

# AVANTGARDE

KINGDOM OF AVACAL OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER



AS LVII(57) Vol.XI  
March 2023

# CHRONICLER'S DESK



Greetings everyone!

As I have been engaging with members of the SCA community this week, I have been reflecting on the current state of our organization. While I have mixed feelings about my conclusions, there are some important trends that I believe are worth discussing over the next few issues.

Firstly, it is clear to me that we as a group are aging. This means that we are not retaining enough new members to replace those who are aging out. I believe this is due to a number of factors, but one in particular stands out to me: the absence or diminishing of young households that form on the field of battle. In the past, we had vibrant and dynamic households forming regularly, like the Lost Vikings and Odin's Bastards. However, where are the new households? Where are the wild and crazy antics that used to bring so much excitement to youth in the SCA?

I believe that we must not let our organization become too stuffy or rigid. While it's important to maintain our standards and regulations, it's equally important to allow for fun and creativity. We cannot stifle the sense of adventure and excitement that brought many of us into the SCA in the first place. If we fail to bring this sense of fun to the next generation, we risk losing the future of our organization.

As we look to the future of the SCA, it's important that we strive to maintain a healthy balance between structure and fun. By doing so, we will ensure the continued success and growth of our organization for generations to come.



See you next issue friends!  
Hamelin L'Archier

## AVANTGARDE SUBMISSIONS

Do you have an event? A story, news, recipe or a research article that needs to be shared? The Avantgarde has room for your submission! If you would like to submit content, please email [chronicler@avacal.org](mailto:chronicler@avacal.org) and include your SCA name with your submission. Also, linked below are the release forms that may need to accompany it. Deadline for submissions is the 7th of each month.

### SCA MODEL RELEASE FORM:

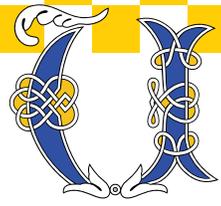
<https://www.sca.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Release-Model.pdf>

### SCA CREATIVE WORK COPYRIGHT ASSIGNMENT/ GRANT OF USE FORM:

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# KINGDOM AND COURT

nto Avacal, Great Kingdom of the North, greetings from your King and Queen,

We have journeyed far to visit our Cousins in the south. In the sun kissed lands of Atenveldt and in the shadow of the Estrella mountains, we did fill our hearts with the magic of stardust. War of the Phoenix was a wonderful event shared with friends that made the journey with us, where old friendships were rekindled and new ones forged. Avacal's word fame was once again shared with the known world.

Excitement will be building as we near our Crown Tournament. When we next leave for War, we will have Our Heirs and the Kingdom will be safeguarded.

In March, We travel with a mighty host to Gulf Wars. We look forward to seeing Avacal once again show our Cousins the talents and joy this Kingdom has to offer.

It is a wonderful thing to be part of this Kingdom. Avacal, We are proud to call you home.

