

The Zephyr

April, 2009



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This is the April, 2009 issue of the Zephyr, the official newsletter of the Incipient 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 Incipient Barony of Ayreton. Subscriptions are free.

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□ Greetings from the Chronicler □

Welcome again to the Zephyr, and congratulations Ayreton on a busy event season. We have all been working together to make some terrific events happen. Now, Spring approaches and with it a renewal of activity and fervor. Fighters repair their armor and get out in the sunshine again, artisans prepare entries for the A & S faires throughout the Kingdom, and another Coronation and Crown Tourney will soon be upon us. Here at home, we prepare for the Rose Tourney event, and continue to decide who and what we want to be as a Barony. This issue is dedicated to musings on Barons and Baronesses – who they are, what their jobs are, and what the populace can expect from them. I look forward to hearing your reactions... and reading them too! I'd like to start a "Letters to the Editor" column in our next newsletter – tell me what you thought of the articles in the Zephyr!

Submissions and Publication

I'm happy to receive submissions of any sort for our newsletter. If you write it or draw it, I'll find space to publish it. We are publishing on a quarterly basis, and next issue will be about "Preparing for WAR!" Please send me articles on preparing for Pennsic and other camping events, as well as "No s*** I was there" stories, articles on packing, fighting, teaching, staying cool, anything you think would be of interest to someone attending a summer camping event, as well as any other articles or announcements you'd like included. The deadline for the next issue will be June 15, and I will publish mid-July.

-- Mistress Gianetta Andreini da Vicenza, Ayreton Chronicler

□ Officer Reports □

Seneschal Report

Greetings All from Master Philip White, Seneschal Ayreton.

Hoobah Ayreton!!!

As we grow into a Barony our reputation grows too. I've continued to hear people speak all over about the great things we are doing here and how we are helping the rest of the Kingdom to grow. Please continue to tell our story!

Since my last letter we have done so much as a group. We held our Third Ayreton Carnivale to great success. Tree-Girt-Sea hosted Kingdom Twelfth Night and Grey Gargoyles hosted Stone Dog Inn. We volunteered as a group at Maidens and many of us traveled throughout the Kingdom. Our people crafted gifts to the Crown, made donations of largess, provided scrolls, and crafted items for the Atlantia gift basket at Gulf Wars.

Remember to thank our people you see helping out and help give word fame to everyone you can. Often the only acknowledgement people receive is a "thank you" so be generous in giving them. Remember also to congratulate our members who have received awards recently. We will have another opportunity for Court at Rose Tourney, so don't forget to recommend well-deserving people.

Our activity shows our continued growth into a Barony and our progress as a community of friends and partners. Our last newsletter was about our history together – what a great way to learn and share about our past! I'm looking forward to the publication of this newsletter based on our expectations of our possible landed nobility. I know we had submissions from outside of Ayreton – I'd like to see how they compare to words from our own people.

Please feel free to talk about what you'd like to see or even what you'd like to do. I think it is a great idea for people to start asking themselves "what would I do as Baron/ess"? Now, I am not encouraging campaigning. We are still months away from even having the Crown ask us for volunteers. But until then, I'll encourage you to daydream about it. I think it'll give us a good chance to learn about the process and hopefully keep the selection of our Nobles smooth.

Looking forward we have many opportunities for involvement – please don't hesitate to ask. Rose Tourney should be excellent fun and full of pageantry. Pennsic is a wonderful trip away from home. Midrealm XL Celebration will be an amazing time of shared history, friendship, and happiness. We are all invited to make our experience the greatest we can.

As always, many thanks to the people who are helping bring everything together. We make this all possible by helping each other out. Please continue to volunteer, be passionate about activities, and be involved and offer suggestions.

--Your Servant to Command, p.w.

Minister of Arts and Sciences Report

Greetings from the Ayreton MOAS,

The First Ayreton A & S Craftsmen's Faire was hosted at the Tree-Girt Sea Twelfth Night. We had a great turnout with wonderful displays and performances. There were over 25 entries!!!!

The A&S Fair season is beginning. It would be great to see some, if not all, of these entries submitted, as well as other projects. The Midland's Regional is at the Rites of Spring on April 18th. If you would like your entry to be displayed there and cannot make it I would be happy to take it there for you.

If you have any questions on entering or documentation needed please contact your local MOAS or me to assist you. Criteria are also listed on the Kingdom MOAS web site. If you do not think that you would be ready to enter your work then you can also enter at any other of the A&S Faires. We have some very talented people in our area it would be wonderful to show off our skills to both Midlands and the Kingdom. You need a first or second placement to go on to the Kingdom A&S which is being held Saturday of Crown weekend in nearby White Waters.

MOAS reports are due. There was a change; we are now following the dates listed on the report form instead of the web site. I have been informed that there will be additional changes with the incoming Kingdom MOAS. If there is anything that you want highlighted in my quarterly reports please send me the information. This quarter's report is due May 15th. Copies of the local group MOAS reports, if they have not already been sent, would be appreciated.

-- In Service, Nicholaa

Herald's Report

In addition to the awards received by members of Ayreton (listed elsewhere in this newsletter), the following members of Ayreton have had their names and devices passed. Congratulations!

Emmiken die Waeyer
Kateline Carletoun
Mauricius filius Conmarc
Onnenacreca filia Dunocati
Richard de Scolay

Upcoming Officer Reporting Schedule

Baronial and Shire Officers, please take note of these upcoming report dates.

