

# AVANTGARDE

KINGDOM OF AVACAL'S OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER



AS LVIII(58) Vol. V  
September 2023

# CHRONICLER'S DESK



Dear Friends,

This month has been quite the month. The event schedule is busy, the summer days are long but not unlimited and there is so much demand on all of our times. Enjoy your time with loved ones and cherish the memories!

I thank all of those who submitted an article for this issue and I whole heartedly apologize for it not being up the standards I have set lately. Next issue promises to be heading back to normal as we settle into the beginnings of autumn!

Until next issue!  
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 you 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>

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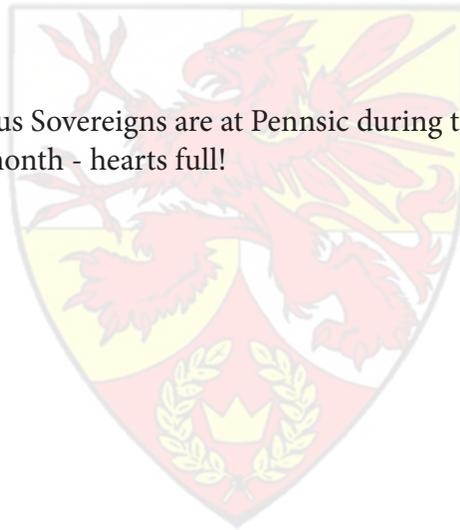
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# KINGDOM AND COURT

Our Illustrious and Glorious Sovereigns are at Pennsic during the time of going to publication and will return next month - hearts full!

-Hamelin

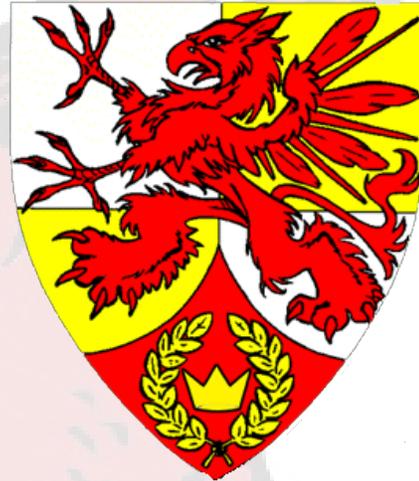


# KINGDOM AND COURT

## ROYALTY, AVACAL



GUNTHER RORIKSON  
KING



EYODDI LOKADOTTIR  
QUEEN

### CHAMPIONS OF AVACAL:

Champion of Sword	Skane Tyrsson
Champion of Arts & Science	Tova Asketill
Champion of Arrow	Adam of the Camp
Champion of Bardic	Aran of Ayresgarde
Champion of Rapier	Robert of Clan Gunn
Champion of Youth	Njord Swordbreaker

### COMING EVENTS

*Valley War - August 18 - August 20, 2023, Shire of Valley Wold*

*Fall Crown - September 1-3, 2023, Bordergate @ Quad Site*

*Vinfest, September 15-17, 2023, Shire of Vinjar*

*Myrgan Wood Anniversary - Myrgan Wood, October 7, 2023*

*Snoweaters - Windwurm, October 27-29, 2023*

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

# OFFICIAL EVENT POSTINGS

## VALLEY WAR

When: August 18-20, 2023

Where: Rankins Group Camping  
Buffalo Pound Provincial Park  
Marquis No. 191, Moosejaw, SK,  
S0H4C0

Site Hours: 1pm Friday to 12pm  
Sunday

Price: \$15 (\$10 with membership)  
17 and under free.

Event Stewards:

Geoffry Lawrence (Jeff McKibben) jeffmckibben@hotmail.com  
& Jacinda of Valley Wold ( Jacinda Tyndall)

Good people of Avacal , come to Valley War to help us decide a territory dispute with our neighbor , ie postal codes.

So we are going Postal this year This will be decided by war points for archery, heavy combat, rapier combat , A&S and bardic. We will be having our shire archery defenders tournament as well.

## FALL CROWN

When: Sept 1-4, 2023

Where: Quad War Site  
52°52'47.7"N 109°54'55.5"W

Site Hours: 1500 hours (3 pm) Friday to 1200 hours (noon) Monday  
Price: \$30 (\$25 with membership)  
17 and under free.

Event Stewards:

Volchok Vikingsson: viking1162@gmail.com  
Rorik Gunnarsson: daryl.mahoney@gov.ab.ca

With Their Baronies in order, borders secure, rebels crushed, foreign wars resolved, populace hale and

happy, the armies well equipped and in good standing Their Majesties turn Their attention to Their single largest duty to the Kingdom; the selection of Heirs.

