

The Basilica

BYZANTIUM NOVUM

TOURNAMENT ACTION!

BADUILA CHALKEUS & MICHAEL OF BERGINA

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Web Sites You Should Know

Websites:

[Main Site](#)
[Map of Citizens](#)
[Photobucket](#)

Facebook Groups:

[Main List](#)
[Byzantium Novum Citizens](#)
[Ladies of the Byzantine Nation](#)
[Senate](#)
[Augustaion \(for citizens of BN who also are in SCA\)](#)

Yahoo Groups:

[Main List](#)
[New Citizens](#)
[The Chancellery](#)
[The Senate](#)
[The Literature Club](#)
[The Militarium](#)
[The Foreign Ministry](#)
[Classical Religion](#)
[Byzantium Novum Church](#)
[For cultural subjects](#)
[To discuss "real world" options for BN](#)
[Latin Study Group](#)
[Augustaion](#)
[Practical Military Exercises](#)

Local Yahoo Groups:

[Diocese of Anatoliou Pegalous](#)
[Province of Prasino Boura](#)
[Province of Megalopotamia](#)
[Province of Neophthia](#)
[County of Texas](#)
[County of Greece](#)
[County of California](#)

On the 9th of May, the Village of Bergina (Fredericksburg, Virginia), hosted a medieval tournament under the joint auspices of our Province's President, Baduila Chalkeus, and our Village's Mayor, Michael of Bergina. The tournament was held in honor of the founding and consecration of Constantinople by the Emperor Constantine the Great on 11 May, 330AD.

The event was scheduled to take place at the residence of our President, but heavy rain prevented that, so the event was shifted to a nearby church with short notice. Thankfully, the

church allowed us to conduct our tournament in their activity room after we contacted the local Bishop, who was eager to support us. It should be noted that one of his sons was a participant.

As you can see in the photo, we had about a dozen young men between the ages of 11 and 17 as well as a handful of adults who participated, fighting with plywood shields and padded weapons (swords, maces, spears, dane axes, etc.). The shields were painted with the heraldic insignias of the Province of Megalopotamia (gold and red stripes with a white ChiRho) or the Village of Bergina (the same, with a white chief).

Combat was ferocious and merciless but thankfully not bloody and lasted about 90 minutes. It was cheered by local young women (some of whom participated until they went off to do their own activity unrelated to ours). All participants reported having a great time and have been clamoring for another opportunity to do battle. In addition, some of the young men have spoken with me about joining our Empire and I look forward to adding them to our roster soon.

There will be another tournament later this summer -- I can feel it coming!



REPORT FROM THE GRAND CHANCELLOR BADUILA CHALKEUS

While we continue to recruit and grow, we continue to need counts to recruit new members (remember that the office of count in Byzantium Novum is one to recruit and provide information about our Empire and, when sufficient population exists, to form a colony), and we need counts to continue to recruit. It's amazing how eager people are to join our organization -- they merely need to be asked so there is no need to feel awkward about asking them.

I also suggest some form of email list or forum -- most of us use Yahoo Groups but you can use anything like that to keep your people informed. If you don't know how to set one up, see Count School in the Chancellery.

Counts should be recruiting and informing people about Byzantium Novum. It would be wonderful, as well, to see short autobiographies of counts in The Basilica. If you are a count and are reading this and have not yet provided an autobiography to our editor, please do so immediately for the next issue!

We would also love to have more counts. Counts can be appointed in any US state, Canadian province or any country (other than the US and Canada). If you would like to be appointed a count, please [contact me](#). Appointments must be approved by the Senate and we poll in the last half of every month.

Also, a reminder that we have set up a [new citizen group](#) to help new folks learn about Byzantium Novum. Please feel free to join us there regardless of how long you have been a citizen -- there is something we can all learn!

REPORT FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTER BADUILA CHALKEUS

Things in the Foreign Ministry have been slow -- nearly stagnant, in fact. We have marked a few historical events, but still have no ties to other microstates. We still need a Deputy Foreign Minister and two Assistant Foreign Ministers. Please see the Help Wanted section for their duties and how to apply.

