



SILENT HERALD'S NEWSLETTER

November 2021

Unto the Royals, Principal and Silent Heralds, and the DEI Officers of the Known World does Maestra Suzanne de la Ferté, Society Silent Herald Deputy send Greetings!

My EYE is my EAR. My HAND is my MOUTH
Through my HANDS flow the WORDS of the CROWN.

A Point to Ponder

How does your Kingdom handle proficiency requirements for signing in Court?

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This is the May 2021 issue of the Sign Heraldry Newsletter, the official newsletter of the Society Sign Herald Deputy to Laurel Queen of Arms.

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Monthly Meetings – US & Canada

I will be establishing monthly Zoom meetings for the Kingdom Silent Heralds and/or Kingdom Principal Heralds of the US and Canada on the last Sunday of each month at 9:00pm Eastern starting on Sunday, November 28, 2021. Other interested parties (Royalty, DEI officers, and other Silent Heralds) are welcome to join.

Join Monthly Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89078974293?pwd=VTdBeWxGWUk1TkNWREthM2x3Y2ZKZz09>

Meeting ID: 890 7897 4293

Passcode: 797585

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,89078974293#,,,,*797585# US (Washington DC)

+13126266799,,89078974293#,,,,*797585# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 890 7897 4293 Passcode: 797585

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89078974293?pwd=VTdBeWxGWUk1TkNWREthM2x3Y2ZKZz09>

Quarterly Meetings – Other than US & Canada

I will be establishing quarterly Zoom meetings for the Kingdom Silent Heralds and/or Kingdom Principal Heralds who reside other than the US or Canada on the last Saturday of each quarter at 9:00am Eastern starting on Saturday, March 26, 2022. Other interested parties (Royalty, DEI officers, and other Silent Heralds) are welcome to join.

Join Quarterly Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87533199589?pwd=OHVNdVc1WEInbUtjOG5yVGI2cWU0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 875 3319 9589

Passcode: 509077

Dial by your location

Meeting ID: 875 3319 9589

Passcode: 509077

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87533199589?pwd=OHVNdVc1WEInbUtjOG5yVGI2cWU0Zz09>



Why I Chose to be a Silent Herald by Tegan de Moreton, OP

The SCA has been a part of me for over half of my life. My husband and I have been members of the SCA for over twenty-eight years. We had an SCA wedding. We have two children who have been raised in the SCA. We have moved several times and lived in several different baronies and two different kingdoms. Each time we moved we knew we would have support wherever we went because we had this community, the SCA, as a shared experience with people who are our friends as soon as we meet them. This sense of community is why I have chosen to become a Silent Herald.

I have known about Silent Heralds since the first meeting I went to at Pennsic 23 when some signs were being developed and shared. I remember the meeting was a mix of Deaf and hearing people. Back then I was interested in sign language but not focused on learning a new language. I did teach my children the alphabet and some basic signs. This was back before “baby signs” was a trendy thing to do. Although I am hearing, I have always appreciated when there have been Silent Heralds in court because I could follow along and understand more about what was going on in court even if I couldn’t always hear what was being said. I can only imagine how much it may support someone who is Deaf or Hard of hearing.

Fast forward to today. I have recently begun the path to becoming an American Sign Language (ASL) interpreter. That is what I am doing in the modern world. I truly enjoy learning languages and I love ASL. As a student we are encouraged to reach out to people who have ASL as their native language and to learn as much as we can, not just about how to sign, but also about the culture of the people who use ASL as their primary language.

The interactions that I have had with the Deaf community have been wonderful. Everyone I have met so far has been encouraging. The way that I have been treated by the Deaf community reminds me so much of when I first joined the SCA. Everyone is interested in sharing their experiences and helping me to learn about their culture. I am taking a Deaf Culture class this semester, but it doesn’t compare to learning about the Deaf community from people within that world. I have also learned that while the Deaf community is open and welcoming of me, my community is not as welcoming. I would love to be a part of changing that.

As a future interpreter I am learning to embrace this culture so that I can be the communication bridge between these two communities. As a Silent Herald I hope to be an ambassador, a kind of chatelaine, for the SCA to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community. I believe that by being seen signing, by encouraging others to learn ASL and expanding that I am creating a place within the SCA that will be welcoming and allow me to have this shared experience of the SCA with friends who are my friends, both hearing and Deaf/Hard of hearing, as soon as I meet them.

