



# THE ZEPHYR



April 2019- Anno Societatis 53

## Greetings from our Baron and Baroness



Greetings Ayreton,

Warmer weather is coming, bringing outdoor events and camping. Please remember to drink water and apply sunscreen as needed. We will have both with us when we travel, and all are welcome to partake as needed. Please be careful with yourselves as we venture back outside.

We have heard kind words and appreciation from people around the Midrealm regarding the people of Ayreton. We thank you for your ongoing volunteering and support of other groups, both locally and throughout the kingdom. We look forward to continuing good words of your good deeds.

Midrealm 50 Year/Crown Tourney is scheduled for Thursday May 23<sup>rd</sup> thru Monday May 27<sup>th</sup>. We hope to see you there. We will be adding a baronial display to the history hall and would love suggestions as to what to include. We would like to show not only baronial history but also the history of the cantons from when they were shires. If you have ideas, or items to display, please contact us before the event. For those of you on staff, thank you for your service.

Baroness (Duchess) Wars VII is scheduled for August 23, 24 and 25 2019. The event stewards are asking for volunteers from all Midlands groups in order to support the event. Security, gate, helping with lunch, sanitation, retainers, guards, set-up, clean-up, and just people to assist with the various activities. The volunteer sign up can be found on the event website. While the Shire of Swordcliff is the hosting group, Baroness Wars is a regional event, and even volunteering for an hour or two is a huge help.

Thank you Ayreton for all you do!

Gareth and Hilary.



## Greetings from the Seneschal

Greetings, Ayretonians!

As Winter finally loosens its grip upon the land, the SCA season kicks into full swing, with events coming nearly every weekend.

I look forward to seeing you all at events across the region, as we wind up towards both the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Midrealm this summer, and as always, War with the East.

I particularly want to call attention to the Historical Displays planned for 50 Year—our Barony and its Cantons have a long, rich legacy in the Kingdom, and I want to make sure that is highlighted for everyone to see! We will be discussing this at the upcoming meeting, and over many sessions in the months to come.

Finally, a more serious topic. Someone calling themselves “A Concerned Citizen” recently contacted an officer and lambasted them for perceived shortcomings in the execution of their duties. They also stated that they would be contacting me, personally, about this, but naturally they did not.

An anonymous attack like that is both dishonorable and discourteous, and it is far outside the traditions that we aspire to uphold within the SCA. It also violates the SCA’s anti-harassment policy.

If you have criticisms of a Baronial officer, please let us know through proper channels—but attach your name to it, and do not hide behind anonymity. We should be better than that.

YIS,  
Tieron Alainn

### Ayreton 2019 Meeting Schedule

3/31/19: Tree Girt Sea  
6/30/19: Vanished Woods  
9/29/19: Grey Gargoyles  
11/10/19 Foxvale

The first three meetings are on 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays, to avoid conflicts with recurring meetings. The last 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the year is Dec 29, but that didn’t seem practical.

Look for meeting details on the Barony Facebook Page & Group.

YIS, Tieron  
Seneschal, Ayreton

## Greetings from the Chronicler

Gentle Cousins!

In this issue we have another installation of Ask Mistress Sarafina, this time detailing her recent travels and the historical clothing project she participated in. We also have a new feature: **Ayretonian Pastimes**, where I interview a member of the Barony about a project or activity they do. The inaugural interviewee is THL Alexander Adelbrecht von Markelingen.

I am continuing my project of trying to get as many members of the Barony as possible to sign (at the least) an SCA Model Release form so that I can publish the wonderful “family photos” that Their Excellencies are organizing at various events. Despite these photos being freely available on social media, according to SCA Corporate policy I can’t publish them here without signed release forms. I am bringing these forms with me to events and meetings. I’ve gotten a good start with the collection of them, but if you’d like to send me the form electronically you can find the Model Release form here--  
<http://sca.org/docs/pdf/ReleaseModelFillable.pdf>

It’s a fillable pdf that can be e-signed and then emailed to me ([pegcookol@gmail.com](mailto:pegcookol@gmail.com)). Or look for me at an event soon!

As our Baroness & Baron say in their missive above, take care of yourself as the weather warms. Drink water. Wear sensible clothes. Wear shoes around a firepit (don’t ask me how I know that’s a good idea, long story).

See you out in the world!

In service,  
THL Evzenie (known as Zanie)

## Calendar of Events

Go to [www.midrealm.com/calendar](http://www.midrealm.com/calendar) for a complete list.

