

**Directory of Avacal Branches**

**Bitter End** (Red Deer AB) (Shire)  
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 403-347-2347 annsteve@telus.net

**Bordergate** (Cold Lake AB) (Shire)  
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 780-639-4963 marinaca@telus.net

**Borealis** (Edmonton AB) (Barony)  
**Baron and Baroness:** *TE Vik Vikingsson & Inga the Unfettered* (Jim Manners & Michelle Height)  
 1325 - 72 St., Edmonton AB T6K 3E9  
 780-463-4445 slikboy@shaw.ca or  
 michelle.height@ualberta.ca  
**Seneschal:** *HL Kintair of Hawkehaven* (Bill Hately)  
 11328 95A St., Edmonton AB T5G 1P1  
 780 432-7927 kintair@telus.net

**Cold Keep** (Prince George, BC) (Shire)  
**Seneschal:** *Eggbert the Ready* (David Golding)  
 1474 Warner Ave Prince George BC V2L 4P2  
 250-564-1343 goldingspg@shaw.ca

**Harrows Cross** (Strathmore & environs) (Shire)  
**Seneschal:** *Isibel Svindandi* ( Tammy Giles)  
 316 Bermuda Dr., Calgary AB T3K 2B1  
 403-230-2641 twg88@yahoo.ca

**Montengarde** (Calgary AB) (Barony)  
**Baron and Baroness:** *HE Malabar Membro Spaccata & HE Hero the Responsible* (Shawn and Roberta Alford)  
 1608 20th Ave., PO Box 1056, Didsbury AB T0M 0W0  
 403-607-3391 baron\_of\_montengarde@yahoo.ca  
**Seneschal:** *Caitlin ingen ui Dalaig* (Wendy Hobbs)  
 76 Big Springs Hill, Airdrie AB T4A 1L3  
 403-948-5290 montengardesen@telus.net

**Mvrgan Wood** (SaskatoonSK) (Barony)  
**Baron and Baroness:** *HE Dietrich von Kleeve* (Derrick Schreiber)  
 119 Lochrie Cr., Saskatoon SK S7M 5E3  
 306-382-8789 or (306)-220-9973 (cell)  
 Dietrich.sca@sasktel.net  
*HE Hélène Charesse* (Shona Price)  
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 306-242-4004 helenecharesse@hotmail.com  
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**Rhuddglvn** (Medicine Hat AB) (Shire)  
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**Sigelhundas** (Regina SK) (Shire)  
**Seneschal:** *L. Morgan ap Hugh* (James Park)  
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 306-775-3759 jamespark@accesscomm.ca

**Valley Wold** (Moose Jaw SK) (Shire)  
**Seneschal:** *L. Robert of Caithness* (Mike Bartlett)  
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 306-694-5256 tyger@sasktel.net

**Vinjar** (Grand Prairie AB & environs) (Shire)  
**Seneschal:** *HL Sadb ingen Thuathail* (Vicki Foster)  
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 780-354-3803 vfoster@telusplanet.net

**Windwvrm** (Lethbridge AB) (Shire)  
**Seneschal:** *L Matthias der Jager* (Kris Fischer)  
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 steadman@crtc.sk.ca or 306-682-1984

**North Battleford & area**  
 contact Lord Hamish at sean131@yahoo.com  
 or 306-445-0482

**Wvverns Veldt** (Brooks AB) (Household)  
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 32 Sagebrush Estates Brooks AB T1R 1P1  
 403-501-5406 wyvernsveldt@yahoo.ca

**The Principality Online:**  
*Avacal Website:*  
<http://www.avacal.antir.sca.org/>  
*Their Highness' University of Avacal*  
<http://www.avacal.net>  
*An Tir Website:*  
<http://www.antir.sca.org/>  
*Avacal Circus (Mailing List) -*  
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Avacal/>



**The Avantgarde**

**Our New Tanist and Tanista!**



**AVACAL TOGETHER WE CONQUER**

**Newsletter of The Principality of Avacal AS XLI December 2006 In the Reign of Their Highnesses Wernar Ivarsson & Tatiana the Outspoken**

- In This Edition:**
- ✿ **Avacal's Newest Tanist & Tanista**
  - ✿ **Montengarde's New Baron & Baroness**
  - ✿ **Persona Piece — Finn and Sadb**
  - ✿ **Charitable Challenge**
  - ✿ **A&S Championship Missives #2—#4**
  - ✿ **Montengarde Trading Cards**
  - ✿ **13th C. Carol**
  - ✿ **Curia Minutes**
  - (...new seneschal announced, new deputy position, calendar rotation; and more!!)

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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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**Mail to: Angela Miller**

**409 Halifax St., Regina, SK S4R 1T4**

**Phone: 306-775-3759**

**make cheques payable to : "Avacal Medieval Recreation Association".**

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Cover Picture is by Beothuk

(Continued from page 22)

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**Southeast Avacal Chancellor:** *Vacant*

**Myrgan Wood Chancellor:** *Vacant*

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**From The Griffin Thrones:**

Greetings unto the Populace of Avacal!

