



THE ZEPHYR

July 2017- Anno Societatis 51

Greetings from our Baron and Baroness



Thank you for finding ways to share your love of what we do with others and with us. Continue to sing the praises of where we are from throughout the Midlands and the Midrealm, whether it's by the wearing of blue and the green, or by celebrating the successes of our friends, it's a small way to let others know that this is the Best Barony Ever!

Wherever you roam the rest of the summer; be safe, travel safe, and come back home to Ayreton!

Pro vi Ayreton!
Gareth and Hillary

Greetings from the Seneschal

Greetings,

A big thank you to all the canton seneschals for getting their reports in on time. Baronial report was also on time. Yay!

Many of us are making our Pennsic preparations and plans. We also need to look at the very busy fall we are going to have. Baroness Wars in late August, Middle Kingdom Academy of Defense, Pots and Pens II, and Foxhunt gets us through the end of September. Please take a moment and volunteer to help at an event. Just an hour here or there can make a huge difference to the folks running the event.

Speaking of events....we really need to start on next year's Scribin' and Imbibin'. Bids should be put in at the 3rd Quarter meeting.

Henry
Baron, Captain, Forrester

Greetings Unto Ayreton,

We would like to say thank you Ayreton for your continued support to Gareth and me. With Pennsic coming up, please consider joining us during opening ceremonies Saturday night. Muster is at 6:00 pm at Midrealm Royal camp and at our Pennsic court on Wednesday at 6:30 at Camp Tengusangi at Willow Point. We are honored and amazed and how rocking awesome you are in your continued support of other events in Ayreton, in the Midlands and in the Midrealm. If you are able to attend Pennsic please feel free to stop by our camp at N30 in House No House to say hi. When we get back from Pennsic, please share your good deeds and the good deeds of others on the Ayreton Facebook page.

On a personal note, I would like to say thank you for your support during my time as Ayreton chronicler and we ask that you continue that support to THL Evzenie as she tackles that office.

Remember to drink lot of water at Pennsic, have fun and bring back stories to share of your deeds and how you were able to honor Ayreton. Sunscreen is your Pennsic friend. No one wants to hug a lobster.

(Continued in next column)

Greetings from the New Chronicler!

Gentle cousins,

I am very pleased to be taking over as Baronial Chronicler! I want to extend grateful thanks to Her Excellency Hillary for her long service to the Barony. I hope I can come close to filling her shoes.

I want to take a minute and introduce myself for folks who may not know me. Dietrich and I started in the SCA many years ago (AS 22, I think) and were very active until it became difficult to balance our children and our fun. (More about that in my piece below.) One of the things I did while we were active was revive the newsletter for the Midlands region (The Ringmail, long defunct, I think), so “chronicling” is not new to me. (Though the rules are a bit different in these modern times.)

This issue is a little slapdash (though big thanks to folks who contributed stuff in a big hurry), the priority was to get something out quickly. I expect I will be making some formatting changes for the next issue.

I’d like to end by requesting—nay, begging—for your assistance—your content, your feedback, your ideas about how this newsletter can help increase our fun. You can reach me by email at the official address (chronicler@ayreton.org), my personal email (pegcookol@gmail.com) or find me on Facebook.

In Service,
Evzenie

Here is a space that could use some artwork.

Instead of cheesy pseudo Elizabethan font.

Anyone up for the challenge?

Calendar of Events

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

July 29-13 Pennsic War 46 Kingdom of Aethelmearc, Slippery Rock, PA

August 25-27 Baroness Wars V, Shire of Swordcliff, Taylorville, IL

August 25-27 Call of the Waterhorse, Canton of Fearann Na Criche, Oscoda, MI

August 26 Bottega at Three Towers, Marche of Three Towers, Mansfield, OH

September 1-3 Pounce 16 part 2 Canton of Catteden, Vanlue, OH

September 1-4 Mounted War Games VII Presents Day of the Dragon Barony of Shadowed Stars, Bluffton, IN

September 2 Cleftlands Standard Bearers XXVI, Barony of the Cleftlands, Parma, OH

September 2 Middle Kingdom Academy of Defense, Shire of Ravenslake, McHenry, IL]

September 8-10 Harvest Days: A Tournament of Chivalry and Defence, Marche of Winged Hills, Pleasant Hill, OH

September 8-10 The Feast of the Archangels II, Barony of Illiton, Canton, IL

September 9 Hunt for the White Stag, Barony of Roaring Wastes, Oakland Twp., MI

September 15-17 Bring Back The Knight, Canton of Brackendelv, Detroit, MI

September 16 Pferdestadt Rapier Classic, The Incipient Canton of Pferdestadt, Delaware, OH

