

# Il Tempo

Newsletter of the Barony of Ponte Alto-Volume 18, Issue 3 March 2009

Barony of Ponte Alto, March 2009, Chronicler\* Lord Brénaim MacShuibne



**The Hunters in the Snow (Winter)**

**Pieter the Elder Bruegel (1525-1569)**

**Oil on panel, 1565; Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna**

**Image Courtesy of the Art Renewal Center**

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# From the Chronicler...

*Greetings Pontoons,*

*First and foremost, I would like to thank Lady Wulfwyn for her service to the Barony as Chronicler. I have some pretty big shoes to fill, and I hope to be able to live up to the reputation that Lady Wulfwyn has given this newsletter.*

*Over the last couple months, there have been many changes within the Barony. We have a new Baron and Baroness. Countess Denise has stepped up to the role of Seneschal. Lady Emma West took over the position of Chatelaine and Lady Ynes Garcia is the new Web Minister. In the spirit of the changes that have taken place, there are changes coming to Il Tempo as well. The first of which is a new section called 'Around the Barony' which will appear at the end of the newsletter. This section will be comprised of photographs of the people and events from around the Barony. In regards to this month's section, I would like to take a moment to apologize to the rapier community. You will be seeing yourselves in future issues.*

*Over the next 12 months, Il Tempo will be concentrating on information to assist newcomers in joining us. To that end I would ask that anyone who has an article or even an idea for an article to contact me, and we can work on getting it into the newsletter. I would like to thank Her Excellency, Baroness Katharine Devereaux, for this month's article.*

*Thank you for giving me this opportunity to serve. I will do my best to live up to the expectations that you all have for this newsletter.*

*Lord Brénainn MacShuibne  
Chronicler, Barony of Ponte Alto*

# Exchequer's Report

Greeting to the Barony of Ponte Alto from your Chancellor of the Exchequer

Below you will find a snapshot of the 2008 Comparative Balance Statement which combines our Assets and Liabilities to give us our Net Worth. Also provided is a snapshot of the 2008 income statement so you can see where we made and spent our money. The most noticeable change in our report from previous years has been in *Income from activities* and our *Non event Occupancy and site charges* this is due to the addition of the Lemon road school for fighter practice and A&S.

The good news is that we increased our net worth by 847.91. Good job. Hopefully in 2009 we continue to maintain the upward trend our finances have shown in the past few years. Per the Baronial Financial policy, our Emergency Financial Committee consists of the Exchequer, the Seneschal and a third officer whose position rotates on an annual basis each February. This year's officer is the Herald, Lady Sian verch Gwilim ap Lewelin

Yours in Service  
Baroness Celia of Rosedale  
Baronial Exchequer

## Barony of Ponte Alto 2008 Financial Report

### Comparative Balance Statement

#### Assets

Undeposited and Non-interest bearing cash

Start	11,433.66
End	12,245.57

Regalia and Non-Depreciated Equipment

Start	895.00
End	895.00

#### Total Assets

Start	12,328.66
End	13,176.57

#### Liabilities

None

#### Net Worth

Start	12,328.66
End	13,176.57

Change in Net Worth	847.91
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**Income Statement****Income**

Fundraising	\$1,322.42
Direct contributions	\$ 69.00
Authorizations/Herald	\$ 177.00
Activity fees	
(Lemon road and Pennsic camp)	\$3010.85
Adjusted gross event income	\$8684.00

**Total Gross Income** **\$13,263.27**

**Expenses****Office and Admin**

Equipment maintenance	\$45.00
General Supplies	\$404.67
Occupancy and site charges	\$3216.74
Postage& shipping	\$148.68
Subtotal	\$3815.90

**Activity related**

Equipment rental and Maintenance	\$349.00
Food	\$2,089.09
General supplies	\$455.18
Occupancy and site charges	\$4,593.00
Subtotal	\$7486.27

**Funds Transferred to the Kingdom**

College of Heraldry	\$50.00
MOL	\$127.00
NMS	\$327.00
Webserver space	\$60.00
Donation to Kingdom	\$500.00
Subtotal	\$1064.00

**Total Expenses** **\$12,415.00**

**Net Income** **\$847.91**

# Baronial Officers

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*Members of the Baronial Guard*

Mistress Cunen Beornhelm (Captain)

### *Baronial Notables*

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# Baronial Meeting Minutes

## Business Meeting Minutes – February 22<sup>nd</sup> Start Time 6:00

### Seneschal

I have a first quarter report due March 1<sup>st</sup>. The following was forwarded concerning waterbearing and waterbearing supplies. William, Kingdom Seneschal, replied concerning waterbearing, apparently the only thing the board was supposed to do was remove the official office of waterbearer. Gwen, Kingdom Exchequer chimed in, we can go ahead and reimburse waterbearing supplies and equipment as needed provided receipts are submitted and proper approval is obtained, i.e. an approved event budget and the approval of the branch financial committee.

### Exchequer

Current Balance: \$9,002.76

Yes, it's low, but in the last few weeks, the site and feast advance for Love and Beauty has been paid. I have paid the site for Bloodbath. The storage unit has been paid through August. We have put out almost \$2,000 for Love and Beauty. In regards to the storage unit, we were never under a correct lease. As far as public storage was concerned the Exchequer's were the lessee's and we were from the Barony of Ponte Alto. Denise and I went to sign a new lease. The lease went up by about \$1.50. Apparently, the rates start to drop in December.

