

# THE AURORA

- June - August 2008 -



Barony of Borealis -  
[borealis.avacal.net](http://borealis.avacal.net)

Principality of Avacal -  
[avacal-sca.org/](http://avacal-sca.org/)

Kingdom of AnTir -  
[antir.sca.org/](http://antir.sca.org/)

SCA inc. - [www.sca.org/](http://www.sca.org/)

With the melting of the snow (finally) and the days getting warmer (hopefully) the world has become a brighter place, and the members of Borealis are again congregating where ever others of the same interests gather.

This year started off with a number of our members making the journey to the various groups close to us.

Local members accompanied Prince Einar on many of his and Princess Ifatahyo's progressions visiting the different areas and peoples who make up Avacal.



Photo by Beothuk

On June 28th, a new war was started between Avacal and Tir Righ, affectionally called the AT War by many. A number of members from our Barony made the trip to the "Middle Ground" in Clear Water BC. (7 hours from Edmonton and just under 6 from Vancouver.) See the special section for more on this new War.

We have slowly been having new people come out to events, and staying to learn everything that we have to offer. In the past couple of months, we have seen new officers take up the rains of the officer positions that have had to be filled because of terms being up. So we are slowly growing, and chugging along maryially with new blood in a number of different areas.



Photo by Beothuk

## Snow Heavies

Silver Arrow - Bitter End - April 26

The Barony is again sponsoring a tree in the U of A Hospitals Festival of Trees, so pull out the craft supplies, give that design itch a good scratch, and come up with some awesome idea's for ornaments for this years tree! Can't come up with an idea? Check out the "Update" page about this very worthwhile cause.



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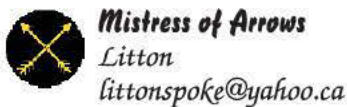
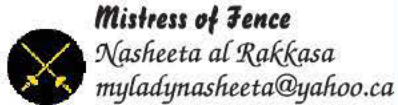
-Borealis Silver Wolf-

-Avacal & Tir Reigh War-



## Contact Info

borealis.avacal.net



**Dance Group**  
*Cath of the Rowen Tree*  
cath&kinter@telus.net

**Bards Group**  
*Kasha Machiavelli*  
eternal\_night@hotmail.com



Photo: Kentair

## Message from our Baron and Baroness

Princess Natal'ia by his side.

Borealis travelled the breadth of An Tir to take part in the mighty Avacal - Tir Righ War. Sadly we could not join this fun but we have heard word of the deeds and might of Borealis and know that you as always - did the Barony proud.

And then there was Quad War. What a fine way to end this busy summer. Montengarde were our generous hosts this year and took great pains to make sure fun was had by all. And what fun it was! We will have to work doubly hard next year to meet the bar they have set. To our delight but no great surprise - we saw our people volunteering to help and make the work a bit lighter. We could not have been more proud to see how many helped when help was needed. What an fantastic event and a wonderful way to wrap up the season.

As we think back on event we are reminded anew of how amazing, talented and generous the people of Borealis are. Truly we are blessed for we are rarely in so good company as we find in our own lands, rarely so well gifted, so well fed and so well supported. It is the hard work of each of you that makes our role as your Baron and Baroness the joy it is.

It is due to this great joy and honour we have felt in service to you each that has compelled us to announce that rather than step aside at the end of our term this fall that we will poll the populace and see if it pleases you to have us for yet another term. Our most capable seneschal will announce details as they progress but we hope to hear your words and know if it is the will of Borealis that we stay as your Baron and Baroness.

*Vik & Inga*

What a summer this has been! As always the people of Borealis traveled this great land and showed our neighbours what glory there is in our Barony. It is a wonderful thing to see so many familiar faces at events we attend and to have this Barony renowned throughout An Tir for its willingness to journey far to support the game we so love. Thankfully we did not have to go far for all of our fun as there were many splendid events closer to home.

