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## THE AURORA

May, AS XXXI  
(1997)



## AVACAL AND AREA CALENDAR

- May 7** Bardic Tavern (Edmonton, AB)
- May 11** War practice - Montengarde (Calgary, AB)
- May 16 - 19** Kingdom of An Tir - May Crown (Lions Gate, BC)
- May 29 - 30** Strathcona County 35th Birthday Celebration  
Medieval Days (Strathcona County, AB)
- May 31** Sherwood Park Library Parade (Sherwood Park, AB)
- June 7** Avacal Coronet - Loch Dorr (Kootenay Bay, BC)
- June 26 - 29** Avacal - Quad War (Saskatchewan)
- July 12 - 13** Fiber Arts Ithra (Edmonton, AB)
- August 24** John Janzen Nature Centre Demo (Edmonton, AB)



### 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 VetrAquilon**  
(Edmonton and Area)

Dance Practice is held Tuesdays in conjunction with Fighter Practice at the U of A quad area behind the Administration Building by SUB. Note that this is an out-of-doors site and you are required to dress in accordance with weather conditions. Meetings there start at 6:30 p.m. and end 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 at 8 p.m.

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

The Autocrates of this years Yule Feast combined with the Avacal Coronet Tournament would like the donations of any clean new or used aluminum pie pans and ice cream pails with lids. Please forward those you can part with to Freydis or Ulf.

{ Please note that in future issues there will be published an Avacal Calendar and the list of offices/officers will become a semi-annual pull-out with only essential officers being included in each issue. }

Cover illustration

Copied from Campbell's "THE VIKING"  
Back & interior artwork  
the art files on Freydis.

## THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES OF AN TIR

Crown Prince Darius Coruinus  
Crown Princess Morgaine Brigantia  
(604) 444-4416

2988 Bainbridge Avenue  
Burnaby, BC  
V5A 2S8

## 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

### May

Tuesday 6	Fighter/Dance Practice	(U of A Quad Edmonton)
Wednesday 7	Tavern, Bardic	(Capilano, Edmonton)
Tuesday 13	Fighter/Dance Practice	(U of A Quad Edmonton)
Wednesday 14	Business	(U of A, Edmonton)
Saturday 17	Kingdom Crown	(Lion's Gate)
Tuesday 20	Fighter/Dance Practice	(U of A Quad Edmonton)
Tuesday 27	Fighter/Dance Practice	(U of A Quad Edmonton)
Thursday 29	Strathcona County 35th Birthday Celebration	
	Medieval Days -	
	Premiers Luncheon	(See copy)
Friday 30	S.C. Medieval Days - Feast	(See copy)
Saturday 31	Jamie and Cathy's Wedding	(See copy)
	Sherwood Park Parade	(See copy)

### June

Saturday 31	Fighter/Dance Practice	(U of A Quad Edmonton)
Wednesday 4	Tavern - Saxon Inn	(Capilano Hall Edmonton)
Saturday 7	Avacal Coronet	(Loch Dorr)
Tuesday 10	Fighter/Dance Practice	(U of A Quad Edmonton)
Wednesday 11	Business Meeting	(U of A, Edmonton)
Tuesday 17	Fighter/Dance Practice	(U of A Quad Edmonton)
Tuesday 24	Fighter/Dance Practice	(U of A Quad Edmonton)
Saturday 27	Avacal Quad War	(see copy)

### July

Wednesday 2	Tavern, CBC Rough Cuts	(Capilano Hall Edmonton)
Saturday 12 -	Fibre Arts Ithra	(TBA)
Sunday 13		

### August

Sunday 24	John Janzen Demo	(Edmonton, AB)
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## BARDIC TAVERN

**Date:** Wednesday, May 7, 1997  
**Time:** 8:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Capilano Community League Hall  
10810 - 54 Street

My Lords and Ladies, in May our regular tavern will feature a Bardic Circle. Please come and enjoy the entertainment. Every one is encouraged to participate, so bring your instruments, song books, stories, voices or whatever. If you have any questions please call Mrodecai at 435-2051 or E-mail him at rms@cha.ab.ca

### THE KINGDOM OF AN TIR MAY CROWN

**Dates:** May 16 - 19, 1997  
**Time:** The site will open at 5 p.m. on Friday May 16,  
and will close at 2 p.m. on Monday May 19.  
**Location:** Barony of Lions Gate  
Langley, BC, at The Little River Bowl  
**Cost:** Site fee is \$13.00  
Merchant fee is \$13.00

The Barony of Lions Gate would like to invite the populace of An Tir to join us in the excitement of May Crown, where the next Heirs to the Throne will be determined.