Please join Their Majesties for bardic evenings and tournament days while the finest warriors advance their consorts for the purpose of offering service to the Kingdom as the new King and Queen. These will be heady days of legend and lore where one reign wanes while a new one waxes. Who will be our new Monarchs? Come and see.

## VINFEST

When: Sept 15-17, 2023

Where: Camp Tamarack, 704063,  
Range Rd 62, Grand Prairie, AB,  
T8W 5B3

Site Hours: 1200 Friday to 1500  
Sunday

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

Event Stewards:

Anna of Vinjar (Erin Cloutier)  
ecloutier91@gmail.com

Please join us for Vinfest to welcome in the Autumn season. Defenderships up for grabs. Come shoot an arrow, swing a sword, cross some rapiers, show off your projects. Enjoy some lovely food and merriment and laughter as we all feast together.

## MYRGAN WOOD ANNIVERSARY

When: October 7, 2023

Where: Convocation Hall, University of Saskatchewan PMB 120, 107 Administration Pl

Site Hours: 9am to 10pm

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

Event Stewards:

Tófa Váladóttir (tofavaladottir@gmail.com)

Skald the Strifemaker (zozzer10@gmail.com)

Come one and all! This October to witness the selection of Myrgan Wood's Armoured and Arts and Science champions!!! Attend classes, and explore the lovely museum of antiquities while celebrating the Barony of Myrgan Wood.

## SNOWEATERS

When: October 27 -29, 2023

Where: 133 3 Street, Shaughnessy,  
AB, T0K 2A0

Site Hours: 5pm Friday to 11am  
Sunday

Price: \$15 (\$10 with membership)  
17 and under free.

Event Stewards:

Freydis Birthesdottir (Sonya Mills, sonya.ann.mills@gmail.com)

- Feast!
  - Heavy defendership
  - Rapier defendership
  - Bardic defendership
  - Arts and Science defendership
- some archery fun



# SCA Bylaw Proposal

The Board of Directors is currently considering the following change to the By-Laws of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc.:

Current Language:

## VI. E. Election and Term

Directors are elected by the unanimous vote of the Board.

Proposed Change:

## VI. E. Election and Term

Directors are elected by unanimous save one vote of the Board.

Current Language:

## VI.F.2. Vacancies and Removal

### 2. Filling Vacancies

All vacancies may be filled by a unanimous vote of the Directors then in office, whether or not their numbers constitute a quorum.

Proposed Change:

## VI.F.2. Vacancies and Removal

All vacancies may be filled by a unanimous save one vote of the Directors then in office, whether or not their numbers constitute a quorum.

Corpora, including the By-Laws, can be found in its entirety can be found here: <https://www.sca.org/resources/document-library/govdocs/>

Please email all commentary to [SCA-Comments@sca.org](mailto:SCA-Comments@sca.org) and use the title "By-Law Proposal" in the subject line.

NOTE: Do not use attachments in your commentary. Attachments will cause your message to be marked as spam, and it will be bounced.

In lieu of email, commentary may be sent by US Mail, Postage-Prepaid, to:

Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc.

RE: By-Law Proposal

P.O. Box 611928

San Jose, CA 95161

Commentary regarding this proposed Corpora change, whether sent by email or US Mail, must be received by the Board no later than November 1, 2023.

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Next Board Meeting:  
Third Quarter July 23, 2023  
Mt. Olive Lutheran Church  
1989 East Calaveras, Milpitas,  
California, 95035.  
QUARTERLY BOARD  
MEETINGS  
All quarterly board meetings  
have a 10:00 am start time unless  
otherwise stated.  
Depending on "safer-in-place"  
regulations in effect, meetings  
may be handled by VoIP rather  
than in person.

# INTER-KINGDOM DIRECTORY

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QUARTERLY BOARD MEET-  
INGS

PLEASE NOTE: The Board of  
Directors is considering the pos-  
sibility of a return to live meetings  
in late 2023. Groups interested in  
hosting a meeting should contact  
the Executive Assistant (ea@sca.  
org) for information on meeting  
requirements and how to submit  
a bid.

MEETING SCHEDULE:

Third Quarter 2023  
Date: July 23, 2023  
Please note: Agenda Deadline is  
July 1, 2023  
BY ZOOM

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

CONFERENCE CALL SCHED-  
ULE: TBA

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# AVACAL KINGDOM BUSINESS

## AVACAL ADVOCACY COUNCIL

Avacal is seeking 2-6 people for the position of Advocate Council. The Avacal Advocacy Council will address situations when a member of the populace needs help understanding their options should they feel they are being mistreated. The role of the Advocacy Council is to support the populace member in addressing their concerns respectfully to support a healthy culture within Avacal. This support can help members to navigate kingdom laws and policies, listen to concerns, offer advice such as SCA policy and procedure options, and assist with conflict resolution.