Silverwolf once again was a huge success. We welcomed Their Highness in our great hall for a glorious meal courtesy of Sir Wernar, saw deserving gentles rightly recognized for their service and dedication to Avacal and Borealis and took great joy in recognizing the greatness of Borealis by our own hands. We proudly gained four bold new champions who have already served the Barony so very well. Huzzah to our new champions: Aiden, Dragoslava, Mika and Reme. And great honour and praise to the gentles who preceded them and have so well served Borealis this past year HUZAH to Kjar, Jean, Ro-bear and Thorndyke! A wonderful day and glorious event all round. We could not be more proud.

Summer saw a son of Borealis, Toryn Davinsson, victorious at June Coronet in distant Cold Keep. He leads Avacal as Prince with



# AT War



Photo by Beothuk

This year a new war was started between Avacal and Tir Righ. Of the close to 400 people that travelled to participate in this first time event, there were about 120 Avacalians who managed to make it down. Of the 120, about 25 from our Barony made the seven hour trip to Clear Water BC.

The Rapiers were represented by 7 fighters, with the addition of the Borealis Fez Brigade again donning their hats to lend their muscle and skill to the outnumbered Avacalian Rapier fighters.

In the Heavy area, we had a good showing with 10 fighters (including the current Prince) out of the 36 that Avacal fielded.

Grioffa Stoneheart made the trip down to represent our Barony for the Archers.

Not only was the Barony well represented in the combat areas, but one of the war points that was won, and helped to tie the event, was from our own Cynewulf with an entry of a re-creation of a 11th Century Viking clay chess piece.



Photo by Beothuk

There were also war points to be won in the volunteer area, and many from Borealis took their turn in various stations. One member spent 4 hours manning the front gate. With everyone's help, Avacal won a war point in this area.

So, all in all, for a first event of its kind, the AT War was a success and will generate stories of skill and courage to be told around the fire for years to come.

*Please see AT special section for more details.*

## Archery Practice

Most Thursdays

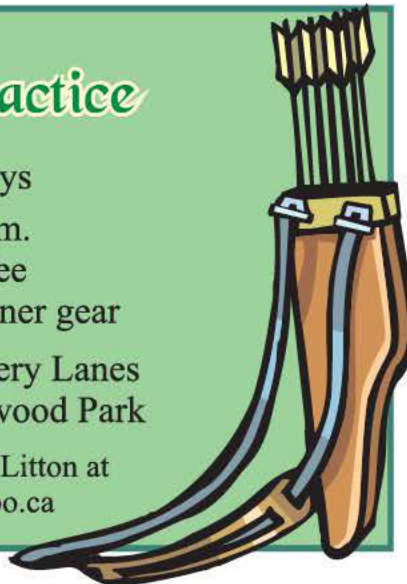
7:45 - 9:00 p.m.

\$6.00 Lane Fee

Donation jar for loaner gear

Sherwood Park Archery Lanes  
429-Sioux Rd - Sherwood Park

For more info contact Litton at  
littonspoke@yahoo.ca



## Other Groups In The Principality of Avacal



Bitter End  
(Red Deer, AB) (Shire)  
[www.sca-bitterend.org/](http://www.sca-bitterend.org/)

Bordergate  
(Cold Lake, AB) (Shire)



Cold Keep  
(Prince George, BC) (Shire)  
[www.avacal-sca.org/coldkeep/](http://www.avacal-sca.org/coldkeep/)

Harrows Cross  
(Strathmore, AB) (Shire)  
[www.harrowscross.ca/](http://www.harrowscross.ca/)



Montengarde  
(Calgary, AB) (Barony)  
[www.montengarde.org/inside.html](http://www.montengarde.org/inside.html)

Myrgan Wood  
(saskatoon, SK) (Barony)  
[theringlord.org/mw/](http://theringlord.org/mw/)



Rhuddglyn  
(Medicine Hat, AB) (Shire)  
[www.avacal-sca.org/rhuddglyn/](http://www.avacal-sca.org/rhuddglyn/)