That, my friends, is why I have chosen to become a Silent Herald.

Proficiency Levels for Signing in Court

I’d like to open a discussion about proficiency levels for those who sign in court.

Several instances of folks signing for Court who have less than basic knowledge of sign language and/or are making up signs instead of using standard ASL or the SCA signs that are located on the Society Sign Herald web page.



I strongly suggest that the Kingdoms adopt a system for Silent/Sign Heralds that includes proficiency levels. A possible set of levels could be:

Basic I

- Knows the basic 25 signs for Court
- Still at the “toddler speak” level of signing

Basic II

- Consistently understands/conveys information with context/concepts, not just “vocabulary words”.

Intermediate

- Advanced vocabulary
- Signs closer to what is actually being said (regular speech vs baby talk)
- Knowledge of Deaf Culture

Intermediate II

- Signs 80%-90% of what is being said.
- Comfortable with sign language.
- Understands colloquial signs.
- Can process signs for new words without a significant pause in signing.
- Utilizes facial expressions and body language to convey tone of voice / emotions.

Advanced

- Certified Interpreter or Experienced Signer (CODA, for example)
- Doesn't need to think about the signs - “In the ears out the hands”

We also need some way for the populace to identify the proficiency level of a signer so they know what to expect.

Contact Information

Kingdom	Title	Website	Email Address
Society	President	https://www.sca.org/about/officers/	president@sca.org
Society	DEI Officer	https://www.sca.org/about/officers/	equity@sca.org
Society	Laurel Queen of Arms	http://heraldry.sca.org/lists.html	laurel@heraldry.sca.org
Society	Sign Herald	http://heraldry.sca.org/lists.html	signherald@heraldry.sca.org
Aethelmearc	King	https://trm.aethelmearc.org/contact.html	ae.king@aethelmearc.org
Aethelmearc	Queen	https://trm.aethelmearc.org/contact.html	ae.queen@aethelmearc.org
Aethelmearc	Principal Herald Silver Buccle Herald	http://aethelmearc.org/officers/herald/	ae.herald@aethelmearc.org
Aethelmearc	Silent Herald Deputy Silver Sycamore Herald	http://aethelmearc.org/officers/herald/	ae.silenthald@aethelmearc.org
Aethelmearc	Seneschal	http://aethelmearc.org/officers/seneschal/	seneschal@aethelmearc.org
Aethelmearc	DEI Deputy	http://aethelmearc.org/officers/seneschal/	ae.dei@aethelmearc.org
An Tir	King	https://antir.org/our-people/royalty/	crown@antir.org
An Tir	Queen	https://antir.org/our-people/royalty/	crown@antir.org
An Tir	Principal Herald Black Lion Herald	https://antir.org/offices/black-lion-principal-herald/	blacklion@antir.org
An Tir	Silent Herald Deputy Jambe de Lion Herald	https://antir.org/offices/black-lion-principal-herald/jambe-de-lion-herald/	jambedelion@antir.org
An Tir	Seneschal	https://antir.org/offices/kingdom-seneschal/	seneschal@antir.org