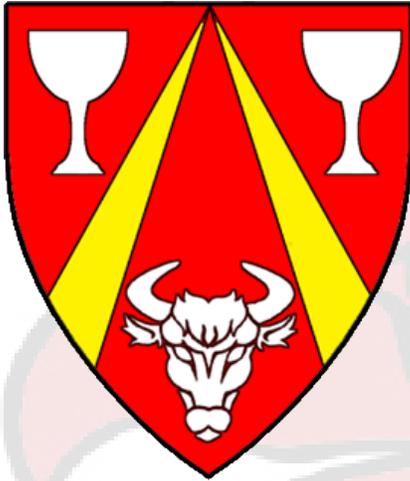
In service to the Dream,

Kvigr and Svava  
King and Queen  
Avacal

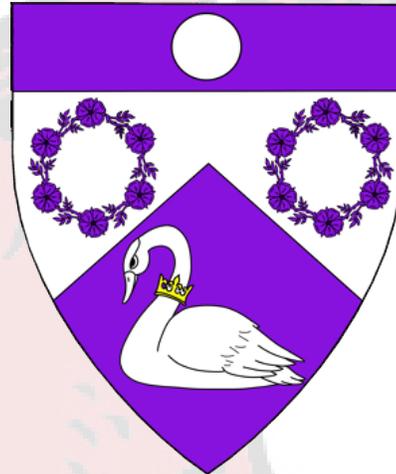


# KINGDOM AND COURT

## ROYALTY, AVACAL



KVIGR IVARSSON  
KING



SVAVA SUANHUITA  
QUEEN

### CHAMPIONS OF AVACAL:

Champion of Sword	Edward Vikingsson
Champion of Arts & Science	Coryn of the Wode
Champion of Arrow	Ayame Houjou
Champion of Bardic	Thisbe Elysande La Blanchette
Champion of Rapier	Robert of Clan Gunn
Champion of Youth	Njord Swordbreaker

### COMING EVENTS

*Avacal Winter Crown, February 17 - 19, 2023, Barony of Myrgan Wood*

*Winter War, March 17-19, 2023, Barony of Borealis*

*Skald the Hall, March 4, Barony of Myrgan Wood*

*Ferret's Feast - April 15, 2023, Shire of Valley Wold*

*Avacal Grand TUA - April 21-23, 2023, Barony of Borealis*

<https://newavacalwebtttwo.avacal.org/calendar/>

# OFFICIAL EVENT POSTINGS

## AVACAL FEBRUARY

### CROWN

When: February 17-19, 2023

Where:

2002 Airport Dr., Saskatoon, SK.,  
S7L 6M4

Site Hours: 9am Friday until 10pm  
Sunday

Price: \$30 (\$25 with membership)  
17 and under free.

Event Stewards: Sakeld the Peace-  
maker (Jeffrey Moore, [zozzer10@  
gmail.com](mailto:zozzer10@gmail.com)) and Signe Smidja  
(Samantha Chimko, [seneshal@  
myrganwood.org](mailto:seneshal@myrganwood.org))

Come see the selection of the new Heirs of Avacal. In the Great barony of Myrgan Wood shall be we lay the contest, Come stay at the inn, enjoy the courtyard and see the clash of blades, and great displays of prowess with sword and spear. Classes will be taught, squires will be struck, and Provost will be fenced. No feast, provided, No outside food or drinks allowed in the event Hall. There are many dining options in and around the event site. Curia will be Sunday morning in the Manitoba Room. For Schedule and full details check out the Kingdom Facebook, Twitter accounts and the website!

## SKALD THE HALL

When: March 4, 2023

Where:

Jospeph's Parish, 535 8th Street  
East, Saskatoon, SK, S7H 0P9

Site Hours: Noon to 11pm

Price: \$25 (\$20 with membership)

Feast Price: \$15

Event Steward: Robert Boniface  
(Matthew Furlong, [Matthew Fur-  
long@hotmail.com](mailto:Matthew.Furlong@hotmail.com))

Feast Steward

Tofa Valadottir (Kat Puttick)

Email: [kat.puttick@gmail.com](mailto:kat.puttick@gmail.com)

Mark your Calendars! Skald the Hall is coming the first weekend in March, details are to come in the next issue, or check the website at:

[https://newavacalwebtttwo.avacal.org/  
calendar/?event=2252](https://newavacalwebtttwo.avacal.org/calendar/?event=2252)

## WINTER WAR

When: March 17-19, 2023

Where:

Wetaskiwin Drill Hall  
4513 - 50 Street, Wetaskiwin, AB,  
T9A 1L2

Site Hours: 7pm Friday until 12  
noon Sunday

Price: \$25 (\$20 with membership)  
17 and under free.

Event Stewards: Countess Sadb  
Jófreysdóttir and Master Faelan  
O'Dalaigh (Vicki Feyrer Foster  
[vfoster63@gmail.com](mailto:vfoster63@gmail.com), Gord Daley  
[faelan.odalaigh@gmail.com](mailto:faelan.odalaigh@gmail.com))

Join Baron Jean & Baroness Guillaîne at their last Winter War!

It will be a day filled with martial combat and other activities!

War points will be awarded in Heavy, Rapi-  
er, Combat Archery, Youth Combat, Arts &  
Sciences and Bardic competitions.

Details on scenarios will be posted on the lists. Merchants welcome!