September 16 Pots & Pens 2, Shire of Greyhope, Hamlet, IN

September 23, Fall Coronation, Barony of White Waters, South Bend, IN

September 28-1 Vikings Come Home XXVI, Barony of Donnershafen, Boyne City, MI

* **September 29-1** Fox Hunt XIII, Canton of Foxvale, Big Rock, IL

September 30 Brendokenfest, Barony of Brendoken, Dalton, OH

September 30 Haunted Tower 3.5: Purgatory, Shire of Dernehealde, Logan, OH

September 30 Reign of Arrows VI, Shire of Stormvale, Flint, MI

* - Denotes Ayreton/Canton Event

Can one go home again?

Greetings gentle cousins. I'd like to (re)introduce myself. I'm Evzenie Apolena Vitkovic, known as Zanie. After a long hiatus, my lord Dietrich von Hamburg and I are making a concerted effort to come back and be active members again. We were very active in the past, then for various (mostly kid-related reasons) our involvement seriously dropped off. We never completely went away, to keep connected to our SCA friends we tried to go an event every once in a while, but we just couldn't manage to include as much SCA-related activity as we once had, and we both missed it.

Because the SCA (and specifically our local group) had become *home*, in that way that it does for many people. Surrounded by like-minded folks, having that creative and social outlet, having what feels like *family*, maybe for the first time...that's what the SCA was to us. It was painful to step away.

But now we have joined the ranks of empty-nesters, and we'd like to *come home* again. But to be frank, it's been a little...weird. For one thing, it's a little disorienting to try and find a new niche. The physical limitations of aging bodies mean some things we once enjoyed are now out of reach, although Dietrich is clearly finding his archery game again. Also, our level of involvement when we left was deep and wide, and it's difficult to find exactly *where* to step in again. There's a little cognitive dissonance, because it's different than being *new* new, when you are still figuring out what the SCA is and what interests you and where you can help, because we know somewhat the possibilities for things to do and places to help, but it can seem like trying to jump onto a moving cart-- getting the timing right is important but scary. Also, I feel like we need to resist the temptations of Old Phart Syndrome. With 15 + years of SCA involvement before we went away, it can be easy to fall into a pattern of measuring what people are doing now by the yardstick of How We Used To Do It, which is can be unproductive.

I wanted to write this essay partly in response to a couple of discussions on the Midrealm's Facebook group. A couple of people (not, as near as I can tell, from Ayreton, or even the Midlands) posted their disappointment with their reception after returning to the SCA after several years' hiatus. It got me thinking. I want to say clearly that what they were describing in terms of their welcome in some cases--cliquish behavior, less than welcoming atmospheres--I have never experienced among my kinsmen of Ayreton and the Midlands. Whenever Dietrich and I have been able to come back--even for just one event a year--people have been warm and gracious. But I wonder how many other "returnees" have not felt as welcome? Or how many folks have wanted to come back and get involved again but had trouble answering the "what do I do now?" question and received little help or feedback from others? Sometimes it's assumed that people who were active before "automatically" know how to reinsert themselves into things. That may be true for some, but it's likely not true for all.

One of the jobs that the Chatelaine does (excellently well here in Ayreton) is to get new members connected, involved, and interested. And I remember well from my more active days that the enthusiasm with which new people are greeted and "assimilated" by group members can be a big draw.

To go back to my "home" metaphor, for new folks, the SCA is a cool new house, and the possibility that you're going to find some fun, exciting thing in each and every room means you can't wait to get going. Plus every room is inhabited by enthusiastic people who can't wait to show you the interesting features of their room. It's exciting.

But for returning members, we are really moving back into a house, that once was very familiar, whose rooms, in fact, we may have helped construct (or at least decorate). But then we "moved out", and the friends who remained (and the new people who moved in) have put their own stamp on the house. Things are both familiar and strange, at the same time, and it sometimes feels like the folks living in the house either assume you're new and need things explained, or assume you already know everything there is to know and don't need to have something explained that might be very different, where the reality might be a little of both.

So, cousins, I will close by saying that we are happy to be "back", grateful for the warm and welcoming friends, both new and old, we have encountered. The people of Ayreton are among the best in the Known World, and I would encourage us to continue to share our enthusiasms with newcomers, and to smooth the way for our returning friends to move back in to this *home* we all love.

Yours in Service,
THL Evzenie

An event report in the form of a missive from Andreas

Unto Baroness Hillary of Langford, who holds the lands of Ayreton in Fief from the crown with Your Husband Gareth, does Andreas, clerk to Their Majesties and Steward of Your Revels send greetings on this, the second day of July, being the day of Saint Thomas.