Kingdom	Title	Website	Email Address
An Tir	EDI Deputy	https://antir.org/offices/kingdom-seneschal/equality-diversity-inclusion-deputy/	edi@antir.org
Ansteorra	King	https://ansteorra.org/crown/	crown@ansteorra.org
Ansteorra	Queen	https://ansteorra.org/crown/	crown@ansteorra.org
Ansteorra	Principal Herald Star Herald	http://heraldry.ansteorra.org/contacts.php	kingdom@herald.ansteorra.org
Ansteorra	Silent Herald Deputy	OPEN FOR APPLICATIONS http://heraldry.ansteorra.org/contacts.php	sign@herald.ansteorra.org
Ansteorra	Seneschal	https://ansteorra.org/seneschal/officers/	kingdom@seneschal.ansteorra.org
Ansteorra	DEI Deputy	https://ansteorra.org/seneschal/officers/	diversity@seneschal.ansteorra.org
Artemisia	King	https://www.artemisia.sca.org/royalty	crown@artemisia.org
Artemisia	Queen	https://www.artemisia.sca.org/royalty	crown@artemisia.org
Artemisia	Principal Herald Golden Wing Herald	https://www.artemisia.sca.org/office/golden-wing-principal-herald	principal-herald@artemisia.org
Artemisia	Silent Herald Deputy Golden Hand Herald	https://www.artemisia.sca.org/office/golden-hand-herald-silent-heraldry	golden-hand-herald@artemisia.org
Artemisia	Seneschal	https://www.artemisia.sca.org/office/kingdom-seneschal	seneschal@artemisia.org
Artemisia	DEI Deputy	https://www.artemisia.sca.org/office/diversity-equity-and-inclusion	dei@artemisia.org
Atenveldt	King	https://www.atenveldt.org/current-rulers/	crown@atenveldt.org
Atenveldt	Queen	https://www.atenveldt.org/current-rulers/	crown@atenveldt.org
Atenveldt	Principal Herald	https://www.atenveldt.org/officers/heralds/	herald@atenveldt.org
Atenveldt	Silent Herald Deputy	NO SUCH OFFICE	
Atenveldt	Seneschal	https://www.atenveldt.org/officers/seneschal/	seneschal@atenveldt.org
Atenveldt	DEI Deputy	https://www.atenveldt.org/officers/dei/	equity@sca.org
Atlantia	King	https://atlantia.sca.org/royalty/trm/contact-information	trm@atlantia.sca.org
Atlantia	Queen	https://atlantia.sca.org/royalty/trm/contact-information	trm@atlantia.sca.org
Atlantia	Principal Herald Triton Herald	https://atlantia.sca.org/offices/officers/regnum	triton@atlantia.sca.org
Atlantia	Silent Herald Deputy Alcyon Herald	http://herald.atlantia.sca.org/roster-alpha.php	avaszu@gmail.com
Atlantia	Seneschal	https://atlantia.sca.org/offices/officers/regnum	seneschal@atlantia.sca.org
Atlantia	DEI Deputy	https://atlantia.sca.org/officers/seneschal/diversity-equity-and-inclusion-dei/	dei@seneschal.atlantia.sca.org
Avacal	King	http://www.avacal.org/royalty/SitePages/Home.aspx	king@avacal.org
Avacal	Queen	http://www.avacal.org/royalty/SitePages/Home.aspx	queen@avacal.org
Avacal	Principal Herald Sanguinaris Herald	http://heraldry.avacal.org/roster.html	herald@avacal.org
Avacal	Silent Herald Deputy	OPEN FOR APPLICATIONS http://heraldry.avacal.org/roster.html	
Avacal	Seneschal	http://www.avacal.org/seneschal/SitePages/Home.aspx	seneschal@avacal.org
Avacal	DEI Deputy	NO SUCH OFFICE	
Caid	King	https://wp.sca-caid.org/reign-86/	crown@sca-caid.org
Caid	Queen	https://wp.sca-caid.org/reign-86/	crown@sca-caid.org
Caid	Principal Herald Crescent Herald	https://wp.sca-caid.org/the-crescent-herald/	herald@sca-caid.org
Caid	Silent Herald Deputy	NO SUCH OFFICE	
Caid	Seneschal	https://wp.sca-caid.org/the-seneschal/	seneschal@sca-caid.org
Caid	DEI Deputy	https://wp.sca-caid.org/the-seneschal/	dei@sca-caid.org
Calontir	King	https://www.calontir.org/royalty/	falcon-crown@calontir.org
Calontir	Queen	https://www.calontir.org/royalty/	falcon-crown@calontir.org
Calontir	Principal Herald Gold Falcon Herald	https://www.calontir.org/heralds/	goldfalcon@calontir.org
Calontir	Silent Herald Deputy Good Hand Herald	https://www.calontir.org/heralds/silent-heraldry/	goodhand@calontir.org
Calontir	Seneschal	https://www.calontir.org/seneschal/	seneschal@calontir.org
Calontir	DEI Deputy	NO SUCH OFFICE	
Drachenwald	King	https://drachenwald.sca.org/royals/	king@drachenwald.sca.org
Drachenwald	Queen	https://drachenwald.sca.org/royals/	queen@drachenwald.sca.org
Drachenwald	Principal Herald	https://drachenwald.sca.org/offices/herald/	herald@drachenwald.sca.org
Drachenwald	Silent Herald Deputy	NO SUCH OFFICE	
Drachenwald	Seneschal	https://drachenwald.sca.org/offices/seneschal/	seneschal@drachenwald.sca.org
Drachenwald	DEI Council	https://drachenwald.sca.org/offices/seneschal/	dei@drachenwald.sca.org
Ealdormere	King	http://www.ealdormere.ca/royalty.html	ealdormere.crown@gmail.com
Ealdormere	Queen	http://www.ealdormere.ca/royalty.html	ealdormere.crown@gmail.com
Ealdormere	Principal Herald Trillium Herald	http://www.ealdormere.ca/trillium-herald.html	trilliumherald@gmail.com