## FERRET FEAST

When: April 15, 2023

Where:

Church of Our Lady  
566 Vaughan Street, Moose Jaw,  
Saskatchewan, S6H 4G9

Site Hours: 9 am to 11 pm

Price: \$25 (\$20 with membership)

17 and under free.

Event Stewards:

Lucia Magna (Deborah Oddie,  
[deborah\\_oddie@hotmail.com](mailto:deborah_oddie@hotmail.com))

Join the Shire of Valleywold as they come together to celebrate the changing of the seasons and to select their new champions!

## AVACAL GRAND TUA

When: April 21 - 23, 2023

Where:

Red Deer Catholic Regional Schoos  
#39 - Ecole Mother Teresa

79 Old Boomer Rd

Sylvan Lake, AB T4S 1Z4

Site Hours: 5pm Friday until 12  
noon Sunday

Price: \$30 (\$25 with membership)  
17 and under free.

Event Stewards:

Janet McTague ([hl\\_asha@hotmail.  
com](mailto:hl_asha@hotmail.com)) & Tyler Smith ([mtroyalguy@  
gmail.com](mailto:mtroyalguy@gmail.com))

Come One, Come All, to the  
University of Avacal's 2023 Grand  
TUA!

April 21-23, A.S. 57, in the Shire of  
Bitter End. (Red Deer Catholic Re-  
gional Schools #39 - Ecole Mother  
Teresa, 79 Old Boomer Rd, Sylvan  
Lake AB)

There will be chaldrons of amaz-  
ing classes offered by instructors  
from across the Known World.

Think of all the things you could  
learn!

That's right, you can learn stuff!

You can teach stuff! (What kind of  
stuff? Details will follow.) You may  
even revel and carouse. (I mean,  
historically isn't that what Universi-  
ty students were known for?)

Whether you are a newcomer or  
a seasoned veteran, we will have  
something to interest you.

Would you like to teach YOUR  
favorite stuff? Let us know!

# OFFICIAL EVENT POSTINGS

Continued from Page 5...

The University of Avacal (TUA) is the educational arm of the Kingdom of Avacal. We are unique in the known world, in that rather than being under the purview of the Arts and Sciences Office we try instead to involve all the offices in order to include classes for the administration, marshallate, heraldry, and all the other areas and aspects of SCA life that have educational needs.

THE SCA PROHIBITS HARASSMENT AND BULLYING OF ALL INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS.

Participants engaging in this behavior are subject to appropriate sanctions.

If you are subjected to harassment, bullying or retaliation, or if you become aware of anyone being harassed or bullied, contact a seneschal, President of the SCA, or your Kingdom's Board Ombudsman.

*Although the SCA complies with all applicable laws to try to ensure the health and safety of our event participants, we cannot eliminate the risk of exposure to infectious diseases during in-person events. By participating in the in-person events of the SCA, you acknowledge and accept the potential risks. You agree to take any additional steps to protect your own health and safety and those under your control as you believe to be necessary.*



## Avacal Goes to War of the Phoenix

February 1-5 saw the return of war to the shadows of the Estrella mountains near Phoenix, AZ. The Kingdom of Atendveldt played host to contingents from all over the Known World and among them was our own King Kviggr and Queen Svava, supported by His Grace Duke Rorik and Lady Lucinda Knarrarbringa, the indomitable Ladyship Gwen, and Squires Lord Havarr Kvigsson and Lord John Wernarsson. Photograph by: Sigríðr Úlfsdóttir de Lacy used with permission.

## Diversity, Equity and Inclusion 2023

SCA Inc. **reaffirms** the Society's commitment to our own equity journey, the diversity of our members and participants and the opportunities this creates to become a more inclusive organization that champions and demonstrates chivalry and honor.

**Diversity** is about what makes each of us unique and includes our backgrounds, personality, life experiences and beliefs, all the things that make us who we are. It is a combination of our differences both visible and invisible that shape our view of the world, our perspective and our approach.

**Inclusion** occurs when people feel, and are, valued and respected, allowing us to learn from, and connect with, each other. When we feel we are included, we feel we belong.

