



WINTER  
Issue ~ A.S. XLIV

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# TABLE of CONTENTS

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Table of Contents	Page 2
From The Chronicler	Page 3
A Note The Baron & Baroness	Page 4
Notes for Newcomers	Page 5
Court Business	Page 6
From the Desk of Altavia Officers	Page 7
Upcoming Altavia Event	Page 9
Call for Help	Page 10
Upcoming Challenge	Page 11
St. Firmin	Page 12
Baronial Officers	Page 13
Copyright Information	Page 15

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# From the Chronicler

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Greetings unto the Barony!

The Barony has submitted outstanding articles to update the populace on the many gatherings. Thank You to everyone for making this Fret Knot possible. There is always space for more so please send me articles, poems, pictures, funny jokes, how-to's, what not to do, your experience in wars and events anything you would like to see in future Fret Knots.

## Lady Fara of Altavia

Upcoming events:

February:

- 20: Lyondemere Arts & Archery-
- 27: Festival of the Rose- Summergate
- 27: Mons Draconis Anniversary
- 27: Baronial Coronet- Western Seas
- 27: Nordwache Chivalry Tourney

March

- 6: Crown Tourney- Isles
- 13: Calafia/ Gyldynholt Friendship Tourney- Calafia
- 14: Robin Hood Tourney-Angels
- 13-21: Gulf Wars – Gleann Abhann
- 19-20: Bard's Keep Tourney-Western Seas
- 20: March Melee/ March to the Sea- Naevehjem
- 20: Black Oak Lodge-Darach
- 27: Starkhafm Anniversary
- 27: Two and One-Half Barinies Tourney

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This is the February, 2010, issue of the **Fret Knot**, a publication of the Barony of Altavia of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA, Inc.). The **Fret Knot** is available from Sarah Del Castillo, 529 E. Foothill Blvd, Monrovia Ca, 91016 (chronicler@sca-altavia.org). It is not a corporate publication of SCA, Inc., and does not delineate SCA, Inc. policies.

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Submission Guidelines: Just do it! (chronicler@sca-altavia.org.)

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# FROM THE DESK OF OUR BARON & BARONESS

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We are looking forward to hosting the Queen's Champion Archery/ Crossbow / Thrown Weapons tournament at Woodley Park on February 21st. We will be attending Festival of the Rose on February 27 to celebrate our lovely Queen so if you have any performance piece that you would like to do, craft item that you would like to display or presentation for Her Majesty, please let us know. Baron Secca (of Kent!) will be attending Crown Tournament on March 6th and hopes that you can come out and join him. The event is a camping weekend so make sure to check the details on the Caid web site ([www.sca-caid.org](http://www.sca-caid.org)). Our next event will be Al Sahid Anniversary on April 3rd. The month of May will bring many activities and our own Anniversary celebration on the 22nd! Our Equestrian Championship is May the 15th in Darach and the end of the month will bring Potrero War where we want to invite you all to join us for a wedding celebration!

Baroness Mashi and Monique have been hard at work planning our Anniversary event so please attend our next Anniversary meeting and volunteer to help out before or during the event. Anniversary requires a lot of hands so please assist them in any way you can!

We will be attending Coronation and Queen's Champion on June 5th and 6th, Gyldenholt Anniversary on June 12th and CP Prize on July 10<sup>th</sup>

In other news, we were very pleased with the success of the "Siggy" Bench as our gift that we gave to all the baronies and royalty over the past year. Thank you to all who helped us make them! We will soon be turning our attention to creating this year's gift so we will keep you posted when we schedule a work night.

We have ordered a "Dragon Wing" fly for the Barony and we know that this will be very handy added on to the baronial pavilion, used at smaller events, as an arming pavilion, and/or at wars!

Finally, please join us at the next A&S Craft night on Tuesday, February 23rd where we will be learning leather working and making our champion favors for Anniversary. Our A&S Officer, Aethelwynne, has created a beautiful design and a leather painting night is scheduled for March.

YIS,  
Baron Secca and Baroness Meliora

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# Notes for Newcomers

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Greetings to those new to our Barony,

Welcome! Usually when folks see an SCA Tournament or Historical Demonstration they think “Those are my people!”. The clang of swords and armor, the arts & crafts, the archery, horses, music, all draw us in and make us feel comfortable! If this is how you feel, the WE are your people! Come join us to watch the pageantry and splendor of the Middle Ages.

And please let me be your guide to our Current Middle Ages. It can sometimes be confusing: what to wear? Where to go? What to do? Who do I bow to? Please attend the Newcomers meetings below where you will learn what you need to enjoy attending SCA events!

