



THE AURORA



AS XXXV

(January/February 2001)

To the Populace of Borealis from Skepti & Asa, King and Queen An Tir

We recently received a request for an explanation as to why the decision regarding the next baron and baroness of Borealis took so long. Apparently the common feeling is that the length of time was due to Our lack of interest. This could not be further from the truth, and although We do not appreciate the implications inherent in this request, some reasons for the delay follow.

1. We have the entire kingdom to deal with, not just Borealis. For those who don't understand the scope of this kingdom, it is comprised of the following areas: Washington, Oregon, part of Idaho, British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan. This is a huge area with many members, and there are many issues We are dealing with simultaneously.
2. We both have mundane jobs, homes, families and pets, all of which occasionally require Our attention.
3. The first polling seems to have disappeared into the ether; no-one knows where it is, if it was completed, or anything else.
4. There was an inordinate delay on the part of people in Borealis in having the results of the second polling forwarded to us. In addition, the sealed envelope containing the polling forms from Stone Wolf had been opened and taped together. No one knows who opened it or why, but in Our mind that called into question the accuracy of the results.
5. We refuse to make a decision as important as a new baron and baroness without having the polling forms in front of Us and counting them Ourselves, despite more than one request for us to do just that. We do not feel We were being unreasonable in this regard.
6. Fortunately for the barony, Their Highnesses Vik and Eirika were very accommodating to Our requests and finished the final polling as quickly as they were able. Once We received the forms, We counted them several times to make sure Our results were accurate, tried to get some feedback on the candidates since none of them ever sent us a resume, and in general tried to make the decision that was best for the barony.

7. The receipt of the polling forms coincided with Thanksgiving in the US, and We both were very busy at work during this time. Not to mention attending events and dealing with other matters in the kingdom.

8. We took some time to consider the results and pick the couple We felt would best be able to help an obviously troubled barony. This would seem to be in the best interest of Borealis, although not everyone there seems to understand that.

In service,
Skepti & Asa
King & Queen An Tir



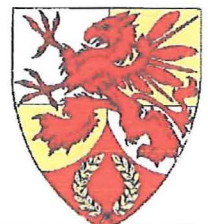
Greetings to the Citizens of Borealis,

Their Majesties AnTir have informed us that the new Baron and Baroness are to be Lord Magnus and Lady Sidonia. I'm sure all will welcome them to their new station with well wishes and good cheer. We look forward to their investiture and hope the coming years are full of greatness.

We would like to again say thank you to the entire Barony for their patience in this process. We understand that the need to resolve this matter was great, and at times the urge to attempt communication directly with the Crown or go on a letter writing campaign must have been great. Instead your Barony pulled together and worked past its problems, following procedure and making sure its next choice would be correct. We thank you for allowing us the space needed to do our job as your Coronets.

In service to Avacal and its people We remain

Vik, Prince Avacal
Eirika, Princess Avacal



UNTO THE POPULACE OF BOREALIS

We are both eager and honored to have the opportunity to represent this wonderful Barony. We look forwards to sharing with all of you the greatness that is Borealis. We hope we will be able to preside over these lands as competently as Baron John and Baroness Kirstin did when they sat upon the thrones of Borealis. We would like to begin this new chapter by encouraging you to keep us advised of the happenings within these borders. We know it will take some time for us to learn all that is required to keep these lands running smoothly and hope you will help to guide us in this journey.

In Service to our Barony,
Principality and Kingdom,
Magnus and Sidonia



Champions of Borealis

Silverwolf Heavy: Einar the Sweetie Pie

Silverwolf Light: Deicyn Moel

Silverwolf Rapier: Lord Dante

Arts & Sciences: Lady Sidonia Dokianos

BOREALIS NEWS & NOTES

Baron & Baroness Step-up

Their Royal Majesties will preside over the stepping up of Borealis' new Baron and Baroness, Lord Magnus the Hunter and Lady Sidonia Dokianos at Avacal Investiture on Saturday, February 24, A.S. XXXV (2001) during morning court.

Congratulations

We are happy and proud that HL Æthelstan æt Cardeol received his Goutte de Sang from Their Majesties, Davin & Groa at An Tir Twelfth Night.

Borealis Email List

There has been an email list set up for the popluace of Borealis and interested individuals to use. Visit:

<http://www.egroups.com/group/BaronyofBorealis>

Or email Finn O'Neill at sfoster@telusplanet.net to subscribe.

