



# THE ZEPHYR



July 2020- Anno Societatis 55

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## Greetings from our Baron and Baroness



Greetings Ayreton,

We would like to begin this message with a thank you to those of you who have attended Ayreton online events, worked to create the Baronial dance video, and attend chats. We would also assure everyone that if these offerings aren't for you, for whatever reason, we understand. We are keeping online activities going for those people who enjoy the connections that these activities bring, but it isn't for every person, every time and it is more than okay to choose not. The most important thing to do right now, is whatever personally helps each individual get through the changes that have occurred due to Covid-19. Our lives have been upended since March and our summer isn't what any of us expected. Keep yourselves safe and well, reach out if you need to, and know that the Barony will always strive to be a place of welcome and safety. We honor the work done by the barony's own Baroness Zahra Tesfaye as the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion officer. We agree with the mission statement that a "just and fair inclusion into an organization in which all can participate, prosper, benefit, and reach their full potential." We promise to work toward educating ourselves in such a way that promotes inclusion and encourage others to do the same.

Towards that goal, and concerning the future of the barony, please take the time to make your opinions known on the poll. Your voice matters. Your opinions matter. This isn't a plea for polls to be returned only in our favor, it is a request that polls are returned. If you are concerned about our continued candidacy Their Majesties deserve to hear your opinion, as much as you deserve to give it. If you celebrate our candidacy, they should hear that as well. Please take the time to send in your poll, it is online, doesn't take long and is user friendly. Remember that all candidates aren't competing, the idea is that you make a recommendation based on how you perceive qualifications. We are planning a couple of Zoom meetings before the polls are due in which all interested parties can share with us the directions that they would like to see the barony move towards. We will also answer questions that participants may have. Your ideas and vision matters a great deal to us. Thank you everyone for continuing to work together, to play together and make the dream come alive for Ayreton. You are all our heroes.

. Gareth & Hillary



## Greetings from the Seneschal

Unto the populace of Ayreton, greetings from Andreas, your Interim Seneschal,

*Love is the bridge between you and everything. – Rumi*

We continue to live in a difficult world, where we can be with each other only in spirit, rather than in body. It is easy to fall into loss – loss of time, loss of place, loss of memory – but these are the times when we can, instead of falling, rise by lifting each other up.

In three weeks, polling will be over. In six weeks, Ayreton will have a new seneschal. In three and a half months, the Kingdom will (hopefully) have heirs. In eight and a half months, we may have new Monarchs. In ten months, we will begin a new Baronial term. And in one year, we will hopefully have a treatment for the Covid that plagues us, and maybe, if we're lucky, we'll be able to be together again.

*Life is a balance between holding on and letting go. – Rumi*

For now, though, we must content ourselves with the things that we can do with the people in our immediate homes, or online. The Barony continues to have nightly Zoom sessions: on Monday, we have A&S discussions, on Thursdays we have Scribal nights, and soon we'll be having D&D sessions as well. All are welcome to join; the sessions are posted nightly on the Ayreton Facebook Group. If you would like a calendar invite via email, please send a message to [Ayreton.seneschal@midrealm.org](mailto:Ayreton.seneschal@midrealm.org). Please, come and join us.

Remember, please, that all MidRealm events are cancelled through at least the end of August, 2021, and any official SCA gathering must be of ten people or fewer for the foreseeable future, as well as following the sanitation and social distancing guidelines that have been made available to all Canton Seneschals. All SCA martial activities are still strictly forbidden, as are all choral and bardic activities. That's hard, we know, but we can all be strong if we all support one-another.

If you have any questions about the restrictions, please contact your Canton seneschals, or send an email to [Ayreton.seneschal@midrealm.org](mailto:Ayreton.seneschal@midrealm.org).

*Do not feel lonely. The entire universe is inside you. – Rumi*

We can get through this. If you need help, reach out to those around you. Their Excellencies and I are always here for you. We're going to be ok.

