

**Directory of Avacal Branches**

**Bitter End** (Red Deer AB) (Shire)  
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 780-594-1828 grizsho@telusplanet.net

**Borealis** (Edmonton AB) (Barony)  
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**Cold Keep** (Prince George, BC) (Shire)  
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**Harrows Cross** (Strathmore & environs) (Shire)  
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 403-230-2641 twg88@yahoo.ca

**Montengarde** (Calgary AB) (Barony)  
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 403-243-7084 quixote317@hotmail.com

**Mvrgan Wood** (Saskatoon SK) (Barony)  
**Baron and Baroness:** *HE Dietrich von Kleeve* (Derrick Schreiber)  
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**Rhuddglvn** (Medicine Hat AB) (Shire)  
**Seneschal:** *Volland The Proud* (Mark Normoyle)  
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 403-504-6182 mark\_normoyle@hotmail.com

**Sigelhundas** (Regina SK) (Shire)  
**Seneschal:** *HL Thomas Wollffe* (Stuart Glennie)  
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 306-789-3185 thomaswollffe@gmail.com

**Valley Wold** (Moose Jaw SK) (Shire)  
**Seneschal:** *L. Robert of Caithness* (Mike Bartlett)  
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**Vinjar** (Grand Prairie AB & environs) (Shire)  
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**North Battleford & area**  
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 or 306-445-0482

**Wvverns Veldt** (Brooks AB) (Household)  
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**The Principality Online:**

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<http://www.avacal.antir.sca.org/>  
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<http://www.avacal.net>  
*An Tir Website:*  
<http://www.antir.sca.org/>  
*Avantgarde Website*  
<http://users.accesscomm.ca/avantgarde/>  
*Avacal Circus (Mailing List):*  
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Avacal/>



# The Avantgarde

Newsletter of The Principality of Avacal  
 AS XLII \* August 2007

In the Reign of Their Highnesses  
 HH Riddhari Steinn Vikingsson and HH Gemma Meena



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This is the *Avantgarde*, a publication of the Principality of Avacal, encompassing Alberta, Saskatchewan, and parts of Eastern British Columbia, Canada; a branch of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. The *Avantgarde* is not a corporate publication of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., and does not delineate S.C.A. policies.

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Cover Photo by Baron Beothuk is from *Quad War 2007*

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### Southeast Avacal Chancellor: *Vacant*

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(no calls after 9 pm please)

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(Continued on page 15)

**From The Gryphon Thrones:**

Unto Avacal, warm greetings!

This will be the last missive that HH Steinn and I are submitting before the Investiture of TE's Kvigr and Linnet, so please join Us in congratulating Their Excellencies on Their Investiture!

Long live Kvigr and Linnet!

Quad War has come and gone in a blaze of glory! Our thanks to the fabulous autocrat team, HE Roxanne and her crew did a great job! Thanks also to the Barony of Myrgan Wood who backed this event with hours and hours of volunteer time and labor. Thanks also go to those Gentles from outside of Myrgan Wood who helped run things, volunteered, taught, marshaled, spent time water bearing and all of the other duties that must be administered in order for the rest of us to have a great time!

On a separate note of thanks, Thank You to each and every artist who created works for largesse this reign. Your works and donations are truly appreciated by the Royalty of Avacal, and those people who are fortunate enough to be gifted from your hands. We witnessed the pleasure on the faces of Their (then) Majesties Sven and Signy at May Crown, and again saw joy and pleasure at July Coronation when We passed your works to TRMs Tiernan and Miranda. Vivat to you all!

It has been a wonderful six months, Steinn and I have truly been honored to have served as your Prince and Principessa.

Thank you all.