**Equity** recognises that everyone is different, that varying levels of advantage or disadvantage exist in the societies in which we live, and that different people may require different supports and investments to succeed and realize their potential and opportunities.

**DEI** is any policy or practice designed to make people of various backgrounds feel welcome and ensure they have support to perform to the fullest of their abilities.

### Strategic Objectives

- To promote the value that inclusion brings to the Society and its communities
- To attract and support a diverse membership that lives our values
- To value, engage, and include the rich diversity of our membership in our systems and practices

### Key Principles

- Effective DEI initiatives benefit the Society
- Acknowledgement of the lived experiences of the Society's participants
- Respect that better practice is informed by practitioner expertise
- Transparency through regular communication

### Immediate Actions

- Appoint a Corporate DEI Officer
- Hire an external DEI consultant to work in cooperation with the DEI Officer, key Corporate Officers and the Board in recognition of the scale of this work
- Review the DEI role/office and adjacent offices
- Develop an updated DEI strategy for the Society, supported by a measurable action plan with appropriate resources

### Goals

- A DEI Office that meets the needs of the Society with clearly defined roles and responsibilities, based in current DEI professional practice and reflected in our operational documents
- A strategic plan for further refining and supporting DEI across the Society, backed by investment and role-relevant education
- The Society is positioned to become a more diverse organization that welcomes and values the different strengths its participants offer
- Safer, more inclusive spaces through improved education and behaviors that benefit everyone

# AVACAL CONTACTS

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Svava Suanhuita  
(Candice Lajeunesse)

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(Jeffery Payne)

Baroness: Guillaîne de Gaulle  
(Kimberly Payne)

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[www.montengarde.org](http://www.montengarde.org)

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(David Laney)

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##### **Next Board Meeting:**

Second Quarter April 23, 2023

(VOIP)

Mt. Olive Lutheran Church  
1989 East Calaveras, Milpitas,  
California, 95035.

##### **QUARTERLY BOARD MEETINGS**

All quarterly board meetings  
have a 10:00 am start time un-  
less otherwise stated.

Depending on "safer-in-place"  
regulations in effect, meetings  
may be handled by VoIP rather  
than in person.

# SOCIETY DIRECTORY

## SCA

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## QUARTERLY BOARD MEETINGS

ALL QUARTERLY BOARD MEETINGS HAVE A 10:00 A.M. START TIME UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED. ATTENDEES ARE ASKED TO WEAR MODERN CLOTHING TO BOARD MEETINGS.

### PLEASE NOTE:

For meetings not held in Milpitas, California, the procedure for the scheduling board meetings is to rotate the meetings between the different parts of the Known World. By necessity, this scheduling is done one to two years in advance. Often this is before the Kingdom Calendar is populated. While Corporate Operations reviews the Kingdom Calendar before scheduling a meeting and sends an email to the Kingdom Seneschal long before a meeting is finalized, it is not possible to guarantee that conflicts will always be avoided.

Kingdoms interested in hosting a Board Meeting should contact the Corporate Office for more information.

## First Quarter 2023

Date: January 22, 2023  
Please note: Agenda Deadline is January 1, 2023  
BY VoIP

Second Quarter 2023  
Date: April 23, 2023  
Please note: Agenda Deadline is April 1, 2023  
BY VoIP

Third Quarter 2023  
Date: July 23, 2023  
Please note: Agenda Deadline is July 1, 2023  
Locale /Method TBA

Fourth Quarter 2023  
Date: October 22, 2023  
Please note: Agenda Deadline is October 1, 2023  
Locale/Method TBA

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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# COURT REPORT

## 12th Night - Barony of Montengarde - January 14, 2023

### From the Court of King Kvigir II and Svava II

Refr Bjarnarson	Barony of Montengarde	Baron of Montengarde
Adis Ulfsdottir	Barony of Montengarde	Baroness of Montengarde
Bjar the Blue	Barony of Montengarde	Nobel Society of the Order of the Griffin
Issabelle Bassett	Barony of Montengarde	Award of Arms
Sylve Leslie	Barony of Montengarde	Award of Arms
Jocelyn the Undaunted	Barony of Montengarde	Award of Arms

