
From Our Baron and Baroness

Greetings Stargate!

Thank you so much for an incredible Yule. HE Genevieve (who along with Master Robert MacPharlan became the newest members of the Sodality of the Sentinals of Stargate), aided by a wonderful crew, provided all of us with a well run event. Our only hitches were unseasonably hot weather and a broken toilet seat. HL Ciarnet and her team gave us a great ambiance. We also benefited from the generosity and willingness of St. Giles allowing us the use of the Sanctuary. We've spoken with the pastor of the church, and because of all the folks who strove to see that we left the site in at least as good a shape as we found it, we will be welcomed to return. Well done, M'Lord Sorien, on set up and tear down.

We also saw the naming of Ansteorra's newest Lion, HG Julia de Montoya, a new Sable Talon in Lord Collwyn O'Snowden, and a new Court Baroness, HE Cristyana Lambrecht. Vivat!

We also thank everyone who honored Stargate by providing Hospitality at Bordermarch Autumn Meles: soup makers HL Anne, Lady Isolde, Lady Maria, Lady Maureen; sweet provider Baroness Genevieve; drink providers HL Ciarnat and HL Fedelm; cornbread baker HL Caitlin the Celt; and others who provided logistic support, HL Alden, Lady Sarra and the young fellow whose name is unknown to us who fetched and carried.

The time has come for us to pass on the mantle of Stargate's leadership. Therefore, it is with heavy hearts, after much deliberation and also after consultation with Their Majesties, that we announce our intent to step down as your Baron and Baroness at Stargate/Loch Baronial in April. Our announcement was made at Yule. It has been our great pleasure and privilege to serve as your Baron and Baroness these past five and half years but it is time to pass the torch, giving others the opportunity to serve our great Barony. Thank you for your time and dedication making our reign a most cherished and memorable experience in the SCA. Know that you are greatly appreciated. It is our sincere hope that you will give your next Baron and Baroness the same wonderful support and dedication you have given us.

Warmest regards of the season and always,

Ihon & Isabeau

Baron & Baroness of Stargate

Upcoming Events & Meetings

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| <i>Dec. 4</i> | <i>Stargate Yule & Kingdom Eisteddfod</i> |
| <i>Dec. 6</i> | <i>Business/Populace Mtgs. (7:00/7:45 pm @ Hope Episcopal Church)</i> |
| <i>Dec. 11</i> | <i>Elfsea Baronial College & Investiture</i> |
| <i>Dec. 25</i> | <i>Christmas Day</i> |
| <i>Jan. 8</i> | <i>Steppes Twelfth Night & Guardian of the Gauntlet</i> |
| <i>Jan. 15</i> | <i>Crown Tournament (Bryn Gwlad)</i> |
| <i>Jan. 22</i> | <i>King's Round Table (Stargate)</i> |

From Our Seneschal

Greetings to the Populace of Stargate and all good neighbors near and far!

At Bordermarch Autumn Melees, the hospitality of Stargate was once again shared with all as Their Excellencies coordinated an outstanding hospitality pavilion. Several individuals came forward to provide fabulous soups and a variety of sides. Many thanks to everyone who volunteered for this effort.

Many thanks to everyone who participated in making Stargate Yule a fabulous event, especially to our autocrat, Baroness Genevieve! The event was well attended and there were a good number of activities throughout the day for everyone's enjoyment. It was my great pleasure to coordinate the feast effort and I would like to thank everyone who helped out in the kitchen as well as those who helped prep in advance. I'd also like to thank my lady wife, Alessandra, for her support and assistance along the way. Congratulations to those who were recognized by the Crown for their awards and to those who competed in Their Excellencies championships. I'm sure Their Excellencies will be well served by their new Artisan and Bard.

Gulf Wars XX is quickly approaching and ACCEPS is open to take registrations! Time to start looking into our war chests, mending our arms and armor, stocking up on supplies, and making camp plans. Ansteorra benefits from everybody who goes to war — those who fight, serve, educate, entertain, merchant, etc. ... there's something for everybody, and every one of us adds to the might of Ansteorra!