Warmest regards,

Steinn and Gemma

Prince and Principessa, Avacal



Picture by Beothuk

**Royal Progress**

- Aug. 17-19 - Investiture (Kvigr & Linnet)
- Aug. 31-Sep.2 - Kingdom Crown (Kvigr)
- Sept. 15 - Feast of the Dragon's Fire, Rhuddglynn (Kvigr & Linnet)
- Oct. 13 - Myrgan Wood's Anniversary (Kvigr & Linnet)
- Nov. 3 - Ferret's Feast, Valley Wold (Kvigr & Linnet)
- Nov. 10 - Skull & Crossbones Tavern, Sigelhundas (Kvigr & Linnet)
- Nov. 23-25 - Coronet Tourney, Bordergate (Kvigr & Linnet)



# COURT REPORT

For the complete Avacal OP  
please visit:  
<http://heraldry.avacal.net>

Any corrections or updates can be sent  
to Master Mordecai Avacal OP Deputy  
at [rslansky1@shaw.ca](mailto:rslansky1@shaw.ca)

## Recommendation forms!

[http://www.avacal.antir.sca.org/files/avacal\\_award\\_rec.pdf](http://www.avacal.antir.sca.org/files/avacal_award_rec.pdf)

<http://www.antir.sca.org/recommendations.php>

## Largesse Thank You

Their Highnesses Steinn and Gemma wish to express Their gratitude to the people of Avacal for their donations to largesse. At Coronation largesse bags were gifted to Their Majesties of An Tir, Their Highnesses of the Summits and Tir Righ. Artisans of Avacal, your gifts were very well received! Many thanks for your kind donations.

Submitted by—*Maistreas Sadb ingen Thuathail*  
Avacal Largesse Wrangler for  
Their Highnesses Steinn & Gemma



## Important Notice for Rapier Fighters and Marshals

Please see the post below from the KRM (*Kingdom Rapier Marshal*) -- **to summarize, Sportweave by itself is not sufficient armour:**

"Sportweave will not be passed as allowable armour at events unless a drop test is performed at the event by the MiC (*Marshal in Charge*). This will allow people to use the weave as a COMPONENT of their protection."

PLEASE, please, please pass this onto your local lists and let the rapier fighters in your area know this information. I would hate to disallow a fighter entry into rapier competitions because they weren't properly informed.

Submitted by - *Don William Bennet, Avacal Regional Marshal, Rapier Provost*

## Please Start Your Engines – Siege Warfare in Avacal

Avacal enjoys a great range of martial and combat arts, and with the addition of equestrian events at Quad War our opportunities have expanded further. All we lack is Siege artillery.

Siege engines are interesting to create, fun to shoot, and exciting to watch. But it takes teamwork to field a siege engine – craftsmen to build them, crews to operate them, marshals to ensure their safety, and a logistics operation to get them to and from the battle.

Their Highnesses have given me leave to gauge your interest in establishing a siege program in Avacal. If you are interested in supporting this activity, please contact Peregrine Falconer at (780) 231-0476 or email [lord\\_peregrine\\_falconer@yahoo.com](mailto:lord_peregrine_falconer@yahoo.com) (remove spaces).

Submitted by—*L. Peregrine Falconer*

## Autumn Celebration October 6-7, 2007

## Shire of Cold Keep Prince George BC

The Shire of Cold Keep is proud to host Their Highness' University of Avacal at Autumn Celebration, October 6th and 7th. Please join us in a collegium of classes - from martial arts (heavy, rapier & archery) to a variety of arts & sciences. Class schedule, the list of instructors, fees, etc., will be posted to the Cold Keep Forum when finalized:

[http://www.geocities.com/trad\\_archer77/ColdKeep/ColdKeep.htm](http://www.geocities.com/trad_archer77/ColdKeep/ColdKeep.htm)

Pre-registration will be required for all classes, to be confirmed at Gate; course fees must be paid at that time.

Location:

Miworth Community Hall  
13510 Flint Road  
Prince George BC V2M 7C1

From Highway 97 in Prince George, turn west onto 15th Ave. to Foothills Blvd. Turn right and follow to the Otway Road turn off. Turn left on Otway Road and proceed for 11 km (you will cross over three (3) railroad tracks). Turn right on Flint Road: the hall is on the right. Signs will be posted.

The site opens at 9:00 AM Saturday and closes at 6:00 PM Sunday. Overnight camping space is available, or, for the fainter of heart, crash space can be provided. Please contact the autocrat **at least two weeks in advance** to arrange for either.

Site Fees:  
Adults: \$10  
Youth (13-18): \$5  
Children 12 and under: no charge

The NMS is in effect for this event. Adults with proof of membership (blue card) will receive a \$4 discount to the posted site fee. **Membership cards must be shown at the gate to receive the reduced site fee – no exceptions!** Make cheques payable to the Shire of Cold Keep.

