

Directory of Avacal Branches

Bitter End (Red Deer, AB) (Shire)

Seneschal: *Lady Sybell Natharia Deya*
Melissa Brubaker) #7 Wallace Close, Red
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spiral_orchid@hotmail.com

Bordergate (Cold Lake, AB) (Shire)

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Cold Keep (Prince George, BC) (Shire)

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V2N 1L2 250-561-2830 dnd18@shaw.ca

Harrows Cross (Strathmore & environs)

(Shire) **Seneschal:** *Lord Cerid the Bloody*
(Mark Flebotte) Box 309 Gleichen, AB, T0J
1N0 403-734-3867 maf@telusplanet.net

Loch Dorr (Crawford Bay, BC) (Shire)

Seneschal *HL Thuirgud of the Mysts*
(Joseph Bechal) P.O.Box 133 Crawford Bay,
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Montengarde (Calgary, AB) (Barony)

Castellan: *Master Thorvald Grimsson*
403-282-0541 prescotj@telusplanet.net
Seneschal: *Caitlin ingen ui Dalaig* (Wendy
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montengardesen@telus.net, 76 Big Springs
Hill, Airdrie, T4A 1L3

Myrgan Wood (Saskatoon, SK) (Barony)

Baron and Baroness: *HE Raoul & HE*
Roxanne Delaroché (Duane & Tracey
Walker) 2618 Preston Ave Saskatoon, SK
S7J 2G5 306-651-2599
dandt.walker@sasktel.net

Seneschal: *HL, Sgt, Sq, Gerhard Thorwulfsson*
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Saskatoon SK. S7L 1Y9 306-653-1066
midgardarts@yahoo.com

Rhuddglvn (Medicine Hat, AB) (Incipient

Shire) **Seneschal:** *HL Emeric of Pevensey*
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Sigelhundas (Regina, SK) (Shire) **Seneschal:**

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Valley Wold (Moose Jaw, SK) (Shire)

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S6H 3R1 306-694-1748
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Vatnsdalr (Edmonton, AB) (Shire)

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3E9 780-463-4445
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Vinjar (Grand Prairie & environs) (Shire)

Seneschal: *Katla* (Jennifer Lizotte) Box 144
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Lizott_J@canada.com

Windwvrm (Lethbridge, AB) (Shire)

Seneschal: *Lady Danaathe Balmy* (Rosanne
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(403)758-6119

Other Avacal Contacts

Willowmere (Prince Albert, SK)
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(see Seneschal listing)

Brooks, AB: Lady Rhianon (Rita Shimonko)
636 - 11th St. W. Brooks, AB (403)501-5406
houpelande@mail.com



AVACAL
TOGETHER
WE CONQUER

The Avantgarde

Newsletter of The Principality of Avacal
AS XXXIX June 2004

In the Reign of
Their Highnesses Murchad and Morrigan



In this Issue:

A quick look at the works of Jost Amman

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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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(Continued from page 18)

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Avacal Website: <http://www.avacal.antir.sca.org/>

An Tir Website: <http://www.antir.sca.org/>

Avacal Circus (Mailing List) - <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Avacal/>

Photos and Message Board: <http://www.avacal.ca/>

Principality Royalty, Champions and Officers

(no calls after 9pm please)

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(Scott Zeller) 11221 80th Ave NE
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(Continued on page 19)

From The Gryphon Thrones:**Greetings Avacal,**

We write this as We rapidly approach the choosing of Our Heirs. This is an exciting time for Us and Avacal both. Please note that the Coronet tourney shall be a double elimination tourney, no weapon restrictions. Both the combatant and consort are required to have Avantgarde subscriptions.

We have had another wonderful month of visiting various parts of the Principality, the Kingdom and the Known Worlde. Montengarde Beltaine, Cold Keep Champions Event and May Days were marvellous events which showcased the best of Avacal. His Highness attended the incipient shire Wyvern Veld's town demo and Her Highness

travelled to Artemesia to support an incipient shire in their Northern Border and was featured in their local newspaper. It is exciting to see the growth in this, the Great Game called the SCA and We encourage all to travel and share your knowledge with newer players.

