Valgard of Hus Vendrer

# THE AURORA

April, AS XXXI (1997)



The AURORA Borealis #64, 5611 - 105 Street Edmonton, Alberta T6H 2N2

#### AVACAL AND AREA CALENDAR

March 27	Londonderry Library Demo (Edmonton, AB)
April 12	Spring Faire, Canton of VerAquilon (Edmonton, AB)
April 12	Beltaine Tournament & Pyrate Tavern, Barony of Montengarde (Calgary, AB)
April 19	Avacal Coronet Council/Silver Arrow, Bitter End (Red Deer, AB)
May 29 - 30	Strathcona County 35th Birthday Celebration Medieval Days (Strathcona County, AB)
August 24	John Janzen Nature Centre Demo (Edmonton, AB)
Spring 1998	Barony of Borealis - Museum Demo

# STANDING BARONIAL CALENDARS

Canton of Stonewolf (Cold Lake, Grand Centre and Area)

Weekly topic meetings are held every Thursday at 1900 hrs in the Grand Centre Library. The fighter practices are held weekly every Tuesday at 1930 hrs in the Assumption School also in Grand Centre.

# Canton of VerAquilon (Edmonton and Area)

Dancing Practice is held every other week alongside the weekly Tuesday Fighter Practice in the Holyrood School Gym located at 7920 - 94 Ave. Meetings there start promptly at 6:30 p.m. and end exactly at 9:30 p.m.

Business meetings happen on the second Wednesday of the month at the University of Alberta in the Education North Building, Room 3-119.

Monthly Tavern Nights are held on the first Wednesday of every month, starting at 8 p.m. in the Capilano Community League Hall located at 10810 - 54 Street.

#### **BULLETIN BOARD**

# Italian Renaissance Masked Ball

Congratulations to Bronwin the Mischievous on winning a Smerilli game board and embroidered game bag (donated by Morgan of Devonview) for the "Best Mask" competition at the March 8, 1997 Italian Renaissance Masked Ball. For the evening she was known as Lord Fox. Until the unmasking she was quite disconcerning to some.

Congratulations to Valgard af Hus Vendrer on his being awarded a spoon from the Groaning Board for his continuous support of the guilde.

Congratulations to Arianrhod the Laughing on winning the door prize of two silver goblets, donated by Leanna Ryan.

The Evening was a great success, and as expected the Groaning Board outdid themselves with a menu fit for kings. There was dancing, singing and good cheer amongst the revelers. Thank you to all the members of the Groaning Board for all the time spent on research, preparation and presentation of a most succulent feast.

#### Submissions

The staff of the Aurora would like submissions for a future article "Now and Then". The article be autobiographic and will feature area members and their device. We will print articles as they come in so current rank in the Society will not be used for a place in the queue.

Cover illustration: HL Freydis the Far-Travelled

# THEIR HIGHNESSES OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF AVACAL

PRINCE Sir Vic Vikingsson (Jim Manners) 289-2234

> 2452 Capital Hill Crescent N.W. Calgary, AB T2M 4C2

PRINCESS Lady Ceridwynn of Abergavenny (Ceri Lepage) (306) 374-3024

> #45, 1800 Main Street Saskatoon, SK S7H 4B3

Please do not call any of these Good Gentles after 9:30 pm local time.



Submission Deadline:

15th of every the month.

This is the AURORA, a publication of the Barony of Borealis, in Edmonton, Alberta; a branch of the Society for

Creative Anachronism, Inc. The AURORA is not a corporate publication of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., and does not delineate S.C.A. policies.

The AURORA is available from the Editor for \$12 per annum (12 issues) picked up or \$14 mailed. All Cheques and money orders (Canadian Funds) are to be made payable to:

ASCA - Barony of Borealis.

