


A decorative border surrounds the central text. The top border features a gold background with intricate white scrollwork and floral designs, including blue and red flowers. The left and right sides are decorated with vertical panels: the left shows blue flowers and a brown bird perched on a branch, while the right shows red and blue flowers. The bottom border is a miniature painting of a medieval hunting scene.

 **Nouvelles**  
***NOUVELLES***

A large, semi-transparent grey cross watermark is centered behind the text.

**Center for Medieval  
and  
Renaissance Studies**

**The  
Ohio State University  
May 2009**

# Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies

The Ohio State University  
308 Dulles Hall  
230 W. 17th Avenue  
Columbus, OH 43210-1361  
Tel: 614-292-7495  
Fax: 614-292-1599  
E-mail: [cmrs@osu.edu](mailto:cmrs@osu.edu)

World Wide Web  
<http://cmrs.osu.edu>

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Richard Firth Green  
**Director**

Sarah-Grace Heller  
**Associate Director**

Jared Boyd  
**Administrative Coordinator**

Ryan Judkins  
Kevin Richards  
**Graduate Associates**

*Nouvelles Nouvelles* is published twice quarterly by the  
Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies.

This publication is available in a.pdf format at  
<http://cmrs.osu.edu/nn>. Please contact  
[cmrs@osu.edu](mailto:cmrs@osu.edu) for more information.

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# Greetings

Every spring a group of enterprising OSU students organizes a Renaissance Faire on the South Oval and this year, for the first time since I became director, it was not scheduled for the same weekend as the annual Medieval Congress at Kalamazoo. Accordingly, CMRS was able to make use of this splendid opportunity to publicize its presence to the campus at large. A gratifyingly large number of people (many dressed in the most exotic costumes) visited our table and took advantage of our offer to “ask an expert,” and while some of the questions we received were startling (“What did medieval women do when they had their period?”), none, I think, completely stymied us. (By the way, your director fielded that one—perhaps it was the distinctly clerical costume he was wearing that inspired such unwonted confidence: “Well, my child . . .”) We made a number of valuable contacts with the wider community, including high school teachers and their students, but we also had a great deal of fun. My sincere thanks are due to Sarah-Grace Heller, and to our two redoubtable Graduate Assistants, Ryan Judkins and Kevin Richards (not to mention assorted children and friends), not only for giving up a Saturday to this worthy cause, but also for dressing up in costume (“garb,” I believe the technical term is)—a condition of our appearing there at all. If you need a good laugh, pictures of our garberie (garbiana? garbage?) appear later in this issue.

It’s with considerable pride that I record here the success of three of our students in the Denman and Hayes Research Forums: Caroline Sim took second place in the Humanities undergraduate forum and Jim Bennett and Ryan Judkins placed first and second respectively in the equivalent graduate forum. Details of their papers (and others in the two competitions) appear later

in this issue.

This late in the year, our activities are inevitably beginning to wind down but we still have two events to draw to your attention: on Friday, May 29, Sarah Kay will be here from Princeton to lecture on the political and cultural stakes of writing vernacular treatises on poetics in the wake of the Albigensian Crusade; her lecture is titled, “Make War Not Love: Internationalism, Nationalism and Localism in Medieval Poetics.” Three days later, on Tuesday, June 2, from 4:00-5:30, we hold our annual end-of-the-year party. As usual we will be awarding our Kahrl Prizes, but this year we are trying something new – we are hiring an outside caterer to provide us with medieval food. Please join us for good company and exotic fare (you don’t have to come in garb).

This year sees the end of our three-year trial membership in the Folger Consortium. By all accounts it has been a rousing success, though until all the contributing parties have been consulted we should not take our continuing membership for granted. Assuming that others feel as I do, however, and we continue to enjoy a formal association with the Folger in the coming years, John King will be regretfully stepping down as our representative and his place will be taken by Chris Highley; please contact Chris if you are interested in participating in any of the Folger programs next year.

Finally, it’s time to say farewell to one of our most faithful members. Ryan Judkins has served as Graduate Assistant for the past two years and has been responsible not only for editing and producing *Nouvelles Nouvelles*, but also for writing its excellent “Just Around the Corner” feature. Most of the credit for its recent success is due to Ryan (it was he who designed our new cover, for instance) and his cheerful efficiency will be sorely missed around the CMRS Office.