Borealis Webpage: <http://www.tnc.ab.ca/~sca/>

There are several groups in the Barony dedicated to various activities:

- The Groaning Board is a cooking guild who puts on theme feasts throughout the year. You can contact Edwina of Loxley at MGARRISO@epsb.edmonton.ab.ca
- Our Medieval Dance troupe rehearses every two weeks and performs at various demos and events. Contact Mordecai Salzer at rms@cha.ab.ca or Catherine of the Rowan Tree at cjackel@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca
- We have a Fibre Arts guild called the Black Sheep Guild who get together to spin, weave, dye etc. You can contact Alyne of Kendal at lgottesf@gpu.srv.ualberta.ca
- There is a fighting household in Veraquilon known as the Lost Vikings. See them at:

<http://www.lostvikings.com>

Chroniclers Note

This space is for any news, notes, announcements or merchant ads available to any person residing in Borealis at no cost. Please contact the chronicler with any submissions.

CANTON OF VERAQUILON

Veraquilon News & Notes

Chroniclers Note

This space is for any news, notes, announcements or merchant ads pertaining to the Canton of Veraquilon available to any person residing in Veraquilon at no cost. Please contact the Borealis chronicler with any submissions and/or changes.

Veraquilon Standing Monthly Calender

Mondays: 7 -10 pm Fighter and Rapier practice every week; Dance practice/Music rehearsal on 2nd and 4th Monday of each month; Near Eastern dance troupe rehearsals on 1st and 3rd Monday (contact Asha for details); Canton Curia meeting on 4th Mondays of the Month. Bonnie Doon Community Hall, 93St and 93rd Ave.

Wednesday: 1st Wed of Month - 7:30 pm, Business meeting; 8:30 pm Tavern night Capilano Community Hall: 10810 54 St.

Sunday: 1pm to 4pm Archery practice on weekends where there are no events: Mistress Joan's home south of Leduc. Call ahead to (780) 986-6623 before noon. Practice will only happen if someone calls.

Officers of Veraquilon

Seneschal

Lady Alis Talairan de Perigord
Anne Harwood
aharwood@nucleus.com

Herald

Lord AEthlestan of Carlisle
Shane Foster
(780)481-0933
saxon@ecn.ab.ca

Exchequer

Mistress Joan the Just
Joan Reader
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eadwulf@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca

Master of Stables

Orin Rasmussen
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Master of Fence

Mistress Joan the Just
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eadwulf@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca

Minister of Arts & Sciences

Master Cennet ap Llangollen
Ken Reader
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eadwulf@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca

Chatelaine

Una Rasmussen
Tamie-Ann Weatherly
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weatherlyt@hotmail.com

Constable

Randall Demlock
Jason Tyshkewich
(780)998-2228

Gold Key

Leora Hayhurst the
Swiss Wanderer
Leora Cockney
(780)465-6953
lcockney@sprint.ca

CANTON OF STONEWOLF

Stonewolf News & Notes

Chroniclers Note

This space is for any news, notes, announcements or merchant ads pertaining to the Canton of Stonewolf available to any person residing in Stonewolf at no cost. Please contact the Borealis chronicler with any submissions and/or changes.

Stonewolf Standing Monthly Calender

Wednesday: 7:00 pm every week: Meeting and fighter practice R.A. Reynolds School 4 Wing Cold Lake

Officers of Stonewolf

Seneschal

His Lordship Marcus Wynniatt
(Mark Traub)
PO Box 88
Ardmore, AB T0A 0B0
(780) 826-6871
mwtraub@jetnet.ab.ca

Herald

Lord Percival Calverleigh
(Perry Thomas)
PO Box 4515 Stn Forces
Cold Lake, AB T9M 2C2
(780) 594-4634

Master of Stables

Lordship Baron
Alfheim der Wundersman
(Stew Hiar)
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Cold Lake, AB T9M 1Z2
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Master of Fence

His Lordship Marcus Wynniatt
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INCIPIENT CANTON OF VINGAARD

Vingaard News & Notes

Vingaard Standing Monthly Calendar

2nd Saturday: Monthly Feast, generally the 2nd Saturday of each month.

Sunday: Fighter practice in Sexsmith Secondary School Gym 11:00am—2:00pm. Contact Cyriac of Kent at 518-5892

(cyriac_of_kent@hotmail.com) or Deicyn Moil at 538-3946 (dpearcy@telusplanet.net)

Sunday: Arts & Science gathering usually every Sunday afternoon at Sadb ingen Thuathail's domain. Contact Sadb for more information & times. At 354-3803 (vfoster@telusplanet.net)

There will be a Gold Key gathering at Thomasyne's manor Sunday, Feb. 18 after fighter practice. There will be a mundane pot luck afterwards. Anyone who can cut, sew, or give moral support is begged to be there. If you

have any type of material, trim, etc. or old garb you wish to donate, please contact Sadb. Thomasyne will be posting directions and times soon.