Winter has certainly come upon us with a bang. Cold temperatures and much snow have well covered the lands. It does not look to be leaving us any time soon!

It was wonderful to see so many people out for Coronet and exciting that Our lists were well populated! We would like to congratulate Their Excellencies, Sir Steinn and Donya Gemma on becoming the next Tanist and Tanista of Avacal. Their victory was hard fought and We are happy to see such worthy successors to the Thrones of Avacal. We would like to thank the fighters and their inspirations who made banners to decorate the halls. It certainly lent a bounty of colour and pageantry to the event.

Our congratulation go out to Beothuk and Wilma, as well, on their upcoming positions of Baron and Baroness of Montengarde! We wish them every success in their new endeavors.

To Avacal, We would like to extend Our wish that you and your families have a safe and happy holiday season!

Wernar and Tatiana,  
Prince and Khatun, Avacal

\*Tyranny!!\*

Picture by Beothuk

**Royal Progress**

Tatiana, Khatun: Montengarde 12th Night  
Winter War  
Estrella \*tentative  
February Investiture.

Prince Wernar: Yule in Borealis  
Montengarde 12th Night  
Winter War  
Estrella \*tentative  
February Investiture.

(Continued on page 23)

# COURT REPORT

The following awards were given out:

**Award of Arms-** presented by Their Highnesses, Wernar Ivarsson and Tatiana the Outspoken

Coriander of Vinjar- Vinfest  
Robert Faustus- November Coronet  
Wolfe- November Coronet  
Odette the Swan- November Coronet

**Gilded Griffin-** Given by Their Highnesses, Wernar Ivarsson and Tatiana the Outspoken

Tewl-October  
Betha- October  
Gemma Meena- November Coronet

**Valorous Warrior-** Given by Their Highnesses, Wernar Ivarsson and Tatiana the Outspoken

Drogo- November Coronet

**Hazzah to all recent award recipients.**

**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>



Winter War  
February 2-4, 2007

Barony of Borealis  
Edmonton, AB



In the dead cold of winter, Borealis invites you to enjoy the heat of battle and the comfort of indoor camping. Join us for a day filled with heavy combat scenarios, rapier combat scenarios, combat archery and target archery, and a bardic competition. In the evening there will be a potluck meal followed by general merriment and mayhem because those who are so inclined may stay at the hall all night.

Site opens at 7 p.m. Friday and closes just before noon Sunday.

The event takes place at the same site as last year's Winter War:  
Wetaskiwin Drill Hall,  
4513 - 50 avenue,  
Wetaskiwin, Alberta.

Directions: From the north or south take Hwy 2A into Wetaskiwin. Turn east on 50 avenue, go about 1.5 km, straight into the Exhibition Grounds. From the east or west take Hwy 13 into town, turn south on 56 street (Hwy 2A) and follow above directions. For directions to the archery lanes check the event copy on the Avacal website.

Site fee: Adults \$8.00,  
youth 12-17 \$6.00,  
children under 12 free.  
Note that a \$4.00 non-member surcharge will be applied to all adults who do not have proof of membership. Make cheques payable to ASCA Barony of Borealis.

Merchants are welcome. Please contact Mistress Joan the Just at [joanandcennet@hotmail.com](mailto:joanandcennet@hotmail.com) or (780)986-6623.

Once again the feast will be potluck. To participate, please contribute a dish sufficient for 8 - 10 people according to your modern surname: A-K bring a main course, L-R bring appetizers and S-Z bring dessert.

For those who choose not to participate there are restaurants and fast-food outlets in Wetaskiwin. A cash bar will be on site to meet your refreshment needs.

Autocrat: HL Coryn of the Woods (Corry VanderZee),  
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## Twelfth Night January 20, 2007

## Barony of Montengarde Calgary, AB

Hello and greetings to you all,

The Barony of Montengarde would like to invite you to this year's celebration of 12th night. Join us as we bid farewell to our Baron and Baroness. Test your skills in Heavy fighting, Archery, A&S and Rapier tournaments. Feast yourselves as we serve up our famous "Huntsman's Dinner". Come partake in the games, celebration and revelry at what is sure to be one of the biggest events of the year!!

Festivities will be held on January 20th at:  
Marlbrough Community Hall  
636 Marlborough Way NE  
Calgary Alberta  
T2A 2V9

Doors open at 10:00 a.m. and  
Close at 11:00 p.m.

Archery Tournament will be held at:  
4855 47 Street SE  
Calgary Alberta  
T2B 3S5

Tournament runs from 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Gate Fee \$7.00 With a Reservation  
\$10.00 at the door  
\$4.00 NMS

Feast \$7.00 With a Reservation  
\$10.00 at the door

There will be a limited number of feast tickets available. Details on the Menu will be coming shortly

If paying by cheque please make cheques payable to MSCA.

Children 5 and under free but please include them on your reservation.

