



Portrait of Chaucer as a Canterbury pilgrim, Ellesmere manuscript of *The Canterbury Tales*. (The two-dimensional work of art depicted in this image is in the public domain in the United States and in those countries with a copyright term of life of the author plus 100 years.)

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Il Tempo of Ponte Alto

Ponte Alto Activities

Thursday night **Heavy Weapons and Rapier Practices** reminder: please check the [Directions page](#) for new parking information for the practice site on Thursday nights. For more information, please contact the [Baronial Knight Marshal](#).

There will be **NO Rapier Practices during Pennsic**. Last practice before Pennsic is **Thursday, August 4, 2005**. Practice resumes on **Thursday, August 25, 2005**.

Heavy Weapons practices will be CANCELLED during the 2nd week of Pennsic. Last practice before Pennsic war week is **Thursday, August 11, 2005**. Practice resumes on **Thursday, August 25, 2005**.

There will be no August **Newcomers Meeting** due to Pennsic. September's Newcomers Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, September 13, 2005 at 7:00PM** at the home of Lady Luce Antony Venus (*scalucia AT cox.net*, (703) 534-6075 (H)). Please contact the [Baronial Chatelaine](#) for more information and directions.

There will be no August **All Things 15th Century** due to Pennsic. September's All Things 15th Century Night will be held on **Wednesday, September 21, 2005 at 6:00PM**.

SUNDAY

Ponte Alto Baronial Business Meeting

Last Sunday of the month at 6 pm at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Idylwood Road, Falls Church. [Business Meeting Directions](#).

Outdoor Heavy Weapons Practice

Weather permitting, Noon - Dark, outdoors at Tysons-Pimmit Park, behind Tysons-Pimmit Library, Falls Church. Please contact the [Baronial Knight Marshal](#) for more information. [Sunday Fight Practice Directions](#).

Ladies Instructional Heavy Weapons Practice

First Sunday of every month, Noon - Dark, outdoors, weather permitting, at Tysons-Pimmit Park, behind Tysons-Pimmit Library, Falls Church. Contact Lady Marie Thérèse Normand (*mariatheresapontoon AT yahoo.com*, (703) 690-9453 (H)) for more information. [Sunday Fight Practice Directions](#).

Outdoor Rapier Practice

Weather permitting, 2 pm - Dark, outdoors at Tysons-Pimmit Park, behind Tysons-Pimmit Library, Falls Church. Please contact [Baronial Rapier Marshal](#) for more information. [Sunday Fight Practice Directions](#).

MONDAY

Alle Psallite (Vocal Music)

ON HOLD for the summer.

Asian Nights (Exploration of all things Asian)

Second Monday of every month, starts at 6:30 in Centreville. Please contact Lady Áine Sindradóttir (***ellen.m.davis AT att.net***, (703) 815-0310 (H)) or Lord Ii Saburou Katsumori (***logan AT modzer0.cs.uaf.edu***) for more information or directions.

Ponte Alto/Stierbach Archery Practice

Mondays from 5 pm until dark, Ponte Alto's outdoor season archery practice site is near Goose Creek Golf Course in Leesburg, VA. [Archery Practice Directions](#). Practices are jointly held with Stierbach. You may also contact the [Baronial Archery Marshal](#) for carpool or other information. Contact and practice time/location information for Stierbach practices can be found at the Stierbach Archery website: <http://mysite.verizon.net/vze4ks38/archery/main.html>.

TUESDAY

Harp and Drum Corps (Instrumental Music)

Meets first Tuesdays, 7:30 - 9 pm at the home of Lady Celia of Rosedale (***rosedale703 AT aol.com***, (703) 378-2441 (H)) for practice of SCA Dance music. Meets third Tuesdays, 7:30 - 9 pm at the home of Mistress Anne of Carthew (***anne AT ravenstreet.org***) for practice and polishing of more advanced musical pieces. Contact the respective hosts for more information.

