

The Zephyr

July, 2009



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This is the July, 2009 issue of the Zephyr, the official newsletter of the Incipient Barony of Ayreton, a branch of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. The Zephyr is published as a service to the membership of the SCA's Incipient Barony of Ayreton. Subscriptions are free.

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□ Greetings from the Chronicler □

I hope this letter finds you well, warm, and ready for summer camping! This issue's theme is on Preparing for War – and contains some missives from our friends in other Baronies. This is great food for thought as we continue to consider what we want as our own Baronial customs and traditions.

Submissions and Publication

I'm happy to receive submissions of any sort for our newsletter. If you write it or draw it, I'll find space to publish it. We are publishing on a quarterly basis, and next issue will be about as well as any other articles or announcements you'd like included. The deadline for the next issue will be September 15, and I will publish at the beginning of October.

-- Mistress Gianetta Andreini da Vicenza, Ayreton Chronicler

□ Officer Reports □

Seneschal Report

Greetings All from Master Philip White, Seneschal Ayreton.

Hoobah Ayreton!!!

Our actions continue to demonstrate our commitment to each other as friends and neighbors as well as our continued development into a Barony. Each of us are playing a part in this transition and it is only because we are all dedicated to treating each other with respect and having more fun that our change is going so smoothly.

So much has happened in the past few months of which we have to be proud: we saw the first unveiling of the Ayreton Militia at Border Skirmish; our name and device both passed through Kingdom and are waiting for approval; we helped Vanished Wood with Rose Tourney; many of our friends received awards at Coronation, Crown Tourney, and Rose Tourney – well deserved; we helped support of neighbors at Rampage for Ragnarok and Rites of Spring; and we've had many fine displays of service to the realm, martial prowess, and artistic endeavors.

Of particular interest, the Shire of Foxvale was elevated to full status. Congratulations!

Our last newsletter was about the Landed Nobility and included letters from the populace as well as sitting Nobles from throughout the Kingdom. It is an excellent source of information so please read. Part of our requirements for becoming a full status Barony is to decide on our expectations for the Baron and Baroness. You can use this last newsletter as a starting point to know what is important to you. Thanks to everyone who contributed.

In the near future we will have a number of opportunities to support each other. At Simple Day we want to show our unity, followed by Fox Hunt and Midrealm XL Year Celebration. Please volunteer!

Pennsic is also very near and we have a number of chances to show our support to the Kingdom and our unity as a Barony. Remember to wear your badges as you retain, stand guard, teach, serve, fight, shoot, and have fun. We'll have a lot of opportunity to visit with each other and remember to use our Baronial message board located at House Raeburn to help spread information.

Concerning our transition, we have a number of important items to be considered that we have been working very hard to complete. Please go to the Baronial website and read through the transition information so you understand the steps we are taking to become a Barony. In particular please note that we expect to vote on the Financial Policy in July, the Expectations of the Landed Nobility in September, and our Charter in November.

Again, thank you to all the people who are working so hard not only to support our efforts but who continue to make our Society entertaining. Word fame and sincere thanks are sometimes the most treasured moments in our organization so please be free in giving them as often as you can.

--Your Servant to Command, p.w.

From the Outgoing Chatelaine

I would like to thank everyone in Ayreton for supporting the chatelaine's office during my short tenure. Every one of you has worked in some capacity to help support new members in their efforts to find their way. Many of you have shown and taught your arts to potential new members at demos, shown those still living in the modern world that such a thing as chivalry exists even while pummeling each other with swords or steel, have handed out flyers, answered questions and shared your time, talents and energy. You have made my time in office a joy and I thank you for it.

I wrote a letter of introduction for an upcoming Pale that discusses my beliefs in what it takes to raise a happy SCA member. It is all members working together in different capacities to welcome new members and help teach them our customs and traditions, to stay with them until those traditions become their own. I have to say, y'all got what it takes! You came through for Ayreton, time and time again, supporting recruitment and education of new people. So thank you.And keep it up.

Welcome your new officer with the same enthusiasm and eagerness. I certainly will. I promise that I will continue to support the office as best I may and will strive to make sure that information goes both ways; to kingdom and to us. There are a lot of good ideas that Ayreton has for helping new members along their journey. I will take those to others throughout the kingdom, giving credit where due...(promise!) I will share information about any changes that is happening with the chatelaine's office with all as soon as I am able...(promise!), and I will share the excitement and the energy that is Ayreton. I am proud to have assisted, as Ayreton continues to excel and grow. Thank you for being a shining example of the village that raises happy new members. You guys rock!

Hillary of Langeforde

Herald's Report

In addition to the awards received by members of Ayreton (listed elsewhere in this newsletter), the following members of Ayreton have submitted their names and/or devices.

<u>SCA Name</u>	<u>Type of Submission</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Status</u>
Ayla Volquin	Name and Device	April 2009 LoAR	Accepted by RS
Elianora Saunfayle	Device	April 2009 LoAR	Accepted by RS
Jadwiga Wlodzislawska	Device Resubmission	May 2009 ILoI	Pending
Margrett Nowoode	Name and Device	May 2009 ILoI	Pending

Other Heraldic Activities:

- Shire of FoxVale became a full status shire at Rose Tourney

Upcoming Officer Reporting Schedule

Baronial and Shire Officers, please take note of these upcoming report dates.

