



THE BARONY OF PONTE ALTO'S NEWSLETTER

# IL TEMPO

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## COURTIERS IN A ROSE GARDEN: A LADY AND TWO GENTLEMEN

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# CONTENTS

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Contents.....   | 2  |
| <i>Il Tempo</i> .....                                       | 2  |
| Populace Gathering Minutes.....                             | 3  |
| OFFICER'S REPORTS.....                                      | 3  |
| EVENTS.....   | 4  |
| OLD BUSINESS.....   | 4  |
| NEW BUSINESS.....   | 4  |
| ANNOUNCEMENTS.....  | 4  |
| Games from Ancient Egypt .....                              | 5  |
| Art Spotlight: Biographies of Lian Po and Lin Xiangru ..... | 6  |
| Weekly/Monthly Events .....                                 | 7  |
| Upcoming Events in Atlantia .....                           | 8  |
| Ponte Alto Notables.....                                    | 9  |
| Baronial Progress .....                                     | 10 |
| Regnum .....  | 11 |
| Disclaimer/ Links to Forms .....                            | 12 |

## *IL TEMPO*

Welcome to *Il Tempo* (The Times), the Newsletter of the Barony of Ponte Alto, one of the northern baronies in the Kingdom of Atlantia.

*Il Tempo* strives to be an informative read that you look forward to. To this end, we are always appreciative of any contributions to it, perhaps an article of a project you are working on or are interested in, how to make/play a period game, your experience at an event, how/what to prepare for a day trip, a recipe/piece of garb that you've made, documentation on an item you've completed - a how to on documentation, a few words on a historical person/event, photos, a book review, something to share with a newcomer - perhaps a short autobiography of your persona or how you came to figure out your persona.

The list can go on for ages - only limited by the speed at which our hands can write out what our minds can think of.

Come, share with us adventures in the great Barony of Ponte Alto, in the grand Kingdom of Atlantia, in this - the current Middle Ages!



# POPULACE GATHERING MINUTES

Date: December 18, 2022

Began: 5:11 PM

Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting

Adjourned: 5:22 PM

Notes: Rónán mac Ímair

Attendees: 6 people

## OFFICER'S REPORTS

### Seneschal – Lord Hákon brimill (David Hultman)

- No kingdom COVID rules any longer. Only rules if the host site does.
- For details, see Hákon.
- Don't forget quarterly/annual reports are due!

### Exchequer – Lady Astrid for Lord Mowgli of Anglesey (Aaron Parness)

- All the signature stuff is done. Mowgli officially the executor.
- Balance 10,832,90 (per Hákon)

### Arts and Sciences – Noble Sæunn hima (Evie Miller)

- n/a (not present)

### Knight Marshal – Lord Hákon for Lord Jacques Gonse

- Fighting continues
- Heavy is holding together. Current crop of fighters don't like the cold.
- Will be holding practices on the 22nd and 29th. (Schools have agreed to allow.)
- Outdoor Sundays remain weather dependent
- Unsure about Rapier status.
- School insurance in place for 2023. (Verify that's what Hákon said)
- Fighter insurance is in progress (with Kingdom)

### Social Media Officer – Lord Hákon for VACANT

- We're still looking for an officer.
- If you're interested in this position, please let me know!

### Chatelaine – Lord Hákon for Lady Delphina the Mad (Charlene Ratliff)

- Continues
- Cancelled Dec meeting.
- We do have newcomers!

### Herald – Lord Hákon for Lady Johanna le Paumer (Sarah Stango)

- Heraldry continues!

### Chronicler – Lady Juliana le Webbe (Jillian Browning)

- In progress



## Web Minister – Lord Rónán mac Ímair (Ron Hanagan)

- Continues
- Thanks for helping to keep the calendar up to date!

## Baron and Baroness - Their Excellencies Noyon Naran Numuchi & Baroness Marie-Therese Normand (Nicholas Freer & Mary Bowles)

- Naran - Not present
- MT - Not present

## **EVENTS**

- Hákon
  - Will have Blood Bath next year! (2023)
  - Potentially a combined Baronial Birthday & Blood Bath.
  - Do have a volunteer for autocrat.
  - April 15th as a target.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- n/a

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- n/a

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- We plan to have New Year's Day Archery @ Grimmsfield. Announcement forthcoming.
- Torin and Shelley are new archery marshals. Brian 2/3 of the way there.

