

# Two Towers



Baron Robert Michael MacPharland and Baroness Simone Valery la Rousse

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## Upcoming Events & Meetings:

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|-----------------|--|
| July 4          | <i>Independence Day</i>  |
| July 9          | <i>Crown Tournament (Mobeetie, TX)</i>                                   |
| July 11         | <i>Business/Populace Meetings (7:00/7:45 pm @ Hope Episcopal Church)</i> |
| July 16         | <i>King's Round Table (TBD)</i>  |
| July 23         | <i>Fiber Arts College (Tyler, TX)</i>                                    |
| July 30         | <i>Ansteorran Heraldic &amp; Scribal Symposium</i>                       |
| Aug. 1          | <i>Business/Populace Meetings (7:00/7:45 pm @ Hope Episcopal Church)</i> |
| July 29-Aug. 14 | <i>Pennsic War 40</i>  |

## Who are we?

The Barony of the Stargate is a local chapter of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA), within the Coastal Region 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?

We're on the Web at:

<http://www.stargate.ansteorra.org>

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Artwork for group heraldic devices by Emma de Fetherstan (Jennifer Smith).

Artwork for officers' badges by Chiara Francesca Arianna d'Onofrio (Francesca V. Havas).

Photo on page 1 by Jennifer Dudley.

## Officers (Please, no phone calls after 10:00 pm)

### Baron and Baroness

Their Excellencies  
Master Robert Michael MacPharland &  
Baroness Simone Valery la Rouse  
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### Herald

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### Minister of Arts & Science

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### Chronicler

*Accepting Applications*  
HL Anne Barrington  
Stephanie Wilson  
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### Webminister

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Cary L. Dier  
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### Castellan

HE Sir Godwin of Edington  
David Jurgens  
[castellan@stargate.ansteorra.org](mailto:castellan@stargate.ansteorra.org)

### Rapier Marshal

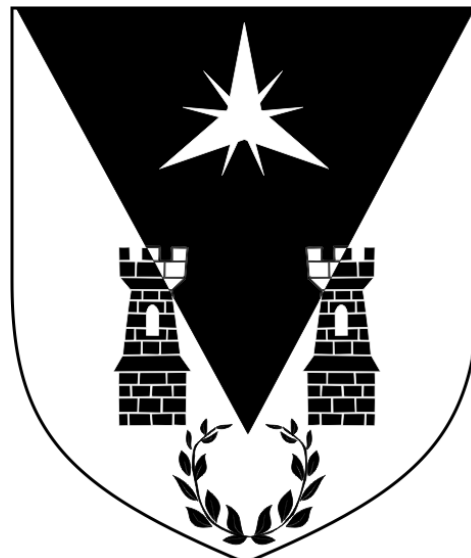
Don Corvin Fenarro  
Kevin Wilson  
281-658-9412  
[rapier@stargate.ansteorra.org](mailto:rapier@stargate.ansteorra.org)

### Youth Rapier Marshal

*OPEN - Accepting Applications*

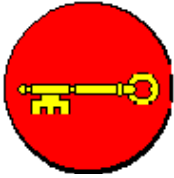
### Knight Marshal

*OPEN - Accepting Applications*  
HE Sir Godwin of Edington  
David Jurgens  
[marshal@stargate.ansteorra.org](mailto:marshal@stargate.ansteorra.org)



## From the Officers

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### Seneschal

HL Alden Drake

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

July is here and with it comes the end of my time as seneschal of Stargate. It has been a wonderful two years and I am very grateful to everyone in the barony for making my time in office enjoyable. I would like to especially thank Their Excellencies Ihon, Isabeau, and Cristyana for appointing me to this office and giving me the chance to serve the barony.

In my new position as Coastal Seneschal, I have the pleasure of appointing my successor in Stargate. With Their Excellencies' support, I am pleased to announce that Lady Nicolet Deuville takes over the office of seneschal, starting at the close of the July Populace meeting. Lady Nicolet has played in the SCA for some time now and while she may seem "new" to Stargate, she brings with her experiences and perspectives from other groups that I think will be a valuable asset to our barony. Congratulations, Nicolet, on your new job!