Officer	Shire Officer Due Date	Barony/Province Officer Due Date
Archery Marshal	September 1	September 1
Chirurgion	September 1	September 1
Chronicler	October 1	October 1
Exchequer	July 31	July 31
Herald	September 30	September 30
Knights Marshal	September 1	September 1
Minister of Arts & Sciences	August 1	August 15
Rapier Marshal	September 1	September 1
Seneschal	September 15	September 21
Webminister	October 1	October 1

□ **Baronial Transition** □

As we are working to becoming a Barony there are many different activities that are going on all at once. Here are some of the things we have been doing as a group already as well as some of the things that will be required to become a full status Barony.

Baronial Accomplishments:

Celebrate many of our already successful undertakings!

- We are an Incipient Barony!
 - Listed in Pale and on Midrealm.org
 - Maintain group email lists
- We host events!
 - Three Ayreton Carnivales
 - Three Ayreton Arts Academies
 - Coronation
 - Midrealm Forty Year Celebration
- We host activities!
 - Joint Fighter Practices
 - Baronial Guilds
 - Business Meetings
 - Recruitment demonstrations
- We train as a unit!
 - Hold combat classes
 - Train for mêlée combat
 - Travel to events
- Baronial Officers!
 - Most have deputies
 - Regularly Reporting
 - Receiving reports from local officers
- We have a newsletter! The Zephyr!
 - Themes for growing as a Barony
 - Lots of great content
- We support the Kingdom!
 - Give largess to the Crown
 - Volunteer at neighboring group events
 - Insignia projects
 - Host Kingdom parties at wars
- We have Ceremony!
 - Display device for fighters in Crown
 - Wear our Baronial badges at events
 - Wear Baronial tabards
 - Participate in Court with other Baronies

Baronial Petition Requirements:

These items are required for us to petition to the Kingdom to grant us full status as a Barony:

- A petition to transition to Baronial status
- Approval for our name and device to the College of Heralds
- A baronial charter or standard operating procedure
- Expectations for our Landed Nobility
- History of Ayreton including each of the local groups

- Letters of support for our elevation to a full status Barony
- A map illustrating our lands
- A list of zip codes detailing our location
- List of officers

Baronial Transition Process:

These are the different steps we follow in order to become a Barony along with our progress for each of the steps. *Completed actions are italicized.*

- 1) *The seneschal will submit a petition to transition to Baronial status to the Transitions Office, Regional Seneschal and Crown*
- 2) *The group will receive permission from the Transitions Office to begin compiling their transition packet*
- 3) The group will compile their transition packet (partially completed):
 - a) *A petition to transition to Baronial status*
 - b) History of Ayreton including each of the local groups (partially completed):
 - i. *History of Ayreton*
 - ii. *History of Foxvale*
 - iii. History of Grey Gargoyles – requested from group
 - iv. History of Rokkehealden – requested from group
 - v. History of Tree-Girt-Sea – requested from group
 - vi. History of Vanished Wood – requested from group
 - c) Approval for our name and device to the College of Heraldry (partially completed):
 - i. *Name included in November 10, 2008 Internal Letter of Intent. Comments due by December 25, 2008. Name included in February 2009 External Letter of Intent. Commentary from College of Heraldry due by May 31, 2009. Pelican meeting on June 6, 2009. Wreath meeting on June 14, 2009. Could receive approval as early as August 2009*
 - ii. *Device included in January 31, 2009 Internal Letter of Intent. Comments due by February 15, 2009. Could receive approval as early as October 2009*
 - d) A Baronial charter or standard operating procedure (partially completed):
 - i. Baronial charter (partially completed):
 - *Decide on topics to be included*
 - Discuss topics and make decisions (partially completed) – We are on target to finish discussing topics in our July 2009 or September 2009 charter meetings
 - Draft final wording and format – We expect this to take one or two meetings so could be completed as early as the October 2009 charter meeting
 - Populace approval of charter – We hope to have the charter ready for populace approval as early as the November 2009 business meeting
 - ii. Financial policy (partially completed) – An initial draft has been reviewed and reworked. We are waiting for final commentary and then approval from the populace. We hope to have the financial policy ready for populace approval as early as the July 2009 business meeting
 - e) Expectations for our Landed Nobility (partially completed) – We have published a newsletter on what people expect from Landed Nobles. We would like to have the expectations ready for populace approval as early as the September 2009 business meeting
 - f) Letters of support for our elevation to a full status Barony (partially completed) – We will continue to accept letters of support until we formally submit to change our status. Letters are requested from Kingdom Officers, Regional Officers, Peers, and anyone interested in the advancement of the group.
 - g) A map illustrating our lands (partially completed) – We are confirming what form the map is expected to take.
 - h) *A list of zip codes detailing our location*
 - i) *List of officers*
- 4) *Dates and times of meetings dealing with the transition continually published in the local newsletter.*
- 5) Provide transition packet to the Transitions Officer, Regional Seneschal, Kingdom Seneschal, Heirs, and Crown
- 6) Transitions Officer will confirm zip codes and verify membership numbers of the prospective Barony.
- 7) The group will wait for approval of transition packet before people declare as candidates for Landed Nobility.

