

THE MINOTAUR MONITOR

JULY 2025 | MMXXV EDITION

Avacal sends tidings of WAR!

Quad War - June 27th-June 29th

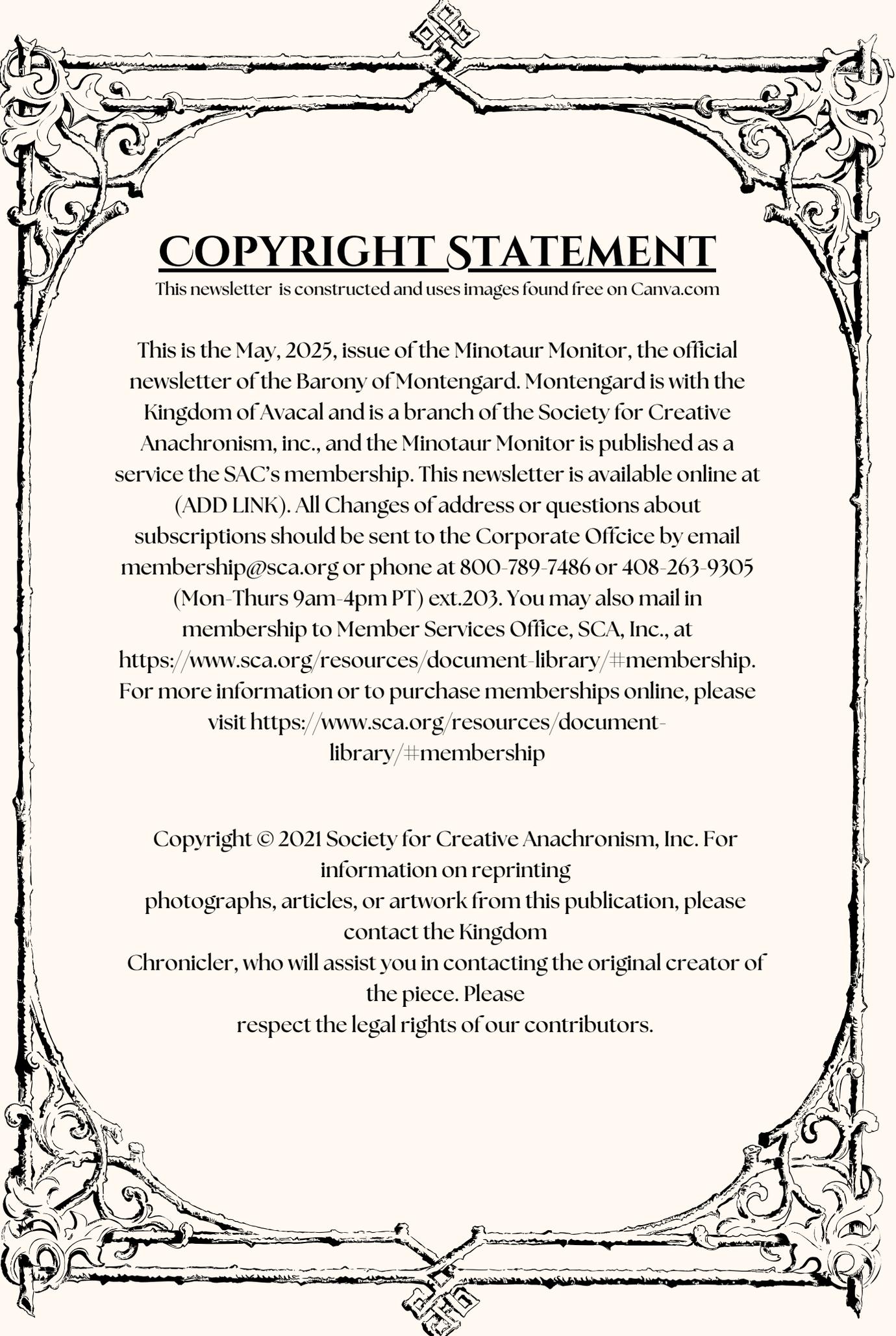


Join us in defending Avacal from... herself?! Partake in Quad War's smorgasbord of war festivities as a kickoff to our 10-day celebration of 10 years of our beloved kingdom