## **LOOKING FOR A WAY TO GET INVOLVED? WHY NOT TRY RETAINING!**

### *What is retaining?*

*Their Excellencies need help with taking notes (e.g. for gifts or to-do stuff), staying hydrated, reminders to stay on schedule, fetching things, and otherwise keeping Their Excellencies comfortable and out of trouble (especially the Mongol one)!*

### *Who can retain?*

*Anyone can retain! If you've got free time at an event, Their Excellencies will be very appreciative of your assistance. Plus, it's a great way to learn more about what it means to be part of the pageantry of the SCA!*

### *How can I volunteer?*

*If you are interested in volunteering, or even just finding out more, reach out to our head retainer!*

[headretainer@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org](mailto:headretainer@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org)



# GAMES FROM ANCIENT EGYPT

*By Lisbet of Spinning Winds*

Although we've covered games from around the world in this intermittent series, we haven't yet travelled to Ancient Egypt. Both senet and the game played by Pharaoh and Nefretiri in the movie "The Ten Commandments" have roots in Egypt and boards have been excavated in locations outside the Nile valley. Both also share the use of two-color throwing sticks rather than dice. Cast four sticks and count the light/flat sides. However, if all the sticks land dark/rounded side up the count is 6.



*Figure 1. Senet with throwing sticks, cones, and reels. Photo and board by author.*

To make your own throwing sticks, cut the "legs" off two wooden clothespins/doll pegs. Sticks can also be made by gluing two differently colored miniature popsicle sticks together or painting short lengths of square dowels. Sticks that are too flat or too long are more difficult to roll randomly.

## Senet

The Dancers (cones and reels) race along the S-shaped path together. Players can send an opponent's dancer back to the beginning by landing on it. There is a safe space and one that represents the Nile. Ron Knight webbed rules here:

<http://www.modaruniversity.org/Game16.htm>.

## Hounds and Jackals/Palm Tree/ 58 holes

This game was named by archeologists and has only speculative rules. It appears players stay in their lane in this race game. This board was made in 2013 and recently published research suggests a few features are missing. If you care to dive deeper, here are some suggested starting points as well as the bibliography in the Wikipedia article



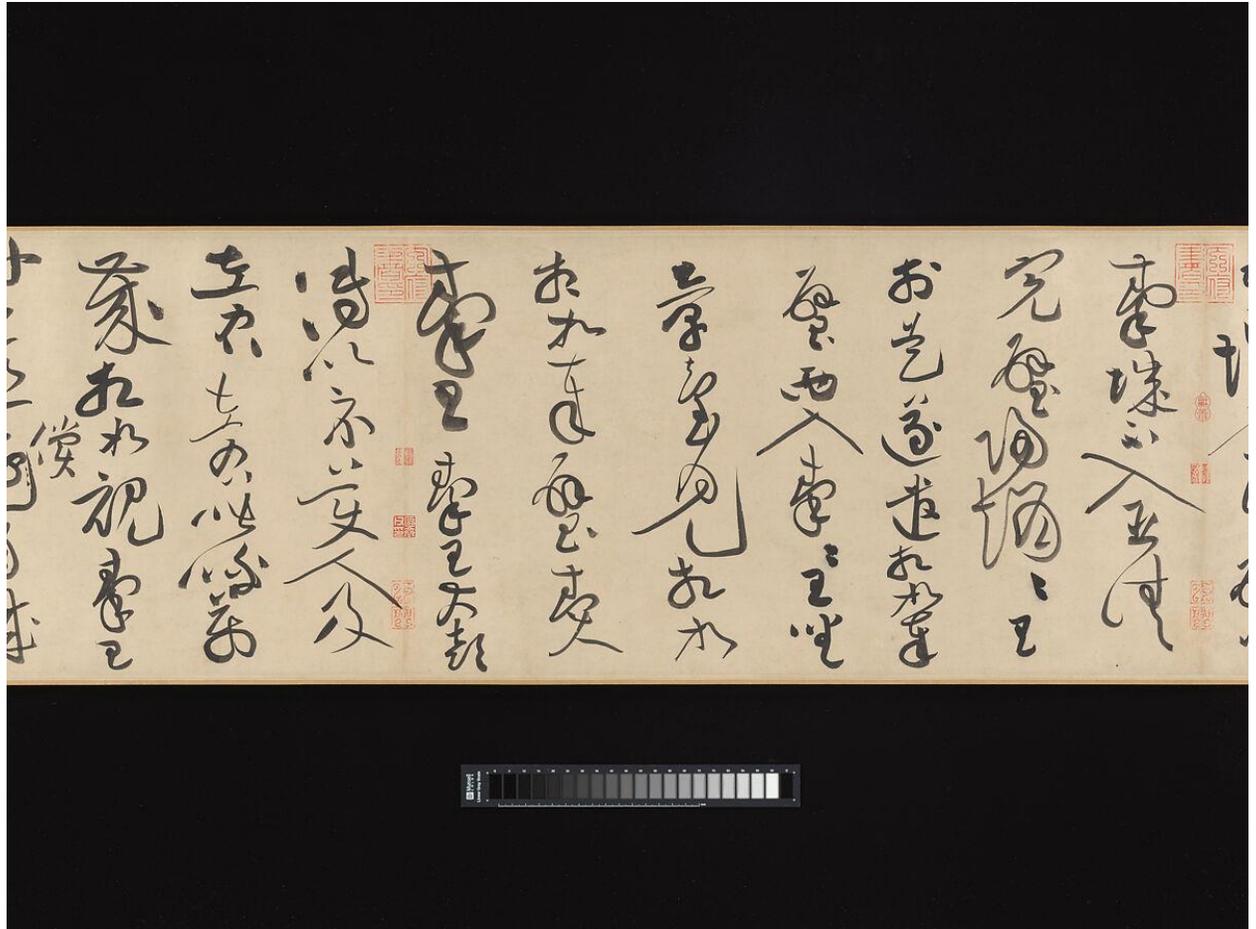
*Figure 2. Hounds and Jackals board. Photo and board by author*