- 8) The group seneschal will forward letters of intent from all candidates who wish to run as Landed Nobility along with copies of their membership cards to the Transitions Officer.
- 9) The Transitions office will request mailing labels from corporate based upon the agreed upon zip codes. Funds to cover the cost of polling will be requested from the group by the Transitions office.
- 10) Notice will be published in the Pale by the group stating the tentative polling dates.
- 11) The poll will be conducted by the Transitions Office in accordance with Kingdom and Corporate Law. Polls will be mailed to all paid members of the prospective Barony. A non-member poll will be provided to the seneschal for any non-paid members or non-group members who wish to participate. A non-member poll will be made available on the Middle Kingdom Seneschals website for the duration of the poll. The poll will include the question, “Do you support the transition of the Shires of Foxvale, Grey Gargoyles, Rokkehealden, and Vanished Wood from the status of “Shire” to “Canton” and the transition of the Province of Tree-Girt-Sea from “Province” to “Canton” under the creation of the Barony of Ayreton?”
- 12) The tallied results of the poll, the polls, and the transition packet shall be forwarded to the Kingdom Seneschal and the Crown. Once the Crown has reached a decision on the first Baron/Baroness, a copy of the complete transition packet with the Crown’s recommendations will be forwarded to the Society Seneschal for final approval/disapproval.

Baronial Transition Timeline:

July:	Possible approval of Financial Policy
August:	Possible approval of Name
September:	Possible approval of Landed Nobility Expectations
October:	Possible approval of Device
November:	Possible approval of Charter
December:	Possible submission of Transition Packet
January:	Curia Meeting
	Possible declaration of candidate for Landed Nobility
February:	Possible Polling for Landed Nobility

How you can help:

- Act like a Barony. Let people know you are from Ayreton and what our group is.
- Organize ways that we can show our unity – either by fighting as a unit, volunteering as a group, traveling to events together, creating banners and tabards (once we have a finalized device).
- Continue holding events, activities, and meetings.
- Attend our Charter creation meetings. Think of what you would like to include in a Charter talk about it at a meeting or send in your comments. Keep in mind we are planning for a simple clean document and that not all suggestions can be included.
- Think of what you would expect from a Baron or Baroness. Remember that all suggestions will be considered but may not be included.
- Email the Ayreton Seneschal and the Ayreton Chronicler stories of the history of the group so that we can compile them for the petition. Please also submit any other documentation you think would help support us in transitioning to a Barony.
- Ask your friends and colleagues to write letters of support for our advancement to full status Barony – especially those who are from outside our area.

If you have any questions please contact the Ayreton Seneschal, or your local Seneschal.

□ Prepare for War! □

The summer camping experience is an exciting part of the SCA tradition and culture, be it at Pennsic, the other Wars, or local camping events. Suddenly we are released from the confines of the cafeteria, the gymnasium, and the classroom, and fields are transformed with canvas and banners to scenes of medieval pageantry. As we continue to grow as an Incipient Barony, we look forward to flying Baronial colors at Pennsic this year. Thanks to all who sent articles on summer camping and Preparing for War.

Ayreton Activities at Pennsic

Are you interested in supporting the Barony while at Pennsic? Here are a few activities we will be participating in:

Opening Ceremonies	Sunday 8/2	11 am
Midrealm Royal Guard Duty	Tuesday 8/4	8 am – 10 pm
Populace Archery War Point Shoot	Tuesday 8/4	10 am – 6 pm
Ayreton Revelry Day	Wednesday	5 pm – Evening
Ayreton Militia	War Week	Various
Ayreton Fighter Support	War Week	Various

Please come and lend your support for these activities.

- To volunteer for Guard Duty contact Master Philip.
- To shoot with Ayreton for the Archery War point show up at Midrealm Royal to muster with the Kingdom and march together under the Dragon banner and our Baronial standard.
- For our Ayreton Revelry Day meet at House Rayburn in the evening for main dishes by Master Hal and Lady Bojei and bring along a put luck dish for everyone to share.
- If you'd like to participate with the Ayreton Militia contact Sergeant Henry.
- If you can give some time or donations for our Ayreton Fighter support please contact Lady Anne de Alienore and Lady Jane the Tall.

And as always – wear your Ayreton badge to show your enthusiasm.



Going to Pennsic with Kids

by Nicholaa Halden

What can you do if you are taking the kids to Pennsic?

There are lots of activities with kids in mind. It depends on their ages. In addition to the scheduled Pennsic activities it would be wise to pack an assortment of familiar games, toys, and books which may amuse your children in your own camp, come rain or shine.

Youth Combat- Ages 6-17 can participate but you need to bring armor. Age 5 can start training. The Marshalls' web site has the rules and armor standards. And you can always be a spectator. There are practices scheduled every morning and afternoon. As we get closer to Pennsic the tournament schedule will be available.

Youth Rapier is also available.

Youth Archery- There is a range just for kids and they can also shoot for War Points.

Youth Point- This is a place to take the kids to do general crafts and visit the play ground. The point is open every morning and afternoon with a break for lunch. Note that this is not babysitting. If your child is under 12 they need to have a responsible person with them. See Pennsic site rules for children.

Classes- More formal classes are available at the Pennsic University. There is a Youth Track and additional classes identify the ages that can attend.

A&S Exhibition- If your child does a craft have them bring it for the exhibition. A lot of great entries have been displayed in the past.

Teen Nights – for the teens several Kingdoms sponsor parties just for them. Check the schedules and the newspaper for times and locations.

A schedule of youth activities is available at <http://www.pennsicwar.org/penn38/GENERAL/youthschedule.html>

Younger children may enjoy a ride in the bus or cart. There are a number of activities off site if they are tired of Pennsic including an animal park and miniature golf. For the older kids there are usually there are one or more D&D games going on somewhere in the area of the bath house and Barn.

For more information on activities the Pennsic web site has a lot of information. Please check there for details or to volunteer to help out.

YIS,

Nicholaa Halden

(Who has attended 16 of the last 18 Pennsic Wars with children in tow and ran Youth Point for PW 34 & 36 as well as Hosting Mid Realm Teen Night etc, etc. Etc.)