Sigelhundas  
(Regina, SK) (Shire)  
[www.sigelhundas.or/](http://www.sigelhundas.or/)



Valley Wold  
(Moose Jaw, SK) (Shire)  
[valleywold.ca/index.htm](http://valleywold.ca/index.htm)

Vinjar  
(Grand Prairie) (Shire)  
[vinjar.antir.sca.org/](http://vinjar.antir.sca.org/)





# Silver Wolf

This years Silver Wolf was held on June 21, 2008 to decide who would be our new champions of Sword, Rapier, Archery and Arts & Sciences. The event was held out in Thorsby where on a sunny and hot day, a group of 144 made the pilgrimage to attend the event and witness the choosing by right of arms Borealis's new champions.

In Heavy, the new champion is Aiden ap Darren y Cigrain, with Reme the Burgundian winning in Rapier, Mika Machiavelli for Archery, and Dragoslava Vladis lasa dock in our Arts & Sciences area.



Photo by Beothuk

The day was followed by a feast with Wernar leading the crew in the kitchen.

During court, many of our populace was recognized with awards.

*Please see the special pull out section for more details.*

## Officers & Deputies Needed

In Borealis, many of the executive positions have recently been filled by people wanting to take a turn at giving a little more to our Barony, but we still need to fill vacant positions. If you would like to fill a position, please contact our new Seneschal.

Positions currently to be filled

- Web Minister

If you think that you'd like to give it a try, but unsure, there are a number of members who have done the position, and would be willing to give you some guidance and help.

There is always a need for deputies. These souls fill in when things need an extra hand, or when the officer is unable (for a variety of different reasons) to fulfill the duties of the position. It would be really nice if all of our positions had a minimum of two deputies.

If your feeling ambitious, the Principality is always looking for Officers and Deputies.

If you feel that you can help, please let the Seneschal know.

*"Always remember to pillage before you burn"*

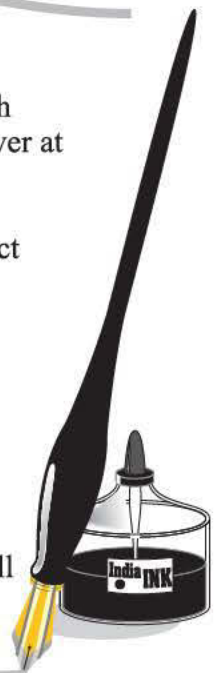
*~Anonymous~*

In Early July, Guillaime de Gualle, our new Royal Scribe, sent out a plea for some help with getting charters ready for the coming season. Sunday July 21 was a day picked to gather over at Guillaime and Jean's house to help her out.

A number of members answered her call, and about 10 showed up. One to work on a project for another project that the Barony is participating in, and 9 to paint.

Everyone had a good time, and over the next two to two and a half hours, 10 scrolls were worked on. Although only one scroll was completed in the evening, everyone had a good time and expressed an interest in getting together again to finish what they had started that night. Sunday July 27 was picked for the next night, where four more scrolls were completed.

If you'd like to help out with scrolls, come to a A&S night, or let Guillaime know, and she'll give you a call when extra help is needed.





# Raising Money for Charity

In the past few months, a couple of our members have raised money for charity by getting donations to shave off their beards and hair. Two who participated were Aiden ap Darren y Cigfrain and Valgard Forkbeard.

## Aiden Raises over \$5400 for Cancer

Aiden was the first of our members to raise money for charity by shaving off both his hair and beard for the Alberta Cancer Foundation. On November 30, 2007 off came his hair and beard. He raised over \$1400 in donations, and a further \$4000 when his hair was sold.



Photo:Kintair

After



Photo:Kintair

Before

## Valgard Forkbeard Raises Over \$1600



Photo: Yamadi

After



Before

Photo:Kintair

For over 20 years, Valgard's face has sported a beard and moustache, but all of that changed when he decided to do something radical and shave both his beard and hair (and even his eyebrows got a "shave") for the Cops for Cancer Foundation. For two months he gathered donations, and on the day of the event, he had raised over \$1600.