June 27th - July 6th 2025

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
BARONY OF MONTENGARDE

VOLUME I, ISSUE III



COPYRIGHT STATEMENT

This newsletter is constructed and uses images found free on Canva.com

This is the May, 2025, issue of the Minotaur Monitor, the official newsletter of the Barony of Montengard. Montengard is with the Kingdom of Avacal and is a branch of the Society for Creative Anachronism, inc., and the Minotaur Monitor is published as a service the SAC's membership. This newsletter is available online at (ADD LINK). All Changes of address or questions about subscriptions should be sent to the Corporate Office by email membership@sca.org or phone at 800-789-7486 or 408-263-9305 (Mon-Thurs 9am-4pm PT) ext.203. You may also mail in membership to Member Services Office, SCA, Inc., at <https://www.sca.org/resources/document-library/#membership>. For more information or to purchase memberships online, please visit <https://www.sca.org/resources/document-library/#membership>

Copyright © 2021 Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. For information on reprinting photographs, articles, or artwork from this publication, please contact the Kingdom Chronicler, who will assist you in contacting the original creator of the piece. Please respect the legal rights of our contributors.

IMPORTANT FIGURES IN THE BARONY

King. & Queen of Avacal
Vik Vikingsson and A'isha Rayhana al-Karim

Their Excellencies of Montengarde:
HE Refr Bjarnarson and HE Ádís Ulfsdóttir
excellencies@montengarde.org

Knight Marshal:
Lordship Allert Pierson
branchmarshall@montengarde.org

Captain of Armored Combat:
Vladimir of Montengarde

Captain of Archers:
Lordship Arnolt Brekeswerd
archery@montengarde.org

Chatelaine:
Master Bjar the Blue
chatelaine1@montengarde.org

Chronicler:
Aurora di Mare
chronicler@montengarde.org

Herald
Lord Alexander Blackadder
herald@montengarde.org

Exchequer:
Tora Thrandia
exchequer@montengarde.org

Minister of Arts and Sciences:
HL Custance Frideswide Featherstonehaugh
arts-sciences@montengarde.org

Seneschal:
Duchess Kiera the Shadowed
seneschal@montengarde.org

Events Deputy:
Mistress Kathryn inghean Ui Mhaonaigh
deputy_events@montengarde.org

Webminister:
Master Mordecai Salzer
webmaster@montengarde.org

FROM THE CHRONICLERS DESK

It's that time of the month again!
The sun is shining, the birds are singing, and pollen coats everything in sight.

As we roll into our summer time events, we want to remind everyone to stay hydrated and wear sun protection! Take breaks when needed and take care of yourself, it's going to be another hot one this year!

Got a cool fighting picture? Made something cool with A&S? Want to show off your dashing new hat? We encourage the populace to submit photos to our chronicler's email so that we might be able to feature some of the fun going on around our barony!!

As always, thank you for reading this fine newsletter, and if you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to reach out to our desk at chronicler@montengarde.org or find me at one of the events!

With Love,
Aurora di Mare



MONTHLY FESTIVITIES

MONTHLY TAVERN NIGHT

July 8th, 2025 | 7 pm - 10pm

The Rehabilitation Society of Calgary, 711 St NE, Calgary, AB T2E 4Z2, Canada

Cost: by donation to cover hall rental fees

A social evening with friends featuring a mix of dancing, medieval gaming, and arts & sciences and a great place to get to know your local group! Beverages and sometimes food are provided for a nominal cost. Dishware is not provided, please remember to bring your own.

Tavern is a "in garb" event but if you are without garb then have no fear! There is often loaner clothes courtesy of the Gold Key!