WEDNESDAY

All Things 15th Century Workshops

Third Wednesdays of every month from 6-9 pm in Reston, VA, at the home of Lady Courtney of Houghton ([***courtneydehoughton AT yahoo.com***](mailto:courtneydehoughton@yahoo.com)) and Lord Connor Sinclair ([***connorsinclair AT yahoo.com***](mailto:connorsinclair@yahoo.com)), whom you should contact for more information and directions.

THURSDAY

Outdoor Rapier Practice

Weather permitting, 6 pm to dark, outdoors at Tysons-Pimmit Park, behind Tysons-Pimmit Library, Falls Church. Please contact [Baronial Rapier Marshal](#) for more information. [Fighter Practice Directions](#).

Outdoor Heavy Weapons Practice

Weather permitting, 6 pm to dark, outdoors at Tysons-Pimmit Park, behind Tysons-Pimmit Library, Falls Church. Please contact the [Baronial Knight Marshal](#) for more information. [Fighter Practice Directions](#).

FRIDAY

Ponte Alto Scriptorium/A&S Night

May meet on a Friday during the month, as posted on the at the top of this page. Please contact Lady Perronelle la peintre ([***dwatsonirwin AT cox.net***](mailto:dwatsonirwin@cox.net), (703) 455-0298 (H)) for more information and directions.

Stierbach/Ponte Alto Bardic

Come and share your songs and stories! Meets the fourth Friday of the month at 7:30 pm. Contact Lady Celia of Rosedale ([***rosedale703 AT aol.com***](mailto:rosedale703@aol.com), (703) 378-2441 (H)), Lady Cassandra Arabella Giordani ([***cassandra AT jordancan.net***](mailto:cassandra@jordancan.net)), or Baroness Briana Maclukas ([***darbyjanie AT hotmail.com***](mailto:darbyjanie@hotmail.com)) for more information.

MONTHLY

SCA Newcomer Meetings

Newcomer Meetings occur once a month on a weeknight from 7-9 pm at the homes of various members of the Barony. Contact the [Baronial Chatelaine](#) for more information, or check out the top of this page for the most recently posted information.

Newcomers Garb Night

We have newcomers garb night once a month on a weeknight at 7 pm, at the homes of various members of the Barony. Please contact the [Baronial Chatelaine](#) for more information, or check out the top of this page for the most recently posted information.

Il Tempo of Ponte Alto

Monthly Calendar

July 2005

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
August 1 5 pm - Archery Practice	2	3	4 6 pm - Rapier Practice 6 pm - Heavy Weapons Practice	5 Pennsic	6 Pennsic	7 Pennsic Noon - Outdoor Heavy Weapons Practice
8 Pennsic	9 Pennsic	10 Pennsic	11 Pennsic 6 pm - Heavy Weapons Practice	12 Pennsic	13 Pennsic Muster of the Home Guard	14 Pennsic
15 Pennsic	16 Pennsic	17 Pennsic	18 Pennsic	19 Pennsic	20 Pennsic	21 Pennsic
22 5 pm - Archery Practice	23	24	25 6 pm - Rapier Practice 6 pm - Heavy Weapons Practice	26	27 Flight of the Falcon	28 Noon - Outdoor Heavy Weapons Practice 2 pm - Outdoor Rapier Fighter Practice 6 pm - Business Meeting

<p style="text-align: right;">29</p> <p>5 pm - Archery Practice</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">30</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">31</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">September 1</p> <p>6 pm - Rapier Practice</p> <p>6 pm - Heavy Weapons Practice</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">2</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">3</p> <p>Coronation</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">4</p> <p>Noon - Outdoor Heavy Weapons Practice</p> <p>2 pm - Outdoor Rapier Practice</p>
<p><i>Labor Day</i> 5</p> <p>5 pm - Archery Practice</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">6</p> <p>7:30 pm - Harp and Drum</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">7</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">8</p> <p>6 pm - Rapier Practice</p> <p>6 pm - Heavy Weapons Practice</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">9</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">10</p> <p>Sacred Stone Baronial Birthday Masters of Defense & Lochmere Baronial Investiture</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">11</p> <p>Noon - Outdoor Heavy Weapons Practice</p> <p>2 pm - Outdoor Rapier Practice</p>