On the operations side of things, we are still looking for a volunteer to steward Stargate Yule. Bids are due on August 15 to the Stargate Financial Committee. If anyone has an interest or questions about stewarding an event, please contact Lady Nicolet.

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### Chronicler

HL Anne Barrington

As announced in the June 2011 *Two Towers*, the office of chronicler is open for applications. To the best of my knowledge, no one has expressed any interest in applying for the office. Therefore, with the blessings of the Coastal Chronicler and the Kingdom Chronicler, my warrant will be renewed at Round Table on July 16, 2011. However, this does not mean that I'm staying in the office indefinitely. I would like to move on to do other things without over-committing myself, so I would really like to find someone else to take over as Stargate's chronicler as soon as possible. The office will remain open for applications and the incoming chronicler will be put on a special warrant.

If you ...

- Are a current member of the Society,
- Have email access,
- Are familiar with Microsoft Word and/or Publisher,
- Can run spell-check, proofread a document for errors, and edit grammar and punctuation,
- Are interested in keeping members of the populace informed about happenings in and around the Barony,

... then you might enjoy being a chronicler. I'll be glad to help interested parties go through the application process, learn or brush up on software, and get up to speed with what the office entails. Please contact me at [chronicler@stargate.ansteorra.org](mailto:chronicler@stargate.ansteorra.org) or call me at 713-410-6461 to talk about it.

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### Herald

Lady Caitilin inghean  
Ronain ui Cheallaigh

All things heraldic are slowly coming on the horizon.

For Ansteorra, the Ansteorran Heraldic and Scribal Symposium will be presented by the Barony of Bordermarch on July 30, 2011. For heraldic and scribal members of the Kingdom, the symposium will have several classes on heraldry and scribal arts. Our own Mistress Hillary Greenslade will be teaching a class on quill making and HL Anne Barrington will be teaching silk banner painting. For newcomers it is great chance to learn a little about the scribal and heraldic arts as they are practiced in our Kingdom.

On a local level, a few newcomers are starting their research into their name and device submissions, and in the near future those submissions should start their journey to being registered. We have some long time Stargate members working on getting their names submitted or finalizing their names and devices for future registration. We also have a transfer from another barony working on a new name.

Please feel free to contact me any time about your name and device submission concerns. I would love to help you find your name and presence in the SCA. I can be found at most monthly Stargate Business/Populace Meetings and at most of the events happening in Ansteorra.

## From the Officers (continued)

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### Historian

Lady Caitilin inghean  
Ronain ui Cheallaigh

July is upon us and Summer is really beginning to sizzle (no pun intended : } ). More warm days and very busy schedules. The Kingdom schedule is bursting with events on the calendar – Crown Tournament, King’s Round Table, the Ansteorran Heraldic & Scribal Symposium, and of course, the big event – Pennsic. If you go to any of these events, bring back your stories and photos to share with the Barony and with your Historian. Hint, hint.

In the past month, several of our Stargate members have shown the talents and skills in events around the Kingdom. At King’s College, Her Excellency Baroness Simone taught three classes on the construction of Persian garments and Mistress Hillary taught 2 classes on metal piercework.

At Bordermarch Baronials, HL Alden Drake competed in the chivalric events and then did some field heralding in the afternoon. Mistress Hillary Greenslade competed in the Arts and Sciences competition and won. Mistress Hillary is Bordermarch’s new A & S Champion. Vivant Mistress Hillary!

I know other Stargaters have participated in June events and will participate in July events. If you have had some recognition at events or just had a fun time (I sometimes forget what you have done), let me know and I will get it in the *Two Towers*.

In the meantime, participate in history – stay cool, stay safe and have fun!

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### Rapier Marshall

Don Corvin Fenarro

The office of Rapier Marshall for the Barony of the Stargate was open for applications from March 1, 2011, through April 15, 2011. An announcement regarding the selection of Stargate’s new Rapier Marshall will be made soon.

