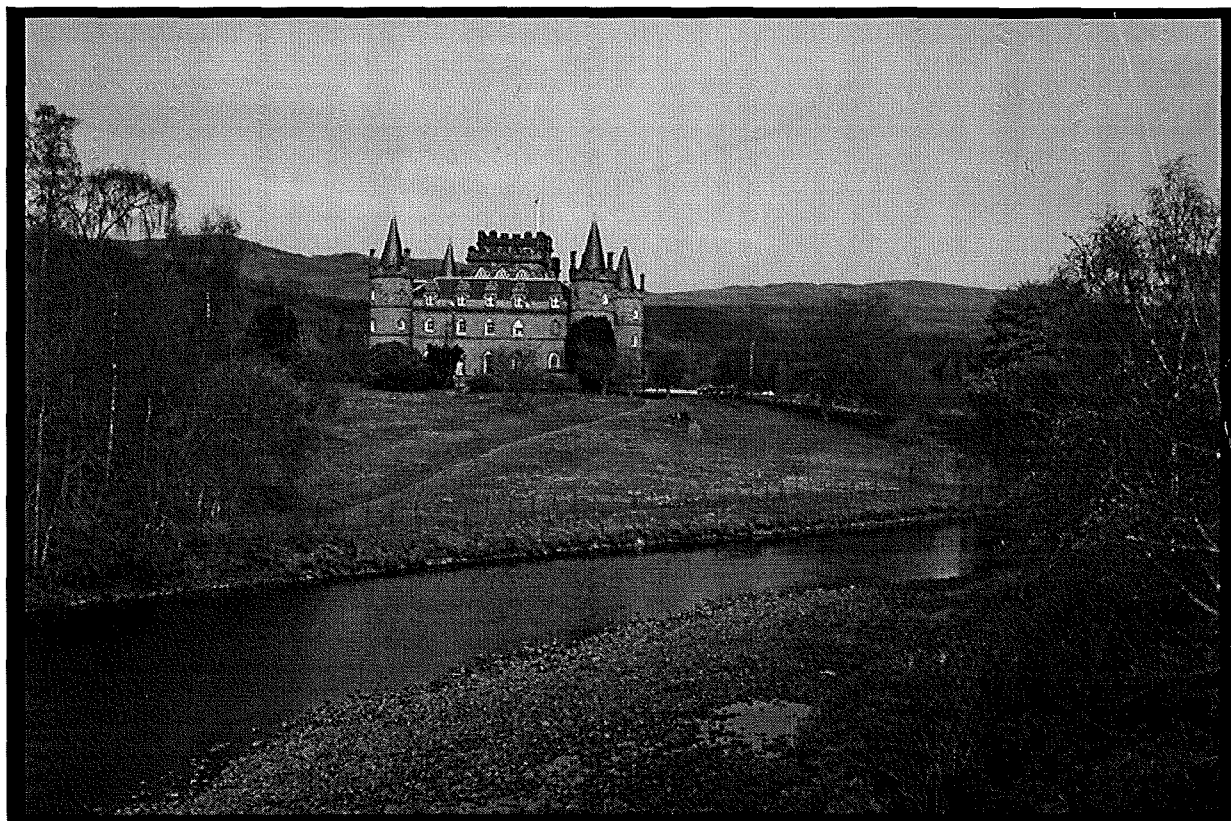


Aurora

December, A.S. XXX



The Aurora Borealis
Box 159
Gibbons, AB TOA 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 af hus Vendrer or Edwina of Loxley, P.O. Box 159, Gibbons, AB TOA 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

November

- 27 Dance/Fighting/Heraldry (Verquilon)
30 Cooking class (Stonewolf)

December

- 2 St. Nicholas' Feast (Veraquilon)
6 Capilano Hall Tavern Nite (Veraquilon)
7 Inkle Weaving (Stonewolf)
13 Business Meeting (Veraquilon)

- * Stonewolf weekly meetings are held in the Grand
Centre Public Library unless otherwise noted.
* Veraquilon Tavern Nite - Capilano Hall, Business
meeting - Rm 3-119 Ed. North, UofA, all other
meetings will be in Dinwoodie's, SUB, UofA.

