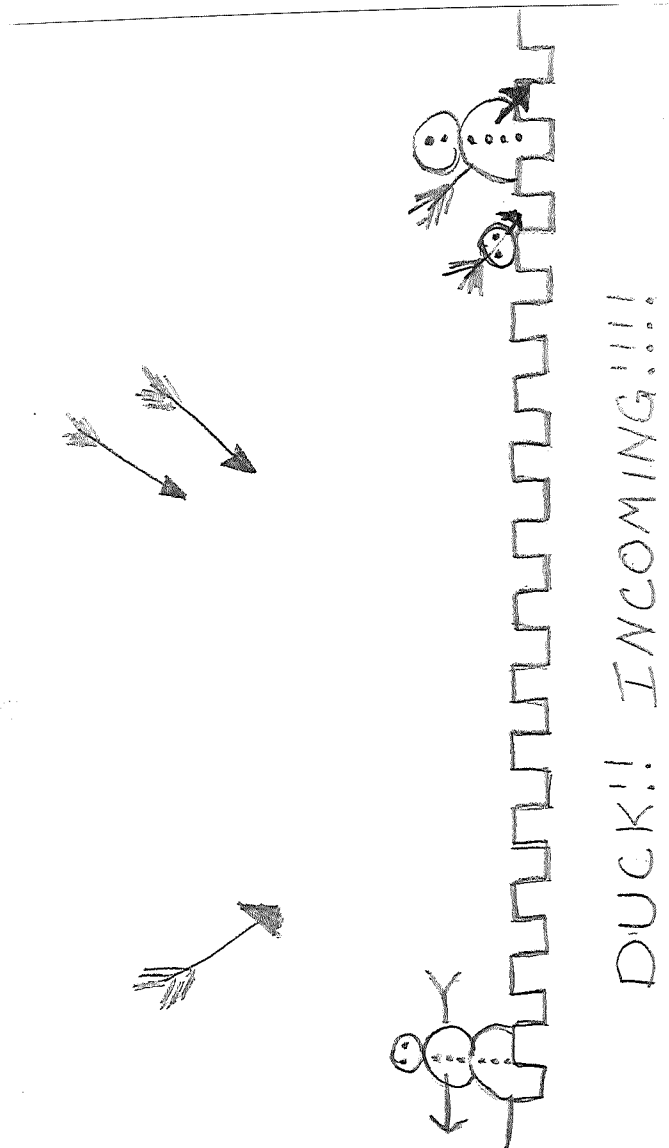


Aurora

February 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 bus 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.

Baronial Calendar
FEBRUARY

- | | | |
|--------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| 2 | Dance at Capilano Hall
Prep for Evergreens | Veraquilon
Lakelands (A&A) * |
| 5 | Feast of the Evergreens | Lakelands |
| 9 | Business
Rome vs Byzantium | Veraquilon
Lakelands (LSV) * |
| 16-21 Estrella War | | |
| 16 | Courtly Love Challenge
Armouring & Costuming | Veraquilon
Lakelands (A&A) * |
| 23 | Light Fighting Talk
Welsh History | Veraquilon
Lakelands (LSV) * |
| 26-27 Winter War | | Veraquilon |

MARCH

- | | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------|
| 2 | Dance at Capilano Hall
Tudor History | Veraquilon
Lakelands (N&M) * |
| 9 | Business
Irish History | Veraquilon
Lakelands (LSV) * |
| * | LSV - Leisure Sports Village
A&A - Adelaine & Alfheim (594-1083)
N&M - Nancy & Mark (594-5637) | |

The submission deadline for the February issue of the Aurora is February 15th. The publishing and distribution date will be February 23th.

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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MISTRESS OF Isolde the Irritating
THE LISTS Melanie Craigen Ph 433-6803
#206, 10512 - 83 Ave.
Edmonton, AB T6E 2C9

HEAD

WATERBEARER This position is currently vacant.

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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 the 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.

Canton of Lakelands Fight Practices each Tuesday evening, 7:00pm at Assumption High School. Contact Alfheim 594-1083
Classes on various topics take place each Wednesday evening, 7:00pm. see calender for topics and locations.

The Blacksheep Guild (fibreworkers guild) meets every Teusday night at 7pm at HL Erna Kajadottor's. Call HL Erna 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 bi-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 Fionnuala Nioclas) 431-0657 (evenings and messages)

The Roger de Cote School of Fence Meets at 6:00 pm on Wednesdays. 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 Otto Gruber at 468-6783 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 435-2051 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.