Last month we talked about whether to include in financial policy to comp the Baron and Baroness at events. I put out a question to the Exchequer list. I didn't get many responses. Seven responded. One didn't comp. The others did. After research, two more were found that did comp. That brings the total to eight. A vote whether to comp the Baron and Baroness for events was taken and passed.

Sunday Social Fund: \$523.60.

There is one more payment of \$256.

The 4<sup>th</sup> quarter report has been completed and will be posted in the Il Tempo.

There was a vote to seed Love and Beauty \$100 for troll. The Motion passed.

### Heavy Marshal

Everything has been going fine. Lucas has taken the marshal class. The Earl Marshal of the East has sent an email stating that Lucas was a marshal in the East Kingdom so we can get his warrant transferred. Once that is done we can start the process of having him take over as Heavy Marshal.

### Rapier Marshal

Rapier happens. We are getting a bunch of people coming from other baronies.

### Archery Marshal – Not present

### A&S

The current minister of A&S was contacted. She jumped into the job with both feet not knowing what it entailed. She is really interested in having an office in the barony but feels a deputy role would be more of her suiting and could be mentored and learn the A&S ropes. Belpheobe has agreed to step up. Millicent will be stepping down as she is the Virginia Regional Exchequer and has her hands full with that.

I encourage everyone to display their work at Tournament of Love and Beauty. Their Excellencies will be selecting the new Baronial Champion. There are a lot of very talented people. We have a very active music group. New chairs had to be bought. Their Excellencies will also be picking their Baronial Bard. Kingdom Arts and Sciences Festival is coming up. Alle Psallite will be performing.

## Chatelaine

There was a newcomer's meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup>. There were about seven newcomers. Though I left around 10 PM, the meeting went till about 1:30 AM. There were about 17 people there at one time. About four of those newcomers have gone to two events, and about four or five are coming to Love and Beauty. Countess Denise will be hosting the March newcomer's meeting.

## Herald

I've been contacted by two new people with questions about when and how they can go about getting a name. From the day you mail a submission until you get something back from Society you are looking at about nine months. It goes to Kingdom first. If Kingdom passes it, you get a letter. Then it goes to Society. If it passes Society, you get another letter. There will be an unofficial heraldry table at Love and Beauty. No update on the baronial award.

## MoL

Delphina is looking at stepping down. At this time, we do not need this position, but that may change with the next reign. Agnes has and if we run into a crisis where we need it, she agreed to temporarily hold the office until we find someone.

## Chronicler

This is my last meeting as Chronicler. Brénainn steps up at Love and Beauty. He pretty much already has as he did the newsletter for February.

## Minister of Minors

There will be a children's corner at Love and Beauty.

## Webminister – Not Present

## Heavy Champion - Not Present

## Rapier Champion - Not Present

## Baron and Baroness

We went to University. We both taught a class on fabric and His Excellency taught a class on shoe leather class. We had an open house on the 16<sup>th</sup>. We had about ten people there. The Baroness attended Feast and Foolishness. Celia won the competition. We got the log back. It had a little gold dress with black trim and a little black outfit that we were told reminded them of our outfits at 12<sup>th</sup> Night. At Kingdom Arts & Sciences will be the Baroness's first public performance. We are attending Love and Beauty. There is a Baronial Artisan challenge at Kingdom A&S. If the new champion is not prepared we can have someone else enter. At Bloodbath, we will be picking our Heavy and Rapier Champions. The old thrones will be making a comeback at Love and Beauty.

## Baronial Warlord

We just had a Commander's College this morning. There is still light turnout at the practices. We still are looking to enhance recruitment. We are progressing with the class, and we have done spear work. We have worked with Logan and William Thomas to put together an integrated expedition to Blackstone Raids. We have an Atlantian cabin. I believe there is still space for transportation to Gulf Wars.

## Baronial Artisan – not present

## EVENTS:

Tournament of Love and Beauty – We are pretty much good to go at this point. The site contact is very excited about it. I get access at 4PM on Friday. If you want to come out and set up please do. I plan to be on site Saturday morning between 7 and 7:30. Gracie is coming up on Friday evening. We need to pass a budget for the lunch. There was a vote to approve \$150 for lunch fundraiser at Love and Beauty. The vote passed.

Bloodbath – We have the check. It hasn't been dropped off at the Park Authority yet. Everything seems on schedule. We are going to make a quick selection to try

and get just the right amount of advertising so we have some people coming out and don't have quite the numbers we had the last time it was a public event.

Sapphire – They finally posted the pre-registration form. An email has been sent to Ynes to get our camp website set up. As soon as it's set up, a message will be sent to the list.

Pennsic – Marlin volunteered to be land agent.

Chalice – Chalice has been Spiked. It will be the weekend of September 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>. A budget was passed around. The price on the site went up. The site usage fee is budgeted for \$1,140. More likely it will be less than that. The price for feast has been raised. It is now \$8. Cabins are the same. Equipment and rental maintenance is \$190. The general supplies were raised from last year. We are looking at 60 for feast but there may be more than that. There is a \$100 troll advance. Do we want to do lunch? Lunch will be a separate budget. \$800 is budgeted for food. We can do less. Food budget was changed to \$650. The budget of \$2,300 passed. The Cook's Guild will be cooking the feast. Brénainn will be acting as head cook for the Guild.

