

# THE MINOTAUR MONITOR

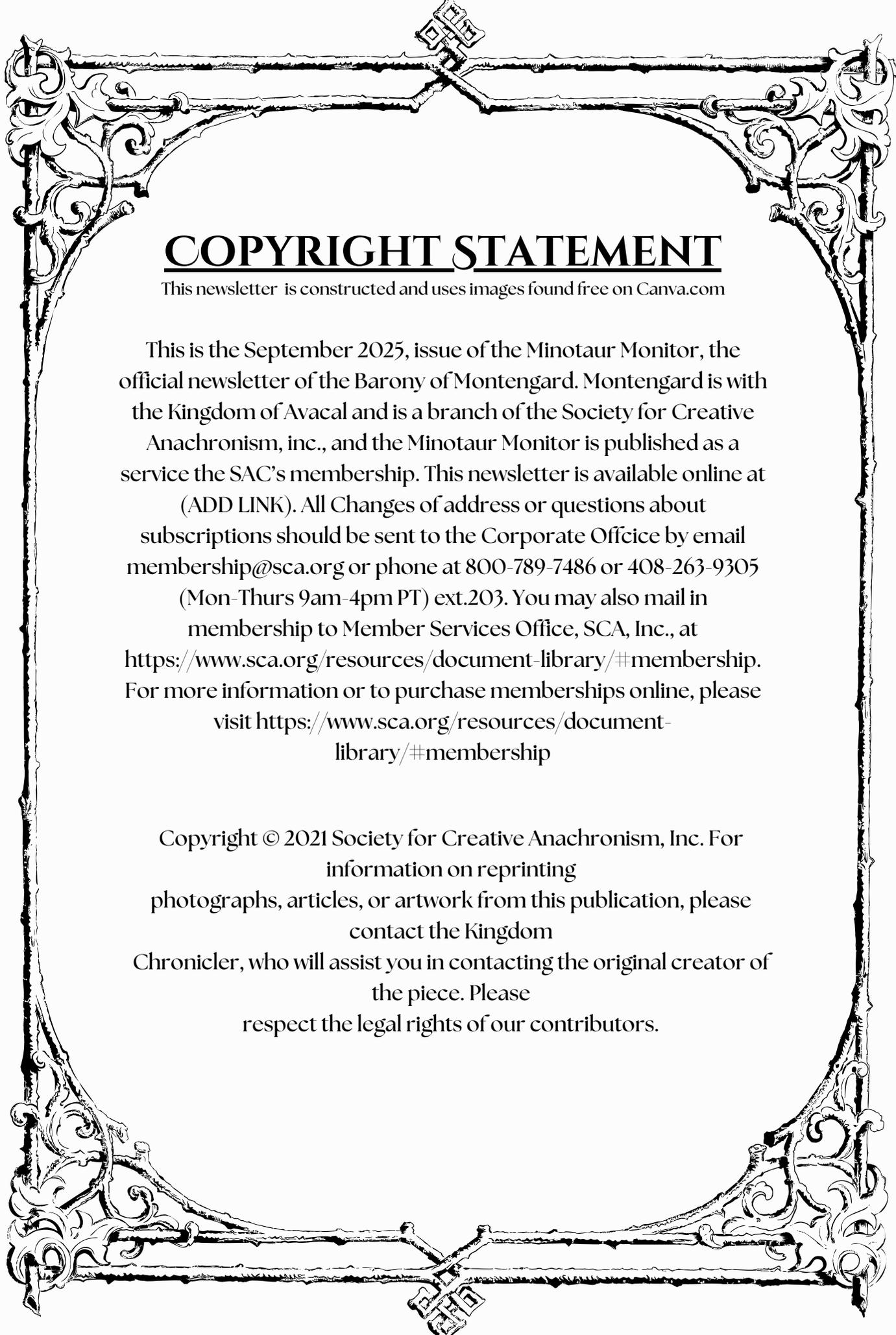
SEPTEMBER 2025 | MMXXV EDITION



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OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE  
BARONY OF MONTENGARDE

VOLUME I, ISSUE V



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This is the September 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](mailto: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>

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## IMPORTANT FIGURES IN THE BARONY

The Crown of Avacal  
King Hrogn and Queen Astrid

Their Excellencies of Montengarde:  
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## FROM THE CHRONICLERS DESK

'Tis the height of summer, when the sun blazes as fierce, and wise folk don their armour of.....sunscreen or lest thy fair skin be roasted like a feast-day fowl.