You have asked me, my Baroness, to provide accounts of my travels on the roads of the Kingdom while in service to our Dread King William, and our light, Queen Isolde. Yesterday at lauds, I arose from beside my sleeping wife and left to drive to the southeastern reaches of Ayreton, where I met three women of Your acquaintance: Haelga, who was bringing her son to begin his training with the MidRealm army, Siobhan, who is an archer as well as travelling minstrel, and Hilla, another minstrel whom some say is also a sorceress. Hilla insisted that she was bound for Simple Day to use her magic to prevent inclement weather; I cannot say if she has any true power, but the day was indeed clear and very warm.

We arrived in Their Majesties' Barony of Sternfeld just after Terce, and womenfolk left me to pursue their duties. I approached Their Majesties in Their chambers, and took up my appointment as one of Their Clerks to prepare for the courts on the day. I had hoped to take up my rapier and dagger, but my preparations had been delayed due to the bad humors of my youngest son, so I focused on my deskbound duties.

In addition to being another set of exercises to prepare for the coming battles, much of the day was set aside for the recognition of service and arts by the populace, as well as several promotions in the Army on all three fields. The Dragon is clearly pleased with Her Children, for there were so many I can scarce remember them all, but a few do stand out in my mind.

Upon the field of the buckler and rapier, Their Majesties rewarded Warder Cecily, whom I always remember to have smiling eyes. She has been of great service to the Kingdom making banners that dance and flip in the wind; she laughed through her entire recognition. They gave her a Willow.

Over on the field of pole and shield, Your Champion Johan was promoted to Captain of the Gold Mace upon the field to great acclaim for his leadership and skill in the art of war.

At the range, the Wulflings were recognized as a puissant group of archers -- a Dragon's Flight -- who have made Your Barony proud.

Several good and worthy gentles were on Vigil as they contemplated elevation to being Peers of the Realm. I was lucky to visit with some of them, including Your sister, Maggie, Baroness of Shadowed Stars, who is to become a Pelican.

Later that night at Vespers, Their Majesties held a grand court. Breddlewyn, who has been a harper in the service of many MidRealm Kings was recognized as a Baron of the Court to many cheers and acclaims. He is beloved of the people, and many wept tears of joy to see him elevated thusly. He promises to try to play the tune that is inscribed upon his writ of Baronage.

At the last of it, Lady Elsbetta von Atzinger was elevated to Master of Defence. The sheer ferocity and pride in her eyes as she took her oath of fealty was mesmerizing. This lady is a puissant warrior, and her opponents will shake in fear at the sound of her approaching steps.

Many other people were also recognized, for our Rulers are gracious and kind and love us well. Possunt quia posse videntur.

I gathered up the women and the boy for our return, and we left before Compline, arriving back in Your Barony before Matins the next day.

Half a fortnight Hence, I will serve You and Your Baron at Your Regency in Your Canton of Rokkhealdon; it will be greatly pleasing to see You again. Then will begin the slow gathering of the Kingdom's warriors and support staff towards Pennsic, where we will take up arms for gold and for glory, and for Isolde!

Draco Vult!

in strength, in service and in song, I am

Andreas Blacwode

From the Pursuivant

Sain Bainu!

If I have been remiss in reporting in these pages – and there can be no question that I have been – it is entirely to my own discredit, for my good fellow Ayretonians... Ayretonites... Ayretonish... you guys... have continued to populate the heavens with Baronial awards. I commend unto you all the Baronial award page, on the Ayreton website -

<http://ayreton.midrealm.org/recipients> - where are listed all the recipients of Ayreton Baronial awards. Soon to be added to that list are the Ladies Aelfreda and Elli Skoggatt, who were honored with Pleiades at the recent Day of Playe hosted by the Canton of Rokkehealdan. Day of Playe also featured a Regency Court where, acting as Their Majesties' representatives, Their Excellencies bestowed Awards of the Purple Fret upon Lady Anna Lovell, Lord Octavian, and Lord Aedan. Lady Haelga's beautiful voice was recognized with a Willow, and Lord Mikhail became The Honorable Lord Mikhail, Order of the Evergreen. Lady Anna Lovell also received her Award of Arms, and AoA's that had been read into the Court at Ragnarok Rampage were delivered to Lord Zygarr and Lady Alys of Grey Gargoyles.

The excellent service and fine skills of the people of Ayreton continue to be recognized and rewarded. Huzzah! Hoobah! Wetsu!

