

Fall Issue ~ A.S. XLIV



Fall 2010

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∼On the Cover∽∽∽

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From the Chronicler

Greetings unto the Barony!

Thank You to the Altavia Officers that have continued to support the Fret Knot in its Quarterly publishing. I would like to invite the Barony of Altavia to submit there first experience in the SCA. Please write a little note about what your first event was like when you came into the SCA, what event did you go to, who helped you, who was your first contact, what inspired you to join. Please email me these letters to chronicler@sca-altavia.org by December 18th. Can't wait to here from everyone. See everyone at Great Western War.

Lady Fara of Altavía

Upcon	ing events:		
Octobe	er:		
2	Dun Or Anniversary	Dun Or, Lancaster, CA	
6~11	Great Western War	Kingdom of Caid, Taft, Ca	
16	Summergate Long Sword	Barony of Califia, Oceanside, Ca	
16	Black Rose Ball	Barony of Lyondemere, Torrance, Ca	
24	Agincourt Archery Tourney	Barony of Altavia	
29~31	Queen's Champions	Shire of Carreg Wen, Santa Barbara, Ca: Equestrian, Archery &	
Throw	n Weapons		
30	Dreiburgen Anniversary	Barony of Dreiburgen, Riverside, Ca	
30	Necro-Nautical Misadventur	dventures Tourney Barony of Angels, West Covina, Ca	

November:

6	Coronation	Shire of Al-Sahid, Apple Valley, Ca
7	Queens Champion Tourney	Shire of Al-Sahid, Victorville, Ca
13	Calafia Anniversary	Barony of Calafia
27	Medieval Marketplace	Shire of Heatherwyne

December:

4	Calafia Yule	TBD
	Dreiburgen Yule	Riverside, Ca
	Dun Or Yule	TBD
<u>11</u>	Altavia Yule	Studio City, Ca
	Gyldenholt/ Lyondemere	Yule TBD
18	Angels Yule	TBD
	Starkhafn Yule	Las Vegas, NV

This is the October 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, 5602 McCulloch Ave Blvd, Temple City, Ca, 91780 (chronicler@sca-altavia.org). It is not a corporate publication of SCA, Inc., and does not delineate SCA, Inc. policies.

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The Fret Knot is provided free of charge; and can be downloaded from the *Altavia* Yahoo! © Group website: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Altavia/. Membership in the online *Altavia* group is free and open to the public, though initial posts are moderated.

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

Notes for Newcomers

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! :

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!

Místress Brídget Chatelaine of Altavia

Fall 2010

Court Business

The Honorable Lord Secca du Cantin & Lady Meliora Deverel

Altavia's sixth Baron and Baroness

From the Baron and Baroness,

Greetings Altavia!

Well, as always, the past few months have been very busy. We attended CP Prize, Lyondemere Anniversary, Crown Tournament, Highland War, Angels Anniversary, and Caid Archery Open. We also went to a fun Tacky Hawaiian shirt party and then got to be there when Sir Augustine proposed to Luta. At Highland War, Cristoph received his Chiron. He was the first member to be inducted into the order since it was turned into a polling order. Congratulations unto his Lordship Christophanus Castellani! Also both Cristoph and Lady Cecilia Medici were honored at Angels Anniversary with the Order of Athena, their baronial service award. These two crazy kids are on Altavia's Court as well as Royal Court, hold Altavian baronial offices – and still manage to find the time and energy to assist others to such a degree as to deserve baronial recognition! We salute these two hard working (and probably exhausted) Altavians!!

In the next few months we are planning to attend Dun Or Anniversary, GWW, Agincourt, Dreiburgen, Coronation. Calafia Anniversary, and of course Altavia Yule! We are very excited about the theme for Yule this year, which is 'Altavia Goes Hollywood'. What this means is that you get to come dressed as your favorite poorly done interpretation of medieval garb, as only the movies can misinterpret such things: Danny Kaye in the 'Court Jester' Jocelyn from 'A Knight's Tale' King Arthur from 'Monty Python and the Holy Grail'? Or go Hollywood Glam and walk the red carpet as Cate Blanchett's 'Elizabeth'. Regardless it looks to be a fantastic evening.

