



Two Towers

July - August 2021

From the Baronesses

Greetings to the Barony,

We are so excited to be able to see people in person again at events and at populace. Early July we were able to attend Ansteorra's Crown tournament and were able to see the new heirs chosen. Vivat to Crown Prince Floki and Crown Princess Elizabeth! We are so excited to see what your reign will bring.

July 17th is the Kingdom's virtual Round Table event. This event is a great way to learn about officer positions, so please don't feel that you have to be an active officer to attend. You can attend meetings to find out how other officers in Ansteorra are doing their jobs. You can also get warranted for positions that have additional warranting requirements. This is also a good place for the financial committee members (or people who might be interested in the future of being on the financial committee) to take the financial policies class to stay current with the Kingdom policies.

While we were at Crown Tournament, we had a discussion with their Royal Majesties, their Royal Highnesses, and the Kingdom Seneschal about our wish to step down from our role as Stargate's Baronesses. The tentative plan is for this to occur at Stargate Yule in December. Timelines for polling, interviews, and our heirs' announcement are still in progress and will be shared as soon as they have been finalized. We have absolutely loved our time as the Baronesses and we look forward to our last few months in this role. If you have any questions on the process or the position of Baron/Baroness, please feel free to ask us.

In Service to the Dream,

Baroness Brenna and Baroness Sarra

From the Seneschal

Greeting Populace!

We're now officially meeting in person at populace, using a hybrid format in conjunction with Zoom. Populace is held the first Monday of the month at the Trini Mendenhall Community Center from 7:15-8:15 pm. Please note that masks are still required.

I'm proud of everyone and their efforts through keeping the barony up and running during Covid times, and I'm excited to see how we can make the barony grow as we start meeting again. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please feel free to contact me to discuss.

YIS,

**HL Ceara inghean mhic an Ghabhann
Stargate Seneschal
seneschal@stargate.ansteorra.org**

Missive from the Baronial Hospitaler and Social Media Deputy

Hello friends!

As you may remember from last time, we are working on interviews to be posted to our Youtube channel. If you are willing to be interviewed about your favorite SCA activity, insights you have for newcomers, advice on how to grow in the SCA, or anything else, please let me know! The more we can share of ourselves and our barony the more we can help grow and support our community.

We are looking for old yard signs to repurpose into signs for practice and guilds. If you have any that you would like to donate please let me know and we can coordinate a pick-up. Also, don't forget that we now have business cards! You can get some from me at populace and hand them out to people who are interested in finding out more about the SCA and Stargate.

Lastly, if you are not already following our various social media platforms, please do! On YouTube and Instagram, you can find us easily by searching 'Barony of Stargate'. If you have anything you would like to share on the Instagram, let me know!

Thank you!

Margot

Social-media@stargate.ansteorra.org or
hospitaler@stargate.ansteorra.org

Missive from the Baronial Knight Marshal

Greeting beloved populace! From the desk of the Knight Marshal comes this missive:

The month of June was a prosperous one for our Barony in the way of our Fighter Practices. Our attendance has increased and we have seen the return of many fighters, and the recruitment of a few new ones. In the month of June, we had 4 practices, with an average of 5 fighters per practice. As we continue to return to the SCA, please make sure you are still following all the procedures outlined by the Kingdom and practice all safety measures to ensure we can continue to have fun. At practices, please bring plenty of water, and STAY COOL. Finally, we are looking to add another practice, to take place during the week. Keep an eye out for the announcement! That's all for now, friends. Stay safe!

In Service,

Friendly Neighborhood Baronial Knight Marshal Rafael

Missive from the Baronial Rapier Marshal

Greetings Stargate, from your Baronial Rapier Marshal!

People are getting vaccinated, COVID-19 is on the decline, and RAPIER IS BACK! Yes, we are back, just in time for summer.

Rapier practice is still at 10am at Ray Miller Park - west of the city center. I will continue to post to the Stargate FB group a day prior whether practice is still happening that week-or held off due to weather, availability of marshals, or availability of local officers.

Information about COVID-related restrictions is here -<https://ansteorra.org/martial-kingdom/ansteorra-martial-practices-reopen-plan/>, the most recent update being "As of July 1, face masks covering nose and mouth are only required for inside activities".