### From the Court of Baron Bjar the Blue

Branwen Knapp	Shire of Ayresgarde	Order of the Golden Link
Lamberto Cavalli	Barony of Monengarde	Order of the Golden Link
Jocelyn of Montengarde	Barony of Montengarde	Emerald Rose (Champion of Arts & Sciences)
Arjun Singh	Barony of Montengarde	Dragonblade (Champion of Rapier Combat)
Isabelle Bassett	Barony of Montengarde	Order of the Flower of Montengarde
Baron Peter Von Setzinger	Barony of Montengarde	Order of the Sable Dragon
Tonis Van Hoorn	Kingdom of Ealdormere	Baron's Favor
Pol of the Black Fist	Barony of Montengarde	Baron's Favor
Mordecai Salzer	Barony of Montengarde	Baron's Favor
Kraig Von Lengenthal	Barony of Montengarde	Baron's Favor
Li Xia	Barony of Myrgan Wood	Baron's Favor
Thisbe Elysande La Blanchette	Shire of Ayresgarde	Baron's Favor
Sigfuss Thorwulfsson	Barony of Montengarde	Baron's Favor
Kathryn ingean Ui Mhaonaigh	Barony of Montengarde	Baron's Favor
Kiera The Shadowed	Barony of Montengarde	Baron's Favor
Clara inghean Uilleim	Barony of Castel Rouge	Baron's Favor
Jane de la Marche	Shire of Sigelhundas	Baron's Favor
Maryan Hoskins	Shire of Bitter End	Baron's Favor
Medb Polestripper	Shire of Ayresgarde	Baron's Favor
Arwyn of Leicester	Barony of Borealis	Baron's Favor
Ellias Silver	Barony of Montengarde	Baron's Favor
Skane Tyrsson	Barony of Montengarde	Baron's Favor
Riiker Karinasson	Barony of Montengarde	Baron's Favor
Hamelin L'Archier	Barony of Borealis	Baron's Favor
Althea Serafina Renata Di Guin Baptista Tambouri	Barony of Montengarde	Baron's Favor
Vladimir Strážca	Barony of Montengarde	Baron's Favor
Jocelyn the Undaunted	Barony of Montengarde	Baron's Favor

# EVEN MORE COURT REPORT

Peter Von Setzingen

Brangwayn Hesson The Everpresent

Isolfr Glaesirofa Sigfusson

Evya Torny Wyfe

Thorvald Grimsson

Bjard The Azure

Isabelle Bassett

Quon Jien

Muirenn ingen Meic Raith

Eibhlinn of Borealis

Gwenyther of Sigelhundas

Barony of Montengarde

Barony of Montengarde

Barony of Montengarde

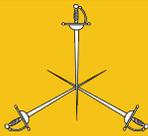
Barony of Borealis

Barony of Montengarde

Barony of Borealis

Shire of Sigelhundas

Baron's Favor



## AVACAL ON VIGIL



**A'ISHA RAYHANA AL-KARIM**

ORDER OF THE LAUREL

STUDENT TO: N/A

ELEVATION: May Coronation

VIGIL ORGANIZING: Gwen

**SEGDAE UA FAELAIN**

ORDER OF THE PELICAN

PROTEGE TO: Roxanne Delaroch

ELEVATION: February Crown

VIGIL ORGANIZING:

Segdae and Roxanne Delaroch



**CORYN OF THE WODE**

ORDER OF THE LAUREL

STUDENT TO: N/A - in fealty

to Baroness Guillaine as

Courtier of Borealis

ELEVATION: February Crown

VIGIL ORGANIZING: Herself  
and Eyoddi Lokadottir

# AVACAL HISTORY - BORDERGATE

## AVACAL HISTORY SERIES: BORDERGATE

The Shire of Bordergate encompasses the modern cities of Lloydminster, and Cold Lake, Alberta, Canada.

**Heraldry:** Argent, a tower sable within a laurel wreath vert, on a chief sable an estoile Or.

**Timeline:**

1984/AS 19-20 5 local SCA members join the Barony of Borealis

1985/AS 20-21 Cold Lake becomes the Canton of the Lakeland. Lloydminster becomes the Canton of Bordergate

1988/AS 22-23 Armour and fight practices grow in Bordergate

1990/AS 24-25 Moved Feast of the Evergreens to a larger hall since it was pulling an attendance of 120 people.