#### Canton of VerAquilon Calendar of Events

#### Tuesday 1 No Fighter/Dance Practice Tavern, April Fools Wednesday 2 Tuesday 8 Business Wednesday 9 Saturday 12 Spring Fair Tuesday 15 Tuesday 22 Fighter

April

Sunday 27

Tuesday 29

May

(Capilano, Edmonton) Fighter/Dance Practice (Holyrood School) (U of A, Edmonton) (Glen Park Hall, Edm.) Fighter/Dance Practice (Holvrood School) (Holvrood School) A & S - Paper Making 1 - 4 p.m. (TBA, Edmonton) Fighter/Dance Practice (Holyrood School)

#### Tuesday 6 **Fighter Practice** (Holyrood School) Wednesday 7 Tavern, Bardic (Capilano, Edmonton) (Holyrood School) Tuesday 13 Fighter/Dance Practice Wednesday 14 Business (U of A, Edmonton) Tuesday 20 Fighter Practice (Holyrood School) Tuesday 27 Fighter/DancePractice (Holyrood School) Thursday 29 Strathcona County 35th Birthday Celebration Medieval days -Premiers Luncheon (TBA) Friday 30 S.C. Medieval Days - Feast (TBA) Saturday 31 Sherwood Park Parade (TBA)

Fighters and Dancers attending the practices at Holyrood School are asked to bring a spare pair of clean shoes to wear in the gym so the floor doesn't get marked. We have a very good and cheap place to be and we don't want to lose the use of this practice space.



# LONDONDERRY LIBRARY DEMO

Date:	Thursday, March 27, 1997	HERALD	AEthelstan of Carlisle (Shane Foster) 481-0933
Time:	4:00 p.m 5:00 p.m.		
Location:	Londonderry Mall		#302, 15611 - 100 Avenue Edmonton, AB TSP 0L1
Group:	8 - 12 year olds Theme - Camelot: Readers of the Round Table	EXCHEQUER	HL Joan the Just (Joan Reader) 967-4072
session. We requ	ary has requested an information/question and answer aire costumes, pictures, examples of artistic work, dance display only (space limited).		RR1 Leduc, AB T9E 2X1
For furtl Berge) at 461-11	her information please call Cailleach Aine (Christine 10.	MASTER OF STABLES	Vacant
would like to ann	EW READER AND KATHY GRACE SCHENDEL ounce their upcoming wedding on Saturday, May 31, 1. Everyone is invited to the ceremony and dance.	IRON KEY	Takeda Imakawa Shirou Yoshitaka (Jason Silver) 469-7344 9149 - 83 Avenue
	ll be held at the Reader acreage weather permitting. The ony site is Millwoods Mennonite Brethern Church at	MASTER OF	Edmonton, AB T6C 1B6 jsilver@compusmart.ab.ca
	dance will be held at the Thorsby Community Centre after 8:30 p.m.		Lord Alphonse de Lorraine (Gerry Schiller) 967-4072
This is a "Munda	ne" wedding; please dress in modern attire.	MINISTER OF ARTS	HL Cennet ap Llangollen (Ken Reader) 986-6623
If you have any q	uestions please call Joan Reader at 986-6623.		RR1 Leduc, AB T9E 2X1
		CONSTABLE	Lady Hilda von Arbach (Cindy Deck) 467-8539
A	ET TH	CHATELAINE	Lady Cailleach Aine (Christine Berge) 461-1110
R		GOLD KEY	Lady Rowena of Tregelles (Heather von Stackleberg) 468-3241
6~~~		WATER BEARER	Vacant
		CHIURGEN	Vacant

OFFICERS OF THE CANTON OF VERAQUILON

#### LESSER OFFICES

CONSTABLE	Yeoman Eadwulf macRuthven (Robert Reader)
	986-6623

RR1 Leduc, AB T9E 2X1

CHATELAINE HL Dagmar af Hjorring (Shelley Ann Jensen) 465-7344

> 10311 - 56 Street Edmonton, AB T6A 2J1

EDITOR HL Freydis the Far-Travelled (Tracy-Lynn Jarratt) (acting) 433-7732 477-2151 FAX

> #64, 5611 - 105 Street Edmonton, AB T6H 2N2 opals@worldgate.com

- (assistant) Morgan of Devonview (Lisa Hohnstein) 487-1795
- SCRIBE Sjt. John MacLeod the Black (John Small) 923-2352
  - Box 744 Gibbons, AB T0A 1N0

#### SENESCHALS OF THE BARONIAL CANTONS

#### **VERAQUILON**

Lady Arianrhod the Laughing (Tara Million) 431-1542

10707 - 60 Avenue Edmonton, AB T6H 4S7

### STONEWOLF

Lady Rhowyn Arden (Wendi Hyde) 826-6871

PO Box 88 Ardmore, AB T0A 0B0

#### SPRING FAIRE

#### ARTS AND SCIENCES PENTATHLON

# April 12, 1997

Come one, come all to the Spring Faire in the bonny Barony of Borealis. come show off your finest works in the Arts and Sciences Pentathlon.