We were encouraged to see so many Avacalians at An Tir's Crown Tourney and are most pleased with Avacal's participation, both on and off the field of honourable combat. We hope to see many more of you throughout the summer as We gear up for War season.

*Murchad & Morrigan
Prince and Princess Avacal*

Musings from the Chronicler:**Greetings Avacal!**

You all will be happy to hear I have very little to say this month. It's been a busy few weeks with many events but I had a grand time. Thank you to everyone who has subscribed or passed on words of encouragement. Chronicling is a hard job often without any guidance so any input is greatly appreciated.

That being said, Avacal has a few new branch Chroniclers. Please show them and any veteran chroniclers

your support by subscribing and offering submissions. In the time it takes to write an email or doodle on a napkin you can have something an editor would love to publish. Research papers, documentation, project designs are all welcome. Think about it - you'll love to see your name in print!

Happy reading!

*Ever in Service
The Lady Manyra.*

Rants & Ramblings from the Regent

Greetings unto all the populace of Avacal,

My harangue this month is a call for potential instructors in the arts & sciences, crafts and guilds, and in any of the SCA combat disciplines including any aspect of war or field tactics. In order for the University of Avacal to properly serve the needs of all Avacalians we are in need of courses and instructors in both historically researched subjects and in SCA adapted re-creational activities. Quad War will soon be here and I would like as broad a cross section of classes represented as is possible. If you are considering teaching, whether it be a single course or several, please contact me as soon as possible. Teaching is both a way to inspire others and to develop one's own comprehension of a subject area. If you have been hesitant to come forward before now or if you are an old hand at instructing, you are equally invited (coaxed, cajoled, and begged) to become part of THUA and share your knowledge with the rest of the populace.

I have posted three University related forms (Adobe Acrobat pdf format) on the Avacal Circus website under the "Files" left bar menu; the folder is labeled "Avacal University – THUA". You may download them and save by clicking on the save icon on your browser taskbar. You will need the free Adobe Acrobat Reader installed on your computer in order to manipulate the files; it's available at this url: <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html> . If you have any problems downloading these or if you are not a YahooGroups member then contact me by phone or email and I will get them out to you by email attachment or carrier pigeon if necessary.

The first two files are an Instructor Profile Form and a Course Description Form. These are just what their names imply and are the beginning of an instructor database which I hope will streamline THUA session preparation in the future. At the bottom of both these forms are detailed instructions for filling out the information and getting it back to me. If on the other hand you are not computer oriented and have no wish to become so (a most rational approach for a medievalist) then write or phone me and I will send you out the printed forms. Please feel free to contact me evenings (and most days) at 250-225-3367 if you have any questions or suggestions.

The third form which is available in the same ways as above is the Avacal Directory Registration Form. Once again Avacal Directory time is here and I would like to have it available for Quad War. It would be appreciated if you would get the information to me as soon as possible as it takes quite a while to compile and confirm it all. Even if you have had no changes from last year's directory, it is still a big help to have contacts confirmed. The purpose of the

(Continued on page 5)



**Silver Jubilee
October 9, 2004
Myrgan Wood (Saskatoon, SK)**

Gather 'round good gentles of the known world a day of great celebration is soon upon us. On the Ninth day of October in the nine and thirtieth year Annos Societatus being two millennia and four Gregorian, in the Majestic Kingdom of An Tir and in the Principality of Avacal, eastern pride of An Tir, a noble Barony is about to celebrate it's Silver Jubilee. For five and twenty years MYRGAN WOOD has stood, a bastion of royal allegiance serving many great warrior Kings, and now with humble joy the Baron and Baroness: THEIR EXCELLENCIES RAOUL AND ROXANNE DE LA ROCHE AND THE BARONY OF MYRGAN WOOD, call on all in the Kingdom of An Tir and beyond to journey forth and join in the festivities as Myrgan Wood celebrates this great occasion.

The day's events shall include: Poetry (25 words OR 25 lines OR 25 stanzas) about Myrgan Wood; Calligraphy and/or Illumination of the word or number 25 or name Myrgan Wood or above mentioned poetry; Costuming in any period era/culture utilizing any or all three Baronial colours (white/silver, red & green); Heavy Armoured Combat (Baronial Champion, Day's Victor/ix and Lottery); Light Armour Combat (Baronial Champion, Day's Victor/ix and Lottery); Rapier Combat (Day's Victor/ix and Lottery); Royal, Principality & Baronial Court; dancing; the Troubadours du Bois; a

sumptuous feast; and the Baroness' Brunch.

