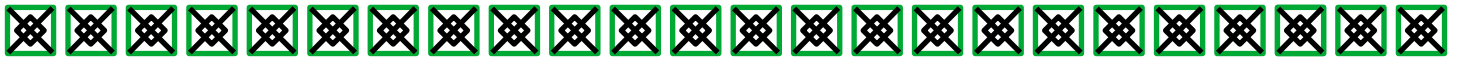


Fret Knot

May 2026 C. E.

A. S. LXXI (61)

Newsletter of the Barony of Altavia



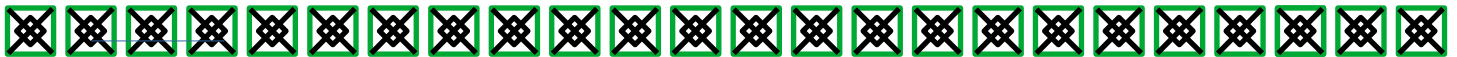


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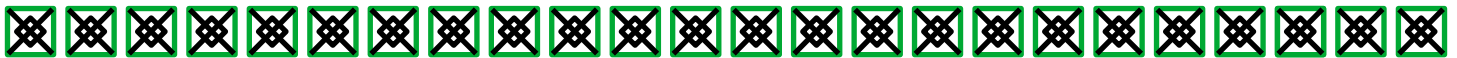
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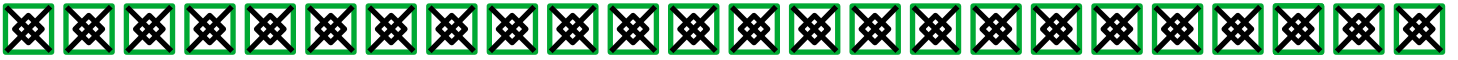
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From The Baronage

April 2026 Comments

Hello Altavia!

As always, it has been a busy month full of fantastic events and a lot to be proud of.

At Collegium, we had a wonderful range of classes, and it was especially great to see so many Altavians teaching. I had the opportunity to teach my first class outside of our regular Arts and Sciences, where students learned to tool, shape, finish edges, and sew leather valet trays. Everyone walked away with beautiful finished pieces, which was incredibly rewarding to see. Merlin taught a class on arrow making, and his students completed the first dozen arrows that would later be used as prizes for the Caid Archery Open. Sadhbh led a Caid Choir rehearsal, and Tezar taught a class on running lists for tournaments. Vivienne took that class in preparation for stepping into that role at Caid Open later in the month, which is wonderful to see.

The following weekend at Academia Draconis continued that momentum of learning and teaching. Ceallach taught his class on adding cuts to rapier, building on what he has been sharing at fighter practice. Merlin once again taught archery, continuing to make arrows for the Caid Archery Open prizes. Thanks to that effort, we not only had prizes for the Open and Period divisions, but also more archers across the Kingdom gaining the skills to make and maintain their own equipment.

Academia Draconis was, of course, highlighted by the incredible hospitality of Their Excellencies Ram and Kungund. Their pizza night, combined with torchlight tournaments, feasting, and revelry, made for a truly memorable evening. Ronan added to the magic with a night spear throw, featuring a beautifully illuminated bat target that fit perfectly with the theme. It was a delight to take part in.

Their hospitality also extended to hosting the 100th Tournament of Virtues on Friday night. The torchlight tournament was a wonderful way to celebrate this milestone and to transition the tournament into a special event to be held at Great Western War going forward.

The next weekend, the Caid Archery Open at Woodley Park was a huge success. We saw strong participation, many archers improving their averages, new ranks being earned, and several people shooting their first Royal Rounds. Congratulations to Geral for winning the Open Division, Brennos for winning the Period Division, and Achillious for winning Crossbow. A very big thank you to Merlin and Petrusha for putting together such a successful event. It was especially meaningful to see the winners presented with arrows made by students in Merlin's classes over the previous weeks.

Crown Tournament was a thrill to watch. The combatants brought their very best, with impressive displays of skill, communication, and chivalry. In the end, it came down to Duke Adam and Sir Liam, with Liam prevailing with a clean and beautiful final blow after a hard-fought best two out of three. We are very excited to see Liam and Fara step forward as Prince and Princess, and soon King and Queen. As former Baron and Baroness of Angels and as part of our extended Altavian family, it is a joy to see them take on this role. I encourage everyone to support and celebrate them in the months ahead.

Following Crown, Privy Council brought a few important updates for the Kingdom and the Barony:

There are now two new Kingdom forms available online. The Post Event Report has been updated to a Google form, and there is also a new online waiver submission system that will handle non-member, equestrian, and minor waivers while meeting document retention requirements. Please take advantage of these as we move away from manual processes.

Bids are now open for Kingdom events in the third and fourth quarters of 2027. We should review the options and decide if Altavia would like to submit a bid. The deadline to respond is May 12.

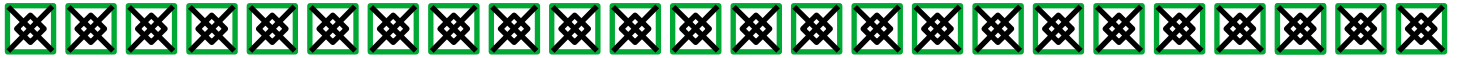
We also need to sign up for a Baronial shift at Great Western War. Gate is always a strong option, and we can also look at marshalling or constable shifts. We should reach out to Philippe as soon as possible so we have the best chance of getting a shift that works for us.

Kingdom Social Media is looking to highlight Baronial officers. I will be submitting some recommendations, but if you would like to share what you are working on or give word fame to someone else, please let me know and I will pass it along.

Looking ahead, we have our own Baronial Anniversary coming up, and I am very much looking forward to it. Giaccino and Petrusha are stewarding, and I know they have a wonderful day planned full of fighting, arts, classes, and learning.