1994/AS 28 Alfheim and Adeline become the Baron and Baroness of Borealis (both residents of the Canton of Bordergate)

2004/AS 38-39 The Barony of Borealis dissolves due to restructuring, cantons within the Baony (including Bordergate and Lakeland) also dissolve and regroup as independent shires. The "Modern" Shire of Bordergate is created in Cold Lake, Alberta.

The Shire level event "Quad War" has grown so large it is taken over as a Principality event.

2007/AS 41-42 SCA members in Lloydminster, AB (former canton of Bordergate) join the current Shore of Bordergate.

2012/AS 47 The Shire of Bordergate is re-granted ownership of Quad War.

**History:** In the early 1980's a college student Guy of Aberdeen came back from Edmonton after attending an SCA event in Borealis. He added his mother Mary of Richmondhill and her partner Alton of Harow House and family friend Roulon de Hatch. The group grew to 5 members which gave Edmonton's Shire Borealis enough members to become a Barony in 1984.

Over the next year it was decided to make Cold Lake an official SCA group as the Cantons of the Lakeland, a Canton under the Barony of Borealis. There was a problem maintaining the required number of memberships resulting in the decision to make the Barony an area Barony consisting of four Cantons; Aquilon in Edmonton, Schwanstein in Camrose, the Canton of the Lakelands and the Canton of Bordergate in Lloydminster. (A group started by Derik the Exile and his friend William the Boisterous.

"The Feast of the Evergreens" came about as our yearly feast and because of their high standards and skill in the kitch-

en Mary and Roulon were awarded with the Baronial Golden Spoons for excellence in feast preparation and cooking.

This was the start of the history of being the group to go to if you wanted the most incredible feasts. As a side note, it was the Canton of Bordergates event called Border War that evolved into the event now known as Quad War.

Cold Lakes Military base was the next influx of new blood to the group bringing experience and ideas from far flung kingdoms and groups. Our first heavy fighter and archer, Daniel of Staford Pelcame to us from Ontario Daniel lived and breathed Medieval recreation. He went on to become one of our Baroness' Yeoman. Liz came to the group from the West Coast with vast amounts of officers positions under her belt. Matsuda, our Oriental expert and expert in most things medieval and historical joined us just after and our heavy numbers were up to 2. There were more members added to the group as we continued to grow.

In 1988, after seeing a demo of heavy fighting that featured Daniel, Matsuda, Derik and William, the group added Alfheim and Adeline to the Roster. Daniel of Staford Pel gave Alfheim armour patterns to use, which he took to Lloydminster and with the help of a shoe repair shop owner and a lot of ales, Alfheim derWundersman became the third heavy fighter in the group. During the armour building in the shoe shop, some customers happened in and recognized what was going on since they were the rest of the heavy fighters of Bordergate. His Grace, Vik Vikingson, (just Vik back then), Basil the Lost, Barry and Derek the Exile. They offered good advice and arranged for an armour making session in Cold Lake for the end of April 1989. By the end of that weekend, the group was up to 6, adding more military members: Al-Kamir or Little Al, Allen of the Lakelands or Big Al and Jonny of the Lakelands.

The group had tripled in numbers and was up to 2 fight practise's a week and one monthly meeting.

The Feast of the Evergreens had grown accordingly. In Feb. of 1990 we moved from the small hall at the Leisure Sport Village (with 23 people) to using all 3 halls with an attendance of over 120. New members were also added. Ceric/ Mark Fiebott, (who later started the group in Gleichen), Valerie Yoricsdotter, Ruth of the Lakelands, Igraineof Hybernia and Marcus Winyatt, (who later became one of Adelines Saergentry. Again, there were many others in the group but there members became instrumental in both officers positions and activity within the group.