The festivities will take place at the Brian King Centre in Warman, approximately 13 kilometres north of the City of Saskatoon on Highway 11. No street address available. Postal code S0K 4S0. The Hall will open at 10:00 am. Registration for all tournaments shall commence at 10:30 am, tournaments to follow, the bar opens at six the feast begins at 7:00 pm, court and dancing to follow. Site closes at 1:30 am

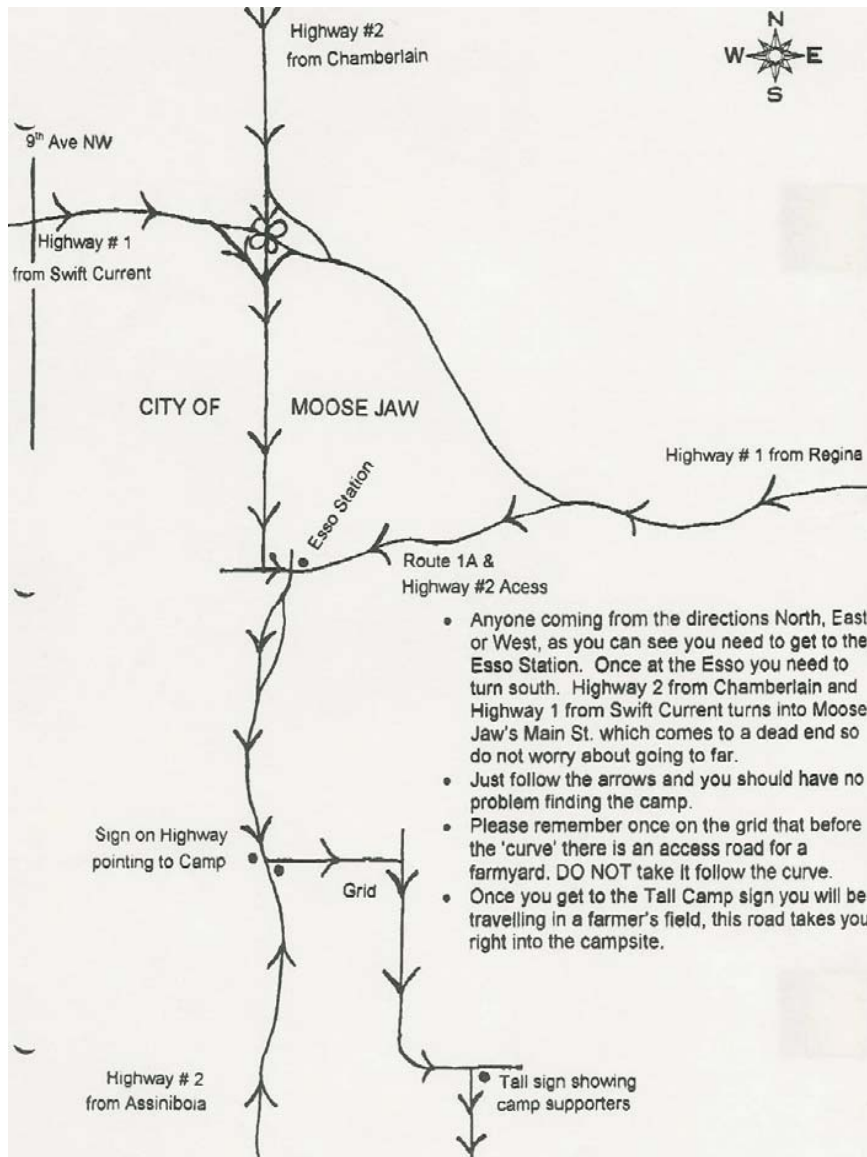
Fees are: Site alone \$8.00 cdn / Site + Feast \$16.00; Children aged 12-16 are ½ price and under 12 years are free. The \$4 NMS will be levied were required and appropriate.

Baroness' Brunch will be on Sunday October 11th, details to follow.

