

Aurora

Dec.
AS XXVII



The **AURORA** is a publication of the Barony of Borealis, of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. This Newsletter is available from the Editor for \$16.00 per annum (12 issues). All cheques and money orders are to be made payable to "ASCA - Barony of Borealis". This is not a corporate publication of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., and does not delineate SCA policies.



Veraquilon Calendar

For December

- 2 Dance
- 5 St. Nick's Yule Feast. Veraquilon. (Edmonton)
(see copy this issue)
- 9 Veraquilon Council
- 16 Shoes with Ulf
- 23 and 30 There are no meetings for the Holidays.

For January

- 6 Dance
- 9 Kingdom 12th Night. Blatha An Oir. (Tacoma WA, USA)
- 13 Veraquilon Council
- 15 Deadline for the February issue of the Aurora
- 16 Avacal Principality 12th Night. Montengarde. (Calgary)
(see copy this issue)
- 20 Black Sheep Fiber Worker's Guild
- 23 and 24 Fighter's Seminar. (see Dmitri)
- 27 Music Night

Weekly meetings are held in room 034 at the University of Alberta Students Union Building, (SUB) on Wednesdays at 8:00 pm.
All people are encouraged to attend in costume except for the Council meetings.



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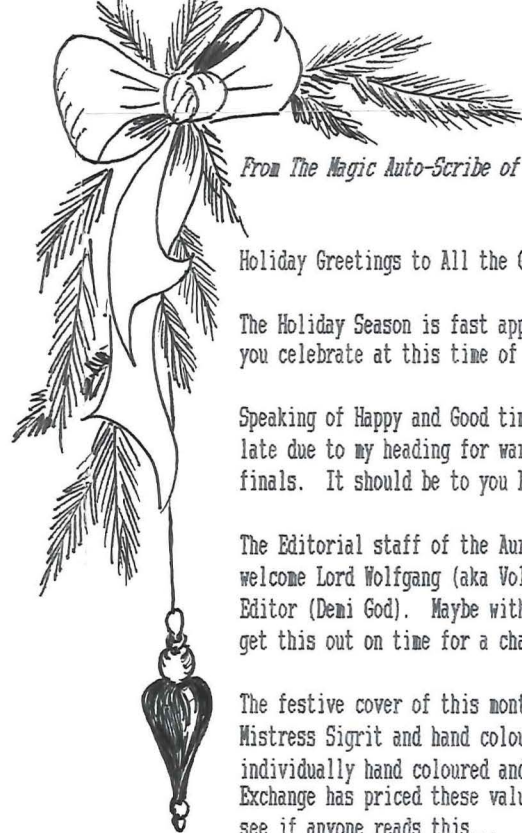
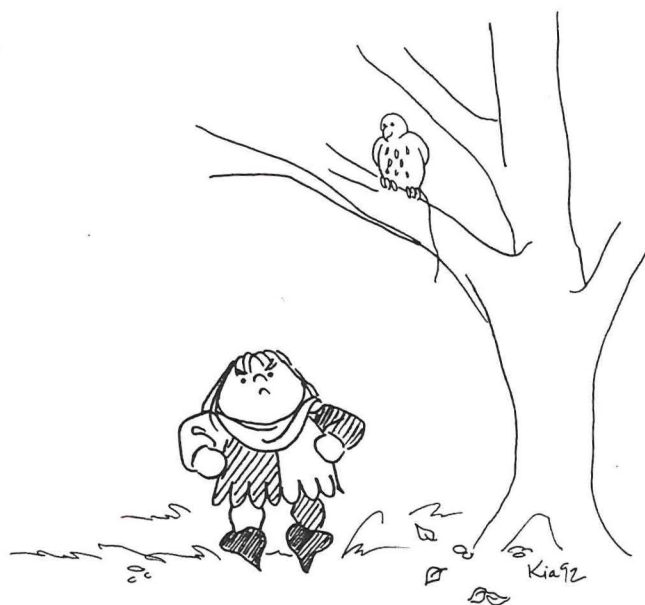
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Gary McIntyre Ph. 425-8971
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Brian von Schwanstein
Brian Nelson Ph. 672-6374
R.R. #1, Chaton, Alberta, T0B 3P0



From The Magic Auto-Scribe of the Editorial Staff of The Aurora

Holiday Greetings to All the Goode Gentles Of Boralis and Beyond,

The Holiday Season is fast approaching and what-ever it is that you celebrate at this time of year, have a happy and good time!!!