In Service,

HL Alden Drake
Stargate Seneschal

From Our Exchequer

Coastal Regional Exchequer is accepting applications for Stargate Exchequer until January 15th. Please send your application to Coastal Exchequer, Stargate Seneschal, and Their Excellencies. If you have questions about the job, please don't hesitate to ask!

Lady Brenna MacDonald
Stargate Exchequer

STARGATE WANTS YOU!!

For those individuals who wish to serve the Barony, we have the following positions open.

- **Exchequer**
- **Minister of Arts & Sciences**
- **Knight Marshal**
- **Youth Rapier Marshal**

Holding an office is a great way to become involved and meet your fellow Stargaters. Eligible applicants must have enthusiasm and a wish to learn and carryout their new office.

Please send your application to the new Stargate Seneschal, HL Alden Drake at stargate DOT seneschal AT gmail DOT com, the corresponding Regional officer and B&B. You can also contact HL Alden for more information on these positions.

Please submit your application ASAP.

From the Coastal Regional Seneschal

To the Populace of Stargate and surrounding areas:

Their Excellencies Stargate, Master Ihon and Mistress Isabeau, have formally announced their intent to step down from the position of Baron and Baroness of Stargate. Those who wish to learn more of the Baronial selection process and timeline are invited to an informational discussion session at the December Stargate Populace meeting at Hope Episcopal Church, 1613 W 43rd St, Houston, Texas. The Populace meeting starts at 7:45 pm. Those who are unable to attend the meeting but wish more information on the selection process may contact me at coastal@seneschal.ansteorra.org.

For those interested in pursuing the position of Baron and Baroness of Stargate, Wednesday, December 22, 2010 is the deadline to declare baronial candidate status—no new entrants are allowed after this date. Final letters of intent by baronial candidates are due to the Crown by email (Crown@ansteorra.org). Brief, single-page candidate letters with full contact information for publishing in the Two Towers are also due to me, the Coastal Regional Seneschal, by email on this date. Expected Investiture date of new Stargate Baron and Baroness will be April 9, 2011, at the Stargate Baronial event.

Thank you,

Cristyana Lambrecht
Coastal Seneschal

Timeline for Stargate Baronial Polling and Selection

The following timeline is for the selection of the next Baron and Baroness of Stargate.

- **Monday, December 6, 2010:** At Stargate's populace meeting, informational discussion on the polling process and encourage candidates to submit letters of intent by December 22, 2010. Polling date (January 3, 2011) is announced in Stargate regular populace meeting.
- **Wednesday, December 22, 2010:** This is the deadline to declare baronial candidate status—no new entrants are allowed after this date. Final letters of intent by baronial candidates are due to the Crown by email (Crown@ansteorra.org). Brief, single-page candidate letters with full contact information for publishing in Two Towers and to Stargate website are due to Regional Seneschal by email (coastal@seneschal.ansteorra.org).
- **Monday, December 27, 2010:** The final opinion poll form with candidate names is posted to the baronial website and notice sent to group's email list. Brief, single-page candidate letters with full contact information are also posted to the website.
- **Friday, December 31, 2010:** The January edition of the baronial newsletter is posted online. It includes the final opinion poll form with the names and candidate letters of the baronial candidates, the same as found on the baronial website.
- **Monday, January 3, 2011:** Polling Day. Polling occurs during the regular populace meeting, 7:45 pm at Hope Episcopal Church, 1613 W 43rd St, Houston, Texas. The Kingdom or Regional Seneschal or the designee of the Kingdom will be there to conduct the polling. Per the Crown's will, each set of candidates will be allowed 5 minutes to address the populace before the polling begins.
- **Monday, January 10, 2011:** All mail-in opinion polls are due by regular mail to the Regional Seneschal or designee. All email with commentary about the baronial candidates is due to the Crown (Crown@ansteorra.org).
- **Saturday, January 22, 2011 (King's Round Table):** All baronial candidates meet one-on-one with the Crown at a designated event.
- **February 2011:** The Crown announces their final decision.
- **Saturday, April 9, 2011 (Stargate Baronial):** Investiture of new Baron and Baroness.