Finest of the Winter Season

The Winter Season of feasting and indoor sport has definitely begun, but I hope everyone is enjoying themselves. I have very few things to impart to you at this time. I wish to remind all fighters that the January 1 deadline is upon us, and please make sure you have consulted with you local MoS. Kingdom Twelfth Night has come and gone, and I have great hopes for the up-coming reign of TRM's Darius and Jacyntha. Plus I welcome Adeline von Swartzwald the exchequer of Lakeland as my deputy.

This coming few months will be extremely busy for the populace of Borealis. From the Games Championship in Lakeland, to the hosting of the Avacal Heavy and Light Championships in June, we will have a great deal to do. I have been impressed by the level of volunteering that we have been experiencing, and I hope that we can maintain it. I know that everyone will be present with eager enthusiasm at the Provincial Museum demo's and feasts in March and April. And as always, officers, the next reports are due to me by March 1st.

I have been approached by members of both Cantons to determine when the next Baronial meeting should be. I had considered Feast of the Evergreens, but have opted to have one at Winter War (February 26) instead, it being a Baronial event now. I have discussed with a couple of members of Lakeland, to talk about the possibility having a round table discussion session at Evergreens instead. (This would mean no officers reports and discussion of more topics.) Anyone with ideas on this please feel free to speak to me, if it should go ahead I will need topics. So far possible topics are: regalia, finances, events. Following Winter War the next Baronial meeting will be at Spring Fair March 12.

Otherwise, I wish everyone a happy and joyous winter season, and all the best in the coming New Year.

In Service, Your Seneschal

Elizabeth
Elizabeth

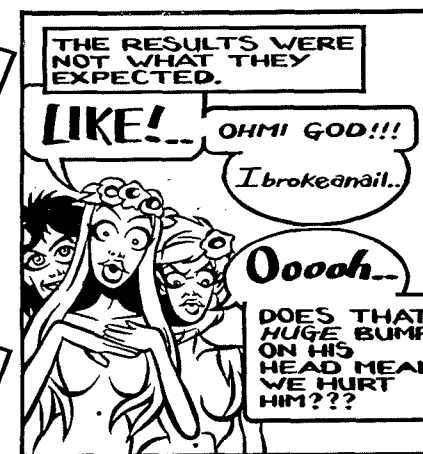
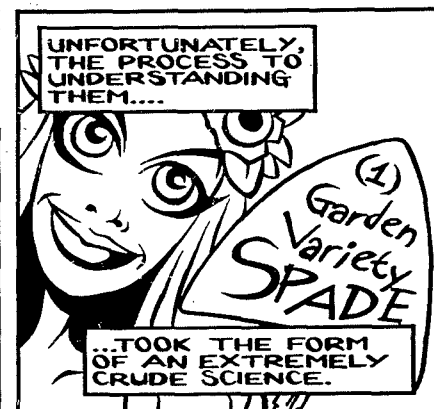
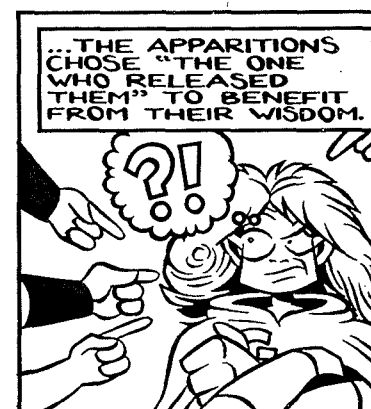
Offices remaining open:

Waterbearer
Chirurgion

Deputies are being sought for:

Arts and Sciences (Stefan would like to step down next year)