- [www.gamecabinet.com/history/DogsAndJackals.html](http://www.gamecabinet.com/history/DogsAndJackals.html)
- [www.tradgames.org.uk/games/Hounds-And-Jackals.htm](http://www.tradgames.org.uk/games/Hounds-And-Jackals.htm)
- <https://allaboutfunandgames.com/the-ancient-board-game-of-hounds-and-jackals>
- <http://healthy.uwaterloo.ca/museum/VirtualExhibits/Ancient/Hounds/index.html>
- <http://healthy.uwaterloo.ca/museum/Archives/Assyria/Gadd.html>



## ART SPOTLIGHT: BIOGRAPHIES OF LIAN PO AND LIN XIANGRU

Calligrapher Huang Tingjian, Chinese, ca. 1095



From the Met's website:

Poet, calligrapher, and Chan (Zen) Buddhist adept, Huang Tingjian believed that calligraphy should be spontaneous and self-expressive – “a picture of the mind.” Containing nearly twelve hundred characters, this handscroll is a master-piece of cursive-script writing. It transcribes an account of a rivalry between two officials: Lian Po, a distinguished general; and Lin Xiangru, a skilled strategist. Huang’s transcription ends abruptly with Lin’s words: “When two tigers fight, one must perish. I behave as I do because I put our country’s fate before private feuds.” Read in the context of Song political infighting, Huang’s transcription becomes a powerful indictment of the partisanship that led to his own banishment in 1094.

This is only one of the pages of this biography.

To Find out more, visit The Met website [here](#).