Tournament of the Lily – Nothing at this time

## OLD BUSINESS

New Coronets – Nothing at this time.

## New Business

We should start thinking about the December event. It is one of our most profitable events for the Barony.

Looking through the newcomer's clothing bin. We have pulled out what will work. I would like to ask for funds to get linen to make gold and black garb for newcomers. Put something out on the list for donations between now and March meeting and see what responses there are before money is put towards this.

I am also looking at getting generic Chatelaine business cards to hand out to interested people at events such as Bloodbath. \$20 budget for the business cards passed.

**Meeting ended 7:12**

**Attendees 20**

# Announcements

## **A Message from the Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors will be holding its Quarterly meeting in the Kingdom of Atlantia, in the Williamsburg, Virginia, at the Williamsburg Lodge.

The Directors and Corporate staff would like to extend a cordial invitation for all to attend the meeting. The public meeting will be held Saturday, April 18, 2009 and will begin at 9:00am. We are very pleased to be traveling to Atlantia, and are looking forward to meeting people and gaining input from the attendees. We hope to see you there!

Please note: This meeting is a modern business meeting, and modern clothing is appropriate.

## St. Paddy's Day Bloodbath

### March 14, 2009 Barony of Ponte Alto

Banners of the North! Weep! You shame your noble King with your winter's lethargy. While Atlantia's foes tilt at rings, you have wintered by your hearthsides growing soft on rude tales and mulled wine. Enough! Arise and shake off the rust of these past frigid months. Sound the battle horn and muster again. Let all the banners of the north fly and fan our hearts to acts worthy of song. The Barony of Ponte Alto is proud to present a day that will be sure to satisfy even the most bloodthirsty fighter. This event is a fighter's dream, featuring our usual bearpit tourney and as many pickups as you can stomach. Remember, this is for both light and heavy fighters; however, this year we will also be adding youth combat to the schedule.

In addition, as with two years ago, this event will be advertised to the general public which is expected to be in attendance. For this reason, we are encouraging all participants to fight in their best armour and wear their finest garb so we may present our finest face to the public. In addition to the fighting we are planning to have a few displays of SCA activities for the public. If you would like to participate in any additional activities, feel free to contact the Autocrat. Additional details concerning the event will be in the March Acorn.

#### St Paddy's Day Bloodbath Schedule:

9:00 Troll opens

10:00 Authorizations begin

11:00 Bear Pit Tourney (Rapier and Heavy)

12:30 Lunch break

12:30-1:30 Youth combat

1:30 Bear Pit Tourney resumes

**Site:** Nottoway Park, 9601 Courthouse Road, Vienna, VA.

**Site restrictions:** No alcohol. Dogs must be leashed and cleaned up after.

**Cost:** This is a free public event; however, a donation of \$5 to the Barony would be appreciated.

**Make Checks Payable To:** SCA Inc., Barony of Ponte Alto.

**Autocrat:** Sir Thomas of Calais (Thomas Hundley), 8112 Bard St, Lorton VA 22079. Phone: (703) 212-9080, e-mail: [thrid@aol.com](mailto:thrid@aol.com)

#### Directions

**From the Beltway:** The park may be reached by taking Beltway Exit 49 (Route 66) west. Take exit 62, Route 243 or Nutley Street north (towards Vienna). Turn left on Courthouse Road from Nutley Street and the park entrance will be on the left.

**From 66:** Take exit 62, Route 243 or Nutley Street north (towards Vienna). Turn left on Courthouse Road from Nutley Street and the park entrance will be on the left.



# Monthly Calendar

*March 2009*

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
						1 1:00 pm Sunday Social – Fighting & Arts 3:30-4:30 pm Dance Practice
2 4:30 pm Archery practice	3 7:30 pm Alle Psallite 7 pm Scriptorium	4	5 6 pm Rapier Practice 6 pm Heavy Weapons Practice	6	7 Kingdom Arts and Sciences Festival	8 1:00 pm Sunday Social – Fighting & Arts
9 4:30 pm Archery practice	10 7:30 pm Alle Psallite	11	12 6 pm Rapier Practice 6 pm Heavy Weapons Practice	13	14 St. Paddy's Day Bloodbath	15 1:00 pm Sunday Social – Fighting & Arts 3 - 4:30 pm Dance Practice
16 4:30 pm Archery practice	17 7:30 pm Alle Psallite	18	19 6 pm Rapier Practice 6 pm Heavy Weapons Practice	20 7 pm Newcomers Meeting Tir-y-Don Baronial Birthday	21 Tir-y-Don Baronial Birthday	22 1:00 pm Sunday Social – Fighting & Arts Tir-y-Don Baronial Birthday
23 4:30 pm Archery practice	24 7:30 pm Alle Psallite	25	26 6 pm Rapier Practice 6 pm Heavy Weapons Practice	27	28 Defending the Gate	29 1:00 pm Sunday Social – Fighting & Arts
30 4:30 pm Archery practice	31 7:30 pm Alle Psallite					

\* = Baronial Progress

# Events

## *Baronial Progress for March 2009*

Date	Event
March 7	Kingdom Arts and Sciences Festival
March 14	St. Paddy's Day Bloodbath
March 28	Defending the Gate

