

Two Towers

Newsletter of The Barony of The Stargate
October 2005

From the Baron & Baroness,

Greetings to the great Populace of Stargate,

We give a big VIVAT to all those good gentles who have helped and are helping the survivors of Hurricane Katrina. It's wonderful to see Stargate step up whenever and wherever the need arises. We'd especially recognize Don Robert and Don Brian for their generous offer to match dollar for dollar bout for bout at "Sunday Practice in the Park" Labor Day weekend. They raised \$453 that has been donated to the American Red Cross for Katrina flood relief. . VIVAT Dons Robert and Brian.

As mentioned, we had "Sunday Practice in the Park" Labor Day weekend with a potluck luncheon. We thank the approximately 20 folks who braved the heat to attend. We had two or three families stop by to see what we were doing. Next "Sunday in the Park" is October 2 from 2 pm to 5 pm (see map on website or contact us for directions). If you're in town and can make it, please join us for a good time and good company.

Our gratitude to Mistress Annes who stepped in at the last moment and taught her class on "How to Teach Anything" at September's populace. The topic for October's meeting will be 'brainstorming.' We did this at our first business meeting after stepping up and now want to offer the same opportunity to our populace. We want your ideas and thoughts, where you'd like to see Barony head, what we can do individually and as a whole to make Stargate better and stronger. A few ground rules will apply: all ideas will be considered good ideas; this is not the time for a discussion of pros or cons. The purpose is to gather ideas. Please plan to attend and share your thoughts.

Tourney season is upon us so be mindful of the heat and sun; we are in Ansteorra after all.

ihon & Isabeau
Baron & Baroness

From the Seneschal,

Greetings Stargate Populace!

The busy season is upon us once again. The cool air has finally worked its way down and the fighters will begin to feel more comfortable in their amour. I look forward to the days sitting by the list field watching the battles, talking with friends, hearing the familiar noises that only the SCA can bring, eating the wonderful feasts, listening to ballads and folk tales, and feeling the palpable atmosphere of camaraderie. Sometimes in the bustle of serving we forget to enjoy. So my challenge to ALL is to come out, help out a little, and most of all ENJOY!!!!

Your Seneschal in service to the Dream,
Lady Vasilisa

From the Herald,

Greetings, good Gentles of Stargate!
Heraldic Consultation Nights will resume on the second Thursday of each month, from 7:00pm to 10:00pm, or by appointment. Please contact me by email or phone for directions. It is an honor and a privilege to be your new Herald.

Yours in Service,
Dietrich Strobglbart

From the Chronicler

Greetings unto the populace,
I will have at November Populace a check sheet
Please get me your information. I do not have the files yet from the last domesday. So unless I get information from you; you will not be included in the new domesday.

The collection of data for the next domesday has started. It will be arranged Alpha by SCA name. Please send me as much or as little info you want included. SCA Name, Mundane Name, Primary Phone, Secondary Phone, Email address, Postal address, Birthday.

*Nel servizio che rimango,
Signora Lisabetta Micola da Monte*

Dance Guild,

Classes are informal and are open to beginners and experienced dancers alike. We focus on English Country Dance primarily from Playford's first edition, Court dances, 15th and 16th century Italian dance, and French dances from Arbeau.

We meet on the second and fourth Sunday of each month from 2pm - 4pm at Oaks Presbyterian Church, 1576 Chantilly. This is near W 43rd and Ella in northwest Houston.

Contact Antonello (email antonello@integrity.com or cell 281-850-2443) for directions and inquiries.

There is also a Dance Guild in southwest Houston each Thursday night from 7pm - 9pm. Contact Perronelle for information: 281-277-4055 (no calls after 9pm).

Lord Antonello

Stargate Armorers Guild

Meets at Vaclav's shop on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 8pm until 11pm. Please call ahead at 713-686-9883 to get directions and see if the meeting has been cancelled.

Metal working and leatherworking tools and armor making advice for both chivalric and rapier fighters.

All Hand tools, forge, anvil, metal punch, slip roller, leatherworking Materials available.

Vaclav

From the Virtual Scribe,

Greetings from your Virtual Scribe!

