



# THE ZEPHYR



July 2023/Sept 2023- Anno Societatis 58

## Greetings from our Baron and Baroness



Hello Ayreton!

We can't tell you how much we have loved seeing Ayreton citizens at events throughout the Midrealm and beyond. We want to continue our invitation to join us at day camps at any event we attend. Those of you who have joined us over the Spring, your company has been a joy. With Pennsic coming up, we wanted to make sure those of you who are attending know that opening ceremonies will be at a different time this year. They are scheduled for 5:00 pm, Saturday of War Week, Saturday, August 5th. We will be meeting at Midrealm Royal and weather permitting will be walking to the battlefield in front of the fort. If the battlefield is rained out, then we will march to the Great Hall.

We would appreciate anyone at Pennsic who is willing and able to walk with us. Blue and green garb, while not required, is always welcome. We are also working on hosting the Pennsic Cocktail Party and more details will follow. We will post information as soon as we have a better idea as to logistics.

There are summer events that we plan on attending and would happily welcome people to join us. Remember to use sunblock and hydrate while we enjoy the summer and feel free to share water with us at any day camp. (We almost always have sunblock, water, and snacks to share). Events we plan to be at are Simple Day in Constellation the weekend of July 1st, we are considering Warriors and Warlords in Northshield on the weekend of July 14th and then Pennsic. After Pennsic we will have the Canton of Foxvale's Feathered Fox Inn at Ploughman's Park the weekend of August 26th, Mounted War Games in Constellation the weekend after, September 1st through the 4th and Baroness Wars the weekend of September 9th, which is also a Tournament of Chivalry. We are going to continue to take family photos after court of there is one at the event.. Anyone that is available please join us in the photo. After Pennsic we will also be naming new champions and celebrating the work that our past champions have accomplished. There is a lot to look forward to as we move into Fall, with the possibility of a couple of Ayreton events in the works. We are proud of you Ayreton. Thank you for all you do.

Hilary & Gareth  
Baroness & Baron, Ayreton



## Greetings from the Seneschal

Greetings gentle cousins,

This missive will be brief, as Dietrich and I are in the thick of Pennsic preparations. Will we see you there?

A couple of things are going on—by the time you read this we will have elected our next set of officers in some key positions. I would like to thank all those who have served and who are passing on the baton, as well as those who are stepping up to take on responsibility. Though often unglamorous, the work of group officers makes the “real world” part of our game possible.

We also are in the process of preparing a bid to host Fall Rum 2023. No guarantees our bid will be accepted, but if it is we will have many roles for folks to fill. Stay tuned.

Also, in this issue you will find a copy of a letter from Their Excellencies and myself, opening a conversation about the health and status of all the groups that comprise the Chicagoland area. Please take a moment to read it. We will be providing opportunities for discussion, brainstorming, and problem solving in the coming months.

Stay safe and hydrated. Have fun. See you out of doors.

YIS,

Mistrovska Evzenie  
Seneschal, Ayreton



## Greetings from the Chronicler

Greetings fair cousins of Ayreton,

The time has come for me to step down and I am happy to announce that Baroness Jane the Tall will be taking over the reins going forward. Thank you all for your support and sharing your creative works with the Barony. I hope you will continue to support Jane, as well. It has been a pleasure to serve Ayreton.

The next issue of The Zephyr will be published September 1<sup>st</sup> so the deadline for submissions will be August 22 2023..

**NOTE: There is a HARD DEADLINE for submissions that is the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of the MONTH PRIOR to publication. Exceptions will NOT be made, and I will no longer be begging people for their letters, articles, etc. If the information is not turned in by the 22<sup>nd</sup> of the month prior, it will not be published and the area, column, feature, etc. will be left blank. As usual, submission reminders will be sent out 2 months prior, one month prior, and 2 weeks prior to the deadline.**

We are looking for a volunteer to feature in our “Meet the Populace” feature. Please consider filling this form out for next issue: <https://forms.gle/Y1v1NUJNrYn9Cefv5>

While not required, I would appreciate submissions being formatted in Word (whenever possible) using the Garamond Font Size 12. I can reformat if this is not possible, but it will be helpful if I don't have to. Please send submissions to [ayreton.chronicler@midrealm.org](mailto:ayreton.chronicler@midrealm.org)

YIS,  
THL Philippa of Otterbourne  
Chronicler, Ayreton



# Baronial Health Check

We would like to invite the populace of the Cantons and the Barony to begin a conversation about the state of our beloved groups.

All of the cantons have been going through some challenges in finding officers. It's no secret that two Cantons have had some recent challenges in filling the office of seneschal. There have been some intense conversations around other crucial offices (as an example exchequer and MoAS), in some cantons, and the barony, as well.