Constable
Liaison

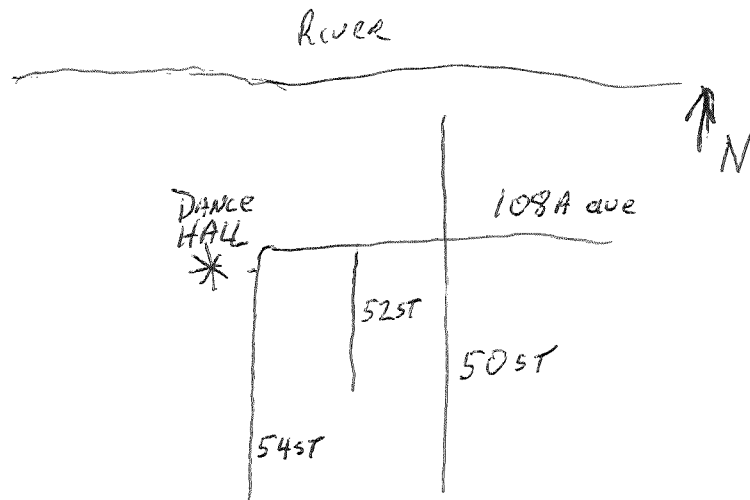


As BrewMeister of the (UN)Official Brewers Guild of Borealis I, Ragnall the Reticent, have deemed it time to defend my title. I challenge the populace to bring their produce to be judged this mid-summer. Place and time of the competition will be announced at Spring Faire. Samples will be judged by participants, and hopefully, their Excellencies Jarl Rorik and Jarla Helena will assist in the judging (love that casa BooBoo wine). Best of luck to all.

Ragnall the Reticent

Come all ye revellers to the Tavern of the Slippery Slippers and the Fiddling Diddlers! Court your Lady Love, Lift your feet in a Merry Dervish and Whetteth Thy Whistleth with a Wondrouth Winter Waithail on February 2, Capilano Hall, 8:00pm, \$1.00 cover charge. Support your local Musicians Guild.

5400 - 108A Ave.



Winter War
February 26-27

The site opens at noon on Saturday and closes at 3pm on Sunday.
Site Fee \$5.00 even if you are not spending the night. Children 6 and under free.
The site is at the Edmonton Heritage Aviation Society, 11410 Kingsway Ave. (the "Hanger" on Kingsway)
There will be a pot luck feast on Saturday. More complete information will be mailed out to the Branch Senechals as soon as possible.
Autocrat - Isolde the Irritating
mka Melanie Craigen 433-6803

The Avantgarde considers it a tragedy indeed when the newsletters of a CREATIVE Society must turn to published texts for borders and other decorative touches. To counter this inexplicable vacancy in our files, and to better promote the arts within Avacal, we hereby announce

THE GREAT AVACAL ART COMPETITION

Who: any gentle resident in Avacal.

What: artwork in the following categories (multiple entries encouraged):
a) cover design - layout and lettering for a permanent cover for the Avantgarde.
b) filler art - a set of 5 to 10 small drawings of figures and objects, either individual or grouped, around a single theme related to the Current or Historical Middle Ages.
c) border art - a set of corners, horizontal dividers, sidebar, and full box borders incorporating related elements.

When: Commencing immediately, winners to be announced at Spring Faire on March 12.

Where: Hand your work to your branch Chronicler ASAP. They'll send copies to the Avantgarde AND publish it in your local newsletter as needed.

Why: Neat prizes are being supplied by Sir Edward Ross, AND the top three entries in categories b) and c) will be forwarded to the Crier. All entries must include permission to publish in the Avantgarde and in the Crier. Judging is done by professional artists (graphic and visual) from outside the SCA, so Sir Whosit or Master Whatsit won't automatically get preferment.

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 435-2051. Practise is held on the following dates:

February	14,28	March	14,28
April	11,25		

VerAquilon MOS Weekly Fighter Practices

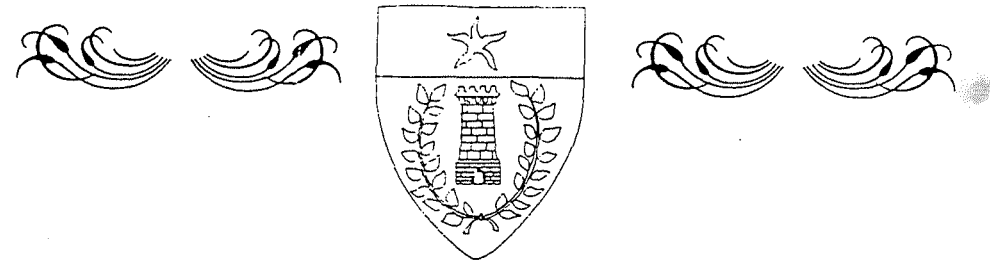
MOS: Lord Otto Gruber

Location: Dimwodie Lounge, Students Union Building (SUB) 2nd Floor, U of A

Time: Noon - 4:00 pm

Layout: Armored Fighters

Noon	- Out of Armor
- 1:00pm	- Stretching & Slow Work
1:00	- Concepts & single
- 2:00pm	- Instruction
	- Armor Inspection
2:00	- Announcements
- 2:10pm	- Style of Drillwork is decided
2:10	- Drillwork
- 3:00pm	- Fighter Group Instruction & Workout
3:00	- Options
- End	- Team Battles
	- Mock Tournaments
	- Specialty Battles (Bridge, Gate, Light Weaponry)



