



The Barony of Ponte Alto

Newsletter - Il Tempo

Welcome to Il Tempo!



*A Goldsmith in His Shop, Possibly Saint Eligius, 1449. Petrus Christus
(Netherlandish, active by 1444, died 1475/76)*

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Courtesy copies of II Tempo are provided to Their Majesties, Their Highnesses, the Kingdom Chronicler, and the Kingdom Seneschal, in either electronic or paper format, as requested. All Kingdom Chroniclers are welcome to peruse the electronic version of II Tempo, posted on the Baronial website.



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Ponte Alto Activities

Sunday Outdoor Rapier Practices will resume on **April 23, 2006**. Indoor Thursday night practices continue on days when the school is open. Please contact the [Baronial Rapier Marshal](#) for more information.

Archery practice moves outdoors in Sterling, VA, on the following schedule:
Tuesday May 2, 2006 (practice will end at 6:15 pm to go to the Stierbach Barony meeting)
NO PRACTICE the week of the May 7th (Out of town)
Then practice will begin on the regularly scheduled **Monday nights starting May 15, 2006**. As Ponte Alto no longer has an outdoor archery site, we are again joining our Stierbach neighbors at [their site](#). Though Sterling is outside our barony, for many this may be an easier trek, and some of us in the inner ring suburbs remain willing to coordinate carpooling with any interested in joining us. Contact the [Baronial Archery Marshal](#) for carpool or other archery information.

Ponte Alto is hosting a **Northern Regional War Practice** in conjunction with Sunday fighter practice on **May 21, 2006**. Contact Lord Abel Brem of Regnesfolc (AbelofRegnesfolc AT aol.com) or Lord Connor Sinclair (connorsinclair AT yahoo.com) for more information.

SUNDAY

Ponte Alto Baronial Business Meeting

Fourth 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

Ponte Alto/Stierbach Archery Practice

Starting May 15, 2006, Mondays from 5 pm (setup at 4:30 pm) until dark, Ponte Alto's outdoor season archery practice site is Earl Mika's place of work, Jefferson Millwork and Design, 44098 Mercure Circle, Sterling, VA 20166. [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>.

Alle Psallite (Vocal Music)

Every Monday, 7:30-9 pm in Herndon. Please contact Mistress Anne of Carthew (***anne AT ravenstreet.org***) for more information or directions. Music files can be found at http://www.ravenstreet.org/Anne/alle_psallite/alle_psallite.htm and on the [Yahoo Group AllePsallite](#).

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.

TUESDAY

Harp and Drum Corps (Instrumental Music)

Meets first 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. Meets third 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. Contact the respective hosts for more information, and visit the [HarpAndDrum Yahoo Group](#).

Ponte Alto Scriptorium

Meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7 pm, starting December 2005. Please contact Brigid O'Hara (***mill3rs AT yahoo.com, (703) 620-4945 (H)***) for more information and directions.

WEDNESDAY

Weaving Nights

Second and fourth Wednesdays of every month from 7-9 pm, at the home of Lord Jürgen van der Vols (Joorkin Volz) (***jcfrench AT mac.com***), whom you should contact for more information and directions.

THURSDAY

Rapier Practice *

Every Thursday at Shreveewood 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](#).

Heavy Weapons Indoor Practice *

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

Ponte Alto/Stierbach Archery Practice

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: <http://mysite.verizon.net/vze4ks38/archery/main.html>.

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***, (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***, (703) 378-2441 (H)), Lady Cassandra Arabella Giordani (***cassandra AT jordanclan.net***), or Baroness Briana Maclukas (***darbyjanie AT 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.

Embroidery Night

Their Excellencies of Ponte Alto host a monthly embroidery night starting at 7:30 pm. Please contact the [Baron and Baroness](#) for more information, or check out the top of this page for the most recently posted information.

* 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>



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Directions to Ponte Alto Meetings

Baronial Business Meeting (Fourth Sunday of each month, except December)

The meeting is at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 7426 Idlywood 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 Idlywood Rd. The church is up the hill on the right about 1/4 mile.

Fighter Practice (Sundays Noon (Heavy) - Dark, Weather Permitting)

Practice is behind the Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church.

Take your best route to I-495. Get off at the exit for Route 7 East (Falls Church). The library is on the left about 1 mile. Park in the library lot and go down the hill to the park.

