



THE BARONY OF PONTE ALTO'S NEWSLETTER

IL TEMPO

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PONTE ALTO HOSTS YULE ON THE BRIDGE

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Il Tempo

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 - only limited by the speed at which our hands can write out what our minds can think of.

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

ARTS & SCIENCES IN THE SPOTLIGHT



***Is dancing a part of your medieval experience?
It should be!***

A repertoire of dancing fun, including:

Carrolingian Pavanne

Black Alman

Horse's Bransle

Pease Bransle

Quen Quer Que

The Dance Practices are in full Swing at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Reston!

Sundays 6 to 8 pm except 4th sundays (when there is the baronial populace gatherings). Please come join us! We have been working on easy to moderate dances at the moment as we have many new dancers. We have been fortunate to have participants from our barony, the neighboring ones, and some from the church where we hold the practice so that we have averaged over 10 dancers each practice!

For more information, contact Randall Clark via dancing@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org



Yule on the Bridge

A Merry Yule There Was

Report by Annika Siltanen

With photos by Rónán mac Ímair

On December 9, 2017, the Barony of Ponte Alto held a little event called Yule on the Bridge. The autocrat, Lord Hannus, appealed to the weather gods for seasonally-appropriate, festive weather, and Mother Nature delivered. As revelers gathered inside, a light snow fell throughout the day, dusting the window panes and frosting the shoulders and heads of those who ventured outdoors. The views through the windows were breathtaking, and more than a few attendees took advantage of the beautiful backdrops and took photographs commemorating the magic of the season. The young (and young-at-heart) enjoyed periodic jaunts into the arctic outdoors, playing in the snow and thoroughly enjoying themselves.

Inside, there was much merry-making! Games were set up downstairs, and there was a constant flow of people enjoying chess, senet, nine men's morris, fox and geese, and many others. Those looking for more active fun loved the games of Jomswiking (the one with the trunk and blindfolds and whacking-with-soft-objects) and Hunker Hauser (the one with rickety platforms and a rope and balancing). All day, there



could be heard the cries of, "Hey insert-name-here?," "Yes?," "May I hit you with this bag?," "YES!," interspersed with giggling and general hilarity. There was also a thrown weapons "range" set up outside under the picnic awning, where intrepid (and warmly-dressed) warriors could practice their aim with plastic knives and axes.



Upstairs, it was a magical wonderland of seasonal finery. Tables were decorated with garlands, fancy tablecloths, fine china, golden goblets, and delectable snacks. Lady Margaret, the winner of the table-decorating contest (as chosen by the children in attendance), even included furry animals in her decorations. The room sparkled with the light of dozens of candles.

Garlands festooned doorways and the stage, and ribbons and lights adorned nearly every surface. But the hall was not alone in its splendor. The fine people of Atlantia did not disappoint. Asked to don their finest, most festive



Yule on the Bridge (cont.)

garb for the day, the populace was a sea of deep reds, greens, golds, and all nature of vibrant hues, in sumptuous silks, velvets, wools, and linens. Furs trimmed shoulders and wreaths and ribbons bedecked heads. Everyone was literally there “with bells on,” as the site token was a merry silver jingle bell on a red satin ribbon. Many gentles participated in a mini fashion show and festive garb competition, decided by the cheers of the crowd. Lady Kunigunde and her lord enraptured all who saw them in their coordinated outfits of luxuriant black and burgundy.



But the day was more than just a feast for the eyes! Baroness Adina and Lady Sophia cooked up a scrumptious dayboard including warm, fortifying stews, meats, pies (savory and sweet), fruit, cheeses, and bread, warm out of the oven. And for dessert? Why, cookies, of course! Ponte Alto’s traditional holiday cookie bake-off was included in this Yule event, and the entrants brought their best! It was a close race (with some cookies requiring multiple tastings, even, just to be sure...), but Lord Tristan’s Medieval Fine Cakes won the day. There were seasonal brews and libations galore, including warm glögg, spiced cider, seasonal beers, and cordials. Lady Maria won the brewing competition, and shared several of her delicious offerings with merrymakers. Baroness Aine and Lady Yrsa also brought dozens of gingerbread cookies for revelers to decorate (to use as ornaments or just to eat!), an activity enjoyed by all ages and artistic ability levels!

