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Bordergate (Cold Lake AB) (Shire)
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 780-594-1828 grizsho@telusplanet.net

Borealis (Edmonton AB) (Barony)
Baron and Baroness: *TE Vik Vikingsson & Inga the Unfettered (Jim Manners & Michelle Height)*
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 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 (Acting): *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)
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 403-230-2641 twg88@yahoo.ca

Montengarde (Calgary AB) (Barony)
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 403-568-0735 beothuk@shaw.ca
Seneschal: *James the Quixotic* (James Cyr)
 44 Dalton Bay NW, Calgary AB T3A 1H8
 403-243-7084 quixote317@hotmail.com

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Baron and Baroness: *HE Dietrich von Kleeve* (Derrick Schreiber)
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 306-692-3332 jeffmckibben@hotmail.com

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 steadman@erc.sk.ca or 306-682-1984
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Avacal Website:
<http://www.avacal-sca.org/>
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/>



**AVACAL,
 TOGETHER
 WE CONQUER**

The Avantgarde

**Newsletter of The Principality of Avacal
 AS XLII * November 2007
 In the Reign of Their Highnesses
 HH Kvigr Ivarsson and HH Linnet Grimolfsdottir**



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Cover Photo of Assorted Tourney Tiles by Baron Beothuk of the Beothuks

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Vacant

Southwest Avacal Chancellor: Vacant

Montengarde Chancellor: Vacant

Southeast Avacal Chancellor: Vacant

Myrgan Wood Chancellor: Vacant

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(no calls after 9 pm please)

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Todd & Miranda Brothers17807 NE 122nd Ave, Battle Ground, WA 98604 (360) 687-2142
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780-463-4445 michelle.height@ualberta.ca**From The Gryphon Thrones:***Their Highnesses Kvigr and Linnet, Prince and Princess of Avacal send greetings unto the Populace of Avacal.*

It looks like winter is upon us at last. The harvest is in and a cold wind is blowing from the north. Please join Us in Bordergate for November Coronet, where our successors shall be decided.

Don't forget! We are always looking for Principality and Kingdom award recommendations. Anyone and everyone is welcome to write a recommendation for worthy gentles.

We wish you all a fabulous November and we'll see you at Coronet!

Kvigr & Linnet
Prince & Princess of Avacal

Picture by HE Beothuk

Royal Progress

Nov. 23-25	- Coronet Tourney, Bordergate (Kvigr & Linnet)
Dec. 8	- Yule Feast, Borealis (Kvigr & Linnet)
January 11-13	- An Tir Twelfth Night Coronation, Lionsgate (Kvigr)
January 19	- Twelfth Night, Montengarde (Kvigr & Linnet)
(February 14-17	- Estrella, Kingdom of Atenveldt (*tentative, Kvigr & Linnet)
February 22-24	- February Investiture, Borealis (Kvigr & Linnet)

NOVEMBER CORONET TOURNEY RULES

In response to the success at Crown We are issuing the following requirements to the November Coronet tourney, in addition to the previous requirement of both fighter and consort having Avantgarde subscriptions:

- ❖ No conspicuously visible plastic
- ❖ No running shoes
- ❖ Every fighter is to have some written documentation on their persona and what armour and fighting style would be appropriate to them.

At least one part of each fighter's kit should be appropriate to their persona. We hope that everyone takes this as an opportunity to improve their kit and to better Avacal with the further development of your persona.

Kvigr & Linnet—Prince & Princess of Avacal

COURT REPORT

Updates Coming Soon!

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

Recommendation forms!

http://www.avacal.antir.sca.org/files/avacal_award_rec.pdf

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

Seneschal's Message

Greetings Avacal!

November Coronet is almost here! I, for one, am very excited to head up to Bordergate and witness the tournament that will choose the new heirs to the Avacal Throne. As I've mentioned in past newsletters, curia will be held on the following Sunday. Everyone is welcome but if you have an idea or concern please feel free to bring it to my attention.

I want to thank everyone who reported this quarter. It really helps the principality officers when the branches report on time and with such great information. The principality officers, in turn, do a wonderful job at passing on your issues and success stories to Kingdom. That communication is so important for our groups and I hope it continues.

Cheers!—Manyra



From the Principality Chronicler

Ya Hala,

I apologise for the lateness of this issue—thank you to everyone who expressed patience and understanding. It seems an attack of life happened this week, and as we all know mundane life takes precedence, even though we love the SCA!!

This issue is my first attempt at a 'theme' issue and many thanks go out to everyone who submitted and a special thanks is added for those who included a 'heraldic' flair in their submissions. No matter what aspect of the SCA intrigues you most, heraldry will find its way into your SCA experience in one way or another adding medieval flair, thus the reason for choosing heraldry as a theme this issue—enjoy!!

alaam Alikum — al-Sayidah umm Bishr, principality chronicler

Event Reporters Wanted! Branch Reporters Wanted! Branch Chroniclers Wanted!

For more info e-mail avacal-chronicler@antir.sca.org

Avacal February Investiture February 22 – 24, 2008

Barony of Borealis
Edmonton AB

Hear Ye, Hear Ye, Gentles all!

You are invited by Vik Vikingsson and Inga the Unfettered, Baron and Baroness of Borealis, on behalf of their Highnesses Kvigr and Linnet, to join and bear witness to the investing of our Tanist and Tanista as Prince and Princess of Avacal! Sharpen thy swords and don thyne bucklers to compete to be the new honoured Champion of Rapier. Study thy tomes and create thy works of art to be the most honoured Champion of Arts and Science. All to take place at Avacal Investiture. Come and join the fabulous chefs of Borealis as they create a wonderful English feast! This season's event is to be hosted by the Barony of Borealis at the Thorsby Community Hall in Thorsby, Alberta.