Il Tempo of Ponte Alto

Upcoming Events

Baronial Progress

Date	Event
August 5-21	Pennsic War XXXIV

August 2005

Date	Event	Group	Location
5-21	Pennsic War XXXIV (R,H)	Kingdom of Aethelmearc	Slippery Rock, PA
12-14	Muster of the Home Guard	Abhainn an Iar/Stierbach	Cross Junction, VA
27	Flight of the Falcon	Aire Faucon	Bostic, NC

Il Tempo of Ponte Alto

Ponte Alto Officers



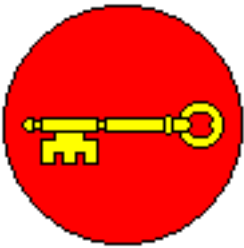
Baron and Baroness of Ponte Alto

Baron Marcellus Capozziello da Napoli and Baroness Belphoebe de Givet
(Bob Capozello and Laura Martinez)

(703) 625-3883 (H)

*baron AT [pontalto.atlantia.sca.org](mailto:baron@pontalto.atlantia.sca.org) and baroness AT
[pontalto.atlantia.sca.org](mailto:baroness@pontalto.atlantia.sca.org)*

baronage AT [pontalto.atlantia.sca.org](mailto:baronage@pontalto.atlantia.sca.org)



Seneschal (President)

Lady Marie Thérèse Normand (Mary Bowles)

9220 Cardinal Forest Lane # G

Lorton, VA 22079

(703) 690-9453 (H)

seneschal AT [pontalto.atlantia.sca.org](mailto:seneschal@pontalto.atlantia.sca.org)

Deputy Seneschal

Master Tirloch of Tallaght (Tom Bilodeau)

13456 Cobra Court

Oak Hill, VA 20171

(703) 437-6271 (H)

tirloch AT [sca.org](mailto:tirloch@sca.org)



Minister of Minors (Childrens' Activities)

Siobhán (Laura Storey)

mom AT [pontalto.atlantia.sca.org](mailto:mom@pontalto.atlantia.sca.org)



Chancellor of the Exchequer (Treasurer)

Lady Millicent Chandler (Melanie Cozad)
1220 Chase Heritage Circle #202
Sterling, VA 20164
(571) 434-8150 (H)
exchequer AT pontealto.atlantia.sca.org

Deputy Chancellor of the Exchequer
Lady Katharine Devereaux (Kimberly Barker)
Alexandria, VA
(703) 838-0120 (H)
katdevereaux AT hotmail.com

Deputy Chancellor of the Exchequer (Chamberlain)
Katherina von Bayern (Tracy Fussell)
(703) 994-3960 (H)
tfussell AT verizon.net



Knight Marshal

Lord Duncan McClay (Duncan Cooper)
(703) 801-6867 (H)
marshal AT pontealto.atlantia.sca.org

Deputy Knight Marshal
Lord Christopher Hare (Chris Harrop)
harrophare AT aol.com

Deputy Knight Marshal
Baroness Agnes Daunce (Nellie Miller)
14201 Arbor Forest Drive #301
Rockville, MD 20850
(301) 309-0419 (H)
agnes_daunce AT yahoo.com

Deputy Knight Marshal
Lord Connor Sinclair (Kevin Houghton)
connorsinclair AT yahoo.com



Rapier Marshal

Lord Geoffrey ap Clywd (Jeff Williams)
rapier AT pontealto.atlantia.sca.org

Deputy Rapier Marshal
Baroness Greta Klusenaere (Barbara Reed)
(703) 960-5388 (H)
bereed26 AT yahoo.com

Deputy Rapier Marshal
Lady Catalina dell'Acqua (Jennifer Marsten)
akgnome AT yahoo.com

