

Yule is coming!

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Herewith follows the legal stuff:

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Please send submissions to chronicler@sca-altavia.org

# Zfrom the Chronicler

### Lord Charles Ivansen of Borreby

Greetings,

The holidays are upon us once again! By the time you read this you will probably be recovering from your Thanksgiving dinner, I hope it was an enjoyable one! And now, onto the next event of the season – **Angels/Altavia Yule**! This will be held on Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at our usual location, the Feast Hall of St. Mary's Proto-Cathedral in Sherman Oaks. You can find out more at http://www.sca-altavia.org/Events/yule-2017/ Hope to see you there! [unfortunately yours truly cannot attend, I will be playing performances of the dreaded "Nutcracker" that day. But my lovely Lady Aurora will be there!]

Since the last newsletter we have had several wonderful events – Great Western War and the Agincourt Tourney. These were both tremendous successes with good attendance. The Altavia encampment at GWW seemed especially impressive this year, huzzah! We are fortunate to have such a active and imaginative populace!

It is with excitement that we enter the New Year that approaches, one that will bring us a new Baron and Baroness. I know that May is still quite far off but I for one am looking forward to that event as well. For now, let's enjoy this wonderful season of friendship, feasting, and merriment, and let us all hope for a prosperous and peaceful New Year!

Yours in Service, Charles Ivansen of Borreby, Chronicler of Altavia



Borreby Castle, near the town of Skælskør in the south-west corner of the island of Zealand, Denmark.

# & from Their Excellencies

### The honorable Lord Crístofanus Castellaní And Místress Cecília Medicí

### Greetings!

Agincourt was so much fun. We had a small but wonderful group of a little over 50 people. All participated in either shooting, throwing, cooking, arts, or worked hard to support our fair Barony. We now have **new champions**:

Archery: THL Miguel Thrown Weapons: Ryan Arts and Sciences: Erikir tied with Edrick Fretted Fork - Period: Lady Raine Fretted Fork - Non-Period: (for a boot shaped Peach 'cobbler') Natalyya and I.

Thank you to our Event Stewards: Lynnette and Wolfrum, gate: Timetheous and Elle, Lists: Matlens, fretted fork: Courtney (birthday girl) and Sorcha, Thrown Weapons: Santiago, and Archery: Baron Cristof, and all whom assisted with the day.

That ended October, and November snuck in while I was sleeping! We went to Calafia and it was a beautiful day. Baron Cristof and Natalyya shot their bows and I attended Her Majesty. We had to leave early due to the Baron's work schedule. That will be the only event we can attend this month due to a booked mundane schedule. I want to thank Griffith for representing Altavia at Frost Dragon. They announced the new Reeve and Reevess and he delivered a gift that I had Viscountes Lorissa bring.

We are in need of someone/ones to handle drinks at Yule. I am looking for drink dispensers to hold water, ice tea and possibly lemonade as well. If you can help out with either supplying something to use or to help refill please let me, Vanessa or Ariana know. I'd like to wish all a happy Thanksgiving and safe travels if you are going out of town (or even if you are staying in town).

Gobble Gobble Responsibly! [Editor's note – sorry this issue will be released after Thanksgiving!]

Your Ever Grateful Baroness,

~Cecilia Baroness of Altavia



### 21pcoming Events

# Angels/Altavía Yule!



This year's celebration will be held on Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup> beginning at 3:00pm The location is the Feast Hall of St. Mary's Proto-Cathedral 5329 Sepulveda Boulevard, Sherman Oaks This year's theme is "Io Saturnalia" – Romans vs. Vikings! Show off your finest festive Roman or Viking garb!

For more information, consult the CAID calendar: http://www.sca-caid.org/calendar.php



## Articless

### Of Foliate Heads and Green Men

Contributed By THL Johnnae llyn Lewis

The second quarter, 2017 issue **of Tournaments Illuminated** contained an article by Lady Johnnae on sugar casting. The article featured images of a green man cast in sugar. Unfortunately, the issue was unable to publish in full the commissioned history and folklore surrounding the green man image. We are pleased to publish it here in full.