Please remember to send in award recommendations to both Kingdom and the Barony. We want to make sure that people are recognized for all the work and accomplishments they have been contributing, and we can only do that if we hear from you in advance.

Yours in Service,
Baroness Amabel Radleigh



From the Outgoing Seneschal

Greetings Altavia,

It has been my honor to be your seneschal over the past 2-1/2 years. The barony was then, and is still now, a wonderful place that I am happy to call my SCA home. This is a job made easier by members who know how to work together, as ours does. We have had new members join and jump in, making it even easier and more enjoyable for all.

However, it is now time to allow someone else to help Her Excellency continue to build and guide our community. Sadhbh inghean Duinn has been active in Altavia for several years, even before moving here and becoming an "official" Altavian. She is a member of the Bards of Altavia, an active rapier fighter, and a participant in multiple arts in addition to having been my deputy since last December. She has run the past few meetings, and I am confident she is ready to step into this job. I will not be leaving entirely (I'm not that easy to get rid of), as I will be stepping back into the deputy position for a few months before stepping fully away from the office. I hope you will all welcome, and provide her the same affection and support you have given me.

Thank you for allowing me to serve you and our shared community.

Mestresse Tezar of Aeolis



From the Incoming Seneschal

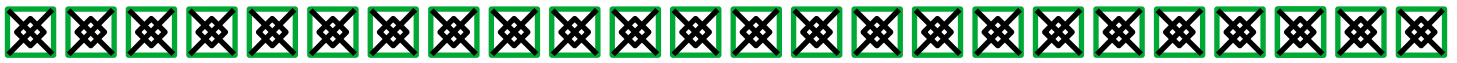
Greetings, Altavia!

I am so excited to be stepping up as your baronial Seneschal! Playing in Altavia for the past few years has been enormously fun and rewarding. I look forward to supporting all of the creativity, prowess, and service that this barony has to offer.

I would like to thank everyone who has supported me in this transition, especially Mestresse Tezar of Aeolis (a tough act to follow!).

If you have any questions, suggestions, comments, foreboding premonitions, etc., please email me at Seneschal@altavia.sca-caid.org. Here's to a great A.S. LXI!

-Sadhbh



Excuses and Expositions from the Editrix

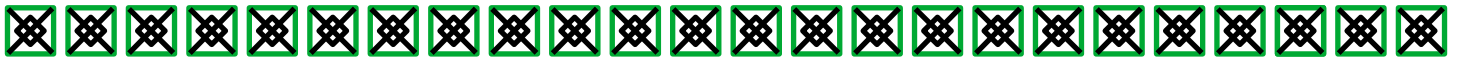
Mes cheres amis,

I am pleased to once again bring you our newsletter. I, as ever, hope you will find something to enjoy, and should you not, I encourage you to offer something more to your tastes. Some of your fellows have done exactly that, and I'm thrilled to share their contributions with you. Our incoming Seneschal, Lady Sadhbh, wrote about her research project with a knitting technique. Dame Lynnette provided a copy of the pamphlet from Altavia's 25th Anniversary event, and this seemed an appropriate time to share some parts of it. I also added a nice bit of historical trivia as a reward for the interested reader.

For my part, I am continuing to find new ways to say "newsletter here now; please like and send stuff", which is arguably the most challenging part of the change to monthly publication and might literally be what I put in this section next month. We shall see.

Altavia will be celebrating our anniversary this month, which should be a delightful time. I encourage you all to attend and engage in whatever brings you joy, be it fighting or teaching or sitting in the shade with friends, creating submissions for future issues of *Fret Knot*.

Au service du rêve,
Vivienne



Altavia Online

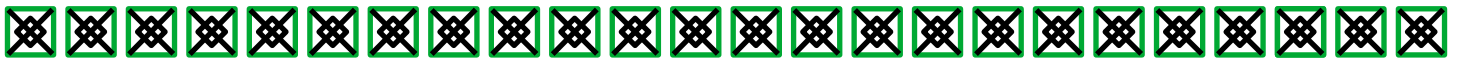
Website: Including info on meetings, practices, officers, events, history, and more!

<https://altavia.sca-caid.org/>

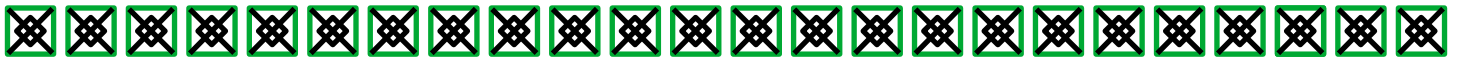
Facebook Group: Membership is free and open to the public

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/baronyofaltavia/>

Discord Server: Scan the QR Code to join us on Discord



**Would you like to see your artwork here?
We certainly would!
Send it to chronicler@altavia.sca-caid.org!**



The Populace Presents

“Color Dominance in Knitting: an Experiment”

Lady Sadhbh inghean Duinn



“Color dominance” is a knitting term relevant to two-color colorwork. It describes a phenomenon in which, by managing how two yarns are held while knitting, the finished object can be made to have a defined foreground and background color.

Two-color colorwork uses two strands of yarn simultaneously. Each stitch is knitted with one strand, and the other is carried behind, forming a “float.” Each time the color changes, the new working yarn must pass either over or under the floating yarn. Consistent color dominance is achieved by always passing one color over and the other under. The yarn passed under is the “dominant” color.

I explored this phenomenon in a recent knitting project. The images in this article show a bag I knitted with cotton yarn. The colorwork patterns are taken from medieval Egyptian knitting—I used charts created by Mistress Elen Verch Phellip of Ansteorra¹. The yarn is Hobbii Friends Cotton 8/4 in Oatmilk, Navy, and French Blue, knitted on 2mm double-pointed needles.

