



# Griffintayle:

Tayles and histories that have taken place in

Politarchopolis,

St Aldhelm, St Andronicus,

and

elsewhere in the Kingdom of Lochac

and the Knowne Worlde

Issue 2/May 2015/

Anno Societatis L



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## From the Baron and Baroness

Greetings all,

Now that Festival is over, with fun and fond memories, we look forward to the next events: Bal d'Argent in June, The Wood Food Feast in July and the Arts & Sciences weekend in August. Added to this, we will be helping with the Magna Carta celebrations at Old Parliament House on the Queen's Birthday long weekend in June. Please offer to help out in preparation for these events - whether it's helping make banners, cooking food, setting up or packing down, teaching a class, or playing dance music or otherwise entertaining, the stewards could always do with more help.

Speaking of entertaining, we've decided to run an entertainment competition. We're keeping track of who has entertained at baronial and college events this year and will award a suitable prize at Fields of Gold. Anyone who sings, acts, juggles or otherwise performs will be in the running. And if you happen to enjoy a particular performance let us know.

Baron Crispin and Baroness Joan

### *Baronial Awards*

No awards were presented this month.

Anyone can nominate someone for recognition. If you know of someone you wish to nominate for a Baronial award, each of which are listed and described on Memories of Lochac, please email Their Excellencies with an account of why you think they are deserving.



## Weekly activities

### **Mondays**

College of St Aldhelm meeting / 6pm / Copland Building room G029 / Australian National University

### **Tuesdays** / excluding the third Tuesday of the month

Out-of-armour combat training and projects night / 6pm / Wamboin Community Hall / Bingley Way / Wamboin

### **Wednesdays**

Armoured combat training and Arts and Sciences night / 6pm / Copland Building room G029 / Australian National University

### **Thursdays**

College of St Andronicus meeting / 5pm / Building 2 Room 2B02 / University of Canberra

Dance Practice / 7.30pm / Kambah Scout Hall / Springbett Street / Kambah

### **Sundays**

Archery / 10am / Tuggeranong Archery Club / 299 Soward Way / Greenway

Newcomer's Armoured Combat Training / 1pm / Scout Hall / Corner of Ebden and Hassall Streets / Ainslie

Rapier Training / 2pm / Scout Hall / Corner of Ebden and Hassall Streets / Ainslie

Armoured Combat Training / 3pm / Scout Hall / Corner of Ebden and Hassall Streets / Ainslie



## Events to come

### **Magna Carta Medieval Fair / 8 June 2015 / Old Parliament House / Canberra**

The Barony has been successful in obtaining a \$5,000 contract to provide the majority of services for the Magna Carta celebrations at the Medieval Fair Exhibition of Museum of Australian Democracy (Old Parliament House) on Monday, 8 June 2015.

The Seneschal, Baroness Anne de Tournais, has made a call for expressions of interest for people to serve as co-ordinators in the following areas:

- Heavy Combat (4 demonstrations)
- Rapier (3 demonstrations)
- Dance (2 performances & some crowd teaching)
- Music
- Static Displays & Discussion
- Pre-event marketing

If you're willing and able to help with these, please email Baroness Anne as soon as possible.

### **Great Northern War / 5 to 8 June 2015 / BP Park / Samford Valley / Queensland**

Greetings Politarchopolis,

Great Northern War (GNW), the premier event of the Northern Neches, is this year being hosted by the Barony of Saint-Florian-de-la-rivière near Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.

For scale, it's a four day event (held over the Queens Birthday weekend in June - Friday 5 June to Monday 8 June, 2015) with somewhere in the vicinity of 250 attendees each year. There are bunks on offer for interstate and international visitors, and full event catering is an option.

So, what does GNW have to offer this year? Never been before and are interested in how the event works? See the event website for photos and descriptions of some of what you can expect: What's on offer.

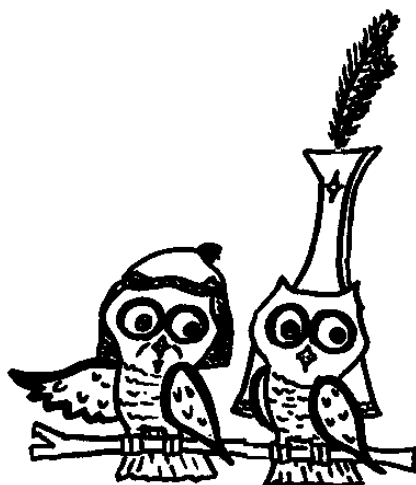
Bookings will close on the 28th of May 2015. Details (including pricing options) and instructions for how to book are also available on the event website.

