

# Aurora

November A.S. XXVIII

The Aurora Borealis  
Box 159  
Gibbons, AB T0A 1N0

This is the Aurora, a publication of the Barony of Borealis of the Society For Creative Anachronism, Inc. The Aurora is available from Valgard at hus Vendrer or Edwina of Loxley, P.O. Box 159, Gibbons, AB T0A 1N0. It is not a corporate publication of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., and does not delineate SCA policies.

*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.*



WEDDING FEAST

Baronial Calendar  
**NOVEMBER**

3	Dance at Capilano Hall Video night	Veraquilon Lakeland
10	Business Norse History & Culture	Veraquilon Lakeland
13	Wedding Feast	Lakeland
17	Heraldry Consult/Banner Islamic Culture	Veraquilon Lakeland
24	Feast Etiquette & Court Tablet Weaving	Veraquilon Lakeland

**DECEMBER**

1	Dance (hall to be decided) Video Night	Veraquilon Lakeland
4	St Nickolas Feast	Veraquilon
8	Business	Veraquilon

The submission deadline for the December issue of the Aurora is November 15th. The publishing and distribution date will be November 24th.

The Aurora is available for \$16 per annum (12 issues). All cheques and money orders are to be made payable to:

"ASCA - Barony of Borealis"

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7307 - 86 Ave., Edmonton, AB T6B 0K6

MISTRESS OF Isolde the Irritating  
THE LISTS Melanie Craigen Ph 472-1647  
#69, Hyndman Cres.,  
Edmonton, AB T5A 4S3

HEAD

WATERBEARER This position is currently vacant.

SENEHALATES OF THE BARONY OF BOREALIS

CANTON OF VERAQUILON

Lord Eadwulf macRuthven (acting)  
Robert Reader Ph (403) 920-2054  
4308 - 48 St. Beaumont, AB T4X 1G3

CANTON OF LAKELAND

Matsuda Takashi  
Greg Dorrington Ph (403) 594-2510  
#38 5612 - 53 Ave., Grand Centre, AB T0A 1T1

## OFFICERS OF THE BARONY OF BOREALIS

BARON AND Their Majesties Sir Rorik Gunnarson and  
BARONESS Helena of Berka Ph (403)892-2629  
Daryl Mahoney and Lisa Shwydiuk  
Box 26 Site 4 RR2 Duffield TOE ONO

### GREAT OFFICES

CASTELLAN Albrecht von Rugen  
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T6L 5K6

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### LESSER OFFICES

CONSTABLE Yeoman Eadwulf macRuthven  
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4308 - 48 St., Beaumont, AB T4X 1G3

#### Canton of Veraquilon

Weekly meetings are held on Wednesday evenings at 8:30 pm in SUB function room at the U of A. All Gentles attending meetings are requested to wear Period Attire (or reasonable attempt thereof) with the exception being Council Meetings.

#### The Blacksheep Guild

(fibreworkers guild) meets every Monday night at 7pm at HL Erna Kajadottor's. Call Karen at 449-1593 for more info and directions to her place in Sherwood Park.

Ceol na Gaoth invites any and all interested in making sweet period music to our weekly practice Monday Nights at 7510 106 St. (basement). Except, of course, on holidays. We welcome all voices, instruments, 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 8:00 and a jam session usually follows.

For more information please call:  
Penny Slonowski 439-0007 (days)  
(Lady Fionnula Nicholas) 431-0657 (evenings and messages)

#### The Roger de Cote School of Fence

Meets at 6:00 pm on Wednesdays at the Holyrood School. For more info call HL Roger de Cote at 449-1593.

#### Canton of VerAquilon Fighter Practice

Is held every Sunday STARTING AT NOON, in Dinwoodie Lounge, second floor SUB at U of A. Contact Caoimhtheach Faolchu (Johanus Haidner) at 432-0694 for more info.

#### Dance Practise

Held every 2nd Monday night, U of A Fine Arts Building room 1-29. Contact Mordecai Salzer (Rick Slansky) at 428-2535 for more info.