I knitted two repeats of the chart: the bottom section with white as the dominant color and the top section with blue. The two sections show a notable difference, with the expected foreground/background color distinction. This distinction is fairly literal—on close inspection, the dominant color appears to physically protrude slightly in front of the secondary color.



This observation makes sense given the mechanics of knitted fabric. Because the dominant yarn is held lower than the secondary yarn, it takes a longer path between stitches (as it must move back to the top of the row to re-enter the next stitch). Thus, more of the dominant yarn ends up in the finished fabric, and its stitches have slightly looser tension than the secondary yarn. These looser stitches are larger and more visually prominent.

I noticed that the colors appear more evenly balanced in the white-dominant section than in the blue-dominant section, where blue is heavily prominent. I believe that this is due to a slight difference in yarn thicknesses. While both yarns are from the same manufacturer and line, the darker blue color is slightly heavier, which I only noticed while actively knitting with both.

Next time, I will probably keep white as the dominant color for these Egyptian colorwork motifs. It is difficult to tell which color (if either) is dominant in available images of knitted artifacts in this style, so this choice comes down to personal preference. I also plan to modify the colorwork charts for a more seamless look when repeating motifs vertically, and to try to trust the process and wait until the piece is finished and blocked before judging my tension.

¹“Walk Like an Egyptian: An Exploration of Medieval Egyptian Stockings”, 2012:
<https://opuselenae.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/Egyptian-Stockings.pdf>

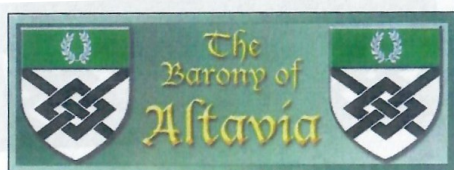
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“Excerpts from The 25th Altavian Anniversary Pamphlet”

Courtesy of Dame Lynnette de Sandoval del Valle de los Unicornios

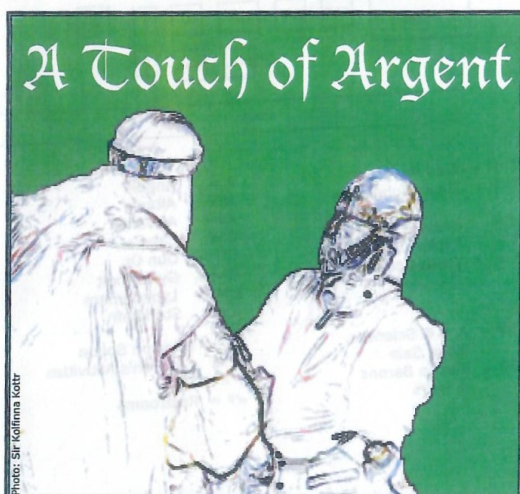
Editrix's Notes:

- Our 25th Anniversary took place in the SCA's 43rd year. Coincidentally, this year we are celebrating our 43rd Anniversary.
- A much more interesting coincidence is that during our 25th Anniversary, our Barony's then-Seneschal was elevated to the Order of the Pelican. This esteemed gentle is now Caid's beloved Queen Lorissa.



Altavia Anniversary

A.S. XLIII



Contests

10:00a – 1:00p ~ The theme for the A&S competition will revolve around the heraldry of their Nextellencies, THL Thorin and THL Courtney and of our Barony

2:00p ~ A bardic competition ("Ode to Argent") will determine the Bard of Altavia!

12:00p ~ A competition for a themed lunch basket will be held, with the lunch baskets to be sold at silent auction. Each basket should include lunch for two including serving gear and beverages. Be creative!

12:00 ~ "A No Dairy? No Whey!" dessert competition will be held! Be sure to include a list of ingredients with your entry. Remember -- read the ingredients of your ingredients! Whey is a crafty little creature, found in many things. The goal is to keep it out! Her Nextellency is allergic!

1:00p ~ There will be an Argent Rose Challenge for all Heavies, Rapier and Youth Combatants. Challenge other fighters to win honor (and a white rose!) for your lord or lady-fair.

Drinking Vessel Raffle

15 winners!

Suggested donation

✕

\$1 per ticket

✕

\$5 for 6 tickets



Winners receive:

✕ A drinking vessel

✕ Free lemonade
at Altavia events
for the next year

Vessels handmade and donated by

Her Excellency Asakura no Flashi (Mercy the Potter)

~ The Altavia Anniversarian ~

Yearly May 10, Anno Sociatus XLIII 19 Crowns
No news... is boring,! So go make some already...

Dateline, Altavia, May 10th, Anno Sociatus XLIII:

Tensions run high of late in the strife ridden Barony of Altavia. This usually pastoral enclave in the heart of the Kingdom of CAID, has become a hotbed of political infighting and out and out civil war. It is reported that there have already been several assassination attempts on the lives of the incumbent Baron and Baroness, Mistress Bridget Lucia MacKenzie and Master Laertes Blackavar McBride. It is not known precisely who is orchestrating these attacks, nor is known the exact motivation for them, but speculation doth run rampant --

~ Could it be that there is simply a revolution afoot in Altavia, driven by the righteous fury of a populace trodden under the delightful grin of the 'Iron Lady of Altavia,' Baroness Bridget?

~ Could it be that the popular favourites to rise to the Barony, THL Thorin O'Seaghda and his lady wife, THL Courtney of the White Meadow have taken matters into their own murderous, yet capable hands?

~ Could it be that militant Animal Rights Advocates have finally decided to put an end to Baron Laertes 'March Madness', a hunting expedition and slaughter of innocent rabbits and hares, which has upset the local ecology -- as well as those with any decency in their hearts.

~ Or, could it be that some maniac from another Barony or Kingdom has taken personal affront at the abundance of beauty, talent, wealth, and artistry that these Robber Barons of Altavia have amassed in their brief, yet galvanizing stint upon the thrones??