We are in need of some of our populace to consider taking on officer's positions. The open positions are as follows:

**Constable
Chiurgeon
Chatelaine
Gold Key
Water Bearer**

Should you be interested or need more information, please contact Sadb (vfoster@telusplanet.net) 780-354-3803.

Monthly Feasts - We are still in need for hosts/hostess' for our monthly feasts. Please note that if there is no one to host/hostess we shall cancel that months feast!!
February - Deicyn April - OPEN
March - Kazimierz May - OPEN
June - Thomasyne

Officers of Vingaard

Seneschal

Sadb ingen Thuathail
(Vicki Foster)

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Herald

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Exchequer

Maighread
(Joanne Pearcy)
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Master of Stables

Cyriac of Kent
(Wells Darling)
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cyriac_of_kent@hotmail.com

Master of Swords

Cyriac of Kent
(Wells Darling)
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cyriac_of_kent@hotmail.com

Master of Arrows

Deicyn Moel
(Dave Pearcy)
(780)538-3946
dpearcy@telusplanet.net

Minister of Arts & Sciences

Sadb ingen Thuathail
(Vicki Foster)
(780)354-3803
vfoster@telusplanet.net

AVACAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 2001

03	Feast of the Evergreens	Stonewolf
17	Feast of Hearts	Cold Keep
24	Avacal Investiture	Veraquilion

March 2001

03	An Tir A&S	Three Mountains
10	TBA	Myrgan Wood
17	Winter War	Borealis
23-25	Borealis Ithra	Borealis
24	A&S and Rapier Championship	Sigelehundas

April 2001

06-08	Spring Faire	Veraquilion
14	Grande Ithra	Loch D'or
21	Silver Arrow	Bitter End
28	Beltaine	Montengarde
28	Spring Event	Myrgan Wood

King An Tir

Davin
(Damon Hill)
1520 NE 102nd
Seattle, WA 98125
(206)523-5032
king@antir.sca.org

Queen An Tir

Groa
(Gretchen Hubbert)
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Seattle, WA 98125
(206)523-5032
queen@antir.sca.org

Prince Avacal

Sir Vik Vikingsson
(Jim Manners)
#3, 4831 Varsity Dr. NW
Calgary, AB
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slikboy@home.com

Princess Avacal

**Mistress Eirika
Francesca Pacchioni**
(Janet Anderson)
#603, 1334 - 12th Ave. SW
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eirika@telusplanet.net

Avacal Webpage: <http://www.avacal.org>

Twelfth Night

Epiphany, known to have been observed earlier than AD 194, is older than Christmas and has always been a festival of the highest rank. The eve of Epiphany is called Twelfth Night, it marks end of the 12-day season of Christmas festivities and when the three Wise Men visited Jesus. Other names include "The Adoration of the Magi" or "The Manifestation of God." Observed as Christmas in Spain and as Befana Day in Italy. Also called Twelfth day and Three Kings Day.

This last day of Christmas, comes with its own traditions, rituals and symbols. Carolers go from house to house; in many homes the Christmas tree is taken down and in some areas is burnt in a big bonfire. For the children this is an especially joyous occasion because, associated with taking down the tree goes the "plündern" (raiding) of the tree. The sweets, chocolate ornaments wrapped in foil or cookies, which have replaced the sugar plums, are the raiders' rewards.

In England, the sovereign commemorates the day by offering gold, frankincense, and myrrh at the altar in the Chapel Royal, at Saint James's Palace. In the Eastern church, at Epiphany, the holy water is blessed, a ritual customarily taking place on Holy Saturday (the day before Easter) in the Roman Catholic church.

This night and the following night are when wassailing used to take place. The word wassail comes from the Anglo Saxon words Waes Heil - meaning be whole or healthy. People drank each other's health from a large wassail bowl, filled with a drink such as "lamb's wool" made of hot ale or cider, nutmeg, and sugar with roasted crab apples. In some parts of Britain trees and bees are still wassailed - to ensure a healthy crop. Different areas had different wassail songs people would sing to the tree. Here's one from Worcester-shire, England:

**Here's to thee, old apple tree
Whence thou mayest bud
Whence thou mayest blow
Whence thou mayest bear apples enow.**

The song "The Twelve Days of Christmas" refers to the 12 days between Christmas and Epiphany.

This was the end of the traditional Christmas season and was a time for one last fling with games, dressing up and plays, all managed by the Lord of Misrule. Shakespeare's play Twelfth Night was probably written for a twelfth night celebration at Elizabeth I's court in 1601.