If you have any ideas, recommendations or suggestions for the Foreign Ministry, please [send them to me](#).

BYZANTIUM NOVUM TRIVIA

1. Who is the President of the Senate of Byzantium Novum?
2. Who is the Mayor of the Village of Bergina?
3. Which country (outside the US) has the most citizens of Byzantium Novum?
4. Who was the first count appointed by the Senate in Byzantium Novum who is still a count?
5. In the Foreign Ministry, who is the Minister of Barbarians?

HELP WANTED!

BY BADUILA CHALKEUS

The Empire of Byzantium Novum is seeking volunteers in several key positions. If you are interested in any of these or have questions regarding them, contact the Grand Chancellor, [Senator Baduila Chalkeus](#).

Deputy Foreign Minister: This is the principal assistant to the Foreign Minister, with responsibility to contact other microstates and similar organizations with the purpose of establishing diplomatic relations. Must be a good writer and diplomat.

Assistant Foreign Ministers: These are assistants to the Foreign Minister and regional experts on areas important to our Empire in a historical context. Must be willing to participate by sharing information on the area of your regional assignment on the Foreign Ministry Yahoo Group. The two areas available are: (1) The German and Italian States and (2) Successor States to the Empire (Trebizond, Epirus, Athens, Achaea, Nicaea, and the Latin Empire)

Magistrates: Seeking magistrates (governors) to form colonies of Byzantium Novum in the following parts of the world, with assistance from the Grand Chancellor. Must be willing to organize a local group and operate it in accordance with the directions of the Senate.

USA: Washington-Oregon-Idaho, Colorado-Arizona-Utah-New Mexico, Illinois-Wisconsin, Michigan-Indiana-Ohio, California-Nevada, Pennsylvania, Maryland-Delaware and New York.

Europe: England-Wales, Netherlands-Belgium-Luxembourg, Germany, Greece and Serbia.

SUBMISSIONS TO THE BASILICA



Are you a writer, photographer, artisan or have an interest in writing a piece for our newsletter? We'd love to have your input, and articles, book reviews, recipes, photos, poems, stories, drawings, and more would be wonderful additions to *The Basilica*! You must be willing to sign a release for anything used in this, or any other, publication by Byzantium Novum. Release forms can be received by contacting [Amma Doukaina](#), editor. Let us know what you'd like to see in *The Basilica*! Your time and input are valuable! Your knowledge should be shared! The options here are wide open, and we are eager to take items by our citizens to share! Please include a photo with your submission if possible!

BOOK REPORT BY MARCUS MUNICIUS AUDENS

JOHN HALDON, "BYZANTIUM AT WAR, AD 600 - 1453, ESSENTIAL HISTORIES #33" OSPREY PUB., OXFORD, UK, NEW YORK CITY, 2002.

Byzantium survived for 800 years, yet its dominions and power fluctuated dramatically during that time. The author tells the story from the days when the empire was barely clinging on to survival, to the age when its fabulous wealth attracted Viking Mercenaries and Asian Nomad Warriors to its armies, their very appearance on the field being enough to bring an enemy to terms. In 1453 the last emperor of Byzantium, Constantine XII died fighting on the ramparts, bringing to a romantic end the glorious history of this legendary empire. This is a history of war as seen from political, strategic, tactical, cultural and individual perspectives, and, "In reading these histories one gains a much deeper understanding of war during this period of history, and a further and stronger basis for thinking about peace (Prof. R O'Neill - Ed.)."

In its long history, from later Fifth Century, when the last vestiges of the western half of the Roman Empire were absorbed into barbarian successor kingdoms until the fall of its capitol, Constantinople, the empire was almost constantly at war. The strategic situation in the southern Balkan lands made this inevitable because of the constant challenge of its neighbors. At first the Persian Empire in the East, and later the Rise of the Islamic Forces in this region, as well as the northern neighbors, Slavs, Avars (a Turkic people) in the sixth and seventh centuries, the Bulgars from the end of the seventh century to the early eleventh century. In the later eleventh and twelfth centuries, the Hungarians, and Serbs, and finally following the Greek and Balkan conquests, came the Ottoman Turks.

