

# THE YEOMAN



THE BARONY OF BRIGHT HILLS  
JULY, 2008  
ANNO SOCIETATUS XLII

# Officers and Deputies of the Barony of Bright Hills

*Please try not to call any of the following individuals after 9 pm*

**Baroness Martelle von Charlottenburg**

*Martha Fletcher*

9007 Meadow Heights  
Randallstown, MD 21133

443.326.0876, [baronessbrighthills@yahoo.com](mailto:baronessbrighthills@yahoo.com)

## **Seneschal**

**Mistress Jeanne Tenneur de Bec**

*Becky Ritterhouse*

PO Box 235

Hampstead, MD 21074

410.239.8794,

[britterhouse@antekhealthware.com](mailto:britterhouse@antekhealthware.com)

## **Exchequer**

**Lord Magnus McTaggart**

*William Becker*

472 Winterberry Drive, Edgewood, MD 21040

[william\\_becker@hotmail.com](mailto:william_becker@hotmail.com)

## **Herald**

**Bors MacGregour of Loch Turretan**

*Joe Delozier*

3103 Edgewood Ave. Baltimore, MD 21234

443.528.2466, [joeddelozier@hotmail.com](mailto:joeddelozier@hotmail.com)

## **Knight Marshall**

**Graham MacRobert**

*Graham Wright*

[GrahamMacRobert@hotmail.com](mailto:GrahamMacRobert@hotmail.com)

## **Rapier Marshall**

**Lord Stephen Bridewell**

*Stephen Cavano*

2730 St. Paul Street

Baltimore, MD 21218,

410.235.3590, [stephenbridewell@yahoo.com](mailto:stephenbridewell@yahoo.com)

## **Archery Marshall**

**Lord Seamus McRay**

*Jamie Frailey*

17 Hilltop Road

Towson MD 21286

443.834.8141, [jfrailey.moon@verizon.net](mailto:jfrailey.moon@verizon.net)

## **Baronial Warlord**

**Baron Heinrich Kreiner**

*Bob Kreiner*

3114 Littlestown Pike

Westminster, MD 21158

410.751.5345, [lands\\_heinie@yahoo.com](mailto:lands_heinie@yahoo.com)

## **Minister of Lists**

**Lord Alexander Fowler**

*Hunter Fowler*

2626 Turf Valley Road

Ellicott City, MD 21042

410.313.8626, [hunterfsc@yahoo.com](mailto:hunterfsc@yahoo.com)

## **Minister of Arts & Sciences Chamberlain**

**Lord Denis de Dijon**

*Charles Jones*

13105 Holdridge Road

Silver Spring, MD 20906

301.946.0477

## **Chatelaine**

**Lady Yseulte Trevelyn**

*Karen Setze*

16296 Riedel Road

Crofton, MD 21114

410.721.4752, [brunosharp@yahoo.com](mailto:brunosharp@yahoo.com)

## **Interim Chronicler**

**Baron Temur Of The Kerait**

*William Hume*

3607 Young Rd

Millers, MD 21102-2353

443.789.9060, [temurkhan@comcast.net](mailto:temurkhan@comcast.net)

## **Doomsday Book**

**Lady Szilagy Margit**

*Ardis Welch*

10B Misty Wood Circle

Timonium, MD 21093

[ardisszilagy@aol.com](mailto:ardisszilagy@aol.com)

## **Web Minister**

**Lady Brienna Llewellyn Lindsey**

*Mandi Elliott-Bird*

PO Box 378

APG, MD 21005

410.598.3422, [birdstm@comcast.net](mailto:birdstm@comcast.net)

## **Steward**

**Master Chirhart Blackstar**

*Truman Barnes*

PO Box 235

Hampstead, MD 21074

410.239.8794, [chirhart\\_1@yahoo.com](mailto:chirhart_1@yahoo.com)

Greetings to all in the Barony!

Summer is upon us and events are everywhere!

We hosted another successful, fun and safe Kingdom Archery Championship. I commend Lord Seamus for designing the course. It was excellent and challenging but not so hard that even a novice like myself could hit a few and come away with a positive score! Lady Cassie did a fine job as a first time autocrat and she should be proud.

In preparation for Pennsic we are making Atlantian helm mantles for all of the heavy fighters, rapier fighters, and combat archers. Due to the generous donation of fabric and ties by Her Excellency Chagan and the embroidery by Lady Catriona these will be presented to each fighter at no cost. The goal this year is to let the known world know just who Atlantia is on the field of battle!