#### Guild of the Groaning Board

##### GREETINGS UNTO THE POPULOUS OF BOREALIS

Are you interested in eating fabulous and exotic dishes? Perhaps you are interested in learning how to cook said dishes. Want to attend some small feasts and learn how to run a feast for larger groups? If any of these things appeal to you then the **Guild of the Groaning Board** is for you. The Guild meets once a month to prepare (and eat) new and exciting dishes that you would expect to find at any feast. For more info and when the next meeting is please contact Leeanna Ryan at 449-6834.

October 13, 1993

Greetings and Best Wishes  
unto the people of Borealis

Well another month has come and gone and the Feast season is upon us. I wish to thank the autocrats for a super Silverwolf event.

As it stands, I have not received any applications or verbal interest in the Deputy Baronial Seneschal position. The position will remain open now until a suitable individual comes forward. Other offices that are open are:

Baronial Waterbearer  
Deputy Baronial Constable

Crown Principality offices that are currently taking applications are:

Chatelaine apply to Kingdom Chatelaine  
Exchequer apply to CP Seneschal  
Arts and Sciences same

Otherwise, the only outstanding business is to remind that reports are due October 31, 1993.

I hope to see everyone at the Lakeland Wedding Feast November 13, and St Nicks, December 4, 1993.

To the furtherance of the Dream;

Elizabeth

be possible to arrange for a member of Borealis to sell your wares for you.

I would like to emphasize that the Museum staff are very easy to work with, and are very enthusiastic about this project. We received incredible amounts of excellent publicity from our last exhibit: all signs, posters, and advertising related to the event, the exhibit itself (every SCA article labelled as such), newspaper interviews, live coverage on the radio, radio interviews; even cooking a dish on a local TV talk show! All of the coverage was positive, and the simple fact that we were endorsed by the Provincial Museum boosts the credibility of the SCA as a whole. For this reason, I hope to see more of the excellent work that SCA artisans are renowned for! Send me your photos now! Don't wait!

All photos, questions, and merchant applications should be forwarded to:



HL Erna Kajadotter (SCA liason to Alberta Prov. Museum)

mka Karin Thirlwell  
244 Regency Drive,  
Sherwood Park, AB  
T8A 5P6

Or phone (403) 449-1593 (your dime, no calls after 9 PM)

NOTE: CHRONICLER - PLEASE PUBLISH IN YOUR NEWSLETTER UP TO DECEMBER ISSUE. THANKS!

August 23, 1993

**TENTATIVE LIST OF EVENTS  
THEIR MAJESTIES WILL BE ATTENDING  
(subject to change)**

Open letter to all branches in Kingdom of An Tir:

The Barony of Borealis successfully worked with the Alberta Provincial Museum in the spring of 1993, to provide a top notch medieval exhibit, feast, and Demo of crafts and fighting for the general public. Approximately 7,000 people filed through the exhibit (all ages), and 100 people paid \$30.00 to participate in the Medieval Feast (with another 100 on a waiting list!). The museum staff were so impressed by the turn out (there were an average of 300 people per hour in the exhibit, and they were staying for an unheard of average of two hours), that the exhibit, originally scheduled for one week, was extended to two weeks. Needless to say, they want to do it again!

Therefore, I am once again soliciting photos of top quality items, preferably constructed by SCA artisans. Each photo must be accompanied by a BRIEF description of the item, time period, and the mundane name and address of the owner of the object. The items can be anything from your favorite sword to a beautiful piece of needlework or pottery. The exhibit will be done on a similar theme as the previous one; namely, the "fair grounds" room and the "castle interior". Costumes are especially popular. The deadline for photo submission is December 1, 1993. After that date, the museum staff will commence choosing the items they want included in the display.

If your item is chosen, you will be sent a Museum Inventory Form, and instructions regarding how to get your item (accompanied by its form!) to the museum. As soon as it is received by the museum, it is insured and treated as any museum article would be. (While this is very reassuring, I have to admit that it seemed funny to me to watch them tut-tutting over the way we take care of our stuff, and handling everything with cotton gloves. I tried to explain that these are things people USE all the time, but they were still shocked.)

