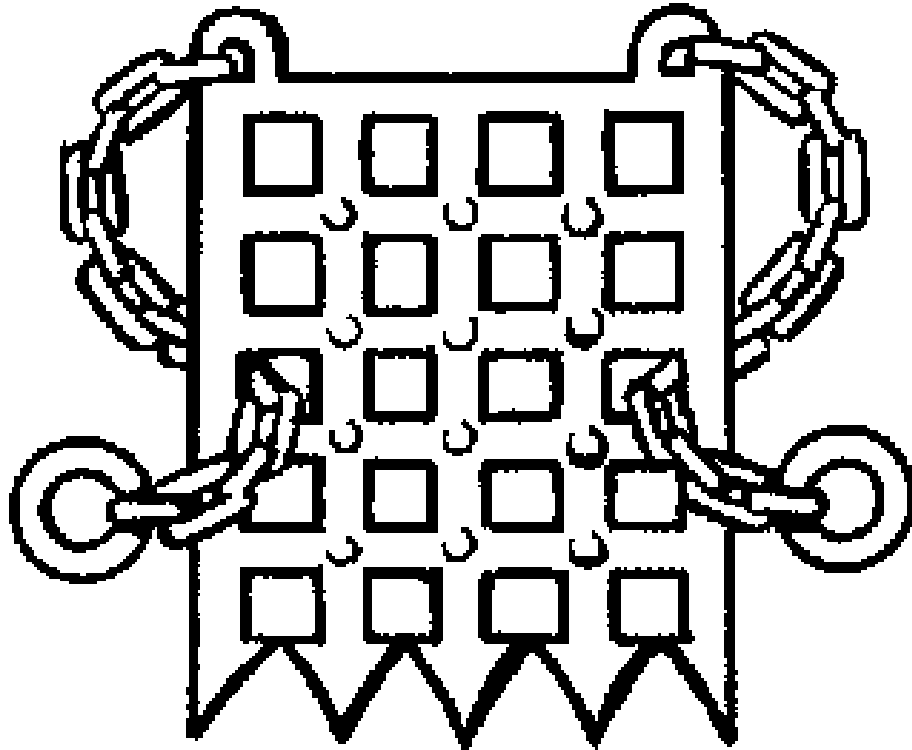


The Portallis



Shire of Cdd Keep
(Prince George, BC)

March 2006

Volume 5 Issue 1

Royalty

Kingdom of An Tir

**Their Royal Majesties of An Tir
Sven Falgr Gunarson and Signy Oxendahl**

Derrick Olson
14724 E Olympic Ave
Spokane WA 99216

Rachael Olson
14724 E Olympic Ave
Spokane WA 99216

(509) 927-8705 (please no calls after 9:00 pm)

king@antir.sca.org

queen@antir.sca.org

Their Royal Majesties maintain one mailbox. Please send only one copy of your message.

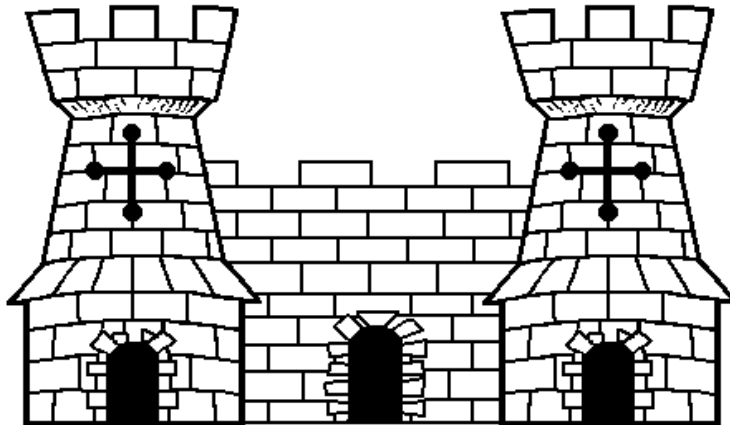
Principality of Avacal

**Their Highnesses of Avacal
Kvigr Ivarsson and Shunzei no Chikakawa**

Jeremy Bell
118 Boyd Street
Saskatoon, SK S7N 2C7
(306) 651-3008
(no calls after 9:00pm please)
avacal-prince@antir.sca.org

Constance Gignac
1002 Duchess Street
Saskatoon, SK S7K 0R4
(306) 664-6495
(no calls after 9:00pm please)
avacal-princess@antir.sca.org

Their Highnesses maintain separate mailboxes.