The first two of the roundels for the new Baronial Heraldic Cloaks have been completed. I would like to have a meeting at my house July 19th at 1:00 P.M. for anyone interested in discussing how best to proceed with the construction. The black linen for the body of the cloak was donated by Mistress Anne of Hatfield and we could start to work on the pattern and layout.

His Royal Majesty will be attending Storvic Novice Tournament on July 12th. Now is the time to send in your letters of recommendation to the crown!

I challenge everyone to write at least one letter about someone you think is doing good works in our society. It does not have to be someone from our barony. The crown loves to reward and honor those who contribute to Atlantia but they cannot be everywhere and know everyone. They depend on YOU to drop them a note or use the Atlantia website form to inform them of the members of the populace who are outstanding.

Pennsic is coming up and I will once again be camping with House Wulfshaven at block N32 (at the bottom of the parking lot). Bright Hills Baronial Court is presently set for Sunday, August 3rd at 4:30 P.M. on the battlefield under the House Wulfshaven Pavilion.

I am looking for recommendations for awards for this court. I will also be awarding the traditional Baronial heraldic "Doo Rags" to any Bright Hillian who participates in a War Point activity for the East! Please let me know if there is someone who qualifies for their doo rag this year.

Don't forget to send in award recommendations to The Crown for Pennsic Atlantian Court also!

Every please, keep sun screened, keep safe, and keep hydrated out there!

yours,

Mistress Martelle von Charlottenburg, OL  
Baroness of Bright Hills

Greetings and Good Wishes!

Summer is now upon us and the tourney season is here. Preparations for the great Pennsic War are also underway. I hope that you are all enjoying the many events and activities that are available.

Pennsic is early again this year, with Land Grab weekend scheduled for the last weekend in July. This will be a very busy month for those traveling to the War. As always, be careful and travel safely!

Once Pennsic is over, the Cooks' Guild is plotting another Trial by Fire Competition. Then, in October, Lady Yseulte and company have some marvelous plans for TNT. You can also look for more Friday night classes and activities.

And now for something completely different. I would like to encourage you all to consider serving as a deputy officer in some capacity. This society of ours runs on volunteers. Without those who take care of paperwork and organize activities in the background, we would not be the robust and active group we are today. There are many different offices, each providing opportunities to learn more about how things work in the SCA and opportunities to become more involved. If you have an interest in the martial arts (heavy weapons, rapier or archery), you could assist the Minister of Lists. If you have ideas for competitions, there are opportunities in Arts & Sciences. The only requirement is to be a member, and be willing to assist. If you are interested in a specific office, please contact the current officer directly, or you can always talk to me about any questions you may have.

In Service, I am

Jeanne Tenneur de Bec, OL, OP, CtB  
Seneschal, Bright Hills

# Bright Hills Baronial Meetings Minutes

Sunday, June 15, 2008

## Present:

Baroness Martelle von Charlottenburg

Seneschal: Mistress Jeanne Tenneur de Bec

Chatelaine: Yseulte Trevelyn

Chronicler: Temur of the Kerait

Marshall: Graham MacRobert

Herald: Bors MacGregour

A&S: Denis de Dijon

MOL: Alexander Fowler

## AUTOCRATS:

Kenneth Kepple

Northern War Muster

5/31/2008

## POPULACE:

Karen Summerfelt-Hume

Sherrill Abrams

Becky Kepple

Barbara Kriner

Debbie Jones

Robert Kriner

## Officers Reports

Baroness:

We got lots of compliments on the War Muster. She was asked to make the helmet mantles for the Baronial Marshal participants at Pennsic. Kingdom Archery is this weekend. Come out and support it. Pennsic is starting in less than 6 weeks. Baronial Court is Sunday, July 2008. The A&S display is Tuesday. Remember that if you are not an officer, be careful to post your comments on policy as ***YOUR OPINION***, not the Official Policy of the Barony or the SCA. There are plenty of officers whose jobs that is.

Seneschal:

The Barony was to be but was not suspended. Temur is the Interim Chronicler. He is working on deputies that will take over the office in a short time. Lady Nina has applied for her warrant as Chancellor of Youth. All the officers need to step up their recruitment of deputies.

Chatelaine:

We continue to see newcomers at fighter practice and receive email inquiries from the baronial Web page. This past month was a busy one for demos. My thanks to the organizers and participants. We had demo requests from the Harford County 4H and Cub Scouts day camp, which we had to turn down, since the requests were only 10 days before the scheduled events. I wrote or called and explained that our volunteers needed more lead time to schedule time off.