From the SCA Board of Directors Regarding Membership Fees

From: Leslie Luther-Fulton <janefalada@hotmail.com>

Date: Wed, Dec 1, 2010 at 6:55 PM

Subject: [Ansteorra-announce] [Announcements] Membership Fees

To: sca Announcements <announcements@sca.org>

Due to extraordinary legal expenses from an ongoing lawsuit, the SCA has determined that our best option is to raise membership fees in most classes by \$8.00, effective January 1, 2011. Family membership rates will not increase, although the family cap for memberships will be raised by \$5.00 effective the same time.

When we indicated in 2009 that membership fees would raise gradually over the next three years, we were not fully aware of the extent and impact of the legal fees required to defend our organization. Earlier this year we received a realistic projection for legal expenses through 2011. We are committed to protecting not only the SCA Inc., but the assets of every SCA group. This lawsuit may go on for additional years and cost-cutting alone will not be sufficient.

We are formulating a plan to get the SCA back on track and are selecting options to restructure our operating business model. One option is a move to electronic kingdom newsletters with a print-on-demand option for those who would like to get their version in hardcopy. With these changes, there are many details to consider including: legal issues surrounding the fulfillment of our current subscription liability; the development of an electronic publishing framework for use by kingdom chroniclers that supports both web-publishing and print-on-demand; writing relevant changes to governing documents, officer handbooks, and kingdom procedures; and making dramatic programming changes to the SCA website and corporate systems.

The current migration of corporate and Society officer email addresses to a more robust infrastructure is a step in this direction.

It is our hope that as financial circumstances evolve we will be able to re-evaluate the entire membership fee structure once the effectiveness of the restructured business model can be determined. This would include evaluating the necessity of collecting NMS as well as potential reductions in membership fees.

There will be many stages in this process where feedback will be needed and solicited. We want to be completely transparent with any changes that will be made, and will share details as they become available. As every year, the budget will be posted on the SCA website as soon as it is approved for your review. Our job is to keep you as fully informed as possible and in that spirit we welcome any and all questions and comments. For the moment, please submit questions and comments through comments@sca.org.

Finally, this process will be very difficult and take many months to complete, so please bear with us. During this time, Board members will be attempting to attend as many events as possible to be available to answer your questions.

The SCA Board of Directors

Comments are strongly encouraged and can be sent to:

SCA Inc.

Box 360789

Milpitas, CA 95036

You may also email comments@lists.sca.org.

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Happenings at Stargate Yule

Congratulations to the following individuals who excelled in competition or were honored with an award at Stargate Yule:

- Lord Goldweard of St. Golias, from the Barony of Bryn Gwlad and previous winner of the Stargate bardic competition in December 2008, is the newest Premier Bard of Ansteorra.
- HL Magge McPherson, from the Barony of the Steppes, is the newest Bard of Stargate.
- Baroness Genevieve McCullum de Caen is the newest Artisan of Stargate.
- Master Robert MacPharlan and Baroness Genevieve McCullum de Caen are the newest members of the Sentinels of the Sodality of the Stargate.
- Lord Collwyn O'Snowden received a Sable Talon for his prowess in the field of Rapier Combat.
- The newest Court Baroness of Ansteorra is Baroness Cristyana Lambrecht.
- Their Majesties named Duchess Julia de Montoya the newest Lion of Ansteorra.

Upcoming Events

What: Baronial College & Investiture

When: December 11, 2010

Where: Barony of Elfsea (greater Fort Worth area, TX)
at First Jefferson Unitarian Universalist Church, 1959 Sandy Lane, Ft. Worth, TX 76112

What's happening: Baron Dáire de Haya and Baroness Druinne de Salesberie will step down in Morning Court; the investiture of HL Alejandro Ramirez Mendoza and HL Amalia Zavattini will follow. Artisan and Bardic champions will be chosen. Many classes are being offered. Pelican circle. (No feast.)