We hope to see you there - it'll be an absolute hoot!

For any queries, please email the event steward, Sir Master Steffan Glaube.

Warm regards,

GNW 2015 Event Team



Who:

- Steward: Ginevra Lucia Di Namoraza ( Carina)
- Deputy Steward: Helayne Quyniteyn (Kylee)
- Webmistress: Eyfura ( Elonwy)
- Teachers: We have Mistress Constanzia consulting us and more than five amazing laurels coming to help- TBA shortly.
- And you!

Cost:

- \$5 for members
- \$10 for non-members
- Money will go towards printing, tea and coffee as well as incidentals.

Details:

**The goal:** The aim of this workshop is to increase your skills and knowledge of Spanish dresses, with the goal to encourage and support beginner and intermediate sewers to pattern and construct an early 16th century Spanish dress and chemise (optional). Depending on sewing expertise, some may go away with a mostly constructed dress and chemise, whilst others will have most of a bodice down, ready to finish at home. Sewers will be paired up to help each other pattern and we will have teachers checking on progression and helping as needed.

If you are an independent sewer attending our workshop for motivation and inspiration, you will be encouraged to work on your gown as you see fit and supported as much as is possible around that. Any support you can offer to your less experienced sewing friends will be appreciated!

What you need to do:

- Register your interest at [ginevraworkshops@gmail.com](mailto:ginevraworkshops@gmail.com). ASAP. This will enable us to:
  - book an appropriate room
  - help us when doing our optional, potentially discounted group order (boning, fastenings, interlining, striped white fabric etc.)
  - allows us time to speak with other teachers, so we can set an appropriate class size.
- Look out for your booking email - once we have confirmed availability of teachers, we will open the bookings. You will receive an email to say that you are being offered a place, or are on the waiting list. You will have 3 days to respond before your place is offered to the next participant on the waiting list.
- Once your booking is confirmed, fees will need to be paid in cash or via direct debit.
- Beginners are highly encouraged to pick from a couple of simple dresses on the Facebook page. This will help us to help you construct a gown by the end of the workshop.

When booking, please use the event website.

What you need to bring:

- Pre washed fabric for dress and chemise
- Preferably pre ironed the aforementioned fabric

- Material: 5-6m of natural fabrics (Thin wool, thick silk, medium to heavy linen, brocades. Brocade, silk and velvet will result in a more formal gown, linens will be a more casual gown/suitable for warmer weather)
- Material: 2-3m of white/white with black lines (Again natural fibres such as linen are best)
- Material: 1-2 m of lining for bodice and sleeves.
- Lining for skirt as well as bodice may be need for thinner materials - if in doubt, ask!
- Sewing threads to match fabric of dress and chemise
- Material for the guards/trim ( black bands on dress and sleeves) if you choose them (black velvet bias binding, velvet trim, etc)
- Boning
- Interlining
- Lucetting cord/ribbon
- Fastenings
- Pins
- Tailors chalk
- Measuring tape
- Bring a plate to share for lunch, or bring your own if you have dietary requirements.
- Bring personal plate, cup and utensils
- If you have a sewing machine or overlocker, please bring it with you.

#### Important dates:

- Registration is open now - please email the event steward.
- Bookings open on the 27th of April and the 15th of May is close of Bookings.
- The workshop is held on the 13th and 14th of June

#### Additional information:

- Resources and references will be available on the day.
- A guide and reference will be emailed out to all participants, and printed copies will be available on the day.
- Spanish dresses will be available to look at.
- There is a Facebook group, please join for support and communication.
- Remember to bring water and snacks!
- This is an intensive workshop designed to get you a mostly wearable dress in two days (some hemming or finishing etc at home may be required). You will need to bring all your focus and energy...and perhaps consider leaving your children at home ;)
- First day is patterning and constructing of the gown, second day is finishing the gown and constructing a chemise. For early finishers accessory options may be available, otherwise we are sure beginners would appreciate the help.
- An accessories class featuring headgear, jewellery, etc will be held at the Politarchopolis A&S Collegium in August.