Bright Hills' May Demo activity

Sunday, May 18 - Steppingstone Museum, Harford County, MD

Organized by Lady Faye de Trees and Mistress Chagan Khulan

In attendance on the fighting field or supporting the fighters were:

Lord Kollack von Zweckle and his wife, Lady Rebecca von Zweckle,

Lord Graham MacRobert and his wife, Lady Swieczka Kaim,

Lord Nathan of Arindale, milord Okai and daughter Natalie, milord Travis and

milady Rachel, Lady Heather von Zweckle, Baron Temur and Khatun Chagan

Khulan, Baghsi, Baron Heinrich Kriner and his Lady wife Mistress Barbara

Giomaria di Roberto, Lord Fulk the Bald, milady Laine (new name coming soon),

Lord Stephan of Churchton, Lord Karchar of the Blue Eyes (who has a new name in the works) and Lady Livia di Samuele.

Supporting the troops with his trusty trebuchet was Baron Barre fitzRobert of York.

Guarding the fields were several of the baronial cavalry: Lady Nem Dochartaigh, Mor Dochartaigh and Lady Swieczka Kaim.

Manning the A & S home front were Lady Catriona ingean Ghirric, Lady Faye de Trees and daughter Laurel, Lady Brianna Llewellyn Lindsay, Lord Gustav Emile der Dunkele Rotvogel and daughter Lindsay.

Quietly maintaining his guise as a merchant, though he is actually a fearsome Viking, was Lord Randver Askmor. And braving the downpour to support the troops and barony were Mistress Ingvild, Lord Owen and "Bernie."

The ring-jousting with whom the barony was sharing the demo left early due to the downpour, and, mindful of their mounts' safety, the baronial cavalry left the field as well, but the fighters, artillery, A & S and the lone merchant held strong and stayed till the soggy end. Despite the weather the Museum folks were pleased with the efforts, and the barony may be invited back. Also present with video camera in hand was Master Hogge de Watlynge of Caer Adamant.

23rd: Magnolia Middle School - organized by Lord Magnus McTaggart  
Participants were: Baron Barre FitzRobert of York and his daughter, Lady Maeve FitzRobert of York, who taught dancing; Bob; heavy fighters Lord Graham MacRobert, Lord Fulk the Bald, Lord Karcher (who's awaiting heraldic approval before officially changing his name), and Lane; Mistress Barbara Giomaria di Roberto, who taught "Life in the Middle Ages 101"; Lady Livia de Samuele; Lady Brianna Llewellyn Lindsay; Lady Swieczka Kaim; Lady Szilagy Margit; and Lady Deborah Morrison, who did the archery demo using her own equipment and insurance.

Members of the barony also participated in the Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival on May 3 and 4 and the Guppy Gala, May 9 at the National Zoo.  
Lady Yseulte Trevelyn. Looking for deputies.

#### Chronicler

We have posted a very slim set of *Yeoman*, February thru June. I have started on July. I am receiving offers for art and articles. I will let Master Tristan know as soon as I can figure out the answer to his questions. I have gotten two deputies that have much better skills at this than I. They are Dawn Walls-Thumma, no SCA name as yet, and Lady Faye de Trees, Angela Faye Yau. They will be working with me for the next couple of months. If they like the job then they will take over and let me go back to being pond scum.

#### Marshall

Since last meeting we hosted a war muster; judging by the reviews everybody was happy and had a good time. Special thanks to House Wulfshaven for footing the bill for the entire practice, from the fee for the site to the food supplied for the visiting fighters. I also wish to thank the barony for loaning the 20X40 tent for us to use. At this practice was the current king of Markland who authorized as an SCA fighter and might be bringing some of his local people out to our fighter practices every once in a while. For now, most of our practice time will be devoted to training all of Bright Hills' new heavy fighters to deal with the melee fields of Pennsic. List Fence posts need to be repaired or replaced. Where is the Baronial first aid kit?

If a discipline needs to cancel their practice, please state which it is. If all the practices are being canceled for some reason, say that.

#### Archery:

I will not be able to attend this weekend's meeting. There may not be any Archery representation there at all. So any questions that may arise about Kingdom Archery Championship event will need to be directed to Lady Bob, Sorcha or myself via phone or email.

We have 8 to 10 archers taking part on Friday nights. We have been running royal rounds to get all the archers on the Kingdom list. I have decided to break this up and will add some novelty shooting to keep things interesting and fun.

Our loaner equipment is old and fatigued. I would like to make a motion to get some new arrows and a few starter bows for the Barony. I will come back to the next meeting with a formal proposal including cost.

I have been in the middle of target production for the upcoming Champion shoot. I have found myself in a position where we need more volunteers to help run the shoot. I would like to have about 6 to 8 volunteers to help run and back up people running the kinetic targets.

