, to self-identity in Sir Gawain, to early modern theories of germ theory and hereditary disease, to a reassessment of Queen Anne of Denmark as queen-consort of James I, to a reassessment of Andrew Marvell’s “Upon Appleton House.”
THE 2009 ALLEN DUPONT BRECK AND DELNO C. WEST AWARDS

Conference participants are invited to submit papers for the Allen DuPont Breck Award for the best paper given by a younger scholar (Assistant Professor rank, graduate students, independent scholars). The Breck award comes with a $300 dollar award, inclusion in the year’s volume of Quidditas, and recognition at the RMMRA luncheon at the next year’s meeting. All those who read papers at the conference and who are eligible are invited to submit papers to Kimberly Johnson at kimberly_johnson@byu.edu.

Conference participants who are senior scholars (Associate Professors and Professors) are invited to submit to the Delno C. West Award for the best submitted paper read at the conference by a senior scholar. The West award includes recognition at the conference luncheon, a handsome plaque, and inclusion in the year’s volume of Quidditas. As above, submissions may be sent to Kim Johnson.

The deadline for submissions is July 1, 2008.

FUTURE RMMRA CONFERENCES

In an effort to publicize the RMMRA more broadly, and to attract an ever-widening population of scholars to our conferences, we plan to begin announcing our Calls for Papers on the various Medieval and Renaissance listservs/discussion groups (UPENN’s CFP site, FICINO, Milton-L, etc.). We’d like to make sure our list of such services is as complete as possible. Please drop a note to Kimberly Johnson at kimberly_johnson@byu.edu, with the name (and brief description) of any listservs to which you or other scholars in your field may belong.

2010

The 2010 meeting will be held in conjunction with the Wooden O Symposium in Cedar City, UT. (For more information, see http://www.li.suu.edu/woodeno/. ) Because of the opportunity we have to take advantage of the resources of the Wooden O and the Utah Shakespearean Festival, our annual conference will be scheduled to correspond with their existing calendar, in August of 2010. We understand that this is a significant deviation from our usual spring meeting time, but the prospect of bringing together RMMRA’s conference, Tony Award-winning regional theater, and the Wooden O’s long tradition of cross-disciplinary scholarly conversation seemed too exciting not to rearrange our customs. In addition to benefiting from shared discourse with Wooden O participants, we will be able to take advantage of the Festival’s performances. And, after your
theatrical and scholarly hankerings have been satisfied, be sure to explore the spectacular landscape nearby, including Zion National Park, Cedar Breaks National Monument, and—for those who wish to make a vacation of it—the North Rim of the Grand Canyon. Mark your calendars now for August 2-4, 2010!

2011

Our meeting in 2011 finds us returning to Salt Lake City, Utah. With an airport easily accessible from most points of the compass, Salt Lake City boasts both a vibrant downtown and close access to high altitudes…and in April, that usually still means skiing. We are looking toward a “field trip” to view rare books at BYU’s L. Tom Perry Special Collections, including an entire set of books printed by Aldus Manutius (c.1445-1515). Please watch for more announcements about this conference as the date draws nearer.

THE RMMRA AT RSA

The RMMRA is proposing a panel for the 2010 in Venice, Italy. The proposed panel is on “Milton in Italy.” If you are interested in submitting an abstract for possible inclusion, please send to Kimberly Johnson at kimberly_johnson@byu.edu by May 10, 2009.

MONOGRAPH SERIES

Thanks to Michael Walton’s diligent efforts, the RMMRA Monograph Series is ready to launch. We will be publishing strong scholarly monographs in Medieval and Renaissance studies through AMS Press. (For more information about AMS, visit their webpage at http://www.amspressinc.com.) Submissions will be reviewed by a board of readers in relevant fields. We are actively seeking good scholarly projects, and invite our scholars to submit book-length manuscripts so that we may consider them for publication. For details about the series, please contact Michael Walton at waltonmar@aol.com.

ARCHIVING OF RMMRA RECORDS

The RMMRA is pleased to announce that one copy of all its existing institutional records is now on permanent deposit at BYU’s L. Tom Perry Special Collections, in the Lee Library. These records include, among other things, past conference programs, organizational documents, membership rolls, and the complete print run of Quidditas and its predecessor The Journal of the Rocky Mountain Medieval and Renaissance Association. One copy of all institutional records will be maintained in perpetuity by the Special Collections librarians. The Association
extends its gratitude to the Special Collections folks, for helping to preserve our organizational history.

CHANGES IN THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Our most sincere thanks go to all the board members whose terms have expired this year, and, again, our gratitude goes to Darin Merrill, who was replaced as President by Kimberly Johnson. Darin has been a gracious and attentive president, and has served the RMMRA generously. He has overseen the association during a time of some transition (to a largely digitally-based communications system), and has conducted himself with far-thinking and patience. We will miss him as president.

See below the list of new and outgoing members of the board.

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<th>Outgoing</th>
<th>Incoming</th>
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<td>Alice Blackwell</td>
<td>Ginger Guardiola, Colorado State Univ.</td>
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<td>Charlene Kellsey</td>
<td>Jessica Tvordi, Southern Utah Univ.</td>
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<td>Charles Whitney</td>
<td>Anne Scott, Northern Arizona Univ.</td>
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<td>Elspeth Whitney</td>
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Our thanks go out to all those outgoing members for their valuable contribution to the RMMRA; look forward to all future interaction with them at RMMRA meetings and at other conferences in our various fields. We also thank those who are willing to serve on the board, whose range of interests and quality of scholarship will continue to reflect positively on the organization.

MEMBERSHIP DUES AND RECRUITMENT

In accordance with the decision of the Board in 2006, the membership dues for the RMMRA are now a flat rate of $25.00 for individuals, and a flat $30.00 for couples. We encourage everyone to remain current with their dues, on which the Association depends for its continued operation.

We hope that everyone’s experience in the RMMRA would motivate them to invite other Renaissance and Medieval scholars to join our organization. There are many universities in our region that were not represented at our conference. We would like to be able to have many more participants and to broaden our scope in order to accommodate the range of scholarly interest that is represented in our cross-disciplinary focus. Please speak to your colleagues and invite them to join the RMMRA. With both the developing book series and Quidditas soon to be on the MLA registry, we look forward to a significant increase in the profile of our organization. We also look forward to attracting the kind of scholars that will continue the tradition of erudition and collegiality that we have all enjoyed as RMMRA members. Again, please invite colleagues at yours or neighboring institutions to join our ranks and participate in our future meetings.
RMMRA ANNUAL DUES, 2010

If you have not already sent in your 2009 dues, I attach a dues form below. Note that all categories of membership are now only $25.00!

PLEASE NOTE that Paypal functionality will be available very shortly on the RMMRA website, for the payment of annual dues. This feature will make keeping up-to-date with membership fees easy, through our website: http://www.uni.edu/~swanj/rmmra/rocky.htm
Keep checking back for the Paypal payment module!

________________________________________________________________________

Rocky Mountain Medieval and Renaissance Association, 2010

NAME:

POSITION AND UNIVERSITY (if applicable):

RESEARCH INTERESTS:

PREFERRED MAILING ADDRESS:

E-MAIL ADDRESS:

DUES: $25.00 (all categories)

Remit this form and your check to:
Margaret Harp, RMMRA Treasurer
UNLV Dept. of Foreign Languages
4505 Maryland PKWY
Las Vegas, NV 89154-5047
Margaret.harp@unlv.edu

Tax-deductible contributions are also always welcome.