Rapier practice is taking place again in Stargate on the second and fourth Sundays in Memorial Park (barring unusual conflicts). So far, attendance has been low but is increasing. Rapier fighters of all skill levels are welcome and loaner gear is available on request. For more information, including the exact starting time of practices, watch the Stargate email list and Facebook page for announcements, or contact the Stargate Rapier Marshall at [rapier@stargate.ansteorra.org](mailto:rapier@stargate.ansteorra.org).

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### Knight Marshall

Sir Godwin  
of Edington

I am pleased to report that chivalric fighter practices are once again happening in Stargate on the second and fourth Sundays of each month at Memorial Park. There were 6 chivalric fighters at the practice on June 26th and 5 on July 10th, and several people have stopped by to visit. Thank you to Lady Nicolet for providing cold beverages on June 26th and Baron Robert for doing so on July 10th.

Chivalric fighters of all skill levels are welcome and loaner gear is available on request. For more information, including the exact starting time of practices, watch the Stargate email list and Facebook page for announcements, or contact the Stargate Knight Marshall at [marshall@stargate.ansteorra.org](mailto:marshall@stargate.ansteorra.org).

## Upcoming Events (Within a 4-5 hour drive from the Greater Houston Area)

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What: **King's Round Table**

When: July 16, 2011 (site opens from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm)

Where: Hosted by the Barony of the Steppes  
at Brookhaven College, 3939 Valley View Lane, Dallas, TX 75244

What's happening: This is a day of business meetings for the Kingdom and includes a "state of the kingdom" address and discussion as well as classes devoted to the education of various local, regional and kingdom level officers. Indoor event; modern dress only; no site fee. No lunch will be served but a list of nearby restaurants will be available.

About the site: Indoor facility.

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

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What: **Ansteorran Fiber Arts College**

When: July 23, 2011 (site open from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm)

Where: Pleasant Retreat United Methodist Church, 417 County Road 1143, Tyler, TX 75704

What's happening: A day of classes related to fiber arts, including weaving, felting, dyeing, costuming, embroidery, and more. Modern dress only. No site fee but donations will be collected to thank the church for hosting the event. Sideboard luncheon provided by the Shire of Rosenfeld on a donation basis.

About the site: Indoor facility.

For more information: <http://www.crystaldaggerclothing.com/FiberArts/>

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What: **Summer Birthday Bash & Mini-Tournament**

When: Sunday, July 24, 2011 (armor inspection at 10 am; fighting starts at 11 am)

Where: Hosted by the Shire of Ffynnon Gath  
behind the San Marcos Chamber of Commerce, 202 N. C.M. Allen Pkwy., San Marcos, TX

What's happening: Stargate's 4th Sunday Practice in the Park goes on a road-trip! Chivalric and rapier mini-tournaments. Pot luck lunch (bring a dish to share). No site fee. Fighter authorization cards required. Bring swim suits for swimming in the river.

About the site: Pop-ups are allowed in the park. Pets on leash are allowed. No public consumption of alcohol.

For more information: <http://ffynnon-gath.ansteorra.org/minitournament.htm>

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What: **Ansteorran Heraldic & Scribal Symposium**

When: June 30, 2011 (site open from 9:00 am to 8:00 pm)

Where: Hosted by the Barony of Bordermarch  
at The Beaumont Art League, 2675 Gulf St., Beaumont, TX 77703

What's happening: A day of classes devoted to the heraldic and scribal arts (including designing and making painted silk banners, taught by HL Anne Barrington and HL Alden Drake). Fighting is welcome.

About the site: Chairs are needed; please bring your own. No pets; service animals only. Alcohol allowed in period containers.