## WEEKLY/MONTHLY EVENTS

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <i>SUNDAY</i>                                |   |
| Outdoor Heavy Weapons                        | Weather permitting, 12:00 noon until dark, outdoors at Tysons-Pimmit Park, behind Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Contact the Baronial Knight Marshal for information (see Regnum). (cancellations posted on the Ponte Alto e-list)<br>Directions: Take your best route to I-495. Get off at the exit for Route 7 East (Falls Church). Go about 1 mile; the library is on the left. Park in the library lot and walk down the hill to the park. |
| <i>MONDAY</i>                                |   |
| Stierbach/Ponte Alto Archery Practice        | Practice is held at Grimmsfield. 16132 Crusade Ct. Haymarket, VA 20169. 5:00pm until dusk. If you need loaner gear, or would like more information, please contact the Archery Marshal, Lord Rónán mac Ímair.   |
| <i>THURSDAY</i>                              |   |
| Heavy Weapons Practice                       | Summer, outdoors at Tysons-Pimmit Park, 6pm (see Outdoor Heavy Weapons and Rapier Practice above).  |
| Rapier Practice                              | Summer, outdoors at Tysons-Pimmit Park, (see Outdoor Heavy Weapons and Rapier Practice above) Winter, Shreveview Elementary school cafeteria (7525 Shreve Rd, Falls Church), 6:30pm-9pm (cancellations posted on the Ponte Alto e-list)   |
| <i>FRIDAY</i>                                |   |
| Stierbach/Ponte Alto Winter Archery Practice | ON HOLD   |
| <i>MONTHLY</i>                               |   |
| SCA Newcomer Meetings                        | Newcomer Meetings are held the <u>4th Tuesday</u> of the month at 7:30 p.m. via either Zoom or Google Meets. Contact the Baronial Chatelaine for information (chatelaine@pontalto.atlantia.sca.org) or check out the Events/ Activities page on the website for the most recent information.  |
| Ponte Alto Baronial Populace Gathering       | Populace Gathering (and Business) Meeting, usually the <u>4th Sunday</u> of the month at 5:00 p.m. virtually on Zoom. The Zoom link is posted on the Ponte Alto calendar. Everyone is welcome to attend.  |
| A&S Projects Night                           | <u>1st &amp; 3rd Tuesday</u> , via Zoom or at private residences. Address will be posted on a private site (Facebook A&S Event) to preserve the privacy of the host. If you'd like to host or don't have a Facebook account and need the address, please contact Noble Sæunn hima (mka Evie Miller) <a href="mailto:moas@pontalto.atlantia.sca.org">moas@pontalto.atlantia.sca.org</a> .  |

\*Note on school locations for activities: There will be no activities at schools during school holidays or on other days when Fairfax County schools are closed or all nighttime school recreational activities are canceled. Notification of cancellation or alternate site location will be posted on the web as soon as possible. You can visit the Fairfax County Public Schools Emergency Announcement page for school closure status: <http://fcps.edu/news/emerg.htm>

\* A reminder to those to attend marshal activities and practice at Fairfax County Public Schools:  
NO FORM of real weapons, even Swiss Army knives, box cutters, etc, are to be brought onto school property.\*



## UPCOMING EVENTS IN ATLANTIA

| Date        | Event   |
|-------------|---|
| 1/7         | <a href="#">Kingdom 12th Night 2023</a> :Winston Salem NC (Atlantia) (Q K )                                       |
| 1/21        | <a href="#">Salesberie Glen Newcomer Event</a> :Salisbury NC (Salesberie Glen)                                    |
| 1/28        | <a href="#">Tourney of Manannan Mac Lir</a> :Ridgeville SC (Tear-Sea's Shore)                                     |
| 1/28        | <a href="#">Ice Castles Black Diamond Baronial Birthday</a> :, Roanoke VA (Black Diamond) (Q K )                  |
| 1/28        | <a href="#">Henry's Holiday Huzzah! - Midwinter's</a> : Lothian MD (Lochmere)                                     |
| 1/28        | <a href="#">Ice Castles Black Diamond Baronial Birthday</a> : Roanoke VA (Black Diamond) (Q K Pr P )              |
| 1/28        | <a href="#">Tourney of Manannan Mac Lir</a> : Harleyville SC (Tear-Sea's Shore)                                   |
| 2/2 – 2/5   | <a href="#">Winter University of Atlantia</a> : (Atlantia) (Q K )   |
| 2/10 – 2/12 | <a href="#">Nottingham Coill Baronial Birthday 43</a> : Bennettsville SC (Nottingham Coill) (Pr P )               |
| 2/11        | <a href="#">Day of Love III</a> : Virginia Beach VA (Marinus)   |
| 2/11        | <a href="#">Sir Walter Raleigh Ball</a> : Burlington NC (Buckston-on-Eno)   |
| 2/11        | <a href="#">Bright Hills Baronial Birthday</a> : Manchester MD (Bright Hills) (Q K )                              |
| 2/17 – 2/19 | <a href="#">Tournament of Ymir</a> : Ellerbe NC (Windmasters' Hill) (Q K Pr P )                                   |
| 2/25 – 2/26 | <a href="#">Raven's Cove Baronial Birthday</a> : Richlands NC (Raven's Cove) (K )                                 |
| 2/25        | <a href="#">Accessories Workshop</a> : Spartanburg, SC (Nottingham Coill)   |
| 3/4         | <a href="#">Kingdom Arts &amp; Sciences Festival</a> : Hampstead MD (Bright Hills) (Q K )                         |
| 3/11 – 3/20 | <a href="#">Gulf Wars</a> : (Gleann Abhann) (K Pr P )   |
| 3/24 – 3/26 | <a href="#">Hidden Mountain Baronial Birthday and Investiture</a> :Bennettsville SC (Hidden Mountain) (Q K Pr P ) |
| 3/25        | <a href="#">Defending the Gate</a> :Spotsylvania VA (Sudentorre)  |
| 3/31 – 4/2  | <a href="#">Spring Coronation 2023</a> :Upper Marlboro MD (Storvik) (Q K Pr P )                                   |

