

# The Black Star

February 2026



The official newsletter for and by the Kingdom of Ansteorra  
Volume 64, Issue 8 Anno Societatis LX

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## The Black Star

### Volume 64 Issue 8

This is the February 2026 issue of the Black Star, the official newsletter of the Kingdom of Ansteorra. Ansteorra is a branch of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., and the Black Star is published as a service to the SCA's membership. Subscriptions are available only to members. This newsletter is available online at <http://newsletter.sca.org/> for current Sustaining, Family, and International members. Memberships are available from the Member Services Office, SCA, Inc., P.O. Box 611928 San Jose, CA 95161. All changes of address or questions about subscriptions should be sent to the Corporate Office.

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## Publication Policies

Send submissions to the Kingdom Chronicler (see Regnum). All submissions IN THEIR ENTIRETY must be in the Kingdom Chronicler's possession no later than the first of the month prior to the cover date (e.g. January 1 for the February issue). This includes e-mail and hardcopy submissions. Should the first fall on a Sunday or holiday, the deadline for hardcopy will be moved to the next business day; e-mail submissions will be due no later than the 1st regardless.

If you are going to be late, you must inform the Chronicler before the first of the month so that space may be reserved. Anything arriving after the first is subject to refusal and has no guarantee of being published.

Submissions shall consist of a [1] an electronic copy, [2] an event announcement checklist which has been signed off on by the Seneschal of your group, and [3] a release form for any artwork (including maps) in the submission. If your submission is missing any of the previous items it will potentially not be published if not resolved by midnight on the first.

PDF is the preferred file format for submissions. Any other format MUST be discussed with the Kingdom Chronicler for acceptability.

Ads, releases and checklists should be sent in electronic form via e-mail to [kingdom@chronicler.ansteorra.org](mailto:kingdom@chronicler.ansteorra.org). Please see: <http://chronicler.ansteorra.org/> for detailed information on submissions.

The Kingdom Chronicler reserves the rights to redraw any map, retype any submission, or remove any borders to improve the printability of any item. All maps must be the original creation of the submitting party. No reproductions of printed or electronic maps will be accepted without a signed release. The Black Star reserves the right to refuse any item not suitable for publication.

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## Artwork Thanks and Credits

Cover Photo by Robert J. Gallon

Page 9 photos by Liz Fowler, Gulf Wars 33

Page 10-11 photos by Robert J. Gallon, Winter Crown Tourney

Page 12 Cisco Cividanes by Robert J. Gallon, Winter Crown Tourney

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# Reports from the Realm



## Stellar Majesties

Loyal Companions of Ansteorra,

Though winter still holds the land in its grasp, February brings with it the promise of returning light and renewed purpose. In this season of reflection and resolve, we are reminded that Ansteorra's greatest strength lies in the dedication of its people—those who labor, learn, and train even in the coldest days.

We look forward to joining you at Bryn Gwlad Candlemas, where tradition and fellowship kindle warmth against the winter chill. At the Laurels Prize Courney, we will witness excellence in the arts and sciences, celebrating the mastery, generosity, and passion that enrich our kingdom beyond measure. We will then take to the field at the Battle of the Pines, where courage, preparation, and unity are tested, and where our warriors stand ready in defense of the Dream.

As the days slowly lengthen, may we all take heart in the knowledge that each gathering—whether in hall or on field—strengthens the bonds that carry us toward spring. We are grateful for your continued service, your perseverance, and your steadfast love for Ansteorra.

With confidence in the season ahead,  
Creppin and Cristyana  
King and Queen of Ansteorra



## Stellar Highnesses

From the Prince and Princess of Ansteorra  
To the beloved populace of Ansteorra,

We take up the Coronet with gratitude, humility, and great joy, and we thank you for the trust you have placed in us. This Kingdom has shaped us through its people — through courage shown upon the field, beauty wrought by skilled hands, wisdom shared in teaching, and service freely given.

Ansteorra is strong because its people care deeply, strive boldly, and lift one another higher. It is our earnest hope that all feel welcomed, valued, and inspired to pursue their passions, whether martial, artistic, scholarly, or service-driven.