In service to the Barony

Andreas

### *Baronial Business Meeting*

<b>When:</b>	Sunday August 30
<b>Host Location:</b>	Vanished Woods virtually
<b>Address:</b>	Zoom (see call info below)
<b>Contact:</b>	ayreton.seneschal@midrealm.org
<b>Gathering Time:</b>	3:00pm
<b>Potluck &amp; Meeting Time:</b>	Online this time
<b>Important Highlights:</b>	Officer elections including seneschal

### Ayreton 2020-2021 Meeting Schedule

<b>When</b>	<b>Where</b>
5/31/20	Tree-Girt-Sea
8/30/20	Vanished Woods
11/29/20	Grey Gargoyles
1/31/21	Foxvale
5/23/21	Rokkehealden
8/29/21	Tree-Girt-Sea
11/29/21	Vanished Woods

## Greetings from the Chronicler

Greetings Gentle Cousins,

Well. It's July, and we are still practicing SCA at home. I don't know about you, but I've gotten pretty proficient at various videoconferencing platforms. It's nice to see people's faces and hear their voices, even if it's not the same as sharing space at events.

I hope everyone is making the best of this time. Summer allows us time outside to practice skills (socially distanced) or just to get some fresh air. Walk the dogs. See some scenery. It's very difficult to focus on fun and creative endeavors during this crazy pandemic, but I have found that a little bit of outside time is very helpful.

I am also (likely) going to be the next seneschal of the Barony at the end of August. To that end, I am soliciting interested folks who would like to take over as Baronial Chronicler. I'd be happy to talk to anyone about what the job entails and answer any questions. Reach out if you are interested.

I miss you all.

Evzenie

### **August Baronial Zoom Meeting Call info:**

Ayreton Senschal is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Ayreton 3rd Quarter 2020 Business Meeting

Time: Aug 30, 2020 04:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/99637500693?pwd=YTh6SndscGx5elA5TDAXKzgwM2xGdz09>

Meeting ID: 996 3750 0693

Passcode: 247051

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,99637500693#,,,,,0#,,247051# US (Chicago)

+16465588656,,99637500693#,,,,,0#,,247051# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 647 374 4685 Canada

+1 647 558 0588 Canada

+1 778 907 2071 Canada

+1 204 272 7920 Canada

+1 438 809 7799 Canada

+1 587 328 1099 Canada

Meeting ID: 996 3750 0693

Passcode: 247051

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/aEp7pH55o>

## Baronial Polling Information

The Crown of the Middle Kingdom wishes the widest possible counsel on matters relating to the Kingdom; thus, it is requested that those who wish respond to this baronial poll.

All those baronial members should please complete the poll located at this [link](#).

A member is defined as a person who lives within the geographic boundaries of the barony. Please check with your Baronial Seneschal or on the Middle Kingdom website if you are unsure of your group's geographic area ([click here](#)). Those who live outside of the geographic area of the Barony are welcome to complete a "non-resident poll" at this [link](#). While these polls are tallied separately, the Crown values the opinions of all members of Their populace.

Please note that your polls will be VERIFIED BY YOUR ADDRESS. Only cast one poll. POLLS WITH INACCURATE INFORMATION OR THOSE FILED MORE THAN ONCE UNDER THE SAME NAME OR MEMBER NUMBER WILL NOT BE TALLIED!

Polls must be completed no later than 11:59 p.m. on Saturday, August 8, 2020.

## Information about the Ayreton Baronial Polling can be found here:

<http://ayreton.midrealm.org/transition.php>

### Information for Everyone

We appreciate you taking the time to look into your baron(s)/baroness(es)!

#### What Can You Do to Help?

- +Learn about the candidate(s) and think carefully about their strengths and weaknesses
- +Read the candidates' Letters of Intent
- +Listen to their Q&A Videos if available
- +Fill out the poll correctly before the deadline.

#### Who can fill out a poll?

If you participate in Ayreton's activities, we consider you a member of Ayreton's and encourage you to fill out a poll, regardless of whether you are a paid member and no matter where you live within the group. However there are separate polls for those who live within Ayreton's ZIP codes and for everyone else. These polls are tallied separately. It is especially important for you to fill out a poll if you are a member of our populace and live within the Barony's ZIP codes, since the results may be rejected if not enough member polls are returned. It's highly suggested that you write substantive comments on your poll - not just click rating numbers. The more comments - the better the chances of the polling process not being rejected.

#### Do I live in Ayreton?

You can search your ZIP code using the Midrealm ZIP code search function . To do so, go to the [Midrealm Services Portal](#). In the sidebar, select the down arrow next to "Groups"; then select "Find a group by ZIP".

#### More questions?

Contact Ayreton's Seneschal, Andreas or check out the FAQ sheet [here](#).