\*Note that these dates and links are subject to change. For a full and updated list, please visit the Atlantia Kingdom Calendar at <https://atlantia.sca.org/calendar/>.



## PONTE ALTO NOTABLES



**Archery Champion:** Sof'ia Dolgorukaia  
*acherychamp@pontalto.atlantia.sca.org*



**A&S Champion:** Briana Morgan of the Valley  
*artisan@pontalto.atlantia.sca.org*



**Bardic Champion:** Celia of Rosedale  
*bard@pontalto.atlantia.sca.org*



**Brewing Champion:** Heinrich von Holstein  
*brewer@pontalto.atlantia.sca.org*



**Heavy Champion:** Hákon brimill  
*heavychamp@pontalto.atlantia.sca.org*



**Rapier Champion:** Colette Vitalis  
*rapierchamp@pontalto.atlantia.sca.org*



**Thrown Weapons Champion:** Rónán mac Ímair  
*twchamp@pontalto.atlantia.sca.org*

## LOOKING FOR LARGESSE

We are in need of largess for the upcoming year! Please contact Her Excellency about your donations. 😊



## BARONIAL PROGRESS

| Date        | Event   | Progress  |
|-------------|---|-----------|
| 1/7         | Twelfth Night                                     | MT        |
| 2/11        | Bright Hills Baronial Birthday                    | Naran     |
| 2/17 - 2/19 | Tournament of Ymir                                | Naran     |
| 3/4         | Kingdom Arts & Sciences Festival                  | Naran, MT |
| 3/24 - 3/26 | Hidden Mountain Baronial Birthday and Investiture | Naran     |
| 3/25        | Defending the Gate                                | MT        |
| 3/31 - 4/2  | Spring Coronation 2023                            | Naran, MT |
| 4/15        | Ponte Alto's Baronial Birthday Bloodbath          | Naran, MT |
| 4/20 - 4/23 | BAWT III  | MT        |
| 4/21 - 4/23 | Revenge of the Stitch VIII                        | Naran     |
| 5/5 - 5/7   | Atlantian Spring Crown Tournament                 | Naran, MT |

## WE REALLY COULD USE YOUR HELP!

There are several positions in our Barony that could use a Deputy; actually, all of the positions that we have could benefit by having at least one deputy.

Why a Deputy? Well, it is easy for any one of us to intend to do something if we don't consider that the SCA is what we do with our time after we are finished doing what we do to pay the bills.

With deputies, the workload can be shared, allowing more work to be accomplished with less time and stress for any one individual.

Besides, it is a great way to work with others to do something different to help make yours, and others', SCA experience that much better!

Do you have an A&S project you'd like to share with your fellow Pontoons?

We'd love to publish it! Contact our [Minister of A&S](#), Noble Sæunn Hima!