Walk with us in this time of shared purpose. Together, let us honor our traditions, celebrate one another's achievements, and continue to build a Kingdom worthy of its people.

In service to Crown and Kingdom,  
John Drake and Vittoria Maggiore  
Prince and Princess of Ansteorra



## Kingdom Seneschal

Greetings Ansteorra!!

Gulf War preparations should be in full swing now and I know we are all excited to be there and having a great time! Volunteering is a great way to support your Kingdom.

We are also looking forward to a busy event schedule. That being said, please consider getting your event bids submitted early. There are Kingdom Bids open as well. Please consider applying for an office, if you are interested in an office, but need more information, please feel free to reach out to my office and I can at least get you with someone that has all the information you could



ever want.

YIS

Beatrix Alfray (LKA Laura Meissner)

Regional Vice President/Seneschal of Ansteorra

kingdom@seneschal.ansteorra.org



## Kingdom Exchequer

Greetings Ansteorra,

In the office of the Exchequer things are heating up. Every groups' end of year report (meaning for bank periods of December 2025) should have been turned on by January 31st to their regionals and to Domesday so our compiled report can be completed by the end of March and submitted. Any group found to be submitting a late report and causing Domesday to be late submitting may be subject to penalties from Society. Let's avoid this.

Various changes and updates from Society are ongoing, so please make sure to reach out to your upline if you have any questions.

Look forward to seeing you all at Gulf Wars!

In Service of The Dream,  
HL Gwenfrewi ferch Llewellyn  
mka Patricia Flynn  
Chancellor of the Exchequer  
Kingdom of Ansteorra  
817.455.0757



## Star Principal Herald

Greetings Stellar Kingdom of Ansteorra, and Principality of Vindheim.

"In the depth of winter, I finally learned that there was in me an invincible summer."

— Albert Camus

Heralds are working hard doing all the things!

The Cressure Herald (Education Lead for the College) is doing educational followups with Heralds in tenure by a year or more to make sure they are being supported and their educational needs are being met. So don't be

alarmed if he contacts you :)

Cressure is also handling the onboarding process for New Heralds.

Kingdom-wide, Heralds and Scribes attended the Winter Round Table, its always a Joy to see all the Heralds attend !

Excellent News from the Kingdom !!

We have a New Asterisk, welcome Izumo no Suou Go-i as the New Internal submissions herald

We also have a New Arbalest, welcome Ashina Nobusada Daimyo.

New Callisto Pursuivant for Bjornborg - welcome Armiger James Dunnoson

I know these talented Heralds will do extremely well in their new positions ! Huzzah !

We are taking applications for the following offices !

Bryn Gwlad - Halberd Pursuivant  
Wiesenfeuer - Candelaio Pursuivant

Be good to each other, and please be good to yourselves, we are better with YOU Here!

Much Love my friends!!  
Keep Rocking The Sable Star!  
H frú Sigrun Sveinungsdóttir í Biarká  
She/Her/They  
Star Principal Herald



## Kingdom DEIB

In the Spirit of Ansteorran Chivalry

In Ansteorra, we live the Dream through \*\*honor, courtesy, and service\*\* — and that means welcoming all who seek to join our ranks.

\*\*Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB)\*\* are not modern notions but reflections of true chivalry: fairness, respect, and the strength found in many voices. Every act of kindness — a word of welcome, a loaned tunic, a listening ear — helps our Kingdom shine brighter. Let us ensure that every gentle, new or seasoned, finds belonging beneath Ansteorra's banner.

Let's commit together to making our society a place where

**\*\*anyone who loves medieval reenactment\*\*** can find their place, feel welcome, contribute and thrive. Let's build a culture not only of spectacle and craft but of kindness, openness and shared purpose.

If you're reading this: reflect on your role. Do you know someone who hasn't felt welcome? Could you invite a newcomer, or offer mentorship, or encourage someone whose voice hasn't been heard? Let's each do one thing this season to make inclusion real.

Together we can honour the past **\*\*and\*\*** build a future in which our society is richer, stronger and more vibrant because of its diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging.

~~~

The DEIB Office is currently looking for a Central Regional Officer, and a Southern Regional Deputy. They are not difficult jobs, I promise. If you are interested in either, please feel free to contact me at [Diversity@Seneschal.Ansteorra.org](mailto:Diversity@Seneschal.Ansteorra.org), or on Facebook at Sorch McCullough and we'll discuss what goes into the job.