# Meet the Populace

## Cynewulf Gilphlaeden



Photo: Yamadi

**Redete Omnia!**  
(Laugh at Everything!)

Cynewulf is a 10th century Anglo-saxon Scop (or poet), who is struggling with the new and old religion (Christianity and Norse). He has fallen in with a gang of unruly Norsemen in the defense of the Barony of Borealis.

Although he had wanted to see what the SCA was about 10 years ago, mundane life prevented him from joining. When his good friend Anabel Hastings invited him to Winter War 2008, he came, saw, participated and "fell in love with Borealis and its wondrous denizens". He feels that the SCA "is an opportunity to try new things, and I am eager to keep trying."

After winning the Bards Competition and the single entry for the A&S Competition at Winter War (yes, he's that newbie) he came to May's Tavern, and from there came to a practice and started training in the Heavy Fighting area. "I am a newbie, but a newbie that is having so much fun, I forget that I have never done any of this stuff before."

Since Winter War, Cynewulf has attended a few more events, and was able to journey down to the AT War where he helped Avacal win a war point with his A&S Entry. Winning 2 war points in 3 months, not bad for a "Newbie".



UPDATE

# - Festival of Trees -

It has been decided that we will again be putting a tree into the U of A Hospital's Festival of Trees. This years theme is "Home for the holidays."



or where to to get the inspiration for making the ornaments that reflect what we're all about. Here is a sampling of what was done last year for the tree. The ornaments were inspired by an image, material, or technique that came from our time period.

The same as last year, we will be sponsoring our own tree - meaning that we supply everything for it except for the plywood that it sits on, and the plastic bag that it gets wrapped in for movement to its new home.



The little shoes are actually miniture versions of Inga's Norse Shoes. They were done in different colours of felt, and then decorated.

Mica has again been able to get us a tree at wholesale through where he works. So, this year we will have a seven and a half foot tree - with pine cones, to decorate. We have some lights being donated by Owen, and I was able to also pick some up at the end of Christmas last year for close to nothing.



Lana Rose took some Mini Beanie Baby's and hand crafted Norse clothing for them. She did two couples, one from the 9th century, and one from the 12th. They took her about 15 hours each to make, The resulting dolls were awesome, and a remarkable addition to the tree.

Owen has also generously volunteered to make us the tree topper for this year. He's thinking of making a castle. It sure will make our tree stand out from all of the rest that are put into the festival, and thoroughly invokes the spirit of our group.



With our membership over 100 or so registered people, if everyone were to make one ornament, we should have more than enough to decorate the tree.

We are still in need of someone, or a group, to make a tree skirt for us. Last year Joan the Just made a beautiful white skirt with historic coats of arms on it. Anyone have ideas for this year?

Some of the ornaments made for the Festival of Trees 2007 tree



Ornaments don't have to be fancy or made from expensive materials. The masks were done using the main part from a kids dollar store craft kit. I've included a few idea's here for people who might need a little help with starting. The photos of the Nut People, Pine Cone Skier and Snow Boarder, and the two horses are from my collection and are probably

A lot of people have come up to me and said that they would like to participate, but are unsure of how to go about making an ornament,







over 10 years old. (I've no idea who did them, but in the case of some of the nut and pine cone people, they came from a craft book.)



With the horses, both complex and simple, I was figuring they would look neat as a candy cane topper, dressed up as medieval war horses in their armour. It might be neat to use some of the images from the heraldry beastiality - the sea horse for one - to make other candy cane toppers. These in turn would look like some of the animals

that you would find on a carousel ride.