Autocrats:

Hlaford Æðelred Willelmes sunu &
Lord Jean de Chauillac, mka:

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8 Templeson Way N.E.
Calgary AB T1Y 5P7
(780) 455-0927
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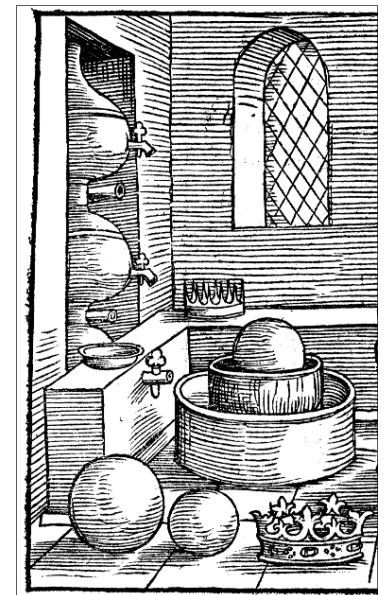
Date: February 22-24, 2008
Site: Thorsby Community Centre
4813 49 Street
Thorsby AB T0C 2P0

Opens Friday at 4:00 pm and
closes Sunday at 1:00pm

Take Hwy 39 from Hwy 2 through
Calmar
Turn left into Thorsby
Drive to first crosswalk lights and
turn left.
Go straight into community centre
parking lot.

Site fees:

Member: \$10.00
Non members add a \$3.00 nms
Children under 12 are free.
Feast: \$10.00, total \$23.00
please make cheques payable to
ASCA: Barony of Borealis



Montengarde 12th Night January 19th 2008

The Barony of Montengarde invites everyone to its Annual 12th Night Festivities.

The day will be filled with amusements, fighting, games, song and possible dancing. This day will decide a new A&S Champion as well as Montengarde's Rapier Champion.

Tayaha the Wanderer will be cooking a feast of 50 dishes that will appeal to most palates.

Tayaha will also have (available for lunch) her well-known Egyptian pie, baklava and Greek salad for \$7.00. We strongly urge you to let Arnolt know if you want to reserve for lunch.

Merchants welcome, Contact sales@thorsgear.org

Please contact the respective Montengarde champion and/or watch the stables for information on tournaments.

Times subject to Change as Royalties and Event Stewards needs.

Main Hall Opens at 9:30
Archery from 10:00 to 12:00 at the Calgary Archery center (4855 47th Avenue SE)
Bardic 11:00 – 12:00 and 16:00 – 17:00

Barony of Montengarde Calgary Alberta

There will be an A&S Championship
Rapier Championship 13:00 to 15:00
Youth Combat 15:15 - 15:45
Heavy Tournament 15:45 to 17:30
Feast begins at approx. 18:30

Where: Bowness Sportsplex,
7904 43 Avenue NW Calgary AB
T3B 4P9

When: January 19th , 2008.
Doors open 9:30
Hall closes 23:00
Enclosed flames only please

Cost: Site \$10/ Adult,
\$5/youth (10-16yrs),
Feast \$10 Adult and Youths
NMS \$3

Mundane Family cap (max 2 adults and their 3 children (18 and under) living at the same address)

\$50.00 + NMS for adults

You can reserve without

prepaying

If you do not prepay by Jan 1st

you will be charged an extra \$4

at the door

Please make checks payable to MSCA, prepaid tickets are required for feast by January 5th 2008.

Co-Event Steward:
Arnolt Brekswerd
mka Sheldon Schnaar
412 Cedarpark Drive SW
Calgary AB T2W 2J7
403 455-1818
montengardetwelfthnight@gmail.com

Jersey Fundraiser

Some time ago His Excellency Vik Vikingsson had an Avacal jersey drive. The Jerseys made were black and had the gryphon's head on the front and individual SCA names on the back. Now, not only am I bringing back a jersey drive but I am working with the Summits, Tir Righ and Antir and making it a fundraiser for each individual principality and the Kingdom. All jerseys will have a primary color of white (Home Jerseys) and will have the same design, but will have a different Logo on the chest and secondary colors that match each branch. There are pictures of each individual jersey here: <http://www.avacal.antir.sca.org/jerseys.htm>. These are rough drafts but the final product won't be too different. The jerseys will cost \$90 with all proceeds of the Kingdom Jersey's going to the Ravens Travel Fund. For principality jerseys, a majority of the proceeds will go to that principality and the rest to The Kingdom Raven Travel Fund. Proceeds from Avacal jerseys will go to our Travel Fund.

Contact Info Needed: Name:
Address:
Phone #:

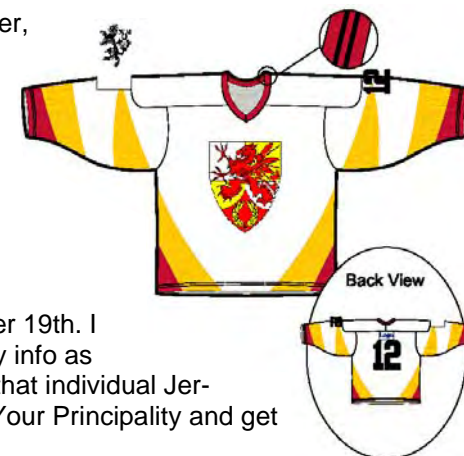
Jersey Info Needed: Jersey Type (Kingdom, Avacal, Summits or Tir Righ):
Jersey #:
Name on back of Jersey:
Size:

(See SH10 league jerseys, http://www.saxonathletic.com/hockey_sizing.php for sizing)

Payment Options: Cheque, Money Order,
Direct Deposit

Make payments out to
Jeremy Bell

Address: Jeremy Bell
118 Boyd Street
Saskatoon SK S7N 2C7
Canada



The deadline to get Jerseys is November 19th. I must receive all individual contact/jersey info as well as the \$90 payment before I order that individual Jersey. So please support your Kingdom, Your Principality and get a cool Jersey all at the same time.

*Note: The deadline is so the Jersey will be done by Kingdom 12th Night. Anyone from Avacal can get their jersey there or at any event after the New Year (possibly by Christmas)

Submitted by — HH Kvigr Ivarsson
Prince of Avacal

ASK ANNYS A STUPID QUESTION

by Annys Bradwardyn

The advice stated in this letter probably does not reflect her real beliefs or the beliefs of people of more import and so if you are offended by said letter feel free to complain to Their Highnesses who I'm sure will have her suitably punished.

Dear Annys,

*That *@#& College of Herald's keep bouncing every *@#& device I send them! Do they hate me, or what?*

*From,
Deviceless in Desperation*

Dear poor dear sweet Deviceless in Desperation,

Well, I'm afraid for all practical purposes they may indeed hate you, or at least hate you for sending the extremely busy College of Herald's devices that they hate. And for using that kind of language! Indeed, I'm tempted to reject your submission myself, and to encourage you to perhaps add a bar of soap to your primary charge group.