This month's edition aims at highlighting our recent announcements from our Baron and Baroness! While this edition may be heavy on the eyes, fear not! We have something exciting planned for the October edition, so stay tuned. There might even be a competition in our future!

We also have our newly launched ads page! If you would like anything promoted, please reach out to the chroniclers' desk!

With Love,  
Aurora di Mare



# OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

The following is an official statement from the Baron and Baroness of Montengarde

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“To the People of Montengarde, the greatest Barony in all of Avacal.

We, Baron Refr and Baroness Adis, have been honoured and so proud to have been able to serve you as your Barons for the last two and a half years. It has been humbling in the best of ways and one of the most amazing journeys of Our lives. Watching the joy on People’s faces when We have been able to give awards acknowledging all the amazing work they do; being able to stand at the head of Our mighty army, seeing the military might of Our people; being able to give beautifully made largess to Our amazing volunteers; welcoming all the wonderful Newcomers who joined this Great Game during Our time on the Baronial Thrones. These are things that will be hard to give up but give it up We shall and a bit sooner than you are expecting.

With Baron Bjar and the Baronial Officers having bravely held their positions during Covid for longer than normal, when We stepped up almost all of Our Officers were also new in their positions or were needing to step down shortly after Our own Step Up. If We wear the Coronets for a full four years, almost all the Baronial Officers will be needing to step down at the same time a new Baronial couple steps up. It also creates a situation in Avacal where all three Baronial couples will be stepping down at the same time. This means there is no experienced Baronial couple still in Office to help the newer ones. Though past Barons are wellsprings of information, they cannot be present at the plethora of meetings that sitting Barons need to team up for.

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We both feel that We can be best of service to Our Barony and to Our Kingdom by ensuring that there is a smoother transition for Our people and for the Baronies of Avacal at the 4 year post-Covid mark.

We are announcing that we will be stepping down at Montengarde's 12th Night, in January of 2026. That means that the process for the Crown to choose a new Baronial couple begins now. The entire polling process is approximately 90 days. This includes a Baronial Meet & Greet for people to ask potential baronial couples questions and this will take place on Tuesday September 9, 2025 at Tavern.

All interested parties must have not just applied but gained actual approval from the Crown to put their names forward before that event. The Baronial Polling will take place on Thursday September 18, during fight practice. The results from the Polling then go to the Crown. They consider the applicants and the input from the Populace from the polling and then They decide who will be next to sit the Baronial Thrones and when it will be announced.

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What does this mean for people who are considering putting their names forward?

First, you should read the “Avacal Kingdom Laws” so that you have a better understanding of the position of Territorial Baron. Many assumptions are made by people considering this position and they are often incorrect. This document can be found in the Avacal Website Document Library in the Seneschal folder, under Laws, Policy and Warrants. Next, you should read the “Kingdom of Avacal Baronial Polling Processes”. This document can be found in the Avacal Website Document Library in the Seneschal folder, under Handbooks and will describe the process for submitting your application to Their majesties, the Kingdom Seneschal and Ourselves.

We look forward to answering any questions you might have as to Our experience on the Baronial Thrones and We look forward to mentoring and supporting Our successors. Have no fear. You have a proud lineage standing behind you, supporting you and cheering for you.”

In Service to Their Majesties and to the  
People of Montengarde.

Baron Refr and Baroness Adis



# NEW PATH FOR SERGEANTRY TESTING

The following message is an official statement for the Barony of Montengarde's new Path for Sergeantry Testing from the Baron and Baroness

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“I have been researching for 2 ½ years now, talking to the populace, other Baronies, and to Sergeants from other areas as well as Our own, and I've come to three conclusions and I am instigating three Solutions starting at Dragonslayer, 2025.

Conclusion number 1: The testing for Sergeantry was set up in such a way that it created an insurmountable amount of anxiety for people. It was excessively difficult to have someone studying for multiple testing some of which are physically or emotionally demanding, on one long weekend. This meant that the testing results could easily be skewed by exhaustion of anxiety. Some testers had the skills and knowledge but couldn't perform to the best of their abilities.

Conclusion number 2: The style of testing also did not take into account the learning disabilities that can cause people to not test well even if they know the answers. I believe we have missed out on including community leaders, servicepeople and fighters that knew their Sergeantry skills, but could not show it accurately because they were not given appropriate individualized educational accommodations for testing, like one would be given when tested in school.