Answers seem to be the one thing in short supply in this tumultuous Barony, but events are at the boiling point. We are certain to see some resolution this very day, as the populace joins together to celebrate the anniversary of the investiture of the Barony -- or perhaps, to participate in a coup? Time will tell, dear reader -- Time Will Tell All!

~ Altavia ~
Twenty-five years
and counting !!



The Barony of Altavia bids you welcome and Well-met to our Silver Anniversary, and the Investiture of the new Baron and Baroness. We will honor the shiny and new, our outgoing Baron and Baroness, and the glittering history of our fair barony. On hand to help celebrate will be the complete lineage of former Altavian Barons and Baronesses!

Remembrances

Altavia Canton and Baronial Dates

~ **New Albion** was founded in Mar 1977 (approx) as a Canton of the Barony of The Angels. It encompassed the San Fernando Valley.

~ Name changed to **Canton of Sarn Wold** in April or May 1978.

~ Name changed to **Canton of Altavia**, registered in April of 1982. ["alta via" is Latin for "high way", thus "Altavia" (all-TAY-vee-ah) is a reference to the San Fernando Valley's freeway system}

~ Altavia became a Barony on May 14, 1983 (registered in July of 1983) By now it also included Malibu.

Past Barons and Baronesses

~ **Sir Robear du Bois and Mistress Kristin Alfhidr of Trondheim** stepped up at the Canton Anniversary tournament where the Canton was elevated to a Barony on May 14, 1983

~ **Master Michael Maggotslayor and Mistress Amadea da Strada Dragonessa** stepped up at the "Altavia Holiday Ball", held in Altavia's Canton of Dun Or on December 30, 1989

~ **Master Duryn the Red and Lady Ælfwyn Wodende** stepped up at an Altavian Investiture luncheon on September 25, 1994

~ **Master Laertes Blackavar McBride and The Honorable Lady Bridget Lucia MacKenzie** stepped up at an Altavia court held during the lunch break at Twelfth Night on January 8, 2005

Schedule for the Day

7:00am	Site opens for set up
8:00am	Populace welcome; Lists and Gate open
10:00am - 1:00pm	A&S Competition - A&S tent is open to accept entries
10:30am	Opening Court and the Investiture of the new Baron and Baroness
12:00pm	Lunch for Their Majesties and Their Highnesses
12:00pm	Lunch Basket judging and silent auction and the No-Dairy Dessert Contest begin
12:30pm	Youth Combat begins
12:30pm	Crimson Spade games, youth activities begin
12:30pm	Heavies and Rapier fighting begins
1:00pm	Baron Laertes and Baroness Bridget will have their final presentation Court (in the Baronial pavilion)
1:00pm	A&S Judging will begin
1:30pm	Youth Combat Finals
2:00pm	Bardic competition begins in the Baronial pavilion
3:00pm	Contests close
4:00pm	Heavies and Rapier Finals
5:00pm	Closing Court
7:30pm	Site Closes

All Day // Lemonade Sale!!
\$1 for large cup
50 cents for small cup

“The Very Least (Almost) You Need to Know About: SCA New Year”

by Lady Vivienne de Chauvigny

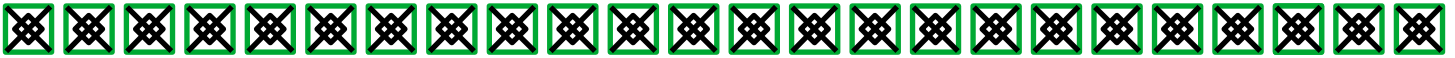
Welcome, *mes chers amis*, to another episode of my randomly occurring feature where I pick a topic and attempt to make it as simple as I can. To be helpful. Or funny. Preferably both.

The story begins, as do so many SCA tales, with a group of weird people being strange and unusual. On May 1st of 1966 C.E., these folks held a tournament at a party in Berkeley, California. One thing led to another and now thousands of weird people are strange and unusual all around the world.

So, May 1st is the SCA's birthday, and we count our years from that very first tournament.

Hope this helped!

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Council Meeting Minutes

April 2026 Baronial Council Meeting Minutes

Via Zoom [April 14, 2026] Starting at 7:06 pm and ending at 8:20 pm

Attendees:

Amabel, Tezar, Sadhbh, Lynette, Griffith, Niko, Briana, Giacchino, Merlin, Matlens, Vivienne, Avicia

Seneschal's Report: Tezar of Aeolis (Deputy: Sadhbh inghean Duinn)

Tezar and Sadhbh are working on the upcoming Seneschal transition scheduled for Altavia Anniversary. Tezar will be staying on as deputy Seneschal for some time after the changeover.

Old Business

None.

Ongoing Business

Altavia Anniversary - May 9, 2026

Stewards: Giachinno and Petrusha

Sir Robear wants to do a bardic circle - will be reaching out to herald or event stewards
Courtney will bring the trailer at 7. Setup will start at that point

Posts are made, budget is approved

We will have an Anniversary-focused meeting Thursday 4/30 7PM. Briana will provide zoom.

Griffith will ask if royals are bringing the pavilion.

We have food in the budget - Petrusha is handling this and will reach out to royals.

St. Jude's Fundraiser (Angels) – May 30, 2026

From Feb notes: At FotR, Lorissa asked if we could do photo booth for St. Jude's fundraiser. We'll collect tickets for photos in front of our backdrop. Petrusha will take photos (and help with setup decisions), but we need more volunteers. Seraphina owns backdrop and will bring it. We'll need props.

Sadhbh will double check with Petrusha and Seraphina to make sure they are set to volunteer, then check in with Lorissa and event steward.

Consort's Champion Ranged - July 29, 2026 (Woodley)

Steward: Cecilia

Cecilia will return from travel this week. Ingram has volunteered to help co-steward. Merlin has additional potential volunteers in mind.