It is such a pleasure for us to serve this, the best of all Baronies. Altavian's are hard-working, talented, and fun-loving. We look forward to the months and years to come!

Yours in service to the Barony, Baron Secca and Baroness Meliora

Fall 2010

Altavia Current Champions

Armored Combat Duke Edric Aaron Hartwood Rapier Combat Don Alexander Kallidokos Archery Roy MacLucas Equestrian Erycha Orlon von Scotte riding Storm Thrown Weapons Ihon MacLucas Arts & Sciences Kiena le Blue Bardic THL Mealla Caimbeul for performances of Band of Brothers and The Murder of Thomas a Beket aka Nunc Gaudet Ecclesia Chess Bjorn Zenthffeer

Youth Combat 11 years Griffin of Wintermist Youth Combat 3 to 4 years Nicolai Stagghorn, Dane, and Megan – A threeway tie! Youth Archery 10 and under Sophia Youth Archery 11 and up Anastasia Nightgale Youth Thrown Weapons Anastasia Nightgale

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FROM THE DESK OF OUR ALTAVIAN OFFICERS

Greetings Altavia!

As many of you know I have accepted the post of Chamberlain for the next reign. For that time period I will be depending on Liam to step back in and help with the constable duties in Altavia. (Sorry Liam :)

GWW approaches and the Kingdom constable would like to see as many constables on duty as possible. You do NOT have to be a warranted constable to help out! Here are the top 3 reasons why you should be a constable at war:

1. They only need 2 hours of your time.

B. It's a great way to find the big party camps and come back to them when you are off duty ;)

3. You know how we tend to eat too much and drink too much at war? This is an awesome way to get some walking in!

So please lend a hand if you can spare 2 hours. I will be fighting, working gate for 4 hours, setting up and running 2 camps AND be the chamberlain for TRHs and I'm gonna do 2-2 hour shifts. And yes that's a formal challenge!

Please contact the kingdom constable at constable@sca-caid.org to volunteer

Thank you

Viscountess Lorissa du Griffin, OP Constable of Altavia.

Greetings Altavia Youth & Parents,

Altavia Youth has been expanding the past couple of months. We have had more youth out at the Second & Forth Monday Practices for youth which is nice because the youth gets to get their tournament practice in as well. It is encourage that the youth come out and fight at Wars during the youth time that is listed in the Gate book. At Great Western War we will be having battles. Please do check the gate book for place and times. See you there!!!

-*Lord Uilliam of Altavia*, Altavia Youth Combat Marshal Thrown Weapons has been having fun. We have had practices on the first and third Sunday's of the month and has had great turnouts. We bring out two stands for throwing knives and axes and now set up a clout.

Lyondemenre Anniversary was a blast. I set up a throw that had you throw 3 knives at a target with 3 sizes of mermaids on it, then you threw 3 axes to break the fishing line that held the mermaid, next there was a 3 spear toss through a ring to hit the octopus. The final round was the clout. (I had to add something the guys were falling behind on saving the mermaid) Cristof scored a perfect score in the clout taking the lead away from me in the final round. (Now you know why we have clout practice on the first and third Sundays, I need it!). James came in second making it a 1-2 placement for Altavia, Angus came in third.

Highland War was hot, but we had grass and pop-ups. Location was far from the fighting but was cooler than last years and nicer too. You could stretch out on the grass and take a nap under the pop-up if you wanted to.

We had a night throw Friday night and it was a lot of fun. We threw dipped knives and axes at a glow in the dark target. Her majesty and their Highness came out to see and several of royals and Excellencies tried their hands at throwing at night.

We threw TWIC's on Saturday and Angus scored a magnificent 110 points total for knives axes and spears.