No description of the merriment of the day would be complete without mention of the music and dancing, however! Lord Randall graciously hosted a dance class, followed by a Yule Ball, to the delight of participants and spectators alike. Dancers, young and old, veteran and novice, kicked up their heels and danced the afternoon away. Everyone else, gathered around the dance floor at their festooned tables, watched and ate and drank and chatted and generally enjoyed the atmosphere.





Yule on the Bridge (cont.)

Young milord Oliver, only 7 years old, selected and sang two period seasonal songs, winning the bardic competition and making himself, his family, and his baronage proud. The other wee revelers also got a chance on the stage, though, in the form of a dramatic performance of the 12 Days of Christmas song. The children sang the song for the assembled populace, complete with explanations of what all those crazy presents were all about, and how they were valued in the Middle Ages. Adorableness abounded, and the children (and perhaps even some of the adults!) learned something, too!

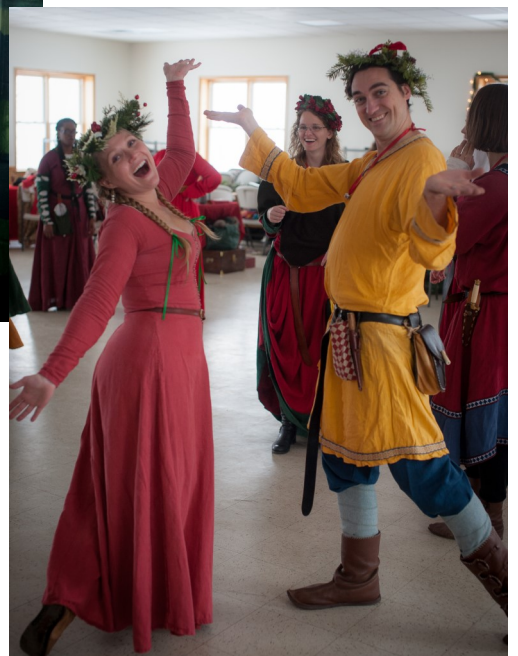


Baronial Court recognized many well-deserving individuals, and the day ended with good moods, warm feelings, and full hearts.



The Barony of Ponte Alto is looking forward to making this festive, merry spectacle a yearly event. It was just the thing to get everyone into the holiday mood, kick off the season of celebration, and enjoy a cozy, joyful time with friends. We hope to see you at next year's Yule on the Bridge!

Yule on the Bridge (cont.)





Yule on the Bridge (cont.)



Yule on the Bridge (cont.)





Yule on the Bridge (cont.)

A note from their Excellencies, Alric and Cellach

Her Excellency and I we wish to give our thanks for all that made Yule on the Bridge such a success.

For those that were unable to come and hang out, you should be jealous.

The staff did an amazing job preparing for the day. From the scheduled activities to the food and the clean up.

The idea for a table decorating contest provided a very festive air to the event as a whole

And our Autocrat's decision to have gentle snow fall all day added to the magic of the event.

We were pleased to be able to Honor Lord Tristan, Lord Ronan by awarding them to the ranks of the Ponte De Oro (Ponte Alto's service award) and Inducting Lady Vadoma to the Order of the Garland, the highest award we are able to offer as Baron and Baroness of Ponte Alto.

Thank you all for making this event such a joy.

We wish each and every one of you a festive and joyous holiday season.