Speaking of Happy and Good times, the January issue will be a bit late due to my heading for warmer climes for a few weeks after finals. It should be to you by the middle of the month.

The Editorial staff of the Aurora (that's me) would like to welcome Lord Wolfgang (aka Volfy, Ralphgang, ect) as Assistant Editor (Demi God). Maybe with some-one else pushing me, we'll get this out on time for a change!!!

The festive cover of this month's issue was specially drawn by Mistress Sigrít and hand coloured by both of us. Each one is individually hand coloured and signed by the artist. The Bradford Exchange has priced these valuable numbered....Just checking to see if anyone reads this...

Yours in service to the Barony

YASMIY

Many thanks to our contributors this month

Sigrít Rabenfels for the cover
Oláf Sigurdson the Red for Olafs Thing
Hakon Drakon for the Interview
Caoimhtheach dhe Paolchu for the Recipe
Kia ni Colgan for filler art
Montengarde Mouthpiece for event copy



The AURORA Deadline for Event Copy, Art and Articles is the 15th of every month for printing in the following month's issue. Please send all submissions to the editor.

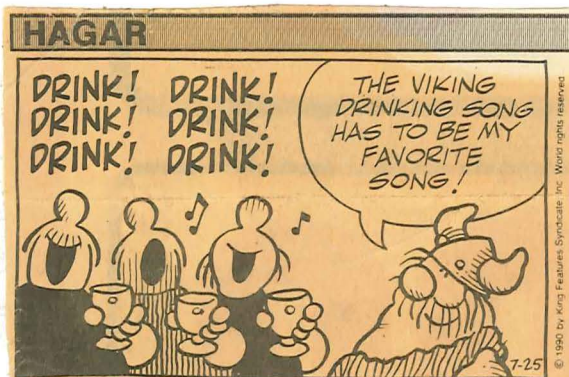


Jul Feast and Tournament (St. Nick's)

Attention All Gentles: This year's Jul Tournament and Feast (St. Nick's) will be held in the Canton of Veraquilon of Borealis. The Festivities will commence on the 5th of December, A.S. XXVII (1992) at Bonnie Doon Community League Hall (9240-93 Street, Edmonton, Alberta).

This year's theme will be pre 1,000 A.D. Norse, so bring your appetites, drinking horns and round shields for decorating the walls. There will be contests for the best period story, poem, or saga, best period costume (male and female), as well as games and wrestling. Dmitri will also be hosting a draw your own weapon tournament. Prize donations (edible and non) will be greatly appreciated.

The Tourney at this year's Jul Feast will be a double elimination tourney with a point being awarded for each draw from the helm with a maximum of two draws per round. The individual with the most points will be awarded the prize during the feast. If weapons are drawn which you are not authorized in you forfeit the fight. For that reason, a Senior Marshall will be on hand to authorize and sign fighter cards.



FROM THE EDMONTON JOURNAL

Marketplace

RATTAN !! RATTAN !! GET YOUR RATTAN HERE !!

Her Ladyship Joan the Just has a reliable source for GOOD quality Rattan (telephone pole size (OK, maybe not Quite that big)). There is a minimum number of sticks that can be ordered and soon as that is filled she will place the order. Payment in advance. If you want to get NEW rattan before next fighting season contact her as soon as possible. Phone Joan Reader at 929-2054.



There are still some Crown Tee-shirts for sale. These are the ones with the Barony of Borealis above all other Baronies in An Tir. If any-one wants one they can contact Gary at 425-8971 or Christine at 469-1873 or 469-3574.



CELTIC KNOTWORK

Embroidery Patterns. Great for Christmas gifts or for dressing up your holiday gear.

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FUN AND GAMES BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN

Here is an interesting development reported on the Net:

Greetings unto All who may read these words!!

It has recently come to my attention, through contacts with friends and relatives in the area, that certain gentles residing in a neglected region of the principality mundanely known as Latvia are possibly desirous of establishing a shire there. At present, they are looking for any sort of society-related literature they can get their hands on, but introductory materials such as the "Known Worlde Handbook," "Forward Into the Past," etc. would be particularly welcome. If any of you fine and generous gentles out there have **any** society-related literature with which you are willing to part company, I will make sure that all materials will be forwarded to the appropriate personages.