## *March 2009 Calendar of Scheduled Events*

Date	Event	Group	Location
7	Kingdom Arts and Sciences Festival	Bright Hills	Westminster, MD
14	St. Paddy's Day Bloodbath	Ponte Alto	Vienna, VA
20-22	Tir-yDon Baronial Birthday	Tir-y-Don	Lanexa, VA
28	Defending the Gate	Sudentorre	Spotsylvania, VA

# Weekly Activities

SUNDAY	
<b>Ponte Alto Baronial Business Meeting</b>	Fourth Sunday of the month at 6 pm at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Idylwood Road, Falls Church. Baronial Business Meeting (Fourth Sunday of each month, except December) The meeting is at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 7426 Idylwood Rd., Falls Church. Take your best route to I-66. Get off at the exit for Route 7 West (Tysons Corner). Turn left at the first light after the interchange onto Idylwood Rd. The church is up the hill on the right about 1/4 mile.
<b>Sunday Social –</b> - <b>Heavy Weapons Practice</b> - <b>Arts/Sciences</b>	Lemon Road Elementary: Indoor Winter Practices for Heavy Weapons, Rapier, and an area for A&S activities are all included. Come and join the gathering and bring whatever you're working on. This is a great time to meet & socialize with other people in the barony. Activities held at Lemon Road Elementary School on Idylwood Road, 1pm-4pm. Contact the Baronial Knight Marshal for more information. Indoor Heavy Directions. This is a school location activity.  From Southern Virginia, Maryland and Alexandria, VA Take I-495 (the beltway) to the VA-Route 7 East exit at Tysons Corner labeled Leesburg Pike/Falls Church, Exit #47B. Continue on Leesburg Pike towards Falls Church for 1.2M. Turn left onto Idylwood Road for 0.3 miles. * Turn left into the Lemon Road Elementary School front parking lot.. From Northwestern Virginia and Washington, DC Take I-66 to the VA-Route 7 West exit for Leesburg Pike/Tysons Corner exit #66B. Continue on Leesburg Pike under 0.1M towards Tysons Corner. Turn right at the first light onto Idylwood Road for 0.3 miles. Follow from * above.
MONDAY	
<b>Alle Psallite (Vocal Music)</b>	Every Monday, 7:30-9 pm in Herndon. Contact Mistress Anne of Carthew (anne AT ravenstreet.org) For more information or directions. Music files can be found at <a href="http://www.ravenstreet.org/Anne/alle_psallite/alle_psallite.htm">http://www.ravenstreet.org/ Anne/alle_psallite/alle_psallite.htm</a> and on the Yahoo Group AllePsallite.
TUESDAY	
<b>Ponte Alto Scriptorium</b>	Meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7 pm. Contact Lady Brigid O'Hara (mill3rs AT yahoo. com, (703) 620-4945 (H)) for information and directions.
THURSDAY	
<b>Rapier Practice</b>	Every Thursday at Shrevewood Elementary school from 6 pm to 9 pm. Please use the rear entrance to the cafeteria. Please contact the Baronial Rapier Marshal for more information. Indoor Rapier Directions. This is a school location activity.
<b>Heavy Weapons Practice</b>	Lemon Road Elementary School on Idylwood Road, 6 pm - 9 pm. Practice is geared to developing beginning and intermediate fighters through intensive hands on training with experienced instructors, as well to providing ample opportunity for more advanced fighters to sparr with knight level combatants. All are welcome. Contact the Baronial Knight Marshal for more information. Indoor Heavy Directions. This is a school location activity.
FRIDAY	
<b>Ponte Alto/Stierbach Archery Practice</b>	Fridays from 4:30 pm until 8 pm, the indoor season archery practice site is Bull Run Regional Park's shooting center. 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: <a href="http://mysite.verizon.net/vze4ks38/archery/main.html">http://mysite.verizon.net/vze4ks38/archery/main.html</a> .
<b>Ponte Alto A&amp;S Night</b>	May meet on a Friday during the month. Contact Lady Perronelle la peintre (dwatsonirwin AT cox.net, (703) 455-0298 (H)) for information and directions.
<b>Stierbach/Ponte Alto Bardic</b>	Come and share your songs and stories! Meets the fourth Friday of the month at 7:30 pm. Contact Baroness Briana Maclukas (darbyjanieAT hotmail.com) for information.
MONTHLY	
<b>SCA Newcomer Meetings</b>	Newcomer Meetings occur once a month on a weeknight from 7-9 pm at the homes of various members of the Barony.  March's meeting will be Friday March 20 <sup>th</sup> at the home of Countess Denise Duvalier and Sir Thomas of Calais Contact our Chatelaine for information and directions.

**\* Note on school locations for activities:** There will be no activities at schools during school holidays or on other days when Fairfax County schools are closed or all nighttime school recreational activities are cancelled. Notification of cancellation or alternate site location will be posted on the web as soon as possible. You can visit the Fairfax County Public Schools Emergency Announcement page for school closure status: <http://fcps.edu/news/emerg.htm>

**Special Thursday Night parking instructions at:** We have received some complaints about lack of parking spaces from residents of the Peachtree of McClean apartment complex which adjoins our practice site. After some informal negotiations we have arrived at an agreement with the building management. We beseech those attending Thursday night practices to adhere to the following procedures from now on:

*You may unload your gear from parking spaces adjoining our practice area. But then please move your car to another space either at least a block further away from Route 7 in the complex parking lot or in the library parking lot closer to Route 7. At the conclusion of practice you may once again move your car to a space adjoining the practice area in order to reload your gear before exiting the site. In this way we hope to be able to continue to use the parking facilities of the complex without inconveniencing the residents.*

# the Real Middle-Ages

## *Newcomer's Clothing – A beginner's primer for clothing through the ages in the SCA*

**By: Katharine Devereaux**

**Mka. Kimberly Barker**

*Caveat - This document contains what I've learned over the years based on my personal experience, research, and knowledge. This is designed to be a starting point and provide the reader a beginning platform to help them take the next step and search out more information for their next project.*

The SCA requires that all attendees make an attempt at pre-17<sup>th</sup> century clothing. What defines an attempt? That is anyone's guess, but most people want to "look right" while they play this game and I hope that their desire to look right helps them to realize that with a few simple steps and some trial, anyone can "look right".

