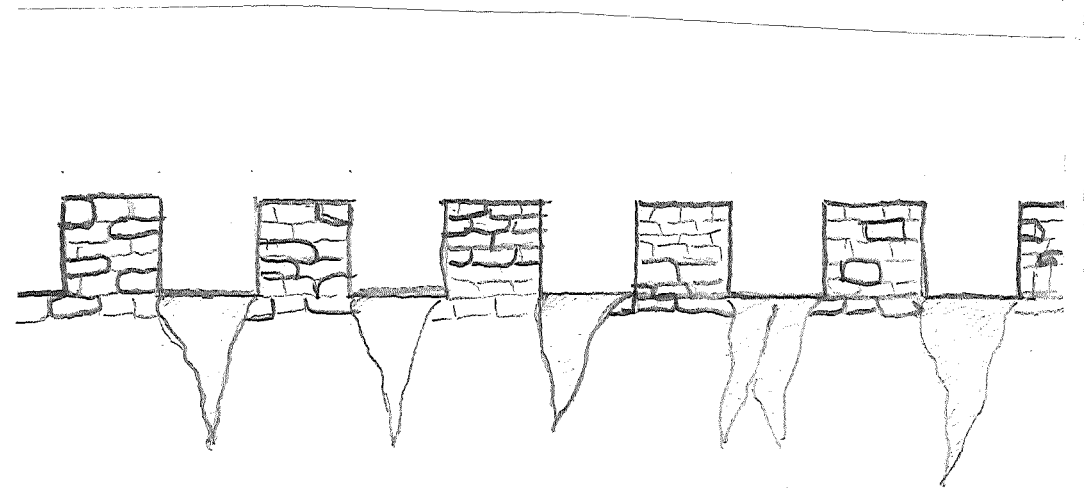


# Aurora

February, A.S. XXX

The Aurora Borealis  
Box 159  
Gibbons, AB T0A 1N0

This is the Aurora, a publication of the Barony of Borealis  
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Post no  
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in the following month's issue.  
Please send all submissions to the editor.*

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Igraine of Hybernia  
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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 Practice: 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 feasts. 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.

## ANNOUNCING...THE BOREALIS ARTS AND SCIENCES TRIATHALON

To be held at the Feast of the Evergreens in the home territory of our Baron and Baroness, the Borealis Arts and Sciences Championship will be your chance to show your arts and sciences prowess, as well as to win some really great prizes!

Categories to include:

Costuming	Practical Tools and Utensils
Needlework	Decorative Metalwork
Calligraphy	Wood Embellishment
Illumination	Performing Arts
Cooking	Leatherwork
Music Composition	
Literature	Armouring
Research Papers	
Brewing	Everything Else

General Rules:

1. All entries must be within the time period preceding AD 1650
2. All entries must be accompanied by documentation. Minimum documentation consists of an explanation of what the piece is and what time period it is from.
3. Please use a cover page to ensure your name and other identifying features do not appear in the body of your documentation
4. Individuals may enter as many or as few categories as they wish, with a maximum of three entries per category.
5. Competitors must have entries in three separate categories to be eligible to win the Triathalon. Only the contestant's top three scores from three categories will be totalled to determine the Triathalon Champion.

## OFFICERS OF THE BARONY OF BOREALIS

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### LESSER OFFICES

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

a sloth of bears      a gang of elk  
a sounder of swine    a kennel of dogs  
a spring of teal      a kindle of kittens  
a trip of goats       a knot of frogs  
a tidings of magpies   a leap of leopards  
an unkindness of ravens  
a murder of crows     a watch of nightingales

In keeping with these, the chroniclers and I have been coming up with some group nouns based on our SCA experiences.

a clash of heavies      a giggle of teenaged girls  
a confusion of autocrats  
a wreath of laurels     a gland of teenaged boys  
a dedication of pelicans  
a noise of small children  
a frazzle of feastocrats

Since arrows can come in flights or volleys, perhaps archers come in quarrels.

Silver Arrow Tournament  
April 20, 1996, A.S. XXX

Bitter End's annual Archery Tournament.

Lady Freydis of Gloppenfjord (mka Susan Stenson)  
(403) 347-2467

Lady Margaret of Kingston-on-Thames (mka June Lenton)  
(403) 343-0364

Full event copy next month

6. Prizes will also be awarded to contestants with fewer entries.
7. An individual entry may be submitted in more than one category but it must be accompanied by separate documentation for each category in which it is entered.
8. There will be no minimum number of entries necessary to keep a category open but the judges reserve the right to withhold prizes in any category in which no entries receive higher than a predetermined point score.
9. Entries must have been completed in the last eighteen months and must not have won in any prior Arts and Sciences competition.
10. Performing arts and literature categories may be subject to time and length restrictions.
11. Research papers will be due one week prior to the competition to allow sufficient judging time.
12. Each entry will be given a point score out of twenty five. Judging is based on documentation, authenticity, complexity, workmanship, originality, and overall impression.