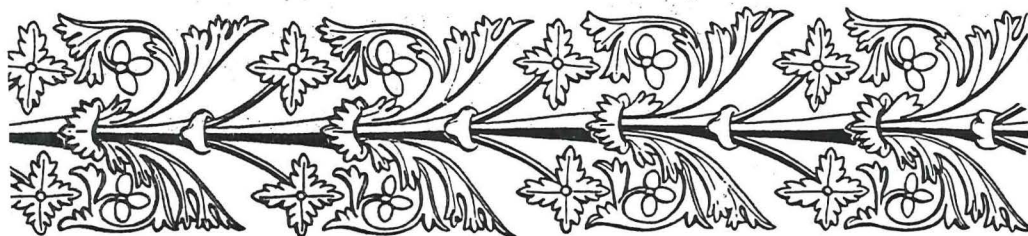
You need not overly concern yourselves with "language barriers," as these folk are mostly learned types (university instructors and students), most of whom are capable of reading English and/or translating to and from several other languages.

Anything you choose to give will be gratefully accepted. Please send whatever you will to:

Dzintarkrastu Guntars
(Guntars Kletnieks)
149 Gracie Drive
N. Babylon, New York 11703

Many thanks!!
Dzintarkrastu Guntars

The net article also mentions that there is already an incipient group 150 km north of Moscow.



TAKEN FROM SEAGIRT SHIRE'S "GLAUCOUS"

To take part in this tournament, you must bring at least one weapon system (eg. Sword and Shield, Polearm) and your fighter card. If you have them, bring your tourney board shield and Dmitri would appreciate any "weird" weapons which you are willing to throw into the "pot" (axes, daggers, thrusting gauntlets, etc.).

The Tourney will be held indoors at the feast hall. The time table is listed below and will be adhered to so it does not interfere with the other planned activities. If there are insufficient participants at 1:30 the tournament will not be run.

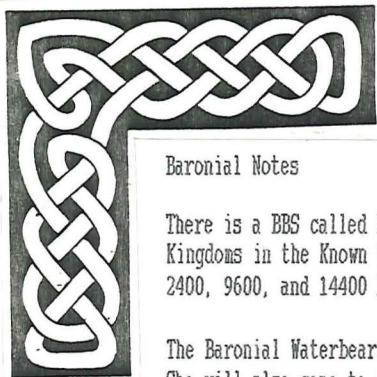
The hall opens at 12:00. Armour inspections,
Authorizations and Lists open at 12:10.
The Tourney starts at 1:30.
The Feast will begin at 7:00.
Site fee will \$5.00 and the Feast will be \$15.00
Merchant's fees will be \$5.00.
You must have a reservation to eat.
The deadline for reservations is November 25.

For more information, contact the following autocrats:
Rowena of Tregaeles aka Heather at 466-7283.
Isolde aka Melanie at 472-1647.
For tourney info: Dmitri Nicholi Bronslave aka Eric at 490-0818



FROM THE EDMONTON JOURNAL





Baronial Notes

There is a BBS called **HARDWIRED** that has 300 nodes from 10 Kingdoms in the Known World. Phone number 464-5479. 2400, 9600, and 14400 baud.

The Baronial Waterbearer needs supplies. Fabric and bottles. She will also come to fighting practices if asked. Call Christine Gruber at 469-1873 or 469-3574.

The Baronial Keeper of the Gold Key asks for donations. She needs ladies garments as well as pants for all sizes. Please contact Penny (see Baronial Officers list).

Congratulations to H.L. Enid ferch Rhodri and Master Thorvald Grimsson on being chosen as the successors to Mistress Laurel and Sir Ross as Baroness and Baron of Montengarde. We wish you all four the best of luck in your future endeavors.

The Fiber Workers Guild of Borealis is now in existence!!!

The Black Sheep would like to welcome any-one who is interested in fiber arts to come out and join our group. We are the fiber-workers Guild of Veraquilon and we are dedicated to learning and teaching the processes that turn fibers of all sorts into wearables. If any-one is interested in joining please call Her Ladyship Erna Kajasdottor at 449-1593. The meetings are on Sundays at noon at Erna's place in Sherwood Park.



His Lordship was portly,
and had a round belly,
That shook when he danced
Like a bowlful of
jelly!