**April 6:** Rites of Spring, Illiton, Henry, IL

**April 13:** Crystal Chamfron, Shattered Crystal, Wood River IL

**April 13:** Grand Tournament of the Unicorn, Flaming Gryphon, Oxford, OH

**April 13:** Northshield Coronation, Jaravellir, Waterloo, WI

**April 27:** The Awakening/Armored Easter Egg Hunt, Bailie na Solairi, Normal IL

**May 3-5** Spring Coronation, Shadowed Stars, Bluffton, IN

**May 10** Constellation Academy of Defense, Mynydd Seren, Spencer, IN

**May 23-27** Midrealm 50 Year Celebration/Spring Crown Tournament, Sternfeld, Danville, IN

**May 31-June 2** Northern Oaken War Manuevers, Cleftlands, Wellington OH

**May 31-June 2** Ragnarok Rampage, Carraig Ban, Dixon, IL

**June 6-9** Border Skirmish, Ravenslake & Caer Anterth Mawr, Elkhorn, WI

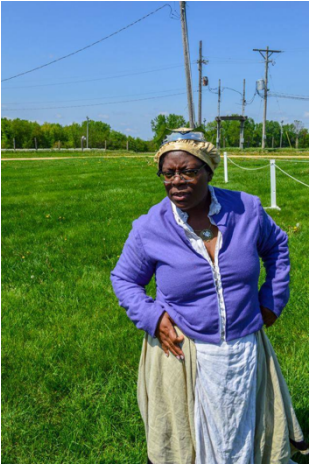
**June 15** Scribin’ & Imbibin’, Ayreton, Midlothian, IL

**June 22:** To Bard or Not to Bard, Blackhawk, Rockford, IL

**June 28-30:** Daye of Playe 4, Rokkehealdan, Big Rock, IL

**June 28-30:** Swine & Roses, White Waters, Tippecanoe, IN

**June 29:** Performing Arts Symposium, Caer Gwyn, Urbana, IL



## *Ask Mistress Sarafina*

*An advice column for those in need*

*Dear Mistress Sarafina, I hear that you have recently returned from a trip across the pond and encountered many interesting and historical things. Can you share a thing you learned that would be helpful to your reenactor friends?*

*Signed, Yearning for Travel Stories*

**Dear YFTS,**

**Greetings and well met.**

**You heard correctly! I did just return from a trip to Europe. I visited England, France, The Netherlands, Denmark, and Belgium!**

**Something very exciting has been discovered regarding the crew of the Mary Rose. For those who don't know, the Mary Rose was Henry VIII's ship that sank in 1545. It sits in drydock at a museum dedicated to its preservation and study in Portsmouth, England. I spent nearly an entire day looking at all the amazing finds. I was also privileged to be able to meet with Sally Tyrell, who is the Head of Development for the museum. By happy coincidence, the day that I visited the museum was the day that they launched an addition to the exhibit detailing how two of the eight skeletons that they've found show African heritage. Although it has been known that people of African heritage lived in Europe during the SCA time period, due to the extensive whitewashing of history, many people still remain ignorant of the fact that not only were there black people living in England, but that they were NOT slaves and several folks had positions of honor.**

**I was thrilled beyond belief to be able to view this exhibit and be this close to objects from my SCA time period in real life. The Mary Rose Museum is definitely a place I plan to visit again as soon as possible!**

**In Service,  
Sarafina**



# *Ayretonian Pastimes*

**This new column features an interview with a Barony member who is Doing Something Cool. Our first victim....errr... interviewee is THL Alexander Adelbrecht von Markelingen**

Can you briefly describe the process of etching?



The process begins by cleaning, with soap and water, and lightly scuffing the surface of the metal you are etching with some fine steel wool. This will allow the designs to adhere to the surface of the metal better.

You then apply a resist to the metal, much like resists in other mediums, this resist it so prevent the etching solution, from contacting the metal on those surface areas.

Your resist can be any number of things, so long as it adheres to the metal. You can use cut adhesive vinyl, nail polish, or permanent marker. I use toner from my laser printer, transferred using a heat transfer process from specialty paper.

Making sure to cover the back of your piece, I use duct tape to get a good cover that doesn't let the solution touch the back. Anywhere the solution touches will be etched. Once it is etched, it can't be un-etched.

For etching solution, I am using ferric chloride, as I am etching brass. This will also

work for copper, a key part of brass, and nickel silver as I understand, but have not yet tried, on account of the high cost of nickel, but I am excited to play with it soon as a method of creating white metal pieces, perfect for things like the Silver Oak, or many Ayreton Heraldic Pieces.

Placing the metal face down in the etching solution, you leave it for 30-60 minutes at a time to do it's work, depending on how deep you want to etch into the metal, and how thick your metal is, you can have it etching for upwards of 4 hours, but still check regularly, and agitate the solution to ensure an even etch.