□

Barony of Roaring Wastes at Pennsic

By the Baron of Roaring Wastes

Participating at Pennsic at a Baronial level can be exhausting, but it can also be enormous fun. It's important to realize that Pennsic offers the chance for a kind of Baronial solidarity and the opportunities for display and service out in public that may only occur rarely "back home." At the same time, every member of a Barony who is attending Pennsic is making a major personal investment, often for their only vacation time. The combination of factors can make Pennsic a real pressure-cooker; it's all too easy to let Pennsic demands, worries and challenges dominate the individual lives of those gathered there. No Barony will do very well if it makes slaves of its members!

Roaring Wastes has been lucky in many respects when it comes to Pennsic. The Barony has many high-level, active and charismatic individuals who lead in individual activities and who are experienced at Kingdom and Society-level offices. We also have many individuals within the Barony who make Pennsic their main interest within the SCA. We certainly have more than 100 Barony-affiliated people attending Pennsic. Because of different desires, directions of activity and household affiliations within the SCA, these individuals do not all camp in the same campsite.

The Baron and Baroness camp at the main "Roaring Wastes/Darkyard" site located just east of Curry Road and with easy access to the main battlefield. This campsite is also the meeting point for The Legion, all the heavy combat fighters who rally together with House Darkyard for the main battles, typically 40 to 70 people. Because this site is shared and because the household has its own life going on there, the Roaring Wastes/Darkyard campsite has requirements and rules of behavior that are necessary to keep a clean and presentable public space, to make the encampment enjoyable for occupants and to prevent washover of the modern world (e.g. no fluorescent or bright coleman lanterns at the front of camp). Those who camp there must have arranged for it in advance; everybody pays a small maintenance fee to support water, lighting and shared improvements.

While it is important for a Barony to have a central location, and it is important for the Baron and Baroness to actually live there (in the same way that it is important for the Baron and Baroness to set aside much of their other, personal SCA roles during their time on the thrones) we have found that flexibility and encouragement of multiple ways of "playing" is vastly important at Pennsic.

There are several other encampments at Pennsic that are equally Roaring Wastes-friendly scattered about Pennsic. Outremer, a Templar-based household, maintains its own historically-correct camping area where tent shapes and exposed possessions are subject to certain rules. Starleaf Gate, our beloved friends from Windsor, are themselves a shire but one that we view as a virtual canton of our barony, and they have two separate camps that are fun to visit and very welcoming. "Shattered Nerves," once the parents-with-young-children camp shared between friends from Northwoods and Roaring Wastes (once a Canton of Northwoods), is a camp of friends up in the B-section hill area; it is less concerned with any particular look and more interested with the Arts (many of them teach at Pennsic) and in welcoming newcomers - often with children - to the War. Nearby, the Zauberer encampment includes many fencers and archers. Some Baronial members also camp with households; one example would be Ironwolf, and another, Shadowclans.

Building Baronial enthusiasm and ensuring a sense of belonging at Pennsic is vital. Having every Baronial member know that what they do is observed, appreciated and encouraged is probably the hardest job for the Baron and Baroness. Beyond that, Pennsic is a wonderful opportunity for members of a Barony to get to know one another through service and shared activity. We have been privileged every year, for example, by being able to incorporate both "old" and "new" people in our procession as part of Opening Ceremonies. We hold a Baronial Court at some point during the Pennsic week at the central Roaring Wastes/Darkyard camp, one that combines with a longstanding tradition of an all-camp meal (typically spaghetti), and it gives us a chance as a Barony to celebrate some accomplishments by our members and to help people feel comfortable together.

Our Barony is quite proud of the heavy troops, and we march out to battle formally each morning. The Legion commanders organize the line of march and muster the troops; the exacting efforts of Darkyard (with its many knights and royal peers) are responsible for the high turnout, but it is important that the Barony is the representational authority. Many different interests and households combine to make the Baronial presence successful. Most fighters believe that they are fighting FOR their particular leader WITHIN their household UNDER the banner of the Barony of Roaring Wastes. They are able to be proud both of their household or their sub-unit, and of being part of the Barony.

Baronies are in service to the Crown and, over the last several years, Roaring Wastes has always taken a shift or more at Midrealm Royal as well as providing peer-level service. But our involvement on a group and individual level goes far deeper than that, as many of our Baronial members have been heavily involved at high levels over the years. Perhaps 20

key individuals from our Barony run different activities at Pennsic or are vital cogs in the Pennsic machine -- Duchess Arabella and Duke Ragnvaldr, as one example, rarely camp with the Barony because they have been needed as longtime staff-level workers at Midrealm Royal.

We also encourage individuals to sign up for service in many Pennsic departments -- security, troll, motor pool, chirurgionate, archery, etc. -- and over each of the last several years we have had Master Sir Trelogin Tavistock keep a census of volunteer work-hours performed. The total has been well over 1,200 aggregate hours each year.

For the Baron and Baroness of a successful, high-performing Barony, one of the key Pennsic challenges is knowing where you are supposed to be, hour by hour, during the week of most activity. The leaders need to do a little bit of everything. Kind friends and dedicated officers aid in making this pleasant, rather than simply frantic. It's a sign of a healthy, active Barony that many, many different things are happening and that all of them would like the presence of the Baronial couple to add validation.

Overall, then, Pennsic presents Baronies with a chance to show themselves to best advantages; to celebrate the work of their members and to engage in activities that build solidarity for the year ahead. It can be a touchy time if improperly handled. It is important to remember that everybody is making the same investment of time and money to be at Pennsic, no matter what their rank or grade in your Barony, and also to remember that everyone brings their own hopes and dreams to such a large event.