Relations with the western powers which arose from what remained of the western Roman Empire during the fifth century were complicated and tense, not least because of the political competition between the papacy and the Constantinopolitan patriarchate, the two major sees – Alexandria, Antioch and Jerusalem were far less powerful after the Islamic Conquests of the seventh century -- in the Christian world. Byzantium survived so long because it was internally well-organized, with an efficient fiscal and military system, and partly because these advantages, rooted in the late Roman past, lasted well into the eleventh century. But as its western and northern neighbors grew in resources and political stability they were able to challenge the empire for pre-eminence, reducing it by the early thirteenth century to a second or even third rate rump of its former self, subordinated to the politics of the west and the commercial interests of Venice, Pisa, and Genoa, among others, the greatest of the Italian merchant republics.

Further Reading Suggestions:

Angold, M, "The Byzantine Empire 1025 – 1204, A Political History," London, Longman, 1984;

Bartusis, M. C., "The Late Byzantine Army. Arms and Society, 1204 – 1453," Philadelphia, U. Penn. Press, 1992;

Dixon, Karen R, and Southern, Pat, "The Late Roman Army," London, Routledge, 1996;

Elton H., "Warfare In Roman Europe, AD 350–425," Oxford, Blackwell, 1996;

Haldon, J. F., "State, Army, and Society In Byzantium. Approaches To Military, Social, and Administrative History," Aldershot: Variorum, 1995;

Haldon, J. F., "Warfare, State and Society In the Byzantine World, 565 – 1204," London, Rutledge, 1999;

Haldon, J. F., "Byzantium, A History," Stroud, Tempus, 2000;

Haldon, J. F., "The Byzantine Wars," Stroud, Tempus, 2001;

Kaegi, W. E., "Byzantine Military Unrest, 471 – 843, An Interpretation," Amsterdam, Hakkert, 1981;

McGeer, Eric, "Sowing the Dragon's Teeth. Byzantine Warfare In the Tenth Century," Dumbarton Oaks Studies XXXIII, Washington DC, Dumbarton Oaks, 1995.

Miller T. S. and Nesbitt J. S. (eds.), "Peace and War in Byzantium," Washington DC, CUA, 1995;

SEIGE WARFARE

BY MARCUS MUNICIUS AUDENS

Of all of the warfare that involved sieges against fortified places, the group that inspired the worst fear in those who faced them were the Mongols. The Mongols it seems had no limitations to what they thought proper in a siege from catapulting the heads of their prisoners into the fortified place from using captured children as shields on their siege engines. In respect to brutality and genocide, it appears that they had no equals save for perhaps the ancient Assyrians.

In this history of the most violent of those who used siege warfare Vlad the Impaler (Count Dracula), the Prince of Wallachia used the device of impalement for the masses of his captured men and women whether they were either Christians or Turks. These tactics as cruel and horrendous as they were, successfully kept the enemy at bay through a campaign of intimidation.

In third place, surprisingly were the Vikings who struck terror to the hearts of those who lived on virtually every coast-line of Europe and North Africa. Their trails of looting and pillage remained as a burning memory to all those who had endured such a campaign.

In the history of siege warfare the worst destructive elements of this style of battle was:

Disease or pestilence: Because this was not fully understood, use of this element could easily cause defeat of either the attacker or those being besieged;

Starvation: Without adequate stored supplies of food, this element usually affected the defender more than those engaged in the attack;

Lack of water: This was probably the most effective element in warfare unless the besieged had access to a well, cistern, or some other water source. One of the first things a besieger wanted to do was to cut off or poison the water supply of the defenders;

Time: This was usually determined by supplies or by rescue. If the siege extended a long time the besieger was more likely to raise the siege. If the defenders were rescued by forces friendly to the defender, this was also possible in raising the siege. However, if the defender ran out of supplies (food, water, military supplies, etc.) the defender was faced with surrender.