Site information and directions:

Site regulations state that there will be NO pets allowed and anyone arriving with pets will be asked to leave the site.

This is a discreetly damp site, so be sure that ALL beverages are in a period container.

## OFFICERS OF THE CANTON OF VERAQUILON

<b>HERALD</b>	AEthelstan of Carlisle (Shane Foster) 481-0933  #302, 15611 - 100 Avenue Edmonton, AB T5P 0L1
<b>EXCHEQUER</b>	HL Joan the Just (Joan Reader) 986-6623  RR1 Leduc, AB T9E 2X1
<b>MASTER OF STABLES</b>	Vacant
<b>IRON KEY</b>	Takeda Imakawa Shirou Yoshitaka (Jason Silver) 469-7344  9149 - 83 Avenue Edmonton, AB T6C 1B6 jsilver@compusmart.ab.ca
<b>MASTER OF FENCE</b>	Lord Alphonse de Lorraine (Gerry Schiller) 967-4072
<b>MINISTER OF ARTS</b>	HL Cennet ap Llangollen (Ken Reader) 986-6623  RR1 Leduc, AB T9E 2X1
<b>CONSTABLE</b>	Lady Hilda von Arbach (Cindy Deck) 467-8539
<b>CHATELAINE</b>	Lady Cailleach Aine (Christine Berge) 461-1110
<b>GOLD KEY</b>	Lady Rowena of Tregelles (Heather von Stackleberg) 468-3241
<b>WATER BEARER</b>	Vacant
<b>CHIURGEN</b>	Vacant

## 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 or E-mail at lhohn@bytescape.com

**SCRIBE** Sgt. John MacLeod the Black (John Small)  
923-2352

Box 744  
Gibbons, AB  
T0A 1N0

## SENECHALS OF THE BARONIAL CANTONS

### VERAQUILON

Lady Arianrhod the Laughing (Tara Million)  
431-1542

10707 - 60 Avenue  
Edmonton, AB  
T6H 4S7

### STONEWOLF

Lady Rhwyn Arden (Wendi Hyde)  
826-6871

PO Box 88  
Ardmore, AB  
T0A 0B0

Anyone requiring space on the eric please contact the autocrat ASAP, complete with the size of your pavilion, including guy wires. Note: only period pavilions are allowed on the eric.

There are a limited number of spaces for RV's but no hookup facilities. Please contact the autocrat in advance to reserve a space.

**Note: All fighters who will be fighting in this Crown Tourney must have a banner or a standard with their arms, device or symbol upon it.** It should be large enough to be seen at a distance and be affixed to a minimum 7' pole with the shaft no wider than 1". Places will be available to stand your banner or, if your banner is too large you, must provide a person to hold it.

Take Highway 1 to the 200th street exit. Go south on 200th to 16th. Turn left, continue to 208th and turn right. Continue to the end of the road. Follow the signs. **There will be no restrictions on weapon styles at this Crown Tourney.**

**All minors (anyone under the age of 19) will be required to have a completed Medical Authorization Form, and must have a completed NSCA minor's waiver signed as well.**

For information about reserving merchant booths please contact the merchantcrat Senina DeLacey at (604) 509-1978 or E-mail at Eden@Annacis.com. No phone calls after 10:00 p.m. please. Any long distance calls will be returned collect. All cheques are payable to the "Barony of Lions Gate." Registration deadline is May 1st.

Unto the populace of An Tir, let the word be spread that their Most Royal Majesties, Darius Rex An Tir and Morgaine Regina An Tir will have the Honour of presenting Their Crown Heirs at a Banquet held the Evening of Crown Tourney. This sumptuous repast is being prepared in the style of the Ancient Romans. As the space of this auspicious event is limited, pre-reserved tickets will be available, and must be reserved early. For further information and reservations please call Her lady Tanikh bint Farida al Bakim (Joanne Burrows) at jburrows@pinc.com or (604) 327-7479 between 2 p.m. and 10 p.m. Monetary payment is due in full by the 14th of May.

In service to the Kingdom of An Tir,  
Her Lady Eriu of Tlachtga, Autocrat  
mka Tricia Le Pine  
5 - 7576 Humphries Crt.  
Burnaby, BC  
V3N 3E9

(604) 524-2824  
bashful@lightspeed.bc.ca

**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.m.  
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 luncheon 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 interested 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.

**From the Mistress of the Lists:**

Unto the spectators of tournaments, "Help!!!" I have found in the last year that running a tournmanet is much more than a one person job. I am looking for a deputy that is willing to organize and do the physical running of the tournaments. I will still handle the paperwork and the fighter authorization cards. If you are interested in being the Tournament Deputy of lists please contact me either by e-mail at kdysl18@sk.sympatico.ca or by snailmail Box 1442, Kindersley, SK, S0L 1S0, or by phone (306) 463-6554 or talk to me at Coronet Tourney in Loch Dorr.