About the site: Event is being held indoors. No camping.

For more information: <http://www.elfsea.net/BaronialCollege/Index.htm>

What: Steppes Twelfth Night & Guardian of the Gauntlet

When: January 8, 2011

Where: Barony of the Steppes (greater Dallas area, TX)
at Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center, 5550 Fm 2495, Athens, TX 75752

What's happening: Activities include Guardian of the Gauntlet (rapier tournament), Tafl Competition, Feast Siege Weapon Tourney, Costume Competition, Table Decorating Competition, Brewing Competition. Laurel circle. Feast is available.

About the site: Indoor facilities available. Site is dry before 5pm, wet in period containers after 5pm. Service animals are welcome with proper documentation; pets are not allowed. No camping.

For more information: <http://steppes.ansteorra.org/12thnight>

December 2010

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
28	29	30 <i>Stargate/Loch Soilleir Chivalric & Rapier Practice 7:30 pm</i>	1	2	3	4 <i>Stargate Yule</i>
5	6 <i>Stargate Business / Populace Meeting 7:00/7:45 pm Coffee & Dessert w/ Alden & Alessandra (after meeting)</i>	7 <i>Stargate/Loch Soilleir Chivalric & Rapier Practice 7:30 pm</i>	8 <i>West Houston Lunch Bunch 11:30 am</i>	9	10	11
12 <i>Stargate Scribal Guild 5:30 pm</i>	13 <i>Madrigal Guild 7:00 pm</i>	14 <i>Stargate/Loch Soilleir Chivalric & Rapier Practice 7:30 pm</i>	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 <i>Stargate/Loch Soilleir Chivalric & Rapier Practice 7:30 pm</i>	22	23	24	25 <i>Christmas Day</i>
26	27 <i>Madrigal Guild 7:00 pm</i>	28 <i>Stargate/Loch Soilleir Chivalric & Rapier Practice 7:30 pm</i>	29	30	31	1

- Dec. 6—Stargate Business and Populace Meeting, 7:00 pm for Business, 7:45 pm for Populace, at Hope Episcopal Church, 1613 W 43rd St., Houston, TX 77018
- Dec. 6—Coffee & Dessert with Alden & Alessandra, after Business/Populace Meeting, at IHOP, 13388 Northwest Fwy (just west of Hollister)
- Every Tuesday night—Stargate/Loch Chivalric & Rapier Practice, 7:30 pm, at Centennial Park, 3219 McLean Rd., Pearland, TX 77584
- Dec. 13 & 27—Madrigal Guild, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the home of HL Mea Passavanti
- Dec. 8—West Houston Lunch Bunch, 11:30 am to 1:00 pm, Lucky Village Chinese Restaurant, 1111 Dairy Ashford St., Houston, TX 77079
- Dec. 12 —Scribal Guild, 5:30 pm, at Central Market Community Room, 3815 Westheimer Rd., Houston, TX 77027



Meetings

Newcomer's Meetings

Newcomer's meetings provide information on local activities, how the SCA functions and what you can do to participate in the fun. To get more information and meeting dates, contact Stargate's Hospitalier, Lady Ciarnat of Firethorn, at 281-693-6441 or send an email to hospitalier AT stargate DOT ansteorra DOT org.

Business & Populace Meeting

The Business meeting is the first Monday of each month from 7:00 - 7:45 pm. The meeting is open to the populace. It is followed immediately by the Populace meeting from 7:45 - 9:00 pm. Both meetings are held at Hope Episcopal Church (formally St. Michael's Episcopal Church) at 1613 W. 43rd Street, Houston, TX 77018. If the first Monday of a month is a public holiday, meetings will be held the second Monday. Garb is optional. For more information contact the Stargate seneschal, HL Alden Drake, at seneschal AT stargate DOT ansteorra DOT org.