Ah, the pain and agony experienced by a Herald when faced with conflicting, badly drawn, painful esthetics. You see, to the Herald a device should be not unlike a work of art with balance, grace, medieval esthetics, and science; purpose and heraldic standards walking together hand and hand into historical redundancy. Most people on the other hand want something pretty and personal hanging around their encampment but unfortunately fighters are not always painters. You must remember, think of how hard and long it took that heavy to become a knight. The Herald's are the heraldic knights if you will and are not there as a birth registry, they are there to continue the tradition of Heraldic science within our illustrious game, to present to the populous and public the best that Blazonry has to offer. To conflict is to go against the very purpose of heraldry. To use a non medieval esthetic is pointless. This is not your school lunch pail you are decorating; this is your battle standard, your very identity, you imbecilic git! Stop trying to argue with people who have dedicated their lives to this noble though somewhat ridiculous activity. This boisterous lack of gratitude and flagrant disregard to civility on your part is most offensive and com-

(Continued on page 7)

Yule Feast December 8th, 2007

Barony of Borealis
Edmonton, AB

Winter has come to cover us in a blanket of snow. Should we sit and wait for the spring, or should we dance and raise wassail. Come and be merry at our Masquerade Yule celebration. There is mystery and enjoyment for all. Masks are required, and a prize will be awarded for the best period mask. Games will be held as well as our traditional best decorated Yule table contest. Enjoy a wonderful feast sure to drive out the chills and fill your bellies til spring.

Come and join Borealis as we celebrate our Yule Feast.

Site Information:

Site opens at 12:00 noon on Saturday, December 8, and closes at 11:00 pm.

Site fee is \$12.00, and the Feast is \$8.00. There is a non-member surcharge of \$4.00.

Please make cheques payable to the ASCA Barony of Borealis. Fees must be received to make reservations in advance. The due date for reservations is Monday, December 3, 2007.

Please note all alcohol must be purchased at the bar.

For more information and to make reservations contact the **autocrat**:
Guillaine de Gualle,
(Kimberly Payne);
tkdpayne@yahoo.ca;
(780)437 – 9881, or
11545 88St Edmonton, AB,
Canada, T5B 3R2.

The site is the Canadian Hungarian Cultural Society Hall located at 12847 68St Edmonton, AB T5C 0E6.

Directions:

Make your best route to Highway 16 into Edmonton. Regardless if you arrive from West or East, turn onto Fort Road North. Then turn East onto 68 Street. Drive until you see the SCA signs near the corner of 129 Avenue and 68 Street. There you'll see the parking and entrance to the hall.



Event: Avacal November Coronet**Date: Nov 23 - 25th, 2007****Shire of Bordergate****Cold Lake, AB**

Please join Their Highnesses, Kvigr and Linnet in the Shire of Bordergate to witness the tournament to select the next heirs to the Avacal Thrones.

Site: **See message below!!**

Autocrat: Wentliana (Wanda Edel)
1-780-594-3629
email vandw@telusplanet.net
mail: Box 711, Cold Lake AB, T9M1P2

Cost: Site fee \$5.00 per person,
under 5 is free
Feast is \$20.00 per adult,
youth is \$10.00, under 12 is free
Non-member site fee is \$4.00 per
person

**Please Note that the Archery Tournament
at November Coronet has been Cancelled**

Please make cheques payable to:
CSCA Canton of the Lakeland

Directions: Take hwy 28 north to Cold Lake, as you enter the Town you will see large red sign just past recycling depot on your right that says Exhibition Park, turn right under the sign and follow the SCA signs. The site opens Friday at 6pm and closes at 12 noon on Sunday. Overnight camping is available. If you are coming from Sask, please take best route to hwy 55. Follow signs to AB and Cold Lake. There will be SCA signs out to follow to the site

Merchants welcome, tables are free, please let me know how many you will need.

Greetings!

The event copy for November coronet has been updated on the Avacal website to include a few changes.

Please note there is a change in venue. The site now the Cherry Grove Community Center (no street address avail, 10km east of Cold Lake on HWY 55.)

Directions: Take best route to Cold Lake, but you turn off onto hwy 55 going east just before you get to Cold Lake. We will have the SCA signs out to point the way. If you are coming from Sask the directions are still the same, you must pass Cherry Grove on hwy 55 to get to Cold Lake. There will be signs out to point the way.

Cheers,
Mistress Manyra,
Seneschale of Avacal



(Continued from page 6)

pletely uncalled for. How do they say it? Ah yes, "suck it up Unbeliever!!!" Oh, wait, were we talking about the Inquisition? No? Oh right, so sorry, yes Heraldry. Yes I agree very irritating isn't it? I mean what could those Laurels know anyway?

Now of course I want what I want when I want it, and may any who stand in my way rue the very idea... unless of course I can't get what I want without their cooperation. Try bribes; a nice bottle of wine with your submission won't get it passed but it may make their objections more clear for you to try again. And READ your refusal letter. If those colors don't work those colors don't work. Try something else. Figure out ALL the things they are objecting to and then change all of them, not just one. If you change anything in a way they did not suggest have it checked for conflict AGAIN BEFORE you resubmit it. Usually what happens is gentlefolk get attached to something they want and a look they like and then refuse to change it in the ways that the Heralds suggest, thereby getting a second refusal. If that toad on a black background looks too much like a fist on a blue background change the background or add something... don't just redraw the toad, it still looks like a ruddy fist, that's why it was rejected. And make sure there are no fists or toads on your new background running around elsewhere. Really, there can be too many sable, tierced in Pale or, crushed toad verts out there.

Now none of this is designed to make you feel better. Squires don't feel good when they miss a shot and then get smacked in the behind because they overextended. Give the Kingdom and Laurel level Heralds the same courtesy as you would any other Peer and stop being rude about it. Really. People these days, whining about the smallest of things. Shouldn't you be worrying about the plague or those new crossbows, or the horrendous levels of sinful activity occurring in your neighbor's house? Look, go spy out sin by peering in heretics' windows for awhile and then come and talk to me about your poor petty woes with your heraldry. I mean, seriously.