Unto the Senior Marshalls of all varieties. This is a reminder that all authorizations and marshal promotions paperwork goes through me. I will advise the appropriate people at Principality and Kingdom levels. If you need forms please contact me.

Thank you for your time and effort.  
In service to the dream,  
Roxanne

**OFFICERS OF THE BARONY OF BOREALIS**

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

**BARON** Alfheim der Wundersman (Stewart Hiar)  
**BARONESS** Adelaine von Schwarzwald (Gail Hiar)  
594-1083

Box 1865  
Medley, AB  
T0A 2M0  
ghiar@sas.ab.ca

**GREAT OFFICES**

**SENESCHAL** Lady Gwynaeth o Coedaneu (Marsha Bremner)  
478-1505

140 Woodborough Way  
Edmonton, AB  
T5Y 1N2

**HERALD** Richard Sparhawke (Richard Bedard)  
594 - 7371

Box 2059  
Medley, AB  
T0A 2M0

**EXCHEQUER** Lady Alys Sylfrloc of Aelsmera (Pat Routledge)  
437-2703

10930 - 65 Avenue  
Edmonton, AB  
T6H 4R6  
pat.routledge@ualberta.ca

**MASTER OF STABLES** Ritter Albrecht von Rugen (Pat Jackson)  
468-0532

8324 - 164th Street  
Edmonton, AB

**MASTER OF FENCE** Lord Marcus Wynniat (Mark Traub)  
594-3590

5320 - 56 Street  
Grand Centre, AB  
T0A 1T1

**MINISTER OF ARTS & SCIENCES** HL Cennet ap Llangollen (Ken Reader)  
986-6623  
RR1  
Leduc, AB  
T9E 2X1

The berserk was sometimes inherently possessed on this immunity, or performed spells to induce it, or even had special powers to blunt weapons by his gaze. Many tales say of their berserkers, "no weapon could bit them" or "iron could not bite into him." This immunity to weapons may also have been connected with the animal-skin garments worn by the berserk. As we saw above, while in animal for, "blades and weapons glanced off" Bodvar Bjarki. Similarly, Vatnsdoela Saga says that "those berserks who were called ulfhednar and wolf shirts of mail-coats" (Ellis-Davidson, "Shape Changing" p.133). This concept of immunity may have evolved from the berserker's rage, during which the berserk might receive wounds, but do to this state of frenzy take no note of them until the madness passed from him. A warrior who continued fighting while bearing mortal wounds would surely have been a terrifying opponent.

It is likely that the berserk was actually a member of the cult of Odhinn. The practices of such a cult would have been a secret of the group's initiates, although the Byzantine emperor Constantine VII refers in his Book of Ceremonies to a "gothic Dance" performed by members of his Varangian guard, who took part wearing animal skins and masks: this may have been connected with berserker rites. This type of costumed dance is also seen in figures from Swedish helmet plates and scabbard ornaments, which depict human figures with the heads of bears or wolves, dressed in animal skins but having human hands and feet. These figures often carry spears or swords, and are depicted as running or dancing. One plate from Torslunda, Sweden, may show the figure of Odhinn dancing with such a bear figure.



**JAMES ANDREW READER AND KATHY GRACE SCHENDEL**  
would like to announce their upcoming wedding on Saturday, May 31, 1997  
at 2:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to the ceremony and dance.