Feast of the Evergreens

This is the IX Annual Feast of the Evergreens held by the Canton of "We're not sure yet", previously known as Lakeland, Northkeep, Wolfkeep, and rumours also have it as Alfheimland, the happiest place in the known world, however we are quickly trying to smother these cries, or at least most of us are! During the day, games will be held to decide a new Champion of the Evergreens, so come all ye lords and ladies who wish to partake in good food, drink and lively competition. Her Majesty, *Baroness Helena*, is current Champion and challenges all comers to best her in games of skill and silliness.

PLACE: LSU Grand Centre and Assumption High School

DATE: 5 February, 1994

TIME: Games and Classes start at 13:00 hrs at Assumption School

Feast commences at 19:00 hrs at the LSU

COST: Advance tickets are \$13.00 (paid by Jan. 30, 1994)

Tickets at door are \$15.00 (please register by phone, regardless)

Site fee \$5.00 (feast prices already include this)

All merchants welcome, no charge for table.

Children under 12 yrs, no charge

DIRECTIONS TO THE PLACE OF MERRIMENT:

-Follow Hwy #28 to the thriving metropolis of Grand Centre

-At the traffic lights (one of the only two sets in Grand Centre) turn right;

turn left at the sign that reads LSU (this being a good clue you are on the right track).

-Once you secure your baggage train, please enter the warmth of the KEEP and let the festivities begin!

-a Baronial flight practice is planned for Sunday at 13:00 hrs (running shoes only please)

For reservations and further information, call Lord Asker Al-Kamir 594-0628

Classes: Tactics - Derek the Exile

Dance - Mordecai salzer

Medevil Headdress & more



Your articles and
ART WORK could
be displayed in
this space!!

Lakelands MOS Weekly Fighter Practises

MOS: Lordship Alfheim der Wundersman

Location: Assumption High School,
Grand Centre

Time: 7:00pm - ?

7:00pm Arrival and discussion & armouring
- 8:30 up

8:30pm
- 8:45 Last call for armouring up

8:45pm Smoke anything that moves on the
- 8:55 floor

8:55pm Wheezing and gasping while trying
- 8:58 to drink water

8:58pm Standing around watching "Keeners"
- 9:00 have another fight

9:00pm
- 9:03 Watching "Keeners" wheze and gasp

9:03pm
- 9:15 Armour explosion

9:15pm Retiring to Pepe's Bar & Grill
- Wives Arrival (evenings fighting analysis)

All visiting Fighters welcome!

November 28, A.S. XXVIII

My Lords and Ladies,

The purpose of this questionnaire is to help the Canton of Veraquilon and in particular myself, Yoeman Eadwulf, to plan better and more interesting events for the future. Please take a few minutes to complete the questions below and return the completed document to me. Many Thanks.

What is the purpose of the S.C.A.? (no more than 25 words)

Why did you join?

Do you find that the type of events we have fulfill the reasons for which you joined?

If they do not please expand on what elements are missing.

Would you be interested in attending events with a specific theme? ie. a Saxon or Viking or Carolingian or Japanese event.

If yes, would you be prepared to make or acquire the appropriate garb and accessories?
How much notice would you require?

Do you think the appropriate garb should be required? If so, how would you enforce the requirement? If not, how would you maintain the atmosphere of the event?

Would you like to see more or less of the following at events:

Tournaments
Melces
Feasts
Dancing
Ithra type classes
Arts contests
Informal classes
Courts
Royalty
Pomp and Circumstance
Other

What one thing would you change in the current running of events?

How much should an event cost?

How much should a feast cost?

What other parts of an event should have a cost, if any?

Do you see the types of activities you would like to at meetings?

Are meetings run the way you think they should be?

With what activities are you involved in the S.C.A.?

How long have you been involved in the S.C.A.?