Justin of Altavia painted a Styrofoam head and set it on top of the hay bails for all to throw spears at. He skillfully showed us the viking two spear attack and soon tore apart the head.

We held two competitions on Sunday. 1 was a TWIC and the other was a fondue fork throwing competition. The TWIC was a regulation competition and was won by Paganus with a score of 75 followed by Angus with a 71. The fork competition was 6 fondue forks thrown from 15' at a dart board painted with a rat worth 1 point, cheese worth 3 points, strawberries worth 5 points, and cherries worth 8 points. Paganus won the competition with a score of 18. Justin of Altavia and James Everglad came in second with 5 points.

I am teaching a class at GWW on the Thrown Weapons Range. If you have ever wanted to try your hand at throwing come on out and do so then just remember your closed toed shoes.

We have a lot of fun competitions planned for GWW so I hope to see you out there.

YIS.

Lady Cecília dei Medici

Altavia Marshal for Thrown Weapons

Greetings Youth Parents,

I would just like to remind you that at war event there is usually a youth point that the youth of Caid can sign- up for classes. There are so many activities for them to do. Also the regular A&S may allow youth in on the classes as long as their parent is there with them. Please check out the gate book when you get to War they usually give an age guideline In the class description. Enjoy!

Fara of Altavía Altavia Youth Minister

From the Desk of Altavia Herald

I have seen many names go through numerous transmogrifications before being registered. In case anyone thinks that this is not a period practice, I put before you the following example.

From the introduction to 'Ibn Rochd (Averroës)' (by Léon Gauthier Presses Universitaires de France, Paris, 1948):

The translation into Latin at the beginning of the Arabic project in Spain in the 12th century under the prompting of archbishop Raymond of Toledo, was as a rule (especially at the beginning) the product of a collaboration between a Christian cleric, ignorant of Arabic, and an indigenous Jew, ignorant of Latin.

The Jew, reading out loud every word or expression of the Arabic text, indicating the meaning of it in language of that country, which served as an intermediary between the two collaborators. The cleric in his turn translated what was spoken into Latin.

The metamorphosis of 'Ibn Rochd' to 'Averroës' basically has this unique method of translation, and is produced by a series of partial alterations which is easy to retrace.

The Jew, in reading the word 'Ibn' ('son of', or in this case, 'descendant of'), pronounced it like the synonymous word in Hebrew 'Aben': Aben Rochd.

The consonant 'b', as it does today in Spanish, tends to sound like 'v': Avenrochd, and by assimilating the consonant [n], Averrochd.

The cleric put the sibilant 's' in the place of the fricative 'ch', which did not exist in Latin: Averrosd.

Finally, since the succession of letters 'sd' did not occur in Latin, and because the language required a case ending, the name lost the 'd' and substituted the 's' with the nominative ending 'es' (or sometimes 'is').

This achieved the dressing up of the proper Arabic name 'Ibn Rochd' into 'Averroës' (or, rarely, 'Averrois'.)

In the same way, 'Ibn Sina' is changed to 'Avicenna', Ibn Badjja to Avenpace, Ibn Zohr to Avenzoar, Ibn Khaldoun to Abenjaldun, Ibn Masarra to Abenmasarra, Ibn Thofaïl to Abentofaïl, etc.

➢Poem Corner

"You're in Altavia" Written by Lady Petronilla de Chastelerault

In the middle of Caid there is a land that you may know, Its baron is quite silly, and his lady fair as snow. Its people are a friendly sort unless you get them mad, And right on top of all of that, it's governed by my dad.

There is no greener banner in the kingdom wide and fair, No other verdant flag does leap so well to catch the air. But whenever something strange occurs, or funny, or bizzare, Or if you are confused: you must be in Altavia.

You're in Altavia, You're in Altavia. They fly the greenest banner, and they tell the strangest jokes. You're in Altavia, You're in Altavia. Their fighters are impeccable, their tales are all the same. You're in Altavia!