*Have a good summer.*

*Richard Firth Green*

*Director, Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies*



# Just Around

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## *The Modern Falconer*



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In the Middle English romance of *Sir Orfeo*, Orfeo (Orpheus) sees his lost lady riding along a river bank with the fairy court that has captured her, hawking after ducks. Orpheus is anguished and perhaps mad at her loss, and he sees her there on the bank as if they were in two different worlds – he a mad woodsman in rags, she an ethereal vision in gold and silks. But like a fogged memory, this sight of Eurydice hawking on a riverbank must make sense to him on some level, because as king and queen the two of them would have hawked together in times past. Modern society sees falconry today in the fashion of Orpheo staring at his lost lady hawking at the river: we recognize the sport and recall something of what it means, but it seems a remnant of a lost time, a distant memory of a gilded age.

“Most people are surprised it’s still around,” Joe Dorrian said. “We practice it as an artform, really. We have the benefit of technology and thousands of years of experience and history to build on. It’s a truly modern sport, but most techniques and tactics haven’t changed.”

Dorrian is a dedicated modern falconer who has been pursuing the sport since 2004. He lives on Columbus’ east side and over the last few years has basically “gone to the birds,” building a weathering area open to the sun just to the side of his garage and a mews inside. He currently has a male peregrine falcon (a tiercel) and a female Harris’s hawk. The most common birds for falconers in the U.S. are the red-tailed hawk and the Harris’s hawk, though people fly a large vari-

ety, from the kestrel to the eagle, including hybrid hawks (hawks bred across species).

“There are about 4,000-6,000 falconers in the U.S., and maybe 10,000 worldwide,” Dorrian said. “It’s the most heavily regulated field sport in the U.S and takes a great deal of time and commitment to practice properly.” Those numbers may indicate that the sport is making a comeback, and there are about 60 falconers in Ohio today, though not all might have birds at any given time.

Falconry only became legal in Ohio in 1983 and so has a relatively short history in the state, with a strict set of regulations designed more to protect the birds than to regulate game populations. In part, that circumstance is because the impact of falconry on game is negligible. In 2000, all the falconers in Ohio took only 275 rabbits, the most common prey.

Federally, raptors are protected under the Migratory Birds Treaty Act and regulated by the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service, with some species at one time also listed as endangered. Peregrine falcons, like bald eagles, were hard hit by DDT use in the mid-20th century. By 1967, no peregrine falcons nested east of the Mississippi. Conservation efforts, led by falconers in partnership with the government, led to their modern restoration as a breeding population in the wild and they were removed from the Endangered Species List in 1999.

Many local American falconry associations are active in conservation efforts to protect birds of prey. For instance, the Ohio Falconry Association has been an active supporter of the state’s many conservation efforts for the protection not only of raptors, but also of their prey and their shared habitat. That conservationist attitude is strong in each and every falconer, according to Dorrian, and one of the main principles of the sport is the protection and well-being of the birds.

Necessarily, then, the regulations for apprentice falconers are tough. A new falconer must find a licensed general- or master-class falconer to act as a sponsor and then spend two years as an apprentice. An apprentice is required to pass a written exam on hawk biology, training methods, and other topics, and must build and have inspected both a weathering area and a mews in which to keep the

one bird allowed to a new apprentice falconer.

After passing those requirements, the apprentice is issued a joint state and federal falconry license and can apply for a hawk trapping permit. With the assistance of the sponsor, the apprentice is then allowed to trap either an immature red-tailed hawk or an American kestrel (a small falcon). A hawk taken from the wild can often be trained to hunt in about a month's time, and many falconers simply catch a new one every year, releasing the previous year's hawk back to the wild.

After completing the apprenticeship, the apprentice becomes a general-class falconer, like Dorrian, and is allowed to take on apprentices and possess two hawks. After five years as a general-class falconer, one can apply to become a master-class falconer. Master falconers are allowed to keep up to three birds.

After all the effort to become a licensed falconer, the apparent payout from game taken is quite small. The average game-capture ratio for rabbits in 2000 was 0.34 (one rabbit in three trips out) and that was by far the highest ratio of any type of prey. Much like medieval aristocratic falconers, who flew their hawks to admire their skill and beauty and who used hawking trips as a ready excuse for socializing, however, modern ones do not fly their birds simply to supply their tables.