Some thoughts on Baronies at Pennsic
by Milisent Vibert, Third Baroness of the Cleftlands

Do you have a Baronial encampment? Do the Baron and Baroness camp there?

This is a question which comes up periodically here in the Cleftlands, "Other Baronies do it!" we hear... but being that such a high percentage of our Barony attends Pennsic it would be impractical. There are about 8 different camping groups at Pennsic that are made up of Cleftlanders, each unique and well established on their own. It does make for a good excuse to stroll about the camp site visiting!

Do you have a Baronial Court ?

No, we have not. If we had cause, we might. But that'd be something else to schedule! I have found that as a Landed Baroness my Pennsic schedule is even more full than before. Each of those several households and camping groups from our Barony have parties that we try to attend, there is the Known World Baronial Champions tournament (which is a real treat and I highly recommend you try to attend it!), the Baroness of Brendoken has in the past held a Baroness's tea which is delightful, sometimes the Crown might call for a meeting of the Baronage, we must attend Opening Ceremonies and we schedule musters for our Heavy, Rapier and Archery units on different days... makes for a pretty full war!

Do you fight as a unit in the battles?

Our Battle Unit is a strength of our Barony and it was a magical and humbling moment for me when I first strode out to the field with all these brave men and women at arms behind me, banners flying. Our Rapier unit likewise marches out together, their esprit de corps has been growing in recent years which makes me very proud. We have had a little trouble getting our archers together to march up to the range and shoot as a unit; we have a large and active archer population but scheduling has been more difficult with them as there is not a specific 'battle' scheduled. When Edward and I stepped up as Baron and Baroness we made favors for all of the archers, fighters and water bearer's which we handed out at the musters. Last year we just gave the favors to those who were fighting/arching/water bearing for the first time with our Barony.

Do you have any special activities?

In the past we have held Baronial parties, which were not entirely successful, I do feel it is important to try and gather our Barony together once at the War to be together and we've been trying to make the Field Battle muster that gathering, encouraging all our populace to join for the march out to the field.

Do you serve the Crown as a group?

We have. Last year each Barony was charged with providing retainers for one day at the war, which we did most willingly. It is not something we specifically do every year.

Do you volunteer for the war as a group?

We have, but usually we all volunteer as individuals or households. Again, we have many people who volunteer every year. You do not have to search long at the War to find a Cleftlander!

□

What a Barony Can Do at Pennsic

By Edward Brackenburye, Baron of the Cleftlands,

Pennsic is the one really big event that most of the populace of the Barony of the Cleftlands attends. We are only two hours from the site so everyone wants to go. This being said that means over 150 show up. With all the different interests within the Barony the group polarizes around a number of camps. We have probably 7 large camps of 12 – 30 campers spread throughout the lands of Pennsic. So we don't have a central Baronial encampment. I guess the central camp is where the Baron and Baroness camp? At least everyone knows where to find us. There is usually no Baronial Court held at Pennsic due to the size, interests, and activities that everyone is doing. We have held Baronial parties in the past, but found even these are hard to schedule, so everyone just does what they want.

The Cleftlands has a very strong marshal identity so we have our battle unit; for heavy and rapier. We do fight together in these units and most wear the Baronial colors on the field. We train up to 40 fighters on a weekly basis and around 25 fight with the unit. The others have household or other obligations. Everyone trains together and has fun. No one is slighted because they chose not to fight with their home Barony. The current Royals are from our Barony, so, the dynamics of the unit will be different this year. We have some in the Royal guard, champions, and commanders which will split our unit. There is still one special thing that will bring us all together for one moment. It has become a tradition that the current Baron marches in the Baronial unit playing the bagpipes. This started about 8 years ago when he was just a foot soldier in the unit. Now he leads them out, coronet on head, at the front of the unit, with 20 plus following.

There are many who are strong in the arts too. They attend and teach classes. Being that Pennsic is a war the arts don't always get the notice that they deserve. There are a number of our populace that attend the regional arts competitions to enter and to judge. But that is another tale.

In the past, our Barony has volunteered to guard the Midrealm camp for a day. All posts are filled by our populace. This is the one way we can contribute as a whole Barony at Pennsic. We do field battle units and a large number of archers for the war effort so overall we serve the Crown.

As each Barony grows, it sets its own traditions. These will be set in motion by the first Baron and Baroness of Ayreton. Have fun as you grow and don't try to make it all happen at once. You will all be able to look back one day at what you have made and be proud.

□

Melee Fighting

by Serjeant Henry of Exeter

I do not claim to be an expert on melee fighting but over the last two years I have come to understand one important 'thing' that I did not completely understand before. It is not something you are going to read and say "Wow! I understand now!" It isn't going to suddenly make you a demi-god in an age of heroes.

What will this little tidbit of knowledge do? That depends on each individual but hopefully it will help you understand how a melee works. I hope it will help make you a better fighter in the overall scheme of being part of a unit in melee.

The big secret is speed. Yes, that's it. It is all about how fast everything happens. To be specific, it is about how fast a unit or group of people reacts. The difference between 1 second and 4 seconds does not seem like very much.

How far can a person move in 3 seconds, ten yards? Maybe fifteen yards? If your unit is ordered to engage the flank of an opposing unit and it takes you 3 seconds to get started, where is that opposing unit now?

What about changing which direction a unit faces? If the command is given to face a different direction and it takes a few extra seconds to do it, what happens if an opposing unit engages your unit in the mean time?

