



Aurora Borealis

Lighting up the Northern Shores Region

Second Quarter 2007

Volume 2 Issue 2

Northern Shores Rattan and A&S Champs

Written by Baron Hensojin

First, some news about the Havre des Glaces birthday, Fête des Glaces, Regional heavy fighting and Arts & Sciences tourney held on January 20th in our lands. There were 120 attendees that took part in the day, some fighting, some exhibiting their work, some amazingly watching everything, some others working all day in the kitchen, on the field, or attending His Majesty, King Lucan. From my perspective as autocrat everything went fast and smooth. I just hope it was the same for all of you there.

The winners and our new Champions are:

Northern Shores Champion of Arts and Sciences: Lady Magdalena van der Haa
Northern Shores Champion of heavy fighting: Lord Edmund O'Rourke

They now bear the regalia of Our region as Our Champions! May all respect them and help them in their field, as they represent the passion and the prowess of the Northern Shores!

Also a major point to this day, the elevation of Ludwig von Eisburg to the Order of the Laurel. You probably know Master Ludwig from his fine beverages and knowledge on brewing, coffee, spices and many other sciences. Halaf Meister Ludwig!

His Majesty also elevated two of our beloved, Lady Meara and Lady Brunegarde to His Order of the Terpsichore. Again to both of you, thank you for your contagious passion for dancing.

Contribute to the NSR *Aurora Borealis*:

The next edition of the Northern Shores Regional Newsletter, the *Aurora Borealis* is due to be available online by **July 1, 2007**.

All contributions for the next issue must be received **no later than June 1, 2007**. No submissions after that date will be accepted for the July issue.

Contributions should be sent to: Mistress Gwenhwyfar Dinas Emrys
(gwen@moonsandstars.com)

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Exchequer

Mistress Freya Manslayer Karlsdottir

Earl Marshal

H.E. Master Conrad Connor MacAllyn

Badger Herald

Mestress Lyanna Kernough

A&S Minister

H.E. Mistress Gwenhwyfar dinas Emrys

Minister of Lists

Signore Cosmano Piero Michelotto de Roma

Accessibility Porter

Lord Dugald the Sheepstealer

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Deputy Commander of Archery

Lady Elise ferch Morgan ap Owen

Deputy Commander of Combat Archery

Lord Aethelwulf Stealcere

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Master Ludwig von Eisburg

Deputy Commander of Horse

Lord Cailean mac Eachduinn

Deputy Commander of Fence

*Lord T. Tarius Britannicus and
Master Gruffyd the Innocent*

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Gustav die Stermere

Mebh De Orkney

Sir Gareth Grey de Wilton

Baron Pellandres dit Le Frère

Baron Hensojin

Upcoming Events in the Northern Shores

April 14

Spring into A&S/NSR Fencing Championship

Canton of Ynys y Gwaed (Ruantallan)
Charlottetown, PE

May 18-21

NSR War Camp VI

Shire of Lyndhaven
Woodstock, NB

June 29 – July 2

Ruantallan War Camp

Canton of Distant Shore (Ruantallan)
Pictou, NS

September 1-3

25th Anniversary & Warcamp

Shire of Ar n-Eilean-ne
Newfoundland

September 14-16

Fires of the Equinox

Barony of Dragon Dormat
Montreal, QC

May 5

Seashire 25th Anniversary: Return of the Kelpie

Canton of Seashire (Ruantallan)
Musquodoboit Hbr., NS

June 22-24

Return of the Lost Caravan

Barony of Dragon Dormant
Montreal, QC

August 10-12

Pennsic Pity Party

Barony of Dragon Dormant
Montreal, QC

September 8

Medieval Day on the Mountain

Barony of Dragon Dormant
Montreal, QC

(Special interest events - Outside of the Northern Shores)

July 13-15

Great Northeastern War XXI

Province of Malegentia

July 27 – August 12

Pennsic War XXXVI

Kingdom of Æthelmearc

A note from the Boreal Army Commander

Written by Sir Gareth Grey de Wilton

Greetings all. Well the snows of winter have started to recede and it's time to shake the rust off both armor and combatant. Ensure you go over your armor and weapons, especially rivets and strapping. Don't miss out on the fun because you're off looking for a repair kit!

The Boreal has had a busy start to the year with the Regional tournament, Regional practice, Winter War, and a small but very enthusiastic bunch at Estrella War. Lets keep up the momentum.

My sights, as always at this time of year, are set on GNEW and Pennsic. There are some new shield manoeuvres that are in the planning phase that will be implemented this year. To be kept informed on this or other aspects of the Boreal Army join the mailing list:

BorealArmy-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Lastly goes out a hearty congratulation to my Lieutenant, Yesungge Bahadur on his elevation to the Order of Chivalry. Vivant!