**Exchequer:**

Report filed via email. We have money. Her Excellency recommended we buy a cash box. It was voted on and passed. Should we move the meeting from third weekend so Jared can make it did not pass.

**Herald:**

I had a discussion with Lady Alexandria and need to discuss things further with Lady Wynne and Lady Yseulte, but there is an idea to hold a heraldry night once a month during a Baronial A&S night. This will enable any member of the populace to be able to meet with the heralds for submissions, consultations, and generalized discussions with regularity and forehand knowledge of when a herald will definitely be available. There are issues that need to be discussed before anything is permanent. I will be at tonight's A&S meeting sometime if people have questions, and will be at the meeting on Sunday, where I hope to extrapolate upon this further and with more definitiveness.

I will not be at Kingdom Archery Championship and am still working on getting a herald. Lady Yseulte Trevelyn will be filling the Herald role.

**A&S:**

In the merry month of May we demoed our little hearts out. There was the Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival on the 3rd and 4th, the Guppy Gala at the National Zoo on the 9th, Steppingstone Museum on the 18th, and Magnolia Middle School on the 23rd. Thank you to the organizers of these demos – keep up the good work.

The clothiers' guild has been very busy this last month with three Friday night classes.

**MOL**

At the Steppingstone demonstration Chagan did two renewal authorization cards-- one heavy weapons, one equestrian.

At the Northern War Muster, Chagan and I did four new authorizations and one renewal. The battlefield was graced by 39 warriors and marshals as they conducted training in group tactics for upcoming wars. Only one injury was reported: Mark Donovan hurt his left knee and got it iced but refused further

treatment. The weather started off hot and sunny but soon storms rolled in and the rain cooled things off. Fighting was halted during lightning.

Web Minister:

[www.brighthills.net](http://www.brighthills.net) is now working, as is [brighthills.atlantia.sca.org](http://brighthills.atlantia.sca.org).

Guilds:

Armors: No report

Bards: Making lots of noise. Two Bardic Nights at Kingdom Archery.

Brewers: No report

Cooks: Worked the Lochmere event next meeting Sunday 7/13/2008.

TAG: Meeting on fourth Sunday.

WAG:

No Report.

There are two woodshops in Carroll County. We will be opening them to all comers on weekends that we are not at events. We will be posting to the list with the dates in the near future.

Blacksmithing

There is a forge house being completed at Baron Temur's. We currently are rehabbing 2 portable forges loaned by Master Chirhart. We will be building a permanent forge this autumn. There will be a dearth of equipment until we are up and running so we can build the tools.

## Old Business

Stepping Stone Demo	Good reviews and lots of fun, even in the rain.
Magnolia School Demo	More good reviews – hot as Hades.
War Muster	Went well, with requests to do it again. Next year will try to schedule it further out and work with 'On Target.'
On Target	The Barony was thanked and presented with a 20lb wheel of Romano Cheese.
Kingdom Archery	Cassie says everything is going well; non archers are flocking to the Mongol activities especially the YAK Bardic
TNT	The flyer has been posted; waiting for paper contract. Rapier tourney for Baronial Champion will be fought Friday night. Unloading area and handicapped parking in close lot only. Others please park in the big lot.

## **New Business**

Need to appoint a Warlord that can make and fight at Pennsic

Lady Livia has presented a bid for Baronial 12<sup>Th</sup> Night on 3 January 2009 (see after Officers report) that will be voted on next month.

By my hand

Mistress Barbara Giomaria di Roberto

Basking in the warmth of a fine Summer day in the verdant forest of Bright Hills, Baroness Martelle von Charlottenburg held court at the Kingdom Archery Championship, hosted by Bright Hills on June 21, A.S. 43, which is 2008 in the common reckoning.

After opening remarks from the Baroness and the event autocrat, Lady Cassie Charlesworth, the then-current kingdom archery champion, Lord Seamus MacRae, was called forth to announce the day's winners.

Named kingdom champion was Baron Jonathas Reinisch who, among many honors, is a Companion of the Yew Bow.

Also honored were:

Godaai Katsunaga, for the highest score among the novice archers,

Andres Eireniksa, for the highest score among those of archer rank,

Fearghus MacDomhnaill, for the highest score among those of marksman rank,

Kenelm Rogan, for the highest score among those of bowman rank,

Fen of Needwood, for the highest score among those of bowman elite rank,

Gregge the Archer, for the highest score among those of grand bowman elite rank, and

Erik of Roxbury Mill, for the highest score among the youth archers, with Ulliam MacFearghus, Isaac Rowland Matthews, and Pietre Witkowski having the next higher scores;

As the barony's archery marshal, Lord Seamus did also bestow the following Royal Round rank awards:

Archer level – Bjorn inn havi, Ulliam MacFearghus;

Marksman level – Eamonn MacDomhnaill.