How did you find out about the S.C.A.?

How do you want to find out about future events?

Do you prefer indoor or outdoor events and why?

Can one be medieval whilst camping?

Please make any other comments you might have concerning the running of events in the space below and return the questionnaire to me.

Thank you again for your patience.
In Service I remain,

Eadwulf

Lord Yoeman Eadwulf macRuthven
Elder of Avacal

July 1994

Here are the personal histories and platform of HL Squire Edward Sterling and HL Erna Kajadotter, as required for submission for role of Baron and Baroness of Borealis (as determined at the Baronial Round Table Discussion, held June 12, 1994).

His Lordship Squire Edward Sterling's Personal History in the SCA

I joined the SCA fourteen years ago. My initial interest lay in the heavy fighting. I continue to work on new and innovative ways to make armour, always with an eye to history and authenticity. My ability to weld, and to teach, make the Baronial Armoury an important place for me to be - I have run it for the past five years. I have helped dozens of new and old fighters over the years get armoured up and onto the field.

I am currently a Senior Marshall. I have been the Silverwolf Heavy Champion (Borealis) four times. I have been Avacal Heavy Champion twice, and was the Bravo Champion of Avacal (fencing) last year. I came in second in the first Queen's Champion of Fence. I have participated in many Kingdom Tournaments, and have gotten as far as sixth round.

I was a Sarjeant of Borealis for eight years (one of two that successfully passed the first testing held in Borealis). I am presently running a fencing school (The Cote School of Fence). There are 15 students, and the School meets weekly. Although I have not won any archery contests, I have participated as a Light. I am presently the Crown Principality Marshall of Fence (Provost).

I have autocratted events, and have run numerous fighting events. I have trained many fighters, including most of the local champions and the local sarjeants. I have instructed in Ithra on Armour, and have taught weekend workshops (practicums), outside of my school, on fencing. I have held a number of the offices in the Barony (some when it was still a Shire), including Arts, Master of Stables, Constable, and most recently, Chronicler (for two years). As Chronicler, I introduced a new format that allowed the Aurora to function in the black for the first time.

I have also worked hard to promote a positive public image of the SCA. I have done dozens of school demos, and been interviewed many times by the radio, newspapers and TV. I have tried to develop a well-rounded approach to the SCA, and to encourage it in other members as well.

I have received the following awards: Jambe de Lion, Goutte de Sang, Sargeant at Arms, Award of Arms, Decorated Letter (Baronial award for service).

Her Ladyship Erna Kajadotter's Personal History in the SCA

I first joined the SCA twelve years ago. My latent abilities to organize and work behind the scenes found fertile ground in the friendly atmosphere of the SCA. Over the years, I have worked hard on behalf of the SCA, but only because I enjoyed doing it. I have autocratted many events, and feastocratted many more. Out of my interest in these things, I wrote "The Autocrat's Handbook" (which I will be updating), and put together the Barony's first cookbook, "The Gastronomicon", with the assistance of Mistress Sigrit Rabenfels. I also wrote "Lady Erna's Guide to the SCA - Or - Everything You Always Wanted to Know But Were Afraid to Ask!". This booklet was designed specifically to make the SCA familiar on a local level. I felt that use of guides from the Coast, while extremely useful in some respects, left new people here unclear about how we fit in, or even where the next group was. I have also compiled Ithra handouts on costuming, spinning, dyeing, and weaving, to go with courses I have taught on the same subjects. Two years ago, I started up "the Black Sheep", a fibre arts guild, in the hopes of promoting arts which I feel were integral to medieavl life. HL Eleanora fitz John and I are presently developing a formal apprenticeship program for the Guild of the Groaning Board (cooking guild).

I held the offices of Arts & Sciences for one year, Exchequer for one year, and, most recently, Baronial Seneschal for five years. As Baronial Seneschal, I sought to hold together four diverse groups, each with unique interests and problems, over hundreds of miles. I developed negotiating skills, and became friends with many of the people in our large Barony. I have supported a wide range of events and projects in each of the Cantons (some no longer in existence). I wrote the Baronial Charter of Borealis, in an effort to pass on the wisdom I garnered as seneschal (it is used as a basis for Baronial decision making).