What you can expect from this article – an overview to help you get started looking "right" and gain an understanding of what clothing is generally defined by eras. The ones we'll be reviewing are **Roman, Viking, 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries out of Northern Europe**.

Throughout each of the above eras there are a few common elements. More details will be later on in this handout but are generally defined as: **materials** (fabric, thread, needles), **techniques** (rectangular construction – more about this later), and **layers** (3 basic for each man, woman, and child).

### **Persona and clothing:**

It is not necessary to choose a persona, and then only wear clothing that fits your "persona". A persona will help you choose a name with heraldry and help with your device and whole story if you choose to play this game that way.

### **This primer will include:**

- ☐ Materials
  - Why linen, wool, & silk?
  - Suppliers – online and brick/mortar
- ☐ Techniques
  - Rectangular construction
  - Finishing your garment



- ☐ “Cheat sheet” that outlines what pieces can be used with what eras.
- ☐ Details on each era for men, women, & children
  - Layers
- ☐ Resources – books, online websites, and email lists
- ☐ Tools Needed and Sources for Supplies
- ☐ Fixes for problems
- ☐ Pennsic Clothing (things to think about)

## **Materials:**

Fabric:

It is recommended that you use 100% natural fiber content – linen, silk, & wool for you and your family’s clothing. Why?

- 1) That’s what was used in history
- 2) These fibers wear well and will last

How to tell what the fiber is:

**Burn Test** – Snip a piece of fabric equivalent to 1” square. Using a butane lighter and holding the fabric with a pair of tweezers ignite the fabric over a non-flammable surface in a well ventilated area.

Examine the quality and color of the flame, the odor produced, and the quality of the resulting ash or cinder. Use this table to help determine your fabric’s content.

FABRIC	FLAME QUALITY	ODOR	ASH QUALITY	COMMENTS
WOOL	orange color sputtery	burning hair or feathers	blackish turns to powder when crushed	flame will self extinguish if flame source is removed no smoke
SILK	burns slowly	burning hair or feathers	grayish turns to powder when crushed	burns more easily than wool but will self extinguish if flame

				source removed
COTTON	yellow to orange color steady flame	burning paper or leaves	grayish, fluffy	slow burning ember
LINEN	yellow to orange color steady flame	burning paper or leaves	similar to cotton	takes longer to ignite than cotton but otherwise very similar
RAYON	fast orange flame	burning paper or leaves	almost no ash	ember will continue to glow after flame source removed
POLYESTER	orange flame, sputtery	sweet or fruity smell	hard shiny black bead	black smoke
ACETATE	burns and melts, sizzly	acidic or vinegary	hard black bead	will continue to burn after flame source removed
NYLON	burns slowly and melts, blue base and orange tip, no smoke	burning celery	hard grayish or brownish bead	self extinguish if flame source removed
ACRYLIC	burns and melts, white- orange tip, no smoke	acidic	black hard crust	will continue to burn after flame source removed

Chart and instructions courtesy of <http://www.lindrix.com/fabcontent.html>

**Bleach Test** – To determine content of fabrics I recommend conducting this first with fabrics that you are sure about the content of – so you will know the outcome of the test yourself.

In a non reactive pan (I use a Pyrex pie plate) take snips (small pieces) of the fabric you will be testing. Use straight bleach and put about half an inch of bleach in the pan. Please do this in a ventilated area. Add snippets of fabric and let them sit for about 24 hours.

The next day, look at what you have left.

**100% Linen or Cotton** – any color should be removed from the fabric, but there will be no damage to the fibers themselves

**100% Silk or Wool** – the fabric will have fully dissolved (unless its worsted/gabardine, there is a fabric treatment that protects the fabric from the bleach and keeps the fabric

shiny even after washes).

**100% Polyester, Rayon, Acetate, or Nylon** – The fabric will have become a cloudy mess within the bleach. Fully dissolved into an opaque cloud within the bleach.

**Blends** – The individual fibers will act as described above. The result will be different for each combination= **Rayon/Linen** – linen fibers with a opaque cloud; **Silk/Polyester** (and wool/nylon)– fully dissolved with an opaque cloud; **Linen/Cotton** – no damage to the fibers; **Silk/Wool** – fully dissolved.

### Fiber found in history:

In London and Greenland, the archeologists pulled fabric remains out of the archeological digs. These fabrics contained wool, linen, & silk, usually 100% content, but sometimes blended wool/silk.

Another reason I suggest that you use linen, silk and wool is the length of the fiber strands which helps snags stay localized. Cotton has a tendency to tear/rip when snagged.