Of all of the weapons used in siege warfare, the following were the most effective:

The trebuchet: This is essentially a catapult that used a counterweight in order to gain more power and a longer distance of throw. It could launch a wide variety of projectiles and could with proper use inflict significant damage on walls and the inside of the castle, fort or city.

The crossbow and long bow: The defender benefitted more from these tools of warfare, allowing his to target and hit the enemy from behind fortifications.

The belfry: The belfry was a tower which in most cases allowed the attacker to reach the summit of the fortifications and thereby dominate the walls. The problem was in moving the machine into position over ditches, and other ground defenses.

Mining: It was an effective way to bring down a wall or tower if the besieger had time on their side. It could be defeated by countermining on the part of the defenders.

The cannon: In the latter part of the medieval period, the cannon was able to take down walls that were weak and also had the ability to generate a great fear in the defenders.

HOW TO FORM A COLONY IN BYZANTIUM NOVUM BY BADUILA CHALKEUS

Our Empire is growing in leaps and bounds, but the vast majority of our members live outside of the organized local and regional groups (about 22% live in the diocese and colonies currently formed). For your information, local chapters in Byzantium Novum consist of provinces (local chapters that are part of a diocese; we have three provinces at present*) and colonies (local chapters that are outside the dioceses, we currently have five colonies**).

There are a number of areas where colonies could be founded quickly – the population already exists and is awaiting only a leader to get them organized. These areas are Washington-Oregon-Idaho, California-Nevada, Utah-Colorado-Arizona-New Mexico, Wisconsin-Illinois, Michigan-Indiana-Ohio, Pennsylvania-New Jersey, Maryland-Delaware-DC, New York***, England***, Netherlands-Belgium-Luxembourg, Germany, Serbia***, Russia and Greece.

So what do you need to form a colony?

First of all, you need five citizens. All of the areas in the last paragraph meet or exceed that requirement. Second, you need a slate of officers. Under an administrative waiver granted with the consent of the Senate last month, that means you need just two officers: a governor (called a magistrate in colonies) and one other officer – a chancellor (administrator), chamberlain (recruiter), tribune (security or re-enactor), or a treasurer. You can, of course, have all of them!

There is a handy-dandy form that I will send the prospective governor, where he or she will list the officers and all the citizens, provide a name for the colony, and tell me where it is. The governor signs the form and sends it back to me. At that point, I will take the form to the Senate for our monthly polling. The Senate polls the last half of every month (assuming we have something to vote on) and announces results on the first day of each month.

The whole process can be done in a few days, and I will help all I can before, during and after the approval process. I look forward to colonies and dioceses covering the globe. If you would like to form a colony, please contact me. Let's work together to make our Empire great!

– Baduila Chalkeus, Grand Chancellor

*Megalopotamia in Virginia and West Virginia, Prasino Boura in Tennessee and Kentucky, and Neophthia in North and South Carolina. They are all parts of the Diocese of Anatoliou Pelagous.

** Valentia in Scotland, Nova Gallica in Eastern Canada, Nova Raska in Texas-Louisiana-Arkansas, Noviodunum in Northern New England and Neoaustralia in Australia.

*** Could actually form two colonies with the current population.

THE LAMENT OF ADONIS

I feel a coldness in the air, the sudden silence brings chills to my immortal blood,
Should I remain where I am? And stay where the golden gates keep evil at bay?
The feeling upon my brow comes with warnings that were not felt until now,
for I am about to live my greatest fear.
My losing of him, thy dearest beloved..

As I walk along paths where no mortal dares to tread, as I see his body broken, his limbs unable to repair, remnants of his beauty remain no more, his soul bereft from his human form, as he took his final breath in my arms. And what thoughts will echo from my immortal kindred, when they finally see how much he meant to me? Only in silence will I ever be able to truly grieve.

What will become of my dear Adonis? How will I dry the flowing river of tears that run red?