Deputy Rapier Marshal
Baron Marcellus Capozziello da Napoli (Bob Capozello)
(703) 625-3883 (H)
afpopa AT cox.net

Deputy Rapier Marshal
Baroness Belphoebe de Givet (Laura Martinez)
(703) 625-3883 (H)
belfebe AT yahoo.com

Archery Marshal

Lady Arnfriðr (Nancy Covington)
archery AT pontealto.atlantia.sca.org

Deputy Archery Marshal
Lord Miles de Locwode (Mike Emrich)
6406 Seven Oaks Court
Falls Church, VA 22042
(703) 534-6075 (H)
milesdelocwode AT cox.net



Minister of Arts & Sciences
Baroness Greta Klusenaere (Barbara Reed)
(703) 960-5388 (H)
moas AT pontealto.atlantia.sca.org

Deputy Minister of Arts & Sciences
Lady Celia of Rosedale (Tamara Brown)
3714 Sudley Ford Court
Fairfax, VA 22033-4811
(703) 378-2441 (H)
rosedale703 AT aol.com

Deputy Minister of Arts & Sciences
Lady Delphina the Mad (Charlene Ratliff)
ms_spydra AT hotmail.com



Chatelaine (Newcomers)
Lady Marsaili Johnston of Lochwood Moss (Terelyn Marks)
(703) 444-6247 (H), (571) 242-6370 (M)
chatelaine AT pontealto.atlantia.sca.org

Deputy Chatelaine
Lord James de Biblesworth (James Barker)
flonzy AT hotmail.com

Silver Key (Loaner Costumes)
Lady Marsaili Johnston of Lochwood Moss (Terelyn Marks)
(703) 444-6247 (H), (571) 242-6370 (M)
ladymarsaili AT yahoo.com

Deputy for Demos
Lord James de Biblesworth (James Barker)
flonzy AT hotmail.com



Herald
Lord Connor Sinclair (Kevin Houghton)
herald AT pontealto.atlantia.sca.org

Deputy Herald
Lady Millicent Chandler (Melanie Cozad)
1220 Chase Heritage Circle #202
Sterling, VA 20164
(571) 434-8150 (H)
melaniesuzanne AT gmail.com

Deputy Herald
Lord Seamus O'Maloirian (Dwayne Eckman)
duds62 AT hotmail.com



Minister of the Lists
Baroness Agnes Daunce (Nellie Miller)
14201 Arbor Forest Drive #301
Rockville, MD 20850
(301) 309-0419 (H)
mol AT pontealto.atlantia.sca.org

Deputy Minister of the Lists
Queen Denise Duvalier (Denise Hundley)
(703) 339-4114 (H)
DCADenise AT aol.com



Chronicler (Newsletter)

Lady Courtney of Houghton and Lord Connor Sinclair
(Courtney and Kevin Houghton)
chronicler AT pontealto.atlantia.sca.org



Web Minister

Lady Cassandra Arabella Giordani (Kim Jordan)
webminister AT pontealto.atlantia.sca.org

Deputy Web Minister
Lady Courtney of Houghton (Courtney Houghton)
courtneydehoughton AT yahoo.com

Members of the Baronial Guard

Lady Catalina dell'Acqua (Captain)
Lord Geoffrey ap Clywd
Myghell O'Kelly

Baronial Warlord

Sir Thomas of Calais (Thomas Hundley)
(703) 339-4114 (H)
warlord AT pontealto.atlantia.sca.org



Baronial Heavy Champion

Master Kevin of Thornbury (Kevin Maxson)
heavychamp AT pontealto.atlantia.sca.org



Baronial Rapier Champion

Lord Seamus O'Maloirian (Dwayne Eckman)
rapierchamp AT pontealto.atlantia.sca.org



Baronial Archery Champion

Lord Miles de Locwode (Mike Emrich)
6406 Seven Oaks Court
Falls Church, VA 22042
(703) 534-6075 (H)
archerychamp AT pontealto.atlantia.sca.org