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Timeline	
Week	Event
<del>4/26-5/23</del>	<del>Baron/Baroness announce their intention to step down or baronial seneschal announces it is time for a polling Baron/Baroness schedule question and answer sessions for those considering running for Baron/Baroness Deputy (Hannah) informs Crown and Kingdom Seneschal of impending poll Deputy (Hannah) places Pale announcement (For the Pale)</del>
<del>5/24-6/20</del>	<del>Baronial seneschal accepts letters of intent (along with photos, release forms, and contact info for each)</del>
<del>6/21-6/27</del>	<del>Letters of intent due to baronial seneschal, forwarded to deputy; Deputy (Hannah) review LOIs</del>
<del>6/28-7/11</del>	<del>Baronial Seneschal works with Baronial SMO and Webmister to post LOIs online (website or drive) for populace; make</del>
<del>7/12-8/8</del>	<del>Distribution and collection of polls</del>
8/8	<b>Polis Close</b>
8/9-8/22	<b>Polis Tablated</b>
Fall	Crown Decision
Late Fall	Investiture

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The Crown is required to obtain written counsel from the residents of a Barony in regards to the group's leadership every five years. Residents of a Barony are defined as those who live within the geographic boundaries of the group, as defined by the MidRealm Cartography database. You do not need to have a paid membership if you live within the group's zip codes in order to cast a poll. There are no specific requirements on what form that counsel must take, save that it must be in writing. Subsequent to the required counsel and barring any "substantive" opposition to a candidate, the Crown may pick any of the candidates at will. In other words, the populace is not "voting" for a Baron and Baroness; they are giving The Crown their opinions about the candidates. This is not just a semantic difference - it is a substantive one. The populace may not force the Crown to do anything. The candidates selected are at the Crown's discretion and choice.

Once the decision has been made and publicized, depending on who is selected for the next term and what the situation is with the current pandemic, an Investiture date may be set. The Barony will be informed of that when more information is available.

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## Letters of Intent



**Baron Gareth Oswestly and Baroness Hillary of Langeforde**

Greetings to Your Majesties, and to the Populace of Ayreton. From Gareth Oswestly and Hillary of Langeforde come greetings and our official announcement of our intention to be considered as candidates for Baron and Baroness of Ayreton for a second term. We have been part of the Ayreton community since before the five original groups began forming the Barony of Ayreton. We were part of the commitment attending all of the original charter meetings, and worked alongside members from all ends of the barony to create a charter that allowed us to move forward with baronial status.

While baron and baroness we have joyfully expanded on the traditions that were started by our predecessors, while

striving to create an even stronger sense of community and Ayreton spirit and pride. We cherish the promise that is Ayreton; the promise to welcome newcomers and support established members, to value the skill and talent that all of the people of Ayreton demonstrate as they explore their own interests within the SCA. We are eternally proud to be part of a barony in which the cantons are respected individually and esteemed for the characteristics that make them part of a greater whole.

It is our hope that we will continue to work with the cantons to strengthen and grow the barony. We will support the goals of the populace, advocating for the people and being their voice to the Crown. We will strive to help find the fun, and bring that fun where we may. We will continue to use the ideas of others and our ideas to create a space that allows for social collaboration. We will continue to use social experiences, with SCA activities in order to celebrate various interests within the barony. One of the goals we'd like to explore is co-curricular activities (A and S support marshal, marshal support A and S etc.) within the various interests so we can all grow in supporting each other. We would like to pull together collaborative teams over the next five years with the goal of outreach to add to growth, retention and participation, allowing baronial members to serve as group facilitators and leaders. We will promote and support baronial members who make such proposals that further allow our populace to shine.

Our barony is known in the Middle Kingdom as being one of service and talent. Ayreton has sponsored gifts to our kingdom and other baronies. We would encourage such largesse to continue so all may know the strength and generosity that is Ayreton. We will continue to promote activity days around the arts and sciences in which we can all share in each other's knowledge and talents. We will encourage the continued growth and development of guilds within the barony. We will promote archery, armored and rapier combat in all its forms and engage in the joy that can be found on the field. We will continue, as we have always done to travel throughout the kingdom in order to sing the praises of the people of Ayreton.