Kingdom	Title	Website	Email Address
Ealdormere	Silent Herald Deputy Bonne Signe Herald	OPEN FOR APPLICATIONS https://ecoheralds.weebly.com/college-members.html	bonnesigne.herald@gmail.com
Ealdormere	Seneschal	http://www.ealdormere.ca/seneschal.html	ealdormere.kseneschal@gmail.com
Ealdormere	DEI Deputy	NO SUCH OFFICE	
East	King	https://www.eastkingdom.org/royalty/	sovereign@eastkingdom.org
East	Consort	https://www.eastkingdom.org/royalty/	consort@eastkingdom.org
East	Principal Herald Brigantia Herald	https://www.eastkingdom.org/offices/herald/	brigantia@eastkingdom.org
East	Silent Herald Deputy	https://www.eastkingdom.org/offices/herald/	silent@eastkingdom.org
East	Accessibility Porter	https://www.eastkingdom.org/offices/seneschal/	porter@eastkingdom.org
East	Seneschal	https://www.eastkingdom.org/offices/seneschal/	seneschal@eastkingdom.org
East	DEI Deputy	https://www.eastkingdom.org/offices/seneschal/	equity@eastkingdom.org
Gleann Abhann	King	https://gleannabhann.net/royalty/	crown@gleannabhann.net
Gleann Abhann	Queen	https://gleannabhann.net/royalty/	crown@gleannabhann.net
Gleann Abhann	Principal Herald Diamond Herald	https://gleannabhann.net/heralds/	diamond@gleannabhann.net
Gleann Abhann	Silent Herald Deputy	NO SUCH OFFICE	
Gleann Abhann	Seneschal	https://gleannabhann.net/seneschal/	seneschal@gleannabhann.net
Gleann Abhann	DEI Deputy	https://gleannabhann.net/seneschal/	dei@gleannabhann.net
Lochac	King	https://royal.lochac.sca.org/	crown@lochac.sca.org
Lochac	Queen	https://royal.lochac.sca.org/	crown@lochac.sca.org
Lochac	Principal Herald Crux Australis Herald	https://herald.lochac.sca.org/administration/contact/	herald@lochac.sca.org
Lochac	Silent Herald Deputy Mangonel Herald	https://herald.lochac.sca.org/administration/contact/	silent-herald@lochac.sca.org
Lochac	Seneschal	https://seneschal.lochac.sca.org/contacts/	seneschal@lochac.sca.org
Lochac	DEI Deputy	https://seneschal.lochac.sca.org/contacts/	equity@lochac.sca.org
Meridies	King	https://crown.meridies.org/?page_id=37	crown@meridies.org
Meridies	Queen	https://crown.meridies.org/?page_id=37	crown@meridies.org
Meridies	Principal Herald Beacon Herald	https://meridies.org/office-of-the-herald/	beacon@meridies.org
Meridies	Silent Herald Deputy	https://meridies.org/office-of-the-herald/	silent.herald@meridies.org
Meridies	Seneschal	https://meridies.org/office-of-the-seneschal/	seneschal@meridies.org
Meridies	DEI Deputy	https://meridies.org/office-of-the-seneschal/	dei@meridies.org
Midrealm	King	https://trm.midrealm.org/	crown@midrealm.org
Midrealm	Queen	https://trm.midrealm.org/	crown@midrealm.org
Midrealm	Principal Herald Dragon Herald	https://midrealm.org/herald/	herald@midrealm.org
Midrealm	Silent Herald Deputy Thuban Herald	OPEN FOR APPLICATIONS https://midrealm.org/herald/thuban/	thuban@midrealm.org
Midrealm	Seneschal	https://midrealm.org/seneschal/	seneschal@midrealm.org
Midrealm	DEI Deputy	https://midrealm.org/deputies-of-the-seneschal/	diversityequityinclusion@midrealm.org
Northshield	King	http://www.northshield.org/Royalty/Current.aspx	trm@northshield.org
Northshield	Queen	http://www.northshield.org/Royalty/Current.aspx	trm@northshield.org
Northshield	Principal Herald Polaris Herald	http://www.northshield.org/Officers/Display.aspx?ID=5	herald@northshield.org
Northshield	Silent Herald Deputy	NO SUCH OFFICE	
Northshield	Seneschal	http://www.northshield.org/Officers/Display.aspx?ID=6	seneschal@northshield.org
Northshield	DEI Deputy	http://www.northshield.org/Officers/Display.aspx?ID=6	seneschal@northshield.org
Outlands	King	https://www.outlands.org/royalty-and-nobility/outlands-crown	crown@outlands.org
Outlands	Queen	https://www.outlands.org/royalty-and-nobility/outlands-crown	crown@outlands.org
Outlands	Principal Herald	https://www.outlands.org/kingdom-officers/herald	herald@outlands.org
Outlands	Silent Herald Deputy	OPEN FOR APPLICATIONS https://www.outlands.org/kingdom-officers/herald	silenthald@outlands.org
Outlands	Seneschal	https://www.outlands.org/kingdom-officers/seneschal	seneschal@outlands.org
Outlands	DEI Deputy	NO SUCH OFFICE	
Trimaris	King	https://www.trimaris.org/royalty/	king@trimaris.org
Trimaris	Queen	https://www.trimaris.org/royalty/	queen@trimaris.org
Trimaris	Principal Herald Triskele Herald	https://www.trimaris.org/officers/office-of-the-triskele-herald/	herald@trimaris.org