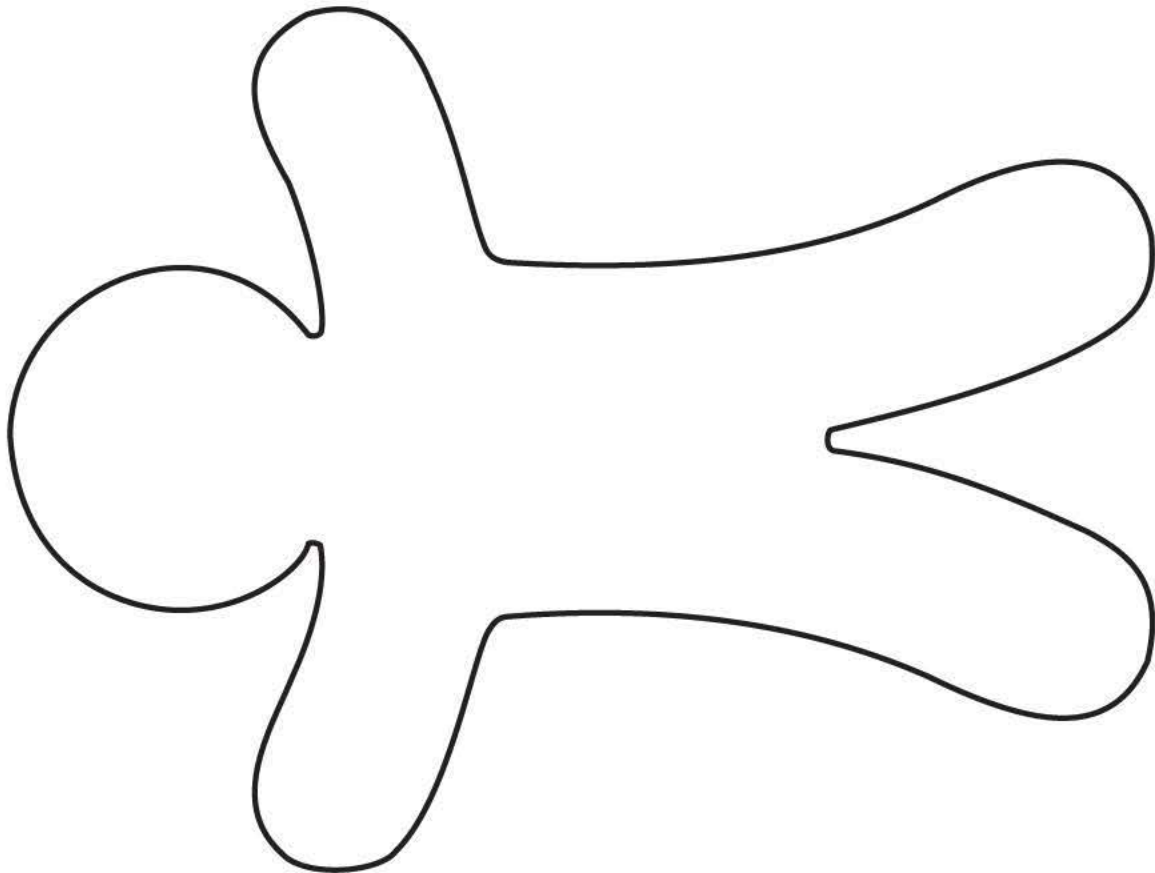
The nut and pine cone people would probably make an awesome assortment of Knights in shining armour, Archers with their bows, and Rapier Fighters with their fancy hats.



I've included a template for a Gingerbread design in this issue. If anyone would like to make a few Gingerbread ornaments, and dress them up from different periods in time, then go ahead. I was figuring on doing a few in felt, and maybe one or two from craft foam for the base.

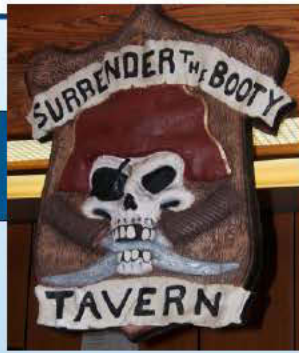


All Photos: Yamadi





# Tavern



# Night

Want to meet a lot of people in a couple of hours? Then host a Tavern!