Indoor Heavy Fighter Practice (Thursdays 6 to 9 PM)

Lemon Road Elementary

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. Park and enter the building through the main front entrance on the right hand side of the building. Proceed straight ahead past the cafeteria entrances, turn left into the hallway which leads past the stairs to the second floor and walk past the stairs to the entrance to the gym.

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.

Indoor Rapier Practice (Thursdays 6-9 PM)

Shrevewood Elementary School in Falls Church

From 495 North

Travel 495 South and go to exit (Arlington Blvd/50 West). TAKE 50 WEST. Make a right onto Gallows Rd/Merrifield exit and exit to the right onto Gallows Road.

* Travel past two traffic lights (Landmarks Giant, Boyds Piano). At the third light (Landmark German AutoBody shop on right), make a right onto Route 29 (Lee Highway).

** At the third light, make a left onto Shreve Road. The School will be on your right, where Shreve Road divides. We will be in the gym; please use the rear door.

From 495 South

Travel 495 North and go to the Gallows Road exit and take a left. Travel pass the Fairfax Hospital and proceed with directions above starting at the *

From Tysons

Travel on Gallows Rd. towards Fairfax Hospital. Make a left onto Route 29 (Lee Highway). Follow from ** above.

From Lee Highway Rt. 29 from Fairfax

Travel on Lee Highway until you come to intersection of Lee Highway and Gallows Road. Follow from ** above.

From Rt. 7 Leesburg Pike (From Falls Church)

Take left onto Shreve Road (just past Chicken Out Catering on your right). If you reach I-66 intersection, you have gone too far. After approximately 1 mile, Shreve Road divides, directly in front of the school. Make a left turn into the school parking lot.

From Rt. 7 Leesburg Pike (From Tysons)

Take a right onto Shreve Road (Landmark McDonalds on right, after I-66 intersection).

After approximately 1 mile, Shreve Road divides, directly in front of the school. Make a left turn into the school parking lot.

Archery Practice (Mondays 4:30 PM - dark)

Practice is at Earl Mika's workplace:
Jefferson Millwork and Design
44098 Mercure Circle
Sterling, VA 20166

Take your best route to the Dulles Toll Road towards the airport (West)
Take Exit 8, VA-606 West toward Route 50
Turn left onto Old Ox Road/VA-606 West
Turn right on to Mercure Circle
Follow around to 44098 Mercure Circle
The practice will be held in back.



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Monthly Calendar

May 2006

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
May 1 7:30 pm - Alle Psallite	2 4:30 pm - Archery Practice 7 pm - Scriptorium	3	4 6 pm - Rapier Practice 6 pm - Heavy Weapons Practice	5	6 Atlantian Crown Tournament	7 Noon - Outdoor Heavy Weapons Practice Noon - Ladies Instructional Heavy Weapons Practice 2 pm - Outdoor Rapier Practice
8 6:30 pm - Asian Night	9	10 7 pm - Weaving Night	11 6 pm - Rapier Practice 6 pm - Heavy Weapons Practice	12	13 Below the Salt The Feast of St. Hildegard of Bingen Hero's Portion VI Feast of St. Pyr Kingdom Heralds and Scribes Symposium	14 Noon - Outdoor Heavy Weapons Practice 2 pm - Outdoor Rapier Fighter Practice

<p style="text-align: right;">15</p> <p>4:30 pm - Archery Practice</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">16</p> <p>7:30 pm - Harp and Drum</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">17</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">18</p> <p>6 pm - Rapier Practice</p> <p>6 pm - Heavy Weapons Practice</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">19</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">20</p> <p>Peasants Revolt Birthday of the Black Prince</p> <p>Hawkwood Baronial Birthday</p> <p>On Target</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">21</p> <p>Noon - Outdoor Heavy Weapons Practice</p> <p>2 pm - Outdoor Rapier Fighter Practice</p> <p>6 pm - Business Meeting</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">22</p> <p>4:30 pm - Archery Practice</p> <p>7:30 pm - Alle Psallite</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">23</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">24</p> <p>7 pm - Weaving Night</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">25</p> <p>6 pm - Rapier Practice</p> <p>6 pm - Heavy Weapons Practice</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">26</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">27</p> <p>Sapphire Joust</p> <p>Hidden Mountain Baronial Birthday</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">28</p> <p>Sapphire Joust</p>
<p><i>Memorial Day</i> 29</p> <p>4:30 pm - Archery Practice</p> <p>7:30 pm - Alle Psallite</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">30</p> <p>7:30 pm - Harp and Drum</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">31</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">June 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>June University</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">4</p> <p>Noon - Outdoor Heavy Weapons Practice</p> <p>2 pm - Outdoor Rapier Fighter Practice</p>