For reservations please email Ellias Silver (mka Paul Cote) at [montengarde12night@gmail.com](mailto:montengarde12night@gmail.com)

Merchants are welcome and are asked to also contact Ellias Silver at the same address.

Hope to see you all there!!!



## Congratulations to our newest Tanist and Tanista... HE Steinn Vikingsson and HE Gemma Meen!!

*Left—Gemma and Stein, Tanist and Tanista  
Below—Beothuk and Wilma the Still  
pictures by Beothuk*

## Beothuk of the Beothuks and Wilma the Still to Represent Montengarde as Baron and Baroness!!

Their Majesties have chosen HL Beothuk and HL Wilma to be the next Baron and Baroness of Montengarde.

Huge thank you from us to the other candidates. Your willingness to do the job was commendable.

I hope every one throws their support behind Beothuk and Wilma; there are lots of officer positions available as well as small and large jobs to do to make this the best Barony it can be.

I look forward to a new and exciting chapter in Montengarde's history  
—HE Hero The Responsible, Baroness Montengarde

*The following response appeared on the Avacal Circus (yahoo group) as a response from Beothuk and Wilma—printed here with permission...*

Thank you for all the Kind words.

We are truly honoured that we have been chosen by their Majesties to represent Montengarde.

Our thanks to Bartholomew, Tat'iana, Tygar and Dauphina, candidates with such great respect and courtesy. Their actions throughout this process were inspirational. We were very lucky to share the running with individuals of their calibre.

Their Excellencies, Malabar and Hero, for the leadership and strength that they gave to all of us who put our names forward.

Thank you to Caitilin and her team, who organized all the polling and Q&A sessions.

And to the Populace of Montengarde, we thank you for your patience, questions, concerns, support, encouragement and advice.

We are looking forward to the Next Chapter as well.

Beothuk and Wilma  
Non Taurus Est!



## Seneschal's Message

Salut à tout l'Avacal!

Congratulations to the Heirs to the Griffin Thrones, Steinn & Gemma! Thank you to everyone who vied for the honour and fought so valiantly!!

For those of you unable to attend the Curia meeting Sunday morning, the minutes should be an interesting read. I invite you pay particular attention to the developing Calendar policy as well as those Principality offices that have been filled and are newly open. There is opportunity for you to contribute to Avacal!

May the happiest of holidays be yours this season!!! See you at Investiture!

Roxanne Delaroche  
Seneschale d'Avacal



## From the Principality Chronicler

Salome,

*Blessings to all of you! during this season of giving! As the chill has left the air, so has my sloth and another issue of the Avantgarde has finally come to be. Thank you once again to the many individuals who have gifted the Avantgarde with articles, answered questions, proofread and helped in many little ways to make this edition come together. It is a busy time of year for all of us, however the dedication shown by the populace of Avacal is unflinching as always!*

*Congratulations to our new Tanist and Tanista, Sir Steinn and Donya Gemma! Best wishes also go out to Beothuk of the Beothuks and Wilma the Still who will be stepping up at 12th Night as Baron and Baroness of Montengarde. (You will see that Beothuk has provided many photos to the Avantgarde in this and previous issues—a gift that is most appreciated).*

*Other tournaments and events were also held at Coronet this year...Congratulations to the following gifted winners:*

*Squire's Tourney - Hjalti won for Most Wins and Hrogn for Most Fights.*

*Rapier Tourney - Illyanth Ildanach*

*Games Tourney - Findabhair na Noinini*

*Congratulations should also go to those who organized the A&S Auction (Maistreas Sadb ingen Thuathail and Onora inghen Mc Thomais who jumped in last minute) – \$590 was raised for the travel fund!! Money was also raised via the games tournament (\$40) and the lunch table (I'm sorry, I'm not certain how much, but I know the food was going fast!!). As well, the populace answered the call for Largesse with a resounding echo—baskets (yes, in the plural) of goodies were presented to Their Highnesses Sven and Signy this Coronet!! Thank you to everyone who organizes and participates in making this game better — you truly are a gift to Avacal!!*

*Ever in service — al-Sayidah umm Bishr, principality chronicler*

## AVACAL CALENDAR

December		
9	<b>Yule Feast *</b>	Borealis
January		
12-14	An Tir Twelfth Night Coronation	Dragon's Laire
20	<b>Twelfth Night *</b>	Montengarde
February		
2-4	<b>Winter War *</b>	Borealis
17	Estrella (* tentative)	
23-25	Avacal Investiture *	Montengarde
March		
3	Kingdom A&S	Mountain Edge
3	War Practice	Ruddglyn
17	Feast of the Evergreens	Border Gate

*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.

## 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\*\*\**

**High Regent THUA:** Their Highnesses' University of Avacal is an extension of the Sovereign and Consort of Avacal, the Coronet, and has as its responsibility the fostering and development of Medieval and Renaissance research and the sharing of knowledge in Avacal. The High Regent is a warranted officer and oversees all aspects of the administration of the University. Specific responsibilities include the following:

- The advisement of the Coronet in the selection of Chancellors and other Deputies for approval and warranting.
- The guidance and supervision of Chancellors throughout Avacal in the organization and running of Collegia and other educational activities.
- Maintaining student and instructor records.
- Maintaining THUA financial records and reporting of such to the Avacal Exchequer
- Reporting of THUA activities to the Coronet and to Principality Curia.