From personal experience, I have found linen breathes better and tears less than cotton. Additionally, on a hot, sweaty day, the linen will “wick” away sweat while cotton will just hold it there. If you wear wool over the top of the linen underwear (you are thinking I’m crazy, I know) you will have a medieval air conditioning. Your body is designed to sweat, so the wool causes you to sweat and the linen wicks it away.

Cotton – yes, there were areas where there was cotton – Italy, France some others, but I have found this was not a prevalent practice. This fiber was used for bed curtains and wall decorations, but not on clothing that I can find.

### Techniques:

**Rectangular Construction** – Has been around for many years and is my favorite fabric conservation technique. This is an example of providing measurements to have a garment fit a body then laying out the fabric so there is as little waste as possible. This basic garment pattern can be used for men, women, children, underwear, dresses and tunics.

Finishing Techniques:

**Rolled Edges:** Roll the edge twice, this will help hide the edge of the fabric for washing so it will not unravel.

**Facing:** Cut fabric that is about a 2” uniform along the edge of what you are finishing. Sew it along the edge (where the two fabrics meet) then fold it to the inside (with unfinished edges contained), fold under the edge and attach.

### Pieces:

**Braies** - Men’s underwear. Long or short depending on the era, usually made of white

linen for durable cleaning.

**Chemise** – Underwear, shift, undershirt. First layer that helps keep your clothing clean. Usually made of white linen that can be washed easier and rougher than your outside clothing (i.e. perfect for machine washing)

**Cote** – Men's or women's garment worn as a 3<sup>rd</sup> layer in the 14<sup>th</sup> century. Think of this as your going "out of the manor" clothing.

**Doublet** – Men's 2<sup>nd</sup> layer of clothing (over the shirt) in the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> century. Designed to hold up the man's hose and made of wool, linen, or silk.

**Garters** – Strips of linen, wool, or leather that are fastened to stay closed and hold up stockings. Can be fastened with hooks, tied together, buckle, or any other method

**Gothic Fitted Gown** – women's 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> century supportive dress. This is designed to be worn without a bra and be the middle layer of clothing over the chemise. The Tunic evolved into this garment. Can also be known as: Fitted Gown, kirtle, kirtle, cotehardie.

**Hose** – Men's leg coverings. From early era to late era and are found tied to either the braies or the doublet depending on the era. Were found in either wool or linen

**Tunica** – Roman era first layer. Two pieces of fabric attached at the shoulders and at the sides to create a place for your head and arms - a large rectangle that encases your body. Made of Linen or silk

**Tunic** – Generic top for either a man or a woman. This is the middle layer and directly over the chemise or shirt. Made of linen, silk, or wool.

**Shirt** - Underwear, shift, undershirt. First layer that helps keep your clothing clean. Usually made of white linen that can be washed easier and rougher than your outside clothing (i.e. perfect for machine washing)

**Stockings** – What I use for women's feet coverings. Same style as men's hose from the knee down. Made of wool or linen and keep the legs clean and/or warm. Garters are used to tie under the knee (or over) to hold them up.

**Stroticum** –this Roman term is generally known as Breast Binding. Yes this does work. Depending on your cup size, take enough fabric (linen is preferred) to wrap around your chests area with sufficient width to cover or almost cover the breasts from top to bottom. Wrap beginning in the front, cross the length in the back, and bring back around to the front. Then tie a knot and tuck it under the separation in the breast.

**Stolla** – wool or silk covering that married women wore in the roman era. This is the same rectangle of fabric that is either gathered at the shoulders into a

**V-Necked Gown** – Generic term for an over-gown during the 15<sup>th</sup> century. Typically seen with the henin (pointed princess hat from the fairy tales). Made of silk or wool and

typically lined (or trimmed) in fur.

### Cheat Sheet:

**Women:** Under each outfit (except Roman) wear Chemise and Stockings w/garters then shoes.

**Men:** Under each outfit wear shirt and braies and leather shoes.

Era	Women's	Men
<b>Roman</b>	Tunica, Stroticum(Breast bindings), Stolla optional, Palla, & Sandals	Tunic, Cloaks, Sandals
<b>Access.</b>	Many thin bracelets, broaches to close tunica, simple rings	Broach to close cloak
<b>Viking</b>	Tunic, Apron dress, hood (or not), coat	Tunic & Pants
<b>Access.</b>	Beads, metal bracelet, matching broaches to close apron	Broach
<b>12<sup>th</sup> C.</b>	Bliat (angel wing dress), veil with barbette & filets	Tunic, underwear, tie on hose
<b>Access.</b>	Long belt, simple rings, pins	Broach
<b>13<sup>th</sup> C.</b>	Tunic, Overtunic, veil over barbette	Long Tunic, tie on hose, hanging sleeve gown
<b>Access.</b>	Simple rings, pins	Broach
<b>14<sup>th</sup> C.</b>	LS Fitted Dress – 2 <sup>nd</sup> layer. Plain dress or sideless surcote or overdress w/tippets, hood/head wrap	Fitted Cote, overcote with tippets, long underwear, tie on hose
<b>Access.</b>	Rings, plaque belt	Decorative broach, rings
<b>15<sup>th</sup> C.</b>	Fitted Dress, V-Neck Gown(later) or Houppelande, hood or fancy hat	Doublet, Gown, Full hose
<b>Access.</b>	Rings, necklaces	Decorative broach, rings, paternoster
<b>16<sup>th</sup> C.</b>	Doublet, skirt, ruff, partlet	Doublet, Jerkin, Breeches, knee hose
<b>Access.</b>	Teardrop and animal shaped pins, pearls, top hat styles, French Hoods	Pearl accessories, decorative broaches, rings, purse



## **Resources:**

The below are good starting points for further research into each era.