Reservations: Reservations can be booked via: e-mail, phone or mail until October 1st 2004 or when 200 feast tickets are sold. ALL reservations must be confirmed with a cheque or money order made out to SCA-Myrgan Wood within THREE weeks of booking or by October 1st, whichever comes first.

Send Reservations and inquires to the **Autocrat:** Master Heinrich Kannesohn, MKA Kelly Ries / 317-27th Street W Saskatoon SK S7L 0J7, 306.653.70

Map to August Investiture



(Continued from page 4)

member database is not only to aid in publishing the Directory but also to assist the Coronet in future communications with the populace such as polling. If you do not wish to have certain parts or any of your contact information published then check off the DNP box next to the item; additionally, it is the policy of THUA not to publish contact information for minors without parental permission. I will be sending out membership lists to the Avacal Seneschals this week and requesting that they revise these; also I will be bombarding you all on the Circus and personally.

I thank you all for your cooperation and support for Their Highnesses' University and I anticipate with a mix of doom and glee the deluge of forms which will no doubt follow.

In service to Avacal,

Lord Ezekiel Hrafnklo

250-225-3367 regent@avacal.net

"Coniunctim Vinciemus"

Court Reports

The following awards were given out:

1 May 2004 Beltaine Murchad and Morrigan

AoA Onora inghen Mc Thomais
AoA Arianna

8 May 2004 Cold Keep Champion's Tourney Murchad and Morrigan

AoA Brighid iingen Aoidh AoA
Kaliban Cathal MacLaren GG
Vladimir Andreivich Aleksandrov

26 May 2004 May Days Murchad and Morrigan

AoA Eden Waddington
AoA Hiroku
AoA Ulfgar Ulfhednar

Congratulations to all recent award recipients.

For the complete Avacal OP please visit: http://members.shaw.ca/rslansky1/avacal_herald/

Any corrections or updates can be sent to Master Mordecai Avacal OP Deputy at rslansky1@shaw.ca

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 and Principality Seneschal and the current officer if requested. 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*****

NMS and Waiver Deputy: This is a new deputy of the Principality Seneschal's Office and the duties will include communicating with the Kingdom NMS Coordinator and all Avacal branches, keeping up to date with any changes to the Non-member Surcharge policy, overseeing the submissions monies from of qualifying events, and ensuring that waivers are being correctly utilized at events and that they are submitted to Kingdom in a timely fashion. Deputy will report to the Principality Seneschal. Any one interested in this position should send their applications to Their Highnesses with a copy to the Principality Seneschal.

Bardic Deputy: The Bardic Officer position is a relatively new office, and its duties are still to some extent made by the person in the position. Those set down thus far are: 1) Encourage performance of all sorts through out Avacal (this means Dance, Singing, Juggling, Acting, Poetry, or anything else that falls under the heading of performance). 2) Report quarterly (four times a year) to the Avacal A&S Officer (Ceis), with a cc: to the Kingdom Bardic deputy officer. (AnTir Bardic Deputy : Mistress Isolde de la Vielle-a-Roue). Your report should contain info on what is going on in Avacal for performance. 3)Develop the Avacal Bardic Website
Please submit two resumes (mundane and SCA) to both me and Ceis. Please note that the Bardic Deputy is a warranted office, and the officer must hold a current SCA membership, so applicants must be prepared to obtain a membership if they do not already have one.

Chronicler: As Principality Chronicler, you will be responsible for the regular publication of the Principality newsletter *The Avantgarde*. Either directly, in partnership, or through deputies, you will take Curia minutes; publish the updated Laws of Avacal; encourage the publication of the results of research; facilitate communication within the Principality; maintain a record of events and other matters which may be of historical interest; and review the newsletters within the Principality to make sure that they comply with Kingdom policy, don't violate copyright laws, and present a favorable view of the Society. You will also act as a contact between Kingdom and local groups and as a resource for branch chroniclers

Avacal Investiture August 20 - 21 - 22, 2004

Sigelhundas Regina, SK

Their Highnesses, Prince Murchad and Princess Morrigan, invite you to attend them on August 20, 21, and 22, to witness the Investment of the heirs to the thrones of Avacal and the choosing of the new Principality Champions of Sword and Arrow.