"There's no other sport, no other experience, where a wild predatory animal accepts you as a hunting partner. They learn to work with you to catch game. In my experience, there's no other sport that lets you get so close to the beauty of nature," Dorrian said. "There's no other opportunity where you can have a front row seat to watch as nature unfolds."

"I firmly believe that most people today don't even consider themselves to be part of the natural world anymore, or even consider that nature is actually going on around them. To many, the natural cycle of life is something that happens on 'Animal Planet' and not in their own neighborhood," Dorrian added. "Falconers are truly blessed to have the relationships that we do with these wild birds that accept us as their hunting partners and allow us to become part of the natural world in such a personally intimate way. I mean, these



magnificent birds could fly off at ANY time and yet they choose to partner with us in the hunt. We're truly blessed to have the relationships that we do with these feathered companions."

Once a bird is properly trained and ready to hunt, the hunt itself can still require quite a bit of effort from the falconer as he works to provide game for his or her bird to chase. Dorrian, however, specializes in using dogs and birds together to hunt and raises champion miniature dachshunds to flush game into the open for the birds. He will typically get out into the field 3-4 times a week, going out either late in the afternoon after work, or on the weekends during falconry hunting season (September 1 to March 10 in Ohio). Before he lets his bird and dogs go out, however, he attaches small transmitters to them in a nod to modern technology so that he can be sure to find them again should either the bird or dogs find themselves in thick cover. At the start of the hunt, Dorrian traditionally releases the bird first, which usually finds its way to either the top of his truck or onto a low-hanging branch as it waits for him to release its hunting partners, the miniature dachshunds. The bird is trained to closely follow along behind the dogs, waiting for them to flush out some game, with Dorrian bringing up the rear.

"It's a running joke that the bird and dogs really don't need you," he said. "In fact, one friend of mine suggested that I might as well just give them the keys and tell them to put what they catch into the freezer when they get back, as I have become somewhat superfluous to the team."

Dogs such as the dachshunds Dorrian uses were bred to flush rabbits for hawks perched on the falconer's fist or awaiting (a falconer's term) overhead in a tree. Similarly, setters and pointers were bred to lock on game birds they discovered in grassy cover, holding the birds "on point" until the falconer could release a peregrine falcon overhead. When the released falcon attained sufficient height, called the "pitch," the falconer instructed the pointing or setting dog to lunge after the sitting gamebird. The dog's approach caused the grouse or pheasant to escape into the air, where the awaiting falcon folded its wings and plunged in its killing "stoop" or dive, smashing into the fleeing bird and killing it.

As with any sport, personal reasons can also motivate the modern

falconer. "I got interested in falconry as a kid when I read *My Side of the Mountain*, a book about a boy who runs away to live on a mountainside and finds a peregrine falcon that hunts with him." The author of that book was actually the sister of two pioneer American falconers, and it inspired a whole generation of modern falconers. "In fact, for over two years I actually used to carry around a leather glove and a whistle just in case I ran across an escaped falconer's bird. I was quite the nerdy 12 year old," Dorrian continued. As an adult, Dorrian was only passively interested in the sport until he did a random search on Amazon for falconry and ended up finding the falconer's "bible" for sale, *North American Falconry and Hunting Hawks*. After that, he looked for and eventually found a sponsor, though it took him about a year before the sponsor thought he was serious enough about the sport to take him on as an apprentice.

Now, Dorrian flies his birds as a lesson in fulfilling one's dream. "It was my dream as a child and I've been able to realize and balance it with my life. I do it not only because it is a passion of mine to work with these birds, but also because of the lesson that it helps to teach my children. I want them to realize that just because something might seem unattainable at one point in your life doesn't mean that you shouldn't still pursue that dream," he said. "There's not a day that goes by when I'm working with my birds that I don't think back to that little kid whose eyes were constantly drawn to the sky, just waiting for that 'escaped falcon' to come overhead. It's about being able to realize your dreams as much as anything, and that's a lesson I want my children to learn well."

All told, the sport can be an expensive and time-consuming one. "We make no money from this sport and the constant care and training of these birds can be very involved," Dorrian said. In that sense, modern falconry is little different than it was 600 years ago. Both medieval aristocrats and modern falconers hawk for the beauty of the sport and the birds, though modern falconers are far more invested in raptor conservation and the ways the sport connects one to nature. The social aspect of falconry in the Middle Ages, where it was a ripe excuse for flirting and gossip, particularly for ladies, seems to be gone. Perhaps as the sport gains in popularity, however, people will go out to watch falcon flights for fun in the same way we now watch softball games or fireworks.