Activities presently under the direction of the High Regent are the production of the Avacal Directory. Computer skills are an asset in this position but in no wise are requisite for application for this office. Applicants for the office should submit a resume and cover letter outlining their SCA and relevant mundane qualifications to the THUA High Regent, the Principality Seneschal, Their Highnesses and Their Heirs.

**Regional THUA Chancellors:** Coordinate with teachers in your area to arrange classes for local events.

**Arts & Sciences:** The Principality Minister of Arts and Sciences is considered the chief artistic and scientific officer of the Coronet. You will have the responsibility of encouraging the research and development of historically accurate period art forms, technologies, and philosophies; promoting and encouraging period appropriate arts and sciences works and assisting in the selection of the Principality Arts and Sciences Champion. You will also be responsible for condensing the reports of your subordinate officers up to Kingdom Level.

**Rapier Provost:** The responsibilities of the Principality Rapier Marshal are to maintain, publish, and enforce the rules for period rapier combat and safety and equipment for period rapier combat as laid out by the Kingdom Earl and Rapier Marshals. They are also responsible for encouraging rapier combat and related activities with Avacal. A list of the full responsibilities and requirements can be found in the An Tir Rapier Marshal's Handbook.

**Chirurgeon:** 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 of Avacal Curia

Nov. 26<sup>th</sup>, 2006 AS XLI

9:30 AM

Avacal Coronet, Borealis

**Recording:**

umm Bishr

**Attending:**

Illyanth Ildanach	Wilma the Still
Haakon Einarsson	Caitilin ingen ui Dalaig
Brother Selewine	Jajiradai Batu
Manyra	William Bennet
Umm Bishr	Beothuk of the Beothuk
Wernar Ivarsson	Anns Bradwardyn
Kintair of Hawkhaven	Brigit ingen Meic Thire Ruaidh
Ann Fawkes	Brynach ap Rhys
Eve the Just	Gemma
Helene Charesse	Steinn
Dietrich von Kleeve	Tatiana the Outspoken
GuilleminEira Hallsdottir	Roxanne
Siobhan Delaroché	Stragin Vikingsson
	Catla

**Approval of Previous Minutes:**

From August Investiture – As published in the Avantgarde September 2006

**Business Arising from Minutes:**

None

**OFFICER REPORTS:**

**Seneschal (Roxanne)**

No Agenda items were sent in. Reports need to be sent in, better late than not at all because without reports we are not functioning at a Kingdom ready level! Without reports we are seen as not functioning and it is assumed that there are problems that aren't being reported, and the Principality has been threatened with suspension. If there is nothing happening, report that to Kingdom - if there's a problem but it's being resolved, report that to Kingdom. Please also remember to copy Their Highnesses and the Seneschal.

Avacal has 481 members, 59 suspended so if you change your contact info, let Kingdom know. Membership is the only concrete step to becoming a Kingdom.

Mistress Manyra has been chosen as the new Seneschal.

Deputy officer position has been filled - Avacal Development Deputy is now Stragin Vikingsson.

*(Continued on p. 8)*

*(Continued from p. 7)*

**New and Incipient  
Branch Deputy  
(Hamish):**

Nothing New Happening.

**Calendar (Brigit):**

Calendar Rotation – paperwork must still be sent in. Two bids can be sent and compete for the event, but a lot of discussion would follow if this happens. Branches can swap with other branches, but this must be approved by their Highness and the Calendar Officer.

February Investiture is in Montengarde, June Coronet in Cold Keep and August Investiture in Bitter End. This is the start of the Calendar Rotation.

The Calendar Rotation should prevent the three month lead time and groups will now know a year and a half ahead if they are to host a principality event. The deadline for submitting bids is 6 months prior to the event.

**Warrants and Re-  
porting Officer  
(Asney):**

Warranting is happening. Make sure new officer forms are copied and sent to HE Asney in a timely manner.

**Exchequer (Eve the  
Just):**

Is catching up on government (Not for Profit Corporation) reports that weren't done when she started, and has no quarterly report right now since she's been putting out other fires. Branches must do 'Not for Profit' reports yearly at the branches corporate year end which may not be the society year end.

**NMS Deputy (Catla):**

Paperwork and cheques are coming in, and all is going good.

**Herald (Annys):**

Still trying to get info on what books are available for the library (one branch has sent this in). This list will go on circus and perhaps in the Avantgarde. We got our first donation for the branch library.

Branches have been reporting well. Baronies need to send in their Baronial awards, and we need more branch heralds.

Working on the pavilion.

**Scribe (Inga):**

No report.