Donations to THUA will be accepted at the Gate.

As this is a class-oriented event, parents are responsible for the supervision and conduct of their children.

Autocrat:

Brigit ingen Meic Thíre Ruaidh  
2573 Inlander Street  
Prince George BC V2L 1J6  
phone: (250) 562-8417  
email: [celticwolf@telus.net](mailto:celticwolf@telus.net)



## Vinfest IX September 28-30, 2007

## Shire of Vinjar Grande Prairie, AB

Vinfest IX is coming! The Shire of Vinjar is having its annual celebration of the grape on September 28 to 30, 2007 at Camp Tamarack, south of Grande Prairie, Alberta. Tournaments of rapier, heavy and archery will be held. For those less warlike, an Arts and Sciences competition will also take place. Let us not forget the traditional grape stomp later in the day. A feast and merriment will complete the day.

The Autocrats for this year's event are Aonghus and Cigale (Rory and Michele McNeil) Box 41 Site 13 RR2, Grande Prairie, Alberta, T8V 2Z9 Telephone them at 780-538-4760 for reservations, or email them at rpmcneil@telusplanet.net.

Site opens at 7 p.m. Sep. 28th and closes at 12 noon on Sep. 30th. The only reservation is a paid reservation!!!  
Site fee: \$10 with membership, \$4 NMS; \$5 day fee  
\*new\* Family Cap: \$35.00 (2 adults, 2 children)  
Meals: \$12 for feast on Saturday (\$6 for children under 8)

Bed fee:\$10 per person per night.  
Limited camping space - \$5 per tent.  
(Smalls under 6 free)

As always, merchants are welcome and have no fees for showing/selling their wares.

Makes cheques payable to ASCA  
Shire of Vinjar

The site is wheelchair accessible and has indoor showers/washrooms. There is no street address for Camp Tamarack Camp Ground.

Follow Hwy 43 to Grande Prairie, turn LEFT at the Hwy 43/Hwy 2 junction. Follow that road until you get to 116 Ave., turn RIGHT. At 100 Ave., CONTINUE HEADING SOUTH, and follow Hwy 40 South/Wapiti Road (108 St.). Follow Hwy 40 South through and out of Grande Prairie. Continue south of Grande Prairie 5km, and turn LEFT at "Camp Tamarack" signage and follow the SCA signs.



## From the Principality Chronicler

Ya Hala,

This missive is painfully short this month—submit, subscribe, read, enjoy! And thank you to everyone who participates in the SCA and makes Avacal an amazing place!!

*alaam Alikum — al-Sayidah umm Bishr, principality chronicler*

### Riddle Me This...

I lived by the shore, near the sea-wall, at the water's edge--there I stood, fixed to my birth-place. Few came of human kind to where I stood in that solitary place to see my home. Every morning dark waves embraced me in fluid play. I didn't expect far in the future that I should ever over benches of lords speak without mouth, convey many words. It is a mystery, strange to the mind of those not schooled, how a knife's point and a right hand and a lord's thoughts join together, unite in purpose, so that I to another, someone far distant, should carry a message, proclaim it boldly, so no one else could know the speech of those separated people.

First published in *North American Ideophonics*, 1995.

Copyright © 1995 and 2001 by Karl Young.

Answer: Reed Pen

## Update on Charitable Challenge from Champion

Greetings unto the populace. Some time ago I issued a challenge to Avacal to donate hair to the Canadian Cancer Society. On Saturday, June 23rd at 5:30 p.m. my hair was cut.

For those who have not seen me in a while, it grew to around 16" long, twice what is needed. I thank everyone who sent their thanks and support in this venture. This is a big change for me since I have not had short hair in almost 20 years.

*YIS—L. Markus Pheilsmid, Archery Champion - Avacal; Heavy Champion - Tir Bannog*

Before....



....After



*Pictures on left by Beothuk, picture on right submitted by Markus Pheilsmid*

## Teachers Wanted for Upcoming THUA Collegium

I am looking for a few Knights and Dons (or Donyas) willing and able to teach at an upcoming THUA Collegium. Please contact me by August 18th at vfooster @ xplornet . com for more information and/or to offer your teaching services.