# Among Us



Frank T. Coulson presented “Literary Criticism in the Vulgate Commentary on Ovid’s *Metamorphoses*” at the symposium *Vehicles of Transmission and Translation*, held at McGill University, April 23-24, 2010.

Merrill Kaplan  
Conference presentation:



“Desperately Seeking Odin:  
An antiquarian king in *Ynglingasaga* 12.”  
Joint conference of the Society for the  
Advancement of Scandinavian Study and  
Association for the Advancement of Baltic  
Studies, Seattle, Washington, April 22-24.

I was at the SAA conference and would like that included. Thank you.

Best,  
Colleen Kennedy

Kennedy, Colleen. “Close Reading without Readings: Shakespeare Association of America Workshop.” Dir. Stephen Booth. Shakespeare Association of America, Chicago.

Herewith an item for *Nouvelles Nouvelles*:

On April 22 Charles Atkinson (Musicology) presented the opening lecture in the spring and summer lecture series at the Institut für

Musikforschung of the Universität Würzburg, Germany. His talk carried the title "Dippermouth Blues und Ad te levavi: Modi der schriftlosen Überlieferung und das Problem musikalischer Identität."

Prof. Georges Tamer  
M. S. Sofia Chair in Arabic Studies  
Near Eastern Languages and Cultures  
The Ohio State University

The Arabic translation of Harald Motzki's *Die Anfänge der islamischen Jurisprudenz in Mekka bis zur Mitte des 2./8. Jahrhunderts*, Stuttgart 1991 (The origins of Islamic jurisprudence: Meccan fiqh before the classical schools, Leiden 2002), supervised and revised by Georges Tamer, M.S. Sofia Chair in Arabic Studies, has been published in Beirut in 2010.

p.s. Full name is Sarah Kelly Silverman if you need to find me in the OSU system.

The conference I presented at was the Popular Culture Association/ American Culture Association National Conference, held March 31 - April 3 in St. Louis, Missouri. My paper was titled "Textiles as a Visual Social Indicator in England". Let me know if you need any

Thank you,

Sarai



# Hayes / Denman Awards

Graduate and undergraduate students in the CMRS represented themselves and the Center very well at the Hayes Graduate Research Forum and Denman Undergraduate Research Forum:

## Hayes Graduate Research Forum

*1st place - Humanities*

James Bennett, "Expanding Practical Literacy in Medieval St. Albans"

*2nd place - Humanities*

Ryan Judkins, "Breaking, Unlacing, and Undoing the Deer: Lord and Huntsman in Medieval English Hunting Ritual"

## Denman Undergraduate Research Forum

*2nd place - Humanities*

Caroline Sim, "The Dance of Death in England and France"

*Presentations*

Jennifer Adams, "Authenticating the Mélusine Myth: Mélusine and the Sons of Lusignan."



Heather Bump, "Methodology and Grave Goods: Women's Clothing in the Transition Period"

Craig Harrington, "A History of Violence: Non-Combattants and the Third Crusade"

Sarah McBee, "The History and Meaning of the Jamestown Colony"

Matthew Miller, "The Oberlin Bishops: Reinterpreting Two Romanesque Sculpture"

Leanna Packard, "The Scottish Revolution in its International Context, 1639-1640"

# OSU Renaissance Faire

The CMRS put up a table at the OSU Renaissance festival on May 2 to pass out information and speak with interested attendees. The Center also answered any questions people could think of with an “Ask a Scholar” game. Some of the questions included, “Were people in the Middle Ages happy?” and “What did menstruating women do?”

## *Photos:*



The table staffers: (From left): Sofie Richards, Kevin Richards, Richard Firth Green, Ryan Judkins, Erika Ernst.



Sarah-Grace Heller's daughter Lucy Mirtle in her kirtle.



Richard Green shows some medieval manuscripts to a faire-goer.



# King James Bible Conf.

*In Honor of the 400th Anniversary of the King James Bible*



The English Department at Ohio State will host an international conference in 2011 on the 400th anniversary of the publication of the King James (or Authorized) Version of the Bible (1611).