Any qualified gentles who wish to participate in judging, as well as any who would like to donate prizes, are strongly encouraged to contact Gawain ap Gawain at 451 - 1778 or e-mail [gawain@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca](mailto:gawain@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca)

Just to let everyone know ts' official, we have gotten rid of the 'crown' part of the name. From now on its just the *Principality of Avacal*. As announced by HM at Montengarde 12th Night.

James D'Orleans MKA Mike Johnson

Minutes of the Baronial meeting held Saturday, December 2, 1995 (St. Nicholas' Feast) at Baturyn Hall in the Canton of Veraquilon.

Attendance: Arlyn Randall, Wilhelm von Ulm, Valgard af Hus Vendrer, Mercurio de Florenza, Alphonse de Lorraine, Stefan Nelson, Nathan Filyk, Kirstin Macbheath, Guy of Alderney, Mordecai Salzer, Alys Sylfrelod, Joan the Just, Cennet, John MacLeod the Black and His Excellency Baron Alfheim.

Chair: Gwynaeth O Coedaneu Secretary: Dagmar af Hjerring

Called to order at 5:25 P.M.

Minutes of the November 4th meeting read by Mordecai Salzer. Accepted as read (from the Aurora).

#### Officer Reports

Seneschal:

1. Requested officers to limit their reports to new activities and information.

Chatelaine:

1. Beginning a new baronial census.

Master of Stables (not present):

1. Monday fighting practise is being held in the Canton of Veraquilon.

Exchequer:

1. Papers are being signed for incorporation.
2. Domesday report finished.

Chroniclers:

1. Nothing new to report.

Herald:

1. Order of precedence printout available for people to check.

Scribe:

1. Volunteers are always needed to help with scrolls.

Provost:

- not present.

During the Middle Ages, the sophisticated art of hunting demanded an equally sophisticated vocabulary to name the objects of the chase. We now use flock for birds, sheep and goats and herd for cattle, antelope and many other animals, as well as pod for any marine mammal and pack for a number of beasts. We still refer to a bed of clams, a colony of ants, a gaggle of geese, a plague of locusts, a pride of lions, a school of fish, a swarm or hive of bees and a troop of monkeys, although I don't think any of them were or are hunted (well, maybe the lions were, but for the locusts and the like I'm not counting bug exterminators as hunters). Some of these collective nouns are still found in the dictionary; however, a lot of the ones that were developed have fallen into varying degrees of disuse. These include:

a barren of mules	a murmuration of starlings
a business of ferrets	a mustering of storks
a cast of hawks	a nye of pheasants
a charm of finches	an ostentation of peacocks
a clowder of cats	a paddling of ducks
a congregation of plovers	
a parliament of owls	a convocation eagles
a piteousness doves	a covert of coots
a plump of wildfowl	a covey (or a bevy) of quail
a pod of seals	a cowardice of curs
a rafter of turkeys	a crash of rhinoceroses
a richness of martens	a descent of woodpeckers
a route of wolves	a dray of squirrels
a siege of herons	a drove of kine (cows)
a shrewdness of apes	an exaltation of larks
a singular of boars	a flush of mallards
a skein of geese (in flight)	
a gaggle of geese (on water)	
a skulk of foxes	a gam of whales

# 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

## Mistress of the Lists:

1. A list of newly authorized fighters is needed.

## Arts & Sciences:

1. Officer queried when the Arts and Sciences championships are to be held (at Feast of the Evergreens in 1996 and at Spring Fair in 1997);
2. People are busy in Arts & Sciences activities, but no recommendations are being received for awards.

## Archer:

1. Archery practise has been suspended for the winter;
2. Winter War will have war archery.

## Baron:

1. The barony needs gifts to present at Thirty Year Celebration;
2. Borealis will be hosting Outlands at TYC;
3. Winter War will be at the end of January in Camrose;
4. Feast of the Evergreens moves to the end of February;
5. The Arts and Sciences competition will be a triathlon;
6. As current Arts and Sciences champion, Gowan ap Gowan will run the next championship.

## Old Business

1. Prizes needed for Arts and Sciences championship (to be held at the Feast of the Evergreens, February 24th, 1996).
2. Baronial Ithra not likely to happen until Fall 1996.
3. Arianrod is the volunteer who will be making the Baronial cloaks.

## New Business

1. Schedule to be set up for next year's Baronial meetings: Feast of the Evergreens, Spring Fair, Sergeants' Testing, Silverwolf, Stonewolf Theme Feast and St. Nicholas' Feast. Possibly one will be held at Quad War.
2. Mordecai Salzer would like to receive recommendations in order to pass on the Cup of Borealis.
3. Next meeting to be held during the day at the Feast of the Evergreens, Canton of Stonewolf (February 24th, 1996).

Meeting adjourned at 5:46 P.M.

The Groaning Board is looking for new members who are interested in food and feasts. Our mandate is three-fold: to educate people about medieval foods and about feastocrating, to experiment with new foods and recipies, and to entertain both our members and those who attend our feasts.

The Groaning Board is not a Guild, but we have based our group on the medieval guild structure. We have a system for the recognition of excellence through the progression of the different levels: novice, apprentice, journeyman - and finally master. The Groaning Board provides a supportive learning environment for those interested in expanding their knowledge of period food and recipies. We can offer you the chance to sample unique medieval recipies on a fairly small scale (40 - 50 people). This size limit allows a certain freedom to experiment or to take some risks with elaborate foods or expensive ingredients.