Location: From Calgary Trail turn west on the Glen Park overpass (located just south of Leduc) and take Glen Park Road. The hall is 20km from the highway. There will be signs along the road.

Time:Site opens at 11:00 a.m.<br/>Feast commences at 7:00 p.m.Cost:Potluck fee - \$6.00 per person<br/>Site fee only - \$4.00 per personAutocrat:AEthelestan of Carlisle (Shane Foster)<br/>481-0933

e-mail: sorcerer@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca

## NOTES:

Donations for A & S awards are being accepted by HL Cennet a Llangollen (Ken Reader) at 986-6623. Sponsors will be listed under "Patron of the Arts".

All categories are open to children and will be judged separately from the adult entries.

For information on Rules and Categories please see March edition of "The Aurora" or call AEthelestan at 481-0933.



# **BELTAINE TOURNEY and PYRATE TAVERN**

# April 12, 1997

			594-1083
Location:	The Barony of Montengarde		
	Bow Waters Canoe Club		Box 1865
	1975 - 26th Street, S.E.		Medley, AB
	Calgary, Alberta		T0A 2M0
			ghiar@sas.ab.ca
Schedule:	11:00 Armour Inspection of Heavy Tournament		ODE AT OFFICES
	12:00 Beltaine Tournament begins		GREAT OFFICES
	2:00 Hall opens	OFNEGOIAL	
	4:00 Armour Inspection for Rapier Tournament	SENESCHAL	Lady Gwynaeth o Coedaneu (Marsha Bremner)
	4:30 Rapier Tournament		478-1505
			140 Woodborough Way
Cost:	Site Fee - \$6.00		Edmonton, AB
	Tavern Fair - \$1.00 - \$10.00		T5Y 1N2
	(Coins preferred)		
		HERALD	Richard Sparhawke (Richard Bedard)
Autocrat:	Beltaine:		594 - 7371
	Baroness Sapphira of Sherwood		
	277 - 0740		Box 2059
			Medley, AB
	Tavern:		T0A 2M0
	Pirate Queen Michelle		
	277 - 0740	EXCHEQUER	Lady Alys Sylfrloc of Aelsmera (Pat Routle
			437-2703
			10930 - 65 Avenue
	arde Docks presents: "The Middle Ages, not as they were		Edmonton, AB
	. DeMille said they should be!" Yes this is the come-as-		T6H 4R6
your-favourite	-Hollywood-stereotype PYRATE TAVERN! From Errol		pat.routeldge@ualberta.ca
Flynn wanna b	e's to extras from central casting that steal the show!		
		MASTER OF	Ritter Albrecht von Rugen (Pat Jackson)
"It was high re	evelry and steamy debauch in the Keelhaulers' Lounge, the	STABLES	468-0532
big back room	of the Foundered Squid in the pirate hell of Libertatia. Here		07
all that was ga	udiest, bawdiest and most abandoned in the pirate		8324 - 164th Street
	thered to riot nightly in the traditional fashion which you've		Edmonton, AB
	times: raffish ruffians staggering about with pint-pots, their	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	
	nd bedizened trulls in big earrings and ragged off-the-	MASTER OF	Lord Marcus Wynniat (Mark Traub)
	7; a wild gypsy wench with a tambourine dancing a fiery	FENCE	594-3590
	ne table, while roaring bullies pound brawny fists in applause		
	ting diners hurriedly withdraw their plates from beneath her		5320 - 56 Street
	s; drink and doubloons are scattered broadcast, drunks litter		Grand Centre, AB
	ts of obscene song echo 'gainst blackened rafters and all in		T0A 1T1
	e hell to stage and even worse to clean up afterwards." (A		
	m George MacDonald Fraser's, "Pyrates".)	MINISTER	HL Cennet ap Llangollen (Ken Reader)
oncer sicar II0	in confermation inter of Thiggs i	OF ARTS &	986-6623
		SCIENCES	
			RR1

# **OFFICERS OF THE BARONY OF BOREALIS**

BARON

BARONESS

(Area Code - 403 - applies to all Alberta long-distance numbers)

Alfheim der Wundersman (Stewart Hiar) Adelaine von Schwarzwald (Gail Hiar)

(Pat Routledge)

Leduc, AB T9E 2X1

#### Baronial Regalia Purchased:

Travel Thrones	
Baronial Cloaks	

250.00 (\$83.34 donated from each branch) 254.70

#### Equipment Purchased:

Canton of Stonewolf
CD Player & Tapes

350.00 (approx.)