We had two practices last month, enjoyed by all who attended. We had some new folks drilling with swords, and people with several years experience drilling with swords and sparring.

Stay stabby and safe!

Your Rapier Marshal Charles Alexander

Missive from the Baronial Chronicler

Greetings Stargate!

I am so excited to be your new chronicler. I have large footsteps to fill. Tenoch was a great chronicler for us and I appreciate everything he did to make this publication timely and interesting. To continue in that work I would like to make some changes and implement some new segments that I hope will be interesting to you.

- 1) Monthly Newsletter: I would like the newsletter to be monthly rather than bi-monthly. I believe this will make it easier to keep track of and will enable people to have a better feel for what is happening in the barony even if they are unable to attend all the activities.
- 2) Guild/Activity Spotlight: Each month I would like to offer the opportunity for one of our guilds or practices to be highlighted. It would be a great way to showcase what each group does, help people understand why it's awesome, and explain how it benefits the society.
- 3) Dear Abigail: I would like to share a form with people so that they can send in questions that they have. Sometimes people are too shy to speak up in populace, they don't know who to ask, or they feel like they have a 'silly' question. I would love this to be a safe place to ask and receive thoughtful and useful answers.

If you have any other ideas for new (or old) ways to make our newsletter vibrant, please let me know! I am always open to hearing your thoughts.

In Service,
Talía

Missive from the Baronial Minister of Children

The youth of Stargate and the known world have spent the last 10 months exploring different aspects of the SCA and related arts and sciences. Our monthly zoom classes have recently learned about heavy fighting, the bardic arts, blade making and how to construct a persona. Our classes are small in person but are making a wide impact.

Lady Aoife

Items of General Interest

Stargate Facebook Page

Stargate also has a Facebook page, which is a good place to check for last-minute updates on practices and events.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/56697227816/>

Thank you for all the great submissions! Don't forget, we are always looking for more submissions and suggestions from the populace with which to improve the Two Towers. We look forward to reviewing and reporting on your contributions!

Who are we?

The Barony of Stargate is a local chapter of the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA), within the Southern regional subdivision of the Kingdom of Ansteorra. The SCA is a non-profit, educational organization dedicated to learning more about the Middle Ages through reenactment.

There are SCA chapters worldwide and they hold regular feasts, tournaments, balls and battles.

Ansteorra includes all of Oklahoma and most of Texas (except El Paso).

Stargate includes most of greater Houston. Wherever you are, we're a friendly group of people, so why not visit us all?

Ongoing Calendar Notes

Please note that guidelines have been set forth by the Society regarding safety precautions.

Please see the Kingdom webpage for more details.

**Please see the Stargate facebook page for updates on events as we continue to open up.

- ◆ **Stargate Scribes Guild** 1st/3rd Sundays - 3-6 pm @ Central Mkt on Westheimer. (Not currently meeting. See FB for updates)
- ◆ **Dance Guild** 2nd and 4th Thursdays 6:30 PM Trini Mendenhall Community Ctr, 1414 Wirt Rd. (Not currently meeting. See FB for updates)
- ◆ **Bardic** 3rd Tuesday 7:00 PM online via Zoom.
- ◆ **UFO Guild** Usually (always check) on Mondays except Pop Mtg week 7-9 pm @ Brenna MacDonald's home. Postponed until TBD.
- ◆ **Populace Meeting** Monthly on the first Monday @ Trini Mendenhall Community Ctr, 1414 Wirt Rd.
- ◆ **Stargate Chivalric** is every Sunday at 10 AM at Ray Miller Park in Houston. 1800 Eldridge Parkway Houston, TX 77077.
- ◆ **Rapier Combat Practice** is every Sunday at 10 AM at Ray Miller Park in Houston. 1800 Eldridge Parkway Houston, TX 77077
- ◆ **Archery Practice** Usually 3rd Saturday 9-11 AM @ Carter Park in Spring, Tx (Not currently meeting. See FB for updates.)
- ◆ **For updates,**
see the calendar at <http://stargate.ansteorra.org/>

Guilds and Meetings

Unfinished Objects Guild (currently on hold)

The UFO (Unfinished Objects) Guild may be held at the home of Lady Brenna MacDonald on any Monday night except the first Monday of the month (Populace), from 7pm to 9pm. Please send her a message for the address if you'd like to attend a UFO Guild meeting. Currently, guild meetings are postponed until further notice.