Also, ask me questions! I am available to help you sort it out!

Altavia's Newcomers Meetings are every 4th Monday, at 7pm, at Verdugo Park in Burbank, same location as our weekly Fighter Practice. We meet at the stone tables next to the restrooms, look for my Red Lantern!

<http://www.sca-altavia.org/Meetings/index.html>

This is the plan for our Newcomers Meetings for 2010!:

22-Feb History, Organization, Maps of the SCA

22-Mar Arts & Sciences

26-Apr Persona & Personal Heraldry

24-May Combat Forms

28-Jun History, Organization, Maps of the SCA

26-Jul Arts & Sciences

23-Aug Persona & Personal Heraldry

27-Sep Camping in the SCA

25-Oct Courtly Behavior, making a presentation in Court, Mock Court

22-Nov Combat Forms

December - No meeting, enjoy the holidays!

I will also be happy to answer any questions you may have about the SCA! We can talk about combat, costuming, the Arts, Childrens Activities, and more! Looking forward to seeing YOU there!

*Mistress Bridget  
Chatelaine of Altavia*

## ∞ Court Business ∞

We thank the Baron and Baroness of Altavia for a year full of wonderful memories and many more to come.

The Honorable Lord Secca Du Kent  
&  
Lady Meliora Deveres

Altavia's sixth Baron and Baroness



# FROM THE DESK OF OUR ALTAVIA OFFICERS



Hello Altavia!

As many of you know I have stepped back in as Seneschal and I'm looking forward to working with you all to make this year awesome!

So we have some new faces in the Officer line up for Altavia. First I'd like to thank THL Reymund for all of his hard work as Seneschal of Altavia and look forward to seeing him at events and fighter practice as his busy modern life permits. I will be working hard in the next couple of months to train my 2 new Deputies, THL Iseabail and lord Francisco. Also a welcome to Lady Fara as our new Chronicler and lady Catriona as her Deputy.

This year the Barony will be hosting many events. The first is Queen's Champion Archery of Feb. 21st at Woodley Range. Next is Altavia Equestrian Championship in partnership with Darach Anniversary and Equestrian Championship, May 15th. May 22nd is our Anniversary at Veterans Park. In October Agincourt is on the 24th and we finish up the year with Yule on December 11th. So lets all pull together to have fabulous events and make great memories.

**Lorissa du Griffin**

**Seneschal the Barony of Altavia**



Greetings,

Altavia Anniversary is coming up and help will be needed by the populace for alot of things. I will need help particularly with parking and keeping one side of the street clear. Unfortunately I will need help during one of the busiest times of the day, clean up! Please contact me if you think you can pack up a bit early so that we can help merchants pack up their cars, and keep people from parking on the street.

Also if you are interested in walking camps at war and meeting new people, and don't mind getting missing equipment to its owner, please contact me and be a deputy!

**-Lord William of Altavia**

**Altavia Constable**



Throwing a knife for sports is fun especially when you are able to make the knife stick in a bullseye. However, sticking a knife consistently on the bullseye takes years of daily practice and dedication. For a knife thrower it is extremely pleasing to hear a dull thud as the knife pierces the target,

Despite dedicated years of practice and despite throwing on almost a daily basis, no matter how good a thrower you are, occasionally, you are going to hear the noisy slapping sound when the knife hits the target flat and falls to the ground, What went wrong? The veteran knife thrower will know and make the necessary adjustments, the beginning knife thrower will not know, it can be one or all the variables that need be controlled. Once you determine your sticking distance, on a trial by error basis or from other experienced throwers, you mark your spot and concentrate on the other variables that will make your knives consistently stick.

So don't miss out on Altavia's Thrown Weapons practice the 1st Sunday of every month. On March 7th we will be preparing for Angels Robin Hood Tournament. Once again we will have 2 stands and all the equipment and throw form 10', 15' and 20' lines. We have the weapons, just come out in closed toed shoes and get ready to get addicted to this awesome sport!

**Lady Cecilia dei Medici**

**Altavia Marshal for Thrown Weapons**

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Greetings,

The past few events I have been talking to the many Youth of Altavia and asking what they would like to make in the SCA. I have received many answers. I have been asked about Jewelry, garb, needlepoint, leather working and more. Currently for the year we have much needlepoint activities planned and a work in progress for a youth jewelry class taught by youth. If any one is interested in teaching a youth class that would be wonderful, please email me. I would like to have youth activities give them a skill that they can place somewhere else in the SCA so they can focus on a bigger picture anywhere from embroidering their grab to making their trim to even their own leather gorgets. I look forward to working with the many youths & the parents in Altavia & Caid.