319.00

70.00

Canton of VerAquilon CD Player Iron Key Armour

Donations to Avacal and to AnTir:

Avacal Regalia Avacal Travel Fund Avacal Fighting Tabards Cloak Pins 95.38 (from Baronial Taverns) 300.00 (\$100 donated from each branch) 47.28 (from VerAquilon) 150.00 (gifts to visiting Royals at 3YC)

#### STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT FOR THE ALBERTA SOCIETY OF CREATIVE ANACHRONISM (1995) FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1996

#### Opening balance as at January 1, 1996

Borealis	5,464.66	
Stonewolf	1,335.52	
VerAquilon	1,576.69	
Bitter End	834.04	
		9,210.91
Total Revenue		
Borealis	2508.20	
Stonewolf	7,217.41	
VerAquilon	3,621.60	
Bitter End	1,330.02	
		14,667.23
Total Expanditure		

#### Total Expenditure

Borealis	3,416.73	
Stonewolf	7,666.64	
VerAquilon	3,849.98	
Bitter End	1,212.48	
		16,145.83

# Closing Balance as at December 31, 1996

Borealis	4,556.13
Stonewolf	886.29
VerAquilon	1,348.31
Bitter End	951.58

7,742.31



Aye, split and sink me, there be a bottle o' Highland scotch fer the las survivor o' the rapier tourney. Yarrgh, there be prizes too, for the one who can tell us all o' the eighth deadly sin, we bein' bored with the first seven, damme for a handspike else! Mind to bring yer boffer knives, swords, plates and such like if ye want to survive the even'.



# AVACAL CORONET COUNCIL/SILVER ARROW

April 19, 1997

### Location: Bitter End

The Spring Archery Tournament will be held April 19, 1997. All Avacal archers should gather in Bitter End to compete for the traditional silver ingots. Shoot starts at 10:00 a.m. Archers should bring at least six war arrows as we may do an Agincourt run.

Feast site is located at 85 Boyce Street. The site is wet and beer will be served. Avacal Coronet Council will be held during the day. Tentative schedule as follows:

- Noble Estate: 11:00 a.m. Peerage: 1:00 p.m. Curia: 4:00 p.m. Feast: 7:00 p.m.
- Cost: \$15.00 before April 1, 1997 \$25.00 after April 1, 1997 Site Fee - contact autocrat

Autocrat: Katerina de Navarra (Jaqueline Lenton) 346 - 1334

> #C, 6551 - 59th Avenue Red Deer, Alberta T4N 5R2

e-mail: gdshore@agt.net



#### STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT FOR THE ASCA BARONY OF BOREALIS FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1996

Bank Statement Chronicler's Petty Cash Fund Outstanding Expenditures	5,246.08 218.58 0.00
Total Funds Available	<u>5,464.66</u>
Summary of Account	
Aurora Fund Chronicler's Petty Cash Fund Chatelaine/Stewart Sargeant's Constable Pied Piper Principality Tithe Fund AnTir Tithe Fund Barony of Borealis	729.69 37.53 44.47 648.38 31.84 22.60 33.71 8.71 2,999.20 <u>4.556.13</u>
Opening Balance	5,464.66
Total Revenue Total Funds Available	<u>2,508.20</u> 7,972.86
Total Expenditures	3,416.73
Closing Balance	4,556.13



#### STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT FOR THE CANTON OF VERAQUILON FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1996

Opening Balance	1,387.51
Total Revenue	<u>3,621.60</u>
Total Funds Available	5,009.11
Total Expenditures	3,849.98
Closing Balance	<u>1,159.13</u>
Master of Stables	303.25
Gold Key	62.79
Dancers & Musicians	18.14
Waterbearer	35.00
Publicity Committee	33.58
General Fund	706.37
oaning Board	
Opening Balance	189.18
Total Revenue	<u>2,083.60</u>
Total Funds Available	2,272.78

#### The Gro

Opening Balance	189.18
Total Revenue	<u>2,083.60</u>
Total Funds Available	2,272.78
Total Expenditures	2,027.89
Closing Balance	244.89

Note 1 - The figures for the Groaning Board are maintained in a separate account.

#### STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT FOR THE CANTON OF STONEWOLF (LAKELAND) FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1996

Bank Statement	886.29
Outstanding Expenditures	0.00
Total Funds Available	
Opening Balance	1,335.52
Total Revenue	7,217.41
Total Funds Available	8,552.93
Total Expenditures	7,666.64
Closing Balance	<u>886.29</u> - as pe

\_\_\_\_\_886.29 - as per bank statement of January 7, 1996

# CARAWAY SCHOOL DEMO

Date:	Friday, April 25, 1997
Time:	1:10 p.m 3:20 p.m.
Location:	Strathern Elementary and Junior High School 8728 - 93 Avenue
Group:	Medieval Club comprised of K - Grade 6 students plus parent leaders.
	dieval Club is requesting fighters, costumes, hands-on ain mail, games, pictures, leatherwork, embroidery),
For mor at 461-1110.	re information please call Cailleach Aine (Christine Berge

# ARTS AND SCIENCES

# PAPER MAKING

Date:	Sunday, April 27, 1997
Time:	1 - 4 p.m.
Location:	TBA
Contact:	Joan the Just (Joan Reader) 986-6623

Arts and Sciences nights will no longer be held in conjuction with fighter practice at Holyrood School. We will be holding workshops once per month on a Sunday.



# EGIL SKALLAGRIMSONAR MEMORIAL TOURNEY XXII May 23 - 26, 1997

ADIANTUM (Eugene, Oregon)

The barony of Adiantum invites the populace of An Tir to join us a Egil's Tourney XXII, the Knowne World's largest prize tourney & Ithrotir, May 23-26th A.S. XXXII, at Elijah Bristow State Park.

The tournament will be a standard double elimination list. All interested fighters MUST have a shield board, valid membership & fighters authorization card to enter. Shield boards should be 3 1/2" tall and 3" wide, with holes at top and bottom center. A limited number of shield boards will be available for purchase on Saturday ONLY.

The Ithrotir will include eight events: poetry, decorated useful object, costuming, brewing, Nine Men's Morris, archery, spear throwing and wrestling. Back by popular demand this year is the Childrens Ithrotir, open to children between the ages of 5 and 12. Events will include a foot race, rock throwing and shield painting. There will be prizes for each event and a grand prize for the overall winner. Please send a SASE for rules and guidelines to the Autocrats.

All tournament & Ithrotir participants are requested to volunteer one hour of service to the event, all winners will be REQUIRED to do the same.

This year to help reduce lines at front gate, we are opening pre-registration to all. Deadine for pre-registration is May 1, 1997, no later! As in the past, pre-registration is required of ALL merchants. Please contact the merchant-crat for a packet as soon as possible.

SITE FEES: 13/ over - \$8.00; 12/ under - \$5.00; 5/ under - free (\$1.00 discount for pre-registration by May 1, 1997) contact the Autocrats for pre-registration.

DIRECTIONS: From 1-5 North or South, take Hwy. 58 exit (Oakridge/Klamath Falls) east. Follow through Pleasant Hill, watch for SCA & State Park signs. Turn onto Rattlesnake Rd., follow to end, turn right. Follow to main park entrance on Left.

AUTOCRATS: Lord Shawyn Littelle de Vellon & Lady Signe de Vellon (Shawn Vallotton, Tabitha Pitt.) 2097 Crescent Avenue, Eugene, OR 97408 (1-541-484-1630. E-mail: devellon@ix.netcom.com

MERCHANT-CRAT: Lord Brennain MacCuUladh (Mike Bennett) #70, 1263 Main Street, Springfield, OR 97477 (1-541-988-1077. E-mail: mjb@efn.org

For pre-registration form please call Gwynaeth o Coedaneu (Marsha Bremner) at 478-1505.



Master of Stables: Not present

**Provost:** 

Purchase of schlaggers has been made. They will be picked up by His Highness Prince Rorik at Estrella and delivered at Investiture. \$100.00 left from the fund goes to the Barony. For the Principality championship at Investiture both schlaggers and other style weapons will be used.