There is an increasing sense that the same small core group of people across the barony are filling (admirably and with a lot of hard work) the critical roles that are needed to maintain the status of all six groups. It might be time to have a look and see if that is the best expenditure of our currently limited resources.

Additionally, there are important projects and initiatives that are vital to the health of the Barony that are being discussed but not actualized. All of the cantons as well as the Barony have real needs for recruiting and retaining new members as an example, and while Evzenie has had several interesting conversations with people about ideas to find and recruit new folks there has been little impetus to implement these ideas. The sense is that most of the groups feel stretched and unenergized to engage creatively with this project that is a keystone of our survival and growth.

This is a moment in which we think that it's important for us to have a conversation about whether the currently active folk of the Barony can realistically support, nurture, and grow 6 groups, or whether it would serve us better to acknowledge the history of the Cantons as the progenitors of the Barony and focus on the future, which could be a healthy and thriving and unified Barony.

The history of the Cantons is a rich and storied part of the SCA and the Midrealm. Surely there are creative and enduring ways that we can honor and incorporate the ethos of the Cantons' past into the future of the Barony of Ayreton. We also want to acknowledge the deep and important culture and ethos of each Canton, which have resulted in abiding connections and friendships among many people and which deserve recognition and honor.

We also need to acknowledge the geographical challenges of the Chicagoland area. The logistics of having activities in this metropolitan area are real and require some ingenuity and out-of-the-box thinking to address.

We are interested in opening a conversation on this topic. We anticipate this conversation taking some time and involving as many Canton and Baronial stakeholders as possible. We invite thoughtful contributions and ideas about how best to carry out this exploration. We would like to begin the discussion at the June Baronial Moot, but the possibility for further discussion in online or in-person discussion groups is worth exploring, possibly through a series of "town hall" discussions in the coming months. This is not a one-time, one-meeting topic. There are many permutations and combinations and constituencies to consider. It's worth it to take our time and come to a consensus decision about how to proceed.

To be clear, the barony will not be making any decisions that affect the status of any of the cantons. These are discussions that we wish to encourage in order to problem-solve. Any decisions about the status of the cantons will be made by the cantons themselves. There are various solutions that are possible. We would like to ensure that all members are aware of what those possibilities are in order to have informed discussions.

Please take some time to think about any input you might have on this topic and bring your thoughts to the June Moot.

In Service and In Conversation,  
Their Excellencies Gareth and Hillary, Baron & Baroness Ayreton  
Mistrovska Evzenie Apolena Vitkovic, OP, Seneschal Ayreton



# A Medieval Miscellany

By Librarian Alexandria

Librarian Alexandria is taking a brief hiatus. There is no article in this edition but expect her to be back in the next edition with some fascinating tidbits of Medieval Life.

*Have a question about some aspect of medieval history or culture? Let your Librarian help!*

*Contact us at:  
[ayreton.chronicler@midrealm.org](mailto:ayreton.chronicler@midrealm.org)*



# Ayreton Gathering

Get to know your Ayreton Populace



**Introducing Baroness Jane Carlisle the Tall (pictured above).**

*Would you like to introduce yourself in the next edition of The Zephyr? Click this link to fill out the questionnaire. <https://forms.gle/upr9Kc1vYjFytMAy9> and then send a picture of you in garb to [ayreton.chronicler@midrealm.org](mailto:ayreton.chronicler@midrealm.org)*

**Name:** Jennie Tyderek

**How long have you been in the SCA?** 15 years

**What drew you to the SCA?** Master Dougale MacAlestyr

**What activities do you participate in?** Archery Mom, among other past activities of sewing, service

**A bit about your life outside of the SCA? Job? Hobbies?** I have been an executive assistant for 25 years at a ginormous law firm. I am a mental health advocate mostly because I have bipolar disorder. I LOVE cats and one day I will have a tan dog (Dougale don't read that!)



## The A&S "Craft Faire"

Featuring the original works of our talented populace. If you would like Your work or project featured here, please send a copy of the item and what it was based on, time period, country if known to

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

**Would you like to feature your project here?**

Please send submissions to

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

# New Groups Forming

*Announcing some new groups forming in the Barony:*

## **Dramatis Personae**

If there isn't already enough drama in your life, come join us and make some -- in a good way! We are looking for experienced theatrical types of all varieties -- actors, directors, writers, and crew -- as well as those who are interested in learning, regardless of formal training or background, or lack thereof. We envision a flexible ensemble that will adapt to a variety of event venues and performance niches, from dramatic monologues at Feast to 'flash mob' scenes in the Populace Room to fully staged plays. For more information, contact Caitilin Maxuell de Calderwood at [michaellemcclowry@gmail.com](mailto:michaellemcclowry@gmail.com).