5 4:30 pm - Archery Practice 7:30 pm - Alle Psallite	6 7 pm - Scriptorium	7	8 6 pm - Rapier Practice 6 pm - Heavy Weapons Practice	9	10 Highland River Melees	11 Noon - Outdoor Heavy Weapons Practice Noon - Ladies Instructional Heavy Weapons Practice 2 pm - Outdoor Rapier Practice
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Upcoming Events

Baronial Progress

Date	Event
May 6	Crown Tournament
May 26-29	Sapphire Joust

June 2006

Date	Event	Group	Location
3	June University	Isenfir	Charlottesville, VA
9-11	Highland River Melees	Highland Foorde	Hagerstown, MD
16-18	A Midsummer's Twilight Tourney	Buckston-on-Eno	Leasburg, NC
16-18	King's Assessment	Black Diamond	Vinton, VA
23-25	Wastelands	Hindscroft	Booneville, NC
24	Seneschal/Exchequer Symposium	Caer Mear	Richmond, VA
30-2	All Things Marshal	Bright Hills	Elkton, MD



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Ponte Alto Officers



Baron and Baroness of Ponte Alto

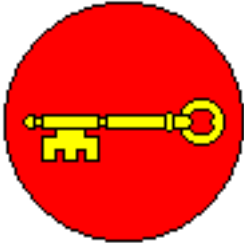
Baron Marcellus Capozziello da Napoli and Baroness Belphoebe de Givet

(Bob Capozello and Laura Martinez)

(703) 625-3883 (H)

baron AT pontealto.atlantia.sca.org and baroness AT pontealto.atlantia.sca.org

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Seneschal (President)

Lady Marie Thérèse Normand (Mary Bowles)

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Lorton, VA 22079

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seneschal AT pontealto.atlantia.sca.org

Deputy Seneschal

Master Tirloch of Tallaght (Tom Bilodeau)

13456 Cobra Court

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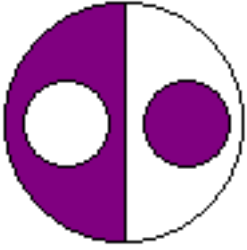
Deputy Seneschal

Lady Katharine Devereaux (Kimberly Barker)

Alexandria, VA

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katdevereaux AT hotmail.com



Minister of Minors (Childrens' Activities)

Vacant

mom AT pontealto.atlantia.sca.org



Chancellor of the Exchequer (Treasurer)

Lady Millicent Chandler (Melanie Cozad)

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Lady Katharina von Bayern (Tracy Fussell)

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Knight Marshal

Lord Duncan the Elder (Duncan Cooper)

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Lord Christopher Hare (Chris Harrop)

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Deputy Knight Marshal
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Deputy Knight Marshal
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Rapier Marshal
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Chronicler (Newsletter)

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Members of the Baronial Guard

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

Baronial Warlord

Lord Connor Sinclair (Kevin Houghton)
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Baronial Heavy Champion

Lord Jürgen van der Vols (Joorkin Volz) (Jeffrey French)
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Baronial Rapier Champion

Hadrurus
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Meeting Minutes - April 23, 2006

Held at the Education Building of St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Meeting Start Time: 6:00 pm

Officer Reports

Seneschal: Lady Marie Thérèse Normand

- Per a request on the Merry Rose, Lady Renata von Hentzau and Lady Wulfwyn Aelfwines have volunteered to work on a Barony banner to display at Sapphire Joust
- We are no longer on the barony waiver list

Exchequer: Lady Millicent Chandler

- Current balance is \$8493.45 in our account
- First quarter reports done. Net change \$2167
- Lady Katharine will be stepping up as Seneschal later this year, so Millicent is looking for an Exchequer deputy who would be interested in possibly taking over the office later
- We do not need material for new tabards as plenty was found in the storage unit.
- Fences have been paid for