~~~

Let us remember that **\*\*honor is not only won on the field\*\***, but in how we treat one another — with fairness, compassion, and an open heart.

Together, we can ensure that the Dream of Ansteorra is one where every gentle may find a home, a purpose, and a place at the feast.

In Service, I remain, Mistress Sorch McCullough, OP  
DEIB Officer, Kingdom of Ansteorra



Greetings to all!

## Kingdom Earl Marshal

Welcome to 2026! Our martial community remains strong through all corners of the Kingdom and Principality.

Our marshals are here to answer questions and provide support in your pursuit of martial activities. In doing so, please ensure that you are staying up to date with the

new society rules at <http://marshal.sca.org/>.

In service,

Absolon, Ansteorra Earl Marshal



## Kingdom Chronicler

Greetings unto Ansteorra,

I would like to thank all Local and regional Chroniclers for their continued hard work.

There are currently several open deputy positions in the Chronicler department.

Chronicler of Graywood

Chronicler of Loch Soilleir

Central Regional Chronicler

If you are interested in applying for any of these positions you can apply at:

<https://ansteorra.org/seneschal/apply-for-an-office/>

If you have any questions about these positions feel free to reach out to me.

YIS,

Estienne de Bretagne

Chronicler, Ansteorra



Greetings!

My thanks to Ashina Nobusada, Ashildr inn

Hárfagri, Alden Drake, and Coryn

Sevenstitches for their court reports.

## Zodiacus Herald

YIS

Magistra Estrill Swet

Zodiacus Herald

OLD BUSINESS

Paniko of Piraeus – 2025-11-21

Sable Chistle (Kumihimo)

Skjoldulfr Hildibjarnarson – 2024-12-14

Wellspring of Vindheim

# War of the Rams (Bordermarch) (11/22/2025)

Dominique Michelle le Royal Middle Eastern Vasseur Dance Co-Champion  
 Henryk Hagrímsson Rising Star  
 Coryn Sevenstitches Royal Middle Eastern Dance Co-Champion

# Wiesenfeuer Yule (12/06/2025)

Ashina Nobusada Sable Talon (Rapier combat)  
 Astrid Flokadottir Goutte de Vin of Vindheim  
 Aurora of Wiesenfeuer Sable Talon (Target Archery)  
 Deidre of Wiesenfeuer Rising Star  
 Elric Dracwine Pillar of Vindheim  
 Etienett de Bitch Sable Crane  
 Isaac Bane Pillar of Vindheim  
 Ivo Blackhawk Lanternarius  
 Magnús Skógr Sable Chistle (Brewing)  
 Milokhna della Riga Sinople Warhorse (Fiber arts)  
 Sainte du Bois Sinople Warhorse (Culinary Arts)  
 Yzabeau Brossier Wellspring of Vindheim

# Stargate Yule Camp: Investiture (12/06/2025)

Agnès de Moucheron Sable Chistle (Silk Production)  
 Alden Drake Court Barony  
 Biatrichi Canzoniere Sodality o/t Sentinels  
 Ceara inghean mhic an Court Barony  
 Ghabhann

Etienne de Montagu

Sentinels

Etienne de Montagu Iris of Merit

Henri Lefavbre Award of Arms

Ingrid Björnsdóttir

Katrina of Coventry

Lif in glacia

Margot de la Marche

Nicollet Deuville

Padraic of Kilkenny

Rafael fernando Montes de Castillo

# Winter Crown Tournament (Namron) (12/13/2025)

Adalia VonderBerg

Belinda of Bryn Gwlad

Hauar Ericsson

John Drake

Jonathan of York

Katelyn Hurst

Kobayashi no Hotaru

Lilly Hurst

Vittoria Maggiore

Yzabeau Brossier

fini

Sodality o/t

Kings Archer

Sodality o/t Sentinels

Sable Chistle (Embroidery)

Iris of Merit

Barony in Fief (Stargate)

Barony in Fief (Stargate)

Centurions o/t Sable Star

Sable Chistle (Sprang)