And when Lord Seamus made for to leave her court, Her Excellency Martelle summoned him to kneel before her to be inducted into the Order of the Silberberg for his service as the barony's Archery Marshal, and for the glory he had brought to the barony as the kingdom champion, winning the kingdom's lone war point at Gulf War.

Then she tasked Lord Seamus with bringing Lord Vaclav Matyj into court, that she could, at the request of Their Majesties, name him a Companion of the Yew Bow, which honor had been given by Their Majesties Logan and Rowan on March 22 at the Defending the Gate event.

Her Excellency then requested the presence of the head cook, Duke Valharic, whereupon she explained the great respect accorded to cooks in Bright Hills, and the custom of bestowing some carrot token by which a cook could signal the imminence of feast and the necessity of bringing court to a rapid conclusion. She then presented his Grace with 5 carrot grenades.

Next, Lady Faye de Trees was summoned into court to be named to the Order of the Silver Scroll for her work in teaching dance, persuading even fighters to dance, and in reviving the Clothier's Guild.

Lord Stephen de Spencer was summoned to kneel before Her Excellency to be named to the Order of the Shell and Crescent, for his musical skills, including the many instruments he had taught himself to play, for the use of his skills to sweeten the air of events he attended, and his willingness to teach music, even to his comrades in the barony's bardic guild.

Chagan Khulan, Baghshi, was summoned to court to also be named to the Order of Shell and Crescent, for her long study of Mongol culture, and the generosity and enthusiasm with which she shared her knowledge.

Sorcha Prechan, who served as deputy autocrat of the event, was summoned into court to receive a Baronial Award of Excellence, for doing so much work to enhance an event not hosted by her home barony.

Finally, Guntram the Wayward and Ommari were summoned into court to be named to the Order of the Golden Shell, a personal token from Baroness Martelle, for the great distance they had traveled to assist her at the event.

Noting that two carrot grenades had been lobbed into court, even if they had been misfires, as the cook staff claimed, Baroness Martelle closed her court, and the populace swiftly adjourned to the feast hall.

By my hand, in witness,  
Lady Yseulte Trevelyn, deputy herald

## Baronial Champions

**Archery:** Fearghus MacDomhnaill

**Arts and Sciences:** Tsuru the Elder

**Bardic:** Lord Richard Wyn

**Brewer:** Baroness Roana de Laci

**Equestrian:** Mor Inghean Ui Dochartaigh

**Heavy Weapons:** Lord Karchar the Blue Eyed

**Rapier:** Lord Richard Ffaukes

## Guild Contacts

**Armorer's Guild:** Baron Heinrich Kreiner ([lands\\_heinie@yahoo.com](mailto:lands_heinie@yahoo.com))

**Bardic Guild:** Lady Nina of Bright Hills ([Nina@cavtel.net](mailto:Nina@cavtel.net))

**Cheese Mongers' Guild:** Master Chirhart Blackstar ([chirhart\\_1@yahoo.com](mailto:chirhart_1@yahoo.com))

**Cooks' Guild:** Lord Seamus O'Loughlin ([lordshamus69@yahoo.com](mailto:lordshamus69@yahoo.com))

**Illumination Guild:** Master Tristan Alexander ([vampyre@ponymail.com](mailto:vampyre@ponymail.com))

**Textile Arts Guild (TAG):** Mistress Ingvild Josefsdatter ([snspies@aol.com](mailto:snspies@aol.com))

**Woodworkers' Guild (WAG):** Lord Luke of Bright Hills ([dylukewild@yahoo.com](mailto:dylukewild@yahoo.com))

**The Worshipful Company of St. Matthias:** Lady Bob (Cassie Charlesworth)

To see the current list of local events, please follow the following link:

<http://brighthills.atlantia.sca.org/events/local.htm>

To see the current list of away events, please follow the following link:

<http://www.atlantia.sca.org/>

TNT 14 -- Treaties Not Turks

The First Crusade Arrives in Constantinople

DATE: October 24-26, 2008

SITE: Camp Spencer at Broad Creek Memorial Scout Reservation

1738 Peach Orchard Road, Street Maryland 21154 (same place we hosted May Crown in 2003).

It's autumn of 1096 and we're in Constantinople, the capital of a mighty empire that considers itself the successor to Rome as the center of learning and culture. As the western endpoint of the Silk Road and other caravan routes and a major seaport, it's also a major crossroads for commerce.