The exhibit will run for THREE weeks next year; March 26 to April 17, 1994. They will also be running the "Grand Fair" again, March 26-27. At this time, the Museum has invited SCA artisans to merchant their wares, in order to add to the "fair" flavour. HOWEVER, please note that the Museum reserves the right to jury the merchants; i.e. you must submit photos of your wares as well as a written description of your work. They are not charging for merchanting, but it is important to them that the wares displayed are truly quality, hand-crafted work. No garage sale re-sales! If you live out of Edmonton, but would like to participate, it may

Crown Council Meeting	Oct 30-31
*To be Decided*	Nov 6th
Lakeland Wedding Feast (unsure)	Nov 13th
Janeltis Feast	Nov 20th-21st
St Nicks Feast	Dec 4th
Sigelehundas Feast	Dec 11th
Kingdom 12th Night Coronation	Jan 8th-10th 1994

**TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE KINGDOM:**

**A RAFFLE OF A BEAUTIFUL HANDCRAFTED DRAGON BOAT MADE BY SJT SQUIRE ERIC THE TRESPASSER.**  
- TICKETS ARE A STEAL AT \$1.00 EACH.  
- DRAW WILL BE MADE AT KINGDOM 12TH NIGHT.  
- THE DRAGON BOAT HAS A VALUE OF \$350.00.

**YOUR SUPPORT IS APPRECIATED.**

**DANCE PRACTISE**

Dance practise is held in Fine Arts Building Rm 1-29, from 7pm until 10pm. Those wishing more information are requested to contact Mordecai Saltzer at 428-2535. Practise is held on the following dates:

November	8	February	14
	22		28
December	6	March	14
	20		28
January	10	April	11
	17		25
	31		

Renfred The Unstable presents...

# THE ORIGIN OF ELDRI + THE HERALD SLAYER

AS ELDRI PULLED OUT  
"THE HAND FROM THE  
SAND"...

Houchhh  
Ochtooi!

I REFUSE  
TO SPEAK  
TO YOU  
UNTIL YOU  
SPEAK IN  
ENGLISH  
AND NOT  
GAELIC!!!

...ONE OF THE LOCAL  
VILLAGERS SAW  
THIS FEAT AND  
TOLD THE OTHERS.

THE VILLAGERS,  
HAVING HEARD THE  
NEWS...



..GATHERED AROUND  
THE MOUND...

...AND STARTED TO  
TALK AMONGST  
THEMSELVES....

I wonder  
if ALL of  
him is THIS  
SHORT!

YE GODS!!  
HE NEEDS  
TO BE  
STRETCHED!

I BET  
CERTAIN  
PARTS  
ARE!!!  
(heh heh!)

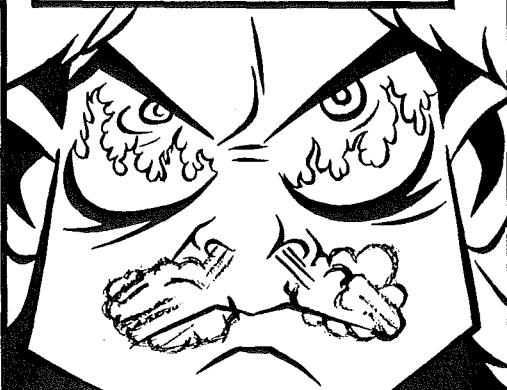
Yea, a  
ON RACK!

HEY!  
Anyone for  
a pituitary  
& pit gland?

MMM...  
SHORT  
but  
sweet!

...MUCH TO THE  
FRUSTRATION OF  
OUR HERO.

AS HIS SENSITIVE  
EARS COULD NOT  
ENDURE SUCH  
NOISE...



...ELDRI'S TEMPER  
BEGAN TO WELL  
WITHIN HIM.

SUDDENLY, AND  
WITHOUT WARNING,  
A GEYSER OF MYSTICAL  
ENERGY ERUPTED  
FROM THE GROUND  
BEHIND ELDRI.

SHEESH...

TALK ABOUT  
BLOWING YOUR  
TOP!!!

coh!