One member of the Advocacy Council shall be the Avacal DEI officer.

Responsibilities of the Advocacy role:

- Be willing to be approached during events, meetings or outside SCA formal events to assist with managing interpersonal conflict between populace members in an advisory role.

- Actively listen to the concern of the populace member and validate facts by asking clarifying questions.

- Offer feedback, where appropriate, and, if needed, support the design of scripting to address conflict by focusing on facts and the situation's impact.

They may be present with the populace member when they approach the other party in the efforts to resolve the conflict.

Considerations for this position:

- Be considered by others to be approachable, open and willing to engage in dialogue.

- Feels confident to partner with the DEI office, as required.

- Comfortable with conflict, the ability to be objective, listen for facts and assumptions, and offer coaching to address the issue at hand.

- Enhanced interpersonal skills and the ability to manage conflict without creating barriers

- Be non-judgemental and keep the confidence of the people involved

- Receive direction from the Kingdom Seneschal as per the grievance procedure/bullying and harassment policy requirement, etc.

- Dependable access to email and phone.

- Strong ability to build and maintain relationships across all peerages.

- We are skilled at working collaboratively with all leadership across Avacal, including the Crown, Kingdom Seneschal, Baron and Baronesses, all group-level seneschals, etc.

- Attend training to become skilled in Advocacy Training which includes: active listening, effective feedback, and managing conflict.

All officer positions must be paid by members of the SCA.

Please submit your mundane and SCA resume to the Kingdom Seneschal at [seneschal@avacal.org](mailto:seneschal@avacal.org).

The Board of Directors is currently considering the following addition to Corpora and invites commentary from the membership and participants:

### IV.A. Royalty—Selection

4. The Crown may refuse entry into the Royal Lists as either combatant or consort, on an individual basis only, for just cause stated in writing to that individual.

Corpora, including the By-Laws, can be found in its entirety can be found here: <https://www.sca.org/resources/document-library/govdocs/>

Please email all commentary to [SCA-Comments@sca.org](mailto:SCA-Comments@sca.org) and use the title "Royalty Selection" in the subject line.

NOTE: Do not use attachments in your commentary. Attachments will cause your message to be marked as spam, and it will be bounced.

In lieu of email, commentary may be sent by US Mail, Postage-Prepaid, to:

Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. RE: Royalty Selection P.O. Box 611928 San Jose, CA 95161

Commentary regarding this proposed Corpora change, whether sent by email or US Mail, must be received by the Board no later than November 1, 2023.

# COURT REPORT

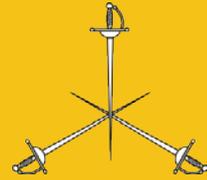
## AVACAL ON VIGIL



AMERY STEWART  
ORDER OF THE LAUREL  
STUDENT TO: Mistress Issabella Kendal  
ELEVATION & VIGIL: Fall Crown  
VIGIL ORGANIZING: Mistress Issabella Kendal



CASTRA D'OR  
ORDER OF DEFENSE  
CADET TO: Don Bjar the Blue, OP  
ELEVATION & VIGIL: Fall Crown  
VIGIL ORGANIZING: Don Bjar the Blue, OP



HAMELIN L'ARCHIER  
ORDER OF THE PELICAN  
PROTEGE TO: Baron Fjallgeirr Ljótsson, OP  
VIGILS: Lions War (Clinton) & Fall Crown  
ELEVATION: Winter Coronation  
VIGIL ORGANIZING: Baron Fjallgeirr Ljótsson, OP



# Featured Article

## "Thank you," "You're doing a good job," and other priceless awards

By Allert Pierson

The topic of longevity in the SCA is one that comes up regularly. Since very shortly after I joined, I've been told that the average SCAdian lasts around 3-5 years before quitting. I've heard a few reasons for this - internal politics, life circumstances, failure to integrate into one group or another, event burnout, etc. - but I think there may be another reason.

In your first few years in the Society, it's common to receive quite a lot of recognition fairly quickly for the things that you do. If you're active, you'll probably get an Award of Arms, maybe a baronial award for service, combat, and/or arts and sciences, and possibly even a kingdom-level award for the same. After that, there's quite a long gap. Everyone knows that you make beautiful clothes or run the best events around, and since you've been recognized for it, there's not much more to say - at least, unless you receive a peerage ten or more years down the road. You start to feel forgotten or underappreciated after a while, which makes other small annoyances seem larger.