**Regalia (Jajiradai):**

There is a goodly amount in Regalia. The call for funds for Coronets was answered resoundingly. Vic will be working on these. The list of Prince's and Princess' Regalia has been updated (there is only one summer cloak, but the other is being replaced). There is a need for a big principality kneeling pillow (wide, washable, upholstery fabric with pretty trim, zipper – suggested that it be a 'body pillow' and slip cover).

*(Continued on p. 9)*

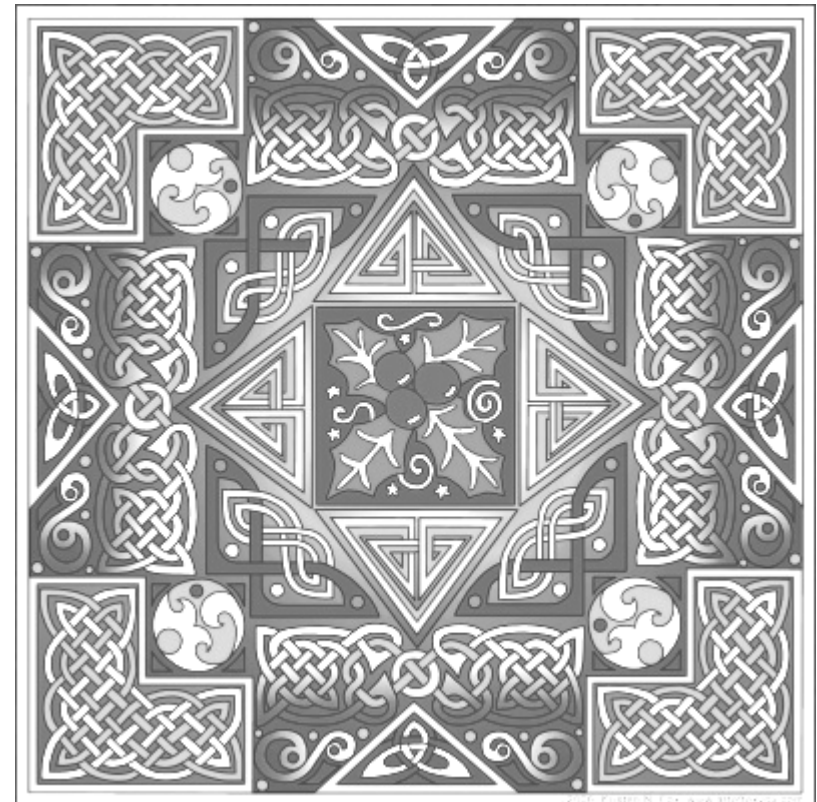
## The Olde Year Now Away is Fled

(sung to Greensleeves) 13th Century English

The olde year now away is fled,  
The new year it is entered  
Then let us now our sins downtread  
And joyfully all appear  
Let's be merry this holiday  
And let us run with sport and play  
Han sorrow, let's cast care away -  
God send you a happy new year

Come, give us more liquor when I do call  
I'll drink to each one in this hall  
I hope that so loud I must not bawl  
But unto me lend me an ear  
Good fortune to my master send  
And to my dame which is our friend  
God bless us all, and so I lend  
And God send us a happy new year

Translation By Lawrence Rosenwald





## Charitable Challenge from Champion

Now, for those whom I have not had the honour of meeting, allow me to introduce myself. I am Markus Pheilsmid, Archery Champion of Avacal.

Okay, on to the challenge. Those of you who do know me, have seen my long hair. I have been growing it for almost four years now... for a very good reason. No... not to look like Legolas! He looks like me! I've been growing it so that I can donate it to the Canadian Cancer Society.

Let me be very clear right now. I am not asking for donations... I am asking for participation. How many of you knew that you could donate your hair, and it would be made into wigs for people undergoing cancer treatment? How many of us know someone that has undergone radiation treatment? I would wager that almost everyone on this list has had someone in their life affected by cancer.

Picture that man or woman before the treatment. Picture them after the treatment. Now picture a 12 year old boy or girl having the same treatment. While the hair loss is hard on an adult, it's even worse for a child.

It takes approximately 12 donations of hair and costs roughly \$1,200.00 to craft a single hand-sewn wig for a child. So the more people that donate hair, the more wigs that can be made.

The hair donations need to be 8" to 12", (depending on who is making the wig). To find out where to send your donations, go to [www.cancer.ca](http://www.cancer.ca) and type "hair" into the search engine.



Here is my challenge to all of Avacal. Before August Investiture, my hair will be cut and donated to the Canadian Cancer Society. I would challenge EVERYONE to help increase hair donations. Talk to your friends. Talk to your family. Forward them this e-mail. Get them involved and talking to their friends. Donate your own hair. After all... yours will grow back.

If you donate your hair, or talk to someone and get them to donate their hair, PLEASE e-mail me at [dragon\\_terror@yahoo.com](mailto:dragon_terror@yahoo.com) and let me know. I would like to have a lengthy list of people to acknowledge at Investiture.