Class: Event Scheduling

ARTS AND SCIENCE ROUNDTABLE AND SOCIAL

July 15rd, 2025 | 7pm - 10pm

MARTIAL PRACTICE

Every Thursday from 6:30pm - 9pm

ARCHERY PRACTICE

Every Friday from 6:30pm-9:30

MONTENGARDE COUNCIL

Every third Wednesday of the month

July 16th 2025 | 7pm - 9pm (often shorter) Via Discord

<https://discord.gg/tVxBZmnvE5>



THE 2025 BIG EVENT

AVACAL 10 YEAR CELEBRATION June 27th 12pm - July 6th 12pm

Near Marsden, SK – No street address available

52°52'47.7"N 109°54'55.5"W

Join in this historic event with some of the greatest battles ever fought. Many activities await to tantalize your senses; Heavy and Light war scenarios, Heavy and Light tournaments, Archery and Throwing Weapons galore, Bardic activities, TUA classes, Arts and Sciences, Youth and Family activities, Merchant's Row and more. Come join us!

Site fees:

- Adult - \$110
- Adult Member Discount - \$100
- Youth & Children (under 17 years) - Free
- Merchant Registration - No additional Fees



Duke Sir Sean Kirkpatrick
Tarragon - KSCA, OP
Artemisia

A Knight of the Society since AS XXII, Duke Sir Sean is considered one of the SCA's top trainers in the psychology and physiology of heavy combat. Join him at Avacal's 10 Year Anniversary Celebration to learn from one of the best of the best!

July 2nd - July 6th 2025



Countess Gwenhwyvar
verch Owen ap Morgan
OL, KSCA, OP
Northshield

Join Northshield's Countess Gwenhwyvar in classes on pewter casting and silk painting at Avacal's 10 Year Anniversary Celebration

June 30th- July 6th 2025



Check out everything this event has to offer on the Quad War Website!

<https://quadwar.avacal.org/registration/>

THE 2025 BIG EVENT

SOME THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND

It's in the middle of nowhere.....

The nearest off-site restaurant, the Prairie Diner, can be found in the tiny town of Marsden, SK (approximately 8 minutes from the site). It is located on main street, and is a standard, small town grill that features everything from poutine to steak, Western and stir fry options, with daily specials. It is open daily from 10:00 – 19:00.

You can build on the site, but you must follow strict rules that can be found on the website under the section “2025 Building on Site”

Tyger's Rest is thrilled to offer a 10 day meal plan for the Quad war event. The menu will be posted closer to the event so that they have the best pricing options. 10 days of breakfast and supper, \$25 per day per person, limited space as we would like to take classes and enjoy the event as well.

When Driving:

- From the West – Wainright, Alberta: Travel East on Highway 14 AB, this becomes Highway 40 SK at the border. Proceed 8km past the border and turn North (left) on Artlan Road (this is opposite of Suffern Lake turn off #680). Travel 4.6km north and turn West (left) on to field road.
- From the East – Battleford, Saskatchewan: Travel West on Highway 40 SK to Marsden, SK. Continue 5km past Marsden and turn North (right) on Artlan Road (this is opposite of Suffern Lake turn off #680). Travel 4.6km north and turn West (left) on to field road.

Check out everything this event has to offer on the Quad War Website!

<https://quadwar.avacal.org/registration/>

THE 2025 BIG EVENT

SOME THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND

About the Location:

TE Alfheim & Adeline (Stew & Gail Hiar) privately own this amazing land location. All of the buildings and structures have been developed and are privately owned by the owners or the many individuals within our fair kingdom. Walk around and enjoy all there is to see. Please be mindful and leave things just as nice as or better than you found it.

The castle is in need of some repairs. Any individuals under 18 must be accompanied by adults.

Water:

Please bring your own drinking water for the event!

There is a well on site, drilled in 2022. However, we cannot regularly test the water quality. Thus, we are advertising it as not potable. Water is available at the well house near the dwarf encampment & the shower house for washing. Again, we are not recommending you drink it.

Local Marsden water can be collected at the water plant in town. Although it is potable, it is not that pleasant with its high mineral content. Water can be purchased in large containers in Marsden at the convenience store.

IMPORTANT!

You can now register on the Quad War Website!!

This registration is to help the event team be prepared. Additionally, There is also a volunteer sign up sheet on the website, you should find yourself with some time to spare and desire to help out

Check out everything this event has to offer on the Quad War Website!