Site Fees:

Camping Fee: \$13.00 (for all three days) per person
Day Fee: \$5.00 per day per person
Children (small people 12 yrs old and under): \$3.00 per day
Smalls (very small people 5 yrs old and under): Free
Note: \$4.00 Non-member surcharge is in effect

Reservations can be made at: reservations@sigelhundas.org
Please include the following information with your reservation: home group name, SCA name, mundane name, membership # (if applicable), and if you are needing a space on Merchant's Row.

Please make cheques payable to "QCSCA"

The event will be held at the Boy Scout camp just south of Moose Jaw, SK. (no street address or postal code)

Directions: Take Hwy #2 south through Moose Jaw and from the south edge of the city continue south for 3.1km to the left turn (east). There is a sign on Hwy pointing to camp. Go east for 1.6km until the T junction and turn right (south). Drive 1.3km south to the junction and turn left (east). Continue to the Boy Scout camp sign, turn right (south). Follow the dirt road to the parking area. Remember to keep an eye out for the SCA signs along the way to know you are on the right path.

A Map can be found on the next page and at the website listed below.

Tentative and very flexible schedule (at the whim of Their Highnesses):

Friday 20th
- Site Opens at noon

Saturday 21st
- Pelicans' Council in morning
- Laurels' Council in morning
- Knights' Council in morning
Noon - Investiture of new Prince and Princess of Avacal
1:00 - Lists open for both Championship Tourneys
2:00 - Armour inspection opens for both Tourneys; Lists close
2:30 - Invocation of the Lists for Sword; tourney begins
3:00 - Invocation of the Lists for Archery; tourney begins
7:00 - Evening Court
- Noble Estate in evening

Sunday 22nd
- Principality Curia in morning
- Site closes at 1:00pm

Event information, including a map to the site and an up to date schedule of events, can be found at:
<http://investiture.sigelhundas.org>

Autocrats:

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3242 Athol Street, Regina, SK S4S 1Y9
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and
Lord Sedgha O Faelain (mka: Ryan Summers)
(306)789-6735
email: sedgha@hotmail.com

Quad War X July 2-4, 2004

Shire of Bordergate Marsden.SK

Come one and all, war has once again come to our lands. Join us for this great and ever expanding annual event (sponsored by the Shire of Bordergate) located in the happiest place in the known world. Heavy/light (including some 6' weapons and under) scenarios are available in this 2 day, 4 army war fought in and around a continuously growing castle.

The site opens at noon, July 2 and closes at 4 pm July 5. An archery tournament, rapier tournament and melee, bardic competition and an incredible line up of THUA A&S and combat arts classes compliment the war activities. Round off your event with a visit to our expanding merchants row.

For war scenarios, TRP's class details, site rules, schedules, and pictures check out the web site www.geocities.com/quadwar Quad War! What a way to play!

Site fee: \$10.00 for 16 years of age and up (please add \$4.00 for non-member adults) 15 years of age and

A quick note from the Principality Earl Marshall regarding Youth Combat at Quad War!

This year at Quad War we are going to have a kids tournament complete with prizes for winners in categories like "Had the Most Fun" or "Best Death" or whatever people can think of...So if you are interested in having your kid play, http://www.antir.sca.org/Pubs/boffer_3_2004.pdf has all the rules for kids combat. There will be no loaner armor or anything so if you don't make it yourself, your child won't be participating...I would like to have a 1/2 hour orientation before the kids play to get the parents together and talk about this. - Hrogan (Excerpt from an email sent April 24th, 2004)

under free Please make checks payable to "ACSA Canton of the Lakelands)

Co-Autocrats:

Volchok (Clint Zajic) 4510 Stewart cres. Vermillion AB. T9X 1R3 Ph# 403 899 4600 or volchok@shaw.ca
Owen de Caldekote 66 Patterson cres St. Albert AB. T8N 4T7 Ph# 780 460 0674 or mtech01@telus.net

THUA High Regent: Lord Ezekiel Hrafnklo (Brian Moffatt) ravenclaw@netidea.com

Directions (there is no street address)
From Edmonton, AB: Take HW14 East until 8 KM past the Saskatchewan border. Turn north (left) on the Artland Road and follow the signs. from Saskatoon ,SK. Take HW 16 to North Battleford then HW 40 west 5 KM past Marsden, SK; turn north (right) on the Artland Road and follow the signs.

