



THE ZEPHYR



January 2019- Anno Societatis 53

Greetings from our Baron and Baroness



Greetings Ayreton,

We'd like to say thank you to everyone for working towards making this year's Dragonshire 12th Night and Festival of Maidens a reality. The sense of community that has grown from the combination of three separate SCA groups working towards a single event has been inspiring. We are also grateful for the cantons strengthening their commitment to continue to grow and thrive, and to work together to make the barony stronger. We are truly better together.

Please continue to use the Ayreton FB page and e-lists to share activities, to share photos and to celebrate each other. Thank you everyone who has participated in Ayreton family photos. We would like to see how many people we can get in a photo at 12th Night and will list a time and place on social media and email lists.

We look forward to seeing everyone at events and activities this spring and the new Ayreton trim (Thanks Alexander for arranging that!) being shown off in all manner of creative ways.

Gareth and Hillary



Greetings from the Seneschal

Greetings, Ayretonians!

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season, and are rested and ready to tackle the new year!

2019 is going to bring a lot of changes, including here at home. In the spring, Ayreton Connection is going to be retired. A wonderful idea at the time, Ayreton Connection has been made obsolete by the increased services available through Midrealm.org, including official and archival e-mail addresses for all officers. I'm working with the Ayreton staff to transition their e-mails, and see the updates made on the Ayreton website.

The upcoming Dragonshire 12th Night/Festival of Maidens should be an incredible event, with multiple Royal Presences and a packed schedule. I will be in attendance, and look forward to seeing many of you there!

If you see me at 12th Night, please let me know what you'd like to accomplish this year in the Society, and how I can help. I'm trying to listen more!

YIS,
Tieron Alainn

Greetings from the Chronicler

Gentle Cousins!

In this issue we have another installation of Ask Mistress Sarafina, a musical piece by Mistress Amalie, and a book review from Lady Bergard Solgai, of a book I also have found super interesting.

As we move into the winter season, I'd like to encourage you all to share your winter pastimes here. Tales to be told by the fire, A&S projects to while away the dark afternoons, historical notes of interest, all are welcome.

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). Or look for me at an event soon!

I hope your winter holidays have been peaceful.

In service,
THL Evzenie (known as Zanie)

Calendar of Events

Go to www.midrealm.com/calendar for a complete list.

Jan 12: Dragonshire 12th Night and Festival of Maidens, Ayreton, Carraig Ban and Caer Gwynt (Oswego IL)

Jan 18-19 Winter Revel, Three Walls, Ionia, MI

Feb 9 Inkin' in Lincoln, Shattered Crystal, Marine IL

Feb 9 St Valentine's Day Massacre, Three Hills, Kalamazoo, MI

Feb 16 Rogue's Day, Swordcliffe, Kincaid IL

Feb 23 Courting on the River & Midlands A&S, Dark River, Moline IL

March 2 Masque of Courtly Love XXIII, Alderford, North Canton OH

March 9-16 Gulf Wars, Gleann Abhann, Lumberton MS

March 29 Quest for the Golden Seamstress, Roaring Wastes, Berkeley, MI

March 30 Better War Through Archery & Pastimes, Sternfeld, Danville IN





Ask Mistress Sarafina
An advice column for those in need

Hey Mistress Sarafina, I've heard a lot of talk on Facebook lately about helping people feel safe and welcome in the SCA. Can you recommend some things that I, a new Scadian, can do to help people feel safe and welcome?'

Sincerely,
I Just Want Everyone To Have Fun

Dear IJWETHF,

First, let me commend you on such a noble pursuit. The SCA should be a welcoming place to all who would join us. As basic as it may sound, treat EVERYONE, regardless of rank, with courtesy and kindness. Talk to folks you don't know. Introduce yourself. Strike up a conversation. You never know who you will connect with. DO NOT SINGLE A PARTICULAR PERSON OR GROUP OF PEOPLE OUT FOR "EXTRA" COURTESY. No one wants to be patronized or made to feel like there is a spotlight on them. If you see someone who looks lost, ask if they need help. If you see someone carrying a load, open the door and hold it.

In the unfortunate event that you see someone who is being accosted, ask them if they need help. You do not need to address the person who is being abusive. Help the person in peril to get to a neutral place. Depending on the severity of the situation, you may need to involve the site staff. If you're not sure who to turn to for help, try starting with a peer. You can often identify them by their regalia. Laurels wear wreaths. Pelicans wear pelicans. MODs wear a pendant with three swords. Knights and Masters of Arms wear gold chains and white belts/baldrics. YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE A PEER IN ORDER TO HELP.