The submission deadline for the January issue of the Aurora is December 15th. The publishing and distribution date will be January 3rd. The Aurora is available for \$12 per annum (12 issues, pickup). All cheques and money orders are to be made payable to:

"ASCA - Barony of Borealis"

OFFICER REPORTING SCHEDULE

Baronial:

Seneschal: March 15/July 15/Nov 15

Herald: Feb 10/May 10/ Aug10/ Nov 10

Exchequer: July 15/Jan 15

MOS: Feb 1/May 1/Aug 1/Nov 1

Provost: (not available)

Arts and Sciences: June 15/ Dec 15

Chatelaine: March 15/July 15/Nov 15

Chroniclers: June 15/Dec 15

Lists: (not available)

****NOTE:** Baronial officers must also include a copy of their report to the Baronial Seneschale. (this ensures important information is passed on, and acts as a checklist to ensure reporting is carried out.)

Canton: MUST have reports in to Baronial counterparts one month prior to the above due dates. Please include a copy to the Canton Seneschal.

CHATELAINE HL Dagmar af Hjorring
Shelley Ann Jensen Ph (403) 465-7344
10311 - 56 St., Edmonton, AB T6A 2J1

CHRONICLER Valgard af hus Venderer and
and EDITOR Edwina of Loxley ^{Garrison}
Maxwell Garrison & Linda ~~Yoner~~
mgarriso@epsb.edmonton.ab.ca
Ph (403) 923-2864
PO Box 159, Gibbons, AB T0A 1N0

SCRIBE Sjt. John MacLeod the Black
John E. Small Ph (403) 465-6279
9047A - 85 St., Edmonton, AB T6C 3C6

SENESHALATES OF THE BARONY OF BOREALIS

CANTON OF VERAQUILON

Airianrod (Acting)

CANTON OF STONEWOLF

Igraine of Hybernia
Pearl-Anne Gooding Ph (403) 594-5961
5713 51 Ave, Grand Centre, AB T0A 1T1

Far North Contact

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

Canton of Veraquilon

Weekly meetings: First Wednesday of the month will be the Tavern nite at Capilano Hall, the 2nd Wednesday will be the Business meeting in room 3-119 in Ed. North at the UofA, subsequent Monday nights will be Dance, Fighting and other activities in Dimwoodie in the Student Union Building at the UofA.
Fight Practices: Please do not hesitate to contact Otto Gruber @ 468-6763 for more information.

Fence Practices: Call Mercushio @ 986-6623 or Alphonse de Lorraine @ 967-4072.

Dance Practise: Those wishing more information are requested to contact Mordecai Saltzer (Rick Slansky) at 435-2051.

The Groaning Board meets monthly to research and plan for our thrice-yearly feasts. It is our mandate to provide an opportunity for developing excellence in period culinary arts, as well as the science of planning events and autocratting them. If you share our interest, we welcome you. We have a structure for advancement and recognition of the attainment of our goals, based on the period guild system. For more information regarding meeting times and place, phone HL Eleanora fitz John (mka Leeanna Ryan) 449-6834

Canton of Stonewolf

Fight Practices each Tuesday evening, 7:00pm at Assumption High School. Contact Alfheim 594-1083

Classes on various topics take place each Thursday evening, at the Grand Centre Public Library, unless otherwise noted, 7:00pm. See calendar for topics.

1995 Avacal Tier One Events

NO OTHER EVENTS MAY BE SCHEDULED ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:

Date	Hosting Group	Event
Oct. 07	Myrganwood	Anniversary Feast
Oct. 21	Montengarde	Avacal Ithra
Nov. 18	Valley Wold	Ferret's Feast
Dec. 02	Veraquilon	St. Nicholas'

Tier Two Events Scheduled:

Oct. 14	Veraquilon	Serjeants' Trials
Oct. 14	Segelhunddas	Feast
Oct. 28	Bordergate	Champions'
Nov. 04	Lakeland	Theme Feast

Baron/Baroness' Upcoming Schedule

Nov 04	Lakeland Theme Feast
Dec 02	Veraquilon St. Nicholas'

next event at baby's discretion

OFFICERS OF THE BARONY OF BOREALIS

BARON Alfheim der Wundersman
BARONESS Adelaine von Schwarzwald
 Gail and Stewart Hiar Ph (403) 594-1083
 Box 1865 Medley, AB
 T0A 2M0 *hiar@sas.ab.ca*

GREAT OFFICES

SENESCHAL Gwynnaeth O Coedaneu
 Marsha Bremner Ph (403) 478-1505
 140 Woodborough Way Edmonton, AB T5Y 1N2