Heavy Marshal: Lord Duncan the Elder

- Waivers in 9 days ago
- We are off the watch list as of February
- Practice starting with a 1 hour melee
- Thursday practice is going well

Rapier Marshal: Lord Geoffrey ap Clywd

- There was no turnout for today's practice

Archery Marshal: Lord Miles de Lochwode

- Practice with Stierbach will be held at the Jefferson Mill Works in Sterling for the next 2 weeks

A&S: Lady Renata von Hentzau

- There will be no events this week
- Hosen event next weekend with Lord James and Lady Katharine
- Will be an A&S event Friday night
- There will be a Youth A&S even at Pennsic this year, 3 items max

Chatelaine: Lady Marsaili Johnston of Lockwood Moss

- No newcomers at the meeting this week, but there was a visitor from Poland
- Next newcomer's meeting will be at Lady Luce's home
- Flora has volunteered as the new Deputy Chatelaine
- Still looking for new venues for demos. Possibly work up a annual calendar

Herald: Lord Séamus Ó Maoil Riain

- 1 new submission
- Quarterly report due

MOL: Lady Delphina the Mad

- Nothing new to report

Chroniclers: Lady Courtney de Houghton and Lord Connor Sinclair

- Send in articles!!! Artwork! Something! ANYONE!! And read the newsletter!
- Lady Wulfwyn standing in for Lady Courtney de Houghton and Lord Connor Sinclair

Web Minister: Lady Cassandra Arabella Giordani

- Did not attend due to previous engagement

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

- Awards from Coronation are posted on the Website
- We plan on attending Crown Tourney and Sapphire Joust in May; Highland River Melee and King's Assessment in June; Stierbach Baronial Birthday in July.
- Welcome to Wes at his first business meeting
- Please make your recommendations for Kingdom Awards to Their Majesties and the Baron and Baroness
- The 9 polling orders will meet with Their Majesties this reign at Sapphire Joust

Warlord: Lord Connor Sinclair

- Not available

Events

- Next event Sapphire Joust
- Pennsic - Please sign up ASAP as we need to get a count

Old Business

- None

New Business

- Lord Jurgen van der Vols is looking for people with experience in textiles, basket weaving knitting and other various interests for possible instruction. Please contact him if interested. Suggested he contact the Pearls.
- Next months business meeting will be one week earlier than normally scheduled due to Sapphire Joust. Lady Celia will confirm the site on the web site.
- Lady Mellicent Chandler is looking for a deputy. Please contact her.

Announcements

- Luce Antony Venus has a personal request: she is looking for a babysitter the 1st week of Pennsic - to be compensated. Please contact her for further information
- If anyone needs a helm, please contact Sir Thomas as he has a source, cost around \$125 for a good basic model
- Next meeting is Sunday, May 21, 2006, so as not to conflict with Sapphire/Memorial Day weekend

Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:00 pm.



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Announcements

Baronial Officer Openings

There are several openings available for Baronial officer and deputy positions. Enthusiastic newcomers looking to get more involved in the day-to-day workings of the Barony are encouraged to apply!

Minister of Minors: Potential candidates should contact the [Baronial Seneschal](#) for more information or to apply.

Deputy Exchequer: Lady Millicent is not intending to step down anytime soon, but she would like to have a deputy as a potential successor and backup in case of emergency. Please contact the [Baronial Exchequer](#) for more information or to apply.

Ponte Alto Directory

Lady Perronelle volunteered to coordinate a hard copy directory for Pontoons to use to stay in touch. If you would like to be included (only people included in the directory will be allowed to get a copy), please [download the form \(MS Word\)](http://pontealto.atlantia.sca.org/ponte_alto_directory_form.doc) (http://pontealto.atlantia.sca.org/ponte_alto_directory_form.doc), fill it out, and email or snail mail it to Lady Perronelle la peintre (***dwatsonirwin AT cox.net***, (703) 455-0298 (H)). Or use the [online directory form](http://pontealto.atlantia.sca.org/directory.php) (<http://pontealto.atlantia.sca.org/directory.php>) to submit your information via email. The first printing of the directory was at the Day at the Races event in November 2005, and copies are \$2.50 each.