## **Ayreton Leatherworks Guild**

The Leatherworkers Group is now an official Baronial Guild of Ayreton

The Guild has a Facebook Page. Here is the link, feel free to join and share some of the leatherwork you do and tell us a little about yourself when you join the group.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/299956151570591/?ref=share>

## **Ayreton Scriptorium Baronial Scribal Nights**

Ayreton Scribes are meeting at Union Church of Hinsdale, 137 S. Garfield, Hinsdale, IL. A place for scribes and aspiring scribes to hang out and work on scrolls together. No experience necessary, there are supplies to share if you are just getting started or wanting to dip your toes in the scribal arts.

Contact Baronial Signet, Ambr Stormwatch at [ayreton.signet@midrealm.org](mailto:ayreton.signet@midrealm.org) for more information or meeting schedule..





# Ayreton Activities

Always check with the organizer of an activity before attending. **DATES AND TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE! And many are not holding these meeting/activities because of COVID.** 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

### Grey Gargoyles Fighter Practice

Contact: THL Susanna the Short (Susan Mickelson) – [mickel14@att.net](mailto:mickel14@att.net)

## Monday

### Consort Music

Contact: Master Robyyan Torr d'Elandris (Dennis Sherman) - (773) 797-9506 or – [robbyan@gmail.com](mailto:robbyan@gmail.com)

## Tuesday

### Fencing Fighter Practice in Glen Ellyn

Contact: Katrina dei Herrliche (Rachel Kerner)- [ayreton.rapier@midrealm.org](mailto:ayreton.rapier@midrealm.org)

## Wednesday

### Court and Country Music Group

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

### Archery Practice

Contact: Forester Forester AEthelwulf of Dover (Tom Scrip) - [ayreton.archery@midrealm.org](mailto:ayreton.archery@midrealm.org)

### 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 GianettaAndreini da Vicenna (Jen Small) – [Jenrsmall@gmail.com](mailto:Jenrsmall@gmail.com)

# Ayreton Groups Online

**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) The Barony is in the Midlands region (Illinois) of the Middle Kingdom (MidRrealm, 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. Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/71826746135>

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

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:** <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 vinting. You do not need to be a member of the Barony to be a member of the group. We discuss all matters pertaining to brewing 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 Metalworkers and Jewelers Guild:**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/AyretonJewelersMetalworkersGuild>

This group is for all those gentles who are interested in creating jewelry and or doing metalwork.

**Ayreton Scriptorium :** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/AyretonScriptorium/>

This group is for all those gentles who are interested in the Scribal Arts and/or producing Award Scrolls

**Ayreton Leatherworks Guild:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/299956151570591/?ref=share>

The Ayreton Leatherworks Guild group on Facebook will be a place to build a community within our community and offer a place to teach, chat, and show off the fun things we make. Feel free to join and share some of the leatherwork you do and tell us a little about yourself when you join the group.

## Baronial Officer Reporting Schedule

Archery Marshal	Mar 1, Jun 1, Sep 1, Dec 1
Chatelaine	Feb.1, May 1, Aug 1, Nov 1
Chronicler	Apr 1, Jul 1, Oct 1, Jan 1
Equestrian Marshal	Feb 14, May 14, Aug 14, Nov 14
Exchequer	Jan 31, Apr 30, Jul 31, Oct 31
Herald	Mar 31, Jun 30, Sep 30, Dec 31
Knight's Marshal	Mar 1, Jun1, Sep 1, Dec 1
Minister of A&S	Mar 5, Jun 5, Sep 5, Dec 5
Minister of Youth	Jan 15, Apr 15, Jul 15, Oct 15
Rapier Marshal	Feb 1, May 1, Aug 1, Nov 1
Thrown Weapons Marshal	Mar 1, Jun 1, Sep 1, Dec 1
Seneschal	Feb 1, May 1, Aug 1, Nov 1
Social Media	Jan 1, Apr 1, Jul 1, Oct 1
Webminister	Feb 15, May 14, Aug 15, Nov 15

## Calendar of Selected Events

Go to the Midrealm calendar at <https://midrealm.org/> for a complete list.