Budget and description will be due after next council meeting.

Agincourt Archery Tournament - October 25, 2026 (Woodley)

Tabled for now.

New Business

Crescent Artisan – June 6, 2026 (Site TBD)

Still in final stages of confirming site, but it will be in Altavia!

Avicia is steward and is looking for local staff.

It will be a one-day event, but long! Morning - 9:30 or 10 PM.

Set up volunteers wanted at 8, with entrant check in starting at 8:30.

This is a kingdom event, with no financial split with Barony.

Volunteer sign up form: <https://forms.gle/4EYtZNZ7i3ruNxCKA>. Add details about availability and interests in the "Other" section if desired.

The schedule of the day is available in the event handbook, and will be added to the calendar and form.

Bids for Events

We did not bid for anything in the first half of 2027.

Lynette will check on the availability of the FotR site for August 14. If it's available, we'll bid for Consort's Champion Ranged and FotR.

Sadhbh will submit before the May 12 deadline.

Shifts for GWW

Amabel will request a Thursday evening gate shift.

Officer's Reports

Archers – Merlin Wynn (Lieutenants: Petrusha Serebrianoi & Marianna Lightwood)

2 practices since last meeting and ran Caid Archery Open!

Petrusha ran practices, with ~10 archers. Royal rounds happened at most recent one, and a new archer got their first scores.

No practice this coming week.

Merlin is stepping down as Altavia Captain of Archers and Petrusha will step up at Anniversary.

Arts & Sciences – Marianna Lightwood (Deputy: vacant)

Arts and Sciences Night was held on March 24th at the home of Baroness Amabel. We held an open craft night. There were two people in attendance. Amabel worked on leather favors, and Marianna worked on the beginnings of a moth brooch.

Chatelaine – Selene Colfox (Deputy: vacant)

No report.

Chronicler – Vivienne de Chauvigny (Deputy: vacant)

All is well with the Fret Knot!

Constable - Nikolaos Phaistos (for now) (Deputy: vacant)

There was a blanket/sarape left at Lyondemere Arts and Archery. Its owner has been contacted, but has yet to retrieve it.

A doublet was left at Summergate Anniversary by an Altavian. I brought it back and delivered it to its owner.

I still have a small cup from the last constable and a water bottle from Festival of the Rose that haven't been claimed. That is all.

Exchequer - Elle Wynn of Essex (Deputy: Timotheus Zacharia von Schloss Zwilling)

Altavia Exchequer's Report

April 2026

Based on January statement

<u>W.F. Checking</u>	<u>\$19,941.26</u>	
Sub Total	\$19,941.26	
W.F. CD 6 month	\$6,452.15	(Feb + Aug)
<u>Cash box</u>	<u>\$500.00</u>	
Total	\$26,893.41	

February Transactions

<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>EXPENSES</u>	<u>NET</u>
02/04	Deposit – FOTR Gate Cash	1750.00	0.00	1750.00
02/04	Deposit – FOTR Lunch	870.00	0.00	870.00
02/10	Harland Clarke Checks	0.00	-50.82	-50.82
02/11	Susan Fox – Lunch Food	0.00	-365.00	-365.00
02/17	Caid – NMR FOTR 01/2026	0.00	-240.00	-240.00
		<u>2620.00</u>	<u>-655.82</u>	<u>1964.18</u>

2026 Major Event/Project Income/Expenses (not a complete list)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>EXPENSES</u>	<u>NET</u>
N/A	T-Shirts	Pending	0.00	0.00	0.00
N/A	Fund Raising	Pending	0.00	0.00	0.00
N/A	Donations	Pending	0.00	0.00	0.00
01/31/26	FOTR	CLOSED	2620.00	-2095.10	524.90
03/29/26	Caid Archery Open	Pending	0.00	0.00	0.00
05/09/26	Anniversary	Pending	0.00	0.00	0.00
7/19/26	C.C. – Ranged	Pending	0.00	0.00	0.00
10/25/26	Agincourt Tourney	Pending	0.00	0.00	0.00
12/12/26	A/A Yule	Pending	0.00	0.00	0.00
			<u>2620.00</u>	<u>-2095.10</u>	<u>524.90</u>

2025 Y/E INCOME STATEMENT

TOTAL GROSS INCOME	\$4,710.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$3,115.51
TOTAL NET INCOME	\$1,594.49

Herald - Damien of Baden (Deputy: Briana MacCabe)

Meeting is tomorrow. Damien has boxes of heraldic stuff and will bring it to Anniversary.

Voice Herald - Briana MacCabe (Deputy: vacant)

No report.

Lists - Matlens Litovka (Deputy: vacant)

Caid Archery Open happened, and Vivienne did a great job at lists.

Matlens will run lists at Anniversary.

Marshal - Nikolaos Phaistos

Marshal, Armored - Griffith von Bremen (Deputy: vacant)

Marshal's Monthly Report

Report Period: Mar 2026

Armored Combat Marshal: 1

Participants: 4, 3, 2, X, 6 (average, 4) 4 practices

Minimum Authorization Age: 16

Experimental Weapons: 0

Problems/Injuries: Typical / Minimal (armor bites, bruises, sprains, etc.)

Current Status: No issues to report.

Visiting Knights: Sir Yari

Local knights: Sir Eichling

Comments: No injuries. No issues. Armor operational.

Marshal, Equestrian - Guene Annwyll (Deputy: vacant)

No report.

Marshal, Rapier - Giacchino Morone Lococo di San Filippo (Deputy: Nikolaus Phaistos)

Monday practices continue to be well attended this month, averaging around 6 fighters in both rapier and cut and thrust.

There was an intro to dagger for rapier class taught on Mar 16 by me.

