



THE ZEPHYR

June 2016- Anno Societatis 51

Greetings from our Baron and Baroness



Greetings Unto Ayreton,

Thank you Ayreton for all you do, for us as the baronage, for each other as members and for the barony as a whole. Ayreton is noticed, we are talked about positively, we are applauded for our good works and we are recognized for being a valuable part of our kingdom and that is all on you.

As we enter the summer months remember things like water, sunscreen, resting when necessary. Take care of yourselves. Our first foray into the return of outdoor events took us by surprise and we were not as prepared as we should have been. Look for us in the baronial day camp at outdoor events, we will make sure that we have water, Gatorade, and sunscreen available if you are at an event and are need of such things.

Summer is busy not just with SCA events but full of family functions, weddings, graduations and the calendars get full very quickly. The SCA is so full of activities and various aspects we are not always aware of all of the amazing things everyone in the barony accomplishes. If there is a specific tourney, craftsperson faire, class you are teaching or activity you would like us to be at please let us or a member of our staff know and we will try our utmost to make it happen.

Go forth, be awesome and have fun while doing it.

Gareth & Hillary

Greetings from the Seneschal (Outgoing)

Greetings Ayreton,

The winds of change are upon us. We have a new Crown and it is a new year for the SCA. Happy A.S. 51.

While the numbers may be confusing to some, the SCA is now officially 50 years old and the Society will be Celebrating this Golden Anniversary with a grand event to be held right here in our very own Middle Kingdom. We hope that many of you will make the trip to this once in a lifetime event and join us in Celebrating 50 years of our own History recreating History.

In Service to Ayreton and The Middle Kingdom,
Herr Alexander Adelbrecht von Markelingen
Ayreton Baronial Seneschal
seneschal@ayreton.org

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Upcoming Officer Reporting Schedule

Archery Marshal	Sept. 1
Chatelaine	Nov. 1
Chronicler	July 1
Exchequer	Q - July 31
Herald	June 30, Sept. 30
Knights Marshal	Sept. 1
Minister of Arts & Sciences	July 1
Baronial MoAS	July 15
Minister of Youth	July 15
Rapier Marshal	Aug. 1
Equestrian Marshal	Aug. 14
Thrown Weapons Marshal	Dec. 1
Seneschal	Aug. 15
Baronial Seneschal	Aug. 30
Webminister	Aug. 15

Calendar of Events

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

SCA 50 Year Celebration – June 17 - 27
SCA Inc., Danville, IN

Simple Day – July 8 - 10
Barony of Sternfeld, Danville, IN

Pennsic War 45 – July 29 - Aug 14
Slippery Rock, PA

Baroness Wars IV – Aug 26 - 28
Shire of Swordcliff, Taylorville, IL

RUM/RUSH Presents Artisans Row– Sept 2 - 5
Barony of Shattered Crystal, Wood River, IL

Middle Kingdom Academy of Defense – Sept 16 - 18
Shire of Ravenslake, Manteno, IL

Fall Coronation – Sept 24
TBD

Rendezvous at the Bridge XXVII – Sept 30 – Oct 2
Shire of Riviere Constelle, Lincoln City, IN

***Foxhunt XII – A Fox in Sheep's Clothing** – Oct 1
Canton of Foxvale, Big Rock, IL

Fall Crown Tournament – Oct 15
TBD

***Day of Playe** – Oct 22
Canton of Rokkehealdan, Gilberts, IL

***All Souls** – Nov 5
Canton of Vanished Wood, Roselle, IL

***- Denotes Ayreton/Canton Event**

Greetings from the Seneschal (Incoming)

Greetings unto the Barony of Ayreton,

In case you hadn't heard, I am the new seneschal of Ayreton. I would like to thank Herr Alexander for his service above and beyond the call of this office. When you see him next, thank him if you have not already. Or thank him again, he deserves it.

I do not have some grand plan to enact....Ayreton, in the words of Her Excellency, Rocks. I see the seneschal position as one where it is better for everyone if you don't hear much from me. That means all is going well.

If you want to talk to me, or need anything, please feel free to contact me via phone, email, or the Book of Faces.

In Service,

Henry of Exeter

The Structure of the Society for Creative Anachronism

by THL Alexander Adelbrecht von Markelingen

The Board of Directors of the SCA, also called the Board or BOD, recently made the decision to disband the Grand Council, established in 1994 and whose charter was established in 1995. This prompted me to do a little research, even after 20 years in the Society, we can all learn something new and I know I did. My hope is to pass some of this newly acquired knowledge on to you, the reader. In this article I intend to cover a few key points including; What are the Corporate Positions of the SCA? How are the SCA Corporate Positions interconnected? Who reports to who at the Corporate level? What was the SCA Grand Council and How did it fit into the bigger picture? Finally, What does the end of the Grand Council mean for the average participant in the SCA?