Officer	Shire Officer Due Date	Barony/Province Officer Due Date
Archery Marshal	June 1	June 1
Chatelaine	May 1	May 1
Chirurgion	June 1	June 1
Chronicler	July 1	July 1
Exchequer	April 30	April 30
Herald	June 30	June 30
Knights Marshal	June 1	June 1
Minister of Arts & Sciences	May 1	May 15
Rapier Marshal	June 1	June 1
Seneschal	May 15	May 22
Webminister	July 1	July 1

□ **Baronial Transition** □

Here's a brief update on our current status and our place in the Baronial transition timeline.

Our Accomplishments:

- We are now recognized as an Incipient Barony after having become a Proto-Incipient Barony.
- We have held three Ayreton Carnivals and three Ayreton Arts Academies.
- We have held joint fighter practices and formed Baronial Guilds.
- We have selected officers and held regular Baronial business meetings.
- We are listed in the Pale and on the Kingdom webpage.
- We have submitted both our name and device to the College of Heralds.

Where we are in the process:

- We are waiting for approval for our name and device to the College of Heralds.
- We are holding regular meetings to create a Baronial Charter.
- We are starting to think about any expectations for the Baron and Baroness.
- We are compiling a history of Ayreton.
- We are gathering letters of support for our elevation to a full status Barony.
- We are working on a current map of Ayreton and listing of zip codes.
- We continue to hold our Baronial events, guilds and fighter practices, maintaining group communications, and holding Ayreton meetings.
- We are forming a Baronial fighting unit.
- We are holding Baronial business meetings on a monthly basis.
- Our local branch officers are sending carbon copy reports to the Baronial officers.
- Our Baronial Officers are reporting to Regional officers and sending carbon copy reports to the Seneschal.

Next steps:

- Continue acting like a Barony by holding events, activities, meetings and reporting. (So keep doing what we are already doing.)
- Continue the formal petition process. A formal petition will include:
 - Petition for Baronial status
 - Expectations of the Baron and Baroness
 - Group charter / standard operating procedures
 - A map and list of zip codes for the Barony
 - Letters of support from Kingdom and Regional Officers and others
 - Documentation that name and device have been submitted / approved
 - Brief History of our group and activities
 - List of Officers
 - Any other supporting documentation
- Only after this formal petition is approved would we begin the process of selecting a Baron and Baroness.

What you can do now:

- Act like a Barony. Let people know you are from Ayreton and what our group is.
- Organize ways that we can show our unity – either by fighting as a unit, volunteering as a group, traveling to events together, creating banners and tabards (once we have a finalized device).
- Continue holding events, activities, and meetings.
- Attend our Charter creation meetings. Think of what you would like to include in a Charter talk about it at a meeting or send in your comments. Keep in mind we are planning for a simple clean document and that not all suggestions can be included.
- Think of what you would expect from a Baron or Baroness. Remember that all suggestions will be considered but may not be included.
- Email the Ayreton Seneschal and the Ayreton Chronicler stories of the history of the group so that we can compile them for the petition. Please also submit any other documentation you think would help support us in transitioning to a Barony.

- Ask your friends and colleagues to write letters of support for our advancement to full status Barony – especially those who are from outside our area.
- If you have any questions please contact the Ayreton Seneschal, or your local Seneschal.

□ **Barons and Baronesses** □

As we continue our journey towards becoming a Barony, our thoughts naturally turn towards those people who are the public face of the Barony – the Baron and Baroness. Who are they? What are their jobs? What can we expect from them? In this newsletter we have gathered opinions and thoughts on this topic from many contributors. Our hope is that these articles inspire you to think about these questions yourselves.

On the Responsibilities of a Territorial Baron or Baroness

by Their Highnesses EikBrandr and Runa

To be a Territorial Baron and Baroness is a profound and extremely important position. You hold, in Fief from the Crown, lands that are your responsibility to nurture and grow. You are the voice the crown, and so must always balance mercy and justice in all that you do. This is a heavy responsibility, but it is not without rewards. The Crown supports its Baronage, as the Baronage must support its crown.

Some ideas of Baronial responsibilities:

- a) Use of personal charisma and A LOT of energy- to unite the group and help it grow.
- b) Help in making the best decisions at all times.
- c) Protect the populace from the forces of that which would tear it apart.
- d) Be responsible for everyone's actions. Take blame, give none.
- e) Create positive from negative.
- f) Encourage recruitment for all interested people.
- g) Make a tiny profit on all events to aid the Kingdom and SCA if needed. "Be financially responsible and healthy".
- h) Lead at the forefront of all the communities, or delegate appropriately as needed, to ensure that everyone has support and aid from the Baronial heads.
- i) Provide consistent award recommendations.
- j) Hold courts, be the figurehead, lead by example.

□

On Being a Baron

by Faustino de Baeza, Baron Carraig Ban

If anyone has seen the movie “The Shoes of The Fisherman” you might get some insight as to my becoming Baron of Carraig Ban. I was not actively looking for the position when it suddenly came to me. I did decide that once I was in, I would not be passive in the role. I knew that the next Baron/ess would have a lot of work ahead of them. I had foreseen the ceding of zip codes to Foxvale and was actually already prepared when the issue came up. It had been one of my goals to deal with the problem with our eastern boundaries. That has been accomplished to everyone's satisfaction. Another goal was to bring the oldest barony in the Midlands to aid the newest barony. I am still working on that, but I do see real progress. I am actively working on trying to do a co-event with Ayreton sometime in the fall of next year.

We have talked for years about creating a baronial award for outstanding service to the Barony. I have done that and the first will be given at our 35 year event on June 6th. I hope you all can come and celebrate with us. I also hope to expand our membership and boundaries to our southwest. I think by taking advantage of the local media we can help promote our growth. This is important in view of us losing some membership numbers to Foxvale.