On the first Monday of the month, we held our monthly boar pit with rapier and cloak...again. I missed last month and did not realize the boar pit went ahead with this format. :-)

Next month's boar pit format will be case of swords.

No reports of injuries or equipment problems.

Marshal, Thrown Weapons - Christofanus Castellani (Deputy: Cecilia Medici)

No report.

Marshal, Youth Combat - Cecilia di Medici (Deputy: vacant)

No report.

Social Media - Petrusha Serebrianoi (Deputy: Briana MacCabe)

No report.

Webwright - Merlin Wynn (Deputies: Vivienne de Chauvigny & Petrusha Serebrianoi)

Met with Kingdom Webwright at Privy Council and discussed strategies for website migration. Merlin will meet with Sadhbh and Amabel regarding content.

Deputy rapier marshal email is set up for Niko, and Merlin will set up finance committee email for Lynette.

Lynette can help move some info to wiki.

Griffith suggested adding a Spanish translation to the site, and can help with translation.

Youth - Cecilia Medici (Deputy: vacant)

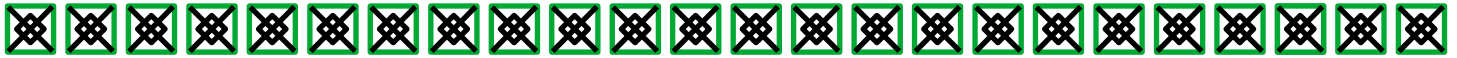
Background check is still in flux.

Next Council Meeting – May 12, 2026



This space could have been filled with your delightful contribution. *Fret Knot* is always in need of articles and artwork, large and small. Here, for example, would have been perfect for a clever little comic strip or sketch.

Send in (almost) anything! We'd love to see it and share it with the world!



Altavia's Upcoming Events

*****Listings are as current and complete as feasible, but confirm with online resources or event stewards for the most recent information.*****

Altavia Anniversary

Saturday 5/9/2026

Site: Veterans Memorial Community Regional Park, 13000 Sayre St, Sylmar, CA 91342, USA

EVENT STEWARDS: THL Giacchino Morone Lococo di San Filippo & Lord Petruscha Serebrianoi

EVENT EMAIL: anniversary@altavia.sca-caid.org

Barony of Altavia Anniversary Event and Tournament - "To Teach and to Learn"

The Barony of Altavia graciously welcomes all good gentles to celebrate our XLIII (43rd) Anniversary! This year's event will celebrate one of our most important tenets, "To Teach and To Learn".

Join us for a fun-filled day of merriment and camaraderie.

Schedule:

8:00 AM - Populace welcome and gate opens.

9:00 AM - Lysts Open

10:00 AM (or at TRM discretion) - Opening Court

30 Minutes following Court, Lysts Close

11:00 AM - Tournaments and classes begin

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM – Bardic Performances

1:00 PM - Last call for A&S entries

1:00 PM-2:00 PM – Tournaments on Break

2:00 PM-3:00 PM – Elimination Rounds - Determine Finalists

3:15 PM-4:00 PM - Combat Finals

4:00 PM - Closing Court

5:00 PM - Site close

Site Fee: Adult Event Registration: \$25.00. Adult Member Discount Event Registration: \$15.00.

Children ages 16 and under are guests of the barony.

Please make checks payable to: SCA, Inc./Barony of Altavia.

Cash, check, and credit cards will be accepted.

ACTIVITIES: Activities of the day will include Baronial Champion tournaments for Armored, Rapier, and Cut & Thrust combat. A Baronial Arts and Sciences Champion will be chosen.

TOURNAMENT FORMATS: Combat for Armored, Rapier, and C&T will start with pools in a round robin format.

The top winners of each pool will advance to a single elimination round.

Youth Combat TBD on children present.

ARTS AND SCIENCES: Calling all Artisans! Please come and share a project showing something you have learned in the past year (or so...) or something that is newly refined. We look forward to seeing your wonderful work!

BARDIC: Bardic Performances will be held from 12pm-1pm in the Baronial Pavilion for Her Excellency and the populace. If you are interested in performing, sign-ups will be available on site. Please limit your performance to 5 minutes in length. This is not a competition.

Site Information:

There is no staking into the turf deeper than 6 inches and no driving on turf. This is a dry site. No amplified music and no alcohol. Pets must be leashed at all times and picked up after. The park asks that we haul out all of our own trash. Trash bags will be provided. A site map will be forthcoming. To our Baronial Cousins, if you plan on bringing your Baronial Dragonwing or Pavilion, please email anniversary@altavia.sca-caid.org with the dimensions so that space can be allotted.

DIRECTIONS:

From the east: Take I-210 west to the Hubbard Exit and turn right onto Hubbard.
From the west: Take the I-210 east to the Hubbard exit and turn left onto Hubbard.
Follow Hubbard 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. As soon as you enter the gate into the park, turn right. Altavia signs will direct you.

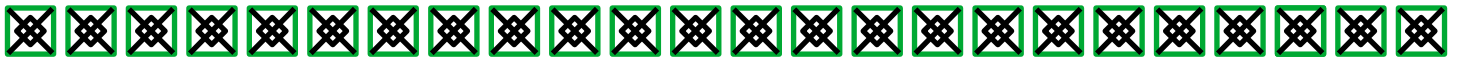
Other Upcoming Altavian Events:

Consort's Champion Ranged
Sunday 7/19/2026
Site: Woodley Park Archery Range
EVENT STEWARD: Baroness Cecilia Medici

Agincourt Tournament
Sunday 10/25/2026
Site: Woodley Park Archery Range
EVENT STEWARD: Persons interested in volunteering should contact the Seneschal. seneschal@altavia.sca-caid.org

Yule
Saturday, 12/12/2026
Site: TBD
EVENT STEWARD: Persons interested in volunteering should contact the Seneschal. seneschal@altavia.sca-caid.org