**Date:** Saturday, May 31, 1997

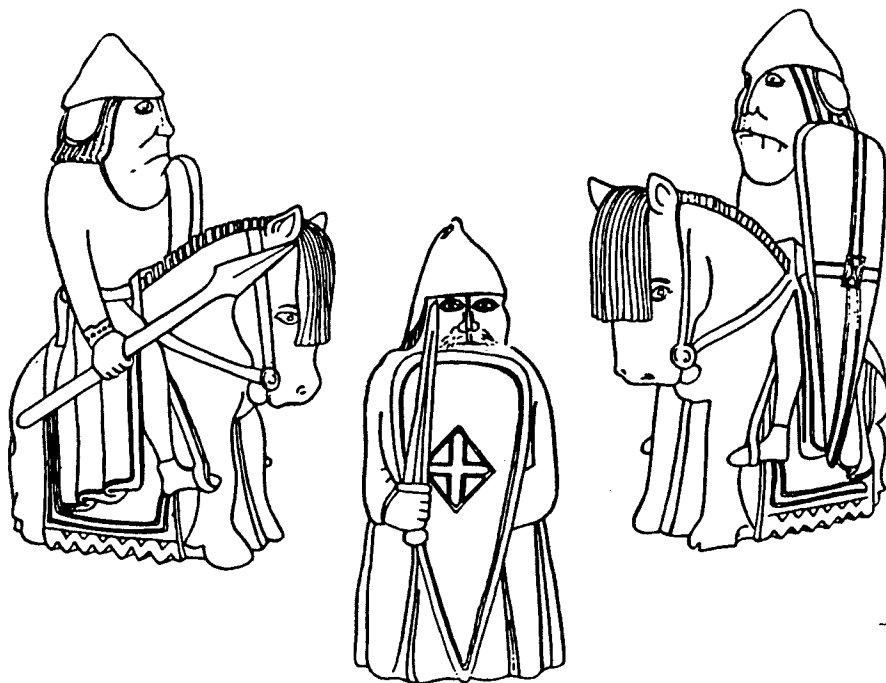
**Times:** Wedding Ceremony 2:00 p.m.  
Dance 8:30 p.m.

**Locations:** Ceremony is being held at the Mennonite Brethern Church  
3303 - 37 Street

Dance is being held at the Thorsby Community Centre

This is a mundane wedding, please dress in modern attire.

If you have any questions, please call Joan Reader at 986-6623.



**AVACAL CORONET**  
**June 7, 1997**

**Dates:** June 6 - 8, 1997

**Time:** The site will open at 5 p.m. on Friday June 6,  
and will close at 5 p.m. on Sunday June 8.

**Location:** Shire of Loch Dorr  
at The Lake of Gold

**Cost:** Site fee is \$12.00 for 13 and over, \$6.00 for 6 - 12  
and free for 5 and under  
Feast fee is \$12.00 for 13 and over, \$6.00 for 6 - 12  
and free for 5 and under

The Shire of Loch Dorr invites you to Avacal's third Coronet  
Tourney on the shores of our beautiful "Lake of Gold".

This discreetly wet site is Pilot Bay Resort in Kootenay Bay, which provides  
tent and RV camping with water and power, Free Hot showers, Seven Flush  
Garderoles, Two (2) Hot tubs, laundry and convenience store. there is a  
small enclosed beach suitable for children. **Pets, although strongly  
discouraged, must be on a leash at all times. No exceptions.**

Merchants, minstrels, tinkers, and travelling vendors are welcome.  
No merchants tax in Loch Dorr!

Kate & Ellen's Kitchen has agreed to work their magic and prepare  
a Princely feast. Please Note: The Feast Hall is sadly limited to 120 person  
capacity. Seating cannot be guaranteed unless you register early with the  
Autocrat. Don't be disappointed at the door. All reservations or payments  
must be received by June 2nd.

**Directions**

From West: take best route to Nelson & Balfour, then take ferry to  
Kootenay Bay.

Information & Reservations: Autocrat Thuirgud of the Mysts, (205) 227-  
9205, or write Joseph Bechal, P.O. Box 133, Crawford Bay, B.C., V0B 1E0

**The Role of the Berserker in Viking Society**

**SUBMITTED BY:**

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

**Installment 2 of 3**

The modern popular conception of the Viking warrior is one of  
murderous savage, clad in animal skins, howling into battle. This conception  
probably owes more to literary tradition than to historical fact: it reflects not  
the ordinary Scandinavian warriors, but rather a special group of fighters  
known as berserks or berserkers.

The berserker is closely associated in many respects with the god  
Odinn. Adam of Bremen in describing the Allfather says, "Wodan --- id est  
furor" or "Wodan --- that means fury." The name Odhinn derives from the  
Old Norse odur. This is related to the German wut, rage, fury, and to the  
Gothic wods, possessed. (Georges Dumézil. "The Destiny of the Warrior.  
p.36) This certainly brings to mind the madness associated with the  
berserker, and other Odhinnic qualities are seen to be possessed by the  
berserk. Ynglingasaga recounts that Odhinn could shape-shift into the form  
of a bird, fish, or wild animal (Snorri Sturluson, p.10). The berserker, too wa  
often said to change into bestial form, or at least to assume the ferocious  
qualities of the wolf or bear. Kveldulfr in Egils Saga Skallagrimsonar was  
spoken of as a shapechanger (Hermann Palsson and Paul Edwards, trans.  
Egil's Saga, p.21) and Hrolf's Saga tells of the hero Bjarki, who takes on the  
shape of a bear in battle:

Men saw that a great bear went before King Hfof's men,  
keeping always near the king. He slew more men with its forepaws  
than any five of the king's champions. Blades and weapons glanced  
off him, and he brought down both men and horses in King  
Hjorvard's army..." (Gwyn Jones. Eirik the Red and Other Icelandic  
Sagas. p. 313).

