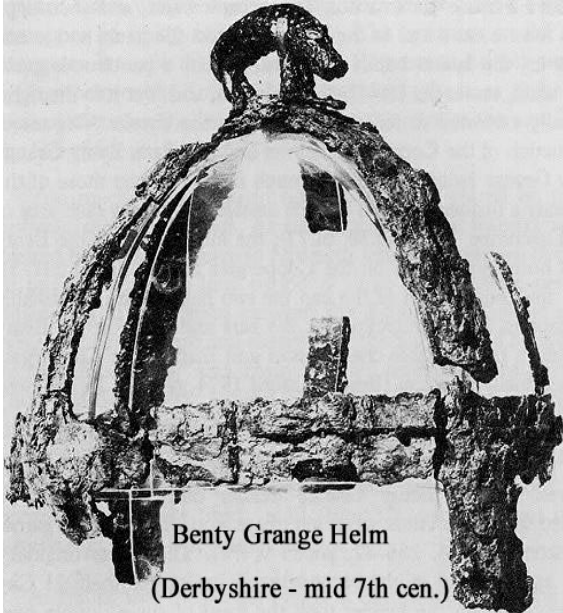


The King's Garb



Benty Grange Helm
(Derbyshire - mid 7th cen.)



-Two Anglo-Saxon artifacts, both depicting ornamented boars.

The Boring... I Mean the Boar-ing Issue

Editorial

In the oh, so wisely put words of my worthy predecessor to this job of deadlines and compilations, let a new reign of literacy terror begin! Muahaha. Alright, I'm done now. I'd just like to take this opportunity to warn you all of upcoming changes... This essentially means I'll be playing around with the format and design of the garb whenever I'm bored and want to make something interesting. Also, although I'll try to do as much random stuff as possible, you'll probably find I'll drift into little ruts, like a glut of Anglo-Saxon themes, or poetry, or stuff like that, being my areas of interest and speciality. Don't let me do this! Be sure to send suggestions as to what you want to see. You don't even have to do any of the work. Just give me a direction and I'll find out a little something for you ☺. I think that about covers it for now. Enjoy this random issue on boars and boar-imagery in early English culture, and don't blame me if it's boaring...

Humbly yours in service Myrg,
ℒ Illyanth Ildanach



No Baronial Messages this month. Unfortunately, I did not reach Their Excellencies in time for a comment.

The Anglo-Saxon Boar

"Above the cheek-guards shone the boar-images, covered with gold, gleaming and tempered. The fierce-hearted boar held guard over the warlike men."

Beowulf

This passage from *Beowulf* is one of many indications of how highly revered the boar was by the pagan Anglo-Saxons. It is necessary to emphasize pagan, because the truly Christian Anglo-Saxons felt no need to hedge their bets, as it were, and trusted wholly in the God of their newfound religion. Though seen as idolatrous, a form of totemism persisted through English culture, and continues to exist even today.

The boar was treated with great respect and honour by the Anglo-Saxons. They revered it for its staunch defense of its territory, for the strength and courage they believed it possessed, and for the challenge it presented. Those who wore the crest of the boar were believed to be the best of the best warriors, proven in battle, strong, smart, and fiercely loyal to their lords. Furthermore, wearing the boar's image was believed to grant the warrior strength and courage beyond mortal means, and protect the wearer of the image from physical harm.

We see evidence of this reverence in a custom that persists even unto this day, at Oxford in England. On the 17th of December of every year, a boar's head on a silver platter is paraded around with great ceremony during a traditional feast with an orange (not an

apple) placed in its mouth. The orange is thought (though no direct evidence exists to support the theory) to represent the sun, with various myths surrounding exactly why the boar is guarding the sun in the first place.

Not just for war and tradition, boars were also representative of nobility for the Anglo-Saxons. A pair of ornate shoulder-guards found at the Sutton Hoo burial site attests to this. Serving no practical purpose despite being modelled on a wholly practical part of a garment, the shoulder-guards are made with inlaid garnets and fine blue glass, with intricate gold designs. To the sides of the joining pieces, two boars to a side are crossed over one another, edged with gold. Thought to have been worn by King Redwald of East Anglia, these items suggest that the belief in the power of the boar was not merely one of the peasantry.