Instead of my usual plea for suggestions, links, etc., I thought I'd update you on what is now available on your Baronial website:

* **News from the Barony** - always in view on the right side of the website - 'news you can use' about current happenings in the Barony, and word fame for members of the populace who have achieved honors, as well as a link to the current issue of this publication.

* **Information on Local Gatherings** - Details, maps, and contact information for all local gatherings, including populace meetings, guild meetings, demos, and fighter practices.

* An **Event Calendar** with live links to the next two months of upcoming local and area events, as well as the occasional kingdom event of general interest, such as Gulf Wars. Local area events upcoming in the next month are also listed/linked at the bottom of the home page, for even easier access!

* **Links** to useful information on the Middle Ages and Renaissance, as well as SCA-specific links to member resources and the ACCEPS system for event registration.

* In the wake of **Hurricane Katrina**, links on the home page for those who want to help, either locally or through donations, including links for the two SCA Yahoo groups set up to coordinate activities and share information.

Okay, now that I've filled you in on some of what you can find at stargate.ansteorra.org, make your Scribe happy and send me a suggestion for a link, or content you'd like to see, or just a comment if you've got one to share! My e-mail address is at the bottom of the home page, and I'm always interested in your input!

Yours in Service
Lady Merewyn de Laugarne
Stargate Virtual Scribe

Hospitaler's Hideaway

Stargate Scribes Guild:

Stargate Scribes 'Charter Paint' meetings:

Time: 7-9pm,

October 4th - Tuesday

October 18th - Tuesday

The Guild is Held at the Chapel of Univ. of Houston, 2nd floor lobby, adjacent to fighter practice at UH. The entrance is the #13 parking lot, on Cullen, between Elgin and Wheeler.

Held rain or shine, if you can 'Paint by Numbers' then you can paint charters. Bring your scribal paint supplies, or some will be provided for you. Novices welcome, SCA-garb not required.

Scribal Class: 'Scribal Tools and Materials'

Many thanks to Mistress Rose Stewart Cathan for a wonderful class on scribal supplies - if you missed it, you missed a lot of great info. There were 8 of us in attendance and much fun was had by all in attendance. Thanks to Godwin and Lissa for the use of their game room.

Next Class in October - will advise via e-mail lists when the schedule is confirmed. Please let me know if you have a class to offer or a topic you are interested in. Look for the updates!!

Stargate Scribes Guild Principal office is open for bids.

It has been my intent to hold the post of Stargate Scribes Guild Principal for one year; and that term is to come up in November. Applications for the office will need to be sent by Nov. 1st, to the Regional Scribe, Lady Aylwin, who will make the selection; with a copy to myself, Stargate Seneschal (Lady Vasalisa), and Stargate Baron and Baroness (Ihon and Isabeau). The office will change hands in December, though I will be responsible for award scrolls for Stargate Yule.

If you have questions about being the Stargate Guild Principal, please contact me.

Keep Scribing,
Hillary Greenslade,
Stargate Scribes Guild Principal
hillaryrg@yahoo.com

Not much to report this month. We've had a busy few months and I'm actually trying to take it easy this month. I did hear from the YWCA that they are closed (the club only not the headquarters) and will not be able to give us the rooms that I was planning to use for the Newcomer's Meetings. I'm not sure where I'm going to do them now; However I'm researching different places.

We did collect some food at the First Sunday Fighter Practice. Lissa took care of getting it to the people who needed it. I want to thank everyone who donated and thank Lissa for taking care of it.

I also collected some school supplies and cash at the Defender of the Fort. The school supplies were given directly to Isobail from Raven's Fort, who works at the Montgomery ISD. She knows of some evacuees who are up there and needed the supplies. The cash was donated directly to the Red Cross, here off of 1960.

I'm planning a similar collection spot at Harvest Faire, the Gate's Edge event. Please donate what you can - food, school supplies, gently used clothing - anything you can spare. It's all appreciated. Toys for Tots will also be at the event (probably right next to me and my collection point and the Newcomer's area) so don't forget toys for the kids. Lots of them are being used now instead of for Christmas.

On a more personal note, I must say how proud I am of everyone in the Houston area for coming together and helping the Katrina & Rita victims. We have shown what the SCA is truly about - Chivalry above all. Thank you for being the people you are. My heart goes out to the people who have lost so much - not just Katrina but now we've had Rita and that hit a little closer to home. And above it all, I feel privileged to call each and every one of the people in the SCA one thing ... Family.