**Fara of Altavia**

**Altavia Youth Minister**

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Greetings Altavia,

There are a couple of interesting things happening in the world of Youth Combat, I have a new boss, THL Thorin vorðr Ó Séaghda, And we have one of our own getting into armored Youth Combat, (and from everything I have seen and heard she is excited to make the switch, and can't wait to play with the big boys.)

Thorin took over as Kingdom Youth Combat Marshal, at Great Western War, and is already hard at work doing a revamp of the Kingdom Youth Combat rules!!! Look forward to changes, (pending approval) to the thrusting and great weapon rules coming early this spring!

**-Lord William of Altavia, Altavia Youth Combat Marshal**

# Upcoming Altavia Event

Altavia 27<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 2010  
 22 May 2010, 7:00 AM- 8:00 PM  
 Site Closing Date & Time: 22 May 2010, 8:00 PM  
 Event Steward(s): Baroness Asakura no Mashi & Monique Marie Sauniere  
 Veteran's Park  
 13000 Sayre Street  
 Sylmar, CA 91342

Traveling the Silk Road Greetings all you adventurous souls!! Saddle up your camel, elephant, or dragon and venture to Altavia's 27th Anniversary, where we plan to explore strange lands along one of the Middle Ages most exciting and prosperous trade routes. The Silk Road was an ancient viaduct between China and the Mediterranean, roughly 4,000 miles long. The daring Italian, Marco Polo, followed it in the 13th century to reach Cathay, part of modern day China. Reconnecting with these ancient civilizations had a dramatic and lasting impact on medieval Europe. We invite you to help us recreate the Silk Road here in Veteran's Park in Sylmar and experience this perilous journey for yourself! Such traveling can be very dangerous, so we seek Champions to protect us! Unarmored, Armored, Rapier, and, of course, Youth Combat. We seek a Chess Champion as well, the ancient game being much practiced and respected in various forms by many of the countries along our route. A people's prize tourney to determine our Arts and Sciences Champion will run throughout the day, focusing on 'Eastern Arts'. All manner of arts are welcome and encouraged to be shared. Dancing, drumming, and other arts that were done within the countries of Silk Road will be at the event as well. Performance groups wanting to entertain and have pieces within the theme, please contact anniversary@... to be added to the day's schedule. We will also be looking for an Iron Chef whose culinary Skills are like no other! What two brave souls wish to prove their cunning and creativity with food and do culinary battle? Whose cuisine will reign supreme in Altavia? Three judgeships will be raffled off to lucky

non-entrants! Contact Dame Selene Colfox (ironchef@...) if you wish to participate. Since Elephants were abundant in the Middle East, we are honoring such lively and beautiful beasts with a White Elephant Sale. Come bring fabulous treasures from your dwellings that perhaps need to find a new home! Anything wondrous would be welcome, from any old craft or art form that you perhaps gave a try, but perhaps never liked or a project that you never completed, or gifts that you were given that just don't suite your tastes. All proceeds going to the Barony. A lunch will be made and sold by Green Frog (His Excellency Duryn the Red) for a modest sum for those interested.

#### Site fee(s):

Site fee is \$6 for members, \$9 for non-members, \$3 for children 4-12, children under 3 are guests of the Barony. Make checks payable to SCA Inc./Altavia.

#### Make check payable to:

SCA Inc./Altavia.

Merchants are welcome! please e-mail event steward for information

#### Directions to the event:

Take the 210 North (towards Santa Clarita) to the Hubbard exit. Turn right on Hubbard and follow it to Eldridge. Turn left on Eldridge and go to the first stop sign, which is Sayre. Turn right on Sayre and follow it all the way up the hill. Altavia signs will direct you to the event in the park.

## *Call for Help*

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GREAT WESTERN WAR WANTS YOU!

Yes we are talking to YOU!

So you've been to Great Western War and had a blast! So now you think "I want to be a part of that!" As the adage goes, "many hands make light work" and putting on Great Western War is a monumental undertaking. All Departments could always use an extra pair of hands. Interested in one of the Sub Steward positions? Then head on over to the Great Western War XIII site at <http://www.caid-gww.org/> and see all the opportunities to serve that await you! Contact the Department Stewards themselves and ask what you can do?!

If you have any further questions, please contact the Main War Stewards at [stewards@caid-gww.org](mailto:stewards@caid-gww.org).

We look forward to hearing from you!