Bibliography

Anglo-Saxon Heathenism:

<http://www.englishheathenism.homestead.com/boar.html>

Benty Grange

http://penelope.uchicago.edu/~grout/encyclopaedia_romana/britannia/anglo-saxon/suttonhoo/bentygrange.html

Lecture Notes:

-M. Cichon, Eng. 310.3: Old English Literature

-Y. Liu, Eng 390.6: History of the English Language

Upcoming Event – Avacal November Coronet Tourney

November 25, 2005 to November 27, 2005 -

Borealis

Edmonton, AB

Autocrat: Lord Dante Machiavelli

My Lords & Ladies Their Highnesses Prince Einar Vikingsson and Princess Ifatahyo al-Jenne invite you to attend them in the Barony of Borealis (Edmonton, AB.) on the most auspicious occasion of choosing the heirs to the thrones of Avacal!! This event will take place at Sandhills Community Centre located between the mundane cites of Edmonton & Spruce Grove. The site offers overnight hall camping & hot showers. Join us in the fine spectacle of the contests and a special presentation.

The site opens at 7pm Friday Nov. 25th for early arrivals & hall campers.

The event hall will be open at 8 am to begin the festivities.

Many motels & hotels are available within 10 minutes of the site (west Edmonton, Spruce Grove, & Devon)

Site fee only: \$9.00

Feast fee only: \$19.00

Please note a \$4.00 discount will be available to all card carrying SCA members.

Please make all cheques payable to the ASCA

12 & under are free of charge.

No off board is available at this time.

A Lunch will be offered.

Schedule of Events (subject to the TRM)

Friday

7pm Hall will be open for decorating & to travelers who are overnighing

Saturday

8:00 Hall Opens

8:45 - 9:15 White Scarf Meeting

9:30 - 10:30 Rapier Cadet Tourney - LOTR & LOVE Tea

9:45 Chivalry Meeting

10:30 Laurels Meeting

10:30 Boffer Tourney (5 to 14 year olds) (the Chivalry is invited to advise our new recruits with their learned wisdom)

11:00 Coronet Lists Open

11:15 Pelicans Meeting

11:30 Armor Inspection begins

Noon Coronet Lists close

12:30 Morning Court - Invocation of the Lists

Immediately following Coronet Tourney - Investiture of the Tanist and Tanista
4:30 - 5:30 Squires Tourney
6:00 Nobles Estate Meeting
7:00 Feast
Evening Court during the Feast
Following Evening Court the A&S Auction will be held then.....
Bardic 'til the cows come home

Sunday

8:00 - 10:00 am Breakfast in the Hall and final clean up
10:00 am Curia (will be held off site at a west Edmonton facility TBA)

How to Get There:

The site is 6.4 km south on hwy 60 from hwy 16A to hwy 627, turn west on hwy 627 & travel 4.8 km to RR270, turn north on RR270 & travel 1.6 km to the site.

From the south: go to the Town of Devon & travel north 9.6 km on hwy 60 to hwy 627, turn west on hwy 627 & travel 4.8 km to RR270, turn north on RR270 & travel 1.6 km to the site.

Look for the signs!!

For the mapquest types out there the address is 52032 Range Road 270, Spruce Grove, AB.

For further information & feast reservations please contact Dante Machiavelli (aka Alan Baldwin) at 780-962-6547 or email dantem@shaw.ca