Historical Event Matrix

Since the historically traditional event weekends for northern Atlantian groups have been under heavy discussion lately, Mistress Anne of Carthew put together an [event matrix \(PDF\)](http://pontealto.atlantia.sca.org/group_event_history_summary.pdf) (http://pontealto.atlantia.sca.org/group_event_history_summary.pdf) showing which northern Atlantian groups hosted events which weekends from 1998 through 2005.

News

Tournament of Chivalry

A couple of Pontoons were recognized at ToC this year:

- Countess Denise Duvalier was inducted into the Queen's Order of Courtesy.
- The Order of the Chivalry recognized Lord Mathieu Chatrain for his prowess on the field and bestowed upon him a pewter token.

Vivant for Countess Denise and Lord Mathieu!

Spring Coronation

The Coronation of Michael and Seonaid was a banner day for Ponte Alto. Many Pontoons were recognized by TRM Janos and Rachel at their final Court as follows:

1. Our Baron, Marcellus Capozziello da Napoli, is now a companion of the Order of the Sea Stag, for his teaching of the art of the rapier
2. Lord Geoffrey ap Clywd and Lady Ana Beig received Her Majesty's Undine for their hard work during TRM reign
3. Lady Delphina the Mad was awarded the Queen's Order of Courtesy for her tireless work as Northern Regional Head Retainer
4. There are two new Court Baronesses in Ponte Alto: Baroness Cwen (Cwenhild of Cydllan Downs), and Baroness Kitty (Catalina dell'Acqua)

Vivant for all of these gentles, who are the pride of this Barony!

Gulf Wars

Gulf Wars took place in the brand new Kingdom of Gleann Abhann, with several Pontoons in attendance.

- Lady Catalina dell'Acqua served as the captain of the Atlantian Rapier Army at Gulf Wars
- Lord Geoffrey ap Clywd was awarded a Shark's Tooth for his performance on the rapier field
- Valerian, a new archer, placed well at Gulf Wars

Vivats to all the Pontoons who supported Atlantia at Gulf Wars!



The Barony of Ponte Alto

Newsletter - Il Tempo

Bidding the Bedes: Paternosters and Rosaries in the Medieval Period

by Lady Millicent Chandler (mka Melanie Cozad)

Paternosters are those curious loops and strands of beads sometimes spotted in medieval artwork and depicted in many museum catalogs. They are related to the modern rosary but differ in their construction and use.

During the eleventh and twelfth centuries, religious orders such as the Carthusians and Cistercians allowed the illiterate to substitute the recitation of the Lord's Prayer, or Pater Noster, one hundred fifty times for the duty of reciting the Psalms. The Knights of St. John were directed by Papal bull in 1185 to recite one hundred fifty Pater Nosters per day. Lay people, too, recited the same number of Pater Noster prayers with the encouragement of the clergy in the twelfth century. With all this recitation, people needed a way to keep track of how many prayers they had offered; the paternoster aided them in their devotion.

(Lightbown, 342)
"Bidding one's bedes"
meant to pray with a
paternoster.

The beads were known as

"paternoster beads" throughout the Middle Ages, most likely from the orders for reciting the Pater Noster prayer. The Ave Maria did not become a devotional formula until the mid-twelfth century. Around 1200, Anchoresses were guided to recite thirty Pater Nosters, each followed by an Ave Maria. Throughout the thirteenth century, Ave Maria became the more popular prayer until Dominic of Prussia (1382-1461) created the nearly-modern rosary of linking ten Aves with one of the fifteen mysteries of the Virgin, followed by one Pater Noster after each ten Aves.



"Paternosterer," from the Hausbuch der Mendelschen Zwölfbrüderstiftung (Stadtbibliothek Nürnberg, Amb. 317.2, f.93v)

"Gauds", the English name for the paternoster marker beads in the late fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, originated from gaudia or "joys of Mary". The smaller beads became known as "aves". The string of beads itself was called a pair of beads or "payre of bedys" in some wills and inventories.

Paternoster-making became an established craft in fourteenth century London. Two Paternoster Lanes housed these craftsmen; one of these lanes exists to this day as Paternoster Row. In Paris, paternoster makers had formed guilds based upon the materials they used: bone and horn, coral and shell, or amber and jet. These craftsmen received formal regulation in 1260. Paternosterers in Rome gathered near St. Peter's. Paternoster makers flourished in the smaller cities as well; they are mentioned in various documents and letters from the period.