Could any Boffer Marshals willing and able to teach contact me too!

Many thanks for you attention!

*Submitted by—Maistreas Sadb ingen Thuathail, THUA Regent - Interim*

## Never too Early to Plan a Good Thing (Like the Principality A&S Championship!)

Like the title says, it's never too early to plan a good thing. While it may seem like months away yet, Principality A&S is coming up. Let's make this year a thing of beauty to remember forever.

Whether you are planning a single entry or going for the championship plan early to ensure success!!!

I urge all you closet artists out there to consider doing at least a single entry. Avacal's talent is known far and wide, but oddly enough, we don't publicize our talents at home. Take this opportunity to show your skills and talents.

Where to start? Well, I suggest something that you would like to have. Perhaps your persona needs new shoes? A new hat? New armor? Likes to eat?

It has been proven that people who create an item that they would like to have will spend more time researching and making it, instead of getting bored halfway through.

Already sewing clothes for that upcoming event? Why not attempt a period pattern?

Our Principality is blessed with some pretty skookum resources in two major Baronies (U of A and U of C libraries). Most of these resources can be interlibrary loaned if you start now, especially if you are in an outlying area.

Want more help on how to get started? Contact your friendly neighbourhood Laurel :) Avacal's Laurels possess a multitude of talents and would love to share their knowledge with others. Feeling shy? Contact your current Principality A&S Champion...oops that's me :)

Who else can help you on your way?

- ❖ Principality A&S Minister
- ❖ Your local A&S Minister
- ❖ Your local A&S Champion

Hope this helps to inspire some great entries

*Submitted by —Mistress Sina Erdena, Principality A&S Champion*

## Interesting Links (no, not chainmail...)

Fifty A&S projects by A.S. Fifty - here's a neat site that challenges everyone to commit to creating fifty projects by A.S. 50. The site utilizes on line forums to discuss your projects and connect with experts all over the Knowne Worlde.

<http://www.artsandsciences50.org/>

- Submitted by HE Morigan Clubfoot

## Feast of the Dragon's Fire September 15, 2007

Shire of Rhuddglyn  
Medicine Hat, AB

Come join us as we celebrate our 5<sup>th</sup> birthday! The theme of the day is "Dragons and Medieval Folklore." There will be "silly" heavy tournaments, rapier, a Squire's Valhalla and numerous other activities available throughout the day. A delicious feast will top off the evening. Feast tickets available by advance reservation only. A light lunch will be available for a small fee. Merchants are welcome at no charge by reserved space only. No pets on site. No open flames in the hall.

Location: Masonic Hall;  
42 Bannon Ave. S.W.;  
Medicine Hat, AB; T1A 8J2.

Take easiest route to Highway 3. Bannon Ave. is located between the Nissan dealer and a Gas/convenience store across the highway from the Medicine Hat Airport. Watch for signs.

Site opens at 10 A.M. and closes at 12 Midnight.

Site fees: \$6 for adults;  
12 and under free.  
A \$4 NMS applies.  
Feast fees: Adult \$12; 6-12yrs \$6;  
under 6 free.  
Feast reservations accepted up to and including September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007.  
Please make cheques payable to "The Medicine Hat Medieval Society."

Send to the Autocrat:  
Lady Magy of Aberdeen  
(Maggie Keough)  
333 Aberdeen St. S.E.  
Medicine Hat, AB; T1A 0R3  
Phone (403)529-6076  
or e-mail Lady Halla Ulfhednar  
(Jo Brotherton) at:  
hallaulfhednar@hotmail.com.

For more details, please visit our website at: [www.codexpublishing.ca/rhuddglyn/dragon.html](http://www.codexpublishing.ca/rhuddglyn/dragon.html)



*Lion and dragon, late fifteenth century.*

## Festus Messis (Harvest Feast) September 7-9, 2007

## Shire of Bitter End Red Deer, Alberta

EDE. BIBE. ESTO LAETUS. NAM  
CRAS MORIEMUR!  
(Eat, Drink and be Merry for tomorrow  
we die!)

The Shire of Bitter End is proud to  
welcome all to celebrate the harvest  
Roman style. Festus Messis (Harvest  
feast) will be held on Septembris VII -  
IX Anno Societatis XLII. (September 7-  
9, 2007)

As in times past, the Shire  
Championship Tournaments will be  
held this day.