To begin, foliate heads or foliate faces are representations of the human face surrounded by greenery. The face seems to grow into and out of leaves, vines, and branches. Sometimes one finds acorns hidden among oak leaves and the face. It is almost always male. This foliate head motif or representation is quite old. There are surviving Roman and even pre-Roman examples where columns are crowned by faces or heads with acanthus leaves. Malcolm Jones points to the heads on the second-third century CE Jupiter column capital in the Corinium Museum in Cirencester as early surviving British examples of



the Roman leaf mask. Later surviving examples of the motif date back to wood carvings from the Norman period and by the later Middle Ages the faces were quite common in roof bosses, corbels, on fonts, arches, choir stalls, and misericords throughout Britain. Famous examples can be found at Winchester, York, and Ely Cathedrals. They also decorate the colleges at Cambridge, notably Pembroke, Queens, and St. John's, and at Oxford where they can be found at All Souls, Exeter, Magdalen, Merton, and New College. The motif, as such, seemed to combine two of the popular subjects of the medieval period, being the human face and foliage. Some foliate faces seem to be scowling or are gloomy; others are more placid or serene. A few are jovial and stick out their tongues. As to their meaning, some have suggested the greenery might be seen to be indicative of the Frankish monk and theologian Rabanus Maurius's (c. 776-856) warnings that leafy foliage symbolized the lust of the flesh and possible damnation. Medieval theologians expounded on numerous artistic motifs with lectures and writings about symbolism and meaning; it is telling that only Rabanus Maurius talks about greenery in such a fashion. No one knows what the motif meant to the medieval audience who attended services in the churches and cathedrals where they appear. Were the faces meant to be symbolic of damnation or a call to silence and reflection? Or were they just a popular decorative element or motif, which appeared and reappeared over time? Not all elements in churches were religious in nature after all. It's simply not known what the foliate faces meant. [DEF p.127]

The motif of the foliate head might have remained that of a playful and popular artistic element with uncertain meaning had an article not appeared in the journal *Folklore*. In 1939, Julia, Lady Raglan published her reflections on the foliate heads. In "The "Green Man" in Church Architecture," Lady Raglan proposed the English foliate heads were "taken from real life" and the real life figure was "the Green Man, Jack-in-the-Green, Robin Hood, the King of May, and the Garland." She also writes, "The fact is that unofficial paganism subsisted side by side with the official religion…" and that is why medieval churches might have displayed both the very religious carvings along with the foliate heads. She associated them in part with fertility and the rites of spring and a connection with that of the land. Lady Raglan made much of the fact that in many churches the foliate heads were the only carvings to be found. In fact the rich decoration of medieval English churches had in large part been disappeared during the reformation when all the overt and Catholic religious elements were systematically destroyed. The foliate heads are the surviving elements in many cases.

Lady Raglan's paper might be dismissed as sheer speculation influenced heavily upon a reading of James Frazer's *The Golden Bough*, except for the fact that she named or invented the foliate heads as green men, and as green man or green men they have stayed and taken on a life of their own. First the term began to be used in papers and books discussing church architecture and then in works dedicated to the buildings in England. Then quite suddenly, as David Hopkins, relates, "The Green Man has emerged as such a vital totem of the ecological movement" and of the New Age or counterculture. The Green Man became the personification of a vegetative or natural spirit of the forest and woodlands and a symbol of the old religion. The face of the Green Man in a myriad of forms also gradually became a very popular modern and collectable motif for gardens and lawns, appearing as cast items in concrete or resin and as sculptures ranging in size from very small to enormous works with prices to match. The medieval foliate head is trending again.

Seventy-five plus years on from the publication of Lady Raglan's paper, the controversy lingers between those who see the foliate faces as symbolic of pagan or neopagan elements, nature, and environment and those who disavow any such connections. According to Hopkins, Dr. Roy Judge pointed out in numerous talks and books the modern Green Man was just a made up concoction and was never "a figure recognizable to anyone father back in history, let alone a pagan survival." Folklorist Malcolm Jones is also quite critical of much of the literature surrounding the Green Man. He writes, "Unfortunately, much nonsense has been written about these motifs - precisely the sort of thing that has given the study of folklore a bad name in academic circles - and some of it by scholars who should have known better." [Jones I] He likens most of the modern green man literature to that of "a pre-Christian tree-worshiping cult." More charitably, David Hopkins writes, "The Green man, now a veritable industry, was an invention, but a necessary one for a modern society which felt itself out of touch with nature." What we see in the face of a foliate head or Green Man may lie within ourselves. Be it a medieval motif or a personification of something older or more natural, the image survives to intrigue and humor us in the twentieth first century.