The King Cake

One of the most popular customs is still the baking of a special cake in honor of the three kings --- "A King's Cake".

The Europeans hide a bean inside their cake and the person receiving the bean must portray one of the kings or queens for the day.

The Giving of Gifts on Epiphany

La Befana:

According to legend, the Wise Men asked the kindly old witch to accompany them to see the infant Jesus. She refused, saying she was

too busy and had to clean her house, and so she missed the wondrous sight. Each year, La Befana goes from house to house, leaving gifts and looking for the Christ child.

In Spain, people dance and sing in the streets after midnight Mass on Christmas Eve. Most Spanish homes and churches display a miniature Nativity scene called a Nacimiento. During the evening of January 5, children put their shoes on a balcony or near a window. The next day is Epiphany, the last day of the Christmas season. It celebrates the visit of the Magi to the infant Jesus. According to legend, the Wise Men arrive during the night before Epiphany and fill the children's shoes with small gifts.

Traditionally, in some countries, such as Italy and Spain, children do not receive gifts until January 5, the eve of Epiphany. In Spain, children leave their shoes outside filled with straw and barley for the magi's animals and hope that presents will be left by the wise man Balthazar.

As in the rest of Spain, most of the people are Roman Catholic, and the major city festivals celebrate saints' days. Twelve days after Christmas, on the feast of the Epiphany (the day the three wise men are said to have reached Bethlehem), a boat comes into the harbor bearing "three kings" who then parade through the streets.

In Italy, La Befana brings presents on the eve of Epiphany. Most homes and churches have a presepio (Nativity scene). On Christmas Eve, the family prays while the mother places a figure of the Bambino (Christ child) in the manger. Many Italians serve eels for dinner on Christmas Eve. They also bake a Christmas bread called panettone, which contains raisins and candied fruit. Italian children receive gifts from La Befana, a kindly old witch, on the eve of Epiphany.

Traditionally, in some countries, such as Italy and Spain, children do not receive gifts until January 5, the eve of Epiphany.

According to Italian folklore, an old woman named Befana goes down chimneys and delivers presents to children on that night, just as the three wise men brought gifts to the infant Jesus.

<http://web.ukonline.co.uk/conker/conkers-and-ghosts/january.htm>

<http://www.mystery.com/semgs/menu/9603.html>

Encyclopedia.com

From Funk & Wagnall's Encyclopedia

Compton's Encyclopedia

MSN Encarta Online

<http://www.annieshomepage.com/epiphany.html>

CYRIL MARTINDALE, Transcribed by Robert H. Sarkissian,

The Catholic Encyclopedia, Volume V, <http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/05504c.htm>

<http://www.serve.com/shea/germusa/starsing.jpg>



Compiled by Sadb ingen Thuathail

Feast of the Evergreens

Stonewolf
(Cold Lake, Alberta)
February 3, 2001

Greetings and Salutations to all for the new Year from the Canton of Stonewolf. The Feast of the Evergreens is fast approaching ... Our mid winter Revel will be held this year on February the 3rd, 2001 at the Cherrygrove Hall. As usual there is crash space available at the hall and with local members. The Hall opens at Saturday at 11:00 am (there will be people there between 7 and 9 pm on Fri if You want to come early)

Games start at 1pm
Rapier Tourney starts at 3pm
Feast starts at 6 pm.....don't be late *grin*

This years feast will be cooked by HL Marcus Winniatt and will include such Items as ...beef barley soup, honey glazed roast chicken, pork ribs, parmesan pasta, orange and brown sugar glazed carrots and herbed potatoes as well as other delightful items. Bring your appetite for there shall be lots of food for everyone....

The Championship of the Evergreens shall be held Saturday afternoon and will as usual feature games and contests for all the adults to participate in...be You a fighter, a bard, a merchant or just someone that wants to have some fun...

Merchants of course are welcome and and as usual there is no extra merchanding fee...

IMPORTANT NOTE

After discussions with the new Baron and Baroness, the Baronial Rapier Championship will not be held at this time. It will take place instead at Spring Fair after Magnus and Sidonia have stepped up and assumed their rightful place as Baron and Baroness of Borealis. There will however be a Rapier prize tourney featuring a bottle of Marcus's A&S winning Raspberry Wine among other things...so bring your Gear if you want a chance to cross steel with some of the Barony's best

Directions

From Edmonton and area....Take your best route towards Cold Lake.....Turn right at highway 55 and head east to Cherry Grove... Follow the many SCA signs to the hall

From the East....Take Your best route to Pierceland Sask. and Follow highway 55 into Alberta and then to Cherry Grove...Follow the many SCA signs to the hall.