Kingdom	Title	Website	Email Address
Trimaris	Silent Herald Deputy Mast Herald	https://www.trimaris.org/officers/office-of-the-triskele-herald/	mast@trimaris.org
Trimaris	Seneschal	https://www.trimaris.org/officers/office-of-the-seneschal/	seneschal@trimaris.org
Trimaris	DEI Deputy	NO SUCH OFFICE	
West	King	https://www.westkingdom.org/officer/kingdom-west/regent	royals@westkingdom.org ?
West	Queen	https://www.westkingdom.org/officer/kingdom-west/regent	royals@westkingdom.org ?
West	Prince of Cynagua	https://cynagua.westkingdom.org/wpp/?page_id=1053	royals@cynagua.westkingdom.org
West	Princess of Cynagua	https://cynagua.westkingdom.org/wpp/?page_id=1053	royals@cynagua.westkingdom.org
West	Prince of the Mists	https://mists.westkingdom.org/officers-royalty/	royals@mists.westkingdom.org
West	Princess of the Mists	https://mists.westkingdom.org/officers-royalty/	royals@mists.westkingdom.org
West	Prince of Oertha	https://oertha.westkingdom.org/officers/58	oerthancoronets@yahoo.com
West	Princess of Oertha	https://oertha.westkingdom.org/officers/58	oerthancoronets@yahoo.com
West	Principal Herald Vesper Herald	http://heralds.westkingdom.org/Contact.htm	herald@westkingdom.org
West	Principal Herald - Cynagua Sable Swan Herald	https://cynagua.westkingdom.org/wpp/?page_id=1053	sableswan@heralds.westkingdom.org
West	Principal Herald - Mists Sea Wolf Herald	https://mists.westkingdom.org/officers-royalty/	seawolf@heralds.westkingdom.org
West	Principal Herald - Oertha Stellanordica Herald	https://oertha.westkingdom.org/officers/58	stellanordica@heralds.westkingdom.org
West	Silent Herald Deputy	NO SUCH OFFICE	
West	Seneschal	https://www.westkingdom.org/officer/kingdom-west/seneschal	seneschal@westkingdom.org
West	Seneschal – Cynagua	https://cynagua.westkingdom.org/wpp/?page_id=1053	seneschal@cynagua.westkingdom.org
West	Seneschal – the Mists	https://mists.westkingdom.org/officers-royalty/	seneschal@mists.westkingdom.org
West	Seneschal - Oertha	https://oertha.westkingdom.org/officers/58	seneschal@oertha.westkingdom.org
West	DEI Deputy	NO SUCH OFFICE	

If you have any corrections or additions to the Contact List, please email me at signherald@heraldry.sca.org