This is *Il Tempo* (The Times), a publication of The Barony of Ponte Alto, in the Kingdom of Atlantia, of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. *Il Tempo* is provided at no charge online and is available in PDF format on the baronial website. Printed copies are available from Theresa Crean, chronicler@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org. Courtesy copies of *Il Tempo* are provided to Their Majesties of Atlantia, Their Highnesses, Kingdom Chronicler, and the Kingdom Seneschal in either electronic or paper format as requested. All Chroniclers in the Kingdom are invited to peruse the electronic version posted on the Baronial website.

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Photo by Theresa Crean (Lady Theresa O Cahir)
Welcome to Il Tempo (The Times), the Newsletter of the Barony of Ponte Alto, one of the northern baronies in the Kingdom of Atlantia.

Il Tempo strives to be an informative read that you look forward to. To this end, we are always appreciative of any contributions to it; perhaps an article of a project you are working on or are interested in, how to make/play a period game, your experience at an event, how/what to prepare for a day trip, a recipe/piece of garb that you’ve made, documentation on an item you’ve competed, a how-to on documentation, a few words on a historical person/event, photos, a book review, something to share with a newcomer; perhaps a short autobiography of your persona or how you came to figure out your persona. The list can go on for ages and is only limited by the speed at which our hands can write out what our minds can think.

Come, share with us adventures in the great Barony of Ponte Alto, in the grand Kingdom of Atlantia, in this - the Current Middle Ages!

From the Chronicler

I was rather ill in January during the time I was putting Il Tempo together. Baron Marcellus caught a few errors before it was posted to the website. But after I returned to health, I found a couple more “glaring” errors. I’ve corrected them and Lady Giovanna has graciously posted an updated February issue to the Baronial website. Thank you for understanding!

By request, I’ve started printing both this month’s calendar and next month’s calendar. It’s a good idea so that people can plan ahead, especially for the first week of the following month. (Thank you Baron Drogo for the suggestion!)

Theresa

WANTED: KNIGHT MARSHAL

Lord Charles the Bull, the current Knight Marshal, would like to step away from the position soon. If you would be interested in assuming the role, please contact Baron Marcellus, our Seneschal, to get more information. Contact information for both Marcellus and Charles can be found in the Regnum on pages 6 and 7.
Warriors of Atlantia, arise! Throw off your cloaks and seize your swords, for the horns and drums are sounding. As winter's chill fades, our foes gear for war, and we shall be ready to answer them. The Barony of Ponte Alto is proud to present a day that will be sure to satisfy even the most blood-thirsty fighter. This is event is a fighter's dream, featuring our usual bear pit tourney and as many pickups as you can stomach. Heavy, rapier, and youth combatants are all welcome and encouraged to attend.

**SCHEDULE**

- 9:00 am - Troll Opens
- 10:00 am - Authorizations begin
- 11:00 am - Bear Pit Tourney (Rapier and Heavy)
- 12:30 pm - Lunch Break
- 12:30 - 1:30pm - Youth rapier
- 1:30 pm - Bear Pit Tourney resumes
- 4:00 pm - Court (may be moved earlier if fighting winds down)

**SITE FEE:**

- **Adult, Member:** $6 Day-Trip
- **Adult, Non-Member:** $11 Day-Trip
- **Youth (5 - 17):** $4 Day-Trip
- **Child (0 - 4):** Free

**LUNCH:** Lunch is included in the site fee.

**SITE:** Nottaway Park, 9601 Courthouse Road, Vienna, VA 22181. Site is dry. Pets are permitted on leashes. Site is open from 9AM until dusk.

**DIRECTIONS:** Take your best route to I-66, West of 495 to the Nutley Street exit (Vienna Metro Station). Follow signs to Vienna. Go through three lights and turn left onto Courthouse Road. The park entrance will be about a half mile up on your left. Go into the park past the house on the hill. Fighting field is in the back of the park.