> Altavia is HOME By Lady Fara of Altavia

We found a home Somewhere we belonged A place to spend our weekends A place to feel at home We searched high and Low and came across a crazy crowd We spent a day or two It's too late to turn back now Altavia is our home Beware of that crazy crowd It's only a matter of time Don't turn back now.

Have a Poem that would look great here send it in to the Lady Fara at chronicler@sca-altavia.org.

SCA Seeks Contributions for Special Collection at UC Riverside Libraries

The SCA is pleased to announce that the University of California Riverside Libraries will be opening a permanent Society for Creative Anachronism Special Collection and Archive in 2011. The materials in this collection will include a variety of publications and other media both by and about the Society since the group's inception. (If you are interested in viewing UCR's other collections, please visit their website at http://library.ucr.edu/?view=collections/spc ol.)

From the Stock Clerk's office, the SCA will be supplying copies of The Compleat Anachronist, available copies of Tournaments Illuminated, officer handbooks, and other materials, but as this is but a percentage of materials ever published, the SCA needs contributions from individuals. Specifically, members are being asked to provide back issues of Tournaments Illuminated (please check with Countess Leonora, below, for the issue numbers needed), arts and sciences publications, kingdom histories, relevant theses, local and kingdom newsletters, photographs, event publications, videos, newspaper clippings (must include newspaper name, city and date), copies of kingdom law (past and present), personal SCA diaries, music, books and any other publications that chronicle the history and activities of the Society. Please note that this collection is for media only and will not include

any artifacts (i.e. no costumes, armor or other physical items).

If you have publications or media you would like to contribute, please contact the SCA Liaison to the UCR Libraries, Countess Leonora Morgana (Stacie Tibbetts) at collections@sca.org or at 714-544-8490 before 8pm PST. (The University Libraries are unable to accept direct donations on behalf of the Society, and sending them materials directly could result in their loss.)

If you are contributing an item that has been privately produced, you will need to include a gift donation form, which can be found at http://library.ucr.edu/?view=collections/spc ol/donations.html. (This isn't necessary if you are donating your copy of a Society publication.) All personal submissions will be juried to ensure that the materials are representative of the Society and to avoid supplying them with duplicates.

Please be aware that the existing SCA archives will not, as a whole, be part of this donation (although select materials, such as governing documents, may be included). Master Aldred von Lechsend aus Froschheim (Charles Alderson), the Society Archivist, will continue to gladly accept contributions and be available for reference questions. He may be reached at archivist@sca.org.

NEWCOMER PASSES

Exciting news! Beginning in October 2010 the SCA will test a newcomer recruitment initiative that will run until July 1, 2011. During this time the SCA will include a VIP Pass in the envelopes containing membership cards sent out to the first 6,000 participants who renew their memberships. This benefit of membership allows a renewing SCA member to give a VIP Pass to a single newcomer.

The holder of the VIP Pass is exempt from paying the Non-Member Surcharge (NMS) for their first three events they attend while exploring the SCA. The VIP Pass is not a free admission to an SCA event; it simply excuses the Pass holder from paying the NMS.

At the third event, these passes will be collected by "Gate" personnel and sent on to the SCA NMS deputy. The SCA will then follow up with these newcomers with membership literature. Instructions for handling the VIP Pass at "Troll"/"Gate" can be found at both the Society Exchequer and Corporate Treasurer websites at http://www.sca.org/officers/exchequer/ and http://www.sca.org/officers/treasurer/. To validate the Pass, the newcomer must fill it out, sign and date it at Gate at the first event they attend. Passes are good until redeemed fully at a total of three events. Each pass can be used only by the single newcomer whose name is put on it at the time of the first use. Passes are not transferable. All VIP Passes expire on July 1, 2011.

The VIP Pass is meant for use only by first time newcomers, not for folks who are current or past members of the SCA. The VIP Pass is NOT valid for the following Inter-Kingdom events: Pennsic War, Gulf Wars, Estrella War, Lilies War and Great Western War. At these events, newcomers must still pay the NMS.