Please note:

Newsletter editors reserve the right to edit content as required for space and content. We will do our best to present your contributions in full, however, some edits may be required to accommodate for limited space.

Knighting in Foreign Lands

Written by H.E. Mistress Gwenhwyfar dinas Emrys

On the 17th day of February, AS XLII, we gathered together under the hot Atenveldt sun at the behest of our King, Mighty Lucan VII, and his glorious Queen Jana IV, to fight in the Estrella war. The mighty forces were preparing for the bridge battles on a beautiful blue sky day, when His Majesty leaned over to Sir Gareth and told him that after this battle he would make H.L. Yesungge a knight. He bade Sir Gareth to find H.L. Yesungge's knight and tell him of the good news. Sir Gareth sprinted to the other side of the battle to tell Syr Kaidu the good news and suddenly, plans sprang into action.

After the hour and a half resurrection battle, the gun sounded bringing an end to the fighting. The eastern fighters gathered around His Majesty and the East Kingdom Banner as Her Majesty appeared to congratulate the fighters. The King of the West, milled about with his entourage and the Calontiri Army approached, Their King at the lead.

The first order of business - a scroll presented to Mistress Bess Darnley of the East for her Iron Fera award. H.L. Yesungge and the King of Calontir had arranged some months previous to have the scroll read on the battlefield at Estrella and Yesungge was so pleased with his wife's "gotcha"! But then the King of the East called H.L. Yesungge into court.

His Majesty started to tell the crowd gathered of the Order of the Valiant Tyger, what the standards were and who receives it. And then He looked at Yesungge and said "This is not what I am giving you today." He called forth Syr Kaidu and asked him to release H.L. Yesungge from his fealty, as this man was not currently "His man". He was released from his fealty, and with that, His Majesty Lucan VII looked at H.L. Yesungge and told him he would make him a knight, right there on the battlefield.

His Majesty looked around and asked "*Is there a Pelican that would speak for this man?*" – I, Mistress Gwenhwyfar, Pelican of the East, claimed that honor.

"*Is there a Laurel that would speak for this man?*" – His Majesty, Tristram of Lindsfarne, King of Calontir, spoke for the Laurels.

"*Is there a Lady of the Rose that would speak for this man?*" – Her Grace, Syr Ariel of Glastonbury Tor, spoke for the Rose.

"*Is there a member of the populace that would speak for this man?*" – Lady Cornelia Vandebrugg from Ruantallan stood and spoke for the populace.

"*Is there a member of the Chivalry that would speak for this man?*" – H.L. Yesungges knight, Syr Kaidu, claimed that right.

"*Is there a belt?*" – Sir Gareth stepped forward and gave H.L. Yesungge his own belt, passed down from Sir Randall the Dark, to Sir Stephen du Grandchamp, to Jarl Thorvald Halverson, to Sir Ishido (A.K.A Sir Robert of the West), and most recently to Sir Gareth Grey de Wilton.

"*Are there Spurs?*" – A set of spurs, bought that very day, were provided by Syr Andrew Ward.

"*Is there a chain?*" – The chain presented was H.L. Yesungges' knights chain, Syr Kaidu.

After all these items were produced, the King called for a sword that he might dub H.L. Yesungge. The King of the West, father of all kingdoms, brought forth the Sword of the West. Their Majesties, King Lucan VII and Queen Jana IV, then did knight H.L. Yesungge on the battlefield of Estrella and a new knight of the Northern Shores Region is made.

Unbelted Champions

Written by Sir Mohammad Sevim Uglu Gowan Uglu

Combatants of the Northern Shores!

A last call to join the team of the Unbelted Champions for this season!

You don't have to be the best fighter, you just need an appetite for destruction and to contact me soon as possible at fatalatapouitte@hotmail.com!

Soon to Retire!

Written by Baron Hensojin

First, let me thank Their Excellencies Seamus and Esperanza for their work, time and dedication to their group, and to this Region. You're soon to be retired Your Excellencies. For the too brief occasion that I had to be with you, you've been a pleasure to be around. I was honored to be you cousin.