### **SIDEBAR**

It is interesting to note that unknown to Lady Raglan, the term "green man" had been used previously in English literature to describe characters in plays or in pageants and processions. The *OED* includes this phrase from 1578: "Two men, apparrelled, lyke greene men at the Mayors feast, with clubbes of fyre worke." [G. Whetstone *Promos & Cassandra: 2nd Pt.* i. vi, sig. H.i, (*stage direct.*)] The function of the "greene men" or more typically wild men was that of the "whiffler" or the people who walked along in front of processions to

drive back the crowds so the dignitaries could pass. Most often they were dressed as wild men in shaggy clothing, who also brandished clubs. If dressed in greenery, they might be called "greene men." In 1594 Robert Wilson in the *Coblers Prophesie* remarked, "Comes there a Pageant by, Ile stand out of the greene mens way for burning my vestment." (The mention of vestments being burned seems to indicate the green men were brandishing burning clubs.) Several years later in 1654 Edmund Gayton in the *Pleasant Notes upon Don Quixot* writes: "with the strange Feasts of the Greenmen, Whiflers, Marshals, and his Ministers." Five years later in 1659's *The Cities new poet's mock-show*, it was written "His Green-men caused to open the throng, / That he the more quickly might pass along." Their function was perhaps best summed up in 1665 in *Typhon*. There the description reads: "Did you ne'er see on Lord Mayors day

The Green-men, how they clear the way

With firy Clubs; or in a Ring,

At Cudgel-sport, or Wrastelling,"

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### SIDEBAR

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# Altavía Current Champions

Archery THL Miguel 10/29/17
Armored Combat Duke Sven Orfhendur & Sir Niccolo d'Angelo 5/13/17
Defender of Altavia Sir Uilliam Mor MacGregor 5/13/17
Arts & Sciences Lord Erickr and Lord Edrick (tie) 10/29/17
Bardic Xena Doombringer 12/10/16
Chess Natalya Barsova 12/12/15
Equestrian THL Courtney of the White Meadows 6/28/15
Fretted Fork Baroness Cecilia and Lady Natalya 10/29/17, Period Division: Lady Raine 10/29/17
Rapier Combat Master Oliver Dogberry & THL Rhydderch Derwen 5/13/17
Thrown Weapons Lord Ryan 10/29/17
Unarmored Combat THL Nikolaos Phaistos 5/28/16
Youth Archery Loki of the Dell 10/23/16
Youth Arts & Sciences Natalya 5/13/17
Youth Combat James of Altavia & Kyle of Altavia 5/13/17



### meetings & Practices in the Barony

### Meetings:

• Council Meeting

#### 2nd Tuesday of the month, 7:00pm

<u>Location:</u> Proto-Cathedral of St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church, at 5329 Sepulveda Boulevard, Sherman Oaks 91411.

This is the monthly business meeting for the group. There are officer reports, event reports, discussion of Baronial involvement at the Kingdom Level, choosing new officers, when necessary, and announcements. Baronial decisions are made here, and you do have a voice. **Everyone is welcome (and encouraged) to attend the meeting!** 

Pre-Meeting work session and officers arrive by 7:00pm. Meeting starts at 7:30pm.

Contact the Seneschal for details

Newcomers' Meeting

**Once a month, usually on the 4th Monday of the month, 7:00pm** at <u>Verdugo Park</u> in Burbank, 3201 West Verdugo, Burbank CA, 91505. Directions: Off of Verdugo, turn North onto California and we are on the right hand side, half way down the block near the tennis courts. This is the same location as our weekly Fighter Practice.

We meet at the stone tables next to the restrooms.

These classes cover a general overview of the SCA and the types of events we hold in Caid. Please bring your questions and wonderful smiles. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

Contact the Chatelaine (chatelaine@sca-altavia.org) for directions and dates.

#### **Combat Practices:**

• Archery

The first and third Sunday of the month, 11:00am to 3:00pm At Woodley Park Archery Range, directions are <u>http://woodleyparkarchers.org/direction</u>

Additional practice times are available most **Tuesday and Friday nights**. Contact the <u>Captain of</u> <u>Archers</u> to verify dates and times.