**Bal d'Saturnalia & Winter Solstice Tourney** / 20-21 June 2015 / Yass Memorial Hall and grounds / Comur Street / Yass /

For the full event, Adult Members \$45, Members aged under 18 \$20, children 5 and under Free.

For the Tourney only, \$10.

Add \$5 Bookings after May Crown and for Non-members!!

Bookings for the BALL will close 13 June 2015

Bookings via email to Lady Isabella de Bordeaux.

**The Good Food Feast** / 18 July 2015 / St Margaret's Uniting Church / Antill Street / Hackett / ACT

In 1995, a small group of Politarchopolins banded together to bring the level and quality of food and entertainment in Lochac to a standard which is now considered the norm.

It has been 20 years since the Politarchopolin Assault Catering Corps hosted the Good Food Feast. The Corps would like to invite you to attend the anniversary of this fine event, which will be an evening of amazing, sumptuous food, and marvellous entertainment. The evening's menu, entertainment and decoration will be focused on the 16th century Low Countries - so get to work on your mid-winter German and Flemish frocks!!!

Because of the style of event we are providing, we are strictly limiting this event to 80 guests - there will not be any changes in numbers to cater for increased demand.

However, if you can't attend the event as a guest, you have the opportunity to attend the event as a server. In addition to indulging in some fantastic food provided just for the servers, you would undertake a role that is integral to the event's success, while experiencing the hubbub and backroom brawl that lies behind a great night.

This is not a child-friendly event - we request that you make alternative care arrangements for your children for the evening. Otherwise, the Corps will sell them and keep the profits.

Prices for this event are as follows:

Adult Member / \$120

Adult Non-member / \$125

Server Member / \$20

Server Non-member / \$25

Bookings are critical and will not be accepted without payment. If you aren't able to pay the event price all at once, payment plans can be arranged - but only in consultation with the Steward.

For more information and booking, please contact the Steward: Mistress Francesca Cellini

**Politarchopolis Arts and Sciences Collegium** / 15-16 August 2015 / Tuggeranong Sea Scout Hall / Mortimer Lewis Drive / Greenway / ACT

Join us in the Barony of Politarchopolis for a weekend full of A&S classes, demonstrations and workshops at the Tuggeranong Sea Scouts Hall on the 15th and 16th of August! Come along and learn from some of the most talented artisans and teachers in Lochac, with classes covering a multitude of topics, time periods, and interests!

The event costs \$45 for pre-booked members, \$50 for pre-booked non-members, and \$30 for children 8-15 years old.

For bookings contact the Steward, Asny inn draumspaki, with your SCA name, mundane name, member number and dietary requirements.

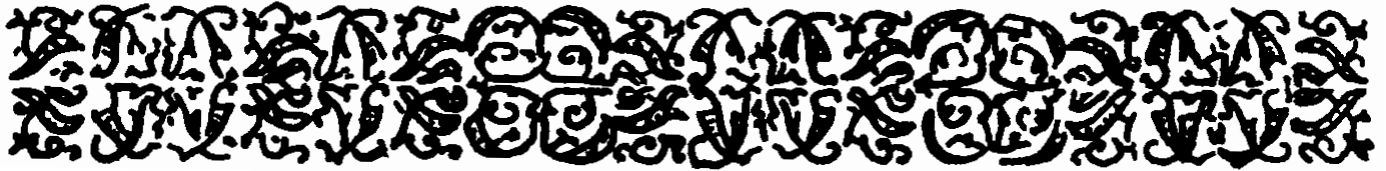


A booking includes lunch on Saturday and Sunday, and a place at the Feast on Saturday night, inspired by a documented feast hosted by the Count of Anjou in 1455, with fantastic food and entertainment!

Please be aware that the Feast is capped at 80, so book early to avoid disappointment! Bookings for the Feast only will be charged the concession price of \$30.

In addition there will be a fundraiser breakfast BBQ hosted by the College of St Andronicus on both Saturday and Sunday before the classes begin.

So come for the classes, the food, and the company - the Politarchopolis A&S Collegium!



### Tayles from Events of Recent Past

#### *A Festival Story written for Baroness Joan*

Grand Barony Politarchopolis was gathered for Easter Day's first meal; a gift from their Excellencies to the people and households of the fair land.