Baronial Artisan

Lady Marsaili Johnston of Lochwood Moss (Terelyn Marks)
(703) 444-6247 (H), (571) 242-6370 (M)
artisan AT pontealto.atlantia.sca.org



Baronial Bard

Lady Millicent Chandler (Melanie Cozad)
1220 Chase Heritage Circle #202
Sterling, VA 20164
(571) 434-8150 (H)
bard AT pontealto.atlantia.sca.org

Il Tempo of Ponte Alto

Meeting Minutes - July 31, 2005

Held at the Education Building of St. Paul's Lutheran Church

21 Attendees

Meeting Start Time: 6:02 pm

Officer Reports

Seneschal: Lady Marie-Therese Normand

- Coming up on 1 year in office (Pennsic): Looking for replacement Seneschal after 2 year term (Mary wants to spend more time fighting!) - Miles, the previous Seneschal, says: tough job, but rewarding. PA is a good group!
- Tirloch is current deputy, but not yet clear on whether he will want to take over in a year. So, interested parties, more deputies are always welcome!
- Any other officers planning to step down in the next year or two, please let Mary know.
- Vote of confidence for B&B in September - help will be needed stuffing polling envelopes (But NOT from the B&B, who so graciously volunteered!!!)
- From Kingdom Seneschal: Group Seneschal is required to call public police if something illegal occurs at an event. Autocrats have the same obligation. So be good!

MOM: Siobhán

- Not present

Exchequer: Lady Millicent Chandler (reported by Lady Katharine Devereaux)

- Current balance is \$6665.73, \$5697.73 of which is in the general fund
- 2nd quarter report will be submitted to regional exchequer this week (to Mistress Anne of Carthew via Lady Celia of Rosedale)
- No info on storage unit upgrade
- We need signs - currently have 3 wooden signs - need 3 more for Chalice
- Lord Seamus O'Maloirian volunteered to build signs, Lord Connor Sinclair volunteered to supply wood

Heavy Marshal: Lord Duncan the Elder

- Waivers sent a week ago by priority mail to Kingdom Waiver Secretary
- Sigmani (sp?) authorized at Baron Turgeis' practice
- Request for indoor practice site will be made on 8/8/05
- Cancelling practices during 2nd week of Pennsic (2 Sundays and 1 Thursday)

Rapier Marshal: Lord Geoffrey ap Clywd

- Cancelling practices during all of Pennsic: 2 Thursdays & 3 Sundays for Pennsic
- Cancelling Coronation Sunday practice (9/4/05), as all Rapier Marshals are traveling to SC for Coronation
- Request for indoor practice site submitted by Belphoebe

Archery Marshal: Lady Arnfriðr

- Need to check practice status during Pennsic
- Congrats to Lord Miles de Lochwode, new Bowman (last week)
- Need to award badges for archery status - at Baronial Court at Pennsic
- Most of the loaner gear ordered is in - Need to bring bill to Exchequer
- Pennsic - come out and shoot the war point, even if you barely know what a bow is. Will bring baronial loaner gear.
Clout shoot - 100 yds - shoot through turret = 1 point, hit guy = 2 points - 6 shots
Timesd round - advancing soldier - 5 sec to shoot at 70 yd, 60 yd ... 20 yd - 6 shots per distance
Arrow slots

A&S: Baroness Greta Klusenaere

- Displays at Pennsic A&S - You can probably still display things even without preregistering - Lady Katharine Devereaux & Baronne Belphoebe de Givet will be displaying items

Chatelaine: Lady Marsaili Johnston of Lochwood Moss

- No newcomers meeting in August due to Pennsic - Lord Miles & Lady Luce will host September meeting on Tuesday, the 13th - Chalice plug!
- July meeting - 4 Newcomers
- Loaner garb loaned to a play production - will be cleaned and repaired prior to return by play folks

Herald: Lord Connor Sinclair

- The saga continues: Baronial badge heraldry - check not cashed yet - need to check on confirmed receipt for mailed packet - Connor will submit EVERYTHING AGAIN at Pennsic (he has B&W copies of everything, so Don't Panic!)
- Lord Connor Sinclair stepping down at Pennsic Baronial Court, Lord Seamus O'Maloirian stepping up. Then Seamus gets to have the fun!