Scribes Guild (currently on hold)

Come learn the ancient and beautiful arts of calligraphy and illumination. The Stargate Scribes Guild is for learning the scribal arts, as well as to provide a service to the Barony and the Kingdom by creating award scrolls. The Guild meets the **1st, 3rd and sometimes 5th Sundays** of the month from **3-6 pm**.

The site is in the 2nd floor Community Room at the [Central Market, 3815 Westheimer Rd](#) (at Wesleyan Ave, inside Loop 610), Houston, TX 77027. Bring your paint supplies; some loaner items will be provided. All are welcome, newcomers and masters alike.

Contact: [Mistress Hillary Greenslade](#).

Cooks Guild (currently on hold)

We learn and practice the art and science of period food. We usually meet on the first Thursday of each month. Medieval cookery. Each month we discuss a different topic or recipe. Please contact the Minister of Arts and Sciences for location.

Bardic Guild (currently online)

Bardic Guild is held irregularly, but typically the third Tuesday of the month. We sing, we visit, we tell tales, and sing some more! We trade info and discuss resources. . Please contact the Minister of Arts and Sciences for location and times.

Make a Contribution to the Two Towers!

- ◆ **The Two Towers** is the reference for members of the Barony, but it also serves as a bit of Baronial history.
- ◆ **Photographs** - If you have some photos to share, please send your contributions to the Stargate Chronicler at chronicler@stargate.ansteorra.org. The Chronicler would love to have all contributions. Please remember to send a release form.
<http://chronicler.ansteorra.org/library.html#forms>
- ◆ **Event Stories** - Let everyone hear your recollection of a great time or special occurrence at a Stargate event by putting it in our newsletter!
<http://chronicler.ansteorra.org/library.html#forms>
- ◆ **Word Fame** - Has someone you know done something worthy of bragging about? Publish it!
- ◆ **Articles** - Care to share your expertise, or enlighten others on a subject you feel passionate about? Send your article along for publication along with the appropriate Publication Permission Form found on the Ansteorra website! <http://chronicler.ansteorra.org/library.html#forms>
- ◆ **Art** - Send your finest artwork along with the appropriate Publication Permission Form found on the Ansteorra website.
<http://chronicler.ansteorra.org/library.html#forms> Or let us know if you would like to illustrate articles!

Of Special Note:

Positions open for application have been open for more than 30 days and will remain open until filled. Please send applications to the applicable Southern Regional officer, and cc Stargate's Baronesses and Seneschal (e-mails listed below).

Stargate Officers

Baroness and Baroness

Her Excellency Brenna MacDonald

Her Excellency Sarra Asshton of York

bandb@stargate.ansteorra.org

Seneschal

HL Ceara inghean mhic an Ghabahann

seneschal@stargate.ansteorra.org

Exchequer

Lady Fastrada the Furious

exchequer@stargate.ansteorra.org

Chronicler

Lady Talia di Grazia di Amadore

chronicler@stargate.ansteorra.org

Knight Marshal

Lord Rafael

marshal@stargate.ansteorra.org

Minister of Arts & Sciences

Lord Lothar

moas@stargate.ansteorra.org

Herald (Sentinel Pursuivant)

Don Brian macCael

herald@stargate.ansteorra.org

Team Hospitaler

Madame Margot de la Marche
HL Ciarnat of Firethorn

hospitaler@stargate.ansteorra.org

Rapier Marshal

Lord Charles Alexander

marshal@stargate.ansteorra.org

Minister of Children

Lady Áoife inghean Mícheál Ui O'Domhnaill

Chatelaine

Lord Michael de Eryri

castellan@stargate.ansteorra.org

Historian

HL Caitilin inghean Ronain ui Chellaigh

katherin.Watson@att.net

Scribe

Mistress Hillary Greenslade

Hillaryrg@yahoo.com

Webminister: Open for Applications!

webminister@stargate.ansteorra.org

Social Media Deputy

Madame Margot de la Marche

Thrown Weapons Marshal: Open for Applications!

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