We would willingly commit ourselves to the next five years that being baron and baroness would require with love, with enthusiasm and with tenacity. We would remain open to the populace and with heartfelt passion share their achievements, desires and goals with the Crown of the Middle Kingdom whenever appropriate. We will continue to do what we have always done, cheerlead, celebrate, support and honor the Barony of Ayreton and will happily step back to support upcoming baronage after and the barony itself in whatever means we may for years to come.

## 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

### Group Information for the Barony of Ayreton

**The Barony of Ayreton** (Chicagoland area) Website: <https://ayreton.midrealm.org/>  
Email list: [groups.yahoo.com/group/Ayreton](mailto:groups.yahoo.com/group/Ayreton) Seneschal: Tieron Alainn  
([ayreton.seneschal@midrealm.org](mailto:ayreton.seneschal@midrealm.org))

#### **The Canton of Foxvale**

(Aurora IL area)  
Website: <https://foxvale.midrealm.org/>  
Email list: Contact Banamhaighstir Hillary of Langforde for information ([jeffnaggie@aol.com](mailto:jeffnaggie@aol.com))  
Seneschal: THL Yamamura Kitsune ([foxvale.seneschal@midrealm.org](mailto:foxvale.seneschal@midrealm.org))

#### **The Canton of Grey Gargoyles**

(South Side of Chicago and Southeast Chicago Suburbs) Website: <http://greygargoyles.midrealm.org/>  
Email list: [groups.yahoo.com/group/GreyGargoyles](mailto:groups.yahoo.com/group/GreyGargoyles) Seneschal: Mistress Helewyse de Birkestad  
([greygargoyles.seneschal@midrealm.org](mailto:greygargoyles.seneschal@midrealm.org))

#### **The Canton of Rokkehealden**

(Southwest Chicago Suburbs)  
Website: <http://rokkehealden.midrealm.org/>  
Seneschal: Lady AElfreda aet AElfelwealda ([aelfreda6@gmail.com](mailto:aelfreda6@gmail.com))

**The Canton of Tree-Girt-Sea** (North Side of Chicago) Website:

<http://treegirtsea.midrealm.org/>

Email list: groups.yahoo.com/group/SCA-Tree-Girt-Sea Seneschal: Lady Lette de Cherselawe (treegiirtsea.seneschal@midrealm.org)

**The Canton of Vanished Wood** (Northwest Chicago Suburbs) Website:

<https://vanishedwood.midrealm.org/>

Email list: groups.yahoo.com/group/vanished\_wood Seneschal: Mistress Acelina of Derelei ([vanishedwood.seneschal@midrealm.org](mailto:vanishedwood.seneschal@midrealm.org))

## Ayreton Activities

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

The best way to find updated info about Baronial Activities is to check out the Barony website

(<https://ayreton.midrealm.org/>) or Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/baronyofayreton>)

### 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

*Rapier Fighter Practice in Glen Ellyn*

Contact: Lord Tedesco - [tedesco@ayreton.org](mailto:tedesco@ayreton.org)

### Wednesday

*Court and Country Music Group*

Contact: [CourtAndCountry@gmail.com](mailto:CourtAndCountry@gmail.com)

*Archery Practice*

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

*Vanished Wood Sewing Circle*

Contact: Mistress Katherine – [knwkwf@yahoo.com](mailto:knwkwf@yahoo.com)

*Rapier Fighter Practice in Chicago*

Contact : Kevin Purtell [kpurtell@yahoo.com](mailto:kpurtell@yahoo.com)

*Renaissance Dance*

Contact: Rob Hicks [darclan28@yahoo.com](mailto:darclan28@yahoo.com)

### Thursday

*The Pippins – Madrigal and Early Music Singing Group*

Contact: Mistress Gianetta – (312) 259.6688

## Baronial Office Election Cycle

Office Title	Election Cycle	Next Election	Notes
Seneschal	Even Years	3rd meeting 2020	Announce 2nd meeting 2020
Webminister	Even Years	3rd meeting 2020	Announce 2nd meeting 2020
Exchequer	Odd Years	3rd meeting 2021	Announce 2nd meeting 2021
MoAS	Odd Years	3rd meeting 2021	Announce 2nd meeting 2021
Knight Marshall	Odd Years	3rd meeting 2021	Announce 2nd meeting 2021
Rapier Marshall	Even Years	3rd meeting 2020	Announce 2nd meeting 2020
Archery Marshall	Odd Years	3rd meeting 2021	Announce 2nd meeting 2021
Chatelaine	Even Years	3rd meeting 2020	Announce 2nd meeting 2020
Thrown Weapons Marshall	Even Years	3rd meeting 2020	Announce 2nd meeting 2020
Chronicler	Odd Years	3rd meeting 2021	Announce 2nd meeting 2021
Youth Minister	Odd Years	3rd meeting 2021	Announce 2nd meeting 2021
Herald	Even Years	3rd meeting 2020	Announce 2nd meeting 2020