**AUTOCRAT:** Cellach Mór (Kari Dalton), 1342 N Lynnbrook Dr, Arlington, VA 22201. Phone: (703) 655-6660, E-mail: kel.abc AT gmail.com

**RESERVATIONS:** Send reservations to the Autocrat. Checks should be made payable to "Barony of Ponte Alto, SCA Inc."

**Please note:** This is traditionally a *cold* event, so please dress appropriately.
At the Tournament of Love & Beauty, Maestra Cassandra reported the event that:

♦ Theresa O Cahir was awarded the Ponte d'Oro
♦ Baron Marcellus, the Baronial Artisan, was asked to retain his post as champion, which he accepted.
♦ Their Excellencies released Maestra Cassandra, the Baronial Bard, from service. Maestra Luce Antony Venus was called and accepted the post of Baronial Bard.
♦ Maitresse Belphoebe, the MiC, presented the tournament results. The rapier winner was Lord Alric the Mad and the armored winner was Baron Ragnarr Blackhammer.
♦ Lady Sophia van der Werken was inducted into the Order of the Garland for her many years of service to the Barony.

Vivat to all who were honored by Their Excellencies!!!

**St. Paddy’s Blood Bath Volunteers Needed!!**

Lady Cellach (Kari) needs volunteers to help set up at 8:00 a.m. on March 9th. Water bearers are also needed. Since this is a demo-type of event since we get a lot of spectators from the public, we’d like to have “interpreters” stand along the edge and answer questions and tell people about the SCA. Just check in at Troll and Celia and her staff will point you in the right direction.

**March Newcomer’s Meeting**

When: Mar. 15th at 7:00 p.m.
Where: Eoin’s (John Elliott), 6300 Stevenson Avenue, Unit LL01, Alexandria

Allergy Alert: cats; please medicate as needed.

Note: Street parking only; they'll tow from the condo parking lot. Host is available to walk anyone to/from their car. Entry information for the building is available on the email list or the website. Please contact me if you can’t access it.

~ Gwenhwyvar (Jennie), Deputy Chatelaine

There is NO Cooks’ Guild or Sewing Guild gatherings this month. Dates for March will be arranged through Facebook and/or the Barony’s email list.
There’s a nice little troll who lives under the Ponte Alto bridges. Every once in a while, the troll will pass along anything it overhears while it lurks about.

Last month we had a good-natured giggle at Baron Marcellus’ handcrafted instrument that sort of sounded like a moose call. It’s called a tromba marina. He took it to KASF and won the Inter-Baronial A&S Competition! See more about his instrument in “The Tromba Marina” on page 12.

The run-up to Love & Beauty was filled with all sorts of humor. At the storage facility, Lady Caitilin was attacked by a shovel and the list fence among other things… we took it as a good sign that if the autocrat was having a hard time, it would be a good event!

Baroness Katharine Deveraux filled us in on Facebook about where the sacrificial chickens came from. Years ago (okay… not THAT long ago) at one of the first Chalice events, there was talk of sacrificing chickens so that the weather would be good. For the event, Brennain cooked Capon Soup (a.k.a. chicken soup). One of the members of the populace took a chicken salad sandwich and there was a rubber chicken at Troll just to help out the cause.

The volunteers at Troll entertained populace during check in with snippets of songs from The Lion King. They all had great voices—though we had some ringers… Mistress Celia and Lady Giovanna have been part of Alle Psallite!

Lady Annika had the children run…um ride… on their Palio horses for the procession. They later produced a number of wonderful crafts made of black and gold pipe cleaners.

Gwenhwyvar gets a “heroine of the day” award for mopping the floor and working on a overflowed toilet in the women’s restroom at the end of the day.