I think that a baron/ess should provide leadership and give direction to the group who elected them. They also need to work together with the seneschal to accomplish these goals. The seneschal is the legal representative of the group and should not be ignored. I think it is important to remember and preserve the past, but also to move towards the future. In keeping with this I have created the office of Baronial Historian and appointed one of our founding members to take on Ayreton Newsletter — April 2009

this task. I have also created a time capsule filled with baronial memorabilia, opened and added to every 5 years. The goals I have set for my first 2 years have been met or are in progress. However well planned, the future will have its difficulties that are unforeseen. Every group has them and so will you. That is where the leadership of the baron/ess will really come into play, so choose wisely.

□

The Qualities of a Baron/ess

by Syr Alexander Kyppyn Kirkcaldy, OP, Baron of Flaming Gryphon

Each member of the society brings a set of skills and talents that will hopefully be a positive addition to their group. My background has been Human Resources and project management. For the past 20 years, I have worked in all three major tracks of the SCA- combat, arts, and service. I have an appreciation for all three and have a firm grasp on group dynamics with a compassion for other people. I believe these are the qualities that I would look for in a Baron and Baroness of any group.

Our process began with eight couples and one single person accepting nominations for Baron and Baroness. Each of the candidate “units” wrote a letter that was published on the website and each gave a brief presentation at a business meeting about our background and intentions if we were selected by Their Royal Majesties to be Baron and Baroness.

After approximately two months of consideration, Their Royal Majesties approached us about being the Baron and Baroness. Once the decision was announced, we worked at planning our investiture and beginning our new role as Baron and Baroness. Change can be intimidating for some people, no matter how positive and we have already begun working at addressing our populace concerns. Unlike a traditional Baronial model, we do not have one set of officers, but seven sets of officers to interact with. Having six shires or cantons under your umbrella creates unique challenges that need to be handled with compassion and empathy. Our goal as Baron and Baroness will be to bring back a stronger sense of traditional ritual that many members of our populace are yearning for. The “Dream” is a term many people use to describe those moments in the SCA that make their memories special and unique. Our goal is to unite our Barony and create a place where pageantry and ceremony make our populace experiences extraordinary.

□

The Job of a Baron/ess

by Fern de la Foret, KSCA, OR, OP. formerly Baroness of Windmaster’s Hill in Atlantia

Being Baron/ess is the best job in the SCA! Better than seneschal. Better than any other office. It has some of the good parts of running an SCA household, but more so. It isn't merely that you get a cool title, and a coronet, and some nice heraldry. The best part is that you get a whole barony full of talented, helpful, and clever people to be proud of. And all of them are the people whom you know well.

A whole barony full of cool people! What can be better than that?

When they do good stuff, you get to call them up in court and praise them. You can give them baronial awards. Sometimes you get to present them with Kingdom awards, when you are representing Their Majesties. When people in your barony have good ideas, they bring the ideas to you at an early stage, and then you get to encourage them, and you get the joy of watching their good ideas come to completion. (When they have bad ideas, you try to gently suggest a better plan. This takes some diplomacy.)

The Baron/ess job is even better than the Royalty job, in one important aspect. Because the territorial baron/ess holds office for longer than six months, you get the wonderful opportunity to plan for the long term. Because you already live in your barony, you already have the ability to know the other citizens very well. You know the strengths and weaknesses of your individual people, and you can rejoice in their successes. Every single time you bestow a baronial award, you can call the recipient by name, and you can tell them exactly which actions have made them worthy of this award. This can be a very emotional and important experience for the recipient, because he thought that no one was paying attention to his hard work. And then to learn that the Baron/ess was watching! This is wonderful!

Of course, in order to do this job well, you have to pay attention. The Baron/ess has to be familiar with all of the cantons, and they must be friendly with everybody. You should go to lots of local events (maybe not all of them, but lots of them) and visit the canton business meetings occasionally. You must be willing to support the activities that are popular in your barony, even if you have no personal skill in those activities. You can support the fighters by cheering for them, or support the cooks by taking second helpings at the feast, or support the bards by asking them to perform for you.

The rewards of this job are great. Your barony hums with happy activity, and everyone is eager to tell you about their next big plan. Creative new ideas occur right and left. You feel like you share in everyone's successes. You can go to their Majesties and say, "See those people, doing those good jobs? Those are members of my barony, and I'm so proud of them!"



What is a Baron/ess?

by Robyyan Torr d'Elandris, OL, formerly Baron Windmaster's Hill, Atlantia

A traditional answer to the question "What is a Baron/ess" is that they are the representative of the Crown to the people of their Barony. And they are also the representative of the people of their Barony to the Crown. But what does that mean? What does a Baron/ess **do** to fill that role?

There are at least as many answers to that last question as there have been territorial Barons and Baronesses. Everyone will approach the role somewhat differently, and that's a good thing! Here are a few of my thoughts, as of today's writing. Ask me again, and you'll probably get some different answers!

One aspect of representing the people to the Crown is to recommend people to the Crown for recognition. Certainly it is good for everyone to keep an eye out for people deserving recognition and bring it to the Crown's attention, but it should be understood to be a specific and important part of the job of Baron/ess. A great joy of my tenure as a territorial Baron was encouraging people to develop and grow, and seeing that they got appropriate recognition as they did. Finding ways to develop the members of a Barony, both as individuals and collectively, is a tremendous challenge and tremendously rewarding

One aspect of representing the Crown to the people is to be a role model. We say the Consort is the inspiration for the Monarch to have won Crown Tourney. The populace watch the royalty, and are inspired by Their grace, poise, and nobility. A Baron/ess will fill the same inspirational role for the people of their Barony, showing by example how a noble behaves. Because they wear a coronet, they will be pointed out and watched, most especially by newcomers to our Society. Another aspect of representing the Crown is to deliver awards on Their behalf. Our kingdom is large, and it isn't always possible for the royalty and an award recipient to both be at an event at an appropriate time. It is always suitable for a Baron/ess to answer the call of "...or someone to accept for him..." and then to present the award at some other occasion. A Baron/ess also bestows awards on their own, according to the traditions of their Barony.