Alric, Baron, Cellach, Baroness



Weekly/Monthly Events

<i>SUNDAY</i>	
Ponte Alto Baronial Populace Gathering	<u>4th Sunday</u> of the month at 5:00 p.m. at a location to be determined. Details will be advertised prior to the meeting.
Outdoor Heavy Weapons and Rapier Practice	<p>Weather permitting, 12:00 noon until dark, outdoors at Tysons-Pimmit Park, behind Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Contact the Baronial Knight Marshal for information (see Regnum). (cancellations posted on the Ponte Alto e-list)</p> <p>Directions: Take your best route to I-495. Get off at the exit for Route 7 East (Falls Church). Go about 1 mile; the library is on the left. Park in the library lot and walk down the hill to the park.</p>
Ponte Alto Dance Practice & Ponte Alto Singers	<p>6pm-8pm, dance practice with Lord Randall <u>every Sunday save the 4th</u> which is the Populace Gathering. For more information, contact Randall Clark via dancing@pontalto.atlantia.sca.org</p> <p>7:30-9pm Ponte Alto singers, every <u>1st and 3rd Sunday</u> (following dance practice). Unitarian Universalist Church of Reston. 1625 Wiehle Ave, Reston, VA 20190.</p> <p>If interested in joining the Ponte Alto Singers, contact Lady Annika Siltanen (mka Eliisa Harman) at mom@pontalto.atlantia.sca.org.</p>
<i>MONDAY</i>	
Scribal and A&S	It is the day after the populace meeting, most always <u>the 4th Monday</u> , 6-10pm Fairfax, 22033 (contact chronicler@pontalto.atlantia.sca.org for address; cancellations posted on the Ponte Alto e-list). Not to worry, any Arts and Sciences projects are welcome. Allergy alert:: cats.
<i>THURSDAY</i>	
Heavy Weapons Practice	Summer, outdoors at Tysons-Pimmit Park, (see Outdoor Heavy Weapons and Rapier Practice above). Winter, Lemon Road Elementary School cafeteria (7230 Idylwood Road, Falls Church), weather and school events permitting (cancellations posted on the Ponte Alto e-list)
Rapier Practice	Summer, outdoors at Tysons-Pimmit Park, (see Outdoor Heavy Weapons and Rapier Practice above). Winter, Shreveview Elementary school cafeteria (7525 Shreve Rd, Falls Church), 6:30pm-9pm (cancellations posted on the Ponte Alto e-list)
Sewing /Projects Circle	<u>1st Thursday</u> , private residences. Address will be posted on a private site (Facebook: Ponte Alto Sewing Circle) to preserve the privacy of the hosting sewer. If you'd like to host or don't have a Facebook account and need the address, please contact Lady Margaret Lad (mka Megan Ladd). Not to worry, the Sewing Circle is all about Fiber Arts too, not just sewing.
<i>FRIDAY</i>	
Stierbach/Ponte Alto Archery Practice	Winter, held at Bull Run Archery Center. 7700 Bull Run Dr, Centreville, VA 20121. 5:00pm until 7:00pm. Loaner equipment available (please contact archery marshals)!
<i>MONTHLY</i>	
SCA Newcomer Meetings	Newcomer Meetings are held once a month from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the home of various members of the Barony. Contact the Baronial Chatelaine for information (chatelaine@pontalto.atlantia.sca.org), or check out the Events/ Activities page on the website for the most recent 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 canceled. 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>

* A reminder to those to attend marshal activities and practice at Fairfax County Public Schools:
NO FORM of real weapons, even Swiss Army knives, box cutters, etc. are to be brought onto school property.*



DECEMBER 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 5-7pm Ponte Alto/ Stierbach Archery Practice @ Bull Run	2 Unevent
3 12:4pm Outdoor Heavy Weapons Practice 6-8pm Dance prac- tice 7:30-9pm Ponte Alto Singers	4	5	6	7 6:30-9pm Rapier Practice 6-9pm Heavy Weapons Practice 7-9pm Sewing Circle	8 5-7pm Ponte Alto/ Stierbach Archery Practice @ Bull Run	9 Yule on the Bridge
10 12:4pm Outdoor Heavy Weapons Practice 6-8pm Dance prac- tice	11	12	13	14 6:30-9pm Rapier Practice 6-9pm Heavy Weapons Practice	15 5-7pm Ponte Alto/ Stierbach Archery Practice @ Bull Run	16
17 12:4pm Outdoor Heavy Weapons Practice 6-8pm Dance prac- tice 7:30-9pm Ponte Alto Singers	18	19	20	21 6:30-9pm Rapier Practice 6-9pm Heavy Weapons Practice	22 5-7pm Ponte Alto/ Stierbach Archery Practice @ Bull Run	23
24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas	26	27	28 6:30-9pm Rapier Practice 6-9pm Heavy Weapons Practice	29 5pm Ponte Alto/ Stierbach Archery Practice @ Bull Run	30
31 New Year's Eve						