# REGNUM

## Baron and Baroness

**Noyon Naran Numuchi & Baroness Marie-Therese Normand**

(Nicholas Freer and Mary Boyles)  
baron@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org  
baroness@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org  
baronage@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org

## Seneschal (President)

**Lord Hákon brimill** (David Hultman)  
seneschal@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org  
Deputy Seneschal  
**Master Marcellus Capozziello da Napoli**  
(Bob Capozello) 703-975-9146 (H)  
seneschal@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org

## Chancellor for Youth Activities

VACANT  
mom@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org

## Chancellor of the Exchequer

**Lord Mowgli of Anglesey**  
exchequer@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org  
Deputy Chancellor of the Exchequer  
**Lord Tristan le Roquelaure** (Michael Jeffrey Looney)  
deputyexchequer@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org

## Chamberlain

VACANT  
chamberlain@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org

## Knights' Marshal

**Lord Jacques Gonse**  
knightmarshal@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org  
Deputy Knights' Marshal  
**Lord Heinrich von Holstein** (Henry Holstein)  
deputyknightmarshal@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org

## Armored Marshal

**Lord Heinrich von Holstein** (Henry Holstein)  
armored@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org  
Deputy Armored Marshal  
**Lord Duncan the Elder** (Duncan Cooper)  
deputyarmored@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org  
Youth Marshal  
VACANT  
youtharmored@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org

## Rapier Marshal

VACANT  
rapier@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org  
Deputy Rapier Marshals  
**Mistress Belphoebe de Givet** (Laura Martinez)  
703-625-3883 (H) —No calls after 9:00 p.m. EST  
**Lord Jacques Gonse** (Jonathan Fath)  
rapierdeputy@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org  
**Master Marcellus Capozziello da Napoli**  
(Bob Capozello) 703-975-9146 (H)  
**Lord Geoffrey ap Clywd** (Jeff Williams)  
703-980-8369

## Archery Marshal

**Lord Rónán mac Ímair** (Ron Hanagan)  
archery@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org  
Deputy Archery Marshals  
**Lady Sof'ia Dolgorukaia** (Holly Decker)  
deputyarchery@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org

## Minister of Arts and Sciences

**Noble Sæunn hima**  
moas@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org  
Deputy Ministers of A & S  
**Lady Anauved de Mona** (Monika Townsend)  
**Lady Magdalena Pia** (Bobbie Drabyk)  
deputymoas@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org

## Chatelaine (Newcomers)

**Lady Delphina the Mad** (Charlene Ratliff)  
chatelain@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org  
Deputies  
**Lord Tristan le Roquelaure** (Michael Jeffrey Looney)  
**Lady Sof'ia Dolgorukaia** (Holly Decker)  
deputychatelain@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org  
Gold Key (Loaner Costumes)  
**Lady Delphina the Mad** (Charlene Ratliff)  
goldkey@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org  
Deputy for Demos  
VACANT  
demos@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org

## Herald

**Lady Johanna le Paumer** (Sarah Stango)  
herald@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org  
Deputy Herald  
VACANT  
deputyherald@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org

## Minister of the Lists

VACANT  
mol@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org  
Deputy Minister of the Lists  
VACANT  
deputymol@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org

## Chronicler (Newsletter)

**Lady Juliana le Webbe** (Jillian Browning)  
chronicler@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org  
Deputy Chronicler  
**Lord Rónán mac Ímair** (Ron Hanagan )  
deputywebminister@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org

## Web Minister

**Lord Rónán mac Ímair** (Ron Hanagan )  
webminister@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org  
Deputy Web Minister  
VACANT  
deputywebminister@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org  
Social Media Officer  
VACANT  
smo@pontealto.atlantia.sca.org



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### Please send submissions to:

Juliana le Webbe

[Chronicler@PonteAlto.Atlantia.SCA.org](mailto:Chronicler@PonteAlto.Atlantia.SCA.org)

Please, remember that all submissions for *Il Tempo* must be accompanied by an SCA release form.

The first link leads you to the Society Chronicler's links for forms. The last three links are for the forms that can be submitted online via Internet Form Fills. **Everyone is encouraged to consider contributing to *Il Tempo*.**

### Society Chronicler forms.

<http://chronicler.atlantia.sca.org/Releases.html>

Release form for **writing or artwork**:

<http://chronicler.atlantia.sca.org/ReleaseCreativeFillable.pdf>

Release form for **photographs**:

<http://chronicler.atlantia.sca.org/ReleasePhotographerFillable.pdf>

Release form for **model(s)** (the subject of your artwork or photograph):

<http://chronicler.atlantia.sca.org/ReleaseModelFillable.pdf>