Tavern night is the first Wednesday of every month. We always need Tavern keepers to host the Tavern. This means that a group of individuals, whether its just two, three, or 12 get together to open the hall and put up all the banners and tables. They are responsible for putting everything away at the end of the night, making sure that the hall is cleaned and turning the key in to a representative of the community hall.

Most times someone in the group arranges to have food available for purchase. The menu varies as much as the groups who do the hosting.

It was decided by a vote not so long ago that the people who host the Tavern may use it as a way to raise funds for various projects.

Our Archers hosted a Tavern and used the funds to replace broken arrows from their loaner gear. The Rapiers took a turn and did a mini feast to raise funds for their steel gear - their version of loaner gear. At one point during the evening, there was a "Cannon Ball Battle" between the rapiers manning the bar, and members out in the main part of the hall. After the battle (that resembled something out of a movie, with people ducking for cover),

participants went around and gathered the "Cannon Balls" and ate them.

We've had a "Pirates Tavern", where you were able to buy a two finger shot of "Grog". A couple of our young heavies did the honour of hosting one month and even our Baron and Baroness (with a little bit of help) hosted a Tavern another month. You can have some fun with a Tavern and have people look forward to the next time that you might do one.

For the few nights when we have had no one volunteer for hosting, the hall has been closed shortly after our general meeting, so we need people to sign up to host a Tavern.



*Pirate Tavern - Jan 2008*

Want to host a Tavern but not sure on how to go about doing it, or need a bit of help? Just let it be known, during the meeting, and normally there's a few extra hands willing to give some help. Check the Tavern sign up sheet to see what month(s) have no one signed up for it, and start to make some plans.

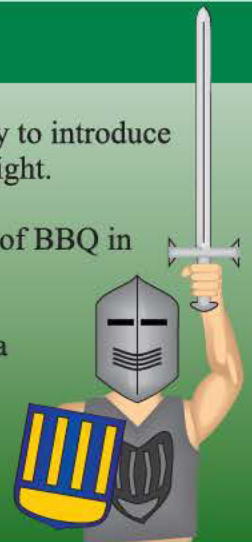
## New Comers Meet & Greet

Talyn has been discussing setting up a newcomers meeting for the last little while as a way to introduce people to our little Barony with out being intimidated by coming to a practice or Tavern night.

He has been putting out idea's lately, and one that has been received well is to have a sort of BBQ in the Park on a Saturday.

If you are able to come and help with any activities and demos let him know. If you have a preference for which Saturday, let him know at:

[talyn\\_the\\_skald@hotmail.com](mailto:talyn_the_skald@hotmail.com).





# 5 Month Local Event Calendar

## Quad War

Quad War - What a way to play!!

Thursday July 31 - August 4th, 2008 -

Marsden Saskatchewan

Cost:- \$25.00 site Fee - Plus \$3.00 NMS for non members

Hosted by the Barony of Montengarde and the Principality of Avacal.

## Clinton War

Aug 1 - Aug 4, 2008

Barony of Lions Gate

Clinton, BC

Cost: - \$?

## Avacal August Investiture

Aug 15-17, 2008

Site Fee: \$17.00

Barony of Myrgan Wood

Please add \$3.00 NMS

Saskatoon, SK

Eagle creek Regional Park, Saskatoon.

## Harvest Feast

Sept. 5-7, 2008

Site & Feast \$?

Shire of Bitter End

Please add \$3.00 NMS

Red Deer, Alberta

## Rhuddglyn Masquerade Ball

Sept 13 2008

Site & Feast \$?

Shire of Rhuddglyn

Please add \$3.00 NMS

Medicine Hat, Alberta

## Vinfest X

Sept 27, 2008

Site & Feast \$22.00

Shire of vinjar

Please add \$3.00 NMS

Grand Praire, Alberta

## JHS University of Avacal Fall Grand Session

Oct 11-12, 2008

Site \$?

Barony of Borealis

Please add \$3.00 NMS

Thorsby Community Hall

Thorsby, Alberta

## Borealis Yule Feast

Dec 6, 2008

Site & Feast \$?