4th Sunday Arts in the Park – ON HIATUS DURING SUMMER

The Stargate 4th Sunday Arts in the Park meets on the fourth Sunday of the month on S. Picnic Lane in Memorial Park, Houston, TX 77007. Bring your current project or work on a baronial project. Our Knight and Rapier Marshals will determine whether to hold a practice at the same time.

Stargate/Loch Rapier Practice

The combined Stargate/Loch Soilleir rapier practice is held every Tuesday from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm at Centennial Park in Pearland, TX. The address is 3219 McLean Road, Pearland, TX 77584. Please contact the Stargate Rapier Marshal, Don Corvin Fenarro, at 281-658-9412 or kevwilson AT swbell DOT net with any questions.

Stargate Armored Combat Practice

The chivalric fighters from the greater Stargate / Loch Soilleir area have joined the rapier fighters at Centennial Park in Pearland for armored combat practice every Tuesday night from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Loane armor/gear is available upon request. Additional/alternate practice opportunities may be arranged upon request. For more information, please contact the Acting Knight Marshal, Sir Godwin of Edington, at marshal AT stargate DOT ansteorra DOT org.

Also, chivalric fighters are welcome to join the armored combat practice in Gate's Edge on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month at 3:00 pm at Meyer Park (7700 Cypresswood Drive, Spring, TX 77379). For more information, please contact the Gate's Edge Knight marshal, Lord Georges le Breton (George Abercrombie) at 504-231-5515 or georgeslebreton AT yahoo DOT com.

Youth Rapier Practice

Please contact the Seneschal, HL Alden Drake, at stargate DOT seneschal AT gmail DOT com for more information.

Workshops

Chivalric armoring

Tools and armor-making advice available at Vaclav's house on Thursdays, from 8-11 pm. Please call ahead for directions and to be sure we haven't cancelled. Contact Vaclav Namatko (Random) at (713) 686-9883.



Guild Meetings

Equestrian Guild – ON HIATUS

The Equestrian Guild is open to all those are interested in learning about the SCA's equestrian games and competitions and the making of garb and gear for riding in events. You do not need to have your own horse, as we have some that we are willing to share. All participants must have closed-toe footwear; heel is suggested but not required. Minors age 10 and up can participate with a parent present, signed waiver, approved helmet, and closed-toe shoes or boots. For more information, please contact the acting Equestrian Marshal, HL Cristyana Lambrecht at coastal AT seneschal DOT ansteorra DOT org.

European Dance Guild – ON HIATUS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

The Stargate European Dance Guild is going on hiatus effective immediately due to several uncontrollable factors. Our plan is to reschedule to Wednesday nights from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm beginning in January, but we must find a new site to make this happen. If you have any suggestions, please contact HL Antonello del Bello at antonello DOT sca AT sbcglobal DOT net. We've already received information on several community centers and a few private establishments and are in the process of exploring those now. Please bear with us as we try to maneuver into a different slot. We will report when things have settled and are back on track. Thank you for being so supportive of the dance community here in Stargate.

Bardic Guild – ON HIATUS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Stargate's Bardic Guild is now on hiatus for the foreseeable future. Those interested in the bardic arts are invited to attend the Madrigal Guild. If you are interested in being notified of any future guild activity, please contact HL Alden Drake at stargate DOT seneschal AT gmail DOT com.

Madrigal Guild

All those interested in madrigal singing are invited to join the Stargate Madrigal Guild. It meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the home of local bard HL Mea Passavanti, 1425 Waseca, Houston, TX 77055. For more information, join the Stargate-Madrigal Yahoo group and/or contact HL Mea at mea DOT passavanti AT gmail DOT com for more information.

Scribes Guild

The Stargate Scribes Guild members learn the ancient and beautiful arts of calligraphy and illumination, as well as provide a service to the Barony and the Kingdom by creating award scrolls. Usually the guild meets on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month from 5:30 pm until 8:00 pm. Location: Central Market Community Room, 3815 Westheimer, Houston, TX 77027 (Westheimer near Wesleyan, inside Loop 610). Food and drink is available in the deli; outside food may not be brought in. For further information and to verify dates of meetings, please contact Mistress Hillary Greenslade at 281-855-9447 or hillaryrg AT yahoo DOT com.