HERALD Yeoman Mordecai Salzer
 Richard Slansky Ph (403) 435-2051
rms@mercury.uah.ualberta.ca
 apt B4, 11130 - 68 Ave. Edmonton, AB
 T6H 2C2

EXCHEQUER Alys Sylfrloc of Aelsmera
 Pat Routledge Ph (403) 437-2703
pat.routledge@ualberta.ca
 10930 - 65 Avenue Edmonton, AB T6H 4R6

MASTER OF STABLES Albrecht von Rugen
 Pat Jackson Ph (403) 486-0532
 8324 - 164th St., Edmonton, AB

MASTER OF FENCE Marcus Wynniat Ph (403) 594-3590
 Mark Traub
 5320 56 Street, Grand Centre, AB T0A 1T1

MINISTER OF ARTS & SCIENCES Cennet ap Llangollen
 Ken Reader Ph (403) 986-6623
 RR#1 Leduc, AB T9E 2X1

LESSER OFFICES

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

Cold Keep's Yule Tourney Arts and Science Competition and Feast

December 9, 1995
Pineview Hall 6470 Bendixon Rd.

Join all of Cold Keep in welcoming in the Yule Season. Watch the Cold Keep swordsmen fight for the Champion of Cold Keep. Enjoy the Arts and Sciences competition for Cold Keep's Arts and Science Champion. Feast like never before. Maybe we'll even dance.....

Itinerary: Noon hall opens
1:00 Arts and Science Competitors set up displays
2:00 Arts and Science Judging
3:00 Armor inspection, tourney to follow
6:00 Feast
after Festivities

Cost: SCA members (16 and over) \$12.50
non-members (16 and over) \$17.50
Anyone who is new (never been to events or Sunday meetings)...\$12.50
Anyone (12 to 15) \$7.50
under 12 free

FEAST MONIES MUST BE PAID BY DECEMBER 2ND.
NO EXCEPTIONS

Autocrat: Morag MacCorrain 963-3182
schulting@cnc.bc.ca

Help needed: Feast Chefs, Entertainers,
Ideas to make this GREAT! contact Morag.

Auctions: Just prior to the feast, the Wench's Guild will be auctioning off a serving wench.

After the feast the Cold Keep Court of Love will be auctioning and raffling off pardons for February's Court of Love.

Yule Logs used for feast decorations to be auctioned off after Feast.

NOVEMBER IN ENGLAND

Pub Night November 01/95

(The following is some of the history of Hallowe'en. This was to have been printed prior to the November Pub nite in Veraquilon, but due to a mix up on the Editor's part, it was omitted. The information is still relevant, so here goes:)

The Groaning Board invites the populace to celebrate November in England with them at the Capilano Hall on November 01. Many rituals, holidays, feasts and foods were associated with this season. As the harvest was finished, livestock would be slaughtered and preparations were made for the coming winter. The old year was dying and people looked ahead.

The Season proper begins on October 31 with Hallowe'en. "Hallow" was the Old English word for "saint" so Hallowe'en meant Hallow's Eve - the eve of All Hallows Day (All Saints Day) - November 01. Ghosts, spirits, fortune telling, and fires lit to ward off evil spirits were common on October 31. Apple dishes and crumpets or pikelets were often served around the fire as were spiced cider and ales. This was the night when the dead walked - and if you drink enough of Eleanora's mulled cider - who knows what you might see!

November 01 is All Saints Day (All Hallows Day). Prayers were said for the dead and food was left out in the night for restless spirits who might be walking the earth. "Souling" was common on both All Saints and All Souls Day. People would go from door to door begging for soul cakes, apples and sweets in return for prayers and songs.

*"A soul, a soul, a soul cake, Please good missus a soul cake,
An apple, a pear, a plum, or a cherry, Any good thing to make us merry."*

Traditional Rhyme

The best beggars and singers will be given free soul cake in the "spirit" of the season.

The last day of Hallowe'en was All Souls Day, November 02. These three days of Hallowe'en

have their origins in the ancient Celtic feast of the Dead - Samhain. As people went from house to house, they would drink spiced ale, eat soul cakes and remember the "*ghouls and ghosties, long - leggitie beasties and things that go bump in the night.*" (anon.) Better stay inside the hall tonight-who knows what might lurk in the shadows!