A Baron/ess is the local personal embodiment of the feudal society we emulate in the SCA. They are a focal point for ritual and ceremony, and can use that role to guide their Barony. The whims of a Baron/ess, when chosen carefully, can inspire an entire Barony to achieve things they never dreamed possible. But when chosen badly can cause years of heartache and pain, as memories are long. A Baron/ess must always remember they are filling a role in a game, and they only have the authority the other people in the game give them. A gentle touch and leading with The Power Of Fun are to be highly recommended!



Ghita's Baronial Responsibility Essay

by Ghita (Homeroom: Rokkehealden)

I started in the SCA in a Barony (Würm Wald) back in 1984 in college. I was the Baronial Exchequer for a couple of years after graduation. Moving to Rokkehealden, I missed having that local ceremonial stuff. Being on the Board and as Society Exchequer, I was privileged to see a lot of how branches at all levels operated, wandering variations on a theme. I also had to see how baronies can become dysfunctional, to the point of not being a barony any more. (That was a sucky letter to write.) I have observed some 'best practices' of baronies, and I would like to see a lot of them practiced here. I

also saw how the 'first' of anything greatly influences the 'next' of anything. Whatever the first baron/baroness do for Ayreton (and how) will become long-standing custom for those who follow. Being a Baron(ess) is to perform a job (mostly management). Being the Founding Baron(ess) is to create that job.

So, here are my expectations for the office of Founding Baron(ess) of Ayreton:

- 1) Foster a unified sense of 'self' and 'culture' for the Barony. Promote activities that show the Barony as a cohesive unit, such as creating baronial regalia and garb, baronial-level activities, etc. Make things FUN.
- 2) Create a cohesive set of awards and rotating positions (activity champions, minor offices like rat catcher, jester, etc.). Find a common theme that is separate from any one canton's theme, that is easily relatable to the barony as a whole.
- 3) Travel around the region to promote the Barony and our events/activities.
- 4) Find ways to consistently recognize baronial citizens and their activities. Create a court 'process' (ceremonies) that will satisfy the baronial populace. Create a court calendar that will be predictable. Create an award recommendation process that will be easy, confidential, and actionable. Catch people doing good things and publicly commend them.
- 5) Generate excitement for creating Baronial regalia, largesse, baronial stuff for events, etc. Carefully use and maintain any baronial property in their possession.
- 6) Represent the Barony and its populace to the Crown in the best possible light. Relay the Crown's thoughts and needs to the populace.
- 7) Find or create events for the baronial populace to gather to do baronial things. Baronial events, baronial parties, baronial holidays, baronial ceremonies, etc.

My expectations for successor Baron(ess) are:

- 1) Continue and improve on the barony's unified sense of 'self'. Continue the FUN.
- 2) Continue to use and improve the baronial awards and rotating positions to reward and encourage baronial activities.
- 3) Continue to travel around the region to promote baronial events and activities.
- 4) Continue to use and improve the court process (ceremonies), court calendar, and award recommendation processes. Continue to catch people doing good things and publicly commend them.
- 5) Continue to generate excitement for creating or maintaining Baronial regalia, largesse, baronial stuff for events, etc. Carefully use and maintain any baronial property in their possession.
- 6) Continue to represent the Barony and its populace to the Crown in the best possible light. Continue to relay the Crown's thoughts and needs to the populace.
- 7) Continue to hold events for the baronial populace to gather to do baronial things. Baronial events, baronial parties, baronial holidays, baronial ceremonies, etc.

Here are the qualifications I'd like to see in someone I'd vote for in a Baronial poll:

- 1) An adult in all possible ways. No drama llamas looking for riders, and be able to resist riding other's drama llamas.
- 2) A good communicator (both written and verbal), very comfortable in public speaking situations, and able to think on their feet while in public to keep up a good public image.
- 3) Knows Corpora and Kingdom Law, and their place within.
- 4) Able to remain calm at all times, even when the authorities have to be called.
- 5) Able to see the positive in all situations, or how to turn any situation into a positive.
- 6) Able to see the greater good and potential in everyone, and willing to work with them to achieve that.
- 7) Able to be a cheerleader, not the quarterback all the time. Able to lead from behind as well as from in front.
- 8) Not mainly attached/tied to (or uncomfortable with/disliked by) any one subset of the Barony. Able to be impartial and objective with everyone.
- 9) Able to be discreet with personal information, and able to know when and how to privately and gently give corrective interviews in order to preserve the greater peace.
- 10) Able to give credit where credit is due, and take responsibility for negative situations, even at their own expense.

Really, all the things that make a good people manager are helpful in making a good Baron(ess). These are just my thoughts and opinions. Y'all know I'm a demanding, opinionated gal anyway. :D



A Handy Baronial Tip

by Ailikn, Baroness Donnershafen

Upon the occasion of Mater Bjorn and my investiture, Baroness Ciara McRobbie gave me a pretty leather bound journal. Her advice was to record events, courts, baronial happenings, awards presented, noteworthy member achievements, good (and bad) moments, etc. I have not only found this memory book interesting to reminisce but also useful when writing the semi-annual baronial report and selecting award recipients.



What's it All About?

by Baron Gregoire, Cynnabar

Mostly, being Baron and Baroness is about loving your Barony a LOT. You really should think of everyone in the group as part of your family. You might not get along with them all the time, you might not want to take a roadtrip to Disney World with them, but they are yours and therefore must be protected by you as Baron(ess). Internal squabbling is fine, but it can't be taken to a level of hurting the group. The group comes first every time.