Yours in Service,
Annys Bradwardyn

Annys Bradwardyn was suckered into becoming Montengarde's Sable Mino-taur Persuivant, and then Sanguinaris Herald though she knows pretty much nothing about Heraldry except Court so if cornered she will point at passing Bards or Archers and cry "I'm with them!!" Her column "Ask Annys a Stupid Question" showed up in the Montengarde Mouthpiece when she lived there and should be taken with a pinch of salt and a large snort of snuff if one is so inclined.

A Song: Hail to the Herald

Hail to the herald,
of green and crossed horns,
Who blazons things argent,
and rampant, with thorns,
Who reads the devices
like they were a book,
And identifies strangers
with merely a look.

Hail to the herald,
the greatest of fools,
Painting in azure
and sable and gules,
Displaying a field
full of lions and birds,
And spinning them all
into colors and words.

Hail to the herald,
with monstrous voice,
So those standing nearest
don't have any choice,
At dawn's morning light,
they make their words known,
And then dodge the pillows
so angrily thrown.

Hail to the herald,
his nose in a book,
When you need a name,
he knows just where to look,
Be you French,
Welsh, or Scot,
he'll find you the page,
And give you a name
from a long distant age.

Hail to the herald,
the voice of the crown,
She tells all the people
of royal renown,
She carries the word
of their wishes and laws,
And bellows their praises
without any pause,
Hail to the herald,
who yells on the field,
Whose voice causes all
our bold fighters to yield,
Dukes, knights, and barons
all bow to her word,
And midst all the chaos,
she'll always be heard.

Hail to the herald,
who governs the site,
There, all of the gentry
must bow to his might,
He knows all the schedules,
he keeps us on time,
And he'll call on the autocrat
to keep us in line.

Hail to the heralds,
the heart of the Dream,
We keep the world running
with heads full of steam,
We give all we can
so that others can play,
And we wouldn't have it
any other way.

-- Lord Dmitri Skomorochov,
herald (at) sangredelsol (dot) org

Per Dmitri: Everyone, feel free to reprint this, publish it, forward it and share it. I wrote it to be read and enjoyed. My shire has already seen it, but I have no problem with people quoting it or spreading it around. Enjoy. (Oct 2002)

AVACAL CALENDAR

November		
3	Ferret's Feast *	Valley Wold
10	Pirate's Tavern *	Sigelhundas
24	Coronet Tourney *	Bordergate
December		
8	Yule Feast *	Borealis
January		
11-13	An Tir Twelfth Night *	Lions Gate
19	Twelfth Night *	Montengarde
February		
14-17	Estrella *	Atenveldt
23	Investiture *	Borealis

*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.

(Continued from page 23)

Managing such funds as are budgeted and allocated to this office by the Principality and this officer's supervisor, and ensuring their proper disbursement in accordance with the Principality of Avacal and Kingdom of An Tir financial policy. Training and supervising such deputies and scribes as are needed to accomplish these duties.

Rapier Provost (Deadline for applications is Nov 15/07): The responsibilities of the Principality Rapier Marshal are to maintain, publish, and enforce the rules for period rapier combat as laid out by the Kingdom Earl and Rapier Marshals. The Rapier Marshal also maintains, publishes, and enforces standards for safety and equipment for period rapier combat. 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.

Royal Archer (Deadline for applications is Jan 01/08):

The Principality Royal Archer will be responsible for encouraging missile combat and target archery related activities within the Principality. They are to promote these activities where there aren't any combat and target archers and to further the skills of the combat and target archers who are already participating.

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

**Please note the following changes to event dates
on your calendar:**

Dragonslayer
July 11 - 13, 2008 (change from July 25 - 27, 2008)
Barony of Montengarde
Calgary AB

Turkish Picnic
July 25 - 27, 2008 (change from July 11 - 13, 2008)
Barony of Myrgan Wood
Saskatoon, SK

In service—HL Brigit ingen Meic Thire Ruaidh, Avacal Calendar Officer

Announcing the New Avacal Website!

It's been some time in coming but it is finally here! The new home of Avacal on the Internet is:

www.avacal-sca.org

If you go there now you might think that nothing has changed, and you'd be mostly correct. So far besides just moving the site to the new host I've set up new email addresses.

NOTE: If you want to send a message to His Highness Kvigr you no longer have to use the bulky address avacal-prince@antir.sca.org. Now you simply send to prince@avacal-sca.org. The old addresses will continue to work for a while anyway to give people some time to adjust.

Look for more improvements to come!

—HE Raoul, Avacal Webminister

Interesting Links (no, not chainmail...)

Please see above!!

I also suggest visting www.avacal-sca.org/officer/herald.htm for links to lots of heraldic stuff!

Submitted by al-Sayidah umm Bishr Fatimah Amatalah bint Dirir al-Qurtobiyyah

Artisans of Avacal—Your Kingdom Needs You!

Our beloved Kingdom and soon to be King and Queen need your time, talents and generosity. As in years past, our King and Queen will again make the journey to Estrella War this February and show the Knowne World the greatness of An Tir. Traditionally when the Great Court is convened, the Kings and Queens of the Knowne World exchange gifts to show their mutual respect. Year after year An Tir has stood as a shining beacon of generosity and talent as our Kings and Queens have been able to bestow beautiful handcrafted gift bags filled to the brim with lovely handcrafted gifts. It has been remarked by many Royals at Estrella that you will never be as well gifted as you will be by An Tir.

For years now the lion's share of the work in preparing these bags has been borne by our cousins to the south. This year Their Royal Highnesses have asked if Avacal is up to the task of providing such a great service. I told them I had no doubt of it and have agreed to lead this great undertaking - for Avacal is the shining jewel of An Tir's crown and we have great talents that deserve to be seen and known throughout the Knowne World. So this is the task we have before us: we must craft 14 gift bags and provide the lion's share of the lovely handmade gifts to go inside these bags.

To do this I am seeking:

- Gentles who are gifted sewers and embellishers. Artisans interested in crafting broad tablet woven or inkle loomed bands for the straps would also be greatly appreciated. The bags are a satchel style crafted out of wool and the front overlap panel has traditionally been heavily embellished with embroidery and appliqué to suit either the arms of the Kingdom or Crowns who will receive them. The wool for the bags will be provided but the materials for embellishment are the choice of the artisan. Full patterns, basic directions and information as to the Kingdom/Crowns you would be crafting for will be provided. If you think you might like to help but are not sure, contact me! This is a new project for us but I know we can achieve this!