Chatelaine: No Activities to report.

Archer: Not present.

Herald:

Stonewolf Canton officer will be the Baronial level herald. Tabards will be passed on at this event. Paper work will follow.

Chroniclers: Not present. See new business.

Arts and Sciences: Not Present.

Mistress of the Lists: Not present.

Scribe: Not Present. Baronial scribe is stepping up to Principality level.

# New Business:

The Chroniclers will be given a little more time to get out an issue. Freydis has changed jobs and is currently out of town three weeks of every four.

Quad War is on the Calendar, but no autocrat is listed.

What can we do to get our fencers qualified on the new Schlagger blade: Could we pay gas money for experienced people to come from Montengarde: marcus will approach people at Investiture about this. Combining the class with an event would be good.

Richard Sparhawke (dec'd) is in a horse club that will be doing a medieval themed entry in a parade if people are interested in participation.

Next meeting will be at Winter War.

Meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

# STRATHCONA COUNTY 35TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION MEDIEVAL DAYS

Dates:	Thursday, May 29, 1997 and Friday, May 30, 1997
Times:	Thursday - Premiere's Luncheon: 11:00 a.m 3:00 p.n Friday - Feast: 7:00 p.m ?

They are requesting anyone who would participate in fighting, dancing, and others to provide colour to the event. The Thursday luncheoi will be their media event and will host major dignitaries. If you are able to provide your time and service to these functions please contact Cailleach Aine (Christine Berge) at 461-1110 as soon as possible. Anyone intereste in assisting at any of the venue sites throughout Saturday, May 31st and Sunday, June 1st, please advise me.

# PARADE - MAY 31, 1997

We need a volunteers to man a float in a parade. If you would like to show off those great outfits and inspire the masses, please call Morgan of Devonview (Lisa Hohnstein) at 487-1795.

# JOHN JANZEN NATURE CENTRE DEMO August 24, 1997

12 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Location:	John Janzen Nature Centre
Autocrat:	Gwynaeth O Coedaneu (Marsha Bremner) 478-1505

This is one of our big demos for the year. We need everyone dancers, fighters (light and heavy), musicians, gold key and merchants. Last year we were fortunate enough to have excellent media coverage including television. Please call Gwynaeth to confirm your participation. We really need you!



#### PEOPLE, PLACES AND THINGS

#### HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

The next few issues will cover two articles researched by members of the SCA at large. The first being a history of the city of Kamakura, Japan. The second is the role of the Berserker in Scandinavian Society.

Kamakura, Japan (792 a.d. - 1333 a.d.)

SUBMITTED BY:

Nicolaus of Exeter (Kurt Foge) Stationed on the USS Independence CV-62

Installment 1 of 3

Kamakura is a city on the east coast of central Honshu (the main island of Japan) in the Kanto district (this district was known as Togoku in the middle ages). Originally this city was no more than a small forgotten fishing village on the shores of Sagami Bay. The Togoku area was so unimportant it was not even mentioned in official records until it abruptly became the capital of Japan.

How Kamakura got its name is uncertain, etymologically it means "enclosed oven" or it could be derived from a word used by the aboriginal natives of Japan, the Ainu meaning "place of many hills". Another explanation of the name is that Fujiwara Kamatari, founder of the Fujiwara clan who were the first supreme rulers of Japan who had their capital in Kyoto, had his sword enshrined there in the 7th century after a dream told him to do so. A sword is also referred to as a sickle in Japan and a sickle is called a "kama" in Japanese; Kama-kura literally means sickle storehouse.

Originally Japan was divided into many fragmented warring clans. Slowly the Yamato clan became supreme rulers and chose Kyoto as their capital in 792. During the 10th century the role of emperor became relegated to religious and cultural spheres and the actual political power was held be regents from the powerful Fujiwara family. By the year 1000 Kyoto was the centre of culture, art and refined living. However, the Fujiwara family's power began to fail and uprising began to occur. Warrior clans (Called samurai) suppressed these uprisings and then began to fight among each other for power. The strongest of these clans were the Heike (also called the Taira) and the Minamoto (also called the Genji). The Heike won at first and controlled the court and the capital. In 1159 the Heike killed Minamoto Yoshitomo and his two oldest sons and captured many other members of the Minamoto clan including a 13 year old boy who was Yoshitomo's third son, Minamoto Yoritomo (the future leader of Japan). His life was spared after the mother of Heike Kiyomori, the supreme leader of the Heike, talked her son into allowing the boy and his younger half brother Minamoto Yoshitsune to live. They were both banished to different temples to live as monks. Yoritomo escaped the temple, gained allies, and made Kamakura his capital in 1180.