MOL: Baroness Agnes Dounce

- Not present

Chroniclers: Lady Courtney de Houghton and Lord Connor Sinclair

- Il Tempos keep coming
- Keeping list of membership info for financial votes at Business Meetings

Web Minister: Lady Cassandra Arabella Giordani

- Made OP updates from Kingdom Archery and Assessments (Vivats to Lady Arnfriðr and Lord Mathieu!)
- Need activity schedule during Pennsic for calendar
- Need flyer for Chalice, approval for flyer for DATR
- Kingdom Web Minister has added usage stats to websites hosted on the Kingdom Web Server: <http://pontealto.atlantia.sca.org/usage>
A shock to all, no doubt, the Baronial Web Minister has the most hits on the site.

Warlord: Sir Thomas of Calais

- Not present

Baron and Baroness: Baron Marcellus Capozziello da Napoli and Baronne Belphoebe de Givet

- Assessments had good showing of pontoons - lots of crew and 2 engines. Her Highness Rachel is now authorized siege crew!
- Changes to siege rules posted on Society web site - Web Minister will be posting "merged" rules shortly
- Baronial Pennsic Court Thursday night 7:30 pm at Ponte Alto Encampment (N30) - followed by open house, bring food and drink to share
- September is busy! - Coronation in SC (~15 pontoons going, the Ponte Alto Coronation Invasion!), Lochmere Investiture, Chalice (TRM attending), Highland Foorde Investiture (if they choose their coronets by then)
- Pennsic: Come to Opening Ceremonies and march in with PA! B&B fighting in Bridge, Field, and Mountain Pass battles, Causeway battle. Baronne Belphoebe scouting in Woods Battle There are 2 rapier war points - broken field battle, woods battle And go shoot the Archery war point B&B will be in camp every morning to muster with the troops. 2-way radios in PA camp and with B&B for contact purposes.
- Eammon is now the youngest authorized epee and schlager fighter (he authorized at Assessments)! Vivat Eammon!

Events

Pennsic: August 2005

- Sir Thomas of Calais (and new mongo trailer) will be transporting Plastic Fantastic to/from Pennsic
- LOTS of newcomers in camp - Pennsic "virgins" party last Friday night (2 newcomers)
- Baronial Court will be joint with Dun Carraig - bring stuff for the open house after it
- Lady Marie Therese Normand is organizing "Willing Wenches" - group of ladies to Pennsic-party-hop in a safe group (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday nights: Wednesday is SHOPPING!)
Scavenger Hunt - for Willing Wenches and Newcomers

- Fighter's Breakfast - Lord Olaf the Tinkerer may be hosting? - B&B, Seneschal will work out details later

Chalice: September 16-18, 2005

Siobhan, autocrat; Lady Luce Antony Venus, deputy autocrat

- Need Friday setup help: list field, pavilions, feast hall, hospitality (need Royal Liason - organizing hospitality, liason between TRM & autocrat; good job for newcomers!)
- Cleanup help: last year took 2 hours
- Gruffudd is head cook - one course - need servers - feast for carnivores
- Register! Cabins - bring bedding
- Located at Prince William Forest Park again
- Organize teams!!! Teams must field a competitor in at least 4 of 5 disciplines (heavy weapons, rapier, archery, static A&S, bardic).
- All Chalice Champions returning to defend their titles (Conal, Marcellus, Siegfried, Belphoebe, Cassandra)
- Chalice team that won last year (Walking Wounded) will also be returning, though probably under a new name
- Teams can register up until 11 am on day of event. Need name of team, team members, and discipline, along with a Jelly bean jar guess!
- Next month - sign up sheets
- No fundraising or silent auction
- Baronial Archery Champion shoot at Chalice - contact Lord Miles (and B&B) to compete for Archery Champion