Last year (in 1095) Emperor Alexius Comnenus asked the Pope for help fighting Turks who had conquered some of the Empire's subject cities in Asia Minor. What the Pope

sent are Western Europeans of every nationality who are expecting the Emperor, as a fellow Christian, to support their effort to liberate Jerusalem from its Saracen owners.

So who's here? Just the French, English, Scots, Irish, Welsh, Italians, Germans, Spanish, Norse (some of whom are serving as the Emperor's personal guards), as well as Greeks, Russians, Poles, Slavs of every kind, Rom, merchants and mercenaries from the empires farther East, and Saracen (and Turkish) envoys. There are traders from every land, as well as doctors, scholars, churchmen, astrologers, sages, scribes, pilgrims, animal trainers, sailors, and, oh yes, a few (40,000) crusaders.

Martial activities: Selection of the new Bright Hills Heavy, Rapier, Archery, and Equestrian champions. Rapier events will feature several melee scenarios including woods, tavern and the time-honored Melee for Chocolate. Equestrian questions should be directed to Lady Nem. Her telephone number is (410) 692-9833 and her email address is: [nrf642002@yahoo.com](mailto:nrf642002@yahoo.com).

A&S activities: Selection of the new baronial Artisan, Brewer, and Bard, along with other contests and classes to be announced later. An original board game, featuring many of the varied forces in Constantinople, will be available in the "Sekunjabin Tavern" for play by children of all sizes. Tavern space will also be available for bards to congregate, sing, swap stories, share songs and brew mischief.

Children's activities: will be available during the day. The traditional Children's Feast/Halloween Party (including a piñata) will be held during the adult feast.

Merchants are welcome and should contact Lady Livia di Samuel, at [abramsonsm@comcast.net](mailto:abramsonsm@comcast.net) or at (301) 807-5476.

The Saturday lunch (included in the site fee) and the evening feast will be prepared by the famed Bright Hills Cooks' Guild. For modest additional charges you can also purchase a spaghetti supper on Friday evening and breakfast on Saturday and Sunday mornings.

For those attending the feast, please bring treats to appease the small gremlins, goblins, ghosts and jinn who will trick-or-treat the hall.

#### FEES

Adult Member: Site-\$13/ Adult Feast-\$7/ Dorm Bed-\$10/ Camping-\$0/

Adult Nonmember: Site-\$16/ Adult Feast-\$7/ Dorm Bed-\$10/ Camping-\$0/

Youth (6-17): Site-\$7/ Adult Feast-\$7/ Children's Feast-\$5/ Dorm Bed-\$10/  
Camping-\$0/

Child (0-5): Site-\$0/ Adult Feast-\$7/ Children's Feast-\$5/ Dorm Bed-\$10/ Camping-\$0/

No family (of parents and children) shall pay more than \$40 total in site fees.

Please make checks payable to SCA Inc. – Barony of Bright Hills.

Total refunds will be available if the reservationist or autocrat receives your request by October 15. Onsite feast refunds are available ONLY if we are able to resell your seat.

**RESERVATIONS:**

Lord Magnus MacTagart (William Becker), 472 Winterberry Drive, Edgewood, MD 21040;

Phone: (410) 676-5795; Email: [William\\_Becker@hotmail.com](mailto:William_Becker@hotmail.com)

Autocrat: Lady Yseulte Trevelyn (Karen Setze), 1629 Riedel Road, Crofton, MD 21114;

Phone: (410) 721-4752; Email: [brunosharpy@yahoo.com](mailto:brunosharpy@yahoo.com)

Site Notes: This site is DRY, since it is a Boy Scout camp. No smoking in any building. Pets are permitted if leashed and cleaned up after. For those staying the weekend, we have 46 bunk beds in one of four bedrooms in a heated dorm with spacious bathrooms, complete with hot showers and outlets, or free camping space. There are fireplaces in the feast hall, the dorm, and in the covered pavilion, and we will have a supply of firewood. No gathering firewood on site.

Except for marked handicapped spaces, the parking area nearest to the list field will be reserved for a loading zone.

Directions will be provided in later announcements.

Constantinople in 1096  
by Lady Szilagy Margit

This city started off as Byzantion, an insignificant Greek port. That began to change in 325 A.D. when Emperor Constantine made it his capital. Now it is huge, opulent, splendid, and the capital of the Christian Roman Empire. From miles out at sea, you can see the massive gold dome of Hagia Sophia, the largest, most ornate church in the world.