Photo by Theresa Crean (Lady Theresa O Cahir)
Regnum

Baron and Baroness

Barone Drogo Rainulf de Dragonera  
Baronesse Adina von der Heide  
Stephen and Liza Cicirelli  
4214 Maylock Ln  
Fairfax, VA 22033  
(703) 349-6779 (H), no calls after 10 pm  
baron AT pontealto.atlantia.sca.org  
baronesse AT pontealto.atlantia.sca.org  
baronage AT pontealto.atlantia.sca.org

Baron Marcellus Capoziello da Napoli  
Bob Capozello  
(703) 975-9146 (H)  
nenchal AT pontealto.atlantia.sca.org

Gold Key (Loaner Costumes)

Gwenhwyvar y Dryw  
Jennie Murphy  
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gwenhwyvar.y.dryw AT gmail.com

Deputy for Demos

Lady Caitilin Irruis inghean ui Riada  
Christine Menton  
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703-591-1795 (W)  
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Laura Martinez  
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Lady Bevin an Broc Drannach  
Kristin Moran  
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Lady Annika Siltanen  
Eliisa Harman  
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Deputy Chatelaine

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Jennie Murphy  
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gwenhwyvar.y.dryw AT gmail.com

(Continued on next page)
Regnum (continued)

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**Rapier Marshal**
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Jeff Williams
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**Lady Flora de Bayeaux**
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Artwork from www.classroomclipart.com; accessed October 25, 2009
Ponte Alto Notables

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Baronial Heavy Champion
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Kevin Maxson
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Baronial Rapier Champion
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Chris Ross
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Baronial Archery Champion
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Baronial Artisan
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Bob Capozello
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Baronial Bard
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Kim Jordan
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Baronial Brewer
Lady Bevin an Broc Drannach
Kristin Moran
(571) 449-7694 (M)
brewer AT pontealto.atlantia.sca.org

Barone/Baronessa:
Drogo & Adina

Baronial Progress

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>9 March</td>
<td>St. Paddy’s Blood Bath</td>
<td>Drogo &amp; Adina</td>
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<td>16 March</td>
<td>Scribal Workshop</td>
<td>Drogo &amp; Adina</td>
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<td>30 March</td>
<td>Defending The Gate</td>
<td>Drogo &amp; Adina</td>
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<td>5-7 April</td>
<td>Coronation</td>
<td>Drogo &amp; Adina</td>
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<td>12-14 April</td>
<td>Night Out of Town</td>
<td>Drogo &amp; Adina</td>
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Photo by Theresa Crean (Lady Theresa O Cahir)
Baronial Business Meeting Minutes

February 24, 2013
St. Paul’s Lutheran Church
7426 Idylwood Road
Falls Church, VA

Attendance: 16

Start: 6:05 p.m.

Officer Reports

Seneschal—Bob Capozello (Marcellus)
Their Majesties held Curia at Ymir last weekend. It addresses a lot of administrative details that were quickly reviewed. I have renewed my warrant and it is good until October 2013.

Treasurer—Daniel Bensing (Daniel)
The bank balance is $9,762.77. We have a few outstanding bills from Love & Beauty. Doomsday Report was finalized and submitted (in the nick of time!). Our net worth declined by $4,462.12 mainly due to 20 Year Celebration and the settlement donation to the SCA. An email was passed on that the insurance company and SCA have come to a settlement and monies will be returned to those who donated and want some back. There aren’t plans yet for how the monies will be distributed within Kingdom. The Barony’s position is for small local groups such as Shires and Cantons to get their money first, then we’d take our portion. Love & Beauty numbers: 123 adults, 19 youth, 55 feast with total income just over $2,300. This will give us a profit of between $200 to $300.

Knight Marshal—Gilbert Gordon (Charles); absent
Needs to step down soon; looking for a replacement!

Rapier Marshal—Jeff Williams (Geoffrey)
Rapier continues.

Archery Marshal—Nicholas Freer (Naran); absent
Today is a gear check at his home since the range was booked.

Minister of Arts & Sciences—Kristin Moran (Bevin)
Do stuff and let me know about it! If you blog about your SCA activities or experiences, please let me know so I can post those blog sites on our Google+ A&S page.