The most expensive beads used for paternosters were made of gold, pearls, and precious stones; these beads were not used until the late thirteenth century, however. In the

fourteenth century, paternosters consisting of these costly beads were an ostentatious costume accessory for princesses and a status symbol for the knightly class. The *Glossaire Archeologique du Moyen Age et de la Renaissance* lists paternoster beads from various wardrobe accounts and patent rolls. The materials, and the date in which they were noted, are as follows:

- 1302 - crystal
- 1372 - 100 pearls, 10 seignaux (gauds) of gold
- 1380 - pendant of cross - pearls, two rubies (Inventory of Charles V)
- 1386 - white amber, 24 count (Inventory of the Dukes of Bourgogne II)
- 1387 - gold, 5 "fleurs de flambé" white
- 1389 - pearls
- 1420 - pearls, amber, crystal (Stein, 210-211).

The most modest paternosters were simply knots tied along a string; these belonged to the very poor and to those who practiced humility as a profession. Wood was another modest material for beads. Bone, too, was considered a humble material and was sometimes paired with glass; these bone and glass paternosters were used and given out by Florentine and Roman clergy. The richest of the humbler materials was mother-of-pearl, an extremely popular material in fifteenth century Europe.

Between the two extremes of status and humility were beads of amber, glass, coral, jet, agate, jasper, chalcedony, and earthenware. Amber was highly prized, partly for its sweet smell, and was available in the colors of white, yellow, and red. Venetian glassmakers enjoyed a profitable business in glass and crystal beads. Coral was considered nearly as precious as gold. Jet had a reputation for a "special virtue"; John Bale wrote in *King John*: 'Blessyngs with black bedes will help in every evyll' (Lightbown, 348). As time went on, the expensive beads became more common so that even gentlewomen and merchants possessed paternosters of gold.

The typical paternoster bead was spherical and smooth. Some variations occurred, however, and lozenge, pear, disc, and acorn shapes have appeared in art and wills. Some beads were pierced; the famous Venetian paternosterers made not only glass beads, but also beads of gold filigree. Tokens of saints, such as St. James' scallop shell, were sometimes included along the strand of beads. Silk appears to be the fiber of choice for stringing the beads, and the remnants of a paternoster in the Museum of London shows beads on a tubular tablet-woven braid (Crowfoot, et al., 136). The beads could be moved freely along the cord, unlike modern rosaries where the beads are fixed in place.

Most depictions of paternosters in art show the beads as either a loop or a linear strand. Some researchers state that linear paternosters belong to men, but many women appear in art with linear strands of beads. The number of beads on a strand varied wildly between ten and one hundred fifty with fifty beads (with or without gauds) seeming the most common arrangement. Unlike modern rosaries, medieval paternosters did not usually terminate in a crucifix. Paternosters typically ended in a silk tassel, a religious medal, or a figure of a saint. Secular jewelry such as rings and brooches sometimes hung from paternosters.



Loop paternoster. Bedford Master:
The Bedford Hours "The Legend of
the fleurs de lys (f. 288b).
London, British Library, c.1430.



Linear paternoster. "St. Hedwig",
c.1300s.

Paternosters were considered personal jewelry but because they were religious in nature, they were often exempt from sumptuary laws. One could show off one's wealth without fear of retribution and display one's piety at the very same time. People wore their beads hanging from a girdle, wrapped around their wrist or arm, attached by a brooch to the breast, and sometimes even around the neck.

A paternoster makes a wonderful and appropriate accessory for most people with a medieval European persona as nearly everyone carried a pair of beads on their person or had their beads close at hand. The modern recreationist need not recite the Pater Noster nor the Ave Maria with their beads; simply feeling the shape of the beads themselves could provide a moment or two of contemplation and serenity.

References

Crowfoot, Elisabeth, Frances Pritchard and Kay Stanisland. Textiles and Clothing c. 1150-1450. Woodbridge, Suffolk, England: The Boydell Press, 2001.

Laning, Chris. "Paternoster Row: Historical Rosaries & Paternosters." 2005. <http://paternosters.home.igc.org/>

Lightbown, Ronald W. Medieval European Jewellery. London, England: The Victoria & Albert Museum, 1992.

Stein, Henri. Glossaire Archeologique du Moyen Age et de la Renaissance Volume 2. Paris: Editions Auguste Picard, 1928.



