

Aurora

July A.S. XXIX



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 Vendirer 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

July

6 Capilano Hall Dance Veraquilon
Video Class Lakelands (A&A) *
Support Vote for New Baron and Baroness

13 Business Veraquilon

16-17 Crown

30-31 Clinton War

* LSV - Leisure Sports Village
A&A - Adeline & Alfheim 594-1083
M&A - Mary & Alton 594-5152

The submission deadline for the August issue of the Aurora is July 15th. The publishing and distribution date should be July 27th, but due to holidays, it will be August 10th.

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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SENEHALATES OF THE BARONY OF BOREALIS

CANTON OF VERAQUILON

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Robert Reader Ph (403) 986-6623
RR#1 Leduc, AB T9E 2X1

CANTON OF LAKELAND

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

INCIPIENT BRANCH

Conal Fitz Allen
Don Allen
#201 5102 - 51 Street, Yellowknife, NWT X1A 1S7

OFFICERS OF THE BARONY OF BOREALIS

BARON Currently vacant

BARONESS Currently vacant

GREAT OFFICES

SENESCHAL *Adelaine von Swarzwald*
Gail Hiar Ph 594-1053

HERALD Yeoman Mordecai Salzer
Richard Slansky Ph 435-2051
rms@mercury.uah.ualberta.ca
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T6H 2C2

EXCHEQUER Lord Ma Gah Ming
Karvin Ma Ph 436-4819
10824 - 42 A Ave., Edmonton, AB T6J 2P7

MASTER OF STABLES Currently Vacant

MINISTER OF ARTS & SCIENCES Sergent Stefan von Lubeke
Dean Schieve Ph 487-1595
11043 - 160 St., Edmonton, AB T5P 3G5
dschieve @ gpu . srv . ualberta . ca

LESSER OFFICES

CONSTABLE Yeoman Eadwulf macRuthven
Robert Reader Ph 986-6623
RR#1 Leduc, AB T9E 2X1

Canton of Veraguilon 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.

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 Veraguilon Fighter Practice Please do not hesitate to contact Lord Otto Gruber @ 468-6783 for more information.

Dance Practise 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.

Announcements:

On Sunday, July 10 at 1 pm, all archers, both war and target, are invited to Joan the Just's acreage for a full day of archery; Royal Rounds and war target archery. Bring your own picnic, steak or hamburger for afterwards. BYOB. Phone 986-6623 for directions. Come have fun

GUILD NOTICE GUILD NOTICE GUILD NOTICE

The next business meeting of the Guild of the Groaning Board will be held on July 23, 1994 at 10:30 am. As usual, it will be held at the home of HL Eleanora fitz John (509 Estate Dr., Sherwood Park, 449-6834). In keeping with the previous day's Feast of St. Mary Magdalene, tarts will predominate the sampling menu.

Please call HL Eleanora if you are planning to attend.

House of Erna : Custom Design and Fashion

Erna would like to announce her costuming service. For an appropriate fee, she will construct garb to your specifications. Alterations also a speciality. For discreet inquiries, contact HL Erna at 449-1593

- **DANCE PRACTISE** Those wishing more information are requested to contact Mordecai Saltzer at 435-2051.

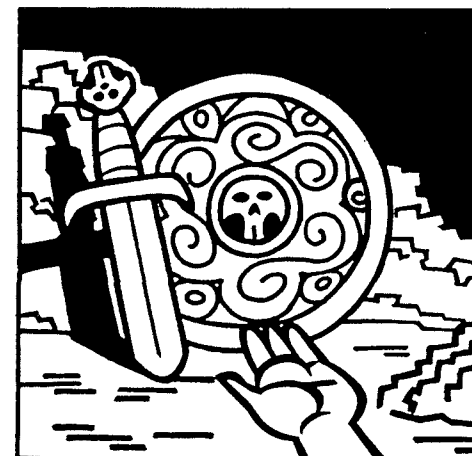
- **Archery Practice**, both War and Target, will be held at the residence of Joan the Just, Sunday afternoons from 1 to 5. Call 986-6623 for information and directions.