Conclusion number 3: We are missing a generation of Sergeants. Some of the Sergeantry forgot that they could create men-at-arms with Baronial approval. Many of our own sergeants became peers of the realm and if they have students, those are proteges, apprentices or cadets etc. We have many active Sergeants: Mordecai, Bjar, Throvald, Constantina, Tygar, Oenghus and Bronwyn. But no one is specifically training Sergeants...perhaps because some didn't realize they COULD support a student for that specific path of development.

# NEW PATH FOR SERGEANTRY TESTING

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Solution Number 1: We are creating a Montengarde Baronial Militia. The purpose of the militia is to offer a position to people who would like to serve the Baronial couple and work towards becoming a Sergeant. Their term of commitment will be for two years and can be extended if they wish with permission from the Barons. Within that two years they can learn the skills and test for Sergeantry one skill at a time, earning a completion for that specific testing, at their own pace, when they and the Baronial couple are agreed they are ready for that test. Testing might occur anywhere, whether that be at taverns, at camping events, or in a quiet room in someone's house. It WILL include any educational accommodations that they need to be successful. Examples of educational accommodations include: voice to text, extra time, being provided a reader or a recording of written tests, being able to give purely verbal responses; any educational accommodation will be acceptable. When we do have a Sergeantry event, it will be a celebration event for new Sergeants, not a testing event. Perhaps it will include Sergeantry games that anyone can try to do in order to raise awareness and excitement for those skills and the Sergeantry.

Solution Number 2: Sergeantry Men-at-Arms. They do not have to be fighting men-at-arms; all types of activity and skill sets are represented in the Sergeantry. We have strongly recommended that Our Sergeants be open to requests from folk to sponsor them as Sergeant Men-at-Arms and are also encouraging them to suggest these men-at-arms join the Militia to train and have some fun. We want this to be a safe and creative space for new and old players. You do NOT need to have a Sergeant sponsor you to join the Militia, you can also simply ask Us, your Barons, for permission to join. I am asking you all now for your support with this endeavour. We will formally take on the first ever Militia members at Samhain and at any time thereafter, not just once a year. Come talk to me if you have any questions and consider joining the Montengarde Baronial Militia; to learn, to be part of a team, and to enjoy being part of Our Court.

- Adis Ulfisdottir, Baroness of Montengarde

# MONTHLY FESTIVITIES

## MONTHLY TAVERN NIGHT

Sep. 9<sup>th</sup>, 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!