In Service to the Dream,
Lady Elizabetta "Maria" de Medici
Hospitaler - Barony of the Stargate
Hospitaler - Shire of Gate's Edge

From the Minister of Arts & Sciences

Greetings to the populace of the Stargate!

To all guild principals: I need to include guild reports in my monthly reports to the coastal regional MOAS. Please send me your reports by the 28th of the month. They only have to be very, very brief. I just need to know how many meetings you had, approximately how many were in attendance, and a short description of what was done. I'll start sending out email reminders around the 25th of the month.

To the populace: I also would like to report personal accomplishments. If you are working on anything, please let me know. If you want to send pictures, that would be fantastic, but, of course, not necessary.

Guild Information:

Charter Painting usually held on Tuesdays from 7:00 to 9:00 PM

~European Dance held on the second and fourth Sundays of each month from 2:00 – 4:00 PM~

Madrigal and Polyphonic singing held on the fourth Sunday of the month at 4:00 PM

~Weaving held on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month from 7:00 to 9:00~

Chivalric Armoring held on Monday and Wednesday evenings between 8:00 and 11:00 PM

If you would like to start another guild, please let me know. At one point, there was interest in a sewing guild and a cooking guild. If that interest is still there, let's get it started!! Any others?

I'm also looking for a deputy. If you love the arts and are interested, please, please volunteer. If you need to contact me, please feel free to do so.

Email: cindy.gottlieb@springbranchisd.com Phone: 832-567-0177

Wishing you all well,

Arianwen

Applications are being accepted for the following offices:

- Waterbearer – contact [Lady Vasilisa](#)
- Knight Marshall - contact [Andrew Scarhart](#)
- Exchequer – contact [Brenna Clare](#)
 - Deputy exchequer –to attend meetings (see Brenna Clare)

Notes & Challenges

Toys for Tots is looking for some volunteers to attend the tables, and provide prizes for the raffle, at various events. Please contact me for more information.

We will be at the following events: Harvest Faire, Tourney by the Loch, Stargate Yule

Lady Brenna MacDonald jen@clancircle.com Lady Valeria Marcella Martinez vbrown@houston.rr.com

<http://toys.clancircle.com>

Hygiene Kits for Disaster Relief

In coordinated efforts with GA and Meridies we are making small Hygiene kits. I am in need of donations of items or cash to purchase the items with. Here is a complete listing of Items going into the kits. In addition to the items below we need 1 gallon bags and the smaller snack or sandwich size for the soap.

Please contact me for locations a Adults - Female abetta@l Childs 7 home is
713-747-4282

Adults - Male

- 1-Toothbrush - Adult
- 4- Band-aids
- 1-Deodorant
- 1-Mouth Wash
- 2-Combs
- 1-Travel Toothpaste
- 1-Bar of Soap
- 1-Hand Sanitizer
- 2-Wash Cloths
- 1-Travel Shampoo
- 1-Travel Tissue
- 1-Dental floss
- 1-2 Pairs of gloves
- 1- Men's Disposable Razor

Adults - Female

- 1-Toothbrush - Adult
- 4- Band-aids
- 1-Deodorant
- 1-Mouth Wash
- 2-Combs
- 1-Travel Toothpaste
- 1-Bar of Soap
- 1-Hand Sanitizer
- 2-Wash Cloths
- 1-Travel Shampoo
- 1-Travel Tissue
- 1-Dental floss
- 1-2 Pairs of gloves
- 1-Women's Disposable Razor
- 4-Tampons
- 4-Sanitary. Pads

Childs

- 1- Toothbrush - Child
- 1- pkg wipes
- 1- Hand Sanitizer
- 1- Toothpaste
- 1- Bar of Soap
- 2- Combs
- 2- Wash Cloths
- 1- Travel Tissue
- 1- Shampoo
- 1- Dental Floss
- 4- Band-aids
- 1-Mouth Wash



Halloween Party

I wanted to let everyone know that I'm having a Halloween Party at my house on October 29 It will be starting at 7 pm going until ... well whenever.