In short, be friendly and welcoming to everyone. Speak up if needed and do not be afraid to ask for help. A warm, friendly smile and a kind word will go a long way!

Helpfully,
Sarafina

Join Fellow Baronial Folks at:

AWARD Recommendation and Largesse socials!

Their Excellencies and a few others have organized Baronial get-togethers with the focus of filling out award recommendations (Kingdom and/or Baronial) and working on some largesse projects. We had the first couple in 2018, and have three more planned for 2019. The next three are scheduled as follows:

February 17 (Sunday), 2pm: At Dietrich and Evzenie's (Peg and David Cook)
4148 N LeClaire Ave, Chicago IL 60641

April 13 (Saturday) 2pm: At Mistress Helewyse's (Location TBD, check the Facebook Event for more info)

June 9 (Sunday) 2pm: At Dawn's Place, (Location TBD, check the Facebook Event for more info)

For more info or to volunteer to host, contact Mistress Sarafina or Baron Andreas.

A World Lit Only by Fire: The Medieval Mind and the Renaissance – Portrait of an Age by William Manchester. Reviewed by Berngard Solgai, called Moose

I did not seek out this book; it passed through my hands at work and I thought it looked interesting. I knew nothing about it before I slid the first disc into my cd player, and Manchester led off with two strikes. First, in the Author's Note, he describes it as a "slight work, with no scholarly pretensions. All the sources are secondary, and few are new..." Honestly, I had half a mind to stop right there. But I didn't have anything else to listen to on my commute to work, so I decided I'd give it at least until I got there and could pick up more audiobooks.

Strike two came in his brief and superficial dismissal of the first 1000 years of the period he examines. The span from the 410 (Visigoths sack Rome) to 1400 occupies approximately 10 percent of his narrative – 1 cd of 10, 30 pages of almost 300 in the illustrated book. As Manchester would have it, almost nothing happened during the so-called Dark Ages and early Middle Ages. There are 65 events on the Chronology at the beginning of the book; only 15 are prior to the 15th century. Rome falls, everyone scatters before the onslaught of the barbarians, Classical thought is destroyed or suppressed, Christianity rises and puts a stranglehold on all learning, civilization stagnates where it is not actively decaying. Such a summary of this time period is nothing new, but disappointing nonetheless. At this point, I was not at all disposed to like this book.

But I found the style engaging and I was curious to see where he was going so I kept on, and once he got into the real meat of his work, my mind began to change. History may be about events, but we can't understand the events if we don't understand the people who make them happen, and to whom they happen. Besides, it's the people who make the events interesting, and Manchester builds his narrative around well-crafted portraits of a number of individuals who shaped and defined the later Middle Ages and early Renaissance, most notably the Borgias (especially Rodrigo/Pope Alexander VI), Erasmus of Rotterdam, Martin Luther and his opponents, and Ferdinand Magellan.

Manchester tells us in the Author's Note that project began as an introduction to a biography of Magellan written by a friend, so it is no surprise that he returns to Magellan several times throughout before finishing with a substantial description of Magellan's travels – the impact of which on contemporary understanding of the world cannot be overstated. The more one learns about Magellan, the more one wonders why Columbus gets all the attention – the latter does not compare favorably in Manchester's view, and he makes a persuasive case. Magellan changed people's understanding of the physical world more than any other explorer of his time.

Meanwhile, Erasmus and Luther were changing how people thought about almost everything else. Humanism and Protestantism together rewrote people's relationships with God, each other, and themselves, and the effects of these two men's work – and those who supported and opposed them – are still being felt today. Erasmus and Luther laid the foundations for the modern mind, and Manchester does a masterful job of describing how and why.

The 'why' of course has to do with the state of the Church during that time. The Borgia Pope may have been the best-known example of the corruption and venality that infected the Church, but he was hardly the only one. Manchester gives plenty of examples of popes and cardinals whose only interests were temporal power, material wealth, and earthly delights. The Papacy was a powerful political position at that time – the Prince of the Church was every as much a player on the world stage as other princes and kings and more influential than most of them. It is hard for us to understand how this was allowed to happen – the big question is not why Luther protested but why more people didn't protest sooner. The answer lies in understanding two very important differences between the Medieval mind and the modern one. Kings and Popes were believed to be chosen and ordained by God, Himself. The Medieval mind saw the direct hand of God in all manner of things, from great events to everyday occurrences. Everything that happened was not just according to God's will but was a result of direct Divine action. The king might be an incompetent despot, the pope might be a libertine, but God put them on their thrones and it was not for lesser men to contest it.