The city sits defiantly on the eastern finger of Europe, across the narrow straits from Asia Minor and the infidel Turks and seems impregnable, given its gigantic walls, majestic fleet, and its secret weapon: liquid fire. It also basks in the spiritual protection of the pallium of the Virgin, its most famous holy relic.

Constantinople is a magnet for travelers and traders, and its harbor, called the Golden Horn, is always crowded with ships. Greek, not Latin, is the official language, but you can hear uncouth dialects in the streets, shops, and taverns every day. Russians, who call the city "Tsargorond," come down their rivers bringing furs, amber, and slaves to trade. Norsemen come to "Miklagaard" to offer their swords as mercenaries. Merchants from the Italian city-states have set up colonies with special privileges, and other Westerners have also come, both merchants and diplomats. (To the locals, they're all Franks, wherever they hail from.)

Ask any of the city's million-odd inhabitants, noble or street-sweeper, and he'll tell you the Queen of Cities is the only civilized place in the world. He's really not wrong. The city is crammed with ancient Greek and Roman statues. It has shady parks, sprawling palaces, and dozens of secluded monasteries. Inns and taverns abound. The Mese (main avenue) is the longest shopping mall in the world, where you can buy anything, from necessities to luxuries.

What's more, Constantinople has amenities the rest of Europe won't see till the 19th Century:

- paved streets
- clean drinking water
- adequate sewers
- public baths that are more like health spas
- charity hospitals
- a free university, and
- a food dole for the poor.

While most laymen and many priests in Western Europe are barely literate, in Constantinople even women can read -- and write. Anna Comnena, the emperor's daughter, will pen a brilliant memoir of her father and his time.

But for all its glory, the Empire is in trouble. It has lost most of its eastern provinces, including the holy city of Jerusalem. It is ringed by envious neighbors, all eager to snatch its wealth. Fifty years of elderly or incompetent rulers have depleted its treasury and weakened its army.

Now, though, there is an energetic emperor on the throne. Alexius Comnenus is a just ruler, a devout Christian, an able administrator, and a general who leads from the front. He has repelled the Turks from the coast, halted the northern nomads in their tracks, and pacified his most restless subjects, the Slavs and Bulgars. After a long, brutal, costly war, he finally drove Bohemund of Taranto and his rapacious Normans back to Sicily, where they belong.

But he needs more troops to hold what he has and recoup the Empire's losses, and troops are hard to come by -- part of the price of civilization. Byzantines (who call themselves East Romans) are soldiers by necessity, not warriors by choice. Feudalism, which provides the troops for the kings of Western Europe, is unknown in Byzantium. Here the government must pay for troops to be recruited, armed, and trained.

So when he can, Alexius will bribe his enemies, cajole them into treaties, or encourage them to fight each other. (Fortunately the Turkish emirs are at each other's throats as often as at his.) When he can hire experienced warriors, he does. The emperor's personal guards, the Varangians, are recruited from among Russians of Kiev, Vikings, and Anglo-Saxons who left England to escape the oppression of William the Conqueror.

When the Count of Flanders passed through the city on his way home from a pilgrimage, Alexius entertained him lavishly. In return, the count sent him 500 fully armored knights, who more than earned their keep fighting in Asia Minor. Alexius wants a few thousand more just like them.

Although Orthodox Constantinople and the Western Church are barely on speaking terms, Emperor Alexius appealed to the Pope for military aid against the infidels, in hopes of getting a few thousand trained mercenaries.

Pope Urban II has grander ideas: he has roused all of Western Europe for holy war. What the pope is about to launch at Constantinople is the First Crusade. Its mission: to rescue Jerusalem. Nothing else matters, certainly not a schismatic "Roman Empire" that doesn't recognize the pope's authority as head of the Universal Church!

What has marched on Constantinople is a motley flood of humanity. Peter the Hermit leads a horde of naive, unarmed pilgrims with scant idea where they're headed or the dangers they're facing. Then there are the thousands of rude, brutal fighters, ex-brigands, reprieved criminals -- anyone who can wield a sword, an ax, or a bow -- who have signed up for the remission of their sins. Also in the mix are churchmen of all classes, including monks, priests, and bishops, and quarrelsome nobles with mail-clad retinues. For the nobles, Godfroi of Lorraine is their spiritual head, so far as they have one. He sold his considerable estates in a pious determination to "take the Cross."

Notable among the nobles accompanying Godfroi are Raymond St. Gilles, Count of Toulouse, who is middle-aged, worldly-wise, and – for a Frank – cultured; and those ambitious Normans, Bohemund of Taranto and his nephew, Tancred. Bohemund will be a problematic guest, since he is thirsting for revenge for his military losses at the hands of the "treacherous Greeks."