Wear a costume (NOT GARB - that doesn't count - this is a chance to be something we aren't usually). Please RSVP to me on my cell phone at 281-433-0347 or at this email address scarletmb@sbcglobal.net

It is BYOB but I will have some alcoholic and non-alcoholic punch and munchies. If you have any questions, give me a yell or shoot me an email. Please RSVP by October 22 so I have time to make all the wonderful food I plan to have (and those of you who've had my cooking know that is NOT an exaggeration.

Maria

October 2005 Puzzle

T L D D S I L L U C T R O P K P F N R W
H X E T D E N I O J N O C W T T J N E T
N R P L F H Z G L Z T A B T X F X N G O
Y D P T V D N Y R H F Z E R T T R Q U R
E E I N G P N Q N T P R K P H C G Y A S
L L L R M N E L C N U B R A C S E N R E
I I S D O E M B A T T L E D K B X J D P
O A R R E S C U T C H E O N L K H N A R
T R Y L P P O L L A C S E B X M L M N V
S G C D B Y L U B E N G C A C F B F T N
E N C O U N T E R C H A N G E D Y T R Z
A E X Y C C T E G D K N H H M E E F Z R
T D L G R Y R M I X U W N C N R G J V G
E M D E G U N S A L R Q G R D L N L V M
R T S O D H P O E N L A U N F L E A M A
I T E R R L G T R K T O M G L D Z C T U
T N O G A S T L R V T L T P N M O H N N
L B X Y U L E X M N E Y E U A Z L Y N C
A C E K J O N D O N V H O Y K N K X M H
S D K G V L B C V L L R C T N L T C P L

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Addorsed	Embattled	Maunch
Annulet	Engrailed	Nebuly
Bordure	Escallop	Pean
Bouget	Escarbuncle	Portcullis
Chevron	Escutcheon	Rampant
Conjoined	Estoile	Reguardant
Contourney	Fleam	Roundel
Counterchanged	Gyronny	Saltire
Crest	Lozenge	Slipped
Displayed	Mantle	Torse

Stargate Yule

Saturday, December 10, 2005

Their Sentinel Excellencies, Master Ihon Vinson macFergus and Honorable Lady Isabeau Quiquandon invite all to the Barony of the Stargate's Yule Revel-Festival of Constantinople.

The Festival is set in 12th c. Byzantine Constantinople during a year of peace between the first and second crusade. People from many lands have traveled to the city to trade, learn of new crafts, and enjoy the grand feast.

Championships: Compete for the honor of being the Stargate's newest champions in Bardic, A&S, and Children's A&S (16 yrs and under).

Activities: Entertainers throughout the known world are invited to compete in a special competition voted on by the populace. Largess will be given to the best acts with the top three entertainers/groups competing for a grand prize basket. Classes, games, and Scribal tables will also be available to all those interested. See the Stargate website for more information.

Toys-for-Tots will also be collecting toys to be given during the holiday season. Bring an unwrapped toy and for each toy donated receive a ticket for the prize raffle.

Feast: Constantinople is a center of spice trade. Feast Stewards Lord Vaclav Namatko and Lord Kenny of Stargate are planning a feast to spice up your life! They will be mixing European, Greek, and Arabic dishes that explore the cultures of this diverse area. Feast is limited, please reserve early!!!! Site is Dry.

Site: Site opens at 10:00 am on Saturday and closes that evening at 10:00 pm.

Site fee: \$10; \$5 (age 5-12); No charge under 5 yrs; \$30 Family max.

Feast fee: \$8; \$5 age 5-12; No charge under 5 yrs Make checks payable to SCA Inc., Barony of Stargate. Pre-pay through ACCEPS. Non-members \$3 additional surcharge. No pets, expect service animals. Merchants welcome!

Directions:

Yule will be held at the Resurrection Metropolitan Church at 2025 W. 11th Street/Houston, Texas. Take I-10 (to Downtown) and exit T.C. Jester. Turn north on to T.C. Jester and turn left onto 11th street. Church is on 11th and T.C. Jester on the left (SW) corner. Map on Stargate website.