#### MINUTES

# FEAST OF THE EVERGREENS BARONIAL MEETING

### Saturday - February 8, 1997

Location:	Cherry Grove Hall, Canton of Stonewolf
Attendance:	Rhowyn Mora of Lincolnshire Mordecai Robert Caithness David Huser Paul Carpenter Louise Carpenter Aurora Kasper Bartholomew Reynold Codlin Marcus Wynniatt Arianrhod the Laughing Chris Knaus Roland Murdoch Starlene Hatch Rulon DeHatch Valgard af Hus Vendrer Edwina of Loxley Richard Sparhawke (Still deceased) Nicolas Sparhawke Hrolf His Excellency Baron Alfheim.
Chair:	Her Excellency Baroness Adeline
Secretary:	Dagmar af Hjorring
Old Business:	

Minutes of the December 7, 1996 meeting read by Her Excellency and accepted as read.

Arianrhod advised that Spring Faire is April 12th: it will be a potluck feas: possibly at a hall outside of Edmonton (the Canton of Veraquilon). Edwin suggested Gibbons Hall.

Winter war will be held on March 22nd.

**Officers Reports:** 

Seneschal: Not present.

Exchequer: Not present.



# Barony of Borealis -Museum Demo

# Spring 1998

Greetings Gentles of Avacal (and any were else this message may travel)

Once again the Alberta Provincial Museum has started talks with Borealis about putting on a 6 week show. We have already decided on the theme; "King Arthur Man or Myth" a look at 6th century Celtic history (Welsh being the main theme). I am looking for all those early period

Celts and the knowledge / skills that you possess. We need jewelry, village layouts, weaponry, armor, clothing, food & recipes, song-stories & folklore, Alphabets & symbols, Pastimes and games . I think you get the idea we need every thing possible that is being made, studied or though of. We will also have the ability to merchant on site and they have had record #'s the last two years that we have been there. In the next little while I will be sending out many messages to keep reminding every one of this event so please help me stop writing and get on the bandwagon. Flood me with so much information and offers of help & submissions that my time will be spent sorting through the incredible talent that Avacal (and the rest of the S.C.A.) has to offer instead of bothering the uninterested.

For any more information please contact me at.

ghiar @sas.ab.ca

My address & phone # is in the Crier & Avantgarde

Thank You for your time and hopefully support.

Alfheim Baron of Borealis.



Several important things happened in Kamakura while all that had been happening that shaped the cities future. In 1063 Minamoto Yoriyosh moved into the area and erected a shrine to Hachiman, the patron deity of the Minamoto clan. Why he moved there is unknown. Also, the great grandfather of Minamoto Yoritomo, Minamoto Yoriyoshi had been ordere to suppress a rebellion in the Mutsu Province (present day Fukoshima, Miyagi, Iwate, and Aomori Prefectures). He stopped in Kamakura and prayed for victory at Iwashimizu Hachiman-gu shrine. He won. In gratitude for this victory he built Yui Wakamiya shrine in Kyoto as a branch of the shrine he prayed at. In addition to this Minamoto Yoshitom (Yoritomo's father) owned a house in Kamakura located at the current sight of Jufuku-ji temple which is located near modern day Kamakura JR train station. Furthermore, other members of the Minamoto clan owned estates in Togoku.

Yoritomo had other reasons for choosing Kamakura as his capital. The geological features of the city make it a natural fortress against medieval weapons. It faces Sagami Bay on one side and is surrounded by hills on all others. These hills were cut by seven access roads called "Kiridoshi" (meaning cut through) and the names of these roads listed eas to west were Nagoe, Asahina, Kobukuro-zaka, Kamega-yatsu, Kewai-zak. Daibutsu-zaka, and Gokurakuji-zaka. Finally, Yoritomo had many supporters in Togoku who rallied behind his ensign "Down with the Heike among the were the Miura, Wada, Hatakeyama, and Chiba clans. These clans had enjoyed favor with the Minamoto clan since the time of Yoriyos1 (about 1063) who had represented their common beliefs.