<https://quadwar.avacal.org/registration/>

THE UP AND COMING

DRAGONSLAYER

July 18th -20th 2025

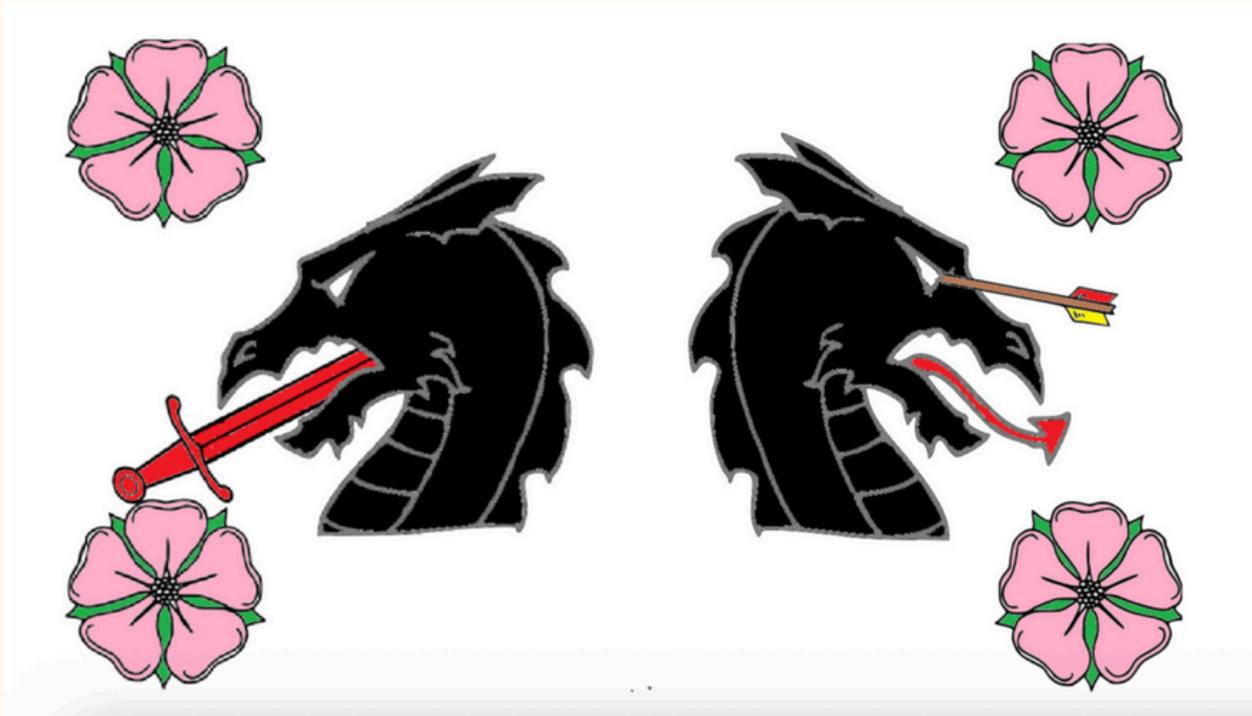
Delacour Commuinty Hall 275194 township Road 254
Rocky View County AB T1Z 0E6

Join us for our annual festival to determine our archery (Cragonblinder) and Heavy (dragonslayer) Champions! A day filled with marshal prowess, art and music. This camping event is located minutes from Calgary NE. We look forward to hosting Avacal!

Adult Event Non-Member - \$30

Adult Member Event - \$20

Youth Registracton (ages 0-17) - \$0



THINGS TO WATCH OUT FOR!

DEMO - SUMMER SKIRMISH August 16-17 2025

The Military Museums, 4520 Crowchild Trl SW,
Calgary AB T2T 6E8, Canada

Join us in the sunny month of August at the Summer Skirmish! Almost 2000 years of warfare comes to life in a weekend of scripted battles re-enactments and demonstrations.