Roman:

[http://members.ozemail.com.au/~chrisandpeter/radical\\_romans/costume.htm](http://members.ozemail.com.au/~chrisandpeter/radical_romans/costume.htm)  
<http://www.feochadan.com/#roman>  
<http://www.vroma.org/~bmcmanus/clothing.html>

Viking:

<http://www.vikinganswerlady.com/index.shtml>  
Viking Costume and Clothing by Thor Ewing – ISBN: 0752435876  
<http://www.historiclife.com/HistoricalClothing/10th.htm>  
<http://www.vikingsna.org/>

12<sup>th</sup>:

Medieval Tailor's Assistant (12th to 15th c) by Sarah Thursfield – ISBN:9780896762398  
<http://www.eg.bucknell.edu/~lwittie/sca/garb/bliaut.html>  
<http://camelot-treasures.com/aenor/>  
<http://www.personal.utulsa.edu/~marc-carlson/cloth/bockhome.html> (all eras)  
<http://home.armourarchive.org/members/flonzy/Essays/KragelundTunic.htm>

13<sup>th</sup>:

<http://www.geocities.com/douziemesiecle/>  
<http://heatherrosejones.com/stlouisshirt/index.html>

14<sup>th</sup>:

Textile & Clothing, c. 1150-c.1450 by Elizabeth Crowfoot – ISBN: 1843832399  
Fashion in the Age of the Black Prince by Stella Mary Newton – ISBN:085115767X  
<http://www.cottesimple.com/> (and 15th c too)  
<http://www.mathildegirlgenius.com/> (and 15th c. too)  
<http://www.labelle.org/> (resource, not required, but a good set of 14<sup>th</sup> c information)

15<sup>th</sup>:

<http://www.historiclife.com/HistoricalClothing/15th.htm>  
<http://www.mathildegirlgenius.com/FurDress/FurLinedDressDoc.pdf>  
<http://www.comanie-of-st-george.ch/dragon-4.pdf>  
[http://www.comanie-of-st-george.ch/index\\_1.phtml](http://www.comanie-of-st-george.ch/index_1.phtml)  
<http://www.replications.com/greys/standards.htm> (resource, not required, but a good set of 15th c information for men, women, & children)

16<sup>th</sup>:

[www.vertetsable.com](http://www.vertetsable.com)

<http://www.elizabethancostume.net/>

#### Online Art Resources:

Web Gallery of Art – <http://www.wga.hu/index1.html> (all eras)  
[www.larsdatter.com](http://www.larsdatter.com) (all eras)

#### Footwear:

Shoes & Pattens by Francis Grew & Margrethe de Neergard – Museum of London. ISBN: 085115805  
<http://www.personal.utulsa.edu/~marc-carlson/shoe/SHOEHOME.HTM>  
<http://www.historiclife.com/HistoricalClothing/Shoes.htm>

## **Tools Needed:**

**Chalk** – Chalkboard chalk works well. I recommend colored so you can see it (dark or light) on various colors of fabric.

**Scissors** – Keep your paper and fabric scissors separate.

**Freezer paper or craft paper** – for patterns. Use chalk or pens to make your pattern. If the paper isn't wide enough, use two pieces and tape together then cut.

**Pins** – and a pin cushion. I prefer the type with the plastic balls on the ends. These can be longer and easier to use – but they are a bit more expensive than the small headed metal pins.

**Thread** – When starting use a good quality polyester thread such as Gutermann. You should have less issues of breakage and get less frustrated. If you would like, later on you can move onto 100% linen, wool, or silk threads.

**Test Fabric** – When starting out with making to see if something fits, start out using junk fabric. This is the \$1-\$3 a yard clearance fabrics you find at JoAnn or Hancock Fabrics.

**Sewing Machine** – Not necessary, but very nice to have. You really only need a machine that goes forward, back and zig/zag.

**Awl** – For making lacing holes. You can get one at the hardware store for under \$5. Look for a wood/scratch awl.

**Suppliers:****Fabric:****Wool**

[www.bblackandsons.com](http://www.bblackandsons.com) - check out their "woolen specials"

[www.denverfabrics.com](http://www.denverfabrics.com)

[www.fabric.com](http://www.fabric.com) - look for 100% wool fabrics

[www.fashionfabricsclub.com](http://www.fashionfabricsclub.com) - search - "100% wool" (this will help find 100% content fabrics)

**Linen**

[www.fabrics-store.com](http://www.fabrics-store.com) - For white linen - recommended item numbers - IL019 and IL020 - light and medium weight fabrics. Good quality linen for decent price. If you are going to start making clothing for a family or know you will want many linings or underwear, I fully recommend checking out their "specials". If you purchase 20 yards (a bolt) of white linen, the price is reduced per yard. Also coupons- *ilovelinen* - saves 7% and -888linen54 - saves 5%. It almost pays for the shipping costs

[www.fabric.com](http://www.fabric.com) -look for 100% linen fabrics

**Silk**

[www.fabric.com](http://www.fabric.com) - look for 100% silk fabrics

[www.fashionfabric.com](http://www.fashionfabric.com) - search for "100% silk"

[www.thaisilks.com](http://www.thaisilks.com)

[www.dharmatrading.com](http://www.dharmatrading.com)

**Leather:**

<https://www.siegelofca.com> - purchase over \$75 and shipping is free. Look for veggie or alum tanned hides. 2-3 oz - very light weight good for purses, pouches and very soft shoes, 4-5 oz good for tops of shoes, 8-9 oz - good for soles of shoes. If you sign up for their weekly email, they will send you their weekly specials.