# The Role of the Berserker in Viking Society

# SUBMITTED BY:

HL Freydis the Far-Travelled (Tracy-Lynn Jarratt) With permission from Gunnora Hallakarva

#### Installment 1 of 3

The Berserker's place in society was limited by the terror and violence that was associated with berserkergang. As superb warriors, they were due admiration. However, their tendency to turn indiscriminately upon their friends while the madness was upon them went squarely against the heroic ethic, which demanded loyalty and fidelity to one's friends. The berserk skirted the classification of "ni(dh)ingr", one who was the lowest of men and the object of hate and scorn. An eleventh-century monument raised in Soderby in Uppland, Sweden in memory of a brother reads: "And Sassur killed him and did the deed of a "nidingr"---be betrayed his comrade" (Foote and Wilson, p. 426).

The primary role of the berserk was as a warrior attached to a king's army. Both King Harald and King Halfdan had berserker shock-troops. Aside from their military value, the berserker's ties to Odhinn would have been welcome in a royal army, since Odhinn also had a particular association with rulership, being venerated in Anglo-Saxon England as the ancestor of chieftains, and throughout the North as god of kings and protector of their royal power (Dumezil, Gods of the Ancient Northmen, p. 26). Outside of this role, however, the berserker became the stock villain of the sagas, typified as murderous, stupid brutes, or as one modern critic has it, "a predatory group of brawlers and killers who disrupted the peace of the Viking community repeatedly" (Fabing, p. 232). Saxo Grammaticus speaks of such a band in his Gesta Danorum:

The young warriors would harry and pillage the neighborhood, and frequently spilt great quantities of blood. They considered it manly and proper to devastate homes, cut down cattle, rifle everything and take away vast hauls of booty, burn to the ground houses they had sacked, and butcher men and women indiscriminately" (Saxo, Vol. 1, p. 163).

In addition to their warlike activities within their communities, berserkers are characterized by their sexual excesses, carrying of wives, daughters and betrothed maids who then must be rescued by the heroes of the sagas. Saxo was particularly upset by his behavior:

> So outrageous and unrestrained were their ways that they ravished other men's wives and daughters; they seemed to have outlawed chastity and driven it to the brothel. Nor did they stop at married women but also debauched the beds of virgins. No man's bridalchambers was safe; scarcely any place in the land was free from the imprints of their lust" (Saxo, vol.1, p. 118).

It was no doubt due to these excesses of the berserker that resulted in thei demise. In 1015 King Erik outlawed berserks, along with "holmganga" or duels (Fabing, p. 235): it had become a common practice for a berserker t challenge men of property to holmgang, and upon slaying the unfortunate victim, to take possession of his goods, wealth, and women. This was a difficult tactic to counter, since a man so challenged had to appear, have a champion fight for him, or else be named "ni(dh)ingr" and coward. Egils saga Skallagrimsonar records one such encounter:

> "there's a man called Ljot, a berserker and duel-fighter, hated by everyone. He came here and asked to marry my daughter, but we gave him a short answer and said no to his offer. After that Ljot challenged my son Fridgeir to single combat, so he has to go and fight the duel tomorrow on the isle of Valdero" (Palsson and Edwards, Egil's Saga, p.169).

In 1123, the Icelandic Christian Law stated, "If someone goes berserl he is punished with lesser outlawry and the men who are present are also banished if they do not bind him." Lesser outlawry (fjorbaugsgard) was a sentence of three years' banishment from the country. Berserkergang was thus classed with other heathen and magical practices, all unacceptable in a Christian society (Foote and Wilson, p. 185). Certainly where berserker: were associated with the cult of Odhinn, and such spell-casting as was associated with their immunity to weapons or shape-changing, this activit would appropriately be classed as "heathen and magical." By the twelfth century, the berserker with his Odhinnic religion, animalistic appearance, his inhuman frenzy upon the battlefield, and terrorism within the Scandinavian community disappeared. the berserk, like his patron deity Odhinn, was forced to yield to the dissolution of pagan society and the advent of the White Christ.





Fairs were held annually. In the early Middle Ages, they were important for the trade they attracted, and merchants attended when they could. Later, fairs were

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marked more by the diversity of entertainment they offered, and prefigured the modern circus.



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