The Boar that struck and my sweet sister shall truly pay, in recompense of what was lost. A piece of my fiery heart now gone,
replaced by smoldering ash.

I'd like to be there, when the time comes to place around him the funeral shroud. Although should I join the crowd of mourners at the funeral pyre? Yet I cannot, for our love was secret and was never known to be, the secret known to only him and me.

Under the branches of the Cherry Blossom tree, alone do I shed my tears.

In silence I grieve, will forever mourn my brightest flower, I pray to Jupiter that retribution will be quick and delivered with speed,
as the petals fall in confirmation.

**TRINITY
BY
THECLA PORPHYROGENITA**

Writing from 4th Century Constantinople, St. Gregory of Nyssa complained that *everyone* had a theological axe to grind. Ask a tradesman for change or a bath attendant for a towel and you would get a long story about the doctrine of the Trinity. I would have loved it, because [Trinitarian theology is my thing](#).

The Trinity doctrine is not arbitrary. It is an attempt to make sense of a number of theological puzzles, in particular, the question of how one can hold that Jesus Christ, can be a legitimate object of worship. Within the Judeo-Christian tradition, worshipping anything less than God is idolatry so non-idolatrous worship of Christ requires devotees to recognize his divine status. At this point however we reach the parting of the ways between Nicene orthodoxy and its heterodox alternatives on the left and right: Modalism or Sabellianism on the one hand and Subordinationism, often attributed to the Arius, on the other.

On the one hand, there is Modalism, or Sabellianism insofar as it is ascribed to Sabellius. On this account, Father, Son and Holy Spirit are just three different “modes” or attributes of one God. This seems to be the intuitive account for monotheists: we understand God as Son insofar as he is incarnate in Jesus Christ, as Spirit insofar as he reveals himself in his Church, and as Father to the extent that he is the source of Trinitarian Persons and in himself the Unknown God.

The trouble with this account is that it forces us to ascribe properties to God that appear to be inconsistent with his divine nature. If Christ is God—is identical to God—then we shall have to say that whatever property he has God has. So since he had all the properties of an ordinary human being except for sin, we should have to say that God had all those properties. Since he was crucified, we should have to say that God was crucified—the heresy of *patripassionism*.

So Hippolytus (170 – 235) accusing Pope Zephyrinus of Sabellianism called him a disciple of “Heraclitus the Obscure,” the pre-Socratic philosopher infamous for his love of contradictions. Hippolytus argued that Zephyrinus’ Sabellianism committed him to holding that God was both immortal and mortal, impassible and suffering.

Coming closer to the Council of Nicaea in 325, which defined orthodoxy as regards the doctrine of the Trinity, the heresy de jour was Subordinationism and, in particular, the doctrine associated with Arius, a turbulent priest of Alexandria and the antagonist of the even more turbulent Alexandrian patriarch Athanasius. Subordinationism came in a variety of flavors but the fundamental idea was that the Persons of the Trinity constituted an ordered in a hierarchy of distinct Persons. Though each of the Persons was divine, the Father was superior and the Son, identified with the Logos through which all things were made, was a lesser god.

This was a familiar Platonic theme, elaborated by Plotinus. The worry was that a supreme, transcendent being unable to get his hands dirty messing with the material world, brought forth a lesser God—the demiurge (artificer) of the *Timaeus* or, in Christian theology, the Logos, through which all material things were made. The trouble with this account was that it seemed suspiciously close to thi-theism.

The doctrine adopted at the Council of Nicaea and refined at the Council of Constantinople, which was supposed to tread the fine line, between Modalism and Subordinationism, avoiding both Sabellianism and Arianism, was ultimately unsatisfactory. The Trinitarian questions debated at Nicaea were reconstituted as Christological questions and got kicked to the Council of Chalcedon. And so the conversation continued...and continues.

When it comes to theology we can only speculate. The nature of God, if there is a God, is incomprehensible. And God surely doesn’t care whether we believe he exists or not, much less whether we get a passing grade on some theology test. Those Constantinopolitan butchers, bakers and bathhouse attendants for whom theology was an entertainment understood: Christianity is not a system of moral obligations or rules for belief and behavior. It’s a collection of logic puzzles and conceptual toys, of art, music and architecture: a source of intellectual stimulation and aesthetic pleasure.