AWW  
WWW

## From the Seneschal of Veraquilon

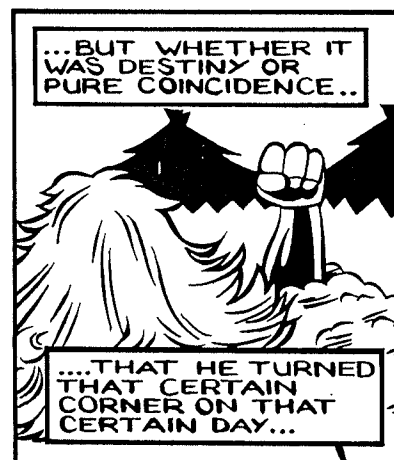
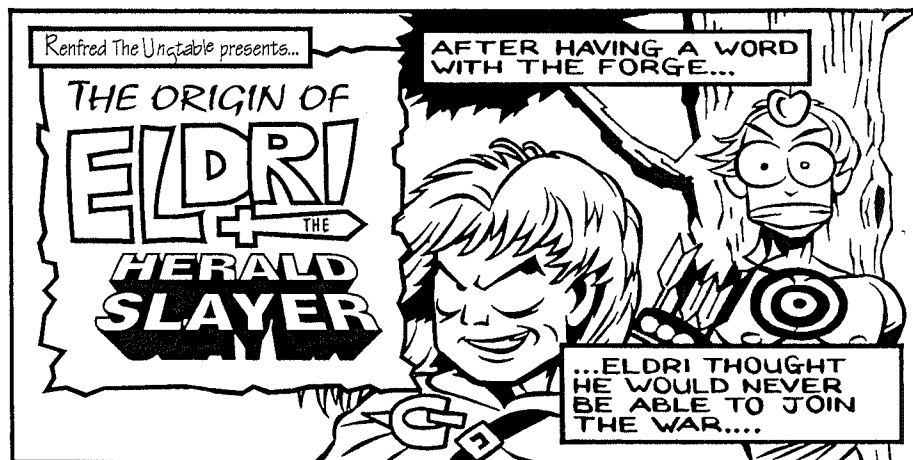
I am sponsoring a heraldry contest for those who have never submitted a device before. There will be various categories, including best example of a cant (a play on your persona's name), most aesthetic, and one or two others. The judges will be myself, Demetra, the Canton Herald and one neutral judge, from outside our area. Submissions must be heraldically correct and have no known conflicts. Therefore I strongly suggest you consult any herald, (Demetra, Mordecai Saltzer, Guy of Aldernay) or any serjeant or yeoman. The deadline is November 24, and winners will be announced at the St Nicholas Feast. The prizes will be the submission fee to be paid for by the Canton to the College of Heraldry for the new devices. The contest is open to residents of Veraquilon. Good luck to all.

In Service to all  
Ld. Ymn. Eadwulf macRuthven  
Elder of Avacal

## Second Monthly Veraquilon Dance Hall Meet.

Partake in the games, listen to the Bards, eat, drink. Do as you see fit and the law will allow at the STABLES Inn. The Inn opens for business on Wednesday, November 3rd at 7:30 - 1200.

CAPILANO HALL 5400 - 108A AVE.  
SITE Fee \$1.00



Caoimhtheach Faolchu was born in the Christian year 585, to a Pictish woman. After being fostered with his mother's sister's family for some years, he fled the influence of her Christian husband. He then lived with some pagan Scots for a while (where he earned his name), before returning to his home land. He is still working on his education, learning as many crafts and skills as he can, including language, writing, illumination, fighting and working metal.

Johanus Haidner is a teacher and artist, living in Edmonton and Wetaskiwin.



10125 - 124th STREET  
EDMONTON, ALBERTA  
T5N 1P5

TEL: (403) 488-9873

**PAUL BRYSON**  
SALES MANAGER

In December, the holidays are upon us. It is the time for celebration and enjoyment. On the 4th of December, in Beautiful, balmy (NOT!) Borealis, at our Feast of Saint Nicholas, is your opportunity to revel with the most fun loving people in the Kingdom, including their Majesties Rorik and Helena. Enjoy a sumptuous feast prepared by the legendary Lord Rulon deHatch. If you miss this feast, you will regret it later. In the afternoon gaming and heavy fighting will come together in the only real live Battle Chess tournament which I have ever heard of. Heavies bring your armour and four chess players are needed for this activity. The evening's entertainment will feature a story telling contest (exaggeration allowed) upon the theme of the local history of the current middle ages. Hopefully juicy scandals and humourous anecdotes about people you know will be presented.

Go to the Caernarvon Community Hall at 14830 - 118 St. in Veraquilon (Edmonton). If you are coming into town on Highway 16, turn north on 97th st., west on 153rd Ave., south on 113A St., west again on 152nd Ave. and south again on 118th st. It is by the school on the right. The doors open at noon. If you are coming north on Highway 2, make your way to Highway 16 (Yellowhead) as best you can, then follow the above directions.