We bumped off His Lordship, and grabbed all the dears,
This looks like it will be a really great year.
On Olaf, On Gunnar, on Thorkel and Häkon,
On Snorri, On Einar, on Ketil and Rudolf....

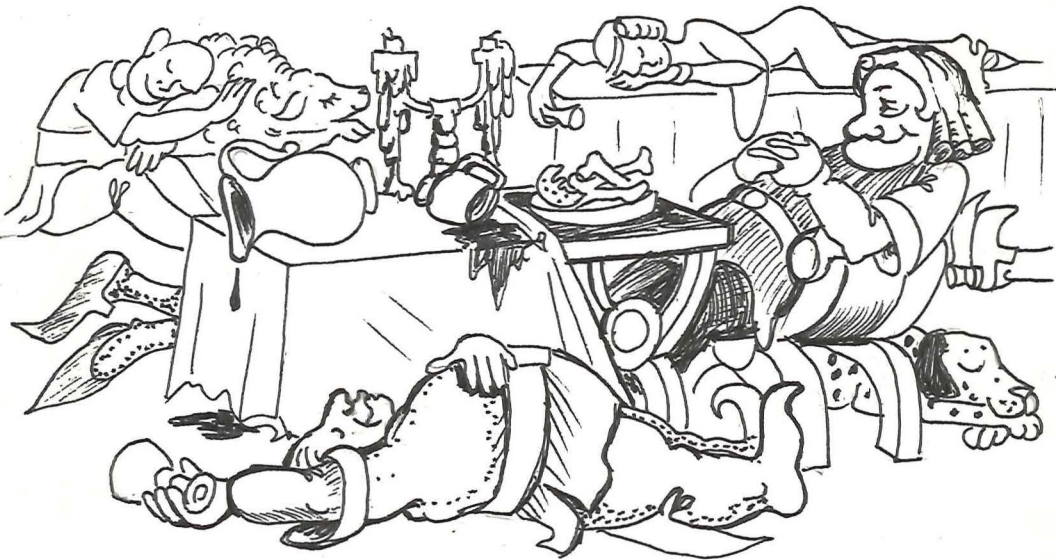


Down from the tower, and out through the wall.
Now dash away, dash away, dash away all.
Happy Jul, and good raiding, and to all
a good knight!

*With apologies to any later authors of similar verses.

T'WAS THE RAID BEFORE CHRISTMAS

Tw'as the night before Christmas, and all through the keep,
Not a creature was stirring, not even a sheep.



When Sven in his helmet, and I in my braids,
Snuck in through the gate, for a late season raid.