ASK ACCA

From event etiquette to helpful hints, let St. Acca put your fears to rest and clear the muddles in your brain.

Dear St. Acca,

I'm new to the SCA, and was really excited about my new fun hobby at first. I've noticed, though, that a lot of people who have been in longer than I have spend a lot of time complaining about things, being political and sometimes downright mean. Why do they still play if they don't like it so much? Does anyone still have fun after the newness has worn off?

*Signed,
Already Tarnishing*

Gentle Tarnishing,

It is true that long-time participants in any organization can get jaded, but not everyone in the SCA spends all of their time whining and moaning about things, causing problems or other generally not nice things. Acca recommends that you consider volunteering to help out with things that interest you, and participate in the activities that you find fun. It is there you will find like-minded people who love what they do, and want nothing more than to share that joy with other people. Hopefully, if no one pays attention to them, the complainers will either leave, or realize that their behaviour reflects badly on them and turns others off, and make changes in how they go about things.

Dear St. Acca,

At a recent camping event, the people camping near me were obviously enjoying each other's company in the extreme. I didn't want my children to be forced to listen to this. What should

I have done?

*Signed,
Wishing I Hadn't Dropped The Tent*

Gentle Wishing,

A quiet word with the lucky couple the following morning should be enough to remind them that tent walls are made of thin fabric, and that their activities reached a wider audience than they might have intended. And then make a note of the tent, and strive to camp nowhere near it in the future.

Medieval Word of the Month

From NetSERF Hypertext Medieval Glossary <http://netserf.cua.edu/glossary/home.htm>

Jus Primae Noctis:

The right by which a lord may sleep first night with the bride of a newly married [serf](#), although the [custom](#) maybe avoided by the payment of a [fine](#).

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Have a question for St. Acca? Have a helpful hint that could save good gentles blood, sweat and tears? Please submit them to St. Acca at askacca@hotmail.com. All Ask Acca columns are available for syndication in your local newsletter.

Jost Amman and his Woodblock Prints



Costume print of a Roman noblewoman

One of the 16th Century's most prolific illustrators, Jost Amman was born to an academic household in Zurich in 1539. Rather than choose a career in scholarly pursuits, he

studied printmaking. He spent most of his life in Nuremberg working as a woodcut designer for the publisher, Sigmund Feyerabend. Some of his publishing projects included biblical compositions, historical scenes, portrait engravings, and famous representations of various tradespeople. Today, he is most well known for his depictions of everyday life, capturing the clothing, mannerisms and ways of working of the time.

Over 1500 original works have been attributed to Amman (as one pupil stated "he produced more drawings in four years than could be carted away in a hay-wagon.") To produce such a high volume it is assumed the woodcuts were designed by Amman, then handed over to a bevy of assistances who carved, printed and painted the final illustrations. In the Market woodcut on page 13 of this newsletter, one can see a small M at the bottom centre which may be the initial of one of Amman's primary assistant.

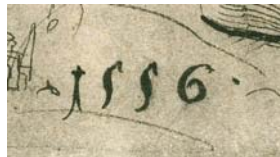
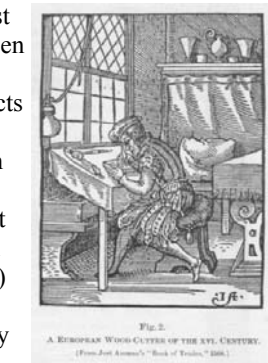
Still, the artist must have been very familiar with all aspects of print making, even featuring the task in a print called "Book of Trades" (r)

Unfortunately despite this success, he lived in constant poverty, dying in debt in 1591.

A Sample of Jost Amman's Illustrated Work:

- Martin Luther's Illustrated German Bible, c1565
- Livy's History of Rome, 1568
- The Frankish Kings, 1567
- Eygentliche Beschreybung aller Stande auf Erden, (representations of crafts and workshops of the past), 1568
- Stam und Wapenbuch hochs und niders Standts (Book of pedigrees and coats-of-arms of high and low degree), 1579
- Von der Gestuterey (On horse breeding), 1584
- Ritterliche Reutterkunst (Knightly Horsemanship), 1584.