For more information: <http://www.bordermarch.org/AHSS/index.html>

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# 3rd Much-More-Than-Annual Ansteorran Fiber Arts College

July 23, 2011 \* 8am-5pm

Pleasant Retreat United Methodist Church  
417 County Road 1143, Tyler, TX 75704

30 classes, from beginning to advanced

From lecture to hands-on

From 30 minutes to 4 hours

Spinning, Weaving, Embroidery, Costuming, Felting, Dyeing, Basketmaking and more

\*No site fee   \*Modern clothes   \*Oasis of AC in the July heat

\*Sideboard lunch by donation   \*Nearby yarn shops

\*Fiber vendors on site

<http://www.crystaldaggerclothing.com/FiberArts/>

## Meetings

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### Business & Populace Meetings

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@stargate.ansteorra.org](mailto:seneschal@stargate.ansteorra.org).

### Newcomer's Meetings

Newcomer's meetings provide information about 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, HL Ciarnat of Firethorn, at 281-693-6441, or send an email to [hospitalier@stargate.ansteorra.org](mailto:hospitalier@stargate.ansteorra.org).

## Practices—Martial Activities

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### 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@seneschal.ansteorra.org](mailto:coastal@seneschal.ansteorra.org).

### Stargate Practice in the Park

There will be both Chivalric and Rapier practice in Memorial Park on July 10, 2011, from 10:00 am until ?. Loaner armor/gear is available upon request. For more information, please contact the Knight Marshal, Sir Godwin of Edington, at [marshal@stargate.ansteorra.org](mailto:marshal@stargate.ansteorra.org) or the Rapier Marshall, Don Corvin Fenarro, at [rapier@stargate.ansteorra.org](mailto:rapier@stargate.ansteorra.org).

On July 24th, Stargate Practice in the Park goes on a road-trip to the Shire of Ffynnon Gath for their Summer Birthday Bash and Mini-Tournament. See page 5 for more details.

### Stargate / Loch Soilleir 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. Loaner armor/gear is available upon request. Additional/alternate practice opportunities may be arranged upon request. For more information, please contact the Knight Marshal, Sir Godwin of Edington, at [marshal@stargate.ansteorra.org](mailto:marshal@stargate.ansteorra.org).

### Gate's Edge Armored Combat Practice

Stargate's Knight Marshal, Sir Godwin of Edington, will be at the Gate's Edge armored combat practice at 3:00 pm on the first and third Sundays of June (5th and 19th). The Gate's Edge practices are held at Meyer Park in Spring, TX. The fighters will be on the south side of the park just to the right (west) of the entrance between the parking area and Cypresswood Drive. Meyer Park is located at 7700 Cypresswood Drive, Spring, Texas 77379. For more information, please see the Gate's Edge website and calendar at <http://gates-edge.ansteorra.org/>.

### Stargate / Loch Soilleir 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 [rapier@stargate.ansteorra.org](mailto:rapier@stargate.ansteorra.org) with any questions.

### Stargate Siege Guild

The Stargate Siege Guild 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 Stargate/s Seneschal, HL Alden Drake, at [senschal@stargate.ansteorra.org](mailto:senschal@stargate.ansteorra.org).

### Youth Rapier Practice

Please contact the Seneschal, HL Alden Drake, at [stargate@stargate.ansteorra.org](mailto:stargate@stargate.ansteorra.org) for more information.

## Practices—Performance Arts

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### **Aleasar**

Aleasar is a multi-group SCA Middle Eastern drumming and dancing guild for the Greater Houston Area. We have members from Stargate, Loch Soilleir, Gate's Edge, and Raven's Fort. Drummers, musicians, and dancers of all skill levels are welcome, as always. For more information, please contact Dietrich Strobelbart by email at [dietrich.strobelbart@yahoo.com](mailto:dietrich.strobelbart@yahoo.com) or call him at 281-731-7726 (phone calls between 4:00 pm and 9:00 pm only).

### **Bardic Guild—ON HIATUS**

Stargate's Bardic Guild is 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@stargate.ansteorra.org](mailto:stargate@stargate.ansteorra.org).

### **European Dance Guild—ON HIATUS**

The Stargate European Dance Guild is on hiatus as we work out a new time and place for practices. For more information, please contact HL Alden Drake at [seneschal@stargate.ansteorra.org](mailto:seneschal@stargate.ansteorra.org).