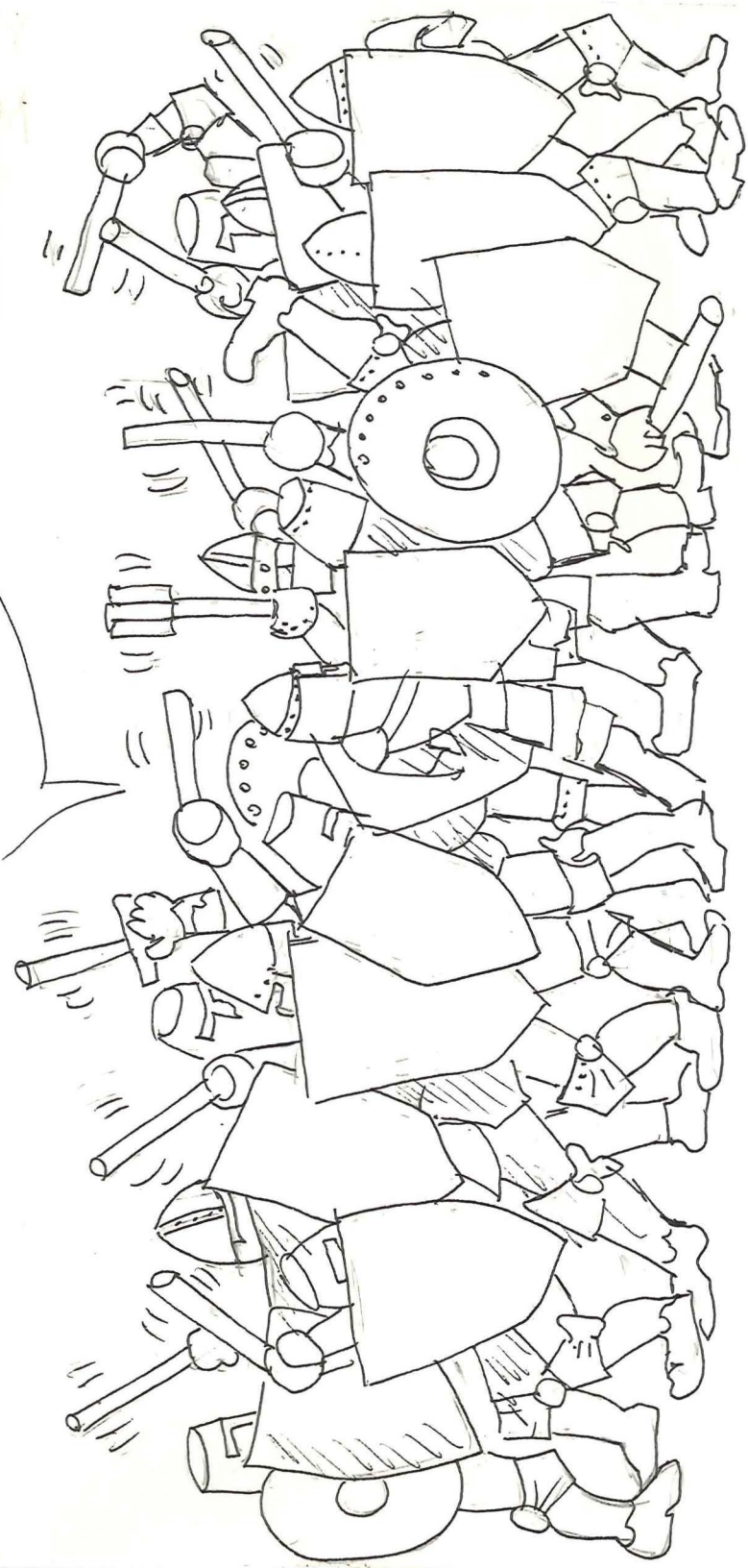
Then what did we hear,
From the front
Tower stairs,

Hi Hi Hi
Giggle Giggle

But the sound of His Lordship,
and Eight giggling dears.

The Grand Melee

I'm dead
I can't help
I have died
I have died





Montengarde Principality Twelfth Night

Come one and all and attend Montengarde's 12th Night on January 16, 1993. The feast will be held at the Red Deer Lake Community Hall (see map).

The event will include a tourney and feast with their Royal Majesties in attendance. Feast fees are: \$15.00 for 13 and older; 6-12 years and off-board: \$7.00. A maximum of 170 eating and 30 off-board tickets will be sold. After January 1, the price will go to \$20.00, so reserve now.

The tourney will be a prize tourney with an entry fee of a donation of a non-perishable food item for the Food Bank. Non-fighters are also encouraged to donate to this worthy cause. Armour inspection begins at 12 noon with the tourney starting at 1:00 pm.

A surprise contest will also be held. (Rules to be announced at the feast).



DIRECTIONS

Take the west-bound turn off highway 2 south of Calgary. Take 22X for approximately 8 km. west past Spruce Meadows. The site is south of highway 22X beyond the Red Deer Lake School.

For more information, contact James d'Orleans and (403) 277-7176. Auto-troll may answer. Fax (403) 262-1629. Or write to James d'Orleans c/o Mike Johnson, #3 - 610 Edmonton Tr. N.E., Calgary, AB, T2E 3J4.

Please make cheques payable to the M.S.C.A. and provide your Name (mundane and SCA), address, phone number and number/type of reservations. If crash space is required, include info on who and what their special needs, if any, are.



Translation:

In regards to blister and other skin blemishes:

Take nine eggs and boil them until they are firm. Then separate the yolks away from the whites and heat the yolks thoroughly on a pan, and than wring the juice out through a cloth. Take as many drops of wine as you have juice, as much unhallowed oil, an equal amount of honey, and another equal amount of fennel root; combine this all together, and strain it through a cloth. Give this to the sufferer to eat -- he will at once be well.

Translated by Caoimhtheach dhe Faolchu
MKA Johanus Haidner

Bibliography

- Davis,,Norman. ed. Sweet's Anglo-Saxon Primer. 9th Ed. Oxford, Clarendon Press. 1989.
Clark-Hall and Meritt. Anglo-Saxon Dictionary. 4th Ed. Cambridge, University Press. 1969.
Millward, C.M. A Biography of the English Language. HoH, Rinehart and Winston, Toronto. 1989





Medical Recipe:

First half of the 11th century.
Taken from manuscript Titus D. XXVI.