How many blows can be thrown in 3 seconds? Your unit is ordered to move up to support another unit but if in the time it takes to get there your allied unit is decimated.....

To summarize, unit response speed is an important key to being an effective unit in melee.

□

A Pennsic War Story

by Master Philip White, August 29, 2006

To the guarded and rumor-hungry reader I bring you word of warfare and hostilities from the far reaches of our Known World.

My words may surprise you when you listen to the conclusion of my travels. But every remark is truth. And as incredible as they may appear, they are genuine. Still, I fear that you may be placed in much the same circumstances in your own travels and I feel it is my obligation to caution you of mine own experiences.

I set forth to discover the realm beyond the boundaries of Ansteorra with my lady, the fair and charming Elin the Timid, and our agreeable and delightful companion, Elizabeth Seale. Our hope was to meet friends of old upon the road and find a place where we could settle our belongings and enjoy the hinterland and perhaps have an occasion to learn from the locals different arts and skills or even taste the cuisine of other cultures.

As our luck would have it we came upon a quiet land full of shade trees with water aplenty that was tucked away next to a most beautiful lake. Our friends from the East Kingdom had in fact saved us a place for our pavilion and we quickly settled in for a well earned respite.

And here is where my tale takes a turn for the worse. For without our knowledge we had just placed our lives in the most terrible of circumstances. Where we had thought that the Kingdom of Aethelmearc would be able to give us some final rest but instead became the home of fear and sustained apprehension.

Elizabeth woke in time to receive messages from a mere page boy announcing that war had just been declared. The Kingdoms of the East and the Middle had met directly in our vicinity and they were well on their way to battle. As the three of us emerged from our pavilion we suddenly saw the signs of war around us – and it struck each one of us to the core for the peril we were suddenly in.

We were constantly in fear that a stray arrow might find us or that we would suddenly be found in the center of a heated melee. Just a short day before we were cheerful travelers enjoying a quiet sojourn. Now we were the refugees of a dramatic war between two great powers bent on nothing other than destruction.

Readers, you can well know our fear and alarm that we would now have to contend for our very safety amongst such horrifying circumstances! The signs of war were everywhere. As we sat beside our belongs fearing what was beyond the hills we saw such inconceivable sights.

Our mornings were broken with the sounds of booming cannons announcing further battles. Through the walls of our pavilion we could hear troops marching off to war – their songs full of brave words and tellings of the bold deeds they hoped to achieve while their armor clanked and their battle standards waved in the wind. Yet you could still find that waiver of apprehension and uncertainty for not knowing if they would be able to return home to their friends and families. And sadly ... it was not an uncommon sight for us to see some of these men to come walking home alone ... their companions lost in the fray. They wore their armor now haphazardly and often torn and stained with the sweat and blood of countless hours of heated combat.

But worse for us to witness were the other refugees – the real victims of this terrible time. Women, now alone, their husbands left lying on the field as testament to the ravages of these two Kingdoms ... and no man to care for them, would

wander aimlessly past us. Their only hope vanished. Children too ... would call out for just any amount of money they might be able to earn now that they could find no sustenance at home. The meager young were trying as hard as they might to keep the lives their parents hard fought so hard to protect. It was truly heart wrenching.

When we did venture forth to see what the war had done to the lands which had been so peaceful such a short time before ... and we only found more devastation. We made a long tiresome climb up the steepest slope you have seen and came upon just fields of displaced folk. They were so desperate for a place to camp that they were forced to set up in the barren empty fields at the top of the hill where there were absolutely no trees for shade or water to cool the heat of the day. It was a pitiful conditions these people were forced to live in all clustered together without room to enjoy themselves. But as luck would have it we did find good brothers and sisters of Ansteorra – and I tell you that you too would be proud of the aid our populous was prepared to give to the refugees of the war. They had banded together to provide food and drink for any who would come to their doors and simple ask for substance. As I watched, more and more of the helpless and downtrodden came to our people. It was truly positive experience, buried in such instants of horror, to witness how compassionate your friends can be to others in need.

Eventually though, as the night fell, we knew that we would have to make it back to our camp before it was too late. We left our friends and made our way back though the jumble of displaced families and warriors when we came upon a cluster of merchants and vendors. It was evident too that they were being affected by the war for they were open late into the hours of darkness. It seemed as though they were desperate to sell their wares and were offering their merchandise at cut rate trades. Hawkers were in the streets begging those still able to walk from the heat of the war to buy what they may. The push of people on our way home was hard to navigate. At times we were even stopped in our tracks by street performers breathing fire and musicians piping tunes of wild excitement and with the fever of imminent disaster. You too would fear for your life having been placed in the same position.

There was never a moment of respite. Even that night as we eventually made it back to our camp – after numerous wrong turns and stumbles down cliffs – the drums of war were again beating. Their rhythm was constant and sang out across the waters of our lake warning us that we might be the next victims with the rising of the sun. It was unsettling to fall asleep with nothing but thin canvas walls blocking out the rest of the war and the struggle to stay sane surrounded by those conditions. And always ... the beating of the drums.

We woke knowing that it was time to return to our own Kingdom. To return to our friends and families and the safety of our own armies. As quickly as we could we broke camp and stowed away our belongings and set to the long journey back to Ansteorra.

And so reader, I hope you have taken these words to mind. Take care that you too are not found in the desolation of war grounds. I know as incredible as they sound you may be reluctant to believe that these events could really come to pass. But we did survive them.