Thank you

L. Markus Pheilsmid  
Archery Champion of Avacal  
Heavy Champion of Tir Bannog

Picture of Markus by Beothuk  
Taken at November Coronet 2006

(Continued from p. 8)

**Chatelaine (Natal'ia):** Not here to report. There is a new Kingdom Chatelaine, however.

**Chronicler (umm Bishr):** Web ministers do not need to be warranted, Kingdom is just gathering contact info. Officer changeover has gone well. Branch chroniclers need to be aware of privacy issues and copyright laws – it is o.k. to include officer contact info.

**Web Minister (Raoul):** Raoul is putting branch officer e-mails on website. Can still set up report forms for those who want them there. There is a webpage for each office, use this as your resource (let him know what you want on it).

**Arts & Science (Ceis):** Will be stepping down. There will be an intern stepping in for three months. Applications should be sent in for this office.

**Bardic (Illyanth):** Lovely music last night – was very much appreciated. Rumours of a Bardic THUA but nothing has happened yet.

**Gamesmaster (Illyanth):** More games have been played at events he's been at and there's been a few games tournaments at events lately.

**Earl Marshal (Hakkon):** No injuries except for yesterday. All branches reporting except those without Master of Stables. All seniors who do authorizations send to Earl Marshall who sends to Kingdom when he has a stack. Has been checking authorizations on the Heavy List, will go through Rapier list in February. Reauthorizations can happen on the same day that you fight!!

**Rapier Provost (William):** Branch officers are reporting.

**Royal Archer (Brynach):** Royal Rounds have been updated on the website. Only Montengarde and Myrgan Wood have target archery range at 40 yards for winter – if you know of any place that might suit at your branch then pass the info along to your groups. Only three branch archers in Avacal right now.

**Target Archery Deputy (Thomas):** Royal Rounds scores have been recorded thanks to deputy's help.

**Warlord (Wernar):** No wars, no problems.

**Constable (Tygar):** No report (not present)

**Chirurgon (Vacant):** Still up in the air right now.

(Continued on p. 10)

(Continued from p. 9)

**University of Avacal (Dolphin):** THUA position is open. THUA is principality so their events don't count as one of your branch events in the calendar.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** Heraldry yesterday was spectacular – more of this would be great! Branch arms should be up at every principality event. Bardic awards is still being worked on and should be in place before Their Highnesses step down.

**Meeting Adjourned** At 11:30 a.m.



*Cat's Meow is created by  
Mistress Keterlin von dem Drachen*

## "I'LL TRADE YOU A BARON FOR A TWIT!"

### *Montengarde 2007 Limited Edition Collector Cards:*

Color photos with "stats" on the back.. these cards are a great way to "Feel like a Rock Star!" as the kids and adults trade your picture and ask for signatures! Collect your friends and see if you can get a "Full House".

❖ **How do I purchase collector cards?**

They will be available at Montengarde's 12th Night event for \$2 per package, 5 cards per package.

❖ **Do they come with Gum?**

HECK YA!

❖ **Can I purchase last year's Cards?**

Last year's collector cards sold out by the end of the event. HOW-EVER... there are 3 full packs set aside and will be put up for strategic auctions as fund raisers so keep your eyes open.

❖ **Where do the funds raised go?**

Each year finds a different area of the Barony in need of a helping hand. Regardless of which it is, all profits are turned back over to the Barony. Last year's cards have already raised more than \$150 in sales. The \$5 donation covers the cost of the printing.

If you have any further questions, please get in touch with me.

—Onora ingen Tomais  
Chatelaine for the Barony of Montengarde



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

If you are interested in the history of Yule in the Orkney Islands (and I'm sure it applies to other areas as well, you may find this site an interesting read, especially at this time of year!!

<http://www.orkneyjar.com/tradition/yule/index.html>

Or visit this old favorite and cook up something special on those cold winter nights, but beware!!

You may could be busy for hours perusing the recipes...

<http://www.godecookery.com>

— umm Bishr, principality chronicler

(Continued from page 13)

#### A&S Championship Missive #4

Once again, a reminder about the upcoming Avacal Arts & Sciences Championship Competition.

I hope many of you have decided to enter at least one item, and that quite a few are planning to enter the Novice Triathlon or the Championship competition.

If you are making only one item you still have plenty of time (unless you plan to brew something). If you are preparing several entries you need to plan to make the best use of your time. Different people have different ways of working, from "slow and thorough" to "last-minute creative frenzy". Some projects take a long time (hand-sewing a garment) and others (food items) have to be prepared as close to the date of the competition (February 24, 2007) as possible. Some kinds of work are very portable (hand sewing or embroidery). Some things can be done while visiting or watching TV (weaving). It's a good idea to choose a variety of projects.

Remember that you may use one object as two different entries IF they are documented separately (a page of calligraphy and illumination or a garment with embellishment).

You may submit a project which was previously entered in a local or principality A&S competition. That way you don't have to begin all over again, although it's a good idea to make improvements as suggested by the judges.