As the leader of the group, everything you say is taken with more weight. Something as simple as 'Hey, you are being an ass. Knock it off.' can ruin someone's event. (I know - I crushed someone's Pennsic with those very words.) This can be a good thing when you are trying to motivate people. It is a bad thing when you speak in haste.

Being Baron(ess) is not a fast ticket to awards or peerages. You should be focusing on your group and being Baron(ess). That means when the day's fighting is done and all of the knights are on the field doing pickups with the motivated unbelted, you need to be getting dressed for court. When you really want to go practice with Dance Master Q but his practice is on the same night as your business meetings, you are just plain out of luck because your place is supporting your group. In fact, being a territorial is not generally considered service (or if it is considered service it is considered to be service that is already rewarded) so this doesn't even get you a long ways toward a Purple Fret or what-have-you.

Being Baron(ess) does not mean you get your way all the time. It just doesn't work that way - you are an officer of the group just like the Seneschal or the Chatelaine. An officer with the ear of the Crown and a lot of influence, but still just an officer.

Being Baron(ess) does not mean that people will make/give/do stuff for you. They *might*, but you really shouldn't count on it.

Finally, being Baron(ess) is a whole lot of work if you want to do it 'properly'. It is a ton of fun and can be very rewarding, but it is a lot of work.

Things to remember while being a leader:

- 1) Don't forget that when problems arise you are not in this alone: There are other people who have been in your position before who will have advice and a different perspective that may help you. Regardless of whether a person has held your position before, they may be wiser than you and you should listen to what they have to say.
- 2) You are the 'Scout Master/Den Mother' for your group. This means that occasionally people will come to you with personal problems. Help them as best as you can, but do not become embroiled in their politics. You may have to occasionally remind people that you have other responsibilities and that it is time for you to get off the phone and go to bed. Be polite and let them know that if they still need to talk later, you are available.
- 3) Remember: words hurt. Written words can hurt for a very long time - both you and the person you wrote them about.
- 3-a) Translation: Don't be an ass. If you must be an ass, have the forethought to not write it down, particularly in a public forum/email list/LiveJournal. It will only haunt you later.

3-b) If you are an ass, apologize. If you are an ass in public, apologize in public.

4) It is your job to stay neutral for as long as possible. When it is no longer time to be neutral, take your position and be firm, but fair. See #3.

5) You may have to remind yourself that you are the Leader, and as such people will look to you for support and guidance. When they call you to vent their frustrations (be it about you or others) it is because they trust you to set their problems straight. Accept this responsibility for the compliment it is.



The Role of Baron or Baroness

by Baronessa Giovanna Adimari, Barony of Cynnabar

The role of the Baron or Baroness is essentially what you and your Barony make of it. Certainly there are some prescribed duties that must be fulfilled by Kingdom law, but they are relatively small and some are even quite vague. Something to take into consideration is that one Barony needs, another might not. Certainly the size and scope of your Barony will help shape what sort of leaders they require.

When thinking about your position as Baron or Baroness, I would suggest thinking about the type of leaders you admire. What qualities do you think make them excellent leaders? Are they good at motivating people? If so, how do they do that? Do they lead by example? Are they well organized, humorous, creative, easy-going, etc?

Personally I have always found leading by example to be a good method of motivation. If I would like people in the Barony to get excited about fighting and support martial activities, then I make an attempt to also attend the fighters, do water bearing, praise their hard work, and so forth. I try to make it to the fencing field and fight as much as possible too, when physical constraints do not keep me. Again, if I want the Barony to become motivated in the arts and sciences, I try to occupy some of my time in these endeavors. I might attend scribal nights, sewing workshops, or other of the Barony's craft activities. Leading by the example really works in a variety of areas. Enthusiasm can be very contagious and when the Barony sees you excited about something, they often times will follow you.

Also, remember that we are a network of Territorial leaders. If you have problems, or times where you feel stuck, never forget that you can tap into the resources and experiences of your Cousins. I found that getting to know the other Territorial leaders was not only fun and I have made some wonderful friends, but their problem-solving, experience and outside opinions really helped me through tough issues.

Finally, and this might seem the most obvious, but have fun! No, really!! The saying is true, "If you aren't having fun, you are doing something wrong." Never forget to laugh and remember why you are a Baron or Baroness in the first place. It is hard work, sure, and certainly a great honor, but at least in my opinion, we are doing this because we enjoy serving, and find it fun.



What I expect from a Baron and Baroness

by Philip White, seneschal Ayreton

We've asked everyone to write ideas of what they would expect of a Baron and Baroness. Now that I sit down to try and write my own thoughts I find it to be quite a challenge. I have lived under the leadership of many different landed nobles and I still find it difficult. All I can say is that I will give it a good try.

Mainly I expect leadership without selfishness. A landed noble should put the group's needs above their own personal goals in the Society. They should serve for the good of the group and not for their own individual ambitions. Meaning, if our Baron wants to fight on the unbelted team and try outs are the same weekend as a local event then the Baron chooses to go to the local event instead. I don't mean that they should let serving hurt their work or family life – but both should allow for them to put some time into their position.

I also do not expect perfection. I have seen more landed nobles get stressed out because they think they cannot ever make mistakes. It is important to remember you are human, even though you wear a coronet. The best nobles are willing to make mistakes and learn from them. You will hear many people complain and you will be expected to solve every interpersonal issue. Be able to listen – but don't take all of that stress on yourself. You'll be happier and the Barony will be happier.

I hope some of my words are useful for those amongst us who are thinking about becoming our landed nobility. It is a large job and a huge responsibility for a position that often offers little thanks. But as long as you love working with other people and love our group then I think you will have all the reward you need.