Your often erstwhile travel companion and friend,
~philip white

□ Recent Ayreton Honors □

From the Court of Their Royal Majesties, King Eikbrandr Solgyafi & Queen Runa Eikbrandrswif:

Awards read into Court at Middle Kingdom Coronation on May 2, 2009 and presented at Rose Tourney in the Shire of Vanished Wood on May 30, 2009:

Order of the Willow – Tacit Darby

Awards read into Court and presented at Middle Kingdom Crown Tournament in the Barony of White Waters on May 24, 2009:

Kingdom Augmentation – Thorvald Redhair
Award of Arms – Susanna the Short of Sussex

Awards read into Court and presented at Rose Tourney in the Shire of Vanished Wood on May 30, 2009:

Award of the Purple Fretty – The Pippins, The Thieves of Hearts
Award of Arms – Connavar O’Sleibhin, Katarina la Feye, Randall Flashheart, Yzabels du Corbier
Award of the Purple Fret – Gareth Ostwestly, Guy Dawkins of Stockley, Margarita Alesia
Award of the Doe’s Grace – Jale bint Amar
Award of the Sapphire – Mary Buchanan
Order of the Willow – Ercc Glaison
Order of the Laurel – Arrienne Lenorra Ashford

Remember to write in those you consider worthy of awards for upcoming royally attended events. To submit an award recommendation online, go to <http://www.midrealm.org/op/recommend/>.

□ Ayreton Local Event Calendar □

8/5 Baronial Party {Pennsic}
8/9 Baronial Business Meeting *Canceled for August*
8/29 Foxhunt {Foxvale (Rokkehealden)} [Yorkville, IL] **Local Event**
9/05 MK Academy of Defense XII {Ravenslake}
9/13 Baronial Business Meeting {Foxvale}
9/18 The Fields of Cloth and Gold {Illiton}
10/3 MK 40 Year Celebration {Grey Gargoyles} **Local Event**
10/11 Baronial Business Meeting {Grey Gargoyles}
10/24 Masked Ball {Lochmorrow}

□ Ayreton Activities Calendar □

NOTE: A detailed email with the week's activities is sent every Monday by the Chronicler to the Ayreton email list, and other interested parties. Here is a summary of the activities regularly scheduled in the Ayreton area.

Monday Activities

Barons Noyes: Any instrument is welcome. Absolute beginners please call first.

WHEN: Monday Nights from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.

WHERE: Robbyan and Fern's. Address: 2506 W. Morse Ave, Chicago, IL 60645

CONTACT: Phone Number: (773) 764-1920

Silver Thimble Guild For Conspicuous Consumption: Join the Guild for sewing and garb research.

WHEN: Monday nights

WHERE: at Mistress Juliana's house, just Northwest of downtown

CONTACT: Mistress Juliana, 773-750-2180. Please call before coming.

Youth Boffer

WHEN: Check weekly email for the schedule

WHERE: . We are at the Malone Household for the summer! 6s054 Country Glen Dr., Naperville, IL 60563

CONTACT: Acelina, djc137@aol.com

Ayreton Leatherwork Night: Available to anyone interested in working on leather projects.

WHEN: Mondays from 6-9 pm

Where: 920 N 3rd Ave, Maywood, IL 60153

CONTACT: jon@armlann.com, 708 344 8320



Tuesday Activities

Thieves Of Hearts Practice: Group as well as one on one instruction in rapier combat for both singles and melee.

WHEN: Monday evenings 6:30pm to 9pm

WHERE: Glenbrook North High School. Address: 2300 Shermer Road, Northbrook , IL

CONTACT: <http://thieves.ayreton.org/>

Grey Gargoyles Dance Practice

There is a dance practice every Tuesday at Ida Noyes. People who are interested can the student rep,

alexcarter@uchicago.edu

Weekly Project Night: Everyone is welcome to bring current sewing projects or just an idea with them

WHEN: Every Tuesday night 7:30pm – 10:00pm

WHERE: 1496 E. Algonquin Rd in Des Plaines

CONTACT: Sarafina 312-493-2255



Wednesday Activities

Tree Girt Sea Scribal Night: Open to anyone in the Ayreton region who is interested in calligraphy and illumination.
WHEN: Meetings held the 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesdays of the month, 7:30 pm to 10 pm
WHERE: At the home of THL Jocelyn of Lutterworth (mka Vickie Rayhill)
CONTACT: 847-824-3814

Ayreton Archery Practice: Everyone is welcome -- please come out!
WHEN: Every Wednesday 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm.
WHERE: 7240 West Madison, Forest Park
CONTACT: Range Phone: 708 366 4864



Thursday Activities

Rokkehealden Scriptorium: The Scriptorium is open to anyone who is interested in any aspect of the scribal arts.
WHEN: Same as Rokkehealden moots
WHERE: See Rokkehealden Moot location
CONTACT: For more information, go to: <http://www.midrealm.org/rokkehealden/>

The Pippins: The Pippins are an a capella singing group performing medieval and renaissance choral music
WHEN: Every Thursday, from 7:30 – 9:30 pm
WHERE: North side of Chicago (Andersonville)
CONTACT: Gianetta 312-259-6688



Friday Activities

Needlework/Fiber Arts Night: Bring a project to work on or the willingness to learn something new.
WHEN: Every third Friday of the month, 6 pm - 10 pm
WHERE: Gretchen's place
CONTACT: For more information, email: gschneid@oakton.edu

Period Cooks Night: Everyone brings a period recipe and the ingredients to cook the dish, but we all get together and cook it together and then we sample all the dishes that night together!
WHEN: First Friday of the month
WHERE: TBD
CONTACT: PeriodCooksNight@yahoo.com



Sunday Activities

Heralds At Home: All area heralds, and any clients who wish to attend are welcome
WHEN: on the last Sunday of each month
WHERE: 3935 N. Kostner, Chicago
CONTACT: 773-286-5952

Ayreton Fighter Practice
WHEN: Starts at 2 p.m. every Sunday.
WHERE: Ida Noyes Hall - 59th St. and Woodlawn Ave, Chicago

Sunday Dance Practice At Tree Girt Sea

WHEN: Every 3rd Sunday of the Month, 4:30

WHERE: Congregational Church of Jefferson Park, 5320 West Giddings, 60630.