Day at the Races II: November 12, 2005

Lady Celia of Rosedale, autocrat

- Flyer submitted to Acorn - renamed, Acorn confusion, resending signed paperwork
- Send Regatta info to Web Minister for posting
- Falls Church Presbyterian still site
- Silent auction for Baronial Funds will be at DATR - Marsailli volunteered to run it (she has the current stuff) - donations needed!! Deputy Exchequer wants to save up Baronial funds (\$10K) so we can potentially host a Kingdom Event
- Will be looking for event staff/volunteers over the next couple of months

Tournament of Love and Beauty: February 18, 2006

Lord Connor Sinclair and Lady Courtney de Houghton, co-autocrats

- Availability of Loudoun County Fairgrounds in Leesburg, VA - Their committee meets in August, we'll hear back after
- Looking for head cook, Baronne Belphoebe volunteered to be rapier MIC
- Heavy Weapons Tournament shaping up - Sir Thomas is MIC
- Start gearing up after Pennsic
- Budget at October meeting

Old Business

- Phone Directory hasn't been happening - Perronelle has forms - need to advertise at events - put form online - first printing planned for DATR - can only purchase one (\$0.50/0.75) if you're in it.
- Business meeting space - we're on the church calendar, awaiting formal paperwork
- First of two new thrones from Master Ranulf is done wood-working wise - Marcellus needs to put leather on. Both should be ready for Chalice

New Business

- No new business

Announcements

- Storvik site fee for fighter practice site went up - likely to ask you for \$5 to attend. Lochmere also has site fee. Any info on possible sites for Storvik, please pass on the info.
- Suggestion of a Regional Site Committee was brought up. Seneschal will approach other local groups armed with info gathering forms used by the Site Committee
- Next meeting is Sunday, August 28, 2005

Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:15 pm.

Il Tempo of Ponte Alto

Officer Reports and Letters



[Exchequer](#)



[Archery](#)

Il Tempo of Ponte Alto

Officer Reports and Letters - Archery

Greetings from the Archery Minister,

Miles de Locwode achieved the rank of Bowman on Monday at practice. The rankings are based on Royal Round scores, and Miles is making excellent progress through the ranks, now having a RR average of 60. So we now have three archers needing new badges, the others being Saethryth Farsight (Marksman) and Grygg Two-Scar (Archer). Vivats to all our ranked archers!

Our new archery loaner gear has arrived--well, most of it; it appears we are short a couple of arm guards, but that will be corrected soon. We now have gloves, ground quivers, and armguards for several archers.

We had at least two Ponte Alto archers shooting at Storvik Novice Tournament on 9 July, Saethryth and Grygg. I believe I also saw a couple of our newest archers there, though not shooting.

Several Ponte Alto archers took part in the Kingdom Archery Championship on 16 July. Alas, none of us made the finals! Despite excessive heat we had some good shooting.

Except for the weeks of Pennsic, practices continue on Mondays in Leesburg until the autumn time change. If you are itching to practice on your own when there are no practices scheduled, remember there is a nice permanent range up in Lake Needwood Park in Rockville MD; contact Arnfriðr if you need directions and for target suggestions.

Yours in Service,

Arnfriðr



Il Tempo of Ponte Alto

Officer Reports and Letters - Exchequer

Greetings from the Chancellor of the Exchequer,

We have \$6665.73 in our account and \$5697.73 in the general fund. I'm eagerly anticipating income from Chalice. Be sure to pre-register early and often!

The second quarter 2005 financial report has been completed and will have been submitted to the Regional Exchequer by this newsletter's publication.

We need signs! At this point we have three wooden signs for events. With Chalice coming up we need at least three more. Your exchequer lives in an apartment and does not have a woodshop. :) We need someone to volunteer to make these signs so folks will know where to exit for our fine September event. Please, if you have the tools and/or ability, please help out your Barony.

Yours in Service,

Lady Millicent Chandler
Baronial Exchequer



Il Tempo of Ponte Alto

In honor of the upcoming mass pilgrimage to Pennsic, we present...