I also increased my Public Relations, and that of the SCA, through newspaper and by consultation. I set up a "Norse Longhouse", in the Living Museum tradition, for The Alberta Winter Games, held in Camrose several years ago. I acted as "medieval consultant" to the National Literacy Convention, which was held in Edmonton four years ago. I helped them to carry out their concept of a feast which would break down the barriers between highly educated speakers, and attendants who had just learned to read. I planned a menu, advised them on decorations, and co-ordinated SCA entertainment (dancing and fighting). It was very successful.

For the past two years I have worked as consultant and liason to The Provincial Museum of Alberta, as they prepared their exhibit on Medieval Spring Festivals (Spring-in-the-Middle). I have helped them to do everything - plan the exhibits, work out wording for signage, find items for display, plan and organize a medieval feast for 110 members of the public (with the aid of the Guild of the Groaning Board, which has catered both years), organize SCA entertainment and servers for the feast, coordinate media publicity, organize participants for a one day "living museum" concept, and educating high school students participating as volunteers. This year, I added four workshops for the public (which were big hits). Over the three week run this year, 14,700 people passed through the exhibit, which was expanded to fill one wing of the museum and had a special "Medieval Shop". SCA artists were given free opportunities to sell their wares during the Grand Fair Day, followed by commission-based sales through the shop. Our participation netted the Barony \$1,300.00 this year.

I also co-autocratted September Crown, 1992. I applied for (on behalf of the Barony), and received, a City of Edmonton Hosting grant, which provided a cash input of \$1,400.00. I put together the information packages which we mailed out to all of the Kingdom Officers and branch Seneschals, in an attempt to draw more people to the event. I prepared info for the media, and acted as a media guide, helping them to see a balanced view of the SCA. In addition, I organized the soup kitchen and the purchase of t-shirts.

I have been granted the following awards: Goutte de Sang, Jambe de Lion, Award of Arms, the Decorated Letter (Baronial service award), and the Golden Spoon (Baronial cooking award).

I am very proud of the Barony of Borealis, and the talented people residing in it. I would welcome an opportunity to represent it as Baroness, and continue promoting its abilities to the Known World and beyond.

How we would run the Barony:

I) Permanent Baron's Guard

- "permanent" meaning unchanging from event to event, not indicating never-changing.
- four people (two older members, two newer members). This increases the possibility that more of them would be at an event. The blend of older & newer members allows for the training and involvement of new people, while utilizing experience of older members. The members would be drawn from different groups within Barony, thus encouraging involvement of the whole Barony.
- duties would include ensuring that banners, Baronial thrones, make it to events where required.
- provide ambience at court
- older two would be rotated out annually; two newer members brought in to replace them.

II) Permanent Ladies-in-Waiting

- again, four people (two newer, two older), for the same reasons listed above.
- duties would include ensuring that kneeling pillows and coronets make it to events.
- ladies-in-waiting would act as go-betweens, introducing the Baroness to people and vice-versa. They must ensure that no-one feels too shy to approach the Baron and Baroness, and make sure that the Baron and Baroness are personally known to everyone.

III) Baronial Herald

- solely responsible for running court.
- Herald would decide the order, what's allowed, what's not. The Herald would do talking, be the voice of the Baron and Baroness during court.
- however, the court agenda would be approved by Baron and Baroness prior to court.

IV) Baronial Ambassadors

- one or two people carrying a writ from the Baron, answerable to him.
- basically honorary
- set treaties, negotiate trade, promote diplomatic relations.

V) War Council

- for fighters
- representatives from each of the Baronial "groups" or households. Individuals welcome.
- to discuss fighting practices, fighting policy.

VI) Sarjeants & Yeomen

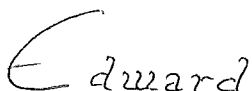
- The Sergeants & Yeomen & Gallants would remain a group governed by themselves. Baroness would act not as a ruler of them, but a member; and have one vote.

VII) Policy

The Baronial Seneschal would make regular verbal reports to the Baron and Baroness, to ensure that they are kept up to date on current Baronial events and politics. The Baron and Baroness would not get involved (unless necessary), but need to be kept appraised. The Barony is governed by its officers and members, not its Baron and Baroness.

We would leave our household, and see that a new chieftan was chosen for the period of our term as Baron and Baroness. We would not want people to feel that our household was clouding our judgement. We believe that impartiality (both perceived and real) is the key to holding the Barony together.

Yours in good health,



Edward Sterling



Erna Kajadotter