The group meetings hosted at members homes grew so successful that a larger space was needed and the group

# AVACAL HISTORY - BORDERGATE

continued to grow. During this time members joined that are still active in the SCA, including Rowyn the Bard, Sue of the Lakelands (Kataryna) and Housecarls to Alfheim, Almaric and Graeme. The awards received soared as well with AOAs, Goutte's, Jamb's, Decorated letters and Golden spoons. In the fall of 1994, Alfheim and Adeline became the Baron and Baroness of Borealis at an event called Matsudas Wake.

Members of the group traveled extensively during this time and the numbers had grown to 50 active members with an army of 12. Through this time the group had been operating under the name of the Lakelands which was later changed to Stonewolf.

Quad War was added to the list of hosted events when its cocreator, Derek the Exile asked to move it from Wainwright to its present location. The Canton folded and was restarted as a Shire. The Shire asked for and was granted the right to use the name Bordergate.

In 1999 Alfheim and Adeline stepped down as Baron and Baroness and were made court Baron and Baroness of AnTir. They became the first peerages of the group and were awarded Pelicans for Service.

Through the next couple of years the group grew in leaps and bounds. With too many members to list by name. By 2004, Quad war had grown so large that it was made into

a Principality level event.

For many years, the groups fight practices have been held on the base and Tomas Alvarez was the officer in charge.

In 2007 the number of permanent building at the Quad site had almost doubled on Merchants row, one of which was O'Malleys Bakehouse. During this time the group in Cold Lake was joined by a welcome addition of members from Lloydminster, which included the household of the Hospitailers. In 2010 Balinor and Oswyn opened an archery range on their acreage and at the peak of activity the Shire boasted 31 archers. Many of whom have Royal Rounds scores. Also in 2010, a group of Shire members attended Winter War and were split in their loyalties. With half our members supporting either side we were guaranteed to be on the winning side either way.

In 2012, The Shire asked for and was granted the ownership of Quad War once again. In 2012 Renee de Carr became one of the esteemed members of the Borealis Sargentry. The Shire has also had members hold Principality level Championships and Baronial Level Championships, and members that have held Principality level positions. Though this doesn't name all our members individually, the Shire has a roster of 74 truly amazing individuals (2014).

## Meet Your Kingdom Officers: Seneschal

By: Countess Sadb Jofreysdottir, OL, OP

In the first of our Meet Your Kingdom Officers series, we talk to our Kingdom Seneschal, Renee Carr.

Renee is not only our Kingdom Seneschal but also a Sergeant of Borealis. She lives in the Shire of Bordergate. Renee also inspires Sir Dmitri Korsak when he fights in tournaments. She also enjoys rapier fighting and is taking up archery.

**Renee, is this your first time in this position?** Yes, it is.

**What made you decide to hold this position?** I enjoy serving the kingdom. This is one more way to serve.

**What, if any, has been the greatest challenge of your current position?** Of course, the most significant challenge has been learning the legal side and public speaking. It is not my strong suit.

**What advice would you give someone thinking about holding this position?**

Talk to past seneschals, and volunteer to be a Shire or Baronial seneschal to start.



**How many hours a week do you work in this position?** It varies, always at least 5.

**Is there anything else about the position that the populace should know before deciding to hold this office?** Not really. Good computer skills, good reading comprehension, and the ability to listen. (I am working on that one!)