Detail:
Artist's
signature
and the
date 1556



Mid Summer Tavern June 26, 2004

Sigelhundas Regina, SK

Once again it's time to fight, drink, and feast in Sigelhundas. We invite all good gentles to join us at our first ever Midsummer Tavern.

Place: Cornwall Alternative School,
40 Dixon Crescent S4N 1V4

Time: 1:00pm - 11:30pm

Cost: \$2 member; \$6 non-member
(Includes \$4 non member surcharge).
Make

Cheques payable to "QCSCA"

Activities:

1:00pm rapier begins.

Armoured combat to follow

A&S classes to be announced. A&S
contest, theme: Solstice

5:30 tavern (bar & food) opens

Light supper will be provided at a small cost

We eagerly await this Midsummer gathering, the beginning of summer is such an invigorating time.

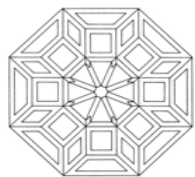
Autocrat:

Murdoch MacLeod
(Creighton Widdis)
83 Magee Cres
Regina Sk S4R 6K4
bagpiperx@yahoo.com
306-543-3906

Limited crash space available, please contact Murdoch as soon as possible if you need somewhere to stay.



Dragon Slayer June 18 – 20, 2004



Welcome young and old, from far and near. Join us in choosing our champions of Montengarde.

Come pitch your encampments and join us for a weekend of tournaments, dancing and merriment. Weekend events: DragonBlinder (archery), DragonSlayer (heavy) and possible Rapier tournament. Ready your drinking vessels, The Dam and Beaver Tavern will be bigger and better this year. We welcome all to make the evening celebrations as festive as possible. Let us celebrate our champions.

Your Autocrats: Tjorvi Fasthaldi & Galen MacGuire (Laura & Cliff Erasmus) 252052 Range Road 50, Calgary, AB T3Z 2K8 (403) 932-0709

The event will be held in the same location as last year. 252052 Range Road 50, Calgary, T3Z 2K8. All welcome to bring enclosed, secure portable fires (but provincial fire bans will be enforced, if need arises). Please bring your own drinking water as there is none on site. Supplies and showers are a 10 minute drive away.

Montengarde Calgary, AB

All merchants are welcome (no additional fees). All camp and merchant spots are first come first served.

Site opens 4pm, Friday, June 18 – closes 5pm, Sunday, June 20.

Site fees: Weekend: Adult \$12
Child (6 – 12 years) \$6
Maximum charge per immediate family \$36
Day Fees: Half of the above cost
The non-member surcharge (+\$4 per adult) will be charged. Proof of membership will be required (bring your card). Make cheques payable to MSCA.

Directions: Take your best route to Transcanada Hwy. into Calgary (16th Ave). Head west out of town. On Transcanada West, pass the Cochrane overpass (Hwy 22) and the Petro Canada service station. For our friends from the west, take Transcanada Hwy Eastward. Take the next overpass (green) turn right to head North (Jumping Pound Road). Note: Stay on the paved road. Turn left at "T" intersection. After going over a few hills, turn right to head North toward Gas Plant and continue on pavement. Will see signs in last farmer's field on the left just before the Plant.

Costuming Tips from Avacal Circus

The following is a collection of sewing tips posted to the Avacal Circus. Thank you to every one who contributed and especially to Zenoiva who gathered and organized it all for publications. Keep 'em coming!

Water and irons

Ironing with steam can be much more effective than ironing dry.

If you put water in your iron to get steam, make sure it's distilled. Tap water (filtered or not) contains minerals that are good for you and bad for your iron. Mineral build-up in the iron can cause it to puke up bits of minerals that are then lovingly transferred to whatever precious bit of fabric you were trying to make look good.

Distilled water is cheap. You'll find it in the automotive section at Canadian Tire (because you use distilled water to dilute radiator fluid).

If you can't be bothered, try spraying the water where you want it with a spray bottle instead.

**Zenovia, Myrgan Wood,
2004-04-19**

More ironing tips

If your steam iron is inclined to "burp" water spots use a press cloth or else make sure the tank is no more than half full.