The other big difference, perhaps the biggest difference of all, as Manchester reminds us, was that most people didn't know anything about anything, and even the movers and shakers often didn't know what was going on outside of their own domains until well after it had happened. News traveled slowly, if it traveled at all. Most people never left the immediate vicinity of their birth, had no education beyond how to do what they did to survive, went to church and heard mass in Latin because they weren't supposed to understand it, and knew nothing about the great events shaping the larger world. The majority of the population of Europe might have been on a different planet from the great men who were their rulers and those who were changing the way great men viewed each other, God, and the world -- until the printing press and the translation of the Bible in the vernacular started to bridge that gap.

It's no accident that certain inventions and certain ways of thinking happened at the same time, and Manchester's narrative weaves these elements together, not always in a chronologically linear fashion, connecting people and events into what turned out to be a very enjoyable tapestry of the period. Yes, his chronology covers a little over 1100 years and give extremely short shrift to the first 1000 of them. But he redeems himself in his portraits of the great personages of the latter century and a half that are his true subject. Understanding history comes from understand the people involved, and the people Manchester examines come to life in this book and bring their age life. There are many other people who take their turns in Manchester's narrative – well-known names such as Leonardo da Vinci, Copernicus, Savonarola, and Machiavelli (who Manchester contends has been unjustly maligned for *Il Principe*, which was an analysis of Cesare Borgia not a

general instruction manual), and less familiar ones such as the Fugger family of moneylenders whose financial support made possible much of the machinations of Europe's great and powerful.

There is a lot going on in this book, and Manchester presents it in a way that is meaningful, understandable, and enjoyable to read (or listen to, as I did). If, as he says at the outset, it is not a scholarly work, it is at least an accessible distillation of the scholarly works of which Manchester availed himself in writing it – the bibliography is 9 ½ pages. Apparently, it was a bestseller and is considered classic work of popular history. Once I gave it a chance to prove itself, I can see why.



Pilgrimage to Santiago

by 13c Galician jogral Airas Corpancho

Amelie d'Anjou

trans. by Barbara Fowler,
from *Songs of a Friend*

Voice

I thought in my heart I'd _____ make a pil - grim - age to San - ti -
If the wea - ther's fine, and my mo - ther does - n't go I'd like to
I'll try ve - ry soon to see if I'll be ab - le to burn my

3

a - go one day to of - fer a prayer And to see my friend there.
tra - vel hap - py and look - ing my best, And to see my friend there.
can - dles with the/aw - ful long - ing I have, And to see my friend there.



A CHALLENGE FROM THE BARONIAL A&S CHAMPION

Greetings all!

As Baronial A&S Champion, I am issuing an A&S challenge to all within the Barony – The Challenge of Threes. This is a breadth challenge, to encourage you to try new things within A&S.

There are three parts to this challenge, each of which can earn participants a prize made by my own hands! Don't worry, they don't have to be completed in order. Enthusiasm and participation are prized here over precise periodicity, so please join in! This Challenge will run through the year! (and Pennsic is a perfect opportunity to do this!)

Part 1 – LEARN 3 Things!

Learn about 3 topics in period, new to you, and tell me about them! Completion of this level will earn you a delicious homemade food or drink thing.

Part 2 – MAKE 3 Things!

Make 3 things found in period, new to you, and tell me about them (does not have to be a physical object - performing arts, etc welcome as well)! Completion of this level will earn you a handmade cloth or jewelry craft.

Part 3 – TEACH 3 Things!

Teach 3 topics to at least 3 other people, and tell me about it (or invite me to your class)! They don't have to be official classes, but at least 3 other people have to be present/learning for it to count. Completion of this level will earn you a leather or wood craft!

Now, who will meet my challenge?

THL Siobhán an Einigh of Connacht

SOME SUNDRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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!)