Corpora Rules Governing Territorial Barons and Baronesses

V. Governing Territorial Barons and Baronesses

A. Appointment and Removal

1. The Crown shall appoint a territorial Baron and/or Baroness according to the laws and customs of the kingdom when a branch is granted baronial status, or whenever a new Baron and/or Baroness is required. The barony's opinion on the matter must be requested and received in writing, and the appointments must not be substantively opposed by the populace of the barony. Territorial Barons and Baronesses are officers and must maintain appropriate membership status.
2. The Crown may suspend a territorial Baron and/or Baroness for the duration of a reign, for just cause stated in writing and presented only to the Baron and/or Baroness. Suspension would prohibit the use of the baronial titles and arms, the conduct of baronial courts, and the presentation of baronial awards.
3. The Crown may remove a territorial Baron and/or Baroness for just cause stated in writing and presented only to the Baron and/or Baroness; however, the Crown must request a written opinion from the populace of the barony before taking such action.

B. Responsibilities

1. The basic duties of the Baron and/or Baroness are ceremonial in nature in reflecting the Royal presence in the barony. The Crown may assign additional duties and responsibilities, according to the laws and customs of the kingdom. Territorial Barons and/or Baronesses are responsible to the Crown and (if the barony is within a principality) to the Coronet. The Baron and/or Baroness shall work with the baronial officers as circumstances dictate, and shall keep these officers informed as necessary for the efficient performance of their duties and effective liaison within the barony.
2. The privileges, duties, and rights, ceremonial and otherwise, of the office of territorial Baron and/or Baroness are established by the laws and customs of the kingdom, and shall include the right to make such awards as the Crown (or the Coronet, if applicable) shall specifically delegate, and to establish and present non-armigerous awards specific to the barony.

3. A territorial Baron or Baroness may hold any other Society office for which he or she is fitted and qualified, save only those of Baronial Seneschal and Baronial Exchequer, but must not allow the duties and responsibilities of such office and the office of Baron or Baroness to conflict.

Middle Kingdom Law Governing Territorial Barons and Baronesses

Article XV – Territorial Barons and Baronesses

XV – 100

A letter of request from the populace and polling information from the Kingdom Seneschal's office shall be forwarded to the Crown for consideration of any appointment of a Territorial Baron and Baroness. The letter and polling must reflect the consensus of the members of the Society within the proposed Barony. The populace of a Barony and the resigning Baron/Baroness (if a Baron and Baroness are currently in place) shall in this way advise the Crown regarding the appointment of a new Baron/Baroness. Consideration of the letter and polling requires that the selection of the Baron and Baroness must not be substantively opposed by the members resident in the Barony.

XV – 200

Pursuant to these considerations, the Crown shall appoint as Baron and/or Baroness those individual(s) deemed most fit to represent the Royal presence in the Barony.

XV – 210

The term baron refers to the male gender. The term baroness refers to the female gender. No two members of the same gender shall be appointed as baron and baroness.

XV – 300

Territorial (Landed) Barons and/or Baronesses may not also hold the offices of Baronial Seneschal or Baronial Exchequer. In addition, a Territorial Baron and/or Baroness may not be a signatory on any Baronial bank account.

XV – 301

Territorial (Landed) Barons and Baronesses must reaffirm their fealty in person to the Crown of the Middle Kingdom (or the Crown's appointed representative) at least once per reign.

XV – 302

Territorial (Landed) Barons and Baronesses must report, in writing, to the Crown of the Middle Kingdom (or the Crown's appointed representative) at least once per reign. This report shall be due at each Coronation.

This report shall include:

- Contact information for both the Baron and Baroness (including address of residence, telephone and e-mail contact information, if applicable)
- Copy of current, valid Society membership, information regarding the state of the Barony
- Summary of events and meetings attended by the Baron and Baroness, and
- Changes to any existing Baronial Charter
- The first report shall include a copy of the Baronial Charter, if one exists

XV – 303

All Baronies will have established a term of office of five (5) years for the Baron and Baroness. At the end of the term shall have conducted within their barony, a polling of the populace for a new Baron and/or Baroness. The current

Baron/ess may be nominated for the polling. This polling shall be conducted through the office of the Kingdom Seneschal, following the Kingdom Seneschallate policies. The polling shall be conducted in all regions of the kingdom following the Coronation schedule, as established in Kingdom Law VI – 101.

XV – 304

Territorial Barons and Baronesses, once titled, shall retain said title until such time as they leave their Barony to become a resident of another place so as to preclude their continued active participation in the affairs of the Barony. Upon leaving their Barony, they shall resign their territorial title and, at the discretion of the Crown, may be styled Baron/Baroness of the Court.

XV – 305

The populace of the Barony and the resigning Baron/Baroness shall advise the Crown regarding the appointment of a new Baron/Baroness by a written petition reflecting the consensus of the members within the Barony. Consideration of this petition requires that it must not be substantively opposed by the members resident in the Barony.

XV – 400

In the case of an extended, but temporary, absence of the Baron/Baroness, he/she may request that the Crown appoint a Vicar to fulfill the duties of Baron/Baroness until their return.

XV – 410

The vicar may fulfill the duties of the Baron/Baroness for up to one year. The Crown may choose to extend the period of time that the vicar serves up to a maximum of eighteen months.

XV – 420

If a Baron/Baroness is not active for one year without the appointment of a vicar, the crown shall appoint a new Baron/Baroness. Not active is defined as no participation in the resident Barony at events and/or meetings.