The cost is \$12 per person. We will be allowing 200 people maximum for the feast. Any people over that will have to go off-board at \$5 site fee, so reserve early. For reservations, call me at (403) 482-2535, an autotroll is standing by. Please indicate who is eating or not. We will also be taking table reservations for groups, so you don't have to go running in to hold your spots. Merchants are welcome and will be able to set up for the afternoon.

Autocrats:HL Mordecai Salzer (403) 482-2535  
(e-mail rms@mercury.uah.ualberta.ca)  
Lady Demetra of Samarkand (c/o Rob)  
(403) 479-3257



To all Brewers, Meadmakers, and other fabricators of Potable Liquids:

Get into the 'spirit' of the winter holiday season. Meet your peers, trade recipes, samples or experiences.

The (Un)Official Brewers Guild of Borealis will be holding a competition at the St. Nickolas's feast in Veraquilon in December. What, you ask, is the nature of this competition?

Well, first a bit of history. Back in the spring of this year, several members of the (Un)Official Brewers Guild of Borealis decided that a Brew Meister should be selected. And the best way to select a brew meister was by picking the best brew.

So, at Clinton war, some of us got together with a few bottles, and did some taste testing. Of the local produce that was sampled, hus Vendrer/92 was declared to be the best. Therefore, the Baron of Borealis, His Majesty Sir Rorik, declared the winners to be Valgard af hus Vendrer and Edwina of Loxley.

Now, as Brew Meisters, it is time to defend our title, or pass it along to a worthy successor. The rules are simple; all participants are to bring a sample of their produce, and the judging will be done by those people who brought something. As well, 1 to 4 judging positions may be auctioned to the general populace, with the funds raised being used to further the cause of the (Un)Official Brewers Guild.

The time and place of the competition will be announced at St. Nick's.

their households than the men, and all occupations were open to both men and women. This is something that fits well with the S.C.A., as we can both male and female warriors, artisans and cooks.

I hope this serves well to give you a rough idea of some of the manners of Picts, and how this can fit into the S.C.A.

Here's a list of some sources where you may be able to find some information about the Picts. This is only a start, and there are many more books and articles to be found. Most of the references to Pictish culture and their way of life are not listed in indexes, but can be found within the text of other books (possibly because this is still the dark age in Britain). For example I found an entire page describing Pict wedding customs in a book on old English and Scottish law; nowhere in the book was this information referenced (and now I wish I'd written down the title of the book).

Chadwick, H.M. Early Scotland.  
Cambridge: 1949.

Chadwick, N.K. Celtic Britain. London:  
1963.

Henderson, I. The Picts. London: 1964.

Mackie, J.D. A History of Scotland.  
Penguin Press, London: 1978.

Moffat, William. A History of Scotland.  
Oxford University Press, Oxford:  
1985 -1989. Volume I

Wainwright, F.T. The Problem of the Picts. London: 1964.

**A Short Article about Pictish Manners**  
**by Caoimhtheach Faolchu**  
(continued from October AS 28)

Picts did not have men-at-arms, squires, sergeants or knights. There were three ways to consider yourself as a warrior: as a student to a particular, more experienced fighter; as a free warrior, as most were; or as a champion to a particular household, chief or army. In any instance, if you swore yourself to a certain cause or person you stuck by your word, unless there was some very good reason not to. Of course the reason could be as simple as "the war's over", but generally, if the relationship was such that there was still a two-way benefit of any sort, it could last throughout a life time, even if the student excelled the teacher in fighting.

Where crafts and other occupations are concerned, things were sometimes a simple apprenticeship and when the apprentice reached a certain level of skill, she was on her own, or there could be like the student & mentor relationship of the warrior class, but the latter was very rare. The exception is religious training, but that does not enter into the S.C.A..

When greeting others, the Pictish men did not kiss the hands of the ladies, but would show respect to them as they would any other individual, with eye contact, possibly a nod of the head, and (hopefully) a smile. This is how anyone would meet a new person. Those who were more familiar would hug, regardless of gender, as it was more a sign of familiarity and friendship. Yet, hand-kissing can be a fun part of the S.C.A. (again, that foreign culture thing).