Another Odhinnic quality possessed by the berserk is a magical immuni  
to weapons. In havamal, Odhinn speaks of spells used to induce this  
immunity:

A third song I know, if sore need should come  
of a spell to stay my foes;  
When I sing that song, which shall blunt their swords,  
nor their weapons nor staves can wound.

...

An eleventh I know, if happily I lead  
my old comrades out to war,  
I sing 'neath the shields, and they fare forth mightily;  
safe out of battle,  
and safe return from the strife.



not killed; including the 7 year old Emperor of Japan, Antoku; drowned themselves rather than allow themselves to be taken prisoner. This battle established the Minamoto clan as the supreme rulers of Japan. However, eliminating the Heike only was the signal for the Minamoto to begin a vicious internal power struggle. Yoshitsune was returning to Kamakura while escorting important Heike prisoners but was refused entrance into the city. He then sent a letter to Yoritomo declaring his innocence of any plots, his answer came in the form of soldiers sent by Yoritomo to murder him. After running from castle to castle (a time in Yoshitsune's life often featured Kabuki, Noh and film) he committed suicide to avoid capture after being cornered by his enemies. He was 30.

The position of Seii Taishogun (or Shogun) which literally means "generalissimo for the subjugation of the eastern Barbarians" was given to Yoritomo in 1192. This position officially made him the head of the military class and the supreme commander of the Bakufu. In November of 1195 Yoritomo obtained permission to station province guards called "Shugo" and district heads called "Jito" around the country to eliminate rebels and the few remaining Heike. The Shugo's job was to control the Genji in their province, deliver documents concerning Oban-yaku (warriors sent from local provinces that were periodically rotated to Kyoto as palace guards), and hunting mutineers and burglars. Eventually the Shugo gained the right of administration over their province. The Jito's job was to collect taxes, maintain jurisdiction over land estates, and police affairs. Jito was a hereditary position and was eventually regarded as a property right, they were also given "privilege" (payment) by the Bakufu. When this system was set up, Japan effectively had its political power split for the first time in history. Officially the emperor in Kyoto ruled and the Shogun acted in this name however, politically and military power was actually held by the Bakufu in Kamakura and the emperor was obligated to do their bidding. Surprisingly this system worked smoothly but, things were to get even more complicated very quickly.



## AVACAL - QUAD WAR

**Dates:** June 26 - 29, 1997  
**Time:** The site will open at 13:00 hours on Friday June 26  
**Cost:** Site fee is \$6.00 for 18 + and \$3.00 for 13 - 17

My Lords and Ladies spring is upon us (although it's hard to tell in this northern climate) and a Nobles mind drifts to seasonal pursuits. Planting of crops, birthing of animals and all the mundane chores that were put off in the winter months. Soon they will be done and the real passion is felt.....! War!; yes it is that season that will soon be upon us and to seal the war season Borealis invites on and all to Quad War. See it, be part of it (no native battles only) 4 armies on the field slugging it out to see who can have the most fun.

The site has been moved from the previous years. From the west travel approx 6 - 9 km past the SK/AB border, you will be turning North (left) at the very obvious sign. the site is raw (no running water or washrooms) porta castles and a water tank will be available.

### Site rules:

No open fires except in free standing receptacles other than the bardic circle. Enjoy yourself and respect the quiet zone. All other standard SCA camping rules apply.

Two of every battle type is going to go into a helm and the Baronesses (not on the field) and ladies will draw the next battle to keep the variety and fun going.

Some of the battles on the list presently are Field, Bridge, Boat, Crossroads, Hill, Bush, Town and possibly a maze. If you have any ideas or suggestions please feel free to contact me.

A note for all Lights.....missile combat will take place every battle if the weapon you use does not require screening. Weapons requiring screening will be every second give or take the occasional exception. Heavy target rules apply for missiles as well. As per ABC's for your own safety "any light trapped within 10' of heavy fighting is to go down as if they are dead and call Hold". Lights are not to get within 10' of heavy fighting.

A note for Heavy's..... War rules: if you don't understand, please talk with you local MOS. Watch for lights they are trying to have fun to.

A note for all, nothing is cast in stone, except safety so come out and have fun we are always flexible.