- **Bids** to host Winter War/95 will be accepted by the Seneschal until SilverWolf



"GREAT ELDRI, WE WISH YOU TO BE OUR LINK, LIKE, TO THE PEOPLE OF THIS ISLAND AND YOU CAN ACCOMPLISH THIS BY BECOMING OUR CHAMPION."

"YOUR QUEST, IF YOU DECIDE TO ACCEPT IT, IS TO, LIKE, STOP THE HERALD WARS, AT THEIR SOURCE."



"YOU ARE TO USE THESE ENCHANTED WEAPONS TO, LIKE, DISPATCH THE EVIL HERALD, KNOBBE THE UNDEAD. YOU ARE NOT TO RETURN TO US UNTIL YOU BRING US KNOBBE'S HEAD, HIS DRIVER'S LICENCE, AND SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER. IF YOU ARE CAUGHT, TORTURED, OR LIGHTLY BROILED IN OIL AND SEASONED TO TASTE, THE SECRETARY OF THE SPIRIT KINGDOM WILL DISAVOW ANY KNOWLEDGE OF YOU."

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

Edward Sterling



Erna Kajadotter

GREETINGS UNTO THE POPULOUS OF BOREALIS from the current Silverwolf Archery Champion, Lord Hamish Douglas, Yeoman to the Barony of Borealis. In these turbulent times it is easy to lose interest in simpler pastimes. With archery season upon us, though, let us turn our attention away from wintry indoor sports such as chess & politics.

Anyone of you of the populace of Borealis have it in your power to become the next Silverwolf Archery Champion of Borealis. Does this sound too good to be true? Not so, for the competition is in two easy parts.

1) Your best Royal Round Score. From anytime after last Silverwolf right up to the weekend before this upcoming Silverwolf. These can be mailed or hand delivered to me, and they must bear a witness signature.

2) This part will be a tournament involving light combat with your primary weapon. For this you will need full armour & 12 pieces of ammunition.

The two parts will be judged equally, if there is a tie I will come up with a suitable tie-breaker.

As chief archer of Veraquilon I would like to mention that there will be archery practice on Sunday afternoons at our acreage, weather and events permitting. We are south of Leduc on Hwy #2, take Glen Park Rd. west to RR 260 and turn left (next road after the giant cowboy) then we are the 2nd house on the right. Please call before coming out. Ph# 986-6623. Mail address: James Reader, RR#1 Leduc, T9E 2X1

Yours in Service

INTERESTING PEOPLE OF THE MIDDLE AGES

by Rowena of Tregalles

ABELARD (1079-1142) and HELOISE (1097?-1164)

The story of Abelard and Heloise has often been depicted as a romantic tragedy comparable to Romeo and Juliet, but a look at Abelard's autobiography, entitled History of my Calamities gives a slightly different picture....

Peter Abelard was born to the lord of a small fief called Le Pallet, near the eastern border of Brittany. As his father's heir, Abelard would normally have been trained as a knight, and eventually would have succeeded his father in the administrative duties, but because of the relative peace of the time and place, his father had higher aspirations for his son. Peter was bright and loved learning and, in a time of peace, learning brings faster reward than a good sword-arm, so he was sent off to the Cathedral School of Anyers.

Once there, he quickly became noted as a bright scholar and philosopher, but he was also arrogant and abrasive, and continually had to move because of enemies created by his sharp wit. He finally ended up in Paris, where one of the greatest schools of the time attracted many scholars and teachers. It was here, eventually, that he gained fame and fortune as a famous teacher and philosopher, and became a canon in the church -the highest lay position.

At the same time, there was in Paris, a girl by the name of Heloise, the niece of a fellow canon, Fulbert. She was smart, as well as pretty, and Fulbert wished her educated, but also did not wish to spend much money.

Abelard was arrogant and vain, and considered himself irresistible to any woman, and he decided that he would have Heloise. To this end, he approached Fulbert, saying

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.