Once you are satisfied, you move the piece to a bath of water and baking soda to neutralize the etching solution. DO NOT let the baking soda, or any of the mix get into the etching solution, it will ruin it, in spectacular fashion. Think Science Fair Volcano!

From there it is all about cleaning the piece, cutting the final shape, filing and sanding to the desired finish. You can paint the etched sections, or leave them plain, your choice.

What drew you to this art form?

I don't have much talent for hand carving molds for pewter casting, really hand drawing is not a strong suit of mine, and I lack the appropriate space to really do things like sand casting. I tried my hand at casting in pewter, but it just wasn't something I was enjoying as much, there are too many things that can go wrong and cause bad casts. I lack the patience to press through that. I do however have a decent ability to create graphic art on the computer and that works well here. Several years back I was looking at my feed on Facebook and I saw a shared post of the work of Her Ladyship Gæira Aggadóttir (Gear-Ra), from the East Kingdom. She was etching brass and I loved the look. It sparked the interest, but I didn't really know where to go from there. About a year or two ago I met Viscount Antonii Machinevik, we became Facebook friends and then I saw him



posting his etching work. I was again floored. I reached out for information this time. I wanted to know how he did it. So about a year ago I started to collect the supplies to start.

### How did you learn to do it?

I can credit Viscount Antonii for his guidance. He gave me a fairly start to finish, well written explanation, I supplemented that with a few months of YouTube and Google searching. The day I first set up to do the work, I was in constant contact with His Excellency for pointers, troubleshooting and support. I am still learning, for example, things like temperatures affect how long the etching takes, warmer temps work faster than colder temps.

### What's the best thing about the work?

The best thing, my favorite thing, is seeing the work come to life, going from a sheet of metal, to an intricately detailed design. And the possibilities for using it are pretty wide, I can create belt plaques and medallions, or if I wanted, armor fittings. The technique can be applied to coronets and circlets as well. When I finish a piece, it gives me a real sense of accomplishment.



## SOME SUNDRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Day of Playe 4 The Fjord & the Fjurious



Main Event: **June 29, 2019** 9:00AM to 9:00PM  
Camping: Friday, June 28 to Sunday, June 30  
Plowmen's Park  
48W412 Hinckley Rd., Big Rock, IL 60511

Please join the **Canton of Rokkehealdan** for our Viking themed event on the last weekend of June 2019.

Activities include **archery, thrown weapons, fighting, classes, board games, fun games of physical skill, a Viking saga play, craft table & craft challenge, feast, and more.**

Our site is a large, covered Pavilion in a park with plenty of outdoor space for fighting, camping, and enjoying the day's events. The site is discreetly wet.

#### Site Registration

Adult: \$15 or Adult Member: \$10  
Child (6-17): \$5 Youth (0-5): Free  
Camping Fee: \$1 per tent



Event Steward: Lady Elli Skogkatt (Sheryl Woods)  
[sherylw@protonmail.com](mailto:sherylw@protonmail.com) 630-306-5889

More info on our website at [dayofplaye.weebly.com](http://dayofplaye.weebly.com)  
& [our Facebook event page](#) at Day of Playe IV



## Be Part of the Ayreton Family Photos!

Their Excellencies Hillary and Gareth are taking this show on the road – And they hope you'll join them! As Ayreton travels around the kingdom (and beyond!), we will be organizing a group photo for folks from Ayreton to come out and represent. Details can be found with Their Excellencies or any members of their staff. (Look for their presence set up at the event!)



Ayreton at Better War Through Archery

## Upcoming Officer Reporting Schedule

Archery Marshal	June 1
Chatelaine	May 1
Chronicler	July 1
Exchequer	April 30
Herald	June 30
Knight's Marshal	June 1
MoAS	July 1
Baronial MoAS	July 15
Minister of Youth	July 15
Rapier Marshal	May 1
Equestrian Marshal	May 14
Seneschal	May 1
Baronial Sen.	May 15
Webminister	May 15

## Ayreton Activities

Always check with the organizer of an activity before attending. **DATES AND TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE!**

### Sunday

*Silver Thimble Guild for Conspicuous Consumption*  
Contact Mistress Juliana – (773) 750.2180

*Ayreton Authentic Cooking Guild* (4<sup>th</sup> Sundays unless noted)  
Contact: [ayretoncooks@yahoogroups.com](mailto:ayretoncooks@yahoogroups.com)

*Grey Gargoyles Fighter Practice*  
Contact: Lady Susanna – [mickel14@att.net](mailto:mickel14@att.net)

### Monday

*Consort Music*  
Contact: Master Robyyan - (773) 764.1920

### Tuesday

*Thieves of Heart Fighter Practice*  
Contact: Lord Tedesco - [tedesco@ayreton.org](mailto:tedesco@ayreton.org)