The Canterbury Tales

The Canterbury Tales is a collection of stories written by Geoffrey Chaucer in the 14th century (two of them in prose, the rest in verse). The tales, some of which are originals and others not, are contained inside a frame tale and told by a group of pilgrims on their way from Southwark to Canterbury to visit Saint Thomas à Becket's shrine at Canterbury Cathedral. (The shrine was later destroyed by Henry VIII; a visitor attraction called The Canterbury Tales may nowadays be seen in Canterbury). The Canterbury Tales are written in Middle English.

The themes of the tales vary, and include topics such as courtly love, treachery and avarice. The genres also vary, and include romance, Breton lai, sermon, and fabliau (a comic, usually anonymous tale written by jongleurs in northeast France circa the 13th Century). The characters, introduced in the General Prologue of the book, tell tales of great cultural relevance. Some of the tales are serious and others are humorous; however, all are very precise in describing the traits and faults of human nature. The work is incomplete, as it was originally intended that each character would tell four tales, two on the way to Canterbury and two on the return journey. This would have meant a possible one hundred and twenty tales which would have dwarfed the existing twenty-six tales actually written.

The Tales include:

- The General Prologue
- The Knight's Tale
- The Miller's Prologue and Tale
- The Reeve's Prologue and Tale
- The Cook's Prologue and Tale
- The Man of Law's Prologue and Tale
- The Wife of Bath's Prologue and Tale
- The Friar's Prologue and Tale
- The Summoner's Prologue and Tale
- The Clerk's Prologue and Tale
- The Merchant's Prologue and Tale
- The Squire's Prologue and Tale
- The Franklin's Prologue and Tale
- The Physician's Tale
- The Pardoner's Prologue and Tale
- The Shipman's Tale
- The Prioress' Prologue and Tale
- Chaucer's Tale of Sir Topas
- The Tale of Melibee
- The Monk's Prologue and Tale
- The Nun's Priest's Prologue and Tale
- The Second Nun's Prologue and Tale
- The Canon's Yeoman's Prologue and Tale



The Manciple's Prologue and Tale
The Parson's Prologue and Tale
Chaucer's Retraction

People have sought political overtones within the tales particularly as Chaucer himself was a significant courtier and political figure at the time close to the corridors of power. There are many hints at contemporary events, although few are provable, and the theme of marriage common in the tales is presumed to refer to several different marriages most often those of John of Gaunt. Aside from Chaucer himself, Harry Bailly of the Tabard Inn was a real person and the Cook has been identified as quite likely to be Roger Knight de Ware a contemporary London cook.

The idea of a pilgrimage appears to have been mainly a useful device to get such a diverse collection of people together for literary purposes. The Monk would probably not be allowed to undertake the pilgrimage and some of the other characters would be unlikely ever to want to attend. Also all of the pilgrims ride horses, there is no suggestion of them suffering for their religion. None of the popular shrines along the way are visited and there is no suggestion that anyone attends mass, so that it seems much more like a tourist's jaunt. It may be that Chaucer's intent was to ridicule the sort of people who unthinkingly went on such pilgrimages.

Chaucer does not pay that much attention to the progress of the trip. He hints that the tales take several days but he does not detail any overnight stays. Although the journey could be done in one day this speed would make telling tales difficult and three to four days was the usual duration for such pilgrimages.

The postulated return journey has intrigued many and continuations have been written as well as tales written for the characters who are mentioned but not given a chance to speak. The Tale of Beryn is a tale by an anonymous author within a 15th century manuscript of the work. The tales are rearranged and there are some interludes in Canterbury, which they had finally reached, and Beryn is the first tale on the return journey, told by the Merchant. John Lydgate's Siege of Thebes is also a depiction of the return journey but the tales themselves are actually prequels to the tale of classical origin told by the Knight in Chaucer's work.

SOURCES:

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Inspiration for this article from Lady Millicent Chandler.