As well there is a scavenger hunt planned plus some on site contests, if you wish to sponsor a contest please feel free to contact me. For any more information call Alfheim (Stewart) (403) 594-1083 or E-mail [ghiar@sas.ab.ca](mailto:ghiar@sas.ab.ca)

## FIBRE ARTS ITHRA

**Dates:** July 12 - 13, 1997

**Times:** Courses will be running daily beginning at 10 a.m., 1 p.m., 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. with a pot luck/social on Saturday July 12 from 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

**Location:** (TBA)

**Cost:** Site fee is \$5-7 per day dependent on venue

### Schedule

Saturday July 12, 1997

Course	Time	Availability
Fibre Preparation people	10 - 12 noon	10 - 12
Drop Spindle Spinning	10 - 12 noon	5 people
Wheel Spinning	1 - 3 p.m.	5 people
Card Weaving	1 - 5 p.m.	5 people
Inkle Loom Weaving	3 - 5 p.m.	5 people
Options		
drop spinning practice	3 - 5 p.m.	
wheel spinning practice	3 - 5 p.m.	
silk/flax spinning demo	3 - 5 p.m.	
Dyeing, theory/introduction part 1	5 - 6 p.m.	6+ people
Cleanup	6 - 6:30 p.m.	

Sunday, July 13, 1997

Course	Time	Availability
Dyeing Part 2	10 - 12 noon	6 people
Loom Weaving Part 1	10 - 12 noon	6 people
Dyeing cont.	1 - 4:30 p.m.	6 people
Loom Weaving con't	1 - 4:30 p.m.	6 people
Options		
knitting		
documentation		
nalebinding		
card weaving part 2		
Clean up	4:30	

## 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 2 of 3

In 1180 Yoritomo marched his troops into Kamakura and started his new government but not before he had moved Yui Wakamiya shrine (built by his great grandfather) from Kyoto to Kamakura and made it the centre of his city plan. Wakamiya Oji is the street going north to south runs from the shrine to Sagami Bay. It has an elevated central path called "Dankazura" or "Okiiishi" and still retains its original appearance today. The shrine with the street leading from it to the sea is a city plan Yoritomo took from the layout of Kyoto. As for the shrine itself, after the move it was called Tsurugaoka Wakamiya and Shintoism with elements of Buddhism was practiced there. Annual events held there from its beginning until the present are the Hoshonuma (the ritual of setting captured animals free and Yabusame (a ceremonial horseback archery contest). It has burned down many times but has always been quickly rebuilt. Its modern name is Tsurugaoka Hachiman-gu.

In October 1180 Yoritomo established his military government of Kamakura starting what is known as the kamakura period of Japan which lasted until 1333. It also started the feudal period of Japan which lasted well into the 19th century under several different governments. The city grew rapidly after 1180 and many shrines were built but the city had no indigenous cultural tradition, artisanship, religious leaders, or even skilled labour. All of these things had to be imported from places like Nara and Kyoto. This government was called the Bakufu: the literal translation of this is "camp office" the true translation means "the government of the chieftain of the samurai". Yoritomo then established the offices of the Bakufu to take care of the affairs of the Minamoto clan but they worked out so well that soon they became the official government offices in charge of running the nation. These offices were the Mandokoro (also called the Kumonjo) which took care of the general state affairs. The Monchujo was the legal investigation office and the Samurai-dokoro was the military police.

In 1184 with a government in place the Bakufu began to carry out its plan to eliminate the Heike clan. Minamoto Yoshitune (Yoritomo's younger half brother) led a surprise attack and won a major battle at Ichinotani which was located near modern day Kobe. April 24, 1185, the Minamoto clan won a shattering victory in the inland sea at the Shimonoseki straits near Danno-ura between Honshu (Japan's main island) and Kyushu. Most of the Heike who were

## GINGERED NUTS

1 1/2 blanched Almonds

Roast almonds at 375 F for about 15 min. Stirring often to prevent burning, cool nuts.

1 cup white sugar  
1/2 cup water  
2 tsp ginger  
1 tsp salt

Combine and boil. Wash down sugar crystals from the side of the pot. Heat to 235 F or soft ball stage and remove from heat. Beat 2 min. until the mix is thick and creamy.

Add 1 1/2 tsp vanilla and cooled nuts.

Remove to buttered platter and separate nuts as it cools. work quickly. Store in a closed jar.