You can join as a regular member or as a temporary apprentice to focus on a specific event. In this case the Board members would be happy to share their knowledge and experience, or to serve in an advisory capacity. We do not, however, "feastocrat" other events, although our members work with other autocrats or feastocrats in many ways and on many different occasions.

Our next meeting will be on February 10, 1996. If you are interested in attending, please contact Eleanora fitzJohn at 449-6834.

## Candlemas in the Barony of Dragon's Laire

February 10, 1996, A.S. XXX

If you have any questions or concerns, call the Autocrat: L. Aaronaeus of Biggleswade (Michael Aaron Rogers) 1229 - 8th St. Main, Bremerton, WA 98337-1254 (360) 792-1562

Pavalion: Display your device on the Baronial pavalion, cloth applique or fabric paint (weather proof), on a triangle dag, dimensions: 8.5" x 9.25" x 9.25". Cost \$5, proceeds to Barony. See Baroness Adelaine or Alys Sylfrloc.

### Announcements:

HUZZAH!!!

On January 4th, Alfheim & Adeline welcomed a new baby daughter into their home--and the Barony of Borealis. (I hope I got the name right) Leora Rose is 7lb 12oz. and healthy. So is mom. Alfheim was, needless to say, still greatly overwhelmed by the event, as befits a proud papa.

I believe they came home from the hospital yesterday.

Meagwen MacGiolla-Phadrig

There are 3 heralds-at-large who can be consulted on devices and names: Guy, Alphonse and Wilhelm.

KWIC Services is pleased to announce that, for every research question submitted to us between now and May Crown, we will be donating 25% of all income from SCA Sources to the AnTir 3YC purchasing Fund.

The following positions are available in VerAquilon:

Gold Key - Maintaining and transporting garb.

First Aid Provider or Chiurgeon - attending events and providing medical assistance. Can be First Aid certified or can attempt to become warranted as a Chiurgeon (training, apprenticeship and testing)

Waterbearer - attending fighting events and providing water to the participants.

If anyone is interested in any of these positions or in becoming a deputy to an existing officer, please see the Seneschal.

A reminder to all those who are holding an office currently, please make every effort to attend as many meetings as possible, especially the business meetings. In particular, we will be discussing setting a quorum for voting on motions and expenditures at the Feb. Business meeting, so those who are interested in voicing an opinion are advised to attend.

Arianrhod the Laughing

Welcome to the new canton  
first-aid provider and  
waterbearer, Alys Sylfrloc

- Archery Practice at the residence of Joan the Just is closed until spring thaw.

Would all those who volunteer to run the monthly taverns in Veraquilon please make note of the responsibilities involved:

- all round tables stacked by the wall
- all chairs stacked by the wall
- long tables folded and returned to the storage room
- garbage taken out (the dumpster is unlocked using the small key on the key ring)
- carpets vacuumed (the switch for the built-in vacuum is on the canister in the storage room)
- lights off
- blinds down
- bar wiped off and cleaned
- kitchen left clean

The contact person for the hall is Bob at 471-0754. He has had a few complaints about the condition of the hall after we use it, so it would be advisable for everyone to make an effort to clean up the hall and leave it in the same condition that we find it.

Arianrhod



The More Things Change -  
The More They Remain The Same

The next time someone tells you that the country is going downhill, that you can't trust the government and that people don't care about others anymore, you can show them this poem. It was written in England about 1450 A.D. and seems to indicate that some things never change.

On The Times

Now is Inland all in fight;  
Muche people of consciens light;  
Many knightes and litel of might;  
Many lawes and litel right;  
Many actes of parlament  
And few kept with tru entent;  
Litel charite and fain to plese;  
Many a galant penylese;  
And many a wonderful disguising  
By unprudent and misauising;  
Grete countenanse and smalle wages;  
Many gentilemen and few pages;  
Wide gownes and large sleves;  
Wel besene and strong theves;  
Much bost of their clothes,  
But wel I wot they lake none othes.

As shown by this piece of early "Modern" English, one can quite easily read original works with just a little effort. The next poem was written about 100 years earlier, before Chaucer's "Canterbury Tales" and is a little more challenging. It is a good example of Middle English.

Fut-Ball

Brissit brawnis anddd brokin banis,  
Strif, discord and wastie wanis,  
Crukit in eld, sin halt withall:  
Thir are the bewties of the fut-ball.

Translation: Bruised muscles and broken bones  
Strife, discord and desolate homes  
Crooked in old age, then lame withall  
These are the beauties of foot-ball.

This leads us back to the theme of change - or lack thereof. I wonder if this poem was written tongue in cheek by a 14th century wife who was tired of her husband going out with the boys?

If anyone is interested in either Anglo-Saxon or Middle English literature, please call me and perhaps we can arrange a meeting. (Eleanora fitzJohn - 449-6834.)

\*These poems are from The Oxford Book of Medieval English Verse, ed. Celia Sisam.