### Upcoming Officer Reporting Schedule

Archery Marshal	Sept 1
Chatelaine	Nov 1
Chronicler	Oct 1
Exchequer	Oct 30
Herald	Sept 30
Knight's Marshal	Sept 1
MoAS	Oct 1
Baronial MoAS	Oct 15
Minister of Youth	Oct 15
Rapier Marshal	Nov 1
Equestrian Marshal	Nov 14
Seneschal	Nov 1
Baronial Sen.	Nov 15
Webminister	Nov 15

### Calendar of Selected Events

Go to the Midrealm calendar at

<https://a12c.encyva.com/apex/f?p=331:33:5737690411520:&tz=-5:00>

for a complete list.

**In-person events have been cancelled until the end of January 2021. Stay safe, everyone.**

**Ayreton Groups Online—Please note—this info is undergoing review. If you see any errors please let the Editor know.**

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

**Barony of Ayreton:** <https://www.facebook.com/baronyofayreton/>

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:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/118977078211315/>

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

**Ayreton Brewers Guild:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/334422661748/>

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.



## Baronial Officers

**Baron: Master Gareth Ostwestly**

(Jeff Berger)

[ayreton.excellencies@midrealm.org](mailto:ayreton.excellencies@midrealm.org)

630-699-4987

**Baroness: Banamhaighstir Hillary of Langeforde**

(Aggie Powell-Berger)

[ayreton.excellencies@midrealm.org](mailto:ayreton.excellencies@midrealm.org)

(630) 750.0965

**Seneschal: The Honorable Lord Tireon Alainn**

(Dave Lovely)

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

**Exchequer: Lady Matilda Ann Stevyn Slyfield**

(Grace Strauss)

[ayreton.exchequer@midrealm.org](mailto:ayreton.exchequer@midrealm.org)

630-803-4501

**Minister of Arts & Sciences: Baron Andreas Blacwode**

(Drew Nicholson)

[ayreton.moas@midrealm.org](mailto:ayreton.moas@midrealm.org)

**Knights Marshal: Lord Zygarr**

(Lucas Becker)

[ayreton.marshall@midrealm.org](mailto:ayreton.marshall@midrealm.org)

**Archery Marshal: Forester Renzokuken of Ayreton**

(Miguel Villa)

[ayreton.archery@midrealm.org](mailto:ayreton.archery@midrealm.org)

**Rapier Marshal: Master Kai Tseng**

(Jim Lai)

[ayreton.rapier@midrealm.org](mailto:ayreton.rapier@midrealm.org)

**Thrown Weapons Marshal: Master Gailen Alric Ros**

(Perry Dyer)

[ayreton.thrownweapons@midrealm.org](mailto:ayreton.thrownweapons@midrealm.org)

**Chatelaine: THL Yamamura Kitsune**

(Keena Gray)

[ayreton.chatelaine@midrealm.org](mailto:ayreton.chatelaine@midrealm.org)

630-773-6881

**Chronicler: The Honorable Lady Evzenie Apolena Vitkovic**

(Peg Cook)

[ayreton.chronicler@midrealm.org](mailto:ayreton.chronicler@midrealm.org)

847-417-4978

**Webminister: Lord Dunstan Bramblette**

(Rob Hicks)

[ayreton.webminister@midrealm.org](mailto:ayreton.webminister@midrealm.org)

773-512-1498

**Herald: Baron Andreas Blacwode**

(Drew Nicholson)

[ayreton.herald@midrealm.org](mailto:ayreton.herald@midrealm.org)

**Signet: Mistress Heather Hall**

(Heather Rocci)

[ayreton.signet@midrealm.org](mailto:ayreton.signet@midrealm.org)

**Minister of Youth: Lady Alys of Foxrose**

(Amanda Stark)

[ayreton.youth@midrealm.org](mailto:ayreton.youth@midrealm.org)

This is the July 2020 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](mailto:ayreton.chronicler@midrealm.org)

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