House Decartes and their hungry children approached, and with Baroness Politarchopolis' blessing, ate from the sharing plate.

His Excellency Politarchopolis brought forth tabards, blazoned with the proud griffin mark, and to the assembled houses bade the warriors among them to wear these garments in the battles ahead with honour and pride.

But those of House Decartes refused to bear the noble griffin upon their chests.

Her Excellency Politarchopolis took the tabard in hand and, stepping away from the sharing plate, demanded that Decartes show the griffin honour.

But still Decartes refused.

Decartes tried to flee, but with swift and sure strikes, Baroness Politarchopolis brought Decartes to yield, while her guard placed the griffin tabards across their shoulders.

A cheer rose up from the populace for the mighty Baroness, who, with the griffin's surety, humbled the warrior Decartes!

Written by Lady Felicia ad Aquam

### Ultimate Fighter Series

The Ultimate Fighter Series is a Lochac-wide series of tournaments, fought in specified weapons combinations and ranked using a Swiss seeded tournament format. Tournaments have been taking place in the following groups: Politarchopolis, Howany, Innilgard, Stormhold/Irae Glas, Aneala/Abertridwr, the Northern Heaches and Dordenvale. Fighters are given points for their ranking in each tournament they participate in, and the top ten ranked (non-belted) fighters across Lochac will be given entry to the final tournament to be held at Great Northern War in the Northern Heaches (Queensland) in June 2015 (AS 50).

The Ultimate Fighter Series in Politarchopolis are run by Count Sir Berenger of Nancy, who is also the steward of the Lochac-wide Series. In our Barony, there have been rapier tournaments held interspersed throughout the tournament at each Ultimate Fighter event. The rapier tournaments have been organised by Don Owain Cantor ap Hugh and Lord Lorccan Ruadh.

The final of the five tournaments to be held in Politarchopolis was fought on the 19th of April. The fifth and final Ultimate Fighter tournament in Politarchopolis, fought on the 19th of April, was chosen weapon forms. The victor of the tournament was Lord Mark Ottignon, with Baron Aonghus MacGreigor taking second place, Lord Otto Sexburger placing third and Duchess Liadan ingen Fheradaig winning fourth place.

The cumulative totals for the five tournaments are presented below. After the fifth and final round, Lord Mark Ottignon and Baron Aonghus MacGreigor qualified as Politarchopolis' representatives in the final tournament (to be held at Great Northern War in June 2015 between the top two placing combatants from each group that participated).

#### **Politarchopolis Ultimate Fighter Series Running Totals after Tournament 5 of 5**

Lord Mark Ottignon / 46 points

Baron Aonghus mac Griogair mhic Raghnaill / 36 points

Lord Otto von Sexburger / 33 points

Duchess Liadan ingen Fheradaig / 30 points

Baron Andreas Reinhardt / 24 points

Lord Wolff Hebenstreit / 20 points

Lady Jadwiga / 18 points

Lord Jutai / 12 points

Baron Master Crispin Sexi / 10 points

Lord Daniel (formerly Daeg of Andronicus) / 7 points

Wulfric / 6 points

Cosimo / 5 points

Don Allesandro von Firenzi / 5 points

Lady Amelot de Akeney / 1 point

Mistress Isobel le Breton / 1 point

The fencing tournament was run as 4 round robins, each with a different weapons form. Each combatant could use the form of choice for each round, providing it wasn't one they had already used.

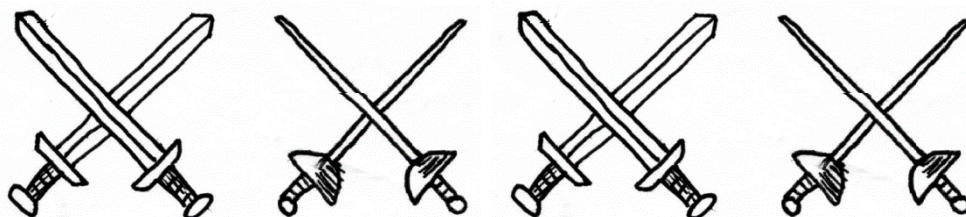
There were four entrants, and Don Alessandro von Florenz was the victor overall on 9 points.