Contact ahead for loaner gear. Lord Everglad is there on most Wednesday nights and Saturday mornings for authorization tests and help in shooting.

Contact the Captain of Archers (archery@sca-altavia.org) for more information.

• Equestrian

Practices are held on various Fridays of every month, 6:30-8:30PM at Conejo Creek Equestrian Park, 1350 Avenida de las Flores, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360.

Open to any participants regardless of territory of residence. Rider must bring their own mounts. Unmounted ground crew training available. Authorizations available. Jousting, mounted combat, crest combat, mounted games, marshalette/marshalette-in-training, and general riding authorizations available on site. General driving and driving games authorizations available subject to prior coordination. Mounted archery authorizations available offsite. Riders are advised to bring their normal tack and equipment. No rental horses are available. Minors must have a parent or guardian present at all times.

Please contact the Equestrian Marshal, THL Guene Annwyll at equestrian@sca-altavia.org.

For more information, visit the <u>CAID equestrian site</u> (http://equestrian.sca-caid.org/) or the <u>Altavia</u> <u>Equestrian webpage. (http://www.sca-altavia.org/Meetings/Equestrian/index.html)</u>. Join the <u>Altavian Equestrian Email group</u> (http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AltavianEquestrian/)

### Armored Combat

**Every Monday, 7:00pm to 9:30pm** at <u>*Verdugo Park</u> in Burbank, 3201 West Verdugo, Burbank CA, 91505.* Directions" off of Verdugo, turn North onto California and we are on the right hand side, half way down the block near the tennis courts.</u>

Contact the <u>Heavy Weapons Marshal</u> (heavy@sca-altavia.org) for more information or to request to join the <u>practice information E-mail list</u> (http://groups.yahoo.com/group/fretfights/).

Guardians of the High Road (http://wiki.caidcommons.org/index.php/Guardians\_of\_the\_High\_Road)

Rapier

**Every Monday, 7:30pm to 9:30pm** at <u>*Verdugo Park</u> in Burbank, 3201 West Verdugo, Burbank CA, 91505.* Directions: off of Verdugo, turn North onto California and we are on the right hand side, half way down the block near the tennis courts.</u>

Contact the Rapier Marshal for more information

Unarmored Combat

**Every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday, 7:30pm to 9:30pm** at <u>Verdugo Park</u> in Burbank, 3201 West Verdugo, Burbank CA, 91505. Directions: off of Verdugo, turn North onto California and we are on the right hand side, half way down the block near the tennis courts.

Contact the Deputy Marshal for Un-Armored Combat for more information

### • Youth Combat

**Twice a month - 2nd and 4th Mondays, 7:30pm to 8:00pm** at <u>*Verdugo Park</u> in Burbank, 3201 West Verdugo, Burbank CA, 91505*. Directions: off of Verdugo, turn North onto California and we are on the right hand side, half way down the block near the tennis courts.</u>

Contact the Youth Combat Marshal for more information

P Thrown Weapons

**The first and third Sunday of the month, 11:00am to 2:30pm** at Woodley Park Archery Range, directions are <u>http://woodleyparkarchers.com/directions.html</u>

Contact ahead for loaner gear. Lord Everglad is there on most Wednesday nights and Saturday mornings for authorization tests and help in shooting.

Contact the <u>Thrown Weapons Marshal</u> (tw@sca-altavia.org) for more information and to varify dates and times.

#### Arts & Sciences:

### • Arts & Science Workshops (aka Craft Nights)

**The 4th Tuesday of the month, 7:00pm to 9:00pm** <u>Location:</u> Proto-Cathedral of St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church, at 5329 Sepulveda Boulevard, Sherman Oaks 91411.

Please contact the <u>A&S Officer</u> or the <u>Seneschal</u> to verify meeting locations. Bring your sewing or craft project to work on or help us make Baronial Presentations. The meetings sometimes have a project theme, which is usually published on the <u>Altavia E-mail list</u> (http://groups.yahoo.com/group/altavia/).

Contact <u>A&S Officer</u> (arts@sca-altavia.org) for details.