□ Recent Ayreton Honors □

From the Court of Their Royal Majesties, King Ullr Amarthson & Queen AnneLyse Van Gavere:

Awards read into Court and presented at Tree Girt Sea Twelfth Night on January 17, 2009:

Kinji of Vanished Woods - Baton
Katarina of Tree-Girt-Sea - Award of Arms
Gregoras Syropoulos Balsm - Award of Arms
Kara Altadottir - Purple Fret
Claire of Monkswell - Purple Fret
Anna Rakel - Purple Fret
Henry of Exeter - Doe's Grace
Dougal Mac Alister - Doe's Grace
Adam Trent - Willow
Dunstan Bramblette - Willow
Ansel Claybourne - Silver Oak
Elaine Ladd - Evergreen
Katherine von Schlosserwald - Evergreen
Fernanda de la Foret - Dragon's Heart
Etienne le Couteau des Roches - Court Baron
Sarafina Sinclair - Court Baroness

Awards read into Court and presented at the Festival of Maidens on January 31, 2009:

Griffin Warren - Dragon's Treasure
Magdalena de Courtenay - Dragon's Treasure
Zhou mei - Silver Acorn
Gamel de Courtenay - Silver Acorn
Seamus of Foxvale - Award of Arms
Margrett Norwoode - Award of Arms
Mary Buchanan - Pelican

Awards read into Court and presented at Better War Through Archer on March 18, 2009:

Wolfram von Waldersbach - Greenwood Company

Awards read into Court and presented at Gulf Wars, March 18 - 20, 2009:

Eoghan O'Siodhochian - Purple Fret
Henry of Exeter - Red Company
Kilian Fendrich - Dragon's Tooth

It's been a great quarter for recognizing the citizens of Ayreton! Remember to write in those you consider worthy of award for our upcoming royally attended event: Rose Tourney is a great opportunity to recognize our worthy citizens for their accomplishments. To submit an award recommendation online, go to <http://www.midrealm.org/op/recommend/>.

□ Ayreton Local Event Calendar □

4/18 Rites of Spring {Illiton}
5/10 Baronial Business Meeting {Tree-Girt-Sea}
5/30 Rose Tourney {Vanished Wood} **Local Event**
6/6 Rampage at Ragnarok/35th Baronial Anniversary {Carraig Ban}
6/13 Border Skirmish VI {Ravenslake}
6/14 Baronial Business Meeting {Rokkehealden}
6/20 Baroness Birthday Bash/Charity Event {Wurm Wald}
6/27 Crystal Chamfron {Shattered Crystal}

□ Ayreton Activities Calendar □

NOTE: A detailed email with the week's activities is sent every Monday by the Chronicler to the Ayreton email list, and other interested parties. Here is a summary of the activities regularly scheduled in the Ayreton area.

Monday Activities

Barons Noyes: Any instrument is welcome. Absolute beginners please call first.

WHEN: Monday Nights from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.

WHERE: Robbyan and Fern's. Address: 2506 W. Morse Ave, Chicago, IL 60645

CONTACT: Phone Number: (773) 764-1920

Silver Thimble Guild For Conspicuous Consumption: Join the Guild for sewing and garb research.

WHEN: Monday nights

WHERE: at Mistress Juliana's house, just Northwest of downtown

CONTACT: Mistress Juliana, 773-750-2180. Please call before coming.

Youth Boffer

WHEN: Jan 19th, Feb-2nd and 16th, March-2nd and 16th

WHERE: Hope Presbyterian Church in Wheaton

CONTACT: Acelina, djc137@aol.com



Tuesday Activities

Thieves Of Hearts Practice: Group as well as one on one instruction in rapier combat for both singles and melee.

WHEN: Monday evenings 6:30pm to 9pm

WHERE: Glenbrook North High School. Address: 2300 Shermer Road, Northbrook, IL

CONTACT: <http://thieves.ayreton.org/>

Dance Practice: Dance Practice, all are welcome

WHEN: Tuesday, schedule determined monthly. Upcoming dates: 4/14 (Ida Noyes), 4/21 (TOH), 4/28 (Ida Noyes)

WHERE: Glenbrook-North High School in Northbrook, or Ida Noyes on U of Chicago campus

CONTACT: <http://www.meetup.com/The-Chicago-Renaissance-Dance-Meetup-Group/calendar/>

Weekly Project Night: Everyone is welcome to bring current sewing projects or just an idea with them

WHEN: Every Tuesday night 7:30pm – 10:00pm

WHERE: 1496 E. Algonquin Rd in Des Plaines

CONTACT: Sarafina 312-493-2255



Wednesday Activities

Tree Girt Sea Scribal Night: Open to anyone in the Ayreton region who is interested in calligraphy and illumination.

WHEN: Meetings held the 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesdays of the month, 7:30 pm to 10 pm

WHERE: At the home of THL Jocelyn of Lutterworth (mka Vickie Rayhill)

CONTACT: 847-824-3814

Ayreton Dance Practice: Practice is open to any and all who wish to dance.

WHEN: Every Wednesday 7:00PM to 9PM

WHERE: University of Chicago, Ida Noyes Hall 1212 East 59th street, Chicago

CONTACT: Quintius de Folo (mka Chris Quinn) -- (773) 576-4600 or (614) 354-5062

Ayreton Archery Practice: Everyone is welcome -- please come out!

WHEN: Every Wednesday 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm.

WHERE: 7240 West Madison, Forest Park

CONTACT: Range Phone: 708 366 4864



Thursday Activities

Rokkehealden Scriptorium: The Scriptorium is open to anyone who is interested in any aspect of the scribal arts.