Award of Arms

Sable Flur

Prince of Ansteorra

Arc d'Or

Lyra Aurea (Waterbearing)

Kings Blade of Chivalry

Rising Star

Princess of Ansteorra

Laurel

# Gulf Wars XXXIV

## March 14-22, 2026

King's Arrow Ranch  
 39 Kings Hwy, Lumberton, MS 39455

### A WAR WITH NO ENEMIES

Find online registration, schedules, and information on attending and participating at:  
[www.gulfwars.org](http://www.gulfwars.org)

**PRE-REGISTRATION  
WILL CLOSE  
11:59pm CST FEB 27,  
2026**

**Event Stewards:**  
 Mistress Magdalena de Segovia  
 Metressa Adalyde de Sardaigne  
 Master Cormac the Bald  
[autocrats@gulfwars.org](mailto:autocrats@gulfwars.org)

| Arrival Dates and Rates   | Sat-Sun<br>03/14-03/15 | Mon-Tues<br>03/16-03/17 | Wed-Thurs<br>03/18-03/19 | Fri-Sat<br>03/20-03/21 |
|---------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Pre-Registered Member     | \$130                  | \$115                   | \$100                    | \$60                   |
| At the Door Member        | \$135                  | \$120                   | \$105                    | \$65                   |
| CHILDREN 17 AND UNDER     | Free                   | Free                    | Free                     | Free                   |
| Pre-Registered Non-Member | \$140                  | \$125                   | \$110                    | \$70                   |
| At the Door Non-Member    | \$145                  | \$130                   | \$115                    | \$75                   |

Site opens at 1:00pm on Sat, March 14th and closes at 12:00pm Sun, March 22nd. Reservations will not be processed without payment. To receive member pricing, your membership must be valid at the start of the event. Cash and PayPal will be the only forms of payment accepted at the door. There is no separate pricing for day trips. Transfer of reservations is prohibited. For any questions or issues regarding registration for the event, please contact the Reservationist, Baroness Marcel Orillion [reservations@gulfwars.org](mailto:reservations@gulfwars.org)





LOCHSOILLEIRPRESENTS



# LAURELS' PRIZE TOURNEY

14 FEBRUARY 2026

REGISTRATION: \$30  
MEMBER DISCOUNT: \$20

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE  
TO: SCA INC. BARONY OF  
LOCHSOILLEIR

SIDEBOARD LUNCH  
TACO BAR

MINORS MUST BE  
ACCOMPANIED BY A  
PARENT OR LEGAL  
GUARDIAN. THEY MAY  
ALSO ATTEND WITH A 21-  
YEAR-OLD OR OLDER  
ADULT WITH A SIGNED  
AND NOTARIZED MINOR  
EVENT WAIVER FROM THE  
PARENTS."

DRY SITE,  
ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE  
MADE FOR BREWING  
ENTRIES. CONTACT THE  
STEWARDS

SERVICE ANIMALS  
ONLY

GATE OPEN 8:00 AM  
SITE CLOSES 8:00 PM

CLEAR LAKE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
1511 ELDORADO BLVD  
HOUSTON, TX 77062

DUCHESSA EREID  
SIGMUNDSDOTTIR  
NANETTE LEE  
LOCH.LEE52@GMAIL.COM  
832-567-9557

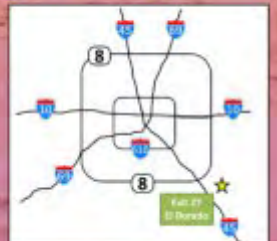
DROTTINKOLLI  
OXNAMEGIN  
SARAH DEARMOND  
KOLLI.OXNAMEGIN@GMAIL.COM  
713-854-9579