Alessandro von Florenz / 9 points

Ceara Shionnach / 5 points

Owen of Torlyon / 5 points

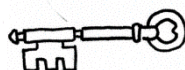
Ysambart Courtin / 5 points



### Festival 2015 Stories

See the Baronial website for the People of Politarchopolis - Festival 2015 edition! It provides photos and descriptions of people from the Barony enjoying their times at Rowany Festival AS49.

### Missives from the Officers



#### *From the Seneschal*

Greetings, your Excellencies and fellow good citizens of Politarchopolis

With Rowany Festival 2015 now behind us, it is wonderful to see so much enthusiasm and projects being generated. I'm going to try and focus on a couple of items each Griffintayle, please let me know if there is something you would like me to cover.

#### Scribes

The third Tuesday of the Month sees Scribes back in action with Mistress Muirghein recently taking over as our Warden. Thanks to Mistress Tigre who shepherded the office with Lady Ottilia's departure to Aneala. With amazing skill, resources and patience, Mistress Muirghein will be a wonderful warden for the Barony. If you've ever thought about learning the scribal arts but hadn't started yet - why not contact her and get involved!

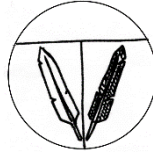
#### Magna Carta

June 8 sees us hired as the entertainment for the Museum of Australian Democracy's Medieval Fest in celebration of the 800th anniversary of the Magna Carta. This is a very different type of engagement - we've been hired to provide a show rather than simply provide a demo. There are lots of opportunities to get involved - we are looking for people to display their arts, fencers, heavies, dancers and musicians. If you can help for an hour or two, please contact me and I'll put you in touch with the right coordinator. It's going to be exciting (and cover a lot of our hall costs, meaning our calendar won't suffer from the quieter months we've had).

Finally, take the time to be kind to yourselves and others. Kindness is one of the seven virtues identified in Pyscomachia (Contest of the soul) a work by Aurelius Clemens Prudentis in 410 that became greatly popular throughout the middle ages. The latin is Benevolentia and is defined as Charity, compassion and friendship for its

own sake. Empathy and trust without prejudice or resentment. Unselfish love and voluntary kindness without bias or spite. Having positive outlooks and cheerful demeanor; to inspire kindness in others. (Wikipedia). How does kindness factor into how you play the game?

In Service  
Anne  
Seneschal



### *From the Chronicler*

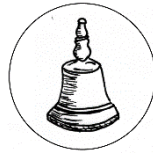
The first event ran in the SCA was held on the 1<sup>st</sup> of May, 1965 in Berkley, California (Kingdom of the West). As such, the 1<sup>st</sup> of May each year is the Society's birthday. This year is AS L - that is, Anno Societatis 50. The 1<sup>st</sup> of May 2016 will mark the 50 year anniversary of the SCA. For more information about the origins of the SCA, see the West Kingdom website.

Thank you to those who have provided information for this, the May 2015 edition of Griffintayle.

Griffintayle will be scheduled for release in the last week of each month. For any inclusions, please email your content to the Chronicler, no later than the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of the month.

THL Ceara Shionnach

Politarchopolis Chronicler



### **People of Politarchopolis**

The Town Crier, Baroness Ginevra Lucia di Namoraza, will be periodically interviewing members of the populace and publishing these interviews on the Baronial website, and in Griffintayle.

See the Baronial website for the People of Politarchopolis - Festival 2015 edition!

This month, Baroness Ginevra interviewed Baroness Dame Joan Sutton - 6<sup>th</sup> (and current) Baroness of Politarchopolis, and Mistress (Dame) of the Laurel:

*What is your SCA name and title?*

Dame Joan Sutton, Baroness Politarchopolis.

*What is your heraldry and what does it mean to you?*

Heraldry...chose the colours because I liked them and it gave me a reason to wear something other than blue. Not a problem these days.

Argent, between three crosses of four lozenges vert, a chevron enhanced embattled purpure.

*How long have you been playing?*

How long playing...since about August 1995.

*What inspires you in the SCA?*

What inspires me...finding out how medieval people did things, and why. Seeing how that reflects upon the modern world.

*What is your favourite thing to do in the SCA?*

Favorite thing to do...I like to sing. Not much of that lately. I also like to cook and read. I have a long list of books I ought to have read by now.

*What's the best dish you have tasted?*

Best dish tasted...really can't pick one in particular. There are so many yummy dishes and good cooks about!