Second, dear readers, I tricked you a little! The title is not only about Their Ruantallan Excellencies... I will soon ask Their Highnesses Gryffith and Akaterina to plan my retirement. In fact, their own successors will have to preside over the succession of a new Baron of Havre des Glaces during their reign as King and Queen. This will take us to around the Spring tourney of 2008 (in a little more than a year from now). A new life awaits me (mundanely I am going into the lambing industry) and I will not be able to be as present and devoted to my people. Also, I've always said that I took the coronet for only a couple of years. I'm the "transitional" Baron, as I often joke. But, I truly believe that there's good people that will be ready and up to the task at the right moment. Was I ready when I took the coronet? I think not. Was I resolute to help Our Barony? You decide, because in the end, what are the prerequisites to being a good Baron/Baroness? There are no right or wrong answers, it mostly depends on the group you're in. That's the wonderful power of being a Baronial Coronet... and the biggest challenge!

Court Report – Fête de Glaces

*Court Herald: Avelina Keyes, Cairn MacAllister
Reporting Herald: Fygen Abendroth*

Congratulations to the following residents of the Northern Shores Region, who were honored in the Court of Their Majesties, Lucan and Yana at Fête de Glaces in the Barony of Havre de Glaces on January 20, AS XLI, 2007 C.E.

Meara of Havre de Glace - Terpsichore
Scroll: Mistress Alienor des Trois Maisons

Brunegarde of Havre de Glace - Terpsichore & AoA
Scroll: Master Jonathan Blaecstan

Petru Cel Paros Voda - Maunche
Scroll: H.E. Master Conrad Connor MacAllyn

Ludwig von Eisenburg - Laurel
Scroll: Master Ætheric Lindberende

Congratulations also goes out to:

Lady Magdalena van der Haa
Northern Shores Regional A&S Champion

Lord Edmund O'Rourke
Northern Shores Regional Heavy List Champion

Great Northeastern War

Written by Lord Quentus Quintilius Mortis – GNEW Autocrat

Please join the Province of Malagentia for the 21st Great Northeastern War. Stonemarche shall be our honorable opponent as we celebrate the event's coming-of-age.

Please visit our website -- www.gnewar.org -- for the most up to date and detailed information about this event.

Great Northeastern War will again be a weekend packed with all the things you like best about the SCA – fighting, rapier combat, archery, shopping, youth combat, children's activities, classes, dancing, arts, music, and Traditional Malagentian Hospitality. Activities begin Friday afternoon and continue through Sunday morning.

We will again be returning to the beautiful Hebron Pines Campground, replete with flatland camping, hot showers, indoor plumbing, and a swimming pool. There is no "land grab" or other mechanism to pre-reserve camping locations at Great Northeastern War. If you have special medical needs that require you to have access to electricity or sleep in an RV or other specially equipped vehicle in order to attend the event, please contact the autocrat before July 1st. Please do not contact the campground management to make separate arrangements for your RV for the event.

No one under the age of 18 will be allowed on site unless accompanied by their parent or legal guardian who must be present on site with the minor at all times. If you have any questions about this policy, please contact the autocrat for more information.

Please note: Volunteers for activities throughout the weekend are needed. If you would like to volunteer some of your time, please contact the events volunteer coordinator:

Tierannan Sheperd
speckld@localnet.com

Ruantallan Coronet Election

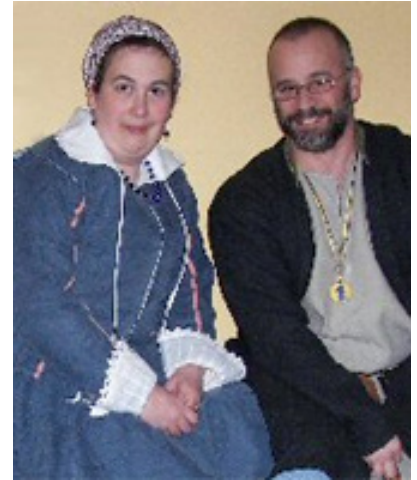
Three couples have stepped forward and formally announced their intention to run for the Coronet seat in the Barony of Ruantallan. As ballots are currently making their way out to the populace (paid members only), take a moment and get to know your candidates.



Lady Janet Kempe and Lord Lachlan Mac in Toisich of Benchar
<http://janetandlachlan.sccspirit.com>



m'lady Anastasiia Temnoloshadskaya and Lord Perceval Gower Esq.
<http://perceval.pictoucounty.ca/>



Lady Estela du Frayse and Lord William Lancton
http://www.goldenoakinn.com/baronial_candidates_page.htm

A letter of introduction from Lady Janet and Lord Lachlan:

Unto the Populace of the Northern Shores do Lord Lachlan Mac an Toisich and Lady Janet Kempe send greetings,

As two of the Baronial Candidates within Ruantallan, we wish to take this opportunity to send greetings and good wishes to all of the Northern Shores. For those of you who have not met us we will give a brief introduction. Lachlan has been in the society for ten years now and is an avid fencer, fighter, archer and blacksmith. He has also been awarded the Order of the Terpsichore for his work at dancing in Ruantallan. Lady Janet is also to be feared on the field, having demonstrated her prowess at both fencing and archery. She is also a skilled seamstress, having received the Order of the Maunche for her costuming and is well known for her service, having received the Order of the Silver Crescent. We have both been active within Ruantallan, running events and cooking feasts over the last several years and have served as Herald and Exchequer for the Canton of Seashire for the last three years.