Held during the first weekend in May (5-8), the conference will focus on the making of the KJV in the context of Reformation Bible translation and printing and its long literary and cultural influence from Milton and Bunyan to Faulkner and Toni Morrison.

The schedule is still in preparation, but events will include plenary lectures and discussions, scholarly panels, and readings by contemporary writers.

An accompanying exhibit will be mounted by the Rare Books and Manuscripts Library, and special activities will also be scheduled for English Department Alumni.

For further information, contact the Chair of the Organizing Committee, Hannibal Hamlin ([hamlin.22@osu.edu](mailto:hamlin.22@osu.edu)).



# *Announcement*

## *Open GA Position for 2010-2011*

The Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies will be hiring one **Graduate Associate** with a possible 25% appointment for the 2010 summer quarter and a 50% appointment for the 2010-2011 academic year.

**Duties will depend upon the qualifications of the applicant and could include:**

- Creating & maintaining CMRS web site content, lists, and databases.
- Or designing layout & creating and editing content for our bi-quarterly Newsletter.
- Creation of promotional materials for courses, lectures, lecture series, and colloquia.
- Organizing and creation of mailings to affiliates and other constituencies.
- Assisting the Director with lecture series, workshops, conferences, and writing grant proposals.
- Acting as a grader for a CMRS non-essay course.

**Applicants must:**

- Be a full-time graduate student in good standing as of spring 2010.
- Have excellent computing skills and a strong command of the English Language.
- Be available to work twenty hours a week (AY 2010-11) during regular office hours (8:00-5:00) and a possible ten hours a week (summer 2010).

**Preference will be given to students:**

- Experienced with programs such as HTML/Dreamweaver, Adobe Photo Shop, InDesign, Microsoft Access, and Filemaker Pro.
- Working in the Middle Ages or Renaissance.
- Pursuing degrees within the Division of Arts and Humanities.
- Available in AY 2010-11.

**Deadline for application: Friday, May 09, 2010**

**Applications are available at the Center, by e-mail to <[boyd.150@osu.edu](mailto:boyd.150@osu.edu)>, or on the Web at <<http://cmrs.osu.edu>>.**

# Internship Opportunity

The Friends of Early Music group in Columbus is looking for an undergraduate student to fill an internship position promoting early music. The organization puts on six concerts annually of early music, ranging from chant to late Renaissance music, by highly regarded performing ensembles from around the world. The internship's hours and duties remain to be determined, but would essentially involve an OSU undergraduate in the planning and administration of the concert series.

The Friends of Early Music are particularly looking for an enthusiastic intern who can help promote early music and create more of an audience for it among OSU students generally, and institute a durable connection between OSU and FEM.

If interested, please contact Graeme Boone, professor of music, at [boone.44@osu.edu](mailto:boone.44@osu.edu)



## Reading Groups

The Medieval Latin reading group is finishing up its last readings of the quarter on Tuesdays at 4 p.m. The group will resume next autumn. Please contact Prof. Richard Green ([green.693@osu.edu](mailto:green.693@osu.edu)) with any questions.

The Medieval Occitan group holds regular meetings and may continue over the summer. Please contact Lisa Bevevino ([bevevino.1@osu.edu](mailto:bevevino.1@osu.edu)) for the next date and time.

# Upcoming Lecture



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY  
CENTER FOR MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE STUDIES

PRESENTS

## **3d Annual Lee Utley Lecture** **Samuel G. Armistead** **University of California, Davis**

### **JUDEO-SPANISH FOLK LITERATURE: HISPANIC MYTHS AND SEPHARDIC REALITIES**



Hispanic scholars have tended to view Sephardic (Judeo-Spanish) language, folklore, and culture as a marvelous survival of an essentially Hispanic tradition. This topic has mostly been characterized in terms of its archaism, its conservatism, its archeological value. To hear a modern form of Medieval Spanish is a fascinating experience. But the Jews who were expelled from Spain in 1492 and went to the Balkans, the Near East, and North Africa, founded new, independent and dynamic societies. Their language and their folklore evolved, created, and adapted a great number of new elements that had nothing to do with medieval Spain. The lecture will address, exemplify, and study the new, dynamic, and creative features of Sephardic language and culture which were to develop in their adoptive homelands.