Our journey continues on November 05 - Guy Fawkes Day - which commemorates the failure of the Gun powder Plot to blow up Parliament. This day is celebrated with many fire related customs: bonfires, fireworks and burning the "Guy" in effigy. We will not be burning our "Guy", but for the traditional penny, you can vent your spleen on this infamous traitor. Then try a piece of our "Tom Trot Toffee", the sweet that is traditionally served in Yorkshire on Guy Fawkes Day.

Our next stop is November 11, Martinmas Day. St Martin of Tours was a soldier before he became a monk. For some reason, he became the patron saint of beggars, drunkards and outcasts. Martinmas was a major feast day and time for Hiring Fairs. It was also the time when many animals were slaughtered and salted down for winter. A famous dish associated with this day was "Martinmas Beef". You can be sure it will be on the menu for the tavern night!

Our final feast for November is "St. Clements Day" - November 23. "Clementing" was a popular custom, especially among young people who would go from door to door, singing songs in return for apples or spice cakes. Bobbing for apples was a tradition and St Clements Day was also known as Bite Apple Day. "St Clements Tartlets" are a tasty treat and will be on the menu. Come bob for our apples and try our tarts. You can keep anything that you manage to bite - except the barmaids.

*Thanks to: Cooking of the British Isles,
Medieval Cookbooks, Catterton Cakes and Lace,
and From Celtic Hearths.

Information

Run out of luck finding it?

KWIC Services can help.

If you need
bibliographies, research
or documentation we can
help you. We are trained
in advanced search
techniques which we can
put to your best use. For
searching of on-line,
cd-rom or paper indices
we are the best.
For a free initial
consultation call William
Katzell at 403-452-4302 or
1-800-279-6098

- 3) Reminder that the deadline is the 15th of each month.

Herald:

- 1) Error in mailing last report has been corrected.
- 2) Order of precedence is being updated.
- 3) Will hold a heraldry class in the Canton of Veraquilon soon; one has been held recently in the Canton of Stonewolf.

Arts and Sciences:

Not present.

Scribe:

No report.

Provost:

No report.

Mistress of the List:

Her Crown Principality (C.P.) superior does not want reports from her; however, Marshals need to report.

Archer:

Not present.

Baron:

Need to prepare for our participation in TYC (coordinating rides, acquiring gifts for other kingdoms).

Old Business

- 1) We are in the process of re-registering as a Non Profit Society.
- 2) The possibility of renting a van to transport equipment to TYC is still being investigated by Kirsten Macbheath.
- 3) Gold Key collection will be divided with ⅔ going to the Canton of Veraquilon and ⅓ to the Canton of Stonewolf. It's at the discretion of the cantons as to whether they appoint canton Gold Key officers to handle it.

New Business

- 1) Information of the Ithra at Valleywold available from the seneschal.
- 2) Is there interest in an Ithra in our Barony? Affirmative.
- 3) Edwulf MacRuthven has resigned as Canton of Veraquilon seneschal. Arianrod is currently the acting seneschal.
- 4) Sapphira of Sherwood will step down as C.P. seneschal at Twelfth Night.
- 5) A volunteer has come forward to make Baronial cloaks. Funds approved to a maximum of \$130.00 each.
- 6) Prizes are needed for the Baronial Arts and Sciences competition to be held in February in the Canton of Stonewolf; otherwise the Barony will provide funds to purchase prizes.
- 7) Next meeting will be on December 2nd at the St. Nicholas feast in Veraquilon.

Gawain's Story of the Sorrowful Seeds:

(Re-printed with permission from "The Dirt")

Gawain won the First Prize for the best story of: *No high-nitrogen organic fertilizing substance: There I planted it, and then it died!*

These are his very own words describing what happened to his Mystery Seed contest entry.

Once upon a time, Gawain entered the Herbal Guild Mystery Seed Contest. A strange packet that looked like spaghetti spices arrived in the mail. Gawain, much surprised that such a suspect package arrived through a mail system that regularly censors which books can cross the border, divided the packet into two parts. The first part he kept, and then lost (perhaps he'll find it when he moves) and the second part he interred in his boss's garden because Gawain, being the poor sort, owns no land other than the coffee cans full of dirt on the windowsill (this, of course is another tragic story because alas those cans used to be full of flowers too).