The Board of Directors of the SCA is the most often heard about group of SCA Corporate "Officers". There are seven Board Members at the time of this writing, but there may be as few as five, including the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson. These officers are responsible for managing the activities and affairs of the SCA and are subject to the provisions of the California Nonprofit Corporation Law. Directors are elected by the sitting members of the Board of Directors and serve for three and one half years, after a 6 month probationary period. Terms are staggered to end at six month intervals. The Board occasionally comes under fire for decisions it makes on behalf of the organization and, I will not debate the merits of their decisions here in this article. I will say that the Board is not a paid group of individuals, but a group of volunteers just like your local groups officers. They may receive reimbursement for expenses incurred while in service to the SCA, but they don't receive a paycheck or salary.

The Board of Directors, Elects the Official "Officers" of the Society, this includes a President of the Society who serves a three year term working for the Board of Directors, a Vice President of Operations, a Vice President of Corporate Operations and the SCA Corporate Treasurer. All of these position, like those of the Directors on the Board, are unpaid... with the exception of the Vice President of Corporate Operations.

The Vice President of Operations is, in fact, the Society Seneschal, who is the Senior Seneschal over all Kingdom Seneschals in the SCA.

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The Vice President of Corporate Operations, who is also called the Corporate Secretary, is the only paid position in the SCA, having regular office hours at the SCA Corporate Headquarters in Milpitas, CA. The Corporate Treasurer is responsible for administering the finances of the corporate office.

Beyond these Corporate positions, there are also the SCA offices that most of us in the SCA are familiar with; the Society Exchequer, Herald, Minister of Art & Sciences, Chronicler, Webminister, Chatelaine and Marshal. It is no wonder that many people are often confused about who is actually running the show. Especially when you factor in the President and Vice Presidents, so who really answers to whom?

The Society President and Treasurer report and answer directly to the Board of Directors, while the Vice Presidents report to the President of the Society.

The Society Exchequer reports to the Society Treasurer and the remaining officers, the Marshal, Herald, Minister of Arts & Sciences, Chronicler, Webminister and Herald, all report to the Society Seneschal (Vice President of Operations).

But then, who does the Board of Directors answer to, you may ask yourself? They may seem completely unaccountable to anyone, but the ones who runs the Society at the top, the Board, at the end of the day, are answerable to the SCA's paid members. That's right, you and I, collectively the entire paid membership of the SCA, are the ones who the Board answers to.

This all brings us back to the beginning, how this whole article get started... well, the SCA Board of Directors decided that the SCA Grand Council should be disbanded. So, what was the Grand Council exactly?

The Grand Council of the SCA was created in 1994/95. It was an advisory council to the Board of Directors. Their primary function was to examine issues related to the business side (Modern Administration) of the SCA. This could include topics that were presented to the Grand Council by the Board or topics that were selected by the Grand Council. It was also able to discuss matter of the medieval recreation aspect of the SCA, but that was not the primary purpose of the Grand Council.

The Board's creation of the Grand Council is allowed for under the By-Laws of the Society, Section VI, Subsection L, Committees. Just as they may create these councils at will, they may also end them. Advisory committees serve at the pleasure of the Board and do not have any authority over the board.

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Ayreon 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@yahoogroups.com

Grey Gargoyles/Midlothian 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: Sir Dru – nsherry@speakeasy.net

Thursday

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

(SCA Structure continued from Page 3)

A committee may be created for a singular purpose or it may be tasked with any number of missions, but once the Board feels the committee has served its purpose or outlived its usefulness, it may choose to disband it.

With the disbanding, some wonder what this will mean for the membership. Some feel that the Grand Council was the Memberships voice to the Board, but that was never an expressed purpose of the Grand Council and there is, in fact, a much more effective way to have your voice heard by the Board, the Ombudsman.

Each Kingdom has an Ombudsman on the Board of Directors. And while some may think that the Kingdom Ombudsman is only there to serve the interests of the individual Kingdoms, the Crowns, or the Kingdom's Great Officers, that is not the case. Any paid member of the SCA has the right to contact their Kingdom Ombudsman freely and may contact any member of the Board in the same fashion. It is the role of the Ombudsman to serve the interest of the groups for which they are appointed and this includes investigating, reporting on and helping to settle complaints. The Board also maintains an email for the purpose of submitting commentary regarding items the Board is discussing. Emailing the Board may also be used if you have comments in general, not only when the Board calls on the Membership to submit comments to them. The email is comments@sca.org and they, the Board, are obliged to review every communication that is received through that email. Additional emails and means for communicating with the Board will be included at the end.