## Course Descriptions

### Fibre Preparation:

Instructors: Freydis the Far-Travelled and Eleanora Fitzjohn

Participants will become familiar with preparation of fleece. No equipment required, but if you have cards, please bring them. Cost: \$5.00, includes fleece which can be used for spinning and dyeing classes. (2 hours)

### Drop Spindle Spinning

Instructor: Erna Kajadottir

Participants will learn to spin wool with a drop spindle. Spindles will be available, but if you have one, bring it. Cost \$3.00 (2 hours)

### Wheel Spinning

Instructor: Nan Compton:

Participants will learn basics of wheel spinning using prepared roving (provided). Enrolment limited to the number of wheels accessible. Cost : \$5.00 (2 hours)

### Card Weaving

Instructor: Enid Ferch Rhodri

Participants will learn the basics of card-weaving. Cost: \$7.50 (4 hours)

### Inkle Loom Weaving

Instructor: Jehnne

Participants will learn the basics of pattern drafting and warping the Inkle Loom and participate in some weaving. If you have a loom please bring it. Cost: \$3.00 (2 hours)

### Dyeing Animal Fibres With Natural Dyes

Instructor: Alyne of Kendal

Part 1: theory, mordanting, preparation of dyebaths for part 2  
Part 2: practical dyeing using five different dyebaths. Cost \$8.50 Students provide five 1-2 oz skeins of wool or silk yarn, 5 hanks of fleece or 5 swatches wool or silk) (5-6 hours)

## Warping and Weaving on a Four-Harness Loom

Instructor: Morgan the Unknown

This course will cover theory of loom weaving, drafting patterns, warping and weaving. Students must bring wool or cotton yarn to weave (suggested weight - medium for 5 tpi sett.) Cost: \$5.00 (5-6 hours)

### **Options (dependant on enrolment)**

#### Period Knitting

Instructor: Nan Compton

Knitting is Period. Participants will learn basics of knitting for period items. Participants must provide yarn. Cost \$2.00

#### Introduction of Nalebinding

Instructor: Freydis the Far-Travelled

Nalebinding is a form of needle-made netting which was used by Vikings and other northern peoples. Participants will have a chance to try nalebinding and learn the basic technique. Students must provide lightweight fingering yarn and a large-eyed blunt darning needle. Cost \$1.00

#### Documentation of Fibre Arts

Instructor: Nan Compton or Eleanora Fitzjohn

This class will cover sources and methods of documenting fibre arts for SCA competitions. Cost \$1.00.

In addition to the site fee and the fees for the courses, coffee and tea and bread and cheese will be provided on site. There will be a potluck Saturday night. If persons travelling to the event cannot contribute to the potluck, they can pay a \$6.00 fee instead to help cover food costs. This will be a working weekend. Please plan to help with set-up, clean-up or food preparation in addition to the courses you register for. Billeting is available.

To register, and for further information, please contact HL Alyne of Kendal at 11005 - 80 Avenue, Edmonton, Ab T6G 0R2, E-mail lgottesf@gpu.srv.ualberta.ca, Phone or FAX (with prior warning) (403) 432-0689 or HL Eleanora Fitzjohn: E-mail dryan@telusplanet.net, Phone (403) 449-6834

Pre-registration by July 1 is recommended. Early registration will help ensure your place in the courses of your choice, and will help us plan appropriately. If you pre-register and you cannot attend, please let us know and any fees paid will be refunded.

who attended it a rebate of some sort. Joan stressed that keeping our membership numbers up is important, but difficult; one strong barony is preferable to two weak groups. Rorik said that our current structure was needed to get us started, but we should have the strength now to support 2 baronies. Bordergate's paid members could be counted in with either Veraquilon or Stonewolf if one of the groups is having trouble holding the minimum required memberships.

Cennet thanked the patrons of the arts for their prize donations, a list of which had been posted.

Marcus asked if the barony would be represented as an independent participant at Clinton War. The Baron replied that it wasn't known yet.

Next meeting: Quad War or Silverwolf depending on the rescheduling of the former.

Meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.



Provost: Schlagers still in the U.S. (Arizona). Trying to arrange for delivery without incurring shipping charges and customs duties.

Archer: Very little winter activity. A Wednesday practice has been set up by Joan and Mordecai. Silver Arrow championship will be held next weekend.

Chatelaine: A reporter from the Edmonton Journal would like to attend an event where she can see examples of all aspects of the society's activities; however, she does not wish to travel outside of Edmonton. Additional from the Seneschal: Rough Cuts TV show has contacted the Cnaton of Veraquilon about filming a show with the local SCA group as the subjects. Consideration is being given to doing a demo at a tavern night.

Chronicler: Not present.

Scribe: Baronal position is open.

Mistress of the Lists: Baronial position is open.

Baron/Baroness: Quad War is a Principality event that our barony hosts. Alternate dates are being checked to try and avoid schedule conflicts. All weekend activities need to be on the calendar to prevent problems like the one being experienced with Quad War. The entire Avacal schedule needs to be printed in the Aurora. We have to remember to publish one month in advance if our archery events will use blunts other than the kingdom size. Mordecai asked if it would be possible to bring a water source to the site of Quad War. Their Excellencies advised that 500 gallons would be provided and the site will likely change due to rescheduling the event date. Her Excellency will be sponsoring the Baroness's Dream Tourney combining fighting and dicing at the Stonewolf Theme Feast (in October or November). There will also be a bardic competition run by Roland Murdoch. Substantial prizes are planned for both to encourage participation.