Officers of Altavia

Webpage: <https://altavia.sca-caid.org/officers/>

Baronage and the Baronial Court		
Baroness	THL Amabel Radleigh	Baroness@altavia.sca-caid.org
Chief Lord in Waiting	THL Merlin Wynn	Court@altavia.sca-caid.org
Captain of the Guard	THL Caterina Sanzio	Guard@altavia.sca-caid.org

Officers of the Barony		
Seneschal Deputy	Mestresse Tezar of Aeolis Lady Sadhbh inghean Duinn	Seneschal@altavia.sca-caid.org
Arts & Sciences Officer Deputy	Lady Marianna Lightwood (vacant)	Arts@altavia.sca-caid.org
Chatelaine Deputy	Dame Selene Colfox (vacant)	Chatelaine@altavia.sca-caid.org
Chronicler Deputy	Lady Vivienne de Chauvigny (vacant)	Chronicler@altavia.sca-caid.org
Constable Deputy	Master Nikolaos Phaistos (vacant)	Constable@altavia.sca-caid.org
Exchequer Deputy	THL Elle Wynn of Essex Master Timotheus Zacharia von Schloss Zwilling	Exchequer@altavia.sca-caid.org
Herald Court Herald	THL Damian von Baden Dame Briana MacCabe	Herald@altavia.sca-caid.org
Social Media Officer Deputy	Lord Petrusha Serebrianoi Dame Briana MacCabe	SocialMedia@altavia.sca-caid.org
Webwright Deputies	THL Merlin Wynn Lord Petrusha Serebrianoi Lady Vivienne de Chauvigny	Webwright@altavia.sca-caid.org
Youth Officer Deputy	Dame Cecilia de Medici (vacant)	Youth@altavia.sca-caid.org

Marshalate of the Barony		
Baronial Marshal	Master Nikolaos Phaistos	Marshal@altavia.sca-caid.org
Captain of Archers Lieutenants of Archers	THL Merlin Wynn Lady Marianna Lightwood Lord Petrusha Serebrianoi	ArcheryMarshal@altavia.sca-caid.org
Marshal - Armored Combat	THL Griffith von Bremen	Marshal@altavia.sca-caid.org
Marshal - Equestrian	THL Guene Annwyll	EquestrianMarshal@altavia.sca-caid.org
Marshal - Rapier	THL Giacchino Morone Lococo di San Filippo	RapierMarshal@altavia.sca-caid.org
Marshal - Thrown Weapons	Dame Cecilia Medici	ThrownWeaponsMarshal@altavia.sca-caid.org
Marshal - Youth Combat	Dame Cecilia Medici	YouthCombat@altavia.sca-caid.org
Lists Officer	THL Matlens Litovka	Lists@altavia.sca-caid.org

Interested in helping the Barony and learning how to be an officer?
 Interested in one of the open positions or in being a deputy for one of the offices?
 Please contact the Seneschal at: seneschal@altavia.sca-caid.org



Meetings & Practices

Please come join us! Newcomers and visitors are welcome!

Meetings

- **Council Meeting**
 - **Date/Time:** 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm
 - **Location:** Held via **Zoom** -- Link is posted to the Altavia Baronial [Facebook Group](#)
 - This is the monthly Baronial business meeting. The meeting consists of officer reports, event reports, discussion of Baronial involvement at the Kingdom level, new officers discussion, and announcements. Baronial decisions are made here, and you do have a voice.
 - **Everyone is welcome (and encouraged) to attend the meeting!**
 - **Contact** the Seneschal for details: seneschal@altavia.sca-caid.org
- **Newcomers Meeting -- *Currently on Hiatus***
 - **Date/Time:** Once a month, usually on the 4th Monday of the month, 7:00pm
 - **Location:** Verdugo Park, 3201 West Verdugo, Burbank, CA 91505, right hand side of the park at the stone tables near the tennis courts

- 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 for details: chatelaine@altavia.sca-caid.org
- **Fighter Practice & Social Night**
 - **Date/Time:** Every Monday, 7:00pm
 - **Location:** At [Verdugo Recreation Center](#) in Burbank, 3201 West Verdugo, Burbank CA, 91505 (From Verdugo, turn North onto California and we are on the right hand side, half way down the block).
 - Almost every Monday night we gather at Verdugo Park for Fighter Practice and also socializing. Come on down and participate in the activities, hang out, bring a project to work on, or chat with fellow Altavians. Non-meeting days include Monday holidays and the few days we get rained out. Updates about the Fighter Practice nights are posted on the Altavia Facebook page.
 - **Contact** the Chatelaine for details: chatelaine@altavia.sca-caid.org