Chatelaine—Christine Menton (Caitilin)
February’s Newcomer’s Meeting was at Theresa’s. We had 6 people attend, and were put to work cutting ribbons for Love & Beauty. March is at John and Mara’s. Report was in early! I’m trying to extend my warrant so that Jennie take the telephonic Chatelaine class in March so she can replace me.

Herald—Matt Torsky (Brennain); absent
Liz (Luce) and Kim (Cassandra) heralded court yesterday. Kim has already posted the court report!

(continued on next page)
Chronicler—Theresa Crean (Theresa)
After last month’s issue was posted and sent out, I discovered some glaring errors. Rachel graciously posted a new copy to the website. Discussed upcoming issues and article ideas.

Web Minister—Rachael Storey (Giovanna)
Not much new. I continue to work on the layout of a new test site, so that will be forthcoming. Please let me know of any updates!

Minister of the Lists—Kari Dalton (Cellach)
There were two tourneys yesterday. Alric won Rapier and the Baron Ragnarr of Dun Carrig, won Heavy.

Minister of Minors—Elisa Harman (Annika); absent
The children participated in the procession on their Palio horses! Activities were fun and some beautiful things were made from black and gold pipe cleaners.

Baron and Baroness—Stephen and Liza Cicirelli (Drogo and Adina)
We have 10 additional head of horses for the cavalry, plus one each for Their Highnesses for a total of 12 horses presented at the event. Their Highnesses seemed to enjoy themselves at the event; she gave out chocolate! Ymir was nice; it snowed! Went to Bright Hills Birthday where Liza was asked to judge the brewing competition. At KASF, Bob (Marcellus) won Inter-Baronial Competition. Reviewed their Progress for the next two months. Are starting to collect items for the gift basket for Coronation. Liza reminded that the Scribal/A&S Night is tomorrow at her house starting at 6:30.

Events

Love & Beauty (Feb. 23rd)—Christine Menton (Caitilin), Event Steward
It’s over!! Thank you to all of you who helped and/or volunteered in some way. We made money, partly because Brennain went $100 under budget for feast. We need to reimburse Liza for lunch for the royals; Christine and Theresa have receipts and they’ll turn them in. Daniel purchased and put together the handicap parking signs; he’ll be reimbursed out of the general supplies fund. Sticking them in the ground was okay, but it would be nice to have free standing ones. We’ll get large coffee cans and quick cement and make holders for them.

St. Paddy’s Day Blood Bath (Mar. 9th)—Kari Dalton (Cellach), Event Stewart
Site fee needs to be paid; Kari gave Daniel a copy of the contract to send in with the check. Cost is $980. Most positions have been filled; but needs help in some areas such as set up (8:00 a.m.) and water bearing. Also need people to “interpret” for mundane spectators so they’ll know what is going on. Kari is making some great site tokens by stringing green beads with a white shamrock. Lisbeth is doing lunch; Roxbury Mill will be supporting us! Discussed layout of the site. Christine will make the trifolds to hand out. Rachael suggested that pliers be brought for the faucet where water buckets are filled—they’re not easy to open this time of year.
Baronial Business Meeting Minutes (continued)

Chalice of the Sun God X (Sept. or Oct. 2013)
Kari (Cellach) volunteered to be event steward, but needs to back out due to “an attack of life”. Theresa volunteered to replace her. Discussed moving the date to September 28 since Fall Crown is only 2 weeks after the Oct. 19th date. Theresa will see if we can secure a site—either Loudoun County Fairgrounds or Prince William Forest Park. This is the 10th Anniversary, so we plan to plug A&S early to give artisans time to brainstorm the theme—Chariot of Apollo. We briefly discussed prizes and other details so Theresa could get a feel for what was done in the past.

Ruby Joust (May 2013 in Caer Mear)
ACCEPS is up and running and the Baronial Encampment page is up on our website.