KURIOS PANIKO  
OF PIRAEUS  
KRISTOPHER PRODOEHL  
PANIKO.OF.LOCH.SOILLEIR@GMAIL.COM  
281-373-5032

DIRECTIONS:  
MAKE YOUR BEST WAY TO I-45,  
HEADING TOWARD CLEAR LAKE  
TAKE EXIT 27 - ELDORADO

TRAVEL EAST ON ELDORADO FROM I-45  
FOR ABOUT 2.5 MILES  
SITE WILL BE ON THE LEFT

TURN LEFT ON BOW SPIRIT,  
THEN LEFT INTO THE PARKING LOT



# Wordsearch

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| D | H | A | I | L | E | N | S | E | G | E | R | Q | S |
| L | S | B | P | E | H | E | R | D | B | E | B | G | S |
| O | Q | U | G | R | S | L | R | B | E | L | G | S | O |
| H | S | N | N | U | K | K | N | P | O | N | A | Q | B |
| E | S | R | G | A | L | O | K | U | N | O | S | S | L |
| S | E | O | N | L | B | F | C | U | L | R | A | U | C |
| U | U | A | E | L | S | S | W | A | H | A | N | S | S |
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| S | E | B | L | A | R | G | E | S | S | E | G | S | U |
| R | D | G | Q | G | G | S | D | L | I | U | G | H | E |
| H | E | U | D | L | E | I | N | U | K | I | N | G | T |

NOBLE  
GULFWARS  
LARGESSE  
LAUREL  
SABLE  
KING  
HOUSEHOLD  
BARON  
QUEEN  
GUILD  
PEER  
CASTLE  
KNIGHT

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/9350201/>

















# Wordsearch

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
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NOBLE  
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|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
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# Directory

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All Officers: No Calls after 9PM Central Unless Otherwise Specified

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Principality Chatelaine - Soledad de Osuna (Rachel Breaux) •

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NMR Deputy - Hennessey O'Donoghue (Jennifer Halter) • Send  
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Asterisk (Submission Internal) - Mongo Checheg • 512-900-1622 •  
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Rowel (Submissions Commentary) - Jessimond of Emerickeskepe

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 LGBTQIA+ Cultural Studies Deputy - Devin Phelan ODonnabhain  
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 Bjornsborg, Barony of - (San Antonio, TX) - Southern  
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 Baron: Ivarr runamagi (Michael Scofield) • 210-601-9185  
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 • baroness@bjornsborg.ansteorra.org  
 Bonwicke, Barony of - (Lubbock/San Angelo, TX) - Central  
 Seneschal: Khadija al-Tashjani Richard Garin (Brandon Morris)  
 • (325)728-0332  
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 Baroness: Beatrix Funteyn (Sarah Fountain) • 402-617-4313  
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 Bryn Gwlad, Barony of - (Austin, TX) - Southern  
 Seneschal: Eulalia Leticia Falcona Zubia y Zamarron/Escarlata de  
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 Baron: Orazio d'Assisi (Richard Fink) • 210-391-6247  
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 Baroness: Kolfinna inn kyrra Ottarsdottir (Kira Langsjoen)  
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 Chemin Noir, Canton of (Northkeep) - (Bartlesville, OK) - Vind  
 Seneschal: Kuroi Akimori (Cattibrie Endsley) • 918-350-4604  
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 Eldern Hills, Barony of - (Lawton/Fort Sill, OK) - Vindheim  
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 Baron: Abe no Saburo Sadasuke (Ryan Shady) • 580-647-6620  
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 Baroness: Abe no Murasaki (Rachel Shady) • 580-284-9660 •  
 Baroness@eldern-hills.ansteorra.org  
 Elfsea, Barony of - (Fort Worth, Arlington, TX) - Central  
 Seneschal: Gwenllyan verch Milkin (Elisaba Fowler) •  
 817-690-3503 • seneschal@elfsea.ansteorra.org  
 Baron: Absolon of Hereford (Steven-David Schubert)  
 817-937-6757 • Baron@elfsea.ansteorra.org