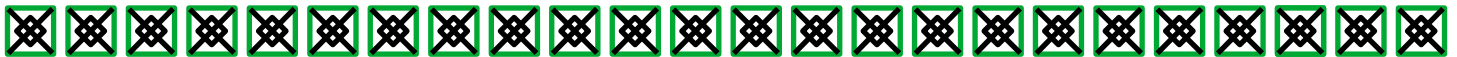
Arts & Sciences

- **Arts & Science Workshops (aka Craft Nights)**
 - Occasional Meetings
 - Please check the Altavia Baronial [Facebook Group](#) for times.
 - We regularly have meetings covering many types of arts and sciences including but not limited to Scribal and working on Largess for Baronial Presentations.
 - The meetings sometimes have a project theme, which is published on the Altavia Baronial [Facebook Group](#)
 - **Contact** the [Arts & Sciences Officer](#) for details, questions, or to teach a class.
- **Bardic - Weekly Bardic Jams**
 - **Date/Time:** Monday nights before fighter practice, beginning at 6:30pm at the stone tables
 - **Location:** Verdugo Park, 3201 West Verdugo, Burbank, CA 91505, right hand side of the park near the tennis courts.
 - **Singers, instrumentalists, and audience welcome!**
 - We practice an eclectic mix of traditional folk music and some period pieces here and there, with the goal of performing at wars and other events
 - **Hosts:** THL Giachino Morone Lococo di San Filippo and Dame Briana MacCabe
- **Bardic - Occasional Bardic Circles**
 - Often held after Altavia events at the home of Baron Sir Robear du Bois
 - All can perform or watch!
 - Contact the bards for directions & dates
 - **Host:** Baron Sir Charles of Dublin
- **Brewing - Currently on Hiatus; contact Dame Selene for info**
 - Special interest group for home brewing of beer, mead, wine, liqueurs, fermented foods, and more.
 - All are welcome in discussions, recipes & historical research.
 - **Join the Guild on Facebook:** [Knotty Brewers of Caid](#) (Membership is free and open to the public, although membership must be approved by the admins)
- **Culinary Guild - Currently on Hiatus**
 - Special interest group for all things delicious to eat and drink.
 - All are welcome in discussions, recipes & historical research.
 - **Join the Guild on Facebook:** [Altavia's Culinary Guild](#) (Membership is free and open to the public, although membership must be approved by the admins)

Combat Practices

- **Archery** - archerymarshal@altavia.sca-caid.org
 - **Date** - The 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sunday of the month, as weather permits. May be cancelled when in conflict with events, especially if they're archery-related.
 - **Time** - Time varies between 10am-1pm or 9am-12pm depending on the time of the year and the amount of heat.
 - **Additional Saturday Practices** may be held at the discretion of the Captain of Archers.
 - **Location:** [Woodley Park Archery Range](#)
 - **Contact** the [Captain of Archers](#) or check [Altavia website, Facebook group, or Discord server](#) to verify days and times and to inquire about loaner gear.
- **Armored Combat** - marshal@altavia.sca-caid.org
 - **Date/Time:** Monday 7:00pm-9:30pm
 - **Location:** At [Verdugo Recreation Center](#) in Burbank, 3201 West Verdugo, Burbank CA, 91505 (From Verdugo, turn North onto California and we are on the right hand side, half way down the block).
 - Almost every Monday night we gather at Verdugo Park for Fighter Practice and just socializing.
 - Come on down and participate in the activities, hang out, bring a project to work on, or chat with fellow Altavians.
 - **Non-meeting days** include Monday holidays and the few days we get rained out. Updates about the Fighter Practice nights are posted on the Altavia baronial [Facebook Group](#).
- **Equestrian** - equestrianmarshal@altavia.sca-caid.org - **Currently on Hiatus**
 - **Contact** the [Equestrian Marshal](#) for more information.
- **Rapier Combat** - rapiermarshal@altavia.sca-caid.org
 - **Date/Time:** Monday 7:30pm-9:30pm
 - **Location:** At [Verdugo Recreation Center](#) in Burbank, 3201 West Verdugo, Burbank CA, 91505 (From Verdugo, turn North onto California and we are on the right hand side, half way down the block).
 - Almost every Monday night we gather at Verdugo Park for Practice and just socializing.
 - Come on down and participate in the activities, hang out, bring a project to work on, or chat with fellow Altavians.
 - **Non-meeting days** include Monday holidays and the few days we get rained out ... updates about the Fighter Practice nights are posted on the Altavia baronial [Facebook Group](#).
- **Thrown Weapons** - thrownweaponsmarshal@altavia.sca-caid.org - **Currently on Hiatus**
 - **Date/Time** - The 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sunday of the month 11:30am to 3:00pm
 - **Location:** [Woodley Park Archery Range](#)
 - **Contact** the [Thrown Weapons Marshal](#) for more information and for loaner gear.
- **Youth Combat** - youth@altavia.sca-caid.org - **Currently on Hiatus**
 - **Date/Time:** 2nd & 4th Monday 7:30pm-9:30pm
 - **Location:** At [Verdugo Recreation Center](#) in Burbank, 3201 West Verdugo, Burbank CA, 91505 (From Verdugo, turn North onto California and we are on the right hand side, half way down the block).
 - **Contact** the [Youth Combat Marshal](#) for more information.





Champions of Altavia

Archery (Handbow)	THL Alianora MacMahan	26 Oct 25
Archery (Crossbow)	Lord Achillious of Altavia	26 Oct 25
Armored Combat	THL Thorgrim Rygarson	05 May 25
Arts & Sciences	THL Caterina Sanzio	05 May 25
Bard of Altavia	Dame Briana MacCabe	13 Dec 25
Cut and Thrust	Maestro Lot Ramirez	05 May 25
Fretted Fork	THL Caterina Sanzio	26 Oct 25
Games	Primus Tertius Turbo	13 Dec 25
Rapier Combat	Don Nathaniel Longbow	05 May 25
Thrown Weapons	THL Paganus Grimlove	07 Nov 25



Fret Knot Submissions & Deadlines

Send in your Cartoons, Articles, Recipes, How-tos, Photos, Stories, or anything else you want to share. It counts as an official publication for resume & documentation purposes!

[Share what you do with your barony!!](#)

Please send submissions or questions to: chronicler@altavia.sca-caid.org

Fret Knot is published "as close as feasible to the first day of the issue's month", with the deadline being "about a week before that please please please". The Editrix alleges intent to increase specificity in the future.

Submissions may be edited for size, grammar, and style. Substantive changes will be coordinated in advance.

Fret Knot welcomes submissions from anyone, whether or not they are members of Altavia.

There are a handful of restrictions, hopefully obvious:

- Submissions must relate in some way to the SCA and must conform with legal and SCA requirements.
 - Submitter must possess copyright or permission from the copyright holder.
 - *Fret Knot* will not knowingly publish any content generated by artificial intelligence (AI).