Officers

Seneschal (Acting)

HL Brigit ingen Meic Thíre Ruaidh
celticwolf@telus.net

Exchequer

Lord Brennen MacDonald
dnd18@shaw.ca

Master of Stables

Lord Markus Pheilsmid
dragon_terror@yahoo.com

Herald

Lord Eggbert the Ready
goldingspg@shaw.ca

Chronicler (Acting)

Lord Brynach ap Rhys
archer77@telus.net

Webminister

Lord Brynach ap Rhys
archer77@telus.net

Champions

Heavy

HL Vladimir Andreivich Aleksandrov

Rapier

Argan Greygrove of Lionsdale

Archery

Lord Brynach ap Rhys

Gatherings

Council Meetings

Third Monday of each month at Lord
Eggbert's house at 7:30pm

Heavy Practice

Thursday at 7pm in the UNBC Lab Building
Rotunda

Rapier Practice

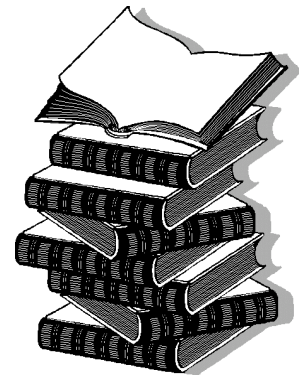
Wednesday at 7pm in the UNBC Lab
Building Rotunda

Archery Practice

None currently, as it's still cold

Socials

First Wednesday of each month at Lord
Eggbert's house



Cold Keep Web Site

http://www.geocities.com/trad_archer77/ColdKeep/ColdKeep.htm

Calendar

| March | | |
|-------|--|---------------|
| 25 | Feast of Roses | Sigelhundas |
| April | | |
| 1 | Winter War | Borealis |
| 14-16 | Silver Arrow | Bitter End |
| 15-16 | Winters End | Ramsgaard |
| 22 | Spring Champions Feast and Tourney | Myrgan Wood |
| 21-23 | Tir Righ Spring Coronet | Cae Mor |
| May | | |
| 5-15 | SCA 40th Year Celebration | Glymm Mere |
| 5-7 | Annual Spring Tea and Pillage Practice | Sigelhundas |
| 6 | Beltaine | Montengarde |
| 13-14 | Cold Keep Champions | Cold Keep |
| 19-21 | May Crown Tournament | Ambergard |
| 26-28 | May Days | Windwurm |
| June | | |
| 2-4 | Avacal Coronet Tournament | Rhuddglyn |
| 10 | Harrows Cross Champions | Harrows Cross |
| 17 | Silverwolf | Borealis |

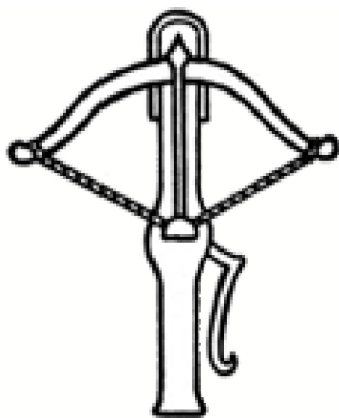
Getting Started in Archery

Lord Markus Pheilsmid

So you've been thinking about taking up archery, but don't know where to get started. Cool! You have taken the first step by thinking about it. The next step is to try it. You don't need to drop a whole bunch of money just to give it a try. Most places will have loaner/rental equipment and there is usually someone more than willing to help you get started. Here in Cold Keep we have a few loaner bows and LOTS of loaner arrows and plenty of people willing to get you started with the bow. **BEFORE YOU START SHOOTING...** please remember that archery equipment was originally designed to kill. We have adapted it to be a sport and hobby, but the equipment can still be dangerous if not used correctly and safely. Follow ALL safety instructions and learn the rules before you pick up the bow.