We are strong supporters of the Northern Shores, and wish to see our fair region grow in the coming years. We also hope to build upon the already great cooperation and goodwill between all Baronies within the Region. We hope that the triumphs of the Boreal Army, notably that of GNE where we crushed the opposition, will continue and that Ruantallan will add many additional skilled and fearsome fighters, fencers, archers and artisans to its' ranks. We also wish to see the Northern Shores regional competitions continue to grow and expand so that those who are highly skilled in various disciplines shall receive the recognition they are due.

In closing we wish to pass our heartfelt congratulations to the newest Knight in the Northern Shores, Sir Yessungge Altan, and our felicitations to the members of the Boreal Army who bore the Northern Star to the far fields of Estrella War.

Sincerely
Lachlan and Janet
Tempestas Borealis

Editors note:

All candidates for the Ruantallan Baronial Coronet were given equal opportunity to submit a letter of introduction for the *Aurora Borealis*. Please note that we have included all information received at the time of deadline – March 1, 2007.

We encourage people to visit the websites of all the candidates for more information.

Youth Combat

Written by Baron Hensojin

Greetings from the Northern Shores Youth Combat Deputy. Please note, if you are not on the following list you are not a Youth Combat Marshal. Chivalry does not automatically grant any marshallate over Youth Combat. If you think you are a youth marshal and you are not on this list, please communicate with me ASAP. Here is the list of Youth Combat Marshals for our Region as per March 2nd, 2007:

- ◆ Hensojin
 - ◆ Muirdoch
 - ◆ Yesungge
 - ◆ Drogo
 - ◆ Sorcha
 - ◆ Branwen (MIT)
 - ◆ Brazen (MIT)
 - ◆ Tynan (MIT)
- MIT = Marshall in Training*

Note that we are in desperate need of Youth Combat Marshals for our western groups. Interested? Please contact me.

Baron Hensojin - YC Deputy of the Northern Shores
mgiard@hotmail.com

The Origin of April Fool's Day

Source: <http://www.museumofhoaxes.com/aforigin.html>

The origin of April Fool's Day remains clouded in obscurity. Basically no one knows exactly where, when, or why the celebration began. What we do know is that references to 'All Fool's Day' (what April Fool's Day was first called) began to appear in Europe during the late Middle Ages. All Fool's Day was a folk celebration and elite participation in it was minimal (which is why it's so difficult to trace the exact origin of the day, because the people celebrating it back then weren't the kind of people who kept records of what they did). But what is clear is that the tradition of a day devoted to foolery has ancient roots. As we look back in time we find many ancient predecessors of April Fool's Day. Here are two examples of April Fool's Legends:

British folklore links April Fool's Day to the town of Gotham, the legendary town of fools located in Nottinghamshire. According to the legend, it was traditional in the 13th century for any road that the King placed his foot upon to become public property. So when the citizens of Gotham heard that King John planned to travel through their town, they refused him entry, not wishing to lose their main road. When the King heard this, he sent soldiers to the town, but when the soldiers arrived in Gotham they found the town full of lunatics engaged in foolish activities such as drowning fish or attempting to cage birds in roofless fences. Their foolery was all an act, but the King fell for the ruse and declared the town too foolish to warrant punishment. And ever since then, April Fool's Day has supposedly commemorated their trickery.

The most widespread theory about the origin of April Fool's Day involves the Gregorian calendar reform of the late sixteenth century.



The Fool, by Vogther, the younger

The theory goes like this: In 1582 France became the first country to switch from the Julian to the Gregorian calendar established by the Council of Trent (1563). This switch meant, among other things, that the beginning of the year was moved from the end of March to January 1. Those who failed to keep up with the change, who stubbornly clung to the old calendar system and continued to celebrate the New Year during the week that fell between March 25th (known in England as Lady Day) and April 1st, had various jokes played on them. For instance, pranksters would surreptitiously stick paper fish to their backs. The victims of this prank were given the epithet Poisson d'Avril, or April Fish. Thus, April Fool's Day was born.

Of course, you must remember that these are merely theories, and cannot be regarded as fact. For more information, and other proposed theories on the origin of April Fool's Day, visit the website used as the source for the information provided here: <http://www.museumofhoaxes.com/aforigin.html>