I am also pleased to announce that I have two new deputies, both of whom are already experienced and knowledgeable in the ways of Heraldry (moreso than I am, if the truth be told). Lady Siobhan an Einigh of Connaght and THL Andreas Blacwode are now providing me with much able, enthusiastic, and appreciated assistance, and HE Nadezda has willingly resigned. I thank her for offering to be my deputy so that I would have one.

And now for something a little more personal.

Those who attended the court at Stone Dog Inn this past Spring will recall the most dramatic and entertaining way in which Their Excellencies contrived with Andreas to surprise me with an Award of the Pleiades. For those who missed it, there is a fine and lively song known as The Moose Song – and if you don't know that, then that is easily remedied by any number of people probably within earshot of you at this moment – which Andreas had 'adapted' to become the text of my Pleiades and which he and Octavian proceeded to sing to me, to the amusement of all present.

It was great fun, we all laughed, and I was delighted and grateful to have my efforts recognized in such a memorable way. But... there's another layer. Once we were done laughing, I began reflecting on the true significance of something like this, to me. As you all probably know, I am a Brother of the Dark Horde Moritu, a Mongol household that split away from the Great Dark Horde over 30 years ago, now. I joined the SCA right about the time that this was happening; my first SCA event took place less than a month after the Horde meeting that has come down in our lore as The Split. I met several members of the nascent Moritu at the post-revel to that event, and very quickly was welcomed first as a friend and then, within a couple of years, as a Brother. The prevailing attitude in the Moritu at that time, at least in that place, was strongly isolationist. We were a mercenary fighting group with miles of attitude and no inclination towards service. For years, my SCA activity consisted of showing up at events and hanging out with my friends, saying rude things about people with pointy hats.

I did make a couple of desultory attempts to join a local group after I moved to Illinois, but I didn't really connect with anyone. I became one of those people who've been around so long that everyone assumed I had my AoA. I had been in the SCA for about 20 years by the time I actually received it, but only recently had started doing anything to deserve that sort of recognition.

Over the years, my outlook on a lot of things has changed, including service to the Dream, as has the prevailing attitude of the Moritu. In addition to my AoA, I have been awarded a Purple Fret and been a member of a group that received a Purple Fretty. And now, this wacky, wonderful Pleiades. Every time I participate in a court, I recall the time when I would not have believed I would ever hold an office even at the shire/canton level, much less baronial, or ever receive a Kingdom-level award. So when I thank Their Excellencies for honoring me with the Pleiades, it is not just for the award, but for the environment in which I was not only willing to provide service where needed but enthusiastic. To Their Excellencies, to the Canton of Foxvale, and to the Barony of Ayreton – my fondest thanks. I love being part of this effort, and helping where my help is needed. And now you know a little more about just what that means.

Berngard Solgai, called Moose
Ayreton Pursuivant

Upcoming Officer Reporting Schedule

Archery Marshal	September 1
Chatelaine	November 1
Chronicler	October 1
Exchequer	July 31
Herald	September 30
Knight's Marshal	September 7
MoAS	October 1
Baronial MoAS	October 15
Minister of Youth	October 15
Rapier Marshal	August 1
Equestrian Marshal	August 14
Seneschal	August 15
Baronial Sen.	August 30
Webminister	August 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 Robbyan - (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 Pippens – 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 vinting. 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: Baron Henry of Exeter

(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: Sgt. 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: Baron Henry of Exeter (Terry Donner)	seneschal@ayreton.org (312) 504-8692
Exchequer: Lady Matilda Ann Stevyn Slyfield (Grace Strauss)	exchequer@ayreton.org (630)803.4501
Minister of Arts and Sciences: Mistress Acelina of Derelai, OP (Dayle Harding)	moas@ayreton.org (630) 803.0217
Knights Marshal: Master Ratimir Staryjezvec (John Staeck)	marshal@ayreton.org (312) 208.0999
Archery Marshal: Forester Athelwulf of Dover (Thomas 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.weapons@ayreton.org
Chatelaine: Baroness Brigid Murchadha (Bridget Murphy)	chatelaine@ayreotn.org (630) 773-6881
Chronicler: The Honorable Lady Evzenie Apolena Vitkovic (Peg Cook)	chronicler@ayreton.org (847) 4174978
Webminister: Lord Dunstan Bramblette (Rob Hicks)	webminister@ayreton.org (773) 512.1498
Herald: Lady Bergard Solgei (Called Moose) (Dori Becker)	herald@ayreton.org
Signet: The Honorable Lady Heather Hall (Heather Rocci)	signet@ayreton.org
Minister of Youth: Vacant	

This is the July 2017 issue of the Zephyr, the official newsletter of the 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 Barony of Ayreton. Subscriptions are free. For a hard copy of this newsletter, please contact Peg Cook; chronicler@ayreton.org

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