But I digress. It was on a bright sunny Thursday early in July that Gawain planted those poor seeds. Keep in mind that Gawain lives north of 50 degrees latitude and as such, strange weather has been known to occur. The following Tuesday, while Gawain was waiting for his boss and his wife to come over for supper, he noticed large, dark clouds hovering over the south east part of the city...right over his hapless, as yet un-germinated seeds.

His boss and his wife were an hour late. They were also soaking wet. It seems the ferocity of the hail was such that neither dared venture across the yard to the chariot and they had to

wait an hour for it to stop.

Gawain did not understand the full scope of the disaster until he arrived at work the next day. There, sparkling in the July sun, were *drifts* of hail lining the streets. Marvellous pictures hastily painted by talented artists showed scenes of devastation. Elderly ladies had to be rescued with boats. Chariots were mired past the axles in freezing, slushy water. Hailstones the size of grapes littered the ground and crusted over the garden. A large sinkhole appeared down the street, rather coincidentally at the exact location the stage was supposed to be erected for the Folk Festival later in the summer. The plot which contained the seeds was under a hand-span of water.

Gawain, being the type to panic, danced around for awhile, slipping on the hail.

After awhile, realizing this wasn't going to bring his seeds back, Gawain calmed down and went to work. Many weeks later, miraculously, green shoots appeared in the ravaged soil. Gawain kept close watch on them until he was sure he knew what they were...and then he realized there was only three kinds of plants. Unless...had they sent him dandelion as a joke? Not likely. Then Gawain realized the awful truth. One of the seed types was of a lighter sort and must have drifted up through the water. It then must have floated down the gutters to the lowest point (as water tends to do), which was the dastardly sinkhole. Gawain scratched his head and then came up with the rest of his story...er I mean theory. The seeds must have gone down the sinkhole and travelled by secret routes to the North Saskatchewan river. Gawain, never strong on geography, suspected that the North

Minutes of the Borealis Baronial meeting held November 4th, 1995 (Saturday) at Riverhurst Hall in the Canton of Stonewolf.

Attendance: Richard Sparhawk (dec'd), Elizabeth D'Enigma, Tracy Devers, Marcus Wynnai, Roland Murdoch, Marko the Wary, Rossylin, Madeline of Kent, Valgard af Hus Vendrer, Edwina of Loxley, Igraine of Hybernia, Guy of Alderney, Mordecai Salzer, Kirsten Macbheath, John MacLeod the Black. His Excellency Baron Alfheim.

Chair: Gwynaeth o Coedaneu

Secretary: Dagmar af Hjørring

Called to order at 4:15 P.M.

Minutes of the September 17th meeting read by Mordecai Salzer. Accepted as read (from the Aurora).

Officer Reports

Seneschal:

- 1) Kingdom wants to produce The Great An Tir Tapestry. Information promised, but not yet received.
- 2) Hosts of Thirty Year Celebration (TYC) would like branches to sponsor days to provide volunteers. Kirsten Macbheath to coordinate for the barony.
- 3) TYC needs an operating budget of \$40,000.00 to \$45,000.00. Pre-registration is to be encouraged by branches to help provide. Can branches pre-approve the possibility of loans? Equipment loans are also needed.
- 4) Their Majesties will be at Montengarde Twelfth Night. Can we do some TYC presentations then?
- 5) Officers should provide copies of their reports.

Chatelaine:

- 1) Stewards first report on Baronial property presented.
- 2) The disposition of the Baronial Gold Key collection still needs to be sorted out.

Master of Stables:

Not present.

Exchequer:

Not present; written report read by seneschal.

- 1) The Cantons' books need to be audited as soon as possible.
- 2) By calendar year end all groups (guilds, etc.) should provide statements.
- 3) \$4,541.45 balance (Baronial) as of October 31, 1995.
- 4) Breakdown of group balances given.
- 5) Autocrats need to get reports in promptly.

Chroniclers:

- 1) First issue since their return from vacation is out.
- 2) Printing run is up to 55.