Now, I'm not sure everyone is that bothered about how often they receive awards. However, if people leaving the SCA is at least partially caused by feeling underappreciated by the community, it may be possible to fix it. It's good practice in general to express appreciation for the people around you. The simple courtesy of just saying "thank you," "you did a wonderful job," or even "I love how you do this," in a meaningful, sincere way can be even more important than an award recommendation to someone whose energy is flagging.

Here are some of the ways I intend to show more gratitude and appreciation for others in the SCA in the future:

- After eating my meal, I will make a point of thanking at least one member of the feast team for taking dozens of hours out of their busy schedule to cook for the populace.
- When I check in at gate, I will thank whoever is sitting in the cold, wet, or blazing heat (the three seasons of Avacal) for taking the time out to check people in.
- When I notice people moving and setting up tables, thrones, erics, or other heavy items, I will thank them. We don't get to see their bruises, sore muscles, and stubbed toes the next day - but we can all appreciate the ability to sit and watch court or take shelter under the pavilions they put up!
- I will clean up after myself, and if possible, stay late to help the tear-down team. If I am unable to stay to clean up, I will thank the people tearing down for sacrificing their time to do it for the rest of us.
- I will make a note to thank royalty and coronets for their incredibly important service at some point during their reign. It is incredibly emotionally, financially and physically taxing to do these jobs.
- I will thank officers as they step up and step down for their service. Their administrative work in the background makes it possible for us to organize ourselves and play this game. I promise to never say "poor you" or "what a sucker" when someone takes an office. I will not speak sarcastically about officer positions, complain about the fact that nobody has taken an office, or be critical about an officer in a non-constructive fashion.
- I will thank people who regularly host and organize activities, classes, championships, prize competitions, and tournaments. Without them, there is nothing to do.
- I will thank the event stewards every time I attend an event. If I need to communicate with an event steward during the event planning process, I will speak to them with the kindness, gratitude and patience that I would if someone was doing me a personal favor.

I will speak about the research, arts, martial activities, or service which other people enjoy with the greatest respect and enthusiasm. I will not fool myself into thinking that the activities that I like to do in the SCA are more important, essential, or interesting than anyone else's. I will not suggest that what I enjoy should take more precedence than what someone else enjoys.

- If I like what someone is doing, I will say so. If I appreciate what someone has done, I will say so. If someone has inspired me through their actions or words, I will tell them.

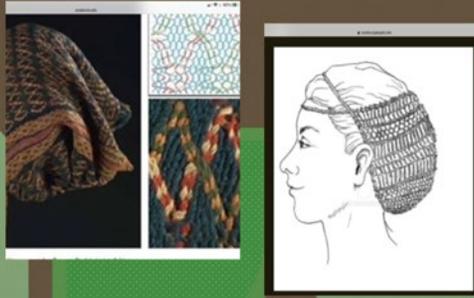
How do you show your appreciation for the people in your shire, barony, or kingdom?

# Featured Article

## Sprang in History - An incredibly Non-Comprehensive Overview of a very old textile.

by Saxa Amelia Africana

- This unique textile shows up in multiple locations, cultures and time periods across history from the Stone age to modern times and almost everywhere in between.



### What is Sprang?

"Plaiting on stretched threads" Peter Collingwood

"Weaving with no weft, only warp" Saxa

Three basic types: Interlinking, Interlacing and Intertwining. Common characteristic is the center join, when looking at depictions or extant finds, look for that center join.



### The Arden Mose Woman

In Ancient Danish Textiles you will find info on the Arden Mose bog body, found by peat cutters working in a bog near Arden in North Jutland. Her hair was found, covered by a wool hood. Dated to 1400BC, she was 20-25 years old

This hood is the foundation for many of the hoods I have made.

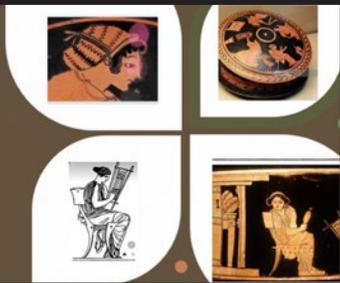


### The Katoen Natie Collection

Coptic Egypt  
Wool hats found on mummified heads, possibly a burial ritual but linen hairnets found underneath.



Greek Hairnets:  
Sprang was a thing in Greece: these hats all vary, different shapes, styles and functions.



Medieval Europe:  
Lengberg Castle Find.  
15<sup>th</sup> Century



My own work,  
Hoods, bags and  
hairnets...Oh My!!!



