

THE AURORA

OCTOBER 2016



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Baroness of Borealis
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Officer Positions Needed

Please contact Adelheid if you are interested

Deputy Exchequer
Deputy Minister of Fence
Family Activities Coordinator
Web Minister
Deputy Knight Marshal
Deputy Minister of Arrows

A Note From the Chronicler

I'm always looking for contributions for upcoming newsletters, so if you have something you'd like to share please contact me.

-Isabel atte Grene

Documentation for A&S Championship Entries

by Philippe de St-Denis

Part Two of a Three Part Series Concerning A&S Challenges

Last month in The Aurora, I talked a bit about some of the reasons why you should (or should not) take part in the Borealis A&S Championship being held in December. This month, I'd like to continue that conversation by addressing the issue of documentation and what is expected.

It is true that in the past, A&S competitions—and Championships in particular—required a more or less academic level of research and documentation. And that left a certain number of potential entrants out in the cold, because not everyone is an academic, nor wants to be. The fact that not everyone can (or wants to) write a university-level paper has no bearing on an artisan's talent, nor their research skills, nor their enthusiasm for Arts and Sciences.

Luckily, this has been addressed in recent years. A&S organizers have relaxed the requirements for documentation by opening up the format. This has not lowered the standards in any way, but it has made A&S challenges accessible to more entrants.

Sadly, the stigma of documentation lingers. Allow me to reassure those of you who may be the slightest bit insecure about your writing skills that A&S challenges and championships are not outside your grasp. What is required for documentation for the Borealis A&S Championship in December is knowledge, first and foremost. You must be able to speak knowledgeably about your entries—how you did it, what tools were used, how your entries differ from period practice (if at all), who might have used these objects, where and when they might have been used in the medieval world. Provide a list of your sources. Photocopy pages from these sources (primary ones are best). Supply photos of period examples, as well as photos of your work in progress, if applicable.

Unless you are writing an actual research paper, you do not need to provide a lot of written documentation! If you are knowledgeable about your craft, your judges are willing to listen to what you have to say about it; they want to be enlightened, they want to encourage you to talk about the geek that sets you on fire.

Now, there *is* a section of the judging sheets that deals specifically with an entrant's documentation. If you choose to take the route of minimal documentation, you can, of course, expect to take lower points in this category. However, this does not mean an automatic failure or loss by any means. There are still several other categories (such as visual presentation and authenticity) in which you can score big points. A&S Championships are not won or lost on documentation alone, especially if you know a lot about your craft and can impart that knowledge to your judges.

Don't don't let the spectre of "academic" writing stop you from following your bliss!

As always, if you have questions or concerns about any aspect of the Borealis A&S Championship—or A&S in general—please do not hesitate to contact me to discuss. I welcome your feedback!

YIS,
Philippe de St-Denis
A&S Championship of Borealis
A&S Minister of Borealis



Upcoming Events

Myrgan Wood 37th Anniv.

Date: Oct 8 - 9th

Location: Clavet, SK

Day of Dance & heraldry

Date: Oct 14 - 16th

Location: Edmonton, AB

Cerelia – Roman harvest

Date: Oct 21- 23rd

Location: Pense, SK

Festival of the Snoweaters

Date: Oct 28 - 30th

Location: Shaughnessy, AB

Samhain

Date: Nov 5th - 6th

Location: Calgary, AB

Winter Coronation

Date: Nov 18th - 20th

Location: Seven Persons, AB

For more event details please check the event calendar at avacal.org

Taverns – We need you!

Looking for volunteers to host upcoming Taverns.

November - Sergeants

December - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Rice Lombard

This is a very simple rice dish. The broth and saffron add a rich, warm flavor.

1 1/2 cups rice

3 cups broth

1/4 tsp. salt

pinch saffron

pinch cinnamon

pinch sugar

Put broth, salt, and saffron into a large saucepan and bring to a boil. Add rice, cover, and reduce heat. Cook for about 15 minutes, or until rice is tender. Sprinkle with sugar and cinnamon.

Source [Middle English culinary recipes in MS Harley 5401, C. Hieatt (ed.)]: Ryse Lombard Rynnyng. Recipe ryse & pyke þam wele, & wesh þam in .iii. or .iiij. waters, & than seth þam in clene water til þai begyn to boyle. And at þe fyrst bolyng put oute þe water & seth it in broth of flesh, & put þerto sugre & colour it with saferon, & serof it forth.

Source [Middle English culinary recipes in MS Harley 5401, C. Hieatt (ed.)]: Rise Lombard Standyng. Recipe & make þam in þe same manere, safe take þerto brothe of flesh, salmon, or congyr; & cast þerto powdre of canel, & make peron lyure of brede as it is aforesaide.

Published: March 23, 2010

Recipe by Daniel Myers

Used with permission by medievalcooking.com

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Monthly Calendar

**Practice will be in the regular hall:
Alberta Avenue Community Hall
9210 - 118 Ave**

Tavern Night Hall 1st Wednesday - 7:00pm - 10:30pm Cost: \$3.00 Members \$3.00 Non-Members	Fighter Practice Hall (Sundays) 1:00pm - 3:00pm Cost: \$5.00 Members \$5.50 Non-Members	Dance Practice Hall (Sundays) 12:00pm - 1:00pm Cost: \$3.00 (free if paying to fight)
Bardic Practice South #403, 6149 Stanton Dr SW 1st Monday - 7:30pm - 9:30pm	A & S West 36 Brampton St, Spruce Grove Thursdays - 7:00pm - 10:00pm	A & S North 10726 183 Ave NW 3rd Monday - 7:00pm - 10:00pm
A & S / Bardic Practice Hall 3rd Wednesday 7:00pm - 10:00pm		Fighter & Bardic Practice Hall (Wednesdays) 7:00pm - 10:00pm

This is the October 2016 issue of The Aurora, the official newsletter of the Barony of Borealis. The Barony of Borealis is a branch of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., and the Aurora is published as a service to the SCA's membership. The Aurora is not a corporate publication of the SCA, Inc., and does not delineate SCA, Inc. policies.

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