SENATE ACTIVITIES

In March 2012, the Senate:

Appointed the following citizens as Count Third Class of the area listed: Marcus Minucius Audens to be Count Third Class of Southern New England and Lukaris Narses to be Count Third Class of Arizona.

In April 2012, the Senate:

Thanked the following citizens for their year of service as Count Third Class and appoint them to a one-year term as Count Second Class: Pavlos Constantinos to be Count Second Class of the Netherlands, Priscus Psellos to be Count Second Class of Kansas, Michael Psellos to be Count Second Class of Greece, Marcus Pompeius Caninus to be Count Second Class of Alaska

and Alexious Komninos to be Count Second Class of Australia. Appointed Dzulian as Count Third Class of Serbia and Theodosius of Nicaea as Count Third Class of Illinois.

In May 2012, the Senate:

Thanked Thecla Porphyrogenita for her year of service as Count Third Class of California and appointed her to a one-year term as Count Second Class.

In June 2012, the Senate:

- The Senate thanked Alexius Kaspax for his year of service as Count Third Class of Texas and appoint him to a one-year term as Count Second Class.

- The Senate appointed Joseph David Vanden Brink as Count Third Class of Alberta, Canada.

- The Senate allowed the Grand Chancellor to change the Administrative Handbook to allow Chaplains in Colonies and Provinces.

- The Senate allowed the Grand Chancellor to change the Administrative Handbook to make the Chamberlain responsible for arts and sciences and leave welcoming of new citizens to the counts.

- The Senate allowed the Grand Chancellor to change the Administrative Handbook to permit counts to exist in all parts of the Empire, including dioceses.

There are two other polls still under review that will be announced at a later date.

Congratulations to the counts!

A CLASSICAL PRAYER FROM MATYAS EXARCH

O Father Mars

You March across the Sky
Every Night

Our Priests and Generals
Show Us Soldiers Your
Magnificence

You Father Mars are With Me
Because I see You in The
Dome of Heaven

O Father Mars You Make Us
Bring Death to the Enemies

O My God Mars You also Make Us
Protect The People of Our Great
Nation

O Father Mars Let Me Taste the
Victory Once More

War is Your Rule

We are Your Chosen Ones

O Father Mars We shall Always
Follow Your March and Orders

We are Your Sons



Translated
and
adapted
from the
Etruscan
language

REPORT OF THE PROVOST OF THE INSIGNIA

Greetings fellow citizens!

Like many of you, I am constantly looking for ways to contribute to Byzantium Novum. So when the Chancellor sends out a call for volunteers I usually give each position some thought. In the second issue of *The Basilica* the Chancellor published several 'help wanted' ads. One in particular caught my eye. He was seeking a volunteer for Provost of the Insignia. Many years ago I served as a herald in the Kingdom of Atlantia in the SCA under Jaelle of Armida. I have always had an interest in working with coats of arms and heraldic display so this opportunity seemed like a good fit. The job description for the Provost of the Insignia is:

This is a deputy to the Grand Chancellor, with responsibility for coordinating heraldic display across the Empire. Must be a good organizer and active in Byzantium Novum. Recommended that he/she be experienced in heraldry.

So, basically, the Provost of the Insignia assists individuals and groups associated with Byzantium Novum to design and properly display insignia, coats of arms and other identifying marks and symbols. Now, to be sure, heraldry was not a big thing in the historical Empire. It wasn't until after the knights of the Crusades arrived in Byzantium that a few individuals and families began using coats of arms in a manner similar to Western European practice. But heraldry provides a good means to ensure our national image, and for that matter our personal branding, is presented in a way that is distinctive, meaningful and consistent with the purposes and goals of our modern micro-nation. So, if you would like to design a personal coat of arms or if you are part of a local group that needs an official coat of arms, [please contact me](#) to get the process started.