Day of Playe IV



The Fjord & the Fjurious

Looking to extend the fun after Dragonshire 12th Night?
Join us for:

Regional Archery Practice, Sunday January 13th, 1-3pm, at The Archery
Place, 1725 Crescent Lake Drive #B, Montgomery, Illinois 60538
(more info on Facebook--
<https://www.facebook.com/events/699077303806982/>)



Upcoming Officer Reporting Schedule

Archery Marshal	March 1
Chatelaine	February 1
Chronicler	April 1
Exchequer	January 31
Herald	March 30
Knight's Marshal	March 1
MoAS	April 1
Baronial MoAS	April 15
Minister of Youth	April 15
Rapier Marshal	February 1
Equestrian Marshal	February 14
Seneschal	February 1
Baronial Sen.	February 15
Webminister	February 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 (4th Sundays unless noted)
Contact: ayretoncooks@yahoo.com

Grey Gargoyles Fighter Practice
Contact: Lady Susanna – mickel14@att.net

Monday

Consort Music
Contact: Master Robyyan - (773) 764.1920

Tuesday

Thieves of Heart Fighter Practice
Contact: Lord Tedesco - tedesco@ayreton.org

Renaissance Dance
Contact: Lady Margrett Norwoode –
mistressmargrett@ameritech.net

Wednesday

Court and Country Music Group
Contact: CourtAndCountry@gmail.com

Archery Practice
Contact: Forester Athelwulf of Dover -Aethelwulf@Dizzywulf.com

Vanished Wood Sewing Circle
Contact: Mistress Katherine – knwkwf@yahoo.com

Mid Week Fighter Practice
Contact: Lord Kith - 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/

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

Email list: groups.yahoo.com/group/Ayreton

Seneschal: Tieron Alainn

(seneschal@ayreton.org)

The Canton of Foxvale

(Aurora IL area)

Website: www.foxvale.org

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

Seneschal: THL Yamamura Kitsune

(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

Seneschal: Mistress Helewyse de Birkestad

(helewyse@yahoo.com)

The Canton of Rokkehealden

(Southwest Chicago Suburbs)

Website: www.midrealm.org/rokkehealden

Seneschal: Lady AElfreda aet Aethelwealda

(aelfreda6@gmail.com)

The Canton of Tree-Girt-Sea

(North Side of Chicago)

Website: www.treegirtsea.com

Email list: groups.yahoo.com/group/SCA-Tree-Girt-Sea

Seneschal: Mistress Gianetta Andreini da Vicenza

(jenrsmall@yahoo.com)

The Canton of Vanished Wood

(Northwest Chicago Suburbs)

Website: www.vanishedwood.org

Email list: groups.yahoo.com/group/vanished_wood

Seneschal: Mistress Acelina of Derelei

(acelinaofderelei@yahoo.com)

Officers

Baron: Master Gareth Ostwestly
(Jeff Berger)

te@ayreton.org
630-699-4987

Baroness: Banamhaighstir Hillary of Langeforde
(Aggie Powell-Berger)

te@ayreton.org
(630) 750.0965

Seneschal: The Honorable Lord Tireon Alainn
(Dave Lovely)

seneschal@ayreton.org

Exchequer: Lady Matilda Ann Stevyn Slyfield
(Grace Strauss)

exchequer@ayreton.org
630-803-4501

Minister of Arts & Sciences: Baron Andreas Blacwode
(Drew Nicholson)

moas@ayreton.org

Knights Marshal: Lord Zygarr
(Lucas Becker)

marshal@ayreton.org

Archery Marshal: Forester Aethelwulf of Dover
(Tom Scrip)

archery.marshal@ayreton.org

Rapier Marshal: Master Kai Tseng
(Jim Lai)

rapier.marshal@ayreton.org

Thrown Weapons Marshal: Master Gailen Alric Ros
(Perry Dyer)

thrown.weapon@ayreton.org

Chatelaine: Baroness Brigid Murchadha
(Brigid Murphy)

chatelaine@ayreton.org
630-773-6881

Chronicler: The Honorable Lady Evzenie Apolena Vitkovic
(Peg Cook)

chronicler@ayreton.org
773-205-0081

Webminister: Lord Dunstan Bramblette
(Rob Hicks)

webminister@ayreton.org
773-512-1498

Herald: Baron Andreas Blacwode
(Drew Nicholson)

herald@ayreton.org

Signet: Mistress Heather Hall
(Heather Rocci)

signet@ayreton.org

Minister of Youth: Vacant

This is the January 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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For a hard copy of this newsletter, please contact Peg Cook; ayreton.chronicler@midrealm.org

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