Pennsic (July 19—August 3)
The Barony is registered and the website is up (http://pennsicwp.org/). We need a Land Agent.

Fall Crown Tournament (Nov. 2013)—Rachael Storey (Giovanna), Event Steward
Not a lot to report right now. Eadric the Potter (Robert Van Rens) has agreed to be Merchant Coordinator.

Old Business
No report at this time on reviving the College of Saint Stephen’s.

Coronets! Liza passed around design pictures of leather coronets from a merchant she discovered at an event. We agreed on one design; price should be about $250 for each, which is under budget.

Haven’t heard anything back about registering the Barony’s Awards; know they’ve cleared Kingdom.

New Business
Jennie suggested some changes for the website; she wasn’t aware of the test site that Rachel is working on, so they planned to get together with Liza to work on it.

(continued on next page)

Do You Blog about your SCA activities???

Our MoAS, Lady Bevin, would like you to let her know if you blog so she can post them on the Barony’s Google+ A&S page. This is a great resource for all of us!!
Baronial Business Meeting Minutes (continued)

Announcements

Duncan told us that the Barony had received a request from a Knight in the form of some armor pieces, a bold of cloth, box of chain mail pieces, etc. His only stipulation is that it be auctioned/sold to benefit the Barony and he is informed as to what happens with it.

Kristin (Bevin) announced that she would like to have a Deputy for A&S. Brooke is stepping back from the SCA for a bit (life intervenes!). Contact her if you’re interested.

Good news! Matthew Drudge is returning and was a fighter practice last week.

The topic of selling items from Gold Key and past auctions came up. We agreed to do another booth at Holiday Faire this year.

The topic of public meeting rooms came up, and while public libraries have meeting spaces, they can only be scheduled about one- to two- months ahead. Caribou Coffee in Vienna—off VA-123—has a room that could be used. The search for a new or alternate location is because we have some folks who want to attend, but have limited mobility and can’t make it up or down stairs at the church. Will stay where we are now.

Adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

You Know You’re in the SCA When...

...you construct a 3D castle puzzle and then point out the flaws in the architecture so you can figure out how you and your household could capture it if it was a real castle.

Photo by Theresa Crean
(Lady Theresa O Cahir)
By Theresa O Cahir

One of the more unusual things I've seen in the SCA is a musical instrument called the tromba marina (translated as marine trumpet in English). Baron Marcellus Capoziello da Napoli built one and recently entered it at Kingdom Arts and Sciences. It is a long, bowed monochord\(^1\) that was popular in Europe between the 15th and 18th centuries. It is considered one of the more obscure of a collection of instruments from the Middle Ages and Renaissance time periods that have almost become extinct.

The instrument is constructed with a single string, tuned to a C three octaves below a middle C. According to “Unprofitable Instruments” website, “When played with a bow, the vibration of the string causes one foot of the bridge to vibrate against the soundboard, creating a brassy buzz. Add to this the fact that you play high harmonics on the long string, and you've got yourself a trumpet. Almost.”\(^2\) The early versions were closer to a monochord; at some point during the evolution of the instrument, a trembling or vibrating bridge was added which helps achieve the brassy sound.\(^3\)

Baron Marcellus constructed a version from the mid-16th century. I recently asked why he wanted to construct such an instrument? He replied that he was inspired by something an SCA member named Kade mentioned in a blog post. Kade plays stringed instruments, and she was interested seeing a tromba marina.

After reading her blog, Marcellus began to research the tromba marina and how they were built. He documented his research and construction in a blog at his “La Salle de Marcellus” site.\(^4\) When I asked if she had seen pictures of the tromba marina, Marcellus told me that she came to his and Belphoebe’s house and not only seen it, but played it as well.

Footnotes:

3. ibid.