**Friday, May 21**  
**Science and Engineering Library 090**  
**2.30pm**

Sponsored by the Center for Folklore Studies

# 2009-10 Lecture Series

## *“Keepsakes, Mementoes, and Tokens”*

Friday, October 09: Anna Maria Busse Berger (University of California, Davis, Musicology)

Friday, October 16 (Public Lecture): James Robinson (British Museum)

Friday, December 04: Peter Stallybrass (University of Pennsylvania, English)

Friday, February 05: Joyce Coleman (University of Oklahoma, English)

Friday, February 19: Nancy Wicker (University of Mississippi, Art History)

Friday, March 05 (MRGSA Lecture): Katherine E. Maus (University of Virginia, English)

Friday, April 09: Cynthia Robinson (Cornell University, Near Eastern Studies)

Friday, April 23: Bonnie Effros (University of Florida, History)

Friday May 7: Guido Ruggiero (University of Miami, History)

Friday, May 21 (Utley Lecture): Samuel Armistead (University of California, Davis, Folklore)

*CMRS*  
*Summer*  
*Party*

*Kuhn Honors and Scholars House*

*4:00 - 5:30 p.m.*

*Tuesday, 2 June 2009*



*And Awards Ceremony*

*With medieval appetizers and hors  
d'oeuvres specially catered by Daniel  
Myers*

*Come Celebrate the End of Another  
Successful Year With the CMRS*



# *Folger Institute Programs*

## *Autumn 2009*

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**Applications Due:** 4 September 2008 for admission and grants-in-aid for the earlier programs, December or January for the later ones.

For further information, see:

[http://www.folger.edu/Content/Folger-Institute/Program-Offerings/  
Folger-Institute-2009-2010-Program.cfm](http://www.folger.edu/Content/Folger-Institute/Program-Offerings/Folger-Institute-2009-2010-Program.cfm)

### **Programs:**

**Teaching Paleography, dir. Heather Wolfe**

**Textual Debates and Editorial Practice, dir. Margaret Jane Kidnie**

**Mastering Research at the Folger, dir. Jesse Lander**

**The Crossroads of Amsterdam, dir. Mariet Westermann**

**Reading, Writing, and Erasmus, dir. Kathy Eden**

**The Voice of Conscience, 1375-1613, dir. Paul Strohm**



# *At the Library*

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*Rare Medieval and Renaissance Books*

*New to the University Libraries*

*by Eric Johnson*

*Associate Curator, Rare Books and Manuscripts*

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# Nicholas G. Howe Memorial Fund



As we approach the \$35,000 mark, the Howe fund is already well on its way to reaching its endowment target of \$50,000. This sum may look like a tall order for a small program like the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, but I intend to make this particular fund our flagship appeal over the next few years, and with a display of the same kind of generosity and good will that typified Nick Howe himself, I'm very confident we can make it.

If you wish to contribute to the *Nicholas G. Howe Memorial Fund* yourself, you can do so in three ways:

You can donate online at <https://www.giveto.osu.edu/igive> (the fund number is #480256); or you can send a check to

**either**

The Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies  
The Ohio State University  
308 Dulles Hall  
230 W. 17<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Columbus, Ohio 43210-1361

**or**

M.J. Wolanin  
Director of Development  
020 Mershon Center  
1505 Neil Ave.  
Columbus, Ohio 43210-2602

With most sincere thanks,

Richard Green





## May

At Philip and Jacob, away with the lambs,  
that thinkest to haue any milke of their dams:  
At Lammas leaue milking, for feare of a thing,  
least Requiem aeternam in winter they sing.

In May get a weedhooke, a crotch and gloue,  
and weed out such weeddes, as the corn doth not loue:  
For weeding of winter corne, now it is best,  
But June is the better, for weeding the rest.

*From Thomas Tusser's Five Hundred Points of Husbandry,  
First published 1557.*



**Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies  
Advisory Committee  
2008-2009**

Daniel Reff	Comparative Studies
Shelley Fenno Quinn	East Asian Languages and Literatures
Richard Dutton	Theater
Alan Farmer	English
Heather Webb	French and Italian
Anna Grotans	Germanic Languages and Literatures
Christine Moreno	Graduate Students
Richard Fletcher	Greek and Latin
Robert Davis	History
Christian Kleinbub	History of Art
Graeme Boone	Music
Richard Davis	Near Eastern Languages and Cultures
Tamar Rudavsky	Philosophy
Predrag Matejic	RCMSS
Daniel Collins	Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures
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Eric Johnson	University Libraries

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