From the West/North.... Take Your best route to Cold Lake and head out of town towards Edmonton Make a left at highway 55 (only minutes out of town) and head east to Cherry Grove...Follow the many SCA signs to the hall..

Prices

0 to 12---free
13 to 16---\$8.00
17 and Up---\$15.00
Site fee with no feast---\$5.00

For More Info, Crash Space and to make reservations Please contact Marcus or Rhowyn at

mwtraub@jetnet.ab.ca

or call (780) 826-6871 before noon.

February Investiture

Borealis
(Edmonton, Alberta)
February 24, 2001

Site: Landing Trail School
5301 - 37 Ave.

Gibbons, AB
(N.E. of Edmonton)

Map will be posted on baronial web site:
<http://www.tnc.ab.ca/~sca/>

Site Fee: \$5.00, Feast: \$15.00 (Children 12 + under free)

Autocrat: Lord Dante Machavelli (m.k.a: Alan Baldwin)
(780) 962-6547

Send reservations prior to February 12th to:

Alan Baldwin
36 Brampton St.
Spruce Grove, AB
T7X 1E8

or email: duelistacademy@home.com

There will be crash space in the hall Saturday night, please reserve with Asha @ (780)456-6542.

Site opens at 10 am, and the day's events to be announced later as scheduling is still underway.

The lists for the Rapier Tourney will open at Noon and the tourney will start at 1:30 pm sharp. (As many of you know I run my events on time)

The format for the Avacal Rapier Championship Tourney is as follows: Every fighter gets 6 lives and the tourney is fought as a bear pit (keep your wounds). If there are more than 12 combatants we may have 2 Erics (Iron Cross style). For their first two lives each fighter may only use single sword. For their next two lives they may use single sword and any defensive device. For their last two lives they may use an offensive device in their off hand. Of course they may choose to use less powerful combinations as well (can always use single sword, etc.). If any fighter holds an Eric for 6 consecutive fights they may choose to retire it undefeated (and will then heal all their wounds). Finally at the tourney's end the 4 top ranked fighters will go into a single elimination final round(s) with the highest ranked fighting the lowest of the four. At this point any remaining unused lives may be used to gain extra tourney rounds. The final two contestants will fight a standard best of three deciding match... All of the final rounds are to be fought using any weapon combinations of the fighters choice.

Please be aware that there is a limited number of seats and you had best reserve early if you wish to partake in the feast. All reservations that have not checked in with the troll by 4pm Saturday will be sold to the populace on a first come basis.

Officers of the Barony of Borealis

Incoming Baron & Baroness

Lord Magnus the Hunter & Lady Sidonia Dokianos

(Brad & Tracey Mecham)
Box 1483, Beaverlodge, AB T0H 0C0
780-354-8733
btmecham@telusplanet.net

Seneschal

Lady Asha Delgejin

(Janet Muise)
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(780)456-6542
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Constable

Lord Valgard af hus Vendrer

(Maxwell Garrison)
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Master of Stables

Orin Rasmussen

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Master Cennet ap Llangollen

(Ken Reader)
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Herald

HL Æthelstan æt Cardeol

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Chiurgen

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Chatelaine

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Scribe

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Chronicler

Lord Finn O'Neill

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Water Bearer

Vacant

Chroniclers Scrawl



Greetings Friends,

I begin by expressing my congratulations to Lady Sidonia Dokianos and Lord Magnus the Hunter on becoming the future Baron & Baroness of Borealis. I have worked closely with them for the last two years on the establishment and development of Vingaard and appreciate their hard working attitude and great friendship they have shown during this time. I am excited with continuing to work with them on a different level in the future.

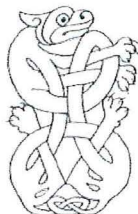
The Aurora's format is changing somewhat as I hope to include more news & information from the cantons as well as any households that may wish to use space. I hope that more gentles will be willing to provide short missives of information such as officers commenting on the particulars of their divisions, etc. Longer articles will be gratefully received as well.

The Aurora Online is changing slightly as well. Due to time constraints, I am finding it difficult to keep up the HTML web browser version and will only offer it as a downloadable, printable file in Adobe Acrobat format. Version 4.0 is needed to view it correctly and can be downloaded for free from <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep.html>

I hope you enjoy this issue and look forward to watching the Aurora grow with the talent of Borealis in the future

Yours In Service,

LORD FINN ONEILL
BOREALIS CHRONICLER



THE AURORA Online:

<http://www.tnc.com/~sca/aurora>

March/April
Issue Deadline

February 20, 2001

THE AURORA
Is Produced Bi-Monthly

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