Every paid member of the SCA is entitled to review, scrutinize and comment on the actions of the Board, the Society Officers and every other level of the Society structure. The actions of the Board may seem like a mystery to some of us at times, and we may not always agree about the courses of action that are taken, but one thing remains true, the Board exists, not for themselves, but for us. They serve to ensure that the SCA remains in line with Modern and Society Law. They serve to protect the interests of all of the organization. With or without an advisory council, like the Grand Council, the avenues to communicate with the Board remain open and I encourage you to use those avenues at any time that you are compelled to, be it when they seek commentary, when they take an action that you disagree with or if you feel there is a concern that needs to be addressed. Will every contact be met with agreement with your thoughts and opinions? No, that would be impractical. But your thoughts or opinions are valued and listened to, they are important.

I hope that this will be just the beginning of your exploration into the inner workings of the Society, and that you take some time to read and contemplate the SCA Governing documents, which may be found on the SCA Website. They possess a wealth of useful information that can help you to better understand how our Society works. If you still have questions after reading them, reach out to your local Seneschal and ask for the clarity you seek. If your Seneschal doesn't have the answer, they should be able to help you find it with a little digging, even if that takes some work. In the end, a question is just a path to further knowledge and understanding, and no one should ever feel that it is an imposition or bother to ask for knowledge; after all, we are an "educational organization."

Facing the Tuchux by Lady Hildigunnr Halldorsdottir

On the way to visit friends, my two comrades sit up front, swapping old tales of bygone battles. In one recounting they mention the "Tuchux". From the back of the wagon, I ask,

"Who are the Tuchux?"

My friends laugh and share a knowing look. They tell me the Tuchux are a household of fierce fighters.

"By themselves, they can be nice; as a group, you do not want to meet them in battle!" they add.

I think about the Tuchux. I wonder if I'll ever meet them on the field.

At my first Pennsic War, I fight in my first battles. Field melees; one, then two, and then I need a break, worn out from the sun's relentless heat. After the third battle, a friend approaches me where I rest. She tells me,

"It is good you did not fight that battle; we were up against the Tuchux. It would have been too much for you."

The Tuchux again! I feel a deep sense of relief that I did not join the third battle. But also I am curious. What are the Tuchux like? Why are they so fierce and feared?

In the spring, we all march south to fight for Trimaris. After a glorious day of battle, I turn and look across the field, drawn by the sound of stirring song. I see a long column of fighters, all clad in black with devices in red, marching and singing a warlike song. I ask a friend,

"Are those the Tuchux?"

They confirm my question. I watch the ordered files march until they are far away, filled with a new feeling of respect and admiration for these famed warriors. I am still afraid, but also I am eager. No longer so timid in the fray, I've learned to hold my own. Now, I look forward to the day when I will meet the Tuchux in battle.

At my second Pennsic War, I camp with my unit, the Midlands, and together we fight in many battles. Then, the call to battle comes once again, a bridge to hold and take from our foes. As we all take up our positions, I hear someone say,

"We're facing the Tuchux this time."

My heart thrills, a mixture of fear and eager anticipation. Now a veteran of three wars, and commended by my captain, I know I am ready to face the Tuchux. The battle begins, and I do my part, standing my ground, pushing and shoving with the rest of my comrades against the mass of enemies eager to trample us. Slowly I move towards the front lines as more and more of our fighters are slain facing the foe. Finally, I am close enough to see the wall of foes whom we face:

(Continued in next column)

Black helms.

Black hauberks

Chainmail and fearsome weapons bristling.

Devices like red pentagrams staring out from shield and standard.

I see a friend fall before me, and I take another step forward to close the gap. Then another falls, then another. Closer and closer I inch towards the black host until I stand just behind our front rank. Then a warrior in our shield wall is killed in front of me, so I step up to take their place, and there I am, facing the Tuchux head on.

My heart races. I have heard enough to know my foe is fierce and will give no quarter. I raise my shield and stand tall, my eyes darting from left to right, alert for a thrust from one of those deadly spears. The spear thrusts begin to come, and I deflect them, once, twice, and again, the bright golden martlet flashing forth from my shield.

Then the breath is forced from me as a Tuchuk spear rams me hard in the stomach. I fall, but not before the triumphant thought flashes through my mind:

"I have faced the Tuchux, and I am no longer afraid."

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 (630) 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: Sir Alexandru Vladescu (Neal Sherry)	marshal@ayreton.org (312) 208.0999
Archery Marshal: Forester Athelwulf of Dover (Thomas Scrip)	archery.marshal@ayreton.org
Rapier Marshal: Warder Kai Tseng (Jim Lai))	rapier.marshal@ayreton.org
Chatelaine: Baroness Brigid Murchadha (Bridget Murphy)	chatelaine@ayreotn.org (630) 773-6881
Chronicler: Banamhaighstir Hillary of Langeforde (Aggie Powell-Berger)	chronicler@ayreton.org (630) 750.0965
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 June 2016 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 Aggie Powell-Berger; chronicler@ayreton.org

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