You don't necessarily have to finish a project completely. As long as one part is finished to give an idea of how the completed project would look, that's acceptable. Of course, if you complete a project and have enough time to test it thoroughly (hand-sewn boots or a piece of armour) that might be worth bonus points....

A personal observation on the thoroughness of the judges: calligraphy and illumination judges are very picky, while food and drink judges are much more lenient. There is a good reason for this. There are countless examples of calligraphy and illumination available in books and on the internet. You can see exactly what was or was not being done on parchment at a given time in a certain place. On the other hand, we have no extant examples of period food and drink. There are recipes but they are often unclear about measurements and cooking times and temperatures. You aren't likely to get the ideal flavour and consistency the first time (unless you have a lot of cooking experience) so you adjust and try again. Hopefully on the day of the competition you'll have something really appetizing to set before the hungry judges....

No matter what projects you decide to do, start doing some research now! Search the internet, check the library, talk to people who have done similar projects, make prototypes, etc. Go shopping for materials, or at least find where you can get the materials when you need them. If you can't find (or afford) the materials which would have been used in period, find reasonable substitutions. Write everything down!

If you have any questions about anything related to the competition, please don't hesitate to contact me off-list!

Ever in service,

—HL Coryn of the Woods, Arts and Sciences Champion of Avacal

#### Populace Persona Pieces—Featuring Finn and Sadb

—Submitted by - Brother Selewine (mka: Lance Blades) (brother-selwynn@shaw.ca)

The best part of being a world traveller is the fascinating people I get to meet and learn about. The most recent case in point has been my opportunity to meet with an Ulsterman and his good wife, Finn Mac Carball Ui Neill and his wife, Sadb ingen Thuathail. Once we got past the difficulty in pronunciation our conversation was wide ranging and complete. Gaelic spelling and pronunciation bear little resemblance to each other, so Finn Mac Carball Ui Neill is pronounced Finn mac Carval O'Neill and gives direct lineage and clan affiliation in one, telling us that Finn is the son of Carval, of the Neill Clan. The name of his good wife Sadb ingen Thuathail is pronounced Sawv in-yen Two-aw-haul and tells us she is Sadb, foster daughter to the Thuathail family.

They are dressed simply but in good cloth, much of which I learn later has been spun and woven by Sadb herself. The fine and colourful embroidery that decorates the clothing is also the work of her hands. Because they are travelling Sadb has chosen to dress as her husband because it is more practical so they are dressed in trews, tight fitting woollen pants that reach to mid calf, léine, a short tunic made of linen and a Brat, a large cloak with an intricately incised cloak pin. A hat, leather belt with finely cast buckle and leather boots complete the travelling clothes. Sadb is also wearing a fine amber and gold necklace, a gift from her foster father, which she treasures. Sadb tells me that when home she wears similar clothing, but instead of the trews she would wear a chemise of linen and a light wool chiton, both simple dresses, and longer overtunics and the cloak once again in the event of colder weather.

Finn is a cattle lord, one who raises cattle on the family land and uses that income to support his travels as a merchant seaman. He has travelled far, including one pilgrimage to Jerusalem. It is unusual to find him travelling in the company of his good wife as she is often at home acting as his steward for the land and people who owe them allegiance. Norse raiders are a common occurrence and to speak to Finn of Vikings is to truly raise his ire. He shares stories of battle with the raiders but seems to take more delight in sharing those times in which he has bettered them in trade and bartering. It is possible that there has been some minor irregularity in the trade arrangements, always to Finn's advantage.

I was most surprised to discover that the lady, Sadb, is a trained warrior, and there is a quiet pride in the voice of Finn as he relates tales of his wife's prowess on the field in defence of home and hearth. Perhaps he attributes her skills to her upbringing and does not forbid her to do what she can in defence of his holdings. She is an able commander and well respected by the armsmen who fight by her side. Finn's cousin is nowhere as proud of her prowess and hustles her off to a monastery every time raids occur unless she can be ready and take the field before he gets there. Sadb has not wasted her time in the monastery, having been taught to read, write and do simple arithmetic. She desires to practice illumination, another skill the monks have shown her, even though they will not allow her to work on their manuscripts.

Finn was born and bred in Ulster, in the North of Ireland; Sadb is from Laigin in the central part of the country. They wed in the settlement of a debt owed by the Thuathail to the Ui Neill and, as is often the case in arranged marriages, grew to love one another. Under the law, had Sadb been unhappy in the marriage, she could have divorced her hus-

(Continued on page 12)