Event Steward:
Lady Annalies Pferdehirt
Linda Bratina
281-858-1449
lcai_lcai@yahoo.com

Feast Reservations:
Lady Christeina Lambrecht
Christy Lambright
stargateyule2005@yahoo.com

Stargate Website:
<http://stargate.ansteorra.org/index.shtml>

Herb of the Month

Rosemary

History

Rosemary's recorded history goes back to the 5th millennium B.C. Dioscorides, in Greece in the 1st century, recommended it for memory. There is a legend that Mary, fleeing to Egypt with the baby Jesus, laid her cloak on a white flowered rosemary bush. The bush changed its color to the blue of her cloak. (Nowadays, there are a few types of rosemary with white blossoms, but most bloom blue.) The Latin name, "Rosmarinus," means "dew of the sea". The herb was so highly regarded that history and modern times, too, abound with women named for it. It is associated with weddings and funerals. Anne of Cleves, Henry VIII's fourth wife, wore rosemary in her hair on her wedding day in 1540. Shakespeare's plays mention it several times. For example, in Hamlet, Ophelia says, "There's rosemary, that's for remembrance, pray you love, remember."

Uses

Today, rosemary is most commonly regarded as a culinary herb. Rosemary adds a delicious flavor to many dishes. Some modern herbalists recommend it for Alzheimer's prevention and treatment, and for general prevention of those disorders associated with aging, such as arthritis. For this purpose, steep ½ teaspoon of dried herb in ½ cup of hot water for about 1 minute. Strain it, add honey if you wish, and drink it up. I do not recommend taking more than once per day in this strength. Please be very careful of taking rosemary in strong doses or large quantities, especially if you are pregnant or might be pregnant. It is an emmenagogue and an abortifacient. (That is to say, it can bring on a tardy menstrual period, or cause a miscarriage.) It is possible to actually poison yourself with rosemary, but you have to take in a great deal of it. Amounts commonly used in cooking will not cause illness of any sort. On the contrary, it is quite good for the digestion.

Our ancestors used it for cooking, too, and to preserve meats, but also for many other purposes. Teachers bound wreaths of rosemary about their foreheads to help them remember. Rosemary under the pillow was believed to keep nightmares at bay. Rosemary burnt near the doors and windows of a home was thought to ward off plague. Rosemary flower tea was a cure for bad breath, and also for sadness. Gifts of rosemary were popular between friends and lovers, and rosemary was widely regarded as signifying remembrance.

Appearance

Rosemary is very attractive plant in appearance and fragrance. It looks rather like a small evergreen bush, with leaves resembling tiny, slightly fat pine needles. When bruised, crushed, or heated, the leaves give off a wonderful scent. The flowers are small and (usually) blue, appearing in Spring here in Houston. The bees and butterflies love to visit the flowers in my yard, although none of my books list rosemary as a host or nectar plant.

Rosemary bushes can be shaped as they grow. Popular shapes I have seen locally resemble Christmas trees, or single or double spheres on a central trunk. Left to itself, it grows up to 3 feet tall in my experience. Some types want to sprawl more, and some types seem to want to grow more upright. The leaves of both sorts are good to cook with.

Culture

Rosemary is very easy to grow in our warm climate, and it is winter hardy here. Plant it in a protected place, and work a few crushed eggshells into the soil around it. Your rosemary plant will be very happy, and will provide fragrant leaves and flowers year after year. Be careful not to over water. Planting it in with roses works well in my garden.

You can grow it from seeds, and October is a good time to start them. You can pin an existing branch of rosemary to the ground and cover it with a little sandy soil. It will soon develop roots on the buried part of the stem, and you can detach that bit and plant it elsewhere. Rosemary plants are easy to find, however, in the herb areas of the many plant stores here.

My use and experience

In my home, rosemary is a common flavor in the kitchen. I put a few sprigs of fresh rosemary between the skin and the flesh of chicken before I put the chicken on the rotisserie. Rosemary bread is excellent with an Italian dinner, and the leftover bread makes really yummy garlic bread for later. I put ½ teaspoon of oil of rosemary in my shampoo and shake it up each time before I use it. When I store seasonal linens I often fold fresh rosemary in a scrap of fabric and tuck it in. Rosemary repels some insects, including moths. Here is my recipe for rosemary bread.