Works Used for Research

Word Search

Obscure Musical Instruments

Sacbut  Dulcian  Rackett
Shawm   Tromba Marina   Nyckleharpy
Knortholt Baroq’lele   Serpent
Psaltery Hurdy-Gurdy   Cornamuse
Crumhorn Gamba   Rebec


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*Calendar—Looking Ahead*
Obscure Musical Instruments

**Weekly Events**

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<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Fourth Sunday of the month at 6:00 p.m. at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, 7426 Idylwood Rd, Falls Church. Directions: 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. Go ¼ mile; the church is up the hill on the right.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outdoor Heavy Weapons and Rapier Practice</td>
<td>Weather permitting, 1:30 to 4:00 p.m., outdoors at Tysons-Pimmit Park, behind Tysons-Pimmit Library, Falls Church. Please contact the Barional Knight Marshal for more information.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outdoor Archery Practice</td>
<td>Meets some Sundays 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. at Ft. Belvoir’s Archery Range. Contact Barional Archery Marshal or check the Barony’s Facebook page for dates and times. The Archery Marshal can give you directions to the range.</td>
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<td>Monday Alle Psallite (Vocal Music)</td>
<td>Currently on hiatus. Please contact Mistress Anne of Carthew (anne AT ravenstreet.org) for more information. Music files can be found at: <a href="http://www.ravenstreet.org/music/alle_psallite.php">http://www.ravenstreet.org/music/alle_psallite.php</a> and on the Yahoo Group AllePsallite.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ponte Alto/ Stierbach Archery Practice</td>
<td>5:00 to 7:00 p.m. during Daylight Savings Time. The outdoor practice site is at Grimmsfield, 16132 Crusade Ct., Haymarket, VA 20169. Practices are held jointly with Stierbach. You may contact the Barional Archery Marshal for carpool or other information.</td>
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<td>Wednesday Sewing Circle</td>
<td>Most Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m., alternating between Arlington and Reston. For details and to learn where the next meeting will be hosted, please join the Ponte Alto Sewing Circle Facebook Group, or you may email Lady Elisande at traumspindel AT googlemail.com. Fitting questions, research issues and sewing projects are all welcome!</td>
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<td>Thursday Indoor Rapier Practice*</td>
<td>Every Thursday at Shrevewood Elementary School from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Please use the rear entrance to the cafeteria. Please contact the Barional Rapier Marshal for more information. This is a school activity.*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indoor Heavy Weapons Practice*</td>
<td>Haycock Elementary School at the corner of Haycock Road and Westmoreland Street in Falls Church from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Practice is geared to developing the beginning and intermediate fighters through intensive hands-on training with experienced instructors, as well as to provide ample opportunity for more advanced fighters to spar with knight-level combatants. All are welcome. Contact the Barional Knight Marshal for more information. This is a school activity.*</td>
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<td>Friday Newcomers Meetings</td>
<td>Once a month, Newcomers Meetings occur from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the home of various members of the Barony. Contact the Barional Chatelaine or check the Facebook page for the date and host’s address.</td>
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**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 website as soon as possible. You can visit the Fairfax County Public Schools Emergency Announcement page for school closure status at http://fcps.edu/news/emerg.htm
Everyone is encouraged to consider contributing to *Il Tempo*.

*Il Tempo* is a publication of the Barony of Ponte Alto, of the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA), Inc. Please send submissions to:

Lady Theresa O Cahir (Theresa Crean)  
7731 Carleigh Parkway  
Springfield, VA 22152  
ladycahir96@yahoo.com or  
Chronicler@PonteAlto.Atlantia.SCA.org

Please, remember that all submissions for *Il Tempo* must be accompanied by an SCA release form. Below are the links to the necessary forms. The first link leads you to the Society Chronicler’s links for forms. The last three links are for the forms that can be submitted online via Internet Form Fills.

**Society Chronicler forms**

http://www.sca.org/docs/library.html#release forms

Release form for **writing or artwork**:  

Release form for **photographs**:  

Release form for **models** (the subject of your artwork or photograph):  