JANUARY 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 6:30-9pm Rapier Practice 6-9pm Heavy Weapons Practice 7-9pm Sewing/Projects Circle	5 5-7pm Ponte Alto/Stierbach Archery Practice @ Bull Run	6
7 12:4pm Outdoor Heavy Weapons Practice 5-6pm Populace Gathering 6-8 pm Dance practice 7:30-9pm Ponte Alto Singers	8 6-9 pm Scribal A&S	9	10	11 6:30-9pm Rapier Practice 6-9pm Heavy Weapons Practice	12 5-7pm Ponte Alto/Stierbach Archery Practice @ Bull Run	13 Atlantia 12th Night
14 12:4pm Outdoor Heavy Weapons Practice 6-8 pm Dance practice	15	16	17	18 6:30-9pm Rapier Practice 6-9pm Heavy Weapons Practice	19 5-7pm Ponte Alto/Stierbach Archery Practice @ Bull Run 7-10pm New-comers Meeting	20
21 12:4pm Outdoor Heavy Weapons Practice 6-8 pm Dance practice 7:30-9pm Ponte Alto Singers	22	23	24	25 6:30-9pm Rapier Practice 6-9pm Heavy Weapons Practice	26 5-7pm Ponte Alto/Stierbach Archery Practice @ Bull Run	27
28 12:4pm Outdoor Heavy Weapons Practice 5-6pm Populace Gathering	29 6-9 pm Scribal A&S	30	31			



Baronial Progress

Baronial Progress for July/August	
Date	Event
1/13	12th Night
2/3	Winter University
2/10	Bright Hills Baronial Birthday
2/17	Tournament of Love & Beauty

We really could use your help

There are several positions in our Barony that could use a Deputy; actually, all of the positions that we have could benefit by having at least one deputy.

Why a Deputy? Well, it is easy for any one of us to intend to do something if we don't take into account that the SCA is what we do with our time after we are finished doing what we do to pay the bills.

With deputies, the work load can be shared, allowing more work to be accomplished with less time and stress for any one individual.

Besides, it is a great way to work with others to do something different to help make your, and other's, SCA experience that much better!





Ponte Alto Notables

Archery Champion: Lord Rónán mac Ímair
acherychamp@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org

Youth Archery Champion: M'lord Sebastian of Ponte Alto

A&S Champion: Lady Margaret Lad
artisan@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org

Bardic Champion: Lord Hannus Siltanen
bard@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org

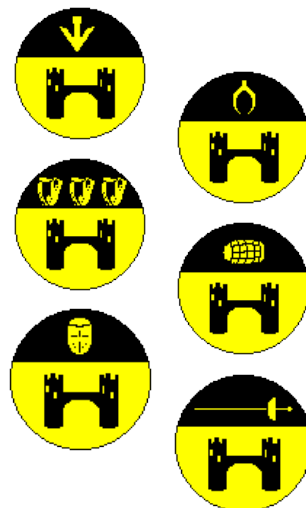
Youth Bardic Champion: M'lord Oliver of Ponte Alto

Baronial Guard: (vacant)

Brewing Champion: (vacant)
brewer@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org

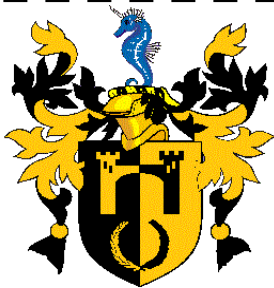
Heavy Champion: Bryn Tannahill
heavychamp@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org

Rapier Champion: Colette Vitalis
rapierchamp@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org



Cold winter months got you down?

Even if you can't get out to your local practice, now's a great time to inspect your gear, do maintenance on your armor, redecorate your shield, make new arrows, or even craft a quiver, so that you're ready come the warm spring months around the corner!



Baron and Baroness

Baron & Baroness Alric the Mad & Cellach Mór
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<http://karenswhimsy.com/medieval-people.shtm>
12 January 2012





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Society Chronicler forms.

<http://chronicler.atlantia.sca.org/Releases.html>

Release form for writing or artwork:

<http://chronicler.atlantia.sca.org/ReleaseCreativeFillable.pdf>

Release form for photographs:

<http://chronicler.atlantia.sca.org/ReleasePhotographerFillable.pdf>

Release form for model(s) (the subject of your artwork or photograph):

<http://chronicler.atlantia.sca.org/ReleaseModelFillable.pdf>