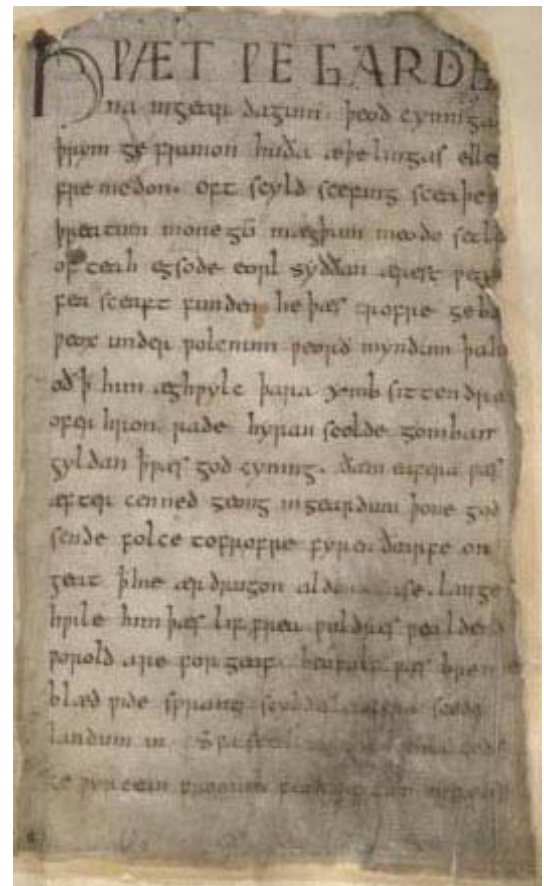
Site Info:

Name: Sandhills Community Center
52032 Range Road 780
Spruce Grove, AB

Language/Word of the Week:
Anglo-Saxon

Ever wanted to learn random words in other languages? Of course you do! Today's word comes from Anglo-Saxon, or Old English. Considered a Germanic language as a result of the 1st Great Consonant Shift, Old English represents the first real evolution of English in a written form that we have. Previous to this, all we have are reconstructed languages, created by linguists in an effort to explain how all European languages are connected. Frankly, it is all very confusing, and I promised this wouldn't be a boring Garb ;). If you're actually interested though, I'd love to discuss the topic.

Anyway, the word of the day is: You guessed it! Boar! Saw that one coming a mile away didn't you? The Anglo-Saxons actually had two different names for boars, one which was deemed a strong, masculine one, and the other which was gender neutral and thus still respectful of the boar, whether it was female or male. The male version is, quite simply "bar". Pronounced as it looks, /bR/ or "b-ar", you can quite easily see the cognates between this older form and the modern English form of the word, despite the evolution in modern English into a gender neutral term itself. The neuter word in old English is "eofor". Used more as a prefix or suffix (eoforric, for example, meaning Boar-King), this word has been lost to the modern English lexicon since Middle English.



An image of the first page of Beowulf, from the British Museum archives, in its original Old English.

|
Upcoming Event – Skull n’ Crossbones Tavern

November 12, 2005

Sigelhundas

Regina, SK

Autocrat: Lord Thomas Wollffe

AVAST YE LUBBERS AN’ SEA DOGS OF AVACAL!

PAY HEED TO THESE ‘ERE WORDS!

Tis time once again for the Skull ‘n Crossbones Tavern to open her doors to the scum and villains of the Seas of Avacal (and all others interested in drinkin’ too!).

On this November, the 12th day, a Saturday, the Tavern will open at noon (that’s 12:00pm) for her seventh run in the fair Shire of Sigelhundas (Regina, SK). The place of the Tavern is Cornwall Alternative School, 40 Dixon Crescent, Regina, SK, S4N1V4

‘Tis suggested that everyone try to be somewhat nautical in appearance but ‘tis not necessary. After all, not everyone can look as good as a Pirate, and we be needin’ someone ta rob on the way home!

Besides the usual drinkin’ that tends to go on at things like this, there will be a few contests as well, them bein’:

1. The Best Dressed Pirate fer age groups: 5yrs and under, 6yrs to 12yrs, and 13yrs and up. Yes, that be right, 3 contests!
2. There will be a Tablero de Gucci Tourney! Rules will be posted at the Tavern.
3. A Rapier Tourney run by Lord Connel MacGreagor
4. Best Bardic Presentation with a Pirate theme (sing, dance, tell a story or a joke, whatever youse wants ta do)
5. The Worst Dressed Pirate fer all ages. This ones fer them fancy fops types who dare not to try to dress like a pirate.
6. Bodice Contest run by Lady Isabetta. Each entered contestant must construct a bodice that will be worn for everyone to see (yes it must be visible). The populace will submit votes for the best looking bodice as well as most supportive bodice.
7. Principality Games Championship. The contest is open to all Avacalians, and the Champion Gamester should demonstrate a knowledge of and willingness to play a variety of period games involving both skill and luck. The champion competition shall involve four parts:
 1. Chess - one of three chess games will be chosen at random on the day of the tournament. The forms are, Medieval (Shantraj), round, and oblong.
 2. Board games other than chess - one of three board games will be chosen at random on the day of the tournament. Alquerque, Draughts, or Nine Men's Morris.
 3. Skilled Chance - one of three games involving both skill and chance will be chosen on the day of the tournament. Piquet, Noddy, or TabulaPlayers will compete in one tournament for each of the 3 categories.
Points will be awarded as follows:
Chess - Greater Win = 5, Lesser Win = 4, Draw = 3, Lesser Loss = 2, Greater Loss = 1

Other Board Games - Win = 5, Draw = 3, Loss = 1

Skilled Chance - Win = 5, Draw = 3, Loss = 1

Bonus - 10 points awarded to the winner of each of the three tournaments

4. Chance - Time permitting, all players will participate in a game of Goose, wagering points rather than coins.

The player with the highest overall score shall be Principality Gamester Champion for the year. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Lord Morgan ap Hugh, Principality Gamesmaster at 775-3759 or celtic_son@canoemail.com

Tavern fees:

SCA Members: a paltry 8 gold for those not eatin' and if yer comin' to eat, its gonna cost ya 15 gold. Non-members kin add 4 gold to those prices.

Wee ones (under 12) are in for 4 gold and can eat for 7 gold. Them wee ones under 5 be free.

Fer those with families (2 Adults, 2 or more children):

SCA Members: a mere 20 gold if you don't eat, 37 gold if you do. Non-members kin add 8 gold to those prices.

The Tavern has an actual cook agin, an this year she's workin' one sumptin' special!

When decides what that is, I'll let you know!

There be only 40 seats in the Tavern for eating this year so if'n ya want ta eat, youse had better reserve! Ta reserve just drop me a line and let me know yer comin' (no need ta pay beforehand - I knows where youse live!).

I hears that there be a few of ye out there who like the taste of rum..... If ye be coming, let me know and I'll have a bottle of it waiting for ye.

The Tavern Keeper welcomes anyone who has gold to spend with open arms so stop by if yer not doing anything or if yer just travelin' through! It's a good time for all! (Just ask them what survived last year!)

Tavern Keeper:

Cap'n Thomas Wollffe

Ph# 789-3185;

e-mail: thomas_de_monet@hotmail.com

Cook:

Al-Sayidda Umm Bishar Fatima Amatallah Bint Dirar Al-Qurtibiyya

Ph# 775-3759

millerac@sasktel.net

Site Info:

Name: Cornwall Alternative School

40 Dixon Crescent

Regina, SK S4N 1V4

Upcoming Events

- November 5th: **Ferret's Feast**, Valley Wold (Moose Jaw, SK)
- November 12th: **Skull n' Crossbones Tavern**, Sigelhundas (Regina, SK)
- November 25th-27th: **Avacal November Coronet**, Borealis (Edmonton, AB)
- December 3rd: **Yule Feast**, Borealis (Edmonton, AB)
- December 10th: **Feast of Favours**, Cold Keep (Prince George, BC)

Please see the An Tir Calendar @ <http://www.antir.sca.org/Upcoming/> for more events

Upcoming Demos

- Unknown. Please contact the Chatelaine for information regarding demos.

Regular Events

Monthly Tavern is currently held on the first Wednesday of every month at the Off-Broadway Dinner Theatre (639 Main St). Contact the Chatelaine for more information.

Fighting Practice for both Rapier and Armoured Combat is held (Winter hours):
-every Sunday at 2pm on the UofS campus (indoor location currently unknown. Continue to meet by Ukrainian Poetess).

-Wed/Thurs. Practices in Debate. Please refer to the mailing list and ongoing current news.
Don't be afraid. Contact the Master of Stables for more info.