Can Alexius Comnenus somehow keep this "holy army" from devastating his provinces and terrorizing his subjects? Can he feed them, transport them, and warn them of the dangers that await them? Can he persuade the suspicious nobles to work *with* him, and to return the lost provinces of Asia Minor and Syria to the Empire once (if) the Turks are beaten? Only time will tell....

**Barony Of The Bight Hills  
Practices and Meetings**

**Friday Night Heavy and Light Weapons Fighter Practices, Archery Practice,  
Workshops, Illuminators' and St. Matthias Guild Meetings & Business Meetings  
(Please See Calendar)**

*Christ the King Episcopal Church, 1930 Brookdale Rd., Baltimore, MD 21244*

Get off the Baltimore Beltway (I-695) at Exit 17 (Security Blvd Exit). Take the exit going west toward Rolling Road, not the exit going east toward Woodlawn. Travel west along Security Boulevard about one-half mile, through traffic-lights at Belmont Avenue, Lord Baltimore Drive, and Rolling Road. Continue west for another block, until you reach Brookdale Road. The Episcopal Church of Christ the King is on your left. Make a left turn onto Brookdale, and then turn right into the Church parking lot.

**INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY**

If Baltimore County Schools announce they are closed or closing early, there will be no practice that night. You can usually hear the school closing lists on virtually any local radio station broadcast throughout the morning

**Tuesday Evening Archery Practice**

*Lord Rhys and Lady Cassie Charlesworth, 4633 Ridge Road, Nottingham, MD 21236*  
895N to 95N the TOP of 695 (go through tunnel). Take 695W towards TOWSON. Take next available exit (32B) Rt 1 North towards BEL AIR. Go to top of the hill to the intersection with RIDGE ROAD. Go RIGHT onto RIDGE ROAD (curvy road, be careful). After about 1/3 mile, you'll see PAUL'S MARKET on a corner. After that, we are the BIG GREEN TWO STORY HOUSE on the RIGHT. There are two driveways in a break in the hedges. We are the second one (the paved one).

**Woodworkers' Guild & Bardic Circle (4th Sunday of the Month)**

*Lady Nina and Lord Luke of Bright Hills' house. 1020 Register Avenue, Towson, MD 21239, (410) 377-6828.*

Inner loop of Baltimore Beltway, 695 toward Towson. We live fairly close to the northern apex of the beltway. Take Loch Raven Blvd. (exit 29) from 695 (a few exits east of the York Rd. exit). Take Loch Raven Blvd. south, past Taylor Ave. intersection, go through two lights after Taylor, look for quick right onto Register Avenue just over peak of a hill. (If you miss Register Ave. don't despair: at next light make a right onto Loch Hill Rd., then left at stop sign onto Register Ave. If you've gone too far on Loch Raven, you will reach Northern Parkway – a huge intersection.) Our house is at 1020 Register – white house with porch on right with SCA-type banner hanging from a signpost on front lawn - large driveway. Plenty of parking on the south side (left side if coming from Loch Raven) of Register Avenue if no room in driveway.

## **Textile Arts Guild & Clothiers Guild**

*Lady Wynne. 8608 Silver Knoll Dr, Perry Hall, MD 21128, (410) 931-6961*

Find your best way to Hwy24 (White Marsh Blvd.) Turn North, away from the Mall, on to Honeygo Blvd. At the second light turn right and follow the road over a few small hills. The last hill is the intersection of Silver Knoll and Lawrence Hill, turn left on to Silver Knoll. We are the fourth house on the left. I will have my banner in the front yard. The best way to get in touch with me is by phone!!! We will begin at 1:00 pm and end around 5:00 pm. Coffee will be on as will other warm beverages!

This is *The Yeoman*, a publication of the Barony of Bright of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. *The Yeoman* is available from Baron Temur Of The Kerait (William Hume), 3607 Young Rd, Millers, MD 21102-2353. **Subscriptions are free.** Please fill out and mail the included subscription form to the Chronicler. This newsletter is not a corporate publication of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., and does not delineate SCA policies.

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The closing date for submissions is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication. No material received after that date may appear in the next month's issue.

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#### **Bright Hills Website**

The Baronial website, <http://brighthills.atlantia.sca.org/> contains a listing of current officers, regularly scheduled meetings, events and other items of interest. If you have an item for the website, please send it to the Webminister, Lady Brienna Llewellyn Lindsey, [birdstm@comcast.net](mailto:birdstm@comcast.net).

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**COVER:** Master Tristan Alexander