One Day Pass (Sat or Sun)

- Adult: \$17
- Seniors and Youth (4-17): \$7
- Families (up to 2 Adults & 5 Youth): \$40
- Children (4 and under): Free

Weekend Pass

- Adults: \$25
- Seniors and Youth (4-17): \$10
- Families (up to 2 Adults & 5 youth): \$60
- Children (4 and under): Free

Re-Enactors at this event:

- First Special Service Force Living History Association
- 10th Battalion CEF Commemorative Association
- Alberta World War Living History Association
- Society for Creative Anachronisms, Calgary
- The Yankee Valley Historical Society
- Society for Tilt and Lance Cavalry
- The Old 78th Fraser Highlanders
- Strathcona's Mounted Troop
- Alberta 18th century group
- Dragon's Own
- Ulfraedi



WORD SEARCH SUMMERTIME ON AVACAL

CURTESY OF MASTER BJAR THE BLUE



F	O	D	E	B	B	S	K	A	C	X	O	C	R	N	R	Q	B	A	U
V	S	U	R	W	U	T	K	A	N	I	U	A	E	D	V	U	K	I	A
S	J	X	I	H	M	G	S	C	Z	S	N	R	Y	U	Z	A	M	G	D
R	N	D	F	N	Y	T	S	S	O	E	O	P	A	B	X	D	N	Y	S
A	S	O	C	T	L	D	R	P	E	S	A	O	L	M	U	S	I	A	V
N	R	I	I	E	O	A	R	R	R	N	O	O	S	W	F	I	P	O	C
F	Y	O	D	P	E	W	C	A	N	A	N	L	N	I	O	T	P	M	U
C	Z	M	R	B	M	S	E	I	T	R	Y	Y	O	N	M	E	A	D	O
M	E	Z	A	U	N	A	V	L	O	E	D	N	G	D	X	F	J	P	N
Y	L	X	B	U	A	E	H	A	F	K	E	T	A	S	Y	B	Z	R	Z
G	G	G	S	B	R	L	D	C	Y	K	F	O	R	Z	S	K	Q	L	A
P	C	C	L	S	Y	T	L	O	E	E	I	R	D	G	L	C	N	R	S
Z	T	J	A	Z	R	M	E	N	C	N	M	S	U	N	S	H	A	D	E
H	Q	R	P	I	F	L	O	W	R	E	V	L	I	S	R	I	V	U	D
B	Y	F	P	Z	I	W	E	A	D	I	P	N	L	M	T	W	W	W	W
D	I	E	F	S	B	I	F	F	Y	R	J	V	U	R	B	H	G	O	H
T	H	W	T	H	W	P	S	P	A	B	V	P	I	O	N	D	L	Z	A
R	I	A	H	C	B	Y	R	E	H	C	R	A	X	T	S	U	Q	D	B
E	Y	Q	O	X	F	Z	C	G	R	K	V	N	F	S	T	W	Z	L	F
N	U	P	G	H	B	H	S	H	A	T	L	D	S	L	S	S	K	M	P



WORDS TO FIND!

ANNIVERSARY
BARDIC FIRE
BUGSPRAY
CHAIR
EARPLUGS
QUAD SITE
SOCKS
SUNSHADE

ARCHERY
BEARS
CARPOOL
CHAMPIONS
HAT
ROADTRIP
STORMS
TOWEL

AURORA
BIFFY
CASTLE
DRAGONSLAYER
HYDRATE
SILVERWOLF
SUNSCREEN
WINDS





THE SPOT LIGHT



We sent the amazing Calvin Hawkes to speak with the warriors, artists, and scholars of Montengarde! This Month features a brief interview with the one and only Herald of Montengarde, Lord Alexander Blackadder.



Q-CAN YOU GIVE ME A BRIEF SUMMARY OF YOUR TIME IN THE SCA?