As the Society is based on the concepts of honor and Chivalry, it is assumed that the good gentles using the VIP Pass will not seek to abuse the hospitality of the SCA. Any person abusing the system will be subject to sanctions.

If you have additional questions please email chatelaine@sca.org or exchequer@sca.org

SCA Census 2010

There is a project that impacts future of the SCA in a very real way. It is the SCA Census 2010 project.

The SCA Census 2010 Committee was asked by the Board of Directors to develop a census-level survey to help the SCA to move forward into the next decade; to identify, address and work on current issues; to gain a deeper understanding into what makes the SCA what it is today; and to delve into the reasons for joining, remaining in, and leaving the SCA.

So far we have heard from over 10,000 past and present participants, a good first step. Of these 10,000, only 1000 are folks who no longer participate in the SCA. We need to hear from you all,

especially the folks that no longer actively participate. We would ask each of you, if able, reach out to those past participants who left the SCA and ask their assistance by taking this survey.

The only way we can understand what is important is by hearing from you, so please take the time to complete the survey at www.surveymonkey.com/s/SCA2010Census or visit www.sca.org.

The Survey will remain open until December 1st. Once the data collection is completed, the results of this survey will be made available on the SCA 2010 Census website. Be assured that the survey data collected or published will remain completely anonymous and will not be sold or shared beyond this survey's purpose. You will never be asked for information that will identify you.

If you would like to learn more about the SCA 2010 Census, if you have questions or ideas about the project, please contact the committee at scacensus2010@sca.org.

With your help we can create an SCA which will last another 4 decades.

Sincerely,

Erik Langhans, Director, SCA Inc. (Sir Modius von Mergentheim, KSCA, OL, OP)

On Behalf of the SCA 2010 Census Committee www.sca.org/scacensus2010

SCA Census 2010 Breakdown by Kingdom Approx. 10,000 completed surveys

363 Æthelmearc Member Participants 269 Non Member Participants 40 Not Current Participants 54

823 Ansteorra Member Participants 541 Non Member Participants 119 Not Current Participants 163

1079 An Tir Member Participants 767 Non Member Participants 155 Not Current Participants 157

170 Artemisia Member Participants 124 Non Member Participants 27 Not Current Participants 19

424 Atenveldt Member Participants 304 Non Member Participants 46 Not Current Participants 74

824 Atlantia Member Participants 581 Non Member Participants 99 Not Current Participants 144

597 Caid Member Participants 432 Non Member Participants 76 Not Current Participants 89

444 Calontir Member Participants 326 Non Member Participants 59 Not Current Participants 59

336 Drachenwald Member Participants 241 Non Member Participants 57 Not Current Participants 38

284 Ealdormere Member Participants 174 Non Member Participants 37 Not Current Participants 73

847 East Member Participants 555 Non Member Participants 135 Not Current Participants 157

220 Gleann Abhann Member Participants 171 Non Member Participants 25 Not Current Participants 24

555 Lochac Member Participants 388 Non Member Participants 87 Not Current Participants 80

498 Meridies Member Participants 345 Non Member Participants 80 Not Current Participants 73

839 Middle Member Participants 589 Non Member Participants 101 Not Current Participants 149

493 Northshield Member Participants 297 Non Member Participants 44 Not Current Participants 152

343 Outlands Member Participants 244 Non Member Participants 54 Not Current Participants 45

344 Trimaris Member Participants 251 Non Member Participants 43 Not Current Participants 50

496 West Member Participants 343 Non Member Participants 85 Not Current Participants 68

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Call For Helps

Are you interested in knowing more about the SCA?

Then volunteer, there is always a need for your help at any event.

For Great Western War Volunteers Sign-up at gate. This year they are having a Volunteer Treasure Challenge. Check out the web site below for more information.

http://www.caid-gww.org/volunteering.php

Fall 2010

→St. Firmin →

REMINDER: Fighter Practice: (Practice is held on the Reseda side of the park) Days: Thursday Nights Time: 7pm-9pm Location: 18300 Lemarsh St. Northridge, CA 91324

Greetings Altavians!