#### Old Business:

Alyne of Kendal announced a fiber arts Itlra to be held July 12 and 13, 1997 in Veraquilon.

Joan the Just questioned how to become authorized as a equestrian marshall. Rhowyn responded that the applicant must take their horse to Washington to be passed by a current marshall or go do there and ride someone else's horse. Rorik suggested we investigate paying to have Earl Edward Dean Anderson fly up here to check out all of our interested people at one time.

The Baron encouraged discussion and questions regarding the administration of our barony and possible future status changes.

Mordecai mentioned the the barony and its cantons need to encourage the people who participate in our activities to get SCA memberships. His Excellency advised that the statistically 40% of those who attend event's don't have memberships. Myghchaell wondered if we could try the two tier price structure again. The Baron said that that had been prohibited by the SCA Board of Directors. Duke Rorik suggested that if an event is financially successful we could offer members

## REGISTRATION FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mundane Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Class	Cost
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

#### Second Choices

_____	_____
_____	_____

Set-up \_\_\_\_ Food Prep \_\_\_\_ Clean-up \_\_\_\_

Billeting required: yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

If you have registered for wheel spinning or inkle loom weaving and can bring either of those items please let us know.

Please make out cheque to the University of Itlra.

Mail to:

Black Sheep Guild  
c/o HL Alyne of Kendal  
11005 - 80 Avenue  
Edmonton, AB  
T6G 0R2

Canada

OR: register by E-mail at [lgottesf@gpu.srv.ualberta.ca](mailto:lgottesf@gpu.srv.ualberta.ca) and forward payment to the above address.

## 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!

### **An Tir Football (as played at June Crown of the Kingdom of the West, ASXV)**

The field is any suitable piece of land, with an eric around it. Two rocks are placed about 10 feet apart at each end; these are the goal posts. The two teams consist of any number of fighters, in full SCA armour and with their choice of weapons. Teams should be about equal. The ball is a large plastic soft drink bottle, empty and with no lid. A number of marshalls should be in attendance on the sidelines.

The teams are set out in any formation desired, but this two fighters facing each other at the centre point of the field. to start the game, the ball is tossed between the two fighters and the actin begins. Each team attempts to gain possession of the ball and to kick or knock it through the goalposts. This then scores a point.

If a player is "killed" during the game, he clears himself from the field as soon as it is safe, and goes to his teams sideline. He then either, A - counts to 100 and returns to the field, or, B - returns th the field when told to by his team coach.

There is usually a time limit to games.

A variation is for one team to "kick off" for their side by hitting the ball toward the enemy with a sword, then to prevent the other team from scoring and attempting to take possession of the ball.

## MINUTES

**BARONY OF BOREALIS**  
**Saturday, April 12, 1997**

**Location:** Glen Park Hall, Cauton of Veraquilon  
**Attendance:** Lady Rhowyn Arden  
Robert Num Caithness  
Valgard af hus Vendrer  
Joan the Just  
Kirstin Macbheath  
John MacLeod  
Mora of Linkinshire  
Mordecai Salzer  
Lord Marcus Wynnatt  
Myghchaell Longlleen  
Hrolf the Thundrer  
Louise Rorik's Mother  
Viscountess Gwendolyn  
His Grace Duke Rorik  
Their Excellencies Baroness Adeline and Baron Alfheim  
(Note; all in attendance did not sign in.)

**Chair:** Lady Gwynaeth o Coedaneu

**Secretary:** H.L. Dagmar af Hjorring

Minutes of the February 8, 1997 meeting read by Robert Num Caithness.  
Accepted as read.

### Officers Reports

Seneschal: Received certificate of liability insurance. Autocrats must be SCA members and they can get a copy of the certificate as needed from the seneschal. Copy of event information must go to the Crier **two months** in advance. Calendar information can be submitted by e-mail now. Principality officers can now warrant officers at the baronial and canton levels. **The barony needs to increase the number of subscriptions to the Avantgarde from 50 to 100.**

Exchequer: Not present. year end report submitted. Balances are \$4,556.11 for Borealis, \$886.29 for Stonewolf, \$1,348.31 for Veraquilon and \$951.58 for Bitter End. Total of \$7,742.31.

Master of Stables: Not present.

Herald: Not present. Deputy indicates nothing to report.

Arts and Sciences: Championship entry deadline has not been reached yet. Results of the contest to be announced at court today.