- Artisans willing to craft/donate items to go into these bags - and no you do not have to make 14 of the item to donate :) . I am seeking nice, quality, period-type items made by Avacalians. Some great examples include: handmade yarn, leather pouches with games in them, small pieces of pottery or tiles, handmade needles, glass beads, sewing kits, wrought iron broaches, handcrafted jewellery, bone combs etc..... Things we very much avoid include food, candles, alcohol, and spices/herbs/ scented items. Not only can these make a mess if spilled/ melted when traveling, but many people are sensitive to scent. We have contributed to the content before and Avacal's work has been most enthusiastically received. We can do this easily!

Here's the best part! Everything is carefully labelled with the name of the person who made it, and their branch. There is no better way to gain wordfame for you talents and generosity than by undertaking such a project. Let the Knowne word see what talents you possess!

Anyone even vaguely interested in participating in this endeavour is encouraged to email me at michelle.height @ ualberta.ca (remove spaces).

*In service to Crown and Coronet,
HE Inga the Unfettered*

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.

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.

Regional THUA Chancellors (Deadline for applications is Nov 15/07) :

Coordinate with teachers in your area to arrange classes for local events.

Principality Calendar Officer (deadline for applications Jan 15/08)

The Principality Calendar Officer reports to the Principality Seneschal and is responsible for setting event dates on the Avacal Calendar at February Curia each year, as well as maintaining the rotation for Principality events, and works to ensure events in Avacal do not conflict with Kingdom events. The Calendar Officer receives the forms which are required to hold events in Avacal, and ensures that all event information is published as required. The position requires someone with excellent communication skills, and who is organized, responsible and willing to take the initiative in all matters concerning the Calendar. The Calendar Officer should be able to attend the Curia meetings at all Principality events throughout the Calendar year. 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.

Gules Signet Scribe (Deadline for applications is Nov 15/07): The Gules Signet is the chief scribe for the Principality and is responsible for all scrolls that are produced within the Principality. Gules Signet acts as the principal deputy for assuring the accuracy of scrolls, their timely assignment and completion, and their delivery to the recipients. S/he, or a designate, is also the holder of the Principality Seal. Gules Signet takes care of the following:

Promoting the Scribal Arts within the Principality.

Providing wax seals to the Monarchs for charters and scrolls during each reign.

Managing the production and distribution of Charter Scrolls for the Monarchs in the absence of a designated Charter Deputy or Royal Scribe.

Managing the production and distribution of Original Scrolls to recipients.

Assisting the College of Heralds as necessary to ensure the accurate and timely completion of scroll commissions.

(Continued on page 24)

Combat Archery at Quad War 2008

This letter is geared mainly towards the combat archery community. Gareth Stringbreaker and I will be running the archery scenarios at Quad 2008. To that end we would like to hear what the combat archery community would like to see. The heavy coordinators are working to include combat archers in as many scenarios are possible. Is there anything else the combat community would like? If there is an activity or scenario you want don't hesitate to ask and it will be brought up at the planning meetings and if at all possible included in the schedule. Please let either Gareth or myself know so that we may better serve your interests.

Thank you—Dalton , ice.tiger@shaw.ca

Huzzah for Avacal Archers!

Congratulations to all the Avacal archers who scored in the An Tir Top Ten for the past season!

Under the Open Class:

1 Elias Silver—Montengarde
8 James the Quixotic—Montengarde
9 Morrigan Clubfoot—Montengarde

Under the Longbow Class:

4 Malabar Membro Speccata—Montengarde

Congratulations to Gareth Stringbreaker who came in 11th!

Well shot!

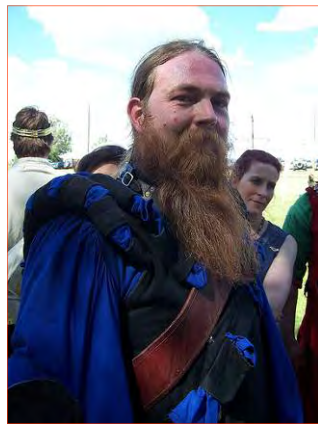
Full details can be seen here:

http://www.zateev.net/ontarget/framesets/top_archery_frameset.html

Aiden is Shaving His Head

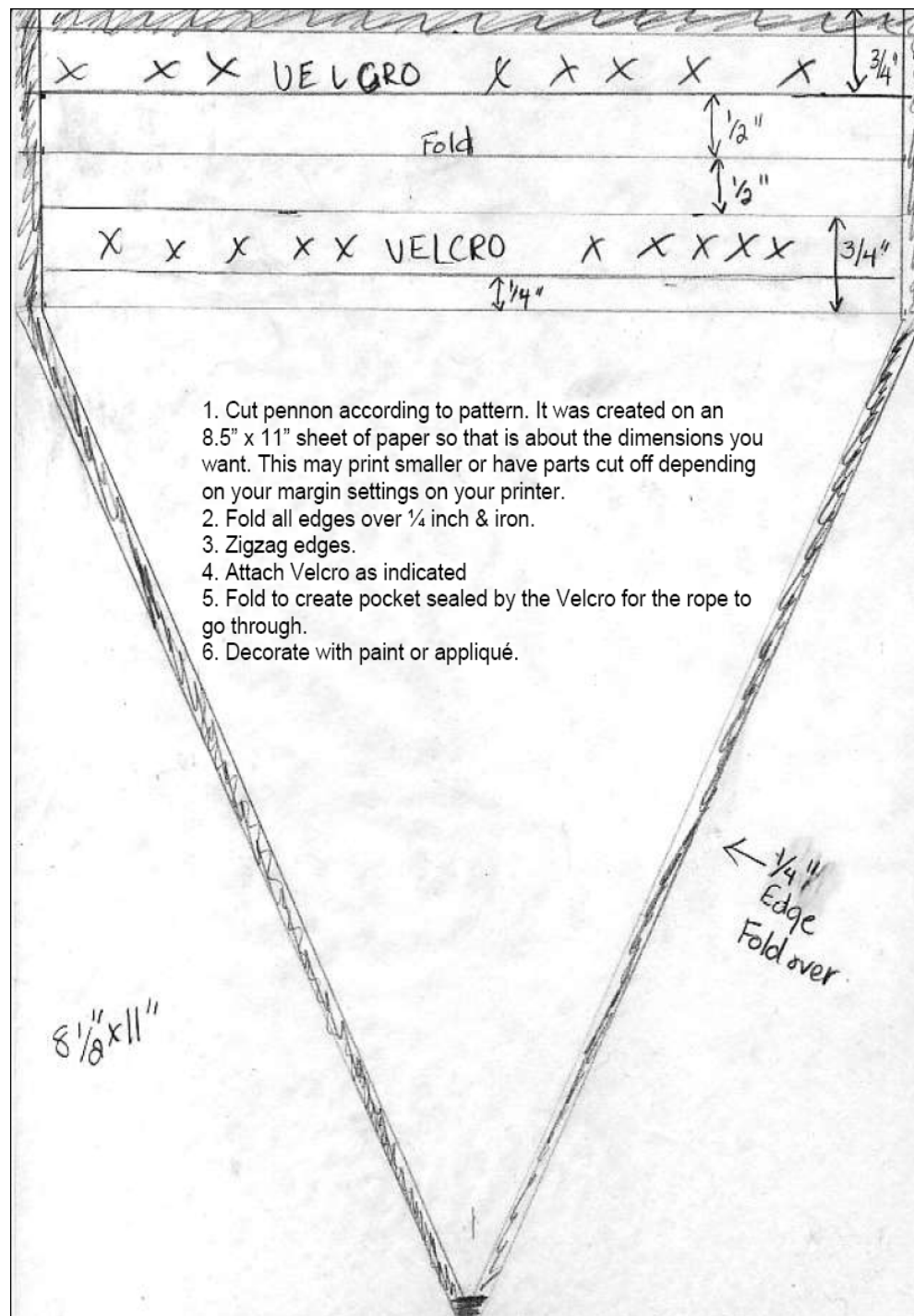
Greetings Avacal,

Many of you know me, for those that don't recognize my name I am Mistress Issabella's husband; the squire with waist length blonde hair, a long red beard and I fight with a two-handed sword. As the subject line suggests, on this Nov. 30 I am shaving my head (beard included) as a cancer fundraiser. I will be at November Coronet where I will be collecting contributions. I can take cash as well as cheques made out to The Alberta Cancer Foundation. I am looking forward to seeing you all and I hope as many of you as possible will support me in my fund-raising efforts. Thank you for your time, I now return you to your regularly scheduled life.



YIS Squire Aiden ap Darren y Cigfrain

How To Make a Heraldic Pennant



INTRODUCTION TO EQUESTRIAN ACTIVITIES –BARDING

Greetings to the populace of Avacal.

In honour of the Avangarde's theme of heraldry this month, I have decided to skip ahead and touch on the subject of barding, the most colourful and often the most flavourful part of an equestrian event.

Spectators are the best way to attract new people to an activity. When people see something that interests them, they're more likely to get involved. Hearing about something that happened will often elicit a response of "Equestrian? Cool, I'll have to check that out sometime.", and then it's quickly forgotten. Wouldn't you rather have that person be able to get involved right away? THAT will get them hooked. Participation is the key to the survival of an SCA activity and Avacal's equestrian is no exception. In fact, it is even more so with the activity being in its infancy.

But how to get people out to the field? Due to the nature and space requirements of the activity, tourneys will often be held far from the beaten path, or even off site. How to get the people to make that trek out to see you? Horses and riders performing routines in competition is interesting for horse enthusiasts and first timers, but you likely won't get more than that for spectators.

The answer is words like; Fun, Schtick and Flash. Fun and schtick are the primary responsibility of the event planners and individuals can add to it with their own performance, attitude and flourishes. The one we are going to look at today is flash.

People are drawn to colour and shine. When that colour and shine is also period now that's impressive. Have you ever been stopped short by a beaded Elizabethan gown? How about a velvet circle cloak trimmed in fur or an engraved brass gorget? Well made garb always strikes a chord with viewers.

As an equestrian you have the same chance to impress, but you also have the opportunity to go one step further. Garb your horse as well. Since man and horse first became partners, man has added flash to their mounts, from colourful animal pelts as oversized saddle blankets in ancient Rome and Greece to the flowing cloth and jewels seen in the 16th century and later, to impress wealth, station or just for fun.

Barding can be elaborate or basic. It can be expensive to make, but it need not be. There were many time periods where the barding horses wore was quite simple. Barding can also give you opportunity to touch base with the A&S crowd and get them involved as well.

What is barding? Well simply put it is armour and clothes for horses. If you think of the saddle and bridle as the underwear, barding is the cocktail dress or the three piece suit. Here are some terms describing different types of armour barding;

Champron (*chanfron, chamfrein, shaffron*): Protection for the horse's face. Originally crafted from boiled leather, it was crafted from metal beginning in the twelfth century and often had a decorative rondel with a small spike in the center of the front plate, which originated in ancient Greece, but became common once metal replaced leather. The basic design remained unchanged throughout the middle ages. It extended from ears to muzzle. Flanges covering the eyes and hinged

(Continued on page 13)

BARDIC AT MONTENGARDE 12TH NIGHT

There will be a bardic competition at the upcoming 12th Night in Montengarde. I would *very* much like to encourage anyone who's at all interested to participate, whether or not you've ever done so in the past. To that end, I'd like to point out two major things:

1st - Bardic will be taking place during both archery and heavy fighting (in a different room!) to allow anyone to have a chance. No one should have a conflict the whole time. If you do, we'll talk.

2nd - Bardic is not just about singing songs! I mean, that's my schtick, but it doesn't have to be yours. We will have three categories.

- ❖ Individual performance - vocal or instrumental
- ❖ Individual performance - other (this can include almost any type of performance - dancing, magic, juggling, storytelling, whatever! If you're not sure if it would work, ask and we'll try to make it happen)
- ❖ Group performance - this can be anything from either of the above categories, but with participation from multiple people working together. So a music group, a dramatic or comedic scene, group dance, anything!