*Renaissance Dance*  
Contact: Lady Margrett Norwoode –  
[mistressmargrett@ameritech.net](mailto:mistressmargrett@ameritech.net)

### Wednesday

*Court and Country Music Group*  
Contact: [CourtAndCountry@gmail.com](mailto:CourtAndCountry@gmail.com)

*Archery Practice*  
Contact: Forester Athelwulf of Dover -[Aethelwulf@Dizzywulf.com](mailto:Aethelwulf@Dizzywulf.com)

*Vanished Wood Sewing Circle*  
Contact: Mistress Katherine – [knwkfw@yahoo.com](mailto:knwkfw@yahoo.com)

*Mid Week Fighter Practice*  
Contact: Sir Kith - [kith3609@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kith3609@sbcglobal.net)

### Thursday

*The Pippins – Madrigal and Early Music Singing Group*  
Contact: Mistress Gianetta – (312) 259.6688

## Future Article Ideas – Your cool stuff HERE!

- Event reviews
- Recipes from events
- Movie/Book reviews
- “How to” articles
- No “kidding” there I was stories
- SCA administration reports
- Upcoming event ads
- History reports
- Poetry/stories/song lyrics
- Museum/exhibit reviews
- Newcomer articles
- My SCA Life stories
- Pictures of events
- Pictures of you, your family, your friends
- Other great ideas I haven't thought of yet



## Ayreton Groups Online

*If your group has an online presence, let us know and we'll list it here!*

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

### Ayreton Brewers Guild:

[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Ayreton\\_Brewing/](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 vintning. We are located in the 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 Guild:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ayretoncooks/>

Our mission is to bring delicious, authentic, researched food to the eaters of Ayreton and beyond.

### Ayreton Scriptorium:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AyretonScriptorium/> This is a discussion group for scribes in the SCA Barony of Ayreton located in Chicago and suburbs.

## Group Information for the Barony of Ayreton

### The Barony of Ayreton

(Chicagoland area)

Website: [www.ayreton.org](http://www.ayreton.org)

Email list: [groups.yahoo.com/group/Ayreton](mailto:groups.yahoo.com/group/Ayreton)

Seneschal: Tieron Alainn

([seneschal@ayreton.org](mailto:seneschal@ayreton.org))

### The Canton of Foxvale

(Aurora IL area)

Website: [www.foxvale.org](http://www.foxvale.org)

Email list: Contact Banamhaighstir Hillary of Langforde for information ([jeffnaggie@aol.com](mailto:jeffnaggie@aol.com))

Seneschal: THL Yamamura Kitsune

([yamamura.kitsune@gmail.com](mailto:yamamura.kitsune@gmail.com))

### The Canton of Grey Gargoyles

(South Side of Chicago and Southeast Chicago Suburbs)

Website: <http://midrealm.org/greygargoyles/>

Email list: [groups.yahoo.com/group/GreyGargoyles](mailto:groups.yahoo.com/group/GreyGargoyles)

Seneschal: Mistress Helewysse de Birkestad

([helewysse@yahoo.com](mailto:helewysse@yahoo.com))

### The Canton of Rokkehealden

(Southwest Chicago Suburbs)

Website: [www.midrealm.org/rokkehealden](http://www.midrealm.org/rokkehealden)

Seneschal: Lady AElfreda aet AEthelwealda

([aelfreda6@gmail.com](mailto:aelfreda6@gmail.com))

### The Canton of Tree-Girt-Sea

(North Side of Chicago)

Website: [www.treegirtsea.com](http://www.treegirtsea.com)

Email list: [groups.yahoo.com/group/SCA-Tree-Girt-Sea](mailto:groups.yahoo.com/group/SCA-Tree-Girt-Sea)

Seneschal: Mistress Gianetta Andreini da Vicenza

([jenrsmall@yahoo.com](mailto:jenrsmall@yahoo.com))

### The Canton of Vanished Wood

(Northwest Chicago Suburbs)

Website: [www.vanishedwood.org](http://www.vanishedwood.org)

Email list: [groups.yahoo.com/group/vanished\\_wood](mailto:groups.yahoo.com/group/vanished_wood)

Seneschal: Mistress Acelina of Derelei

([acelinaofderelei@yahoo.com](mailto:acelinaofderelei@yahoo.com))

## Officers

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773-512-1498

**Herald: Baron Andreas Blacwode**  
(Drew Nicholson)

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**Signet: Mistress Heather Hall**  
(Heather Rocci)

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**Minister of Youth: Vacant**

This is the April 2019 issue of the Zephyr, the official newsletter of the Barony of Ayreton, a branch of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc.

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