CONTACT: Details and last minute changes can be found at our meetup group [calendar](#)

Grey Gargoyles/Ayreton A&S Afternoons: Come during fighter practice to do casual A&S, gab, et cetera. Timing coincides with the Ayreton fighter practices.

□ **Ayreton Groups On-Line** □

If your group has an online presence, let us know and we'll list it on this page!

Incipient Barony of Ayreton: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Ayreton/>

The Incipient Barony of Ayreton is the name for the Chicago area within the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA), a non-profit historic research and educational organization devoted to the study and reenactment of past people and cultures, concentrating on pre-seventeenth century Europe during the Medieval, Middle-Ages, and Renaissance periods, and to reproduce the skills and arts of this era. This is in the Midlands region (Illinois) of the Middle Kingdom (Midrealm, the Great Lakes area of the Midwest of the United States). Go to <http://www.ayreton.org> and <http://www.sca.org> for more information.

Ayreton Archers: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AyretonArchers/>

This is a group to help spread information to the Ayreton Area Archers. Practice times are listed under the Calendar link. Shooting hints and tips are under the Files link.

We've not gone anywhere as a unit, so there aren't any photos yet. But if you've got some of you shooting or another AA shooting, please email them in or post them yourself. Happy shooting.

Ayreton Brewers Guild: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Ayreton_Brewing/

This group is for all those gentles who wish to get together and pursue their interest in brewing and vinting. We are located in the Incipient Barony of Ayreton, in the Kingdom of the Midrealm. You do not need to be a member of the Barony to be a member of the group.

Here we discuss all matters pertaining the brewing of ales, mead, wines or cordials. We share recipes and tips, support and encouragement. This list is also the primary method for the guild to plan and disseminate information about upcoming meetings and workshops.

So whether you are an expert brewer or complete beginner, come join us, ask questions, learn, teach and share your experiences with those around you.

Ayreton Cooks: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Ayreton_Cooks/

This is a group for the cooks of the Ayreton area. This group is for recipes, book reviews/recommendations, where to shop for things and for the future a cooking group based in the Ayreton region.

Ayreton Scriptorium: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AyretonScriptorium/>

This is a discussion group for scribes in the SCA Incipient Barony of Ayreton located in Chicago and suburbs.

□ Officers of the Incipient Barony of Ayreton □

Seneschal: Master Philip White
(Craig Shupee)

5521 North Glenwood Avenue #1, Chicago IL 60640

philipwhite@hotmail.com
817.313.7575

Exchequer: Mistress Margherita Alessia
(Susan Early)

4N400 Church Rd., Bensenville, IL 60106

suzanearley@comcast.net
630.766.1162

Minister of Arts and Sciences: Dame Nicholaa Halden
(Nora London)

2505 Rosehall Ln, Aurora, IL 60503

nhalden@comcast.net
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Knights Marshal: Serjeant Henry of Exeter
(Terry Doner)

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Rapier Marshal: Master Christian Fournier
(James Klock)

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Archery Marshal: HL Wolfram von Waldersbach
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Webminister: Mistress Sarafina Sinclair
(Harlie Des Roches)

sarafina.sinclair@gmail.com

Herald: HL Phebe Bonadeci
(PJ Reaney)

3539 N Kostner #2 Chicago, IL 60641

reaneypj@yahoo.com
773.443.9632

□ Group Information for the Incipient Barony of Ayreton □

The Incipient Barony of Ayreton
(Chicagoland area)
Website: www.ayreton.org
Email list: groups.yahoo.com/group/Ayreton
Seneschal: Master Philip White (philipwhite@hotmail.com)

The Shire of Foxvale
(Aurora IL area)
Website: www.foxvale.org
Email list: Contact Lady Hillary of Langforde for information (jeffnaggie@aol.com)
Seneschal: HL Hillary of Langforde for information (jeffnaggie@aol.com)

The Shire of Grey Gargoyles
(South Side of Chicago)
Website: grey-gargoyles.uchicago.edu
Email list: groups.yahoo.com/group/GreyGargoyles
Seneschal: Lord Guy Dawkins (dvalenta@ameritech.net)

The Shire of Rokkehealden
(Southwest Chicago Suburbs)
Website: www.midrealm.org/rokkehealden
Email list: groups.yahoo.com/group/rokkehealden
Seneschal: Lady Philippa of Otterbourne (otterbourne@gmail.com)

The Province of Tree-Girt-Sea
(North Side of Chicago)
Website: www.treegirtsea.com
Email list: groups.yahoo.com/group/SCA-Tree-Girt-Sea
Seneschal: HL Nadezda ZeZastrizl (nadezda_z@earthlink.net)

The Shire of Vanished Wood
(Northwest Chicago Suburbs)
Website: www.vanishedwood.org
Email list: groups.yahoo.com/group/vanished_wood
Seneschal: Mistress Acelina of Derelai (djc137@aol.com)

Emma by Nadezda ZeZastrizl