Bards wishing to perform contact

Lady Damaris de Sheldon
M.K.A. Caroline Rosevear
1711 1/2 Thurston Ave NE
Olympia, Wa 98506

(360) 705-1316 before 9pm

Overall autocrat is HL Marguerite of
Kenneydell

M.K.A. Rita M. Lovely
7526 14th Loop NE
Olympia, Wa 98516
(360) 923-4214 before 9pm

DIRECTIONS From the North (I-5 southbound)
take exit 102, at the top of the exit ramp,
drive straight through the stop light, down
Tyee Drive to the West Coast Tyee Hotel. From
the South, (I-5 northbound), take exit 102.
At the top of the exit ramp, turn left and
cross over I-5. At the first stop light, turn
left down Tyee Drive into the West Coast Tyee
Hotel. The Tyee Drive intersection is marked
by a BP gas station, The West Coast Tyee Hotel
advertising sign, and a restaurant. The Front
desk phone number is (360) 352-0511.

*With the exception of the Governor's Suite
and Private guest rooms, no food and beverage
items of any kind are permitted to be brought
into or removed from the hotel premises by the
client, guests, or invitees.

Saskatchewan river probably goes east into
Saskatchewan, so he figured that the seeds must
have ended up in Prince Albert, which is the
only town in that fair province that he could
remember the name of that actually shored on
the river.

After making this breakthrough, Gawain ran to
his quill and copied down the story, along with
the identities of the three plants that
actually survived.

Needless to say, he was wrong about two of the
three, but the nice people at the Herbal Guild
gave him the benefit of the doubt on the one in
Prince Albert and said he got it right. I
guess they felt bad that he could not afford
chariot fare to Prince Albert to go and look
for the fourth plant.

Although Gawain did not end up winning the
prize for the most correct entries, the Herbal
Guild did bestow upon him a wonderful copy of
Gerard's Herbal, which he read most of the way
home from Crown. It was the best booby prize
he'd ever won.

Thus ends the story of the sorrowful seeds and
the sinkhole.

Lord Gawain ap Gawain is a merchant who dwells
in Borealis.

MKA: Chris Hepburn
11214 116th Street #3
Edmonton, AB Canada T5G 2W1
E_MAIL: gawain@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca
Phone: 403-451-1778

FEAST OF SAINT NICHOLAS

December 2, 1995.

Place: Baturyn Hall
10505 - 172 Ave Edmonton, AB

Times: Armour Inspection: 12:30 pm
Tourney 1:00 pm
Feast 7:00 pm

Cost: \$12.00
site fee: \$5.00
Children \$5.00

Autocrat: Joan the Just
M.K.A. Joan Reader
RR#1 Leduc, AB
(403) 986-6623

Feastocrat: Shane Foster
(403) 481-0933

Deadline for reservations is November 26, 1995.

*Pied Piper activity for St Nicks, 2 - 4 pm will be to teach children over 5 several simple carols with a performance at the beginning of the feast during the first remove.

You know you're in the SCA when...
when your boss hands you a magazine and tells you to check out the article on full armor. But when you start leafing through the magazine expecting to see pictures of helms, breastplates, etc. you discover that it's an article about a PC security package called Full Armor.

TWELFTH NIGHT IN GLYMM MERE

The Barony of Glymm Mere invites the populace on the Kingdom of An Tir to the celebration of Twelfth Night, January 12-14, 1996 at the West Coast Tyee Hotel, 500 Tyee Drive, Olympia, Wa. 98512. The site opens at 5:00 pm, Friday and will close at 5:00 pm, Sunday. Site fee os \$10.00 adults, \$5.00 children under 12, babes in arms free, \$3.00 surcharge for non-members (U.S. funds only please).

The Tyee Hotel is holding a block of rooms at a discount for S.C.A. members. Prices range from \$57.00 to \$150.00 per night. Pets are allowed at a fee of \$6.00 per pet per night. Reservations must be made before December 22,1995. Please state you are with the Society for Creative Anachronism when making reservations. For reservations call 1-800-386-TYEE

Merchant fee is \$10.00
Merchant information packets are available from merchant coordinator

Baroness Gwendolyn Fitzalan.
M.K.A. Wendy Page
1707 Farwell Avenue NW
Olympia, Wa. 98502
(360) 754-8466 before 10pm

Kingdom Officers and Guild Heads who wish to schedule meetings contact Meeting Coordinator

Lady Saleya Claire
M.K.A. Terry Grazier
(before October 20 for December publication)
1221 Evergreen Park Drive #A3
Olympia, Wa 98502
(360) 534-9244 before 9pm

The Barony of Glymm Mere will be hosting an evening of merry-making to begin at approximately 7.00 pm Saturday in the Tyee Ballroom. These Festivities will include dancing, entertainment and refreshments.