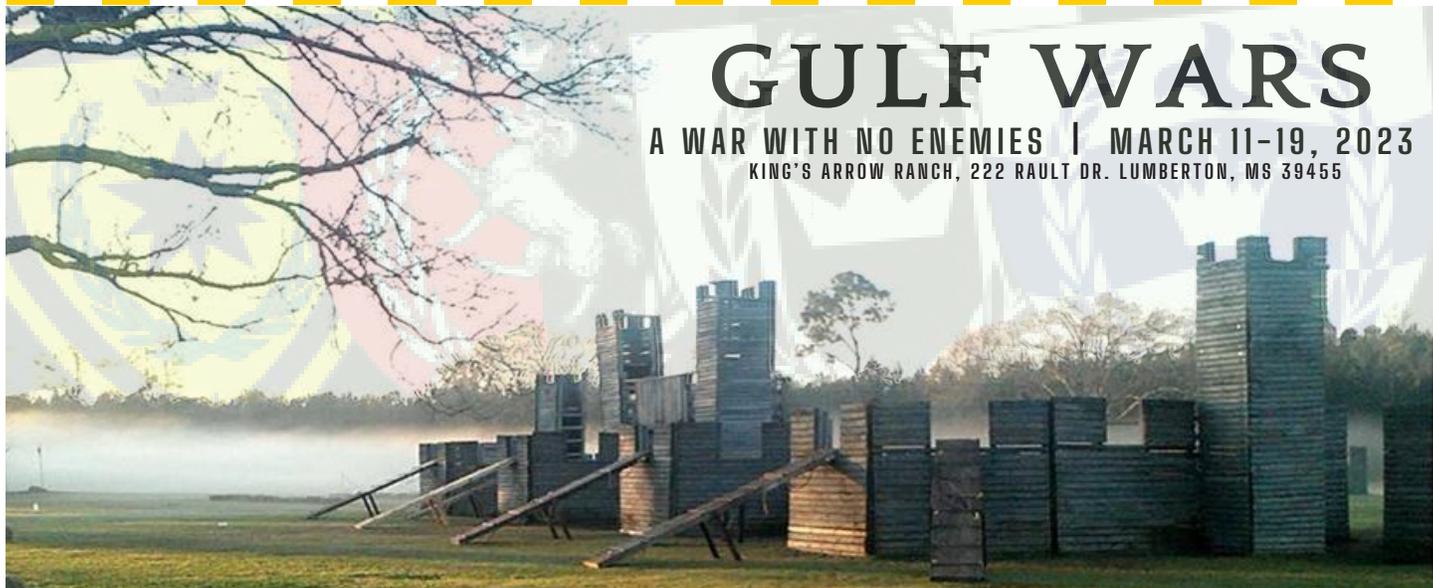
**Is there anything else you would like to speak to about the SCA?** I Love the SCA; I have made many new friends and gained people I consider family. I travelled to other parts of the Kingdom that I may never have visited without being in the SCA. I have learned new skills, well, sorta ! I am still not very skilled at some, but I hope to improve. My life is so much better for joining the SCA, and I have all of you to thank.

I want to thank Renee for answering the questions so that Avacal could get to know her a little better. If you would like more information about being a Seneschal, you can get a hold of your local Seneschal or you can contact Renee at [Seneschal@avacal.org](mailto:Seneschal@avacal.org).

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A WAR WITH NO ENEMIES | MARCH 11-19, 2023  
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Arrival Day	Pre-Register Member	At the Door Member	Children 17 and under	Pre-Register Non-Member	At the Door Non-Member
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CLOTHING & ACCESSORIES

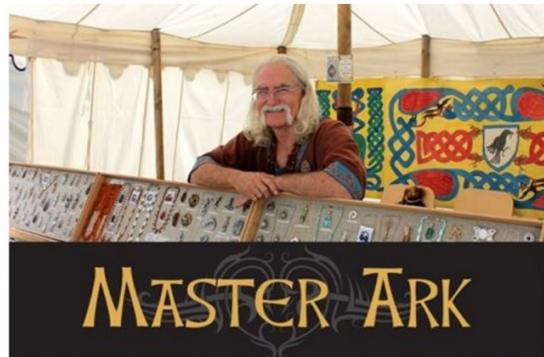
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With the sun shining and summer in full bloom, have you been eager to set up your encampment but can't seem to find all of your tent pegs or S hooks? Has your spouse been saying they'll get around to making you a trivet but keeps going a Viking or chasing the goats in the field? Or are you looking for a new tripod to give your fire that special something? Well look no further because here at Iron Sunset Forge lady Thora Volundsdottir is here to help with all your iron needs. We even make flint strikers to get your fire going. Feel free to contact us at [ironsunsetforge@gmail.com](mailto:ironsunsetforge@gmail.com) (fb:iron sunset forge)

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COVER: Their Majesties Kvigr and Svava at War of the Phoenix in the Kingdom of Atendveldt, February 1-5, 2023. Photograph by and courtesy of Lady Lucinda Knarrarbringa.

*The Avantgarde*

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