1 teaspoon garlic
1 Tablespoon fresh rosemary leaves, chopped coarsely
1/3 cup of olive oil, plus a little for the top of the dough when rising
1 cup warm water (about 110 degrees F)
2 packages yeast
1 teaspoon sugar
½ teaspoon salt
6 – 8 cups flour

Sautee rosemary and garlic in the butter until rosemary turns a little brown – about 3- 5 minutes. Set aside. Dissolve yeast and sugar in warm water with 1 cup of the flour. Set aside for 30 minutes to proof the yeast. Add the butter mixture and salt. Then add the remaining flour, 1 cup at a time, stirring between additions. When the dough forms a ball and leaves the sides of the bowl, set it out on a floured surface. Knead and add flour until the dough is smooth and elastic. This will take about 10 minutes of kneading. Place the dough in a bowl, oil the top surface with olive oil. Set the dough aside to rise until doubled, about 45 minutes. Punch down, shape into loaves, and set aside for the second rising. This should take about 30 to 45 minutes. Bake at 350 F until loaf is brown on top and sounds hollow when tapped. If you feel that the top is browning too fast, cover loosely with foil. The bread should be done in about 45 minutes at that temp. Remove from pans, and **cool before slicing**. I know that the smell is wonderful, and it is so tempting to eat a slice immediately, but if you do break the crust of the loaf before it cools, your loaf may be doughy in the middle. It is far better to let it cool on a cooling rack for about 1 hour before slicing.

Enjoy!

Lissa

Sources:

<http://www.emmitsburg.net/gardens/articles/adams/2001/rosemary.htm>

<http://education.yahoo.com/search/os?p=rosemary>

<http://englishhistory.net/tudor/monarchs/cleves.html>



The populace of The Shire of Gate's Edge
invites you to attend

Harvest Faire

October 8th

Champions will be selected for
Armored Combat, Rapier Combat
Target Archery, Thrown Weapons,
and Bardic Arts, and Arts and
Science as well as an overall Champion
Please come and join us in our celebration.

Harvest Faire

October 7-9, 2005

The Shire of Gate's Edge will be hosting our annual Faire to find Champions for the Shire.

Champions will be chosen for the following endeavors:

Archery Arts & Sciences Armored Combat
Bardic Arts Thrown Weapons Rapier Combat

An overall Faire Champion will also be chosen. The Faire Champion will be chosen from those participants who enter at least 4 of the individual competitions.

Lord Carluccio di Baia promises a delicious Italian style feast. Feast is limited so reservations are encouraged. Please contact the Feast Steward for reservations or if you have special food requirements.

Site fee is \$8 for adults, children 5 and under are free, ages 12 and under are half price.

There is a family maximum of \$24 for site fees. Feast fee is \$6. Make Checks Payable to SCA Inc. / Shire of Gates Edge. Minors must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. They may also attend with a 21 year or older adult with a signed and notarized Minor Even Waiver Form from the parents. Site opens 5PM Fri. and closes 1PM Sun.

Our site is again beautiful Camp Camwood, a Girl Scout camp at the corner of Magnolia and Clear Creek roads in the rural Magnolia/Hockley area. Beer and Wine in period containers only. Pets are NOT allowed, service animals only.

Directions: See <http://gatesedge.ansteorra.org> for maps and more detailed directions. From Tomball take FM2920 west approx 8 miles to Roberts Cemetery Road. Turn Right on the Roberts Cemetery and go 3 miles to the STOP sign. Turn Left on Magnolia/Nichols Sawmill road and go 1.5 miles to entrance on Right.

Event Steward
HL Eadric Anstapa
mka Scott Mills
eadric@scabrewer.com
281-356-5220

Feast Steward
Lord Carluccio di Baia
mka Chad Sweeten
Carluccio@hotmail.com
281-259-2430

Stargate Officers

Baron and Baroness

Their Excellencies
Master Ihon Vinson MacFergus
&
HL Isabeau Quiquandon
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Exchequer

Accepting applications

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Castellan

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Lord Thomas Attewoode
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Waterbearer

Open - accepting applications

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Chirurgeon

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Linda Bratina
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(832) 524-4444 (cell)
scarhart@chivalry.com

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Youth Rapier Marshal

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Joan Johnson
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DogDogCat@aol.com

Equestrian Marshal

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