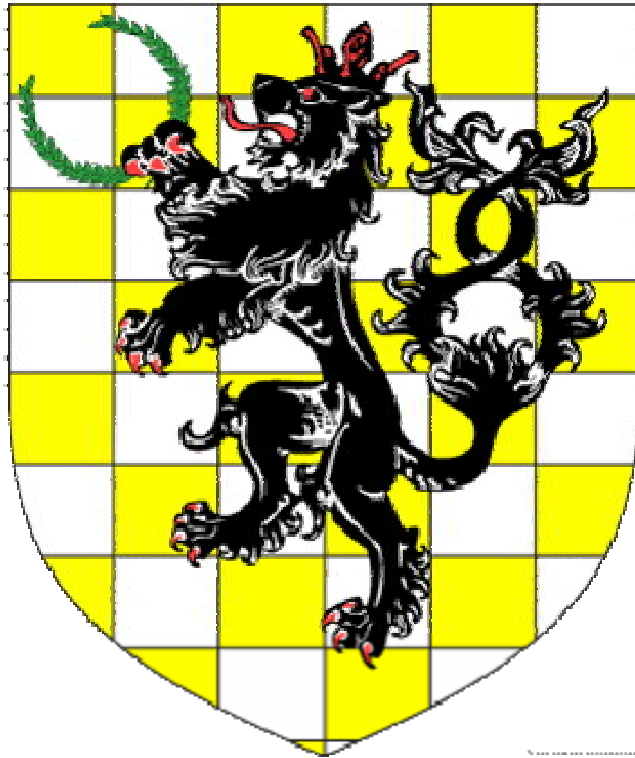


AN INTRODUCTION TO THE



HISTORY OF

THE KINGDOM OF AN TIR

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Miss Rowenna de Manning, Master Edward the Stuffy, Viscount Edward Zifran of Gendy,
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I. Introduction

The Kingdom of An Tir is the ninth kingdom of the Society and was created on January, A.S. XVI (1982)¹. It is comprised of the U.S. states of Oregon, Washington, and the northern tip of Idaho, and western and northern British Columbia, and the Yukon in Canada. Three geographic areas make up the Kingdom, and they are: Central An Tir, which covers Washington State with the exception of, Whatcom County, Northern Oregon, and the Idaho panhandle; the Principality of the Summits, which covers Southern and Eastern Oregon; and the Principality of Tir Rígh in