The Barony of Ponte Alto

Newsletter - Il Tempo

New Caption Contest for May!



This month's caption contest is for the above illustration. Please submit your captions to chronicler AT pontelato.sca.org. The results will be posted in next month's "Il Tempo". Please make sure your entries are fit for print!

Source: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:BruegelPortrait.jpg>.



And the winner is...

Tirloch wrote: "Tirloch carrying one of the Bellatrix boys (when Stephan and Niobe were Atlantian Royals)"

All entries:

Tirloch's entry

Otto von Schwyz wrote: "What do you mean get the monkey off my back?"



The Barony of Ponte Alto

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The Barony of Ponte Alto

Newsletter - Il Tempo

Officer Reports and Letters - Exchequer

Greetings from the Chancellor of the Exchequer,

The bad news is we lost money during the course of 2005.

The good news is we are a VERY generous barony!

We started 2005 with \$9,476 and ended the year with \$8,076.54, a change in net worth of -\$1,399.46. Our income from events, donations, and miscellaneous contributions totalled \$6,615.51 while our expenses for the year totalled \$8,014.97. Included in those expenses were donations to the American Diabetes Association and to the Kingdom Travel Fund.

2006 is showing signs of being a profitable year as our net income for the first quarter is \$2,167.01. This makes for a very happy exchequer.

Yours in Service,

Lady Millicent Chandler
Baronial Exchequer





The Barony of Ponte Alto

Newsletter - Il Tempo

Officer Reports and Letters - Archery Marshal

Greetings All,

Archery practice will be moving outside starting this week. We will be practicing behind Earl Mika's place of work. Practice will start at 5:00 PM with set-up at 4:30 PM. Practice will be on Tuesday nights for the next couple of weeks and then will move over to Mondays. Directions to the site are:

Take your best route to the Dulles Toll Road toward the airport. Take Exit 8, VA-606 W towards Route 50. Turn left onto Old Ox Road/VA-606 W. Turn right on to Mercure Circle. Follow around to 44098 Mercure Circle. The practice will be held in back.

Address is:

Jefferson Millwork and Design
44098 Mercure Circle
Sterling, VA 20166

Yours in Service,

Lord Miles de Locwode
Archery Marshal of Ponte
Alto





The Barony of Ponte Alto

Newsletter - Il Tempo

Officer Reports and Letters - Web Minister

The Sapphire Joust Encampment site is up and running.

No news from the Kingdom Web Minister on the status of the new web server.

Yours in Service,

Signora Cassandra Arabella Giordani
Web Minister of Ponte Alto





The Barony of Ponte Alto

Newsletter - Il Tempo

Officer Reports and Letters - Herald

The 1st quarterly report for 2006 has been submitted to the Kingdom Herald, with plenty of activities concerning classes taken (to maintain the warrant), submissions, and meetings.

Yours in Service,

Lord Seamus 'O Maoil Riain
Herald of Ponte Alto





The Barony of Ponte Alto

Newsletter - Il Tempo

Officer Reports and Letters - Chatelaine

From the Deputy for Demos

Mistress Anne of Carthew and Mistress Allasondrea de Fano went to the April 1st demo at Central Library in Arlington. They talked with folks and did bobbin lace and spinning of flax with a drop spindle. They had lots of stuff set out: weaving, embroidery/blackwork, C and I (with a variety of objects used to show brushes, gold leaf, velum, parchment, etc). They also had instruments out including recorders, crumhorns, cornamuse, viole, vielle, and small harp. They also helped by judging a kids costume contest.

The one regret Mistress Anne had was she didn't have flyers to hand out like the ones at Bloodbath. I think we need to get to this full force next year. The Library has open grounds and they were willing to let us do a fighting demo and other cool stuff.

While we are on the topic we have two new requests. Fairfax County would like a Library demo on Thursday July 25 at 2 p.m. It's a function for kids ages 6-12, a reading program, and they are looking at King Arthur tales. As a note this is in between the two Sunday demos in July at Reston Library and Pohick Library. Also a preschool has asked we visit, they are open to whenever. Baron Robert of Calais might be willing to make the trip, that is still in the air. The teacher at the school saw us at Bloodbath.

Lord James de Biblessworth
Deputy Chatelaine