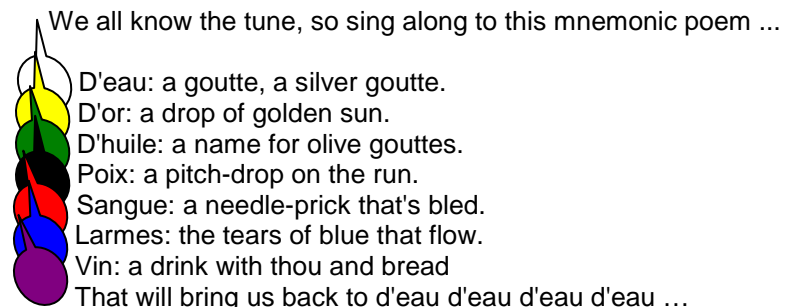
I'd really love to see lots of people for this. If you have even the slightest interest in doing any of the above things, let me know what you need to make it happen and I'll do my best. If you're interested but don't need help, contact me anyway (off-list, preferably). I'd love to have an idea of who might be participating. Finally, if you'd like to help out in ways other than performing, you guessed it...contact me.

Note: there will be *no* documentation required. I'd prefer performances that don't completely bring people out of the game, however, but that's not a requirement.

Thank you, and I look forward to being swamped with responses/questions! I have faith in you all. ;-)

Yours in Service—Lianor de Najera
Bardic Champion, Montengarde, teleute@shaw.ca

The Sangué des gouttes



(from <http://www.sca.org/heraldry/primer/goutes.html>)

Heraldic Police!?



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

(Continued from page 12)

extensions to protect the cheeks were in use mostly for jousting tournaments. It was often highly decorated with elaborate engraving.

Criniere (*manefaire, crinet*): Set of plates to protect the neck. In full barding it consists of two sections of articulated plates (*lamés*) that pivot on rivets. One set covers the upper side of the neck (*mane*) and the other covers the lower side (throat & neck). They are attached to the *peytral* and the *champron*. Light barding used only the upper lames. Three straps held the *criniere* in place around the neck. It is assumed that thin metal (22 gauge) was used for these plates. Chain-mail was often added by wrapping it about the horse's neck for extra protection.

Croupiere (*crupiere bacul, crupper*): Protected the horse's hind quarters. It was made from any combination of leather, chain or plate, often dependant on the strength of the horse and the anticipated tactics, for example; battles requiring quick movement and/or agile maneuvers would require lighter armour.

Flanchard: Used to protect the flank. They were attached to the side of the saddle, then around the front or rear of the horse and back to the saddle again. These appear to have been metal plates riveted to leather. They sometimes had openings designed to allow the rider to use spurs.

Peytral: Protection for the chest. It often extended as far back as the saddle. It was commonly made from the same materials and under the same parameters as the *croupiere*.

Other pieces: Cutting the reins was an effective way to disable the knight's control of his mount, making him less effective in battle. As a result, another common form of barding was protection for the reins, often fabricated as metal plates riveted to the leather rein, or even chainmail linked around them.

In addition to armour horses were often embellished with cloth drapes called *caparisons*. These coverings would sometimes cover the entire horse from nose to tail and extend to the ground. They also often covered on parts of the horse. It is unclear from period illustrations how much metal defensive covering was used in conjunction. These textile covers may also be called *barding*.

There are essentially 4 types of barding or *caparisons* other than armour: Full, Open, Saddle Blanket and Other. Let us visit these types.



Closed Type: This type of *caparison* was most popular from the mid 1200s to the 1400s in western and central Europe, and continued to be used throughout the middle ages. These coverings would cover the chest and hind quarters of the horse and would often be long enough to brush the ground. Added hoods covering head and neck were also used. These drapes, while not very practical for battle, were more popular for tournament



(Continued on page 14)

(Continued from page 13)

and processions. The colours and patterns used commonly reflected the knights' heraldry or the arms and colours of their liege.

These bards require the most fabric and are quite impressive, yet, they are actually rather simple to make. You can apply basic cloak-making principles to good effect. The addition of buckles to attach to existing loops and tabs on your saddle, breast plate, etc. makes them simple to equip as well. Remember to measure the horse and allow extra cloth so the horse can move and measure for height to be sure the animal won't trip on them. Keep in mind the wear and tear these bards will take when selecting fabric.

Concern should also be paid to the well being of the horse. Heavy wool fabrics and hot summer days are not a good combination. Also worth noting is the fact that some horses can also have allergies to certain fabrics. Always test them before buying.

Open Type: This type of bard is typically a cover for the chest and/or hind quarters of the horse, and does not provide complete cover of the particular area. There is much debate as to the practicality of these trappings, but there is no doubt that most paintings show them to be highly decorated.



There are many different designs for open bards. Research into your particular time period and the nationality of your persona will provide guidelines to the type of open bards you may want to use. Paintings are one great source for research, as texts did not often elaborate upon a horse's trappings, such as the photo to the right.

Crafting open bards is more difficult than the closed bards above. The same considerations must be made regarding fabric, lining and visual appeal, however, the proper sizing is far more important. Special care must be taken when measuring your horse for open bards to ensure that the cloth hangs correctly. You also need to be sure that the various straps and such do not rub or pinch your horse or impede his movement.

Don't hold back with this type of covering either. Embroidery, beads, jewels...anything goes!



Saddle Blanket Type: This type describes the barding in itself. Saddle blanket type is the use of elaborate saddle blankets such as the one pictured here. They were crafted to be long on the sides, extend farther back on the horse, or both. Fanciful edging was common as was trim. Unlike closed or open bards, saddle blankets were often designed to match clothing or the colouration of the horse more often than being matched to heraldry. Elaborate blankets were often used in combination with closed or open bards.