For the past two years I have worked as consultant and liaison 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-organized 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.

that he was having some problems with his household, and could he please rent a room. In exchange, he would tutor Fulbert's niece. This seemed an ideal situation to Fulbert and he agreed.

Heloise was a young, innocent girl of sixteen or seventeen, and she was quite overawed by her sophisticated, worldly tutor. One thing led to another, and Latin, Virgil and Ovid were neglected for their mutual passion. The lovers managed to keep their love secret for several months, but eventually they were discovered by Fulbert, and Abelard was thrown out of the house.

Not long after, Heloise wrote to Abelard to joyfully proclaim her pregnancy. Abelard was likely not as thrilled as she was but he did smuggle her out of the house and place her in the care of his sister until the child was born, while he returned to Paris.

Later, Abelard approached Fulbert and offered to marry Heloise. Canons are permitted to marry, so the proposal was accepted.

By the time Abelard brought Heloise back to Le Pallet for their wedding, their son Astrolabe had been born. Abelard's family did not approve of the match, since it did nothing for the family, and hurt his career as a philosopher, since popular opinion held that all scholars should avoid women, as they were a distraction, and the devil's tools.

Abelard says in his book that Heloise proposed that she become his mistress, rather than his wife, since this would not hamper his career in the church, or as a philosopher. How much she actually said and how much he attributes to her is not clear.

The two eventually got secretly married, with only a few witnesses. Fulbert, however, wanted the marriage to be known, so as to preserve the good name of his niece but Abelard always vehemently denied the union wherever Fulbert told of it. Eventually Abelard placed Heloise into a convent, saying

it was to get rid of her, but she did not take vows and Abelard continued to visit her secretly.

Fulbert, hearing of this, was furious. He bribed one of Abelard's servants who let him and his friends in, where they beat, then castrated Abelard.

Eunuchs are not allowed in the upper echelons of the church, so Abelard's ambitions were dust, a painful blow, besides the shame and embarrassment for a vain and arrogant man. Arrangements for him to enter a monastery were made by some friends at court and he took vows at the abbey of St Denis.

Abelard continued his studies and his writing, but again was forced to move from place to place because of his abrasive nature. It was from Abelard's teaching and writing, though, that scholasticism sprung, the philosophy which dominated thought for centuries following.

Heloise took vows as a nun, and later became a respected and influential abbess. Their son also became a priest.

Abelard and Heloise continued to correspond for the rest of their lives. Heloise at first tried sending Abelard love letters but these were ignored, so she wrote him asking about philosophy, and got full epistles and treatises back. These can be found compiled into the volume Letters of Abelard and Heloise.

Source: Abelard and Heloise, by D.W. Robertson, Jr., Dial Press, New York, 1972

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.

**Summer's Turning Tourney
Cold Keep
August 27-28, 1994**

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).

Cold Keep welcomes one and all to our Summer's Turning Tourney. Taking place at Dunna h'eoín located just south of the mundane city of Prince George, B.C., this event will be FUN.

The tourney will be a round robin challenge tourney with the challengers choosing whether the combat will be a normal field combat, combat over the barrier, counted blows or combat with great weapons. Magnificent prizes will be awarded. Armour inspection will be around noon on Saturday.

A wondrous feast is planned for Saturday evening. Following the feast will be dancing, a storytelling competition and of course, a large campfire to huddle around.

On Sunday, we will play woods battles: capture the flag and kill the captain. This is for heavy and lights. Remember your archery screen and wear appropriate footwear.

Camping is on site with outhouses and running water. \$5.00 site fee for those 16 and over. The site fee includes breakfast on Sunday morning. The site is wet. Dogs on leashes only. Friday night soup will be provided for all the weary travellers. Expect cool nights, frost is not unknown at this time of year.

The feast is \$10.00, \$5.00 for those 12 and under, free for those 5 and under. Advance reserved booking for the feast. Let us know by August 20th. For more information contact the autocrat: Morag MacCorrain of Dunna h'eoín (Maureen Schulting) (604) 963-3187, Address: RR#7, Site 25, Comp. 13, Prince George, B.C. V2N 2J5. Make cheques payable to Cold Keep SCA Inc.