### **Madrigal Guild—ON HIATUS**

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.passavanti@gmail.com](mailto:mea.passavanti@gmail.com) for more information.

### **Middle Eastern Dance Guild**

The Middle Eastern Dance guild meets on the 2nd Sunday of the month at the Ballam Belly Dance Studio, located in the adjunct building behind Grace United Methodist Church, at 1245 Heights Blvd. in Houston. No prior belly dance experience is necessary, nor is garb. If you get lost, call Lady Gwenfrewi ferch yr Albanwer, at 832-875-8013.

## Workshops

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### **Armoring Workshops**

Tools and armor-making advice available at Vaclav's house on Thursdays, from 8:00 pm until 11:00 pm. Please call ahead for directions and to be sure we haven't cancelled. Contact HL Alden Drake at [stargate@stargate.ansteorra.org](mailto:stargate@stargate.ansteorra.org) for more information.

### **Fourth Sunday Arts**

Bring your project and enjoy the company of your fellow artisans at Fourth Sunday Arts from 2:00 pm until 5:00 pm on Sunday, July 24, 2011. Located in the fellowship hall of St. Giles Presbyterian Church, 5900 Pinemont Drive, Houston, TX 77092. For more information, contact the Minister of Arts and Sciences, Lady Isolde die Waeyer, at [moas@stargate.ansteorra.org](mailto:moas@stargate.ansteorra.org).

### **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 1st and 3rd 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@yahoo.com](mailto:hillaryrg@yahoo.com).



# July 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
<b>3</b> Gate's Edge Armored Combat Practice 3:00 pm  Stargate Scribes Guild 5:30 pm	<b>4</b> Independence Day	<b>5</b> Stargate/Loch Soilleir Chivalric & Rapier Practice 7:30 pm	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Crown Tournament (Bonwicke)
<b>10</b> Practice in the Park (Chivalric & Rapier) 10:00 am	<b>11</b> Business/Populace Mtgs. 7:00/7:45 pm  Coffee & dessert w/ Alden & Alessandra (after meeting)	<b>12</b> Stargate/Loch Soilleir Chivalric & Rapier Practice 7:30 pm	<b>13</b> West Houston Lunch Bunch 11:30 am	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> King's Round Table (Steppes)
<b>17</b> Gate's Edge Armored Combat Practice 3:00 pm  Stargate Scribes Guild 5:30 pm	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Stargate/Loch Soilleir Chivalric & Rapier Practice 7:30 pm	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Fiber Arts College (Tyler, TX)
<b>24</b> Practice in the Park (Chivalric & Rapier) Road Trip!  4th Sunday Arts 2:00—5:00 pm St. Giles Presbyterian Church	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Stargate/Loch Soilleir Chivalric & Rapier Practice 7:30 pm	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Ansteorran Heraldic & Scribal Symposium (Bordermarch)

- July 10—Stargate Business/Populace Meetings, 7:00 pm for Business, 7:45 pm for Populace, at Hope Episcopal Church, 1613 W. 43rd St., Houston, TX 77018
- June 10—Coffee & Dessert with Alden & Alessandra, after Populace Meeting, at IHOP, 13388 Northwest Fwy (just west of Hollister)
- Every Tuesday night—Stargate/Loch Soilleir Chivalric & Rapier Practice, 7:30 pm, at Centennial Park, 3219 McLean Rd., Pearland, TX 77584
- July 3 & 17—Stargate Scribes Guild, 5:30 pm, at Central Market Community Room, 3815 Westheimer Rd., Houston, TX 77027
- July 10—Practice in the Park, 10:00 am to ?, Memorial Park, Houston, TX
- July 24—Practice in the Park goes on a road trip to Ffynnon Gath: 10:00 am until ? in San Marcos.
- July 24—Fourth Sunday Arts, 2:00-5:00 pm, St. Giles Presbyterian Church, 5900 Pinemont Dr., Houston, TX 77092