WHEN: Same as Rokkehealden moots

WHERE: See Rokkehealden Moot location

CONTACT: For more information, go to: <http://www.midrealm.org/rokkehealden/>

The Pippins: The Pippins are an a capella singing group performing medieval and renaissance choral music

WHEN: Every Thursday, from 7:30 – 9:30 pm

WHERE: North side of Chicago (Andersonville)

CONTACT: Gianetta 312-259-6688



Friday Activities

Needlework/Fiber Arts Night: Bring a project to work on or the willingness to learn something new.

WHEN: Every third Friday of the month, 6 pm - 10 pm

WHERE: Gretchen's place

CONTACT: For more information, email: gschneid@oakton.edu

Period Cooks Night: Everyone brings a period recipe and the ingredients to cook the dish, but we all get together and cook it together and then we sample all the dishes that night together!

WHEN: First Friday of the month

WHERE: TBD

CONTACT: PeriodCooksNight@yahoo.com



Sunday Activities

Heralds At Home: All area heralds, and any clients who wish to attend are welcome

WHEN: on the last Sunday of each month

WHERE: 3935 N. Kostner, Chicago

CONTACT: 773-286-5952

Ayreton Fighter Practice

WHEN: Starts at 2 p.m. every Sunday.

WHERE: Ida Noyes Hall - 59th St. and Woodlawn Ave, Chicago

Grey Gargoyles/Ayreton A&S Afternoons: Come during fighter practice to do casual A&S, gab, et cetera. Timing coincides with the Ayreton fighter practices.

□ Ayreton Groups On-Line □

NOTE: *This is a new section of the newsletter – if your group has an online presence, let us know and we'll list it on this page!*

Incipient Barony of Ayreton: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Ayreton/>

The Incipient 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.

We've not gone anywhere as a unit, so there aren't any photos yet. But if you've got some of you shooting or another AA shooting, please email them in or post them yourself. Happy shooting.

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 Incipient 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: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Ayreton_Cooks/

This is a group for the cooks of the Ayreton area. This group is for recipes, book reviews/recommendations, where to shop for things and for the future a cooking group based in the Ayreton region.

Ayreton Scriptorium: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AyretonScriptorium/>

This is a discussion group for scribes in the SCA Incipient Barony of Ayreton located in Chicago and suburbs.

□ Officers of the Incipient Barony of Ayreton □

- Seneschal:** Master Philip White
(Craig Shupee) philipwhite@hotmail.com
1062 West Bryn Mawr Ave #410 Chicago IL 817.313.7575
- Exchequer:** Mistress Margherita Alessia
(Susan Early) suzanearley@comcast.net
4N400 Church Rd., Bensenville, IL 60106 630.766.1162
- Minister of Arts and Sciences:** Dame Nicholaa Halden
(Nora London) nhalden@comcast.net
2505 Rosehall Ln, Aurora, IL 60503 630.229.0926
- Knights Marshal:** Serjeant Henry of Exeter
(Terry Doner) Scribesquire@comcast.net
438 Thomas Ave Forest Park, Illinois 60130 708.488.8368
- Rapier Marshal:** Master Christian Fournier
(James Klock) cf@klocktower.org
4255 N Bernard Chicago, IL 60618 773.354.7261
- Archery Marshal:** HL Wolfram von Waldersbach
(Terrence Fernbach) wolfram_von_waldersbach@hotmail.com
521 W. Briar Pl. #508, Chicago, IL 60657 773.732.0289
- Chatelaine:** HL Hillary of Langeforde
(Aggie Berger) Jeffnaggie@aol.com
1738 N. 36th Road Ottawa, Illinois 61350 630.750.0965
- Chronicler:** Mistress Gianetta Andreini da Vicenza
(Jen Small) jenrsmall@yahoo.com
Contact Gianetta for address 312.259.6688
- Webminister:** Mistress Sarafina Sinclair
(Harlie Des Roches) sarafina.sinclair@gmail.com
- Chiurgeon:** HL Seathan Morchuiseach MacDhabhidh
(Jonathan Stoltze) JStoltze@comcast.net
332 W. Cheryl Ln. Palatine, IL 60067 847.934.2459 (Before 9:00 PM CST)
- Herald:** HL Phebe Bonadeci
(PJ Reaney) reaneypj@yahoo.com
3539 N Kostner #2 Chicago, IL 60641 773.443.9632

□ Group Information for the Incipient Barony of Ayreton □

The Incipient Barony of Ayreton
(Chicagoland area)
Website: www.ayreton.org
Email list: groups.yahoo.com/group/Ayreton
Seneschal: Master Philip White (philipwhite@hotmail.com)

The Incipient Shire of Foxvale
(Aurora IL area)
Website: www.foxvale.org
Email list: Contact Lady Hillary of Langforde for information (jeffnaggie@aol.com)
Seneschal: HL Hillary of Langforde for information (jeffnaggie@aol.com)

The Shire of Grey Gargoyles
(South Side of Chicago)
Website: grey-gargoyles.uchicago.edu
Email list: groups.yahoo.com/group/GreyGargoyles
Seneschal: Lord Guy Dawkins (dvalenta@ameritech.net)

The Shire of Rokkehealden
(Southwest Chicago Suburbs)
Website: www.midrealm.org/rokkehealden
Email list: groups.yahoo.com/group/rokkehealden
Seneschal: Serjeant Henry of Exeter (scribesquire@comcast.net)

The Province of Tree-Girt-Sea
(North Side of Chicago)
Website: www.treegirtsea.com
Email list: groups.yahoo.com/group/SCA-Tree-Girt-Sea
Seneschal: HL Nadezda ZeZastrizl (nadezda_z@earthlink.net)

The Shire of Vanished Wood
(Northwest Chicago Suburbs)
Website: www.vanishedwood.org
Email list: groups.yahoo.com/group/vanished_wood
Seneschal: Mistress Acelina of Derelai (djc137@aol.com)