# HOT CAMPING TIPS

## DIY Salt Ice Cooler Tubes

I don't recall when I learned this, or from whom, but this is definitely worth sharing for our hot summer camping season for both mundane and sca camping events.

### Materials:

1.5" - 3" diameter PVC pipe ( purchase a length of PVC piping to cut down into portions to fit into you cooler. )

PVC end fittings to fit the diameter of your pipe.

PVC glue (using quality glue extends the life of your cooler tube)

### Notes:

A thinner diameter pipe will freeze faster, which also means it will melt quicker; choose what is appropriate for your needs, and cooler size.

The salt water cooler tubes will need at least 24 hours to freeze properly for every linear foot x1.5 inches.

### Salt Water:

To ensure you have the correct ratio of salt and warm water fill a large pitcher (juice jug/ gallon size) or other container with a pouring spout 3/4 full. Start by adding a half cup of salt (please note where you get your water from may require more salt to be added), stir, gently place in fresh egg.

Does it float? Yes - you've got it! No - add salt by half cup measures until egg floats.

Set aside.

### Assemble:

Measure the interior of your cooler; is the wall on a slope or perfectly straight? Use the narrowest dimension for a sloped wall. Use those measurements less 1" when cutting your pipe to length. This is to make room for end caps and for easy in and out of your cooler.

The next measurement is linear along your tube (without ends attached), you will mark the maximum fill line at 85%. For example a tube without end caps 20" will have the maximum fill line marked off at 17". Salt water expands on average 9% at 1.5 inches diameter, so using an 85% overall ratio is good up to and including 3" diameter and air pressure.

Put 1 end cap on each tube opposite the maximum fill line, using PVC glue. Allow to dry completely before the next step.

When one end is completely dry, place tubes in bucket, and add salt water to fill line.

One at a time, carefully add second end cap with PVC glue and place back in bucket to final end cap to dry completely.

Wait 24hrs to ensure your salt water cooler tubes are water tight.

You can now freeze them.

Happy camping with no melted pools of water in your cooler!

Yours in service,

Lucrezia Iseppa Constantina di Arborea

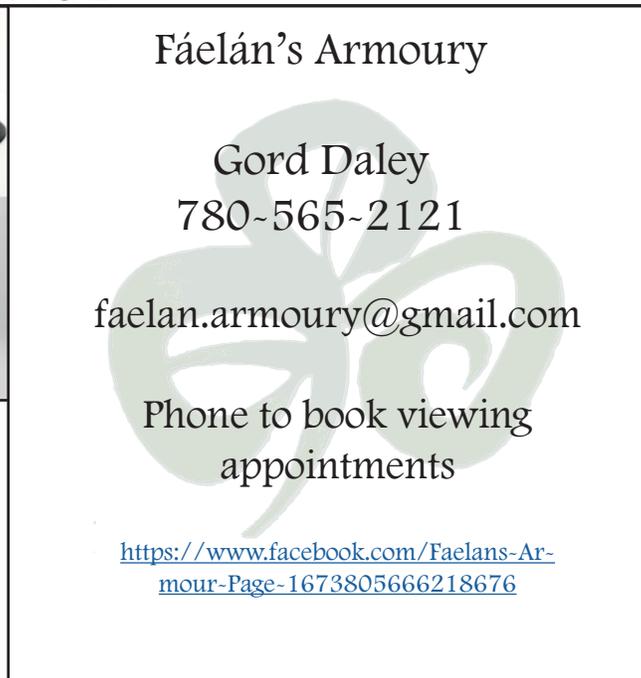
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**BANNERS**  
— OF WAR —

- Kingdom Populace Pennants
- Populace Badge Pins
- Encampment walls

Contact:  
Baron Hamelin LArcher  
hamelin1066@gmail.com

# MERCHANTS OF AVACAL



KINGDOM OF AVACAL ARMY  
CLOTHING & ACCESSORIES

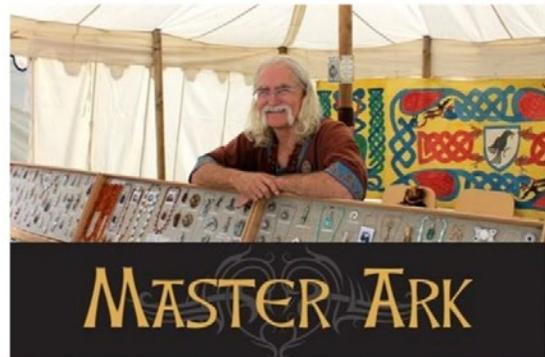
<https://sir-gunther.creator-spring.com>



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: The Skane Abides - Avacal Autumn Althing practice. Photography by Kate Collins