Original reads:

Wit þā bleġene, ġenim nigonāēġra and sēad hiġ faeste, and nim þāġeolcan and dō paet hwiġe awēġ; and meradā ġeolcan on ānre pannan and wring paet wās ūt þurh āenne clād. And nim eall swā fela dropena wines swā ūāera āēġra bēo, and eall swā feladrpena unġodes des, and eall swā fela huniges dropena; and of finoles more eall swā fela dropena ġenim þonne, and ġeðo hit eall tōsomne and wring ūt þurh āenne clād, and syle þām menn etan. Him byð sōna sēl.

**In the above script, any mark above the letter, including the dots on the "i's" is for modern reader's ease in reading and pronunciation. The Anglo-Saxons did not punctuate as we do, and commas and periods were used more for emphasis and pauses in speech than anything else. In proper Anglo-Saxon script, there is no difference in the form of capital and lower case letters. A capital letter was merely made larger than the remainder of the script. The letter eth (ð, Ð) is an exception to this "rule". This letter and the letter thorn (þ) represents the modern "th" in the words "then" and "thin". In modern translations the letter ash (ae) is capitalised as "A", or divided into the letters "A" and "E".





Skaldic Poetry
(part III Explanation of *Drott Kavanaugh*)

- 1 Jór renn aptanskoeru
 - 2 allsvangr gøtur langar,
 - 3 vøll kná hófr til hallar
 - 4 -høfum lítinn dag- slíta.
-
- 5 Nú's that's blakkr of bekki
 - 6 berr mik Dønum ferri;
 - 7 fákr laust drengs í diki
 - 8 -doegr moetask nú- foeti.

This is the *Drott Kavanaugh* stanza that appeared in last month's column. I've highlighted the important structural features of the verse. The language is Old Norse, which, not surprisingly, is very close to modern Icelandic. In Old Norse, the -r ending on certain words (høfr, blakkr) is not an extra syllable, and is pronounced as part of the syllable to which it is attached. This is important, because in *Drott Kavanaugh*, **each half-line has six syllables**, no more, no less (you may disagree after reading through the above poem, but Old Norse pronunciation is tricky, i.e. blakkr is one syllable). The other major rule is that **there are eight half-lines per**

Games of the Middle Ages

by Baron Gerhard Kendal of Westmoreland, Barony of Lions Gate
(from a handout at an Ithra many years ago)

GLUCKSHAUS

Europe, Middle Ages. Unlimited Players Gambling Game.

A special board and two dice are used. The players take turns throwing the dice in rotation.

If the dice roll is a 4, the player makes no move and passes the dice to the next player.

If the roll is 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, or 11, the player places a coin in the appropriate box. However, if there is already a coin or coins in the box, he takes them instead.

If the roll is 7, the player puts one coin in each box. (paying for the wedding feast)

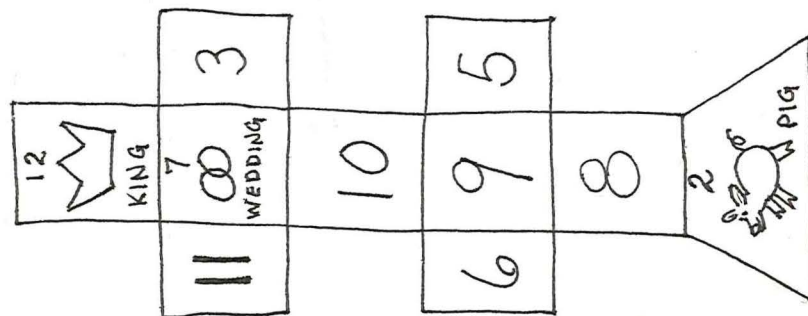
If the roll is 12, the player collects every coin on the board except the 2 box. (the King collecting taxes)

If the roll is 2, the player collects every coin on the board. (greedy pig)

If the game is played as a 'house' gambling game, the house collects one extra coin from each player rolling a 7.

'Lottery' Version

This is played similarly to the normal rules, except that on any number except a 2 or 12, the player puts the number of coins indicated by the die roll into the appropriate box; or collects as usual.