If the shoe (the hot part) of your iron is dirty (like you melted something polyester, for example—nobody I know would do such a thing, of

course) cool the iron completely, then try washing it with a mild soap and scrubbing gently with a nail brush or a plastic pot scrubber. Please don't use steel wool or a metal pot scrubber as you can damage the surface of the shoe.

If you want to iron wool fabric or anything that is even part wool, turn the garment inside out or use a press cloth (any clean, lint-free piece of cloth of a convenient size; well-washed cotton or linen dish towels are excellent). If you iron the fabric (with or without steam) on the good side with no protection, your fabric will come out shiny.

If you have to press velvet (seam allowances, for example), do not press on the good side, and place a very thick towel between the velvet nap and the ironing board. Don't press down too hard. If your velvet doublet has crease-marks from packing, hang it on the back of the bathroom door and take a long hot shower. You and your doublet will both be the better for it after a long trip.

When ironing linen, if you want the hard, shiny "good restaurant linen" look, dampen the fabric after it comes out of the drier and leave the garment rolled up in a plastic bag for at least 4 hours until the moisture is evenly distributed through the fabric. Iron on

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9)

the hottest setting, using steam. Be careful, the fabric will be hot enough to scald you as you iron it.

If you don't want the shiny look to your linen, iron it with steam, but do not pre-dampen it.

Treat your ironing board to a new pad and cover once in a while, like every 4 or 5 years. They do get grubby and compressed.

If you have to iron a really large piece of fabric (like 5 yards x 60" wide), cover your dining table with a couple of heavy wool blankets folded in half and covered with a cotton sheet (don't use polyester or synthetic blankets as they might melt). A big, solid surface makes this kind of ironing job easier.

Keep an eye out at garage sales, Value Village, etc., for a tailor's ham and a sleeve ham. These are

very firmly stuffed pillows (sort of) that you can use to iron curves or sleeves, without putting in unwanted creases or fold lines. If you are doing serious tailoring, they are practically a necessity. You can also get them at good fabric stores.

If you have to iron pleats, it is well worth the time to baste them in or else pin each group firmly to the ironing board. If you pin them, don't iron over the pins or you may iron in little pin-shaped marks. Use steam or a dampened press-cloth with the iron at a setting one notch higher than normal to get a good edge to your pleats.

Good luck!

**Aldreada of the Lakes,
Montengarde (who in her
mundane life rather likes
ironing—it's so tidy!)
2004-04-21**

News from around the Principality

Fighters make Avacal proud in Squire's Tourney

In addition to a wonderful showing by all Avacal fighters at the Squires tourney held at May Corwn, 2 of our take top prizes. Aiden ap Darren y Cigfrain, squire to Master Grendhal had the most wins and the most fights. He took home the prize for Most Fights. Ogedi, squire to Viscount Sir Albrecht, was then awarded the most wins prize. (He had both the second most wins and the second most fights.)

AVACAL CALENDAR

Calendar Policy: Autocrats MUST submit *Date Reservation* and *Event Information* forms to Kalends (Viscountess Catriona) before an event is officially reserved or put on Calendar. Forms available from your Seneschal or the Kalends officer.

All event copies for the Crier, Avantgarde, and Avacal Webpage has to go through the Calendar Officer. 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. (ie. 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.
- Name (society and modern) and address of the autocrat (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)

19-Jun	Dragonslayer	Montengarde
26-Jun	Mid-Summer Tavern	Sigelhundas
03-Jul	Quad War	Bordergate
10-Jul	Turkish Picnic	Myrgan Wood
16-Jul	An Tir Coronation	Three Mountains
23-Jul	House Challenge	Montengarde
30-Jul	Avacal/Inlands War	Wealdsmere
07-Aug		
14-Aug		
21-Aug	Avacal Investiture	Sigelhundas
28-Aug	Flight or Fancy - A Dandy Event	Vatnsdalr
04-Sep	September Crown	Dragon's Laire
11-Sep	Harvest Feast	Bitter End
18-Sep	Michaelmas Feast and U of A classes	Loch D'orr
25-Sep	Birthday Bash	Traitor's Gate