Now that you've given archery a try, maybe you've decided this is something that you'd like to do more often and would like to get your own equipment. What do you need? Well, obviously you are going to need a bow and some arrows. Another need, in my opinion, is an armguard. You will also need a glove or finger tab to protect the fingers that you draw the bow with. A quiver is not a "need", as such, but it is a good investment to carry and protect your arrows, rather than sticking them in the ground.

Okay, you know what you "need", but with so many different options available for everything, how do you choose? Well... since every archery is different, your archery rep will help you get set up with the correct equipment for you. I'll run through each of the "needs" to give you an idea of what to look for.



BOWS: This will most likely be your biggest purchase and most difficult choice. You may decide to go with an inexpensive fiberglass bow that will run you anywhere from \$60.00 to \$100.00. I personally don't recommend this. While the bows are inexpensive and durable, they are difficult to shoot with and even harder to learn to shoot with. I recommend spending a little more money and getting a bow that looks, shoots and feels better. For about \$145.00 you can get a good quality Take-Down Recurve that will last you for years. If you have money burning a hole in your pocket and really want something high quality, there are a great many bows available. Your rep should have a listing on what they have available. However, be prepared to spend anywhere between \$350.00 and \$1000.00, depending on what you want.

The bow you choose should be the right draw weight for you. Too light is generally not a serious problem, but too heavy is. A bow that you cannot fully draw comfortably at least 3 times in a row is too heavy. You can hurt yourself by pulling muscles, and you endanger those around you because you will start to shake as you draw, sending your shot wild when you release.

ARROWS: Arrows need to be made to fit both your personal draw length and the weight of your bow. An arrow spined, or rated, for a 30lb draw bow can explode coming off of a bow that is 45lb. Again, use your archery rep. That is why they are around.

A dozen wooden arrows can cost you anywhere from \$55.00 to \$100.00 or more, depending on what you want. Since you are just starting, I suggest the cheaper. As a beginner, you will miss the target on occasion and break or lose arrows.

ARMGUARD AND GLOVE/TAB: These are to protect you from the bow string. The glove, (or finger tab if

you like those better), protect the fingers you draw with from getting blisters. Pretty simple really. Find one that fits and you're set. Armguards protect your bow arm. If you've never felt a bow string snap against your bare forearm while you are shooting, you are missing out on intense pain. Believe it or not, that string can even take a chunk of flesh if you're not careful. In short, armguard... GET ONE. Figure on about \$15.00 - \$30.00 for each.

QUIVERS: These make it so you don't have to jam your nice new arrows into the ground in front of you while you shoot. Back and hip quivers are most common. A very basic hip quiver will run you about \$15.00, while a back quiver you can expect to start at about \$125.00.

The last things you will need are a target butt to stop your arrows, (even a box of rags will work in a pinch), and a SAFE place to shoot. Make sure there are no people or animals behind or to the sides of where you are shooting. Always remember, arrows can kill. If you have access to an archery range with qualified instructors, this would be your best bet, although it will most likely cost you to shoot or take lessons.

That's it for now. Shoot safe and have fun.

Changes to Avacal Calendar Policy

HL Brigit ingen Meic Thire Ruadh

At February Curia, some major changes were made to the booking of events on the Avacal Calendar. These changes are in effect for the calendar year of August 1, 2006 to July 31, 2007, and will become the official Calendar Policy. Please read through these changes carefully, and contact me if you have any questions.

- 1) All branches of Avacal must have at least ONE official event per Calendar year to maintain their status.
- 2) Baronies may not exceed a maximum of three official events per Calendar year; shires and cantons may not exceed a maximum of two official events per Calendar year. Incipient shires may have one event set on the Calendar by their sponsoring branch: this event does NOT count as part of the maximum number of events for that branch.
- 3) Branches that do not use their maximum may donate their remaining event(s) to another group.
- 4) Dates will continue to be set on the Calendar at February Curia: branches may set all their official events on the Calendar at that time. The procedures for setting dates on the Calendar at February Curia and throughout the year will remain the same: a Date Reservation Form must be sent to the Principality Calendar Deputy, who will confirm the event date according to availability and how many events the branch already has on the Calendar. The Calendar year will be from August 1 of the current year to July 31 of the following year.
- 5) There shall be no conflict with Crown events: Twelfth Night Coronation, May Crown Tournament, July Coronation, September Crown Tournament, or An Tir - West War.