Ceol na Gaoth invites any and all interested in making sweet period music to our weekly practice Monday Nights at 15011 86 Ave.

We welcome all instruments, voices, and music to join us and if you're tone deaf, well heck, so are we. We offer instruction to beginners in woodwind, rhythm, and voice from 7:30 to 8:30 and a jam session usually follows.

For more information please call

Eowyn Cenek 489-5121
or Penny 439-0007 (days)

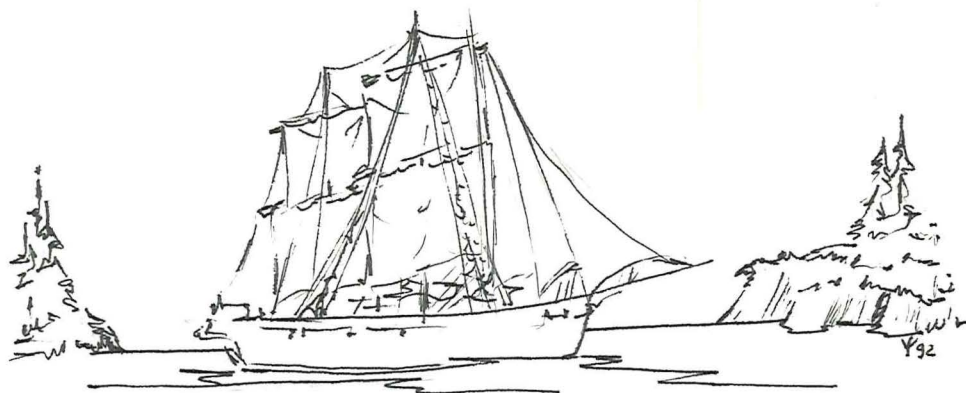


stanza. Each of the numbered lines is actually a half-line, so the stanza is actually four lines (look at the punctuation). Furthermore, **the stanza is divided into two parts that each contain four half-lines;** these are called *helmings*. So, a *Drottkvaett* verse is divided into two helmings, each containing four half-lines for a total of eight half-lines, or four full lines. Each half-line contains six syllables for a total of twenty-four per helming, forty-eight per stanza.

So why eight half-lines instead of simply four full-lines? Two reasons: alliteration and rhyming. Each pair of half lines is linked through alliteration, the characters that I've placed in **bold type**. Consonants alliterate with themselves, vowels alliterate with any other vowel, including j in Old Norse (ja?). J, **oe** and **a** all alliterate in the first two half-lines, and **h** is the alliterating consonant in the second pair of half-lines. Notice the placement of the alliterating letters. They occur at specific places in each half-line, always twice in the odd-numbered half-line, once in the even numbered half-line. In the odd-numbered lines, alliteration occurs on the second last syllable, and either on the first or third syllable. It always falls on the first syllable of the even-numbered lines.

Next time- More *Drottkvaett* rules, and more poems.

OLAFR SIGURDSSON
-Olafur Sigurdsson



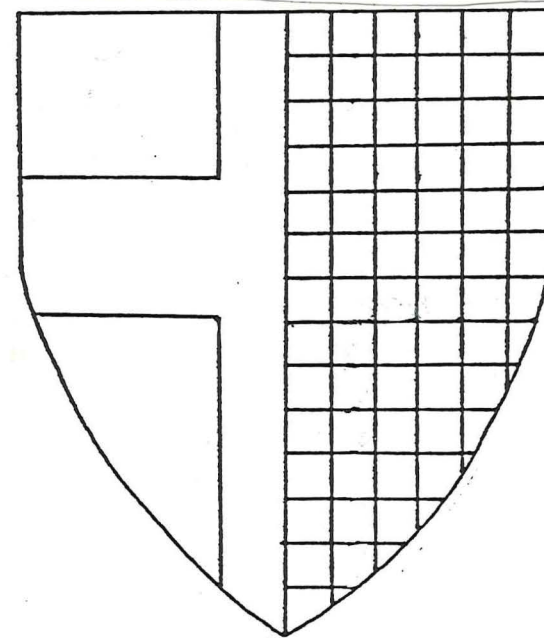
Interviews With Haakon

Today we have an interview with Doug Shore and Douglas Cameron of Sky from the Shire of Bitterend (Red Deer).

Haakon: Douglas, can you give us a few short words about your life?