## ARTS AND SCIENCE ROUNDTABLE AND SOCIAL

Sep 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025 | 7pm - 10pm

## MARTIAL PRACTICE

Every Thursday from 6:30pm - 9pm

## ARCHERY PRACTICE

Every Friday from 6:30pm-9:30

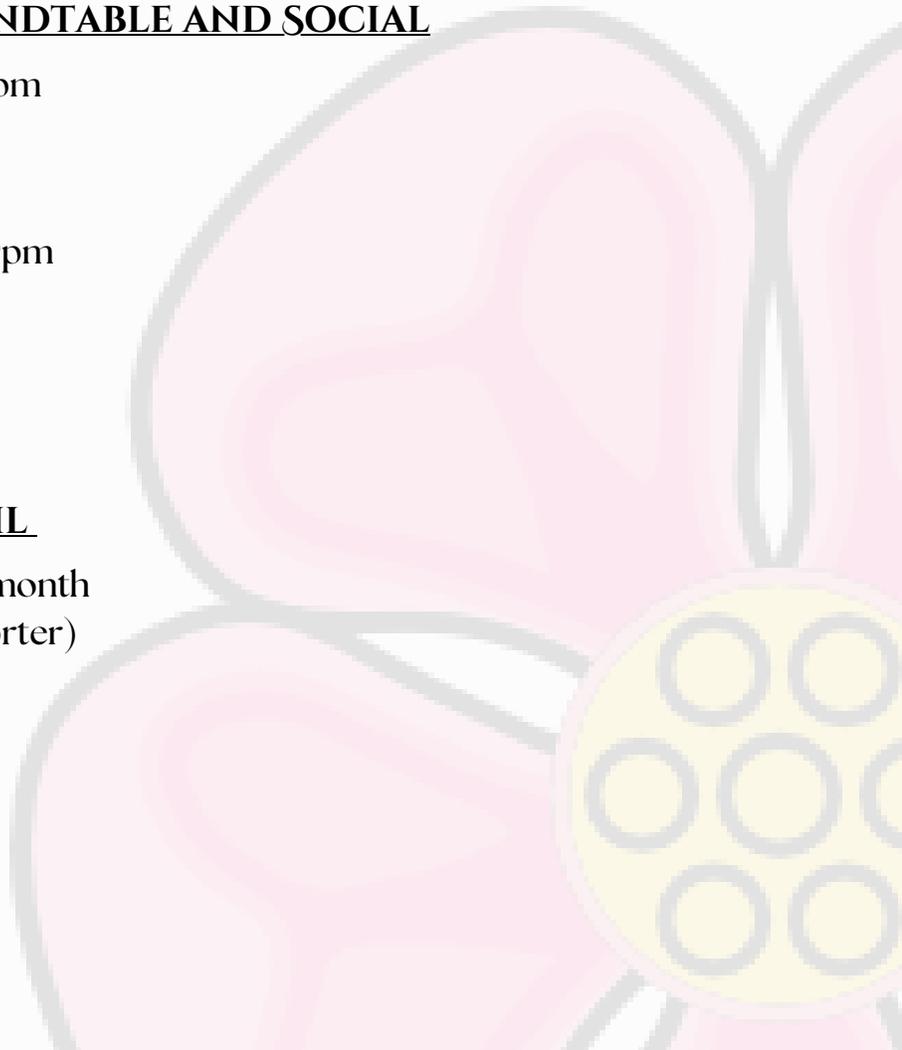
## MONTENGARDE COUNCIL

Every third Wednesday of the month

Sep. 17<sup>th</sup> | 7pm - 9pm (often shorter)

Via Discord

<https://discord.gg/tVxBZmnvE5>



# THE UP AND COMING

AVACAL FALL CROWN August 29<sup>th</sup> - September 1<sup>st</sup> 2025

Near Marsden, SK – No street address available

52°52'47.7"N 109°54'55.5"W

With the Realm in good standing, Their Magesties turn their attention to the selection of Heirs to the thrones. Join and witness the finest warriors advance consorts for the purpose of serving as King and Queen. Tis a glorious day when the sun sets on one reign and rises on another. Who will be our new Monarchs? Join us and see!

Adult Event Registration - \$40

Adult Member Discount Event Registration - \$30

Youth Registration (0-17) - Free!



See the events Facebook page for the latest information  
[https://www.facebook.com/events/711398207973597?active\\_tab=about](https://www.facebook.com/events/711398207973597?active_tab=about)

# THINGS TO REMEMBER ABOUT OUR QUAD SITE

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.

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.

Thirsty?

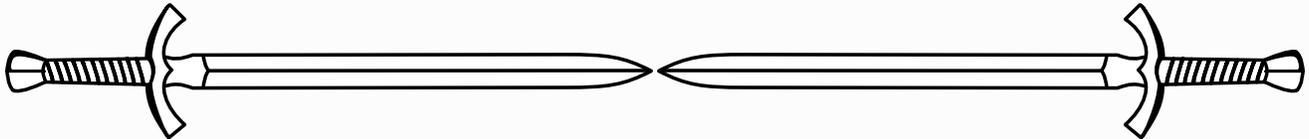
Please bring your own drinking water for the event!

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.

# ON SWORD NAMES

Naming one's weapon has been a tradition in the Avacal rapier community for as long as many can remember. The sword is a cherished possession, and a companion in victory and defeat. This month, Calvin Hawks asked fighters in Montengarde and across the kingdom what they have christened their weapon and why.



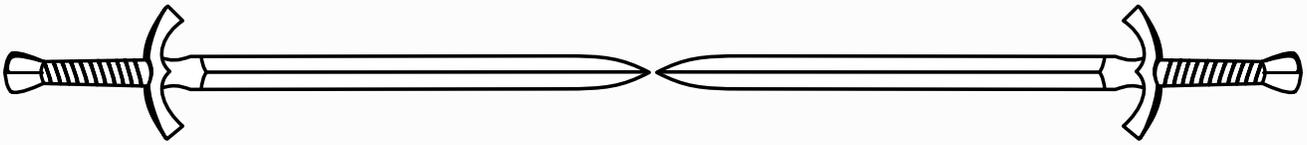
“My cup hilt is called Precious, mostly because I was so excited to get my very first, made just for me sword, and the book I was reading at the time referred to the LOTR precious in a funny and endearing way, and it just stuck with me, and always makes me smile.” - Gillette