A- About two years ago I was thinking to myself about how busy I was with so many hobbies and side commitments in addition to full time work. I thought “At this point in my life I am done with new activities, I have too many already.” Then my oldest kid, Hanako (Genvieve Cadieux), said “Hey Dad, you used to fence, why don’t you come and check out fight night?” Yeah, too busy. But Hanako persisted so... I made time. Just once... right? Well... need to see it a second time just to be polite.... And may as well bring my old fencing gear... might try again but, you know, just every couple of weeks... really need my own blade... perhaps a dagger?... maybe make a little chain mail.... What’s that? Bardic? Archery? Leather working? Tavern? Heraldry? What the - oh hell, now I have a half a dozen new hobbies! I’ve even started reading a 1000 page tome on the history of Scotland to help build a backstory for my persona! Yeah, hooked by a hobby I didn’t know I wanted.

Q-WHAT ARE YOU MOST PROUD OF?

A-The sincerest answer is that I am proud of Hanako - getting to watch and celebrate their success from within the SCA. It is also pretty cool to be co-champions with them - even if they do kill me on the rapier field on the regular! Patricide - boo!

Q- WHEN YOU WERE JUST STARTING OUT IN THE SOCIETY, WHAT’S ONE PIECE OF ADVICE YOU WISH SOMEONE HAD PASSED ALONG TO YOU?

A- Don’t piss off Sir Kiera. - Not that I did (as far as I know) this just seems like really solid advice.



THE SPOT LIGHT



Q- WHAT IS THE BEST PIECE OF ADVICE YOU'VE RECEIVED?

A- Don't be a d*ck. I've actually heard that one multiple times in different SCA contexts (including from Sir Kiera) I think that is just about the best life advice that a person can follow. With apologies to Richards everywhere.

Q- WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO PURSUE THE BARDIC CHAMPIONSHIP?

A- One of the things I have really appreciated about the SCA is the opportunity to think like a novice. With so many opportunities to start new things outside my experience of comfort I have been able to reconnect with the ways of thinking that go with *not knowing*. However, it is also fun to do things that you are good at, and I have competed in public speaking and spoken-word performances for years - so the Bardic competition was something that I was drawn to.

Q- WHAT IS SOMETHING THAT IS PARTICULARLY SPECIAL ABOUT THE LOCAL COMMUNITY HERE IN MONTENGARDE?

A- The willingness for people to reach out and offer their support to each other in support of not only their SCA goals, but also in day to day life. It is a remarkably welcoming and supportive community!

Q- WHAT'S THE BEST THING ABOUT BEING BARDIC CHAMPION?

A- I have to choose between three: it's either A - The Glory B- The Phenomenal Cosmic Powers or C- The opportunity to do some cool bardic elements at SCA events - that has been fun for me and hopefully for everyone else as well! For anyone considering entering the next bardic champion competition: please call, we can discuss the cosmic powers.

Q- IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU'D LIKE TO PASS ON TO THE POPULACE?

A- Thank you for sharing the dream!

WHAT IS HERALDRY?

Picture this, you are at this great tournament and want to watch your favourite knight fight. You go there all excited, but come to realize that all the knights look the same! You panic momentarily before remembering that your knight has a symbol that helps identify him!

While this isn't historically accurate, Heraldry has been around for centuries and is thought to have begun as a way to identify knights in a battle through all their armor and shields. It began as a method for identifying members of early European nobility families, probably sometime in the 13th century or earlier¹

Heraldry has changed throughout the years and is often very personalized with somewhat strict guidelines. You want to make sure it's unique to you and no one has used it in the past while still following the guidelines. You can actually conflict check your potential armory in the SCA here: <https://heraldry.sca.org/armory/conflict-checking.html> . It also gives a great guide on how the SCA chooses what heraldry rules to follow and how to understand some of the language around these topics!



CURIOUS ABOUT THE ORDERS OF MONTENGARD?

There is actually a spot for this on the website! Follow this link (<https://www.montengarde.org/Welcome/orders/>) to read up more about some of the orders we have here! Going forward we will start exploring these so that the masses know more about them! Feel free to contact our desk if there is an order you are particularly interested in learning about!

¹ - 12 Heraldry Color Meanings and 15 Coat of Arms Symbols <https://www.color-meanings.com/heraldry-color-meanings-coat-of-arms-symbols/>

THANKS AGAIN
FOR READING!



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
BARONY OF MONTENGARDE