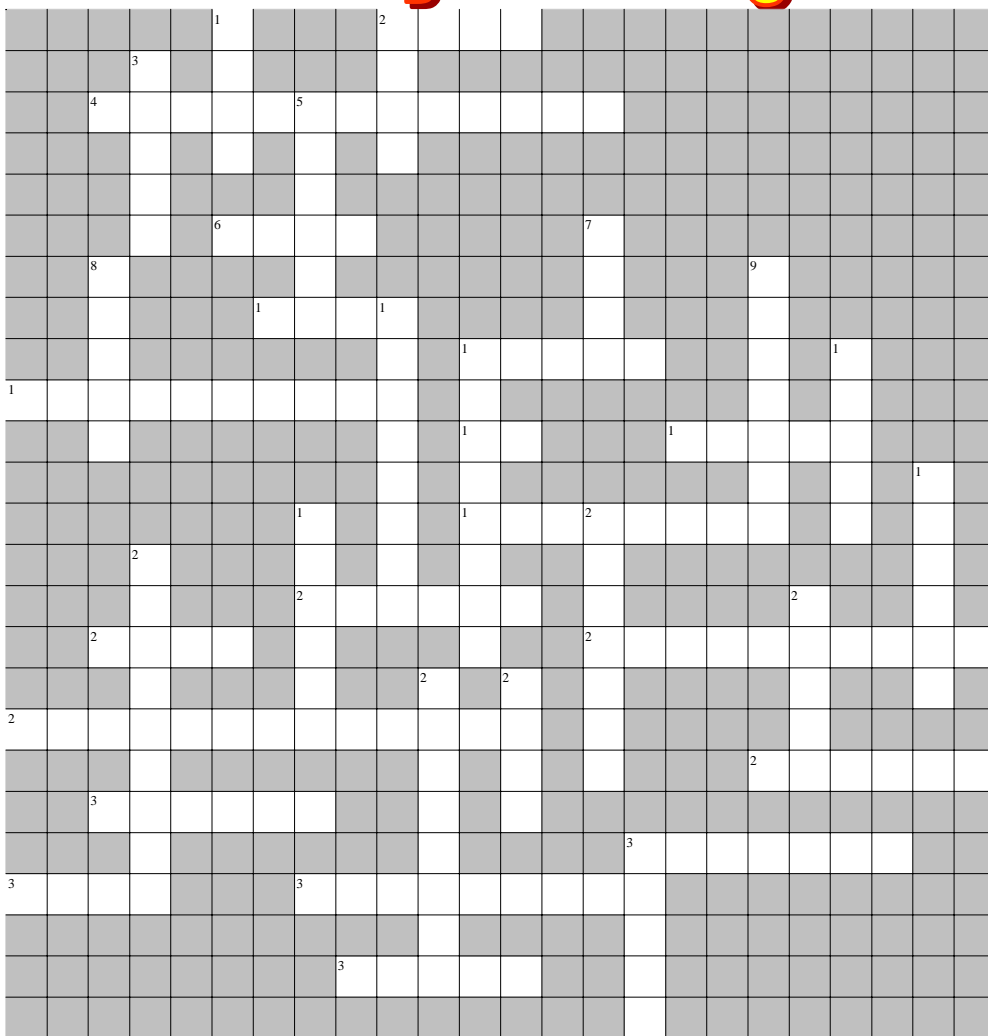
Saddle Blanket Type blankets are by far the easiest form of caparaisons to craft. You can start with the dimensions of your existing saddle blanket or pad

(Continued on page 15)

Heraldry Crossing Clues

Across	Down
2. The color green	1. Vertical Stripes or bars may be described
4. A star that has a hole	2. Blue and white fur 'bells'
6. A sheaf of wheat	3. The color red
10. A horizontal division or charge	5. A division of the field into three roughly equal segments
12. The top of the shield	7. An ordinary that follows the shield shape but is somewhat inset
14. A flower with five petals	8. Orange, or a mixture of orange and red; a rare colour
15. The metal gold, often displayed as yellow	9. The color purple
16. The color blue	11. A cross of any size appears diagonally
19. A mixture of purple and red; a rare color	12. A small cross
22. A star	13. An arrowhead
24. The bottom of the shield	17. A rectangle
25. Wide strips that follow common field partitions in shape	18. A white fur with black 'tails'
28. A black fur with white 'tails'	20. Multiple segments achieved by dividing the field equally through the center like a pizza.
29. The shield-bearer's right	21. Four roughly equal segments
30. The metal silver, often displayed as white	23. The color black
31. An ordinary that follows the shape of the shield in a border	26. The shield-bearer's left
32. When a small charge is repeated in a pattern of staggered rows	27. Diagonal division or charge leading from the upper left to the lower right.
33. A rectangle with rounded corners	31. Diagonal Stripes or bars may be described as
34. Horizontal Stripes or bars may be described	

Heraldry Crossing



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Questions on p. 19

Many answers can be found on-line starting with links on the Avacal Heraldic Officer's Page at www.avacal-sca.org/officer/herald.htm

You could also try the SCA's On-Line Heraldic Primer at <http://www.sca.org/heraldry/primer/>

(Continued from page 14)

and craft a drape to place between it and the saddle. Alternately, you could craft one with a saddle pad built in, or just make an extension to attach to your existing saddle pad. If you are crafting one that will rest directly upon the horse, remember to take care in selecting your fabrics.



Other Barding: The last type is the category of Other.

This category includes all forms of equine embellishment not previously discussed, including no barding at all. For example:

Some hussars (Polish, Hungarian, etc. cavalry) would paint their mounts from their hooves up to their chests.

Middle Eastern cultures included one very large tassel tied to the throat of the horse, it is believed, to denote rank.

It is also common to see horses from these cultures with a collection of cords knotted and tasseled draped over their hind quarters.

Use of metal ornaments, jewels and elaborate embroidery was a common way for horse owners to show off their wealth. If they could afford to use such flamboyance to adorn their horses, they were rich men indeed.

Much of this information was found online. Significant sources are given credit below. I have also included a list of websites that anyone interested in barding should check out. These sites also include bibliographies and additional reading for those who want in depth research.

The essential element to remember is have fun. Equestrian should be enjoyable for both you and your horse. And if you are having fun, others will want to have fun too.

Next Issue: Quad War 2008!

Photos

- [Kunsthistorisches Museum](http://www.kunsthistorischesmuseum.at), Vienna, Austria.
- Miniature from an Address by the town of Prato to Robert of Anjou, Italy, c.1335-1340, British Museum
- Saint George and the Dragon by Freidrich Herlin, c.1460
- Detail from The Journey of the Maji, by Gentile da Fabriano, Uffizi Gallery, Florence
- Polish Winged Hussar detail, Wedding Procession of Constance of Austria and Sigismund III into Cracow. The Stockholm Roll after 1605

Credit to

Wikipedia (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barding>), (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horses_in_the_Middle_Ages),
Madonna Contessa Ilaria Veltri degli Ansari
Viscountess Kassandra Tenebrosa

Websites of Note:

- <http://ilaria.veltri.tripod.com/overviewbards.html>
- <http://ilaria.veltri.tripod.com/makingbards.html>
- www.havenonline.com/moas/northstar/vol1no1/HorseCostume.htm

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