Stargate Siege Guild

The Stargate Siege Guild is a new guild in Stargate and is for those interested in the art and science of tossing objects. If you are interested in siege weapons and their use in the SCA, contact Lord Miguel (Mike Meyers) at desweds AT gmail.com.

**Baron and Baroness**

Their Excellencies
Master Ihon Vinson MacFergus &
Mistress Isabeau Quiquandon
John & Terri Hirling
713-896-0026
bandb AT stargate DOT ansteorra DOT org

Seneschal

HL Alden Drake
Paul Haines
H: 832-237-7080
C: 713-858-9953
seneschal AT stargate DOT ansteorra DOT org

Herald

Lord Bernard ben Moshe ha Kohen, Sentinal Pursuivant
Bernard Rich
713-838-0594 (no calls Sun through Thurs from 7:30-10 PM)
herald AT stargate DOT ansteorra DOT org

Exchequer

Lady Brenna MacDonald
Jennifer Dudley
832-449-6228
exchequer AT stargate DOT ansteorra DOT org

Historian

Lady Caitilin inghean Ronain ui Chellaigh
Katherine C. Watson
713-828-4014
historian AT stargate DOT ansteorra DOT org

Chronicler

HL Anne Barrington
Stephanie Wilson
713-410-6461
chronicler AT stargate DOT ansteorra DOT org

Webminister

Lady Merewyn de Laugharne
Cary L. Dier
713-523-3361
webminister AT stargate DOT ansteorra DOT org

Children's Minister

HL Fedelm ni Uldhir
281-856-0118 (no calls after 9pm)
moc AT stargate DOT ansteorra DOT org

Hospitaler

HL Ciarnat of Firethorn
Kim D. Law
281-693-6441
hospitaler AT stargate DOT ansteorra DOT org

Castellan

HE Sir Godwin of Edington
David Jurgens
castellan AT stargate DOT ansteorra DOT org

Minister of Arts & Science

Lady Petronia Casta qua Petra
Lorien Haigh
moas AT stargate DOT ansteorra DOT org

Rapier Marshal

Don Corvin Fenarro
Kevin Wilson
281-658-9412
rapier AT stargate DOT ansteorra DOT org

Youth Rapier Marshal

OPEN - Accepting Applications

Knight Marshal

OPEN - Accepting Applications.

Acting Marshal:

HE Sir Godwin of Edington
David Jurgens
marshal AT stargate DOT ansteorra DOT org

Who are we?

The Barony of Stargate is a local chapter of the [Society for Creative Anachronism](#) (SCA), within the [Coastal 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?



MAKE A CONTRIBUTION!

The Two Towers is the reference for members of the Barony, but it also serves as a bit of Baronial history. The Chronicler would love to see one and all contribute in some way to the publication. Here are some of the ways in which you can be a part of the Baronial Newsletter.

- **Event Stories**-Let everyone hear your recollection of a great time or special occurrence at a Stargate event by putting it in our newsletter!
- **Photographs**-If you have taken some photos at Stargate events and would like to get them published, please send them along with the appropriate Publication Permission Form for yourself and any identifiable individuals in the photos.
- **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!
- **Art**- Send your finest artwork along with the appropriate Publication Permission Form found on the Ansteorra website. Or let us know if you would like to illustrate articles!

Please send your contributions to the Stargate Chronicler, HL Anne Barrington, at chronicler AT stargate DOT ansteorra DOT org.

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This is the "Two Towers", a publication of The Barony of Stargate of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. The Two Towers is available from Stephanie A. Wilson, 19906 Windcroft Hollow Lane, Katy, Texas 77449 or chronicler AT stargate DOT ansteorra DOT org. It is not a corporate publication of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., and does not delineate SCA policies.

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