<http://www.tandyleatherfactory.com/> - Online and brick & mortar stores. Many tools and treatments for working with leather.

**Brick and Mortar stores:**

JoAnn Fabrics & Crafts - [www.joanns.com](http://www.joanns.com)

G-Street Fabrics -DC Metro Area, Woodbridge, Centerville, Rockville,

Falls Church - [www.gstreet.com](http://www.gstreet.com)

JoMar Fabrics - Philadelphia Metro - Sales in January and July - ½ off prices - possibly worth a trip, but need to watch out for mislabeling of fabric. [www.jomars.com](http://www.jomars.com)

**SCA Merchants:**

Fabric Dragon - at some events -she knows her fabrics - [www.fabricdragon.com](http://www.fabricdragon.com).

Class Act Fabric - [www.classactfabrics.com](http://www.classactfabrics.com) - she sells linen thread and is at Pennsic.

## Fixes for Problems:

- My garment is too small.
  - It's OK to add a piece of fabric to make it fit. This could be a strip of fabric on the bottom (i.e. the dress/tunic was cut too short or you mismeasured)
  - If the body of the garment is too small – it's OK to add another piece down the middle. If you look at the garments dug up in Greenland, there is a lot of piecing.
- There is puckering where my gores, gussets, arms are attached
  - This just takes time and ripping it out once or twice
  - **A hint:** When adding a gore, gusset, or anything else, stop sewing the last ½ inch. Use that ½ inch as seam allowance and do not sew it on either piece of the fabric.
- Oops, I just cut my neck hole too big or wrong.
  - Add a new one. Take a piece of the fabric and add it back to the neck hole and cut again.
- I just lost weight and my clothes are now too big.
  - Just like you can add, you can also take away fabric. Start along the back seam and take it in – then sew down the line you took in so that it fits. If necessary do this with the front too – avoid if you've spent many hours making lacing holes. You can sell the garment to someone else or take it entirely apart and make something new out of it.



## **Pennsic Panic and How to Cope:**

So, here it is, a little over a month before Pennsic and you just looked at your medieval clothing closet and cried "I have nothing to wear!"

### **What are you supposed to do?**

#### **1) Take an inventory of what you have.**

- a. For example: A woman has 2 chemises, 1 stocking, 1 dress/outfit
- b. For example: A man has 2 tunics, 1 shirt and 1 pair of chausses

#### **2) Decide what you need to survive Pennsic**

- a. But aren't my clothes going to get dirty? Your options are:
  - i. There is a laundromat in town.
  - ii. You can wash and hang garments dry in camp. Take some Woolite as part of your camping supplies. My experience is that Woolite washes out of clothing much easier than most other soaps.
  - iii. You would be amazed what airing out clothing does for both the smell and freshness. (bring clothespins and attach to the ropes of your tent)
- b. If I'm there for 10 days, don't I need 10 different dresses/outfits? In my opinion, the answer is amazingly no. I don't believe those who lived in medieval times had a great variety in their wardrobe. Remember this is about needs, not necessarily wants.

Once you have these two questions answered, you can more easily plan what you need to take.

#### *Tips to keep in mind:*

- 1) **Make clothing interchangeable** – *you might not have different complete outfits, but if your pieces mix and match, you will have the ability to look different each day.*
- 2) **Fabric Choices** – *keep your layers lightweight. Wear linen underwear (chemise or shirt) as this will help you sweat (your body's natural method for cooling itself) – which is a good thing to help you keep cool.*

The man above will probably need to get 2-3 more shirts, 1 or 2 coifs (to help prevent sunburn) and 1 or 2 pair of chausses. Again, this is because it is OK to wear items over and over. Bring the Woolite and your shirts can be clean.

The woman above will probably need 1 more chemise, 1 or 2 pairs of stockings and 1 or 2 more dresses. Additionally she might need 1 or 2 linen cloths for head wraps.

**How are you going to add these needed pieces to your Pennsic wardrobe, you ask?**

The two simple options are – you can purchase clothes or make clothes.

- 1) **For Purchase** – you will probably spend more money, but you will not spend the same time on sewing. Also, if you are not comfortable with sewing, buying clothing or bartering other items/services for clothing is another option.
- 2) **For Making** –
  - a. **First step:** Purchase fabric either online or in a local fabric store. Online prices will probably be better, but purchasing fabric from the store will get you the fabric quicker.
  - b. **Second step:** Attend the local sewing days. This will help motivate you and set aside the time needed to sew. In the barony we have many options for getting together with others – locations and times are varying – review your local website or contact for more information.

***Tips to keep in mind:***

- 1) *Work on a bit each day, if it is just sewing one seam, cutting on pattern piece, do it.*
- 2) *Procrastination time is over, time to sit down and plan this out. You have over time to complete what you need.*

Lastly, we have great resources and many people who are very willing to help others get into clothing. (We are the best looking group around!) Ask those listed and they will direct you to someone who can help you.

# Around the Barony