*What is the largest or scariest project you have undertaken?*

Largest/scariest project...overseeing the Barony. The pentathlon was pretty big too.

*What would you like to see more of in the SCA?*

Something to see more of...entertainment at events. And people getting involved with the jobs which make our Society function.

*Share with us a funny or favourite SCA story...*

Forsooth, there I was...did you hear how Baroness Joan bested Descartes in single combat? 'Nuff said.

*What advice do you have for newcomers?*

Advice for newcomers...ask questions, get involved. Find what thrills you and do it.

### Officers Regnum

The officers' regnum of Politarchopolis presents the various Baronial positions for Canberra, a brief description of their roles and their contact emails (hyperlinked in their names).

To apply for any of the various vacant positions, [please contact the Seneschal - Anne de Tournai.](#)



Baron / Crispin Sexi / Baroness / Joan Sutton

The Baron and Baroness are the leaders of the Barony, representing the Crown.

Seneschal / Anne de Tournai

The Seneschal is the principal legal representative of the Barony (i.e. group president).

Arts and Sciences / Rosamund Laiborn

The Arts and Sciences officer is responsible for encouraging the crafts of the Barony.

Captain of Archers / Ulric of Ambeldune

The Captain of Archers manages the Baronial archery activities (both target and combat).

Chandler / vacant

The Chandler is responsible for inventory of Baronial items, including regalia and hospit (i.e. garb to be borrowed by newcomers).

Chirurgion / Iseldis of Winchester

The Chirurgion is responsible for first aid and safety at events.

Chronicer / Ceara Shionnach

The Chronicer is responsible for the production and publication of the Baronial newsletter, *Griffintayle*.

Constable / see Reeve

The Constable is the primary safety officer at an event, the collector of indemnities, and to administer lost property.

Hospitaller / Gabriel van Dorne

The Hospitaller works on the recruitment and retention of new members to the Barony.

Herald / Antonia Rucellai

The Herald is responsible for acting as the voice of the Baron and Baroness, and for assisting in registering names and devices with the College of Arms.

Keeper of the Lists / Fionghuine MacCoinnich

The Keeper of the Lists organises, and keeps track of the results of the various martial competitions in the Barony.

Marshal / Blethyn ap Gryffid

The Marshal is responsible for martial activities in the Barony.

Rapier Marshal / Lorccan Ruadh

The Captain of Archers manages the Baronial rapier activities.

Reeve / Eberhard Neggerstein

The Reeve is responsible for managing the financial reporting of the Barony (i.e. the group treasurer).

Virtual Town Crier / Ginevra Lucia di Namoraza

This Virtual Town Crier is responsible for drafting and updating Baronial website content.

Webwright / Nicodemus Novello

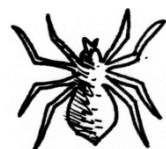
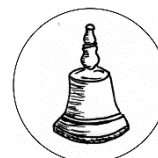
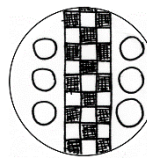
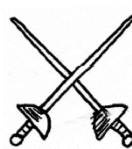
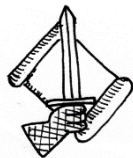
The Webwright maintains the Baronial website.

St Aldhelm Seneschal / Elena Versare

The Seneschal of the College of St Aldhelm is the group president for the Australian National University chapter of the Barony.

St Andronicus Seneschal / Caitlin Dai

The Seneschal of the College of St Andronicus is the group president for the University of Canberra chapter of the Barony.



## About the Barony

The Barony of Politarchopolis is based in Canberra, Australia, and is part of the Kingdom of Lochac. Part of the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA), we are an educational, non-profit organisation dedicated to the study and re-creation of all aspects of life in pre-17th-century medieval and renaissance society.

The primary communication point for the Barony is the [Politarchopolis email list](#), which you may wish to subscribe to if you'd like to receive official announcements and information on upcoming events and activities.

For more information about the Barony of Politarchopolis, [see the group website](#). You may also wish to read more about [the SCA in general](#).

The Barony is quite active on social media, including Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. You may wish to join the [Barony of Politarchopolis Facebook group](#), [@SCAPolit Twitter page](#), [@SCAPolit Instagram page](#), [Politarchopolis Archers Facebook Group](#), [Politarchopolis Fencers Facebook group](#) and/or [Politarchopolis Combat Training Facebook group](#).



Ende.