Barony of Borealis

Please add \$3.00 NMS

Edmonton, Alberta

This is not a full listing of everything.  
For more, info for different area's in Avacal,  
please go to

[www.antir.org/Upcoming/index.phd](http://www.antir.org/Upcoming/index.phd)

## Monthly Calendar

### 1st Wednesday of the Month

Tavern Night - 7:30 to 10:30  
Capilano Community Hall  
10810 - 54 Street - Cost \$2.00

### Fighter Practice

All other Wednesdays  
8:00 to 9:30 p.m.  
Glenora Community League  
10426 - 136 Street  
Cost: \$4.00 Members  
\$4.50 Non members

### 2nd Monday of the Month

Arts & Sciences Night  
7:00 to 9:30 p.m.  
Vik & Inga's - 463-4445  
1235 - 72 St. Cost: Free

### 3rd Monday of the Month

Dance Practice &  
Culinary Group Meeting  
Where Fairies Live  
7:00 - 9:30 p.m.  
10991A 124 St. - Cost \$2.00

### Thursdays

Archery Practice  
7:45 - 9:00 p.m.  
Sherwood Archery Lanes  
429 Sioux Rd, Sherwood Park  
Cost: \$6.00 Lane Fee





# Local Avacal Yearly Events

## June

Silverwolf - Borealis  
Avacal Coronet - TBA  
An Tir/West War - TBA

## July

Antir July Coronation - TBA  
Dragonslayer - Montengarde

## August

Quad War - Marsden Sask  
Avacal August Investiture - TBA

## September

Antir September Crown - TBA  
Harvest Feast - Bitter End  
Unnamed Event - Rhuddglyn  
An Tir - Bardic  
Championship - TBA  
Vinfest - Vinjar

## October

Autumn Celebration - Cold Keep  
MW Anniversary - Myrgan Wood  
Theme Feast - Border Gate

## Nov

Avacal Coronet - TBAe

## December

Yule Feast - Borealis

## January

12th Night - Montengarde  
AnTir 12th Night - TBA  
AnTir Coronation - TBA

## February

AnTir A&S Championship - TBA  
Avacal February Investiture - TBA

## March

Feast of the Evergreens - Bordergate

## April

Spring Champions - TBA  
Silver Arrow - Bitter End  
Beltaine - Montengarde  
Winter War - Borealis

## May

Cold Keep Champions - Cold Keep  
Antir May Crown TBA

Check the Avacal Events page ([www.avacal-sca.org/events](http://www.avacal-sca.org/events)) or the Antir Events page ([www.antir.sca.org/upcoming](http://www.antir.sca.org/upcoming)) for a more up to date listing. Some events may be moved to a different month due to unavailability of site or conflicts.

# Want Ads

Viking Man looking for  
Viking Woman  
Must have own boat.  
Can be reached by leaving a  
message at the Blind Pirates  
Bar in Lumberland.

Jewel Tone Ottoman  
2 foot x 3 foot - \$50.00  
Contact Yamadi Blackeye at  
[yamadif@yahoo.ca](mailto:yamadif@yahoo.ca)

Need a Sonnet for that special  
someone? Will custom the lyrics  
to meet any occasion.  
William M.G. Shakespear  
Above the Donkey's Ass Pub  
Norfolk, England

Knives of all Kinds  
Roaming knife merchant with  
flint, copper, and steel knives.  
Will be in Kengston, England in  
Spring. Taking orders Now.

Apple Tree Orchards have hand  
made baskets for sale. Wonderful  
aromas. Great for keeping linens  
pest free! See Shady in the  
Market Square every Saturday.

This is the August issue of The Aurora, the official newsletter of the Barony of Borealis. The Barony of Borealis is a branch of the Society of Creative Anachronism, in., and the Aurora is published as a service to the SCA's membership. The Aurora is available from I. Foster at 12923 - 71 Street, Edmonton, AB. The Aurora is not a corporate publication of the SCA, Inc., and does not delineate SCA, Inc. policies.

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