Baroness: Silvana Corwin (Rachel Schubert) • 904-318-5297  
 • baroness@elfsea.ansteorra.org  
 ffynnon Gath, Shire of - (San Marcos, TX) - Southern  
 Seneschal: Dae Knarrarbringa inn Bareyska (Courtney Waltman)  
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 Glaslyn, Canton of (Steppes) - (Denton, TX) - Central  
 Seneschal: Hakon the Blacksmith •  
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 Seneschal: Alfred Bjornson (Mike B.) • 720 452 2613 •  
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 Seneschal: Aldonza Gonzalez Escajeda (Lindsey Pickard) • 281-615-  
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 Seneschal: Lorence Castellon (Jacob Bon) • 281-967-6611  
 seneschal@loch-soilleir.ansteorra.org  
 Baron: Brian O'hUilliam (Brandyn M. Butler) • 713-854-9579  
 Baron@loch-soilleir.ansteorra.org  
 Baroness: Elena Wyth (Rachel Little)  
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 Seneschal: Rafe Slater (Carl Slater) •  
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 Baroness: Isabella Coppola (Myliissa Minyard) • 580-504-4919  
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 Northkeep, Barony of - (Culsa, OK) - Vindheim  
 Seneschal: Hari Kjelsen (Matt O'Connor) • 539-593-2088  
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 baron@northkeep.ansteorra.org  
 Baroness: Adalia voldem Berg (Emily Gurnee) • 918-699-9553 •  
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 Seneschal: Chrystal Ariana MacRuairi (Roberta J Allen) • (936) 581-  
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 seneschal@ravens-fort.ansteorra.org  
 Baron: Jean-Michel de Meaux (Jeremy Meaux) • 936-355-1851  
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 Baroness: Marie de Meaux (Mary Meaux) • 936-649-2350 •  
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 Rosenfeld, Shire of - (Tyler, TX) - Central  
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 Seawinds, Shire of - (Corpus Christi, TX) - Southern  
 Seneschal: Anna Elise Klann (Rada Radebaugh) • 361-533-2605  
 seneschal@seawinds.ansteorra.org  
 Shadowlands, Shire of the - (Bryan/College Station, TX) - South.  
 Seneschal: Throstr Alfkræsson (Weston Kennedy) • 713-899-4993  
 seneschal@shadowlands.ansteorra.org  
 Skorragearr, Canton of (Namron) - (Shawnee, OK) - Vindheim  
 Seneschal: Wilhelm von Buch (William Meissner) •  
 405-606-5835 • seneschal@skorragearr.ansteorra.org  
 Stargate, Barony of - (Houston, TX) - Southern  
 Seneschal: Rafael fernando Montes del Castillo (Daniel Rios) •  
 915-731- 8114 • seneschal@stargate.ansteorra.org  
 Baron: Padraic of Kilkenny (Patrick Breslin)  
 • 281-734-7033 • bandb@stargate.ansteorra.org  
 Baroness: Nicollet Deuville (Bridgit White)  
 713-263-7889 • bandb@stargate.ansteorra.org  
 Steppes, Barony of - (Dallas, TX) - Central  
 Seneschal: Antigone York (L. Ford) • 642-300-4947 •  
 seneschal@steppes.ansteorra.org  
 Baron: Sean Tabor • 214-930-4988 • Baron@steppes.ansteorra.org  
 Baroness: Esmeralda Malaspina (Nancy Lorenzen) •  
 972-741-9283 • Baroness@steppes.ansteorra.org  
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 Seneschal: Caterina Cavalieri (Karen Cutter) • 918-458-5323 •



## Kingdom Calendar



### February 2026

07.....Bryn Gwlad Candlemas  
14.....Laurel's Prize Courney  
21.....Battle of the Pines  
27-01.....BjornsBorg Spring Event

### March 2026

14-22.....Out of Kingdom - Gulf Wars XXXIV  
27-29.....HellsGate - Commanders Crucible

### April 2026

03-05.....ElfSea Defender  
11.....Coronation  
17-19.....Stargate Baronial  
17-19.....Wiesenfeuer Baronial  
24-26.....Through the Eyes of Ravens  
24-26.....Glaslyn Defender of the flame  
24-26.....Beltane

This is the official complete Calendar of Events for the Kingdom of Ansteorra as of February 10th, 2026. Only those events listed above, whose times and locations have been published in this newsletter, may be the site of activities where actions of long-term significance may take place. Other events of local or limited interest are published in both this publication and official branch newsletters. For changes or deletions, please contact the Deputy Kingdom Seneschal for Calendar Requests (see Directory Officer listings).

Board of Directors  
Quarterly Meetings 2026

January 25, 2026  
April 25, 2026 - Hybrid - Location CBH  
July 19, 2026  
October 17, 2026 - Hybrid - Location CBH