Compete to become the Shire's next  
Champion of Sword, Arrow, Arts &  
Sciences and Rapier!

Feast will consist of several period  
Roman Dishes as well as a children's  
menu. Please let us know if your child  
has any food allergies.

A lunch on Saturday and breakfast on  
Sunday will be provided. Only 125  
feast tickets will be sold so reserve  
early

\*Tournament and schedule details will  
follow in the months to come.\*

**Site Fees:** Adults \$18 site & feast;  
\$10 site only  
Youths (12-17) \$10 site and feast;  
\$6 site only  
Children under 12 free  
\*\* \$4 NMS will apply where  
necessary\*\*  
Make all cheques payable to ASCA  
Shire of Bitter End

Merchants as always are more than  
welcome

**Autocrats:** H.L. Stragin Vikingsson  
and L. Catla Grimolfrsdottir  
*Stragin:* bardman1066@hotmail.com  
*Catla:* catla@shaw.ca

**Phone:** 403-347-8073 (no calls after  
9 p.m. please)

**Mail:** # 11 Ellis street, Red Deer, AB  
T4R-2C8

### Site Info:

Name: Shady Nook Community Hall  
(there is no street address for this site!)

Site opens Noon Friday September 7  
and closes Noon Sunday September 9

### Directions to Site:

- from QE2, head west onto HWY. 11  
(not 11A)
- at first set of lights turn left onto  
secondary Hwy. 596 and travel approx.  
6km.
- turn left onto Rg.Rd.283 & travel until  
you reach Armitage Feed lot
- turn right & travel for half a km.  
Hall is on your right hand side. Signs  
will be posted

## Royal Summons for Principality Officers:

The following positions are open to anyone in the SCA who currently resides in the  
Principality of Avacal. If you would like more information regarding this position please  
contact the incumbent or your local officer. If you are interested in applying for any of the  
following positions, **please submit a letter of intent along with a copy of your resume  
containing both SCA and mundane experience to Prince, Princess, Heirs and  
Principality Seneschal and the current officer.** Contact information is listed at the back  
of the Avantgarde.

*\* Anyone interested in becoming a deputy may contact the officer of the position of interest.  
The help is always welcome.\**

**Regent THUA (Deadline for applications is Nov 15/07) :** The position of Regent is  
responsible for promoting education throughout Avacal. The applicant should be  
organized, willing to keep up with minimal paperwork and able to communicate with the  
Regional Chancellors as well with Principality Seneschal and Their Highnesses.

**Regional THUA Chancellors (Deadline for applications is Nov 15/07) :** Coordinate with  
teachers in your area to arrange classes for local events.

**Principality Chirurgeon (Deadline for applications is Oct 15/07) :** SCA Chirurgeons  
provide first aid at Society events. (The word "Chirurgeon" is a medieval term from which  
the modern "Surgeon" is derived.) Members of the SCA Chirurgeonate include Red Cross  
trained first aiders, medical doctors, military medical corpsmen, nurses, paramedics,  
St. John Ambulance volunteers, and many other medical volunteers. A Chirurgeon's  
Warrant of Office crosses Kingdom boundaries.

**Principality Calendar Officer** is seeking a **deputy** for the last year of her term, possibly to  
step into the Calendar Officer position. The duties of the Calendar Officer are not onerous,  
but the applicant should be organized and willing to take the initiative. This is a great way to  
find out what is happening in the Principality, and get to know the seneschals and autocrats  
of all the events you are planning to attend anyway.

For more information, or to discuss the position, please contact the Avacal Calendar  
Officer, [HL Brigit ingen Meic Thíre Ruaidh](#) (mka Darlene Edvall).

*"Be alert to give service. What counts a great deal in life is what we do for others."  
—Anonymous*

## Seneschal's Message

Greetings Avacal.

As the investiture of our new prince and princess draws near, I'd like to thank Their  
Highnesses Steinn and Gemma for allowing me to work with them as their seneschal. I  
really appreciate the trust and advice you offered throughout your reign. My job was  
made much easier for it.