Another thing about Pictish culture is that the women were more often the head of

*We, the Canton of Lakelands (for now!) cordially extend an invitation to the nuptials of*

*Mariko and  
Lord Asker al-Kamir*

*on the 13th of November, AS XXVIII.*

*The ceremony will be held at the Leisure Sports Village, Grand Centre, starting at 1:00 pm. Classes and Baronial meeting will follow. Details on the classes will be available at the Troll Booth.*

*A six-remove feast featuring foods native to Germany, Turkey, and Japan will be served beginning at 6:00 pm. The expected menu will be as follows.*

*Opening: Beef Barley soup, Smoked fowl wings, Cheese sticks*

*2<sup>nd</sup> remove: (Alfheim's Bounty) Venison stew, Stuffed game hens, Goose and duck in a stroganoff sauce*

*3<sup>rd</sup> remove: (Mariko's Welcome) Hot and sour soup, Almond chicken, Pork fried rice.*

*4<sup>th</sup> remove: (al-Kamir's Welcome) Turkish wedding soup, Baked stuffed trout, Stuffed egg plant.*

*5<sup>th</sup> remove: (to our new homeland): Fowl schnitzels, Ryulotan, peas & carrots.*

*6<sup>th</sup> remove: (dessert) Black forest cake, Chinese Dessert, Turkish sweet bunnets.*

*Anyone with dietary concerns or allergies is invited to contact the Feastsocrat.*

*Fees: \$5 site only  
\$15 feast-received before Nov. 5  
\$15 feast-at the door*

*We request that anyone planning to attend please contact the autocrats so that we have a good idea how many people to cook for.*

*Autocrats: Lord Asker al-Kamir (Allan Gallant, 594-0628, Box 1385, Medley, Alta, TDA 29A) and  
Aelfwyn of Longwood (Mila Little, 594-5116, c/o Officer's Mess, 4 Wing, Medley, Alta, TDA 29A)*

*Feastsocrat: Lady Adeline (Gail Hiar, 594-1083, Box 1865, Medley, Alta, TDA 29A)*

*Directions: Take your best route to Grand Centre, turn at the airplane (towards CJB Cold Lake), the Leisure Sports Village is immediately to your left.*

WINTER MOOSE is coming! Is it a desert? No! it's AnTir's MOOSEst reknown Master, Master Nikolai Grendal Gornych. Join us January 29th at Whitecroft Community Hall, (Sherwood Park). There will be a day long class on fighting while Mistress Kateryne of Hindscroft teaches TWO costuming classes. The feast will begin at 6:00pm. Please note, that while class size (20 students, 8 for Practical Hand Sewing) and feast reservations are limited (40 seats) you are always welcome to join us off-board.

Site Fee:\$ 1.00  
Feast :\$10.00

Courses:

Fighting Seminar (all day)

The morning will involve unarmoured practice of techniques while the afternoon session will concentrate on armoured fighting.

- Instr: Master Nikolai Gornych Grendal
- Cost : \$20.00
- Class size limited to 20 persons

A Survey of Costume Patterning (4 hrs)

An overview of the various basic types of pattern construction used in the SCA time period.

- Instr: Mistress Kateryne of Hindscroft
- Cost : \$ 1.00
- Class size limited to 10 persons

Practical Hand Sewing (4 hrs)

A history of stitching in the SCA time period and how to do the stitches described, such as hem stitching, seams and finishing techniques.

- Instr: Mistress Kateryne of Hindscroft
- Cost : \$ 5.00
- Class size limited to 8 persons

Seminar Registration

Event : Winter Moose  
Date : January 29, 1994  
Time : 9:00am - 5:00pm  
Place : Whitecroft Community Hall (Sherwood Park)

Course: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount inclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name (SCA) \_\_\_\_\_

Name (MKA) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Send to ATTN: Dmitri Nikolai Bronslav  
Borealis Master of Stables  
#107, 2620 Millwoods Rd. East  
Edmonton, Alberta  
T6L 5K6

Home (403) 490-0818

Fax (403) 434-9681

Please make cheques payable to "Barony of Borealis". Limited feast seating is available.

Please bring note taking materials and a lunch. For fighting seminar, please bring armour, weapons, sweats and a lunch.