#### • Bardic Circle

Hosted by Baron Sir Charles of Dublin at the home of Baron Sir Robear du Bois. Contact <u>the A&S officer</u> (bardic@sca-altavia.org) for directions. The Bardic Circle will be pick, pass or play. For those who are new, this means that, as we go around the circle, you have the choice of:

- 1. Picking someone to perform something you like or something they want to do
- 2. Passing your turn to the next person
- 3. Performing yourself

This way you can relax & listen, perform, hear your favorites, or mix it up.

Contact The A&S officer (bardic@sca-altavia.org) for dates, directions, and further information.

#### • Children's Activities

Children's activities are held at every event that Altavia sponsors.

Contact the Children's Officer (children@sca-altavia.org) for information or offers to help.

• Culinary Guild

Special interest group for All Things Delicious to eat and drink, by the Barony of Altavia, the north-west Los Angeles County group of the Society for Creative Anachronism. Everyone is welcome in our discussions of recipes, historical research and events based around the food and beverages of the Middle Ages and Renaissance.

Meetings happen once a month. Contact the Guild through their Facebook page here: http://www.facebook.com/groups/242868192471271/

Dance Practice

**Belly Dance** every Monday, 7:30pm at <u>Verdugo Park</u> in Burbank, 3201 West Verdugo, Burbank CA, 91505. Directions: off of Verdugo, turn North onto California and we are on the right hand side, half way down the block).

Tribal style belly dance practice. We have a mixture of absolute beginners, beginners and old pros. It's outside so dress warmly. Its lots of fun!

We are near the tennis courts and, as we practice next to the Heavies Fighters, just look for the fierce men and women in armor!

Note: Belly Dance Practice is currently on hiatus but will start up again in 2018. Check the website for details!



# 23 Baroníal Officers

Baron is THL Cristofanus Castellani Baroness is Mistress Cecilia Medici	(Baron@sca-altavia.org) (Baroness@sca-altavia.org)	
Chief Ladies-in-Waiting are Sensei Asakura Machime and Natalya of Altavia (court@sca-altavia.org)		
Captain of the Guard is Cassandra de Lorrain	(guard@sca-altavia.org)	
Seneschal is Mistress Meliora Deverel Deputy Seneschal Lady Briana MacCabe	(seneschal@sca-altavia.org)	
Captain of Archers This position is currently vacant		
Arts & Sciences Officer is Lady Juanica Montanez	(arts@sca-altavia.org)	
Chatelaine is Lady Monique Marie Sauniere Deputy Chatelaines Mistress Meliora Deverel	(chatelaine@sca-altavia.org)	
Children's Minister is THL Tezar of Aeolis Deputy Children's Officer <i>This position is currently vacant</i>	(children@sca-altavia.org)	
Chronicler is Lord Charles Ivansen of Borreby	(chronicler@sca-altavia.org)	
<b>Constable</b> is THL Thorin O'Seaghda <b>Deputy Constable</b> Yusuf of Altavia	(constable@sca-altavia.org)	
<b>Exchequer</b> is Baron Timotheus Zacharia von Schloss Zwilling <b>Deputy Exchequer</b> THL Elle the Evenstar ap Vanwynn	(exchequer@sca-altavia.org)	
Herald (Sable Fret Cornet) is THL Damien von Baden Court Herald is Baroness Tezar of Aeolis	(herald@sca-altavia.org)	
Lists Officer is THL Matlens Litovka	(lists@sca-altavia.org)	
Marshal is Sir Thorin O'Seaghdha	(marshal@sca-altavia.org)	
Deputy Marshal This position is currently vacant		
Deputy Marshal for Equestrian is Guene Annwyll	(equestrian@sca-altavia.org)	
Deputy Marshal for Armored Combat is Sir Thorin O'Seaghdha	(marshal@sca-altavia.org)	
Deputy Marshal for Rapier is Don Colwyn Stagghorn	(rapier@sca-altavia.org)	
Deputy Marshal for Thrown Weapons Cristobal Santiago Barba de Alcazar(tw@sca-altavia.org)		
Deputy Marshal for Un-Armored Combat THL Nikolaos Phaistos	(tw@sca-altavia.org)	
Deputy Marshall For Youth Combat is Baroness Tezar of Aeolis	(youthcombat@sca-altavia.org)	
<b>Social Media Officer</b> is Lady Briana MacCabe <b>Webwright</b> is Dame Lynnette de Sandoval del Valle de los Unicornios	(webwright@sca-altavia.org)	