# Group Information for the Barony of Ayreton

**The Barony of Ayreton** (Chicagoland area)

Website: <https://ayreton.midrealm.org/>

Ayreton Seneschal: Mistress Evzenie Apolena Vitkovic ([ayreton.seneschal@midrealm.org](mailto:ayreton.seneschal@midrealm.org))

**The Canton of Foxvale** (Aurora IL area)

Website: <https://foxvale.midrealm.org/>

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/>

Seneschal: Lady Alys of Grey Gargoyles ([greygargoyles.seneschal@midrealm.org](mailto:greygargoyles.seneschal@midrealm.org))

**The Canton of Rokkehealden** (Southwest Chicago Suburbs)

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

Seneschal: Lord Keaton Caitdroven ([rokkehealden.seneschal@midrealm.org](mailto:rokkehealden.seneschal@midrealm.org))

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

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

Seneschal: THL Lette de Cherselawe ([treegirtsea.seneschal@midrealm.org](mailto:treegirtsea.seneschal@midrealm.org))

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

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

Seneschal: Mistress Aclina of Derelei ([vanishedwood.seneschal@midrealm.org](mailto:vanishedwood.seneschal@midrealm.org))

## Baronial Office Election Cycle

Office Title	Election Cycle	Next Election	Notes
Archery Marshall	Odd Years	3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting 2023	Announce 2 <sup>nd</sup> meeting 2023
Chatelaine	Even Years	3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting 2024	Announce 2 <sup>nd</sup> meeting 2024
Chronicler	Odd Years	3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting 2023	Announce 2 <sup>nd</sup> meeting 2023
Exchequer	Odd Years	3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting 2023	Announce 2 <sup>nd</sup> meeting 2023
Herald	Even Years	3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting 2024	Announce 2 <sup>nd</sup> meeting 2024
Knight Marshal	Odd Years	3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting 2023	Announce 2 <sup>nd</sup> meeting 2023
MoAS	Odd Years	3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting 2023	Announce 2 <sup>nd</sup> meeting 2023
Rapier Marshal	Even Years	3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting 2024	Announce 2 <sup>nd</sup> meeting 2024
Seneschal	Even Years	3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting 2024	Announce 2 <sup>nd</sup> meeting 2024
Thrown Weapons Marshall	Even Years	3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting 2024	Announce 2 <sup>nd</sup> meeting 2024
Webminister	Even Years	3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting 2024	Announce 2 <sup>nd</sup> meeting 2024
Youth Minister	Odd Years	3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting 2023	Announce 2 <sup>nd</sup> meeting 2023

# 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: Mistrovvska Evzenie Apolena Vitkovic**

(Peg Cook)

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

847-417-4978

**Exchequer: The Honorable Lady Matilda Ann Stevyn Slyfield**

(Grace Strauss)

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

630-803-4501

**Officer of Social Media: Raedsman Andreas Blacwode**

(Drew Nicholson)

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

708-606-9490

**Minister of Arts & Sciences: The Honorable Lord Mikhail of Lubelska**

(Bill Michalski)

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

**Knights Marshal: Lord Godfrey Clovenshield**

(David Tidball)

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

**Archery Marshal: Forester AÆthelwulf of Dover**

(Tom Scrip)

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

**Fencing Marshal: Katrina dei Herrliche, Armiger**

(Rachel Kerner)

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

**Thrown Weapons Marshal: VACANT**

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

**Chatelaine: Captain Arnora in Skarpa**

(Becky Hubert)

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

**Chronicler: Baroness Jane Carlisle the Tall**

(Jennie Tyderek)

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

**Webminister: The Honorable Lord Dunstan Bramblette**

(Rob Hicks)

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

773-512-1498

**Herald: Mistress Nadezda ze Zastrisl**

(Merril Miller)

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

**Signet: THL Ambr Stormwatch**

(Kerry Lynch)

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

**Minister of Youth: VACANT**

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

Baronial Monthly Virtual Business Meeting\*

Date:	TBA
Address:	TBA
Contact:	ayreton.seneschal@midrealm.org
Meeting Time:	7 :00 – 8 :00 PM
Important Highlights:	TBA

Baronial Quarterly Business Meeting & Socail\*

Host Location:	TBA
Date:	September 24, 2023
Address:	TBA
Contact:	ayreton.seneschal@midrealm.org
Gathering Time:	1:00 – 5:00 PM
Meeting Time:	1:00 – 2 :30 PM
Important Highlights:	TBA

*\*Updates will be posted on the Facebook Group and on the Ayreton Email.*

**Ayreton 2022-2023 Meeting Schedule**

Where	When
TBA	September 24

*Updates will be posted on the Facebook Group and on the Ayreton Email.*

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[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Fresco\\_showing\\_a\\_woman\\_so-called\\_Sappho\\_holding\\_writing\\_implements,\\_from\\_Pompeii,\\_Naples\\_National\\_Archaeological Museum\\_\(14842101892\).jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Fresco_showing_a_woman_so-called_Sappho_holding_writing_implements,_from_Pompeii,_Naples_National_Archaeological_Museum_(14842101892).jpg)

This is the July 23 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 Jennie Tyderek at [ayreton.chronicler@midrealm.org](mailto:ayreton.chronicler@midrealm.org)

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