The name of the cup hilt I wield is "Penitence", as due to the weight, it is a reminder that there is a cost to wielding it. It was formerly called "Patience" by its previous owner. - Arjun Singh

“The sword that I have used to belong to Dante Machiavelli, I have named it “In Memorium”.” - Refr Bjarnarson

“Edmund was gifted to me for my elevation as Master of Defence. I tried to find their name in the war, but late in the night it came to me as the most appropriate - Edmund in honor of a good friend that loved fighting two hander (there is a beautiful moment I will always treasure, of us fencing in the winter snow and the sun slowly going down over the horizon). He sadly passed some years ago but Nasheeta passed around striped socks in his heraldic colors (he did love his striped socks) to friends of his. I originally had my sock tied to my serjeantry belt but it now is tied around the guard of the two hander named for Don Edmund the Lame.” - Bjar the Blue

# ON SWORD NAMES



“Kairos! Named for the Greek god of opportune moments, but also the concept of perfect timing, or the right thing in its right time. Very important in rhetoric and teaching, which I have dedicated my career thus far to.

In many ways, I feel like fencing came into my life at the perfect moment to change everything for the better, even when it is very hard.

And, in fencing as in formal rhetoric, timing is everything. Even the perfect argument, if delivered at an inopportune moment, is utterly wasted.

So, I wanted to honor all of that in my first sword made for me.” - Allert Pierson

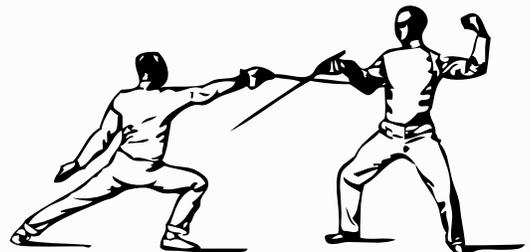
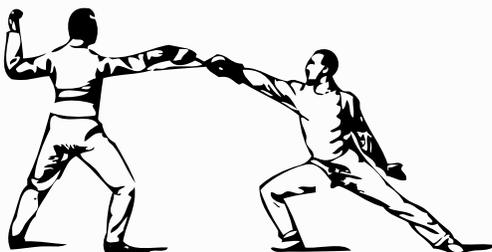
“Fate weaver!

This one is actually just a funny story. I heard Allert Pierson had a sword named Kairos and I had recently gotten into Warhammer 40K and Kairos fate weaver was the name of the epic hero of the army I played and it was the first big model I ever built. But also I like that the sword brings us together one might even say it weaves our fates together. As such it fits!” - Luciano Tiepolo

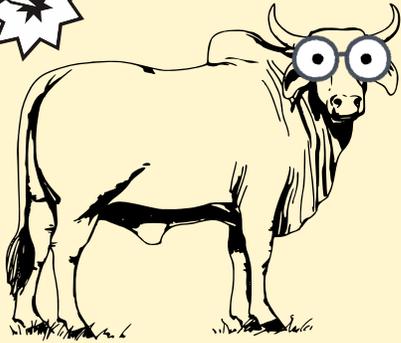
“Sylvio/Sylvia, depending on the day. Genuinely don't remember, it just felt right.” - Celestino von Brabant

“Ruby, Dextra and Sinistra.” - Dolce Machiavelli

“Lux (light, illuminance, brilliance) and Quicksilver (speed, fluidity, ingenuity, volatility).” - Calvin Hawkes



# NOTICE BOARD



## The Official Monitoring of the Minotaur

We humbly beseech thee for thine thoughts and musings.

Hast thou enjoyed this humble chronicle? What say thee of its tales, tidings, and tomfoolery? Send word via raven, parchment, or the magical conduit known as Google Forms.

See link below to make suggestions for upcoming editions!  
<https://forms.gle/oRhzmDYsWTvHEXwF8>

## Montengarde Website

Suspicious that the Chronicler is feeding the masses propaganda?

Check out the Official Barony of Montengarde Website to stay up to date! You can find our Calendar along with the latest and greatest news!

<https://www.montengarde.org/Welcome/events/>



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As always, you can also contact the chroniclers' desk directly for anything regarding this newsletter!

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# THANKS AGAIN FOR READING!



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