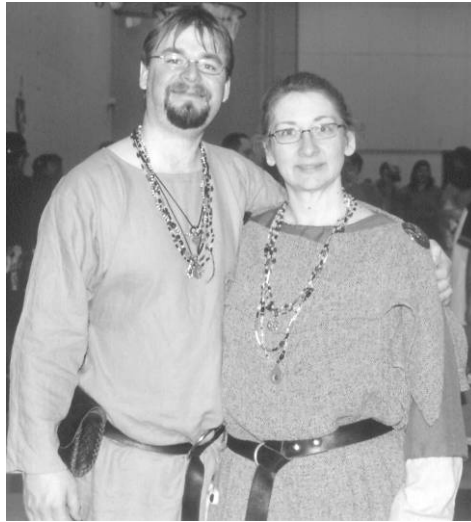
(Continued from page 11)

band after a year and a day and the debt would still have been regarded as paid. Instead she has chosen to stay by his side and make her home and future with him, although she confesses to missing her homeland to the south. They hold a prosperous land, raising cattle and sheep and Finn is justly famous for the quality of his beef. They raise crops of wheat, barley and millet and harvest honey from the wild bees of the area. There are about 20 people who swear allegiance to Finn and who work the land with him, stand together to defend it and share in the bounty of the land. There are trained armsmen who stand to defend the land and who fight alongside both Finn and Sadb. They are prosperous enough to have a blacksmith on their land, who not only provides all of the metalwork needed for the household but also provides these services to the surrounding area.

Life is neither simple nor easy for these good people; they live in a beautiful country but must contend with wild animals, raiders and inclement weather to keep body and soul together. Their home is a simple wattle and daub structure, built on the top of a hill for good visibility and surrounded by a ditch and a wall of poles. There are entrances on both sides of the house and the loom would sit between the two doors to get the most light available. Herbs and dried meat hang from the rafters, and iron cooking pots are gathered near the central hearth. Hand woven baskets near the hearth hold berries and root vegetable in season and others hold wool waiting to be spun or yarn ready to be woven. Bench beds line the walls of the house and each person's arms and armour, when not with them, is leaned against these beds, easy to hand. In the corner a small table holds a cross and a small incense burner, a shrine to show their Christianity, although both will tell you that in truth they follow the old ways as well. The house is completed with a wooden table and some stools where they gather to eat their meals. Implements and dishes are wood or clay, with some metal items such as knives and spoons and metal meat forks to complete the equipment. Two hollowed skulls, used as drinking vessels, sit beside a skin of wine, a reminder that old habits die hard.

As is typical Finn and Sadb are travelling afoot, with the supplies and trade goods for their journey packed into a well laden pony cart. When great speed is required they will travel on horseback or by boat but almost all travel is by walking. Trade goods include meats and hides, salt, spices brought back from Finn's travels, a goodly supply of mead made from the rich honey found near their home as well as embroidered trims and cheeses that Sadb has made. As we part and they travel on I marvel at the wonderful variety of people I meet and silently raise a prayer for their continued health and well being.

*"If you want your name to be one of the next to fill this space then send your persona information to [brother-selwynn@shaw.ca](mailto:brother-selwynn@shaw.ca)"*



*Finn and Sadb  
from their personal collection*

## **A&S CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITION**

### **A&S Championship Missive #2**

Have you thought about entering the Arts and Sciences Competition at February Investiture? If the Championship Competition doesn't appeal to you, how about the Novice Triathlon or a Single Entry?

If you are not sure what makes a suitable entry, here are some ideas:

1. Make an object: something that can be worn, tasted, used, read, played, etc.
2. Perform something: tell a story, sing a song, play an instrument, act out a dramatic scene, etc.
3. Write a research paper

No matter what you decide to do, you'll need some documentation -- some 'proof' that this was made or done during the Middle Ages. It's a good idea to do at least a bit of research before you get too involved making an object or practicing a performance. If you have an idea for an entry but are not sure about it, talk to someone who has entered an A&S competition in previous years or someone who has done related research.

I'll give more hints about documentation next time (it's not as scary as it sounds, really!)

For those who want more information about the competition I am including the complete rules and regulations below.

Looking forward to an exciting A&S competition with a wide variety of entries reflecting the imagination and skill of those who are proud to be Avacalians!

### **A&S Championship Missive #3**

Once again I want to encourage everyone to consider entering one or more items in the competition. If you have never entered a principality-level A&S competition you are eligible to enter the Novice Triathlon. This is a wonderful way to get feedback on your work, to get noticed by others interested in the arts and sciences, and to win some nice prizes.

If you are not a novice or if preparing three entries is too much for you, consider doing a single entry. Again, there will be feedback, recognition and a chance of winning prizes.

Prizes will be awarded for the Championship winner, the Triathlon winner, highest overall scoring entry, Coronets choice, Champions choice, judges choice and populace choice. (Anyone willing to donate prizes, please contact me.)

I recall almost two years ago there was a big discussion about "non-A&S types" (especially heavy fighters) challenging each other to enter the competition. It would be great if some of you would follow through on that!

From time to time there is talk about Avacal becoming a Kingdom. I've heard it said that one way to judge readiness for Kingdom status is to see how many heavy fighters enter the Coronet Tournament lists. IMHO it is also important to have an Arts and Sciences Competition that would make a kingdom proud. As the competition organizer I would be delighted to have to deal with the "problem" of finding more judges, wrangling more display space, and gathering up more prizes for more competition entrants!

If you know you are capable of fine work but are afraid of "r-r-research and d-d-documentation", help is available! More about that next time....

(Continued on page 14)