**Madelena Hidalgo de Valencia**

**William "Takumi" MacLyr**

**War Stewards, Great Western War XIII**

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Upcoming Challenge

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HERE YE HERE YE!!!  
We call on to our best and  
throw a challenge out for  
Altavian's "Best Limerick" by  
Populace choice.

This contest is open to all and submissions  
must be submitted to the [chronicler@sca-  
altavia.org](mailto:chronicler@sca-altavia.org) by March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010

## St. Firmin

Although it may still be winter, the spring semester is here for the students of the Incipient College of St. Firmin! One of our main goals this semester on campus is to promote the club as much as possible. During the second week of school we attended two Meet the Clubs' days on campus where we promoted our club, known as the Medieval and Renaissance Society, to Cal State Northridge students. Both days were successful with many students coming up to our table to ask about what we do. Another tool we are using to gain interest in our group is facebook. We now have a College of St. Firmin page, which is open to anyone who wants to keep up with our meetings and both SCA and campus events we are attending. Facebook is a great tool to use on campus since most college students already have a facebook page.

Some of our other goals for this semester include having a fighter practice up and running near the school, holding a movie night on campus, and attending Potrero War.

We continue to have meetings on Tuesday nights on campus including Baronial council meeting and Baronial A&S night on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. The first and third Tuesday are both open meetings for the club, so if anyone is interested in holding a class, any SCA related topic would be great since we have many newcomers, on either of these nights we would be more than happy to have you!

Our weekly practice is coming soon.

Join us for our first practice:

**March 4th 4:30-7:30**

Park Address:

**18300 Lemarsh St Los Angeles, CA 91325**

\*We will be meeting on the Reseda St. side of the park next to the benches and under the lights.



## Baronial Officers

<b>Baron</b> is THL Secca of Kent	(Baron@sca-altavia.org)
<b>Baroness</b> is Lady Meliora	(Baron@sca-altavia.org)
<b>Chief Lady-in-Waiting</b> is Lady Sorcha dubh	(court@sca-altavia.org)
<b>Captain of the Guard</b> is THL Thorin O'Seaghda	(guard@sca-altavia.org)
<b>Seneschal</b> is Viscountess Lorissa du Griffin	(seneschal@sca-altavia.org)
<b>Deputy Seneschal</b> (Vacant)	
<b>Captain of Archers</b> is Lord James Everglad	
<b>Arts and Sciences Officer</b> is Lady Aethelwyn of Ashgrove	(arts@sca-altavia.org)
<b>Deputy A&amp;S – is</b> THL Madelena Hidalgo de Valencia	
<b>Chatelaine</b> is Mistress Bridget Lucia Mackenzie	(chatelaine@sca-altavia.org)
<b>Children's Minister</b> is Lady Fara Of Altavia	(children@sca-altavia.org)
<b>Chiurgeon</b> is Lord Caine Dorcha	
<b>Deputy Chiurgeon</b> is Eirikr Mjoksiglandi	
<b>Chronicler</b> is Lady Fara of Altavia	(chronicler@sca-altavia.org)
<b>Constable</b> is Lord Uilliam of Altavia	(constable@sca-altavia.org)
<b>Exchequeris</b> Master Timotheus Zacharia	(exchequer@sca-altavia.org)
<b>Herald (Sable Fret Cornet)</b> is Lord Damien von Baden	(herald@sca-altavia.org)
<b>Court Herald</b> is THL Tezar of Aeolis	
<b>Lists Officer</b> is THL Matlens Litovka	(lists@sca-altavia.org)
<b>Marshal</b> is Sir Eronric of Devon	(marshal@sca-altavia.org)
<b>Deputy Marshal</b> is Lord Cian Dorcha	
<b>Deputy Marshal - Equestrian</b> is Dona Lady Virginia Read	(equestrian@sca-altavia.org)
Our <b>Deputy Marshal for Armored Combat</b> is Sir Eronric of Devon	
<b>Deputy Marshal - Rapier</b> is Don Colwyn Stagghorn	(rapier@sca-altavia.org)
Our <b>Deputy Marshal for Thrown Weapons</b> is Lady Cecilia dei Medici	
Our <b>Thrown Weapons Deputy</b> is Einarr blodox	
<b>Deputy Marshall For Youth Combat</b> is Lord Uilliam of Altavia	(youthcombat@sca-altavia.org)
<b>Scribe</b> is Ysabel d'Outremer	(scribe@sca-altavia.org)

**Webwright** is Dame Lynnette de Sandoval del Valle de los Unicornios  
(webwright@sca-altavia.org)  
**Deputy Webwright** is THL James Everglad

## Copyright Information

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