Directions: Dunna h'eoín is located at 8525 Buckhorn Lake Rd., Prince George, B.C.

From the South: Travel north on Highway

97 towards Prince George. Buckhorn Lake Road is about five miles north of the community of Red Rock and is labelled on the highway. Look for SCA signs. Turn right onto Buckhorn Lk. Rd. and travel approximately 4 km. The site is on the right.

From the East: Travel west on Highway 16 (the Yellowhead Hwy) towards Prince George. As you approach Prince George, turn left at the first set of lights, south towards Quesnel and Vancouver. This will be marked with SCA signs. Travel approximately 14 km down this highway until you reach a stop sign. Turn left onto highway 97 and travel 2.5 km, turn left onto Buckhorn Lk. Rd. Travel approximately 4 km down Buckhorn Lk. Rd. The site is on the right.

WAR!!! WAR!!! WAR!!!

Come to a friendly little war at Dragonwood (Bowden) on August 13th & 14th between fighters of Borealis and Montengarde. Many scenarios will be run and there is a contest for the best scenario given to the autocrat (i.e. All-you-can-eat rattan resurrection battle, Wagon train raids, Treasure hunts). As well, there will be many activities and opportunities for civilians (non-combatants) and Lights

Contact Freydis the Far-Travelled, Northern Warmonger (Autocrat)
Ph 433-7732 (keep trying, I don't have any autoservants)



Saint Leonard's Day II Revenge of the Bearded Women

July 9th, A.S. XXIX
Sigelhundas



Ye Lords! Ye Ladies! To younge and aulde, we bid all welcome to the Shire of Sigelhundas for our annual tribute to Saint Leonard. Come join in our Champion's Tourney, our Boffer Tourney, and outdoor games for all to enjoy! Then, pray join us in the feast hall for such a merry festival as never before beheld. Be sure to wear your most prodigious codpiece for this year's codpiece contest. Why not try out for the Miss Saint Leonard's Bearded Lady Beauty Pageant? Or get a group together and prepare a subtlety for the subtlety competition. There will be singing and dancing and much celebration for all to partake in, as once again we welcome the overlord of the day, our most ignoble Black Prince, Edmund.

Daytime

Place: Candy Cane Park — Near east side of Imax/Science Centre in Wascana Park

Time: Armour inspection — 11:30 AM
Champion's Tourney — 12 noon
(Note: Segelhundi may not use round shields to compete for Champion)
Boffer Tourney — (all ages) 12 noon
Games — (all ages) 1 PM



Feel free to bring a picnic lunch—barbecues and picnic facilities on site. If weather is inclement, activities will be held in feast hall.

Evening

Place: Saint Martin's Parish Hall, 4720 Castle Road, Regina

Time: Opening Court & Awards Ceremonies — 7 PM
Feast — 7:30 PM
The Merry Monk Tavern & Indulgence Emporium — 8 PM

Cost: Feast Fee - Before June 25th - \$12
After June 25th - \$15
12 and Under - \$7

Please reserve in advance as space is limited. Crash space available. All Merchants, minstrels and Bards welcome.

Please contact the Autocrats for more information or reservations: lady Morgais and HL Edward de Wolfe (mka Lara Quintin & Wilf Gayleard). #1 — 2433 Harvey St, Regina SK S4N 2N5, FARSPEAKER (306) 522-4963 (24 hour Troll on duty)

Contest Rules and Information

Codpiece Contest

Codpieces will be judged according to originality, creativity, and size.
Rule #1: Entrants must wear codpieces during judging. No other rules apply.

Bearded Women Beauty Pageant

Entrants compete for the annual title of Miss Saint Leonard. Judging is based on poise, charm, talent, and nice legs. Beards are optional.

Subtlety Competition

Represent your barony, shire, household or guild in a unique and edible way. Entrants to be judged on overall design and creativity.

Rule #1: No more than 5 inedible pieces may be used to embellish the design.

Rule #2: Bribing the judges will not necessarily ensure a victory.

Rule #3: Poisoning judges will disqualify the entry.