Target Archery Practice are held weekly in Dundern. Contact the Chatelaine for more information.

Arts and Science Classes are held roughly biweekly subject to availability of instructors and space. See mailing list or contact Arts and Sciences Minister for more information.

Web Links

The SCA Corporate Homepage: <http://www.sca.org/>

The Kingdom of An Tir's Homepage: <http://www.antir.sca.org/>

The Principality of Avacal's Homepage: <http://avacal.antir.sca.org>

Myrgan Wood's Homepage: <http://www.chainmailstore.com/mw/>

Incipient Shire of Rhuddglyn: <http://www.codexpublishing.ca/rhuddglyn>

The Avantgarde-Avacal's Newsletter: <http://www.codexpublishing.ca/Avantgarde>

Myrgan Wood Officers List

Baron and Baroness: Their Excellencies
Fergail MacIngaille and Catriona McManus
(mka Keith Chapman and Jessica Steadman)
Ph: 652-0855 BandBmw@gmail.com

Seneschal: L Guillemin de Rouen
(mka Nelson Godfrey) Ph: 652-5172

rememokinawa@hotmail.com

Chatelaine: L Hélène Charesse
(mka Shona Price) Ph : 242-4004

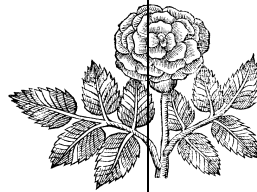
helenecharesse@hotmail.com

Exchequer: L Dietrich von Kleeve
(mka Derrick Schreiber) Ph: 382-8789
Dietrich.sca@sasktel.net
Chronicler: L Illyanth Ildanach
(mka Tony Nijssen) Ph: 373-5717
illyanth@hotmail.com
Minister of Arts & Science: Position Vacant
Master of Stables: L Kvigir Ivarrson
(mka Jeremy Bell)
Bell_Khan@hotmail.com
Master of Swords: L Guillemain de Rouen
(mka Nelson Godfrey) Ph: 652-5172
rememokinawa@hotmail.com
Missile Marshal: L Robert of Clan Gunn
(mka Robert Simpson)
Rms210@mail.usask.ca
Herald: L Armatus
(mka Andrew Bennett) Ph: 244-7601
armatus@post.com
Constable: Lazarus Haubergier
(mka Mark Wells)
mark_wells318@hotmail.com
Chirurgeon: Quintessa
sneezie@sasktel.net
Gold Key: Lady Lina Joya of Grantham Keep
(mka Pixie Glasser)
pixter@sasktel.net
List Mistress: Ameline Lajoaliere
ameline.lajoaliere@gmail.com
Waterbearer: Quintessa
sneezie@sasktel.net

(mka Alex Price) Ph: 242-4004
helenecharesse@hotmail.com
Rapier: HE Don Raoul Delaroche
(mka Duane Walker) Ph: 651-2599
duane.walker@lightsource.ca
A&S: Lord Weldon the Gray
(mka Weldon Grey) Ph:
wackywizard@shaw.ca

Other Contacts

King & Queen of An Tir:
Their Majesties,
Uther Schiemann der Hount
(mka Tony Lynch)
Angharad Drakenhefd
(mka Alisoun Lamb)
king@antir.sca.org
queen@antir.sca.org
Prince & Princess of Avacal:
Their Highnesses of Avacal,
Einar Vikingson (mka Ivan Williams)
Ifatahyo al-Jenne (mka Chriss O'Toole)
Avacal-prince@antir.sca.org
Avacal-princess@antir.sca.org
Contact for Humboldt:
Viscount Sir Gunther & Viscountess Eyoddi
Ph: (306)-682-1984
steadmand@ctrc.sk.ca
jodiv@sasktel.net



Myrgan Wood Champions

Armoured: HE Don Raoul Delaroche
(mka Duane Walker) Ph: 651-2599
duane.walker@lightsource.ca
Missile: Alexandra

Contact for North Battleford:
L Hamish Mac Carraig
(mka Pat Nixon)
Sean131@yahoo.com

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