I would also like to send my thanks all the branch seneschals and principality officers for  
getting their reports in this quarter. Communication is an officer's main responsibility so  
I'm glad to see vast improvement on the reporting front. Y'all have until October for the  
next round so start making notes now. But if there are any problems or question don't  
wait to contact me. If I don't know the answers I can find out pretty quick.

That's it for this month. Have a great harvest season!

Manyra  
Avacal Seneschal

# AVACAL CALENDAR

September		
30-03	Crown	Blatha An Oir
8	Harvest Feast	Bitter End
15	Feast of the Dragon's Fire	Ruddglyn
22	Kingdom Bardic	Aquaterra
29	Vinfest IX	Vinjar
October		
6	Autumn Celebration	Cold Keep
13	Myrgan Wood's Anniversary	Myrgan Wood
20	Theme Feast	Bordergate
November		
3	Ferret's Feast	Valley Wold
10	Pirate's Tavern	Sigelhundas
24	Coronet Tourney	Bordergate

*Bold = event information has been submitted. \* - Royalty Attending*

**Calendar Policy:** Autocrats MUST submit *Date Reservation* and *Event Information* forms to Kalends (see officer listings) before an event is officially reserved or put on Calendar. Forms available from your Seneschal or the Kalends officer. On-line forms which may be filled out electronically can be found on the Avacal webpage, under Officers/Seneschal/Forms.

**All event copies** for the Crier, Avantgarde, and Avacal Webpage have to go through the Calendar Officer. Make sure to note if you do not want the event copy in the Crier. The Avantgarde and webmasters do accept longer/fancier versions of the event flyers but **it still must be sent through the Calendar**. Please have the event information form (with appropriate signatures) and event copy to the Calendar Officer by the **15th of the month**, 2 months prior to the event. (i.e. If your event is January 22, have event copy in by November 15th).

Please include the following as required by the Crier:

- Date of event (day and month and year)
- Time of event (when site opens and closes)
- Name of sponsoring group
- Location (name, street address, and town) of the site. The postal code should also be included if available. If there is no street address, this must be noted in the copy.
- Name (society and modern) and mail address of the autocrat; email address or phone number are discretionary but are very helpful. (I find it useful to include the feastocrat as well)
- If there is a fee for the event, the statement "make cheques payable to <Group>" must be included.
- Official SCA Event Title
- Modern Location (town/city)

The event copy can be a maximum of 300 words for branch or baronial events, 350 for Principality events.

August Investiture  
August 17-19, 2007

Shire of BitterEnd  
Red Deer Alberta

M'lords, M'ladies:

Come forth one and all and bear witness to the investing of our Tanist and Tanista as Prince and Princess of Avacal! Don thyne armor and compete to be the new Champion of Sword, string thyne bow and shoot for the honor to be Champion of Arrows, all to be done at Avacal Investiture. This year's event to be hosted at Tee Pee village campground near Blackfaulds Alberta, hosted by the Shire of Bitter End.

Autocrat,  
HL Gabrielle of the Leaf &  
HL Malcolm De Bruce  
Mka Patricia Keim & Asher Keim  
RR#4 Site 11 Box 15  
Red Deer Alberta T4N 5E4 Canada  
403-877-2868 or 403-309-1753  
[gabrielleleaf@hotmail.com](mailto:gabrielleleaf@hotmail.com)

Site opens Friday at 4:00 pm and  
closes Sunday at 1:00pm

Site fees:

Member: \$20.00  
Non members add a \$4.00 nms,  
total of \$24.00  
Children under 12 are free.  
Please make cheques payable to  
ASCA: Shire of Bitter End.  
Directions: There is no street address  
for this site.

From the junction of the QE2 and  
Sec hwy 597{Blackfaulds overpass}  
head east on sec 597 2 km to hwy 2A.  
Turn north {left} on hwy 2a to Twp 400  
{just after train overpass}  
Turn west {left} apx 1 km.  
Turn North {right} apx 0.5 km.  
Turn west {left} into site.

Obey all posted speed limits. Please  
stop at gate to sign in as no vehicles  
will be allowed to pass without signing  
in.

\*\*\*Signs will be posted  
starting at Hwy 2A\*\*\*



*Image:Naqsh i Rustam. Investiture d'Ardashir*