Douglas: To begin with Laddy, I was born in 15 and 96...but I have no known Father. There are two gentlemen who are possible candidates, both helped me through life though neither acknowledged me. I myself claimed neither one. The year my mother died, which was in 1611, I went to London from Skye with a letter of introduction to Henry, Prince of Wales. I was in London barely a day when Henry secured me a position on board Henry Hudson's ship which I joined at Land's End.

We set across the Atlantic to the new World, Henry you know was trying to find a passage through the north to Cathay. We reached that place, the bay that now bears his name. We sailed south then west looking for an egress but found none. His crew mutaneed and those of us loyal to Henry stayed with him when he was marooned in an open boat. To my great fortune one of us loyal was the ship's carpenter who brought with him his tools. May those dogs who favoured them (the mutaneers) roast in Hell. From that point we found land and built a small camp. One day I went hunting, and on my return, found the encampment empty. I stayed the winter alone.





Haakon: Why did you choose Douglas Cameron of Sky as a persona?

Doug: Well D.C.S. was a third tier choice for me. Originally I wanted Tatange Manee, my Indian name, but I could not register that name. The Scottish names were easier to document.

Haakon: Is it worth the effort?

Doug: At times it is wonderful, but other times it is *@@!!@? I guess most of the time it is good.

Haakon: Does D.C. of S. ever enter into your mundane life?

Doug: As most of my hobbies and crafts are Society oriented and they take up a lot of mundane time, I guess he does. Also Douglas Cameron of Skye's life philosophy is the same as Doug Shore's.

Well..yes... I'm fighting light right now because I'm too Heavy to be a Heavy. But after I've Been a light for a while, I'll get light enough to be a Heavy!



* with thanks to Max for the Idea. ... and no offence intended.

HERALDIC PROFILES

The people of Borealis and their devices
Heraldry - Lord Yeoman Mordecai Salzer
Biography - Ladyship Freydis Fartravelled

His Lordship Edward MacSterling, Sergeant of
Borealis (also known as: Roger deCoté, Magnus
Eirikson, Edward Sterling)

Gules a cross Or marshalled with checky sable
and argent.

(Herald's note: Although this device is in use
by Sergeant MacSterling, marshalling is not
acceptable for devices registered in the
society and therefore this device would not be
registerable in the SCA.)

Order of the Jambe de Lion	15 Oct. AS XVIII (1983)
Order of the Goutte de Sang	21 Sept. AS XXVI (1991)
Award of Arms	12 June AS XVII (1981)
Iron Sword	1 July AS XXII (1987)
Sergeant of Arms	18 Aug. AS XX (1985)
Silverwolf	AS XXII - AS XXIV (1987-1989)
Decorated Letter	7 Dec AS XXVI (1991)

His Lordship Cennet ap Llangollen, Sergent of
Borealis.

Per bend sinister argent and vert, a dragon's
head emergent from line of division gules and
a long bow bendwise sinister Or.

Order of the Jambe de Lion	4 July AS XXIII (1988)
Award of Arms	11 July AS XXII (1987)
Sergeant of Arms	19 Aug AS XXII (1987)
Decorated Letter	7 Dec AS XXVI (1991)



In the spring, I set out across the continent to
complete Hudson's voyage. In the second summer, having
crossed most of the continent, I camped near the top of a
hill, within sight of the mountains.
While there, I saw and heard a battle in progress. one
half of the battle was a small family group, heavily
outnumbered by the other side. I decided to intervene.
We routed the enemy from the field, and using sign
language I joined that group. I was to discover they
were the stony people of the Blackfoot Confederation,
with whom I would spend 30 yrs of my life. Eventually I
grew homesick. I took 2 of my sons and several other
warriors and headed south along the mountains. As I knew
that the Spanish had conquered the Mexicans, I hoped to
encounter them, and did so in 1643. It took me nearly
5 years, but eventually I returned to England. There I
found Cromwell (Ptui... may he roast in the deepest
corner of hell!!) at war with his lawfull king. And
though we were valiant, Charles was defeated, and
murdered by Cromwell (Ptui!).

Haakon: Doug what attracted you to the SCA?

Doug: Initially I was attracted to the group because Chris
Vickers MKA Father Christopher or Christopher Sigismund
Olafson, a friend with whom I stayed now and then, was a
member of the group. It's all his fault that I'm here.
Later I got hooked on the research etc.