There shall be no conflict with Kingdom events: Kingdom Bardic Championship, Kingdom A&S Championship, or Crown Councils if these events are held in Avacal.

This is in accordance with the Laws of the Kingdom of An Tir.

6) There shall be no conflict with Principality events: June Coronet Tournament, August Investiture, November Coronet Tournament, or February Investiture. This is in accordance with the Laws of the Principality of Avacal.

All official Avacal events will be "no conflict" within the Principality. This means the 450 km "no conflict" zone has been eliminated.

F or tieth Year Celebration of the SCA

Come ye one and all to a 40th Year Celebration of the Society for Creative Anachronism in An Tir!

This glorious revel will take place in Randle, WA from May 5th thru May 15th, 2006. Diversions include the Equestrian Emprise, falconry, classes, tournaments, woods battles, a very slightly off-site period tavern, Merchants Row, Crafter's Village and more! Amenities include potable water, shower trailers, and CLEAN BIFFIES!

The site boasts gorgeous views of the foothills and surrounding forest, and the Cowlitz River alongside. Sponsored by the Shire of Fire Mountain Keep and Barony of Glymm Mere. Gentles wishing to volunteer, sponsor activities, or learn more about this large-scale event may explore our ever-evolving website:

<http://www.40yearcelebration.com>

Countess Sineidin
Autocrat, 40 Year in An Tir
autocrat@40yearcelebration.com

O f N o t e

Some clip art used is from Lord Kyl's Clipart Web Page: <http://clipart.lordkyl.net/>

Chronicler Comments

Lord Brynach ap Rhys

Thank you for reading the March 2006 issue of The Portcullis. If you are interested in the position of chronicler, please contact me or the seneschal of the shire. Check in the "Shire Officers Needed" section for further details on the duties of the chronicler.

Shire Officers needed

The **Chronicler** is the chief record keeper for the Shire. (Modern equivalent is "Secretary".) The responsibilities of the Chronicler shall include: publishing *The Portcullis*, the official newsletter for the Shire; and keeping the minutes at Council meetings, and for the timely distribution to the Shire populous.

The **Arts and Sciences** Officer is the chief Artistic and Scientific Officer of the Shire. The responsibilities of the Arts and Sciences Officer shall include: encourage the research and development of historically accurate period art forms, technologies, and philosophies; and aid in the selection of the Arts and Sciences Champion by organizing the competition, assisted by the current Champion.

The **Chatelaine** is the chief newcomers welcome officer for the Shire. The responsibilities of the Chatelaine shall include: be responsible for the introduction of new and prospective members; providing education on the conventions of the current middle ages and the Kingdom of An Tir; encourage active participation and period behaviors; and represent the Society accurately and favorably.

The **Master of Blades** is the rapier officer for the Shire. The responsibilities of the Master of Blades shall include: facilitating the education of the populace in rapier combat with the aim of encouraging authentic, safe, fair and chivalric combat to the greatest extent possible; enforcing the rules for period rapier combat; and enforcing standards for safety and equipment for period rapier combat.

The **Captain of the Bow** is the archery officer for the Shire. The responsibilities of the Captain of the Bow shall include: encourage the development of period archery; enforcing the rules for archery and other period missile weapons; and enforcing standards for archery and missile weapon equipment.

The **Chirurgeon** is the chief first aid officer for the Shire. The responsibilities of the Chirurgeon shall include: providing voluntary first aid at Society events including, but not limited to, tournament combat; and notifying attendees of health and safety concerns at Society events.

The **Pied Piper** is the officer in charge of encouraging opportunities for entertainment and education of SCA participants under the age of 18. Duties include: serving as an information officer for safety issues effecting children and teens at events; organizing activities for children at Shire events; educating children on age related topics on aspects of the Society and our historical period of study; and sharing knowledge with interested persons on children's activities.

Disclaimer

This is the March 2006 issue of *The Portcullis*, a publication of the Shire of Cold Keep of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA, Inc.). *The Portcullis* is available from the chronicler at Council meetings or by request, and can be downloaded and printed off the Shire of Cold Keep web site. It is not a corporate publication of SCA, Inc., and does not delineate SCA, Inc. policies. Any opinions expressed are not the opinions of the chronicler.

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