The Incipient College of St. Firmin has begun a new semester of school and things are going great.

So far we have four new members who are egar to participate in society events including Great Western War. Last week we began gearing them up with simple garb projects and loaner garb for GWW. Besides gearing up for GWW there are many A&S nights and Dance practices that will be held on the CSUN campus, so please check the schedule on the Altavia web site for more information.

We do continue to have fighter practice Thursday nights from 7 pm to 9 pm at Northridge Park on the Reseda side of the park. Practice has been going well with an increase of Rapier fighters. Last week we had ten participants! We do have Armored Combat fighters who are interested in practicing on Thursdays, but the practice has been Rapier focused. Please do not let that discourage any armored fighters from coming out. We will gladly welcome you as will the armored fighters who already come out! Just a reminder that at Agincourt on October 24th we will be offering a lunch of chicken sausage, cheese, a roll, and drink for \$5! The funds raised will benefit the Incipient College of St. Firmin.

We are super excited for the upcoming events and cannot wait to have great fun with all of you!

Lady Leonor de Sevílla

Tell Altavía about your Fírst Event or fírst few months.

Write a little note about what your first event was like when you came into the SCA, what event did you go to, who helped you, who was your first contact, what inspired you to join. Please email me these letters to chronicler@sca-altavia.org by December 18th.

Here I will start!!

My First event was a war. What a way to start. I had a dress that was sort of period not at all what you would want wear to your first event. I did have fun and enjoyed the friends that invited us but wanted to know more. We decided to go to some fighter practices to check this whole thing out. The first person that helped us with our clothes was a member that went by "Red". She was awesome and the dress was beautiful that I had for the second event. The first Altavians that I met are now my Freehold.

Fall 2010

➢ Baronial Officers

Baron is THL Secca of Kent (Baron@sca-altavia.org) **Baroness** is Lady Meliora (Baron@sca-altavia.org) Chief Lady-in-Waiting is Lady Sorcha dubh (court@sca-altavia.org) Captain of the Guard is THL Thorin O'Seaghda (guard@sca-altavia.org) **Seneschal** is Lord Francisco Rojas de Gomez Y Sandoval(seneschal@sca-altavia.org) Deputy Seneschal Viscountess Lorissa du Griffin and Lady Iseabail nee Bhatar Captain of Archers is Lord James Everglad Arts and Sciences Officer is Lady Aethelwyn of Ashgrove (arts@sca-altavia.org) Deputy A&S is THL Madelena Hidalgo de Valencia (chatelaine@sca-altavia.org) Chateline is Mistress Bridget Lucia Mackenzie Children's Minister is Lady Fara Of Altavia (children@sca-altavia.org) Chiurgeon is Lord Caine Dorcha Deputy Chiurgeon is Eirikr Mjoksiglandi Chronicler is Lady Fara of Altavia (chronicler@sca-altavia.org) Constable is Lord Uilliam of Altavia (constable@sca-altavia.org) **Exchequer** is Eirikr Mjoksiglandi (exchequer@sca-altavia.org) Herald is Lord Damien von Baden (herald@sca-altavia.org) Court Herald is THL Tezar of Aeolis Lists Officer is THL Matlens Litovka (lists@sca-altavia.org) Marshal is Sir Fronric of Devon (marshal@sca-altavia.org) Deputy Marshal is Lord Cian Dorcha Deputy Marshal - Equestrian is Dona Lady Virgina Read (equestrian@sca-altavia.org) Our Deputy Marshal for Armored Combat is Sir Eronric of Devon **Deputy Marshal - Rapier** is Don Colwyn Stagghorn (rapier@sca-altavia.org) Our Deputy Marshal for Thrown Weapons is Lady Cecilia dei Medici Our Thrown Weapons Deputy is Einarr blodox Deputy Marshall For Youth Combat is Lord Uilliam of Altavia (youthcombat@sca-altavia.org) Scribe 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

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