I remain in your service,

Marcos Galanis
 Provost of the Insignia
 Count of Alaska

SUBMISSIONS TO THE
 BASILICA

Are you a writer, photographer, artist or have an interest in writing a piece for *The Basilica*? We would love to have your input, and articles, book reviews, recipes, photos, stories, drawings and more would be wonderful additions to the newsletter! You must be willing to sign a release for anything used in this, or other publications

by Byzantium Novum. [Release forms are available from Amma.](#) Let us know what you'd like to see in upcoming issues! Your time and input are valuable! Your knowledge should be shared! The options here are wide open! Please include a photo of yourself with your submissions if you can.

Senators and other officers please send in your biographies with photos! [Questions and ideas can be sent to the editor.](#)

Trivia Answers!

1. Senator Marcus Cassius Julianus
2. Michael of Bergina
3. The United Kingdom, with 23 citizens.
4. Senator Marcus Cassius Julianus (Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont) appointed 1 January, 2011. Of three others appointed that day, two resigned and one office dissolved.
5. Senator Marcus Minucius Audens

WHERE HAVE YOU GONE?

We have lost contact with some citizens and would like to get back in touch with them.

If you have an email address for any of the following, or better yet if you ARE one of these citizens, please [contact me](#) immediately. Thanks!

John Damascene
 Paulus Urbicus Basilius
 Appolodor
 James T. E. Chengelis
 Rev. Archdeacon John DeMeis
 Adam Jones
 George Nagy Nesseem
 Loucas A Nicolaidis
 Saifullah
 Michelangelo Pastori
 Roman Schulmann
 Billios Maximos
 Gaia Valeria Pulchra
 Diana Octavia
 Michael Marius Barbour
 Iosef Kapodistrias
 Photios Bikentios (Photius Vincentius)
 Robertus Nobilus
 Konstantinos Argyros
 Gaius Laurentius
 Kostas Kallistos
 Marcos Christophoros

Governors of Byzantium Novum		
Diocese of Anatoliou Pegalous Vicar - Amma Doukaina	Province of Megalopotamia President - Baduila Chalkeus	Virginia & West Virginia
	Village of Bergina Mayor - Michael	Fredericksburg, Virginia
	Province of Prasino Boura President - Ulf the Varangian	Kentucky & Tennessee
	Province of Neophthia (<i>vacant - contact Amma if interested</i>)	North & South Carolina
Colony of Valentia Magistrate - Tiberius Tullius Lucianus		Scotland
Colony of Nova Gallica Magistrate - Oliver Domonkos		Eastern Canada
Colony of Nova Raska Magistrate - Alexius Kaspax		Texas, Arkansas & Louisiana
Colony of Noviodunum Magistrate - Marcus Cassius Julianus		Northern New England
Colony of Neoaustralia Magistrate - Alexius Comnineous		Australia
Village of Phoenix Mayor - Kysanthe Meridia Altessa Aeternia		Phoenix, Arizona

GOVERNORS IN BYZANTIUM NOVUM BADUILA CHALKEUS

We have three offices that we refer to as "governors" in Byzantium Novum. These are Vicars, Presidents, and Magistrates. There is a lot of confusion about this, and I hope I will be able to clarify some of the misunderstandings.

Vicars govern dioceses (or *themes*), the regional groups in Byzantium Novum. Currently we only have one, Anatoliou Pelagous, which covers Virginia, West Virginia, the Carolinas, Kentucky and Tennessee. My intent was to make the vicar a powerful position that would be able to assist lower organizations (called provinces), and take some of the work load off the Senate to get the Senate out of local governance where possible. Upon assuming office, vicars are awarded the honorific *Spatharios* by the Senate. Vicars are also granted the honorific *Vir clarissimus* upon appointment. After completion of one two year term of office, vicars are awarded the honorific *Prôtospatharios* by the Senate. Vicars also have the authority to grant the honorific *Vir eminentissimus* to one of their citizens every year.

Presidents govern Provinces, local chapters in Byzantium Novum that are part of a Diocese. We have three provinces in Byzantium Novum: Megalopotamia (Virginia and West Virginia), Prasino Boura (Kentucky and Tennessee) and Neophthia (the Carolinas). Presidents are the legal head of the local chapter and must be a legal adult in his/her area (where there are multiple legal ages due to multiple jurisdictions, he/she must meet the highest one). After completion of one two year term of office, presidents are awarded the honorific *Spatharios* by the Senate.

Magistrates govern Colonies, which are also local chapters in Byzantium Novum. Since they are not part of a diocese, their job is a little harder and they have more authority for that reason. We currently have five colonies: Valentia (Scotland), Nova Gallica (Eastern Canada), Nova Raska (Texas, Louisiana and Arkansas), Noviodunum (Northern New England) and Neoaustralia (Australia). The magistrate is the legal head of the local chapter and must be a legal adult in his/her area (where there are multiple legal ages due to multiple jurisdictions, he/she must meet the highest one). After completion of one two year term of office, magistrates are awarded the honorific *Spatharokandidatos* by the Senate.

Another office frequently confused with governor is **count** (or countess). Counts are *not* governors, but serve as points of contact for information on our Empire, recruit and help form colonies and provinces. Counts fall under an imperial officer called the Provost of the Chamber, Mikhail Ivan Alexandrovich Nickolopoulos-Gretzenko, who is a Deputy in the Grand Chancellery. A count can also be a magistrate. Current guidelines do not allow counts in dioceses, so a count cannot be appointed in a diocese or province.

Another administrator similar to governors and counts is **mayor**. The duty of a mayor is to facilitate face to face meetings in area where several citizens of Byzantium Novum reside. Typically, these will be urban areas with their surrounding suburbs. Mayors are appointed by vicars or magistrates, who will then notify the Senate of the appointment. Mayors may be appointed by the Senate where no diocese or colony exists. They have no term limit and serve at the will of the Senate or presiding vicar or magistrate. Mayors may not appoint deputies.

If anyone has any questions on vicars, presidents, magistrates, or counts, or would like to serve in one of these positions, please [contact me](#).

B U S I N E S S N A M E

MISSION STATEMENT

Byzantium Novum is a micro-nation dedicated to the rebirth of Byzantine culture and civilization which was formed to become a small, legitimate successor state to the Byzantine Empire. We exist as a micro-national sovereignty project, working to bring Byzantine civilization to life in the modern world as much as is possible. Our goal is to establish a physical, symbolic and administrative world capitol of 100 acres or more, where the Byzantine State may have a real-world existence and coordinate Byzantine interests around the world.

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**H A V E A Q U E S T I O N ?
A S K T H E E X P E R T S !**

If you need help with Byzantine topics, please feel free to contact our resident experts!

Cassius- Micronations, ancient Byzantine artifacts and coins

Paul- Byzantine Culture, Arts, Music, Theology

Teleri- Garb

Baduila- Byzantine-era names and heraldry; Byzantium Novum governmental structure, administration & officers; Byzantine military; forming local groups within Byzantium Novum; and recruiting

Alexius Kaspax- Byzantine and European Military History

Thecla Porphyrogenita- Church History and Theology

Marcus Audens- Naval Shipping and Organization, Military Fortification, Geography and Cartography

Amma Doukaina- Food and Cooking, Women's Household Roles, Spice Trade, Culinary History, Western European paganism/history

Ulf the Varangian- SCA armor, recreations, re-enactment armor, Wants to fight in the SCA household for Byzantium Novum ([Augustaion](#))?

Everyone in Byzantium Novum has their own special knowledge of or interest in Byzantine history! If you're willing to share your expertise, please [email](#) us, and we'll add you to the list of experts!

If you have a video of yourself lecturing on a Byzantine topic that we could share via our YouTube.com page, [let us know!](#) We'd love to start sharing video of the ways we all incorporate Byzantium into our daily lives.

Would you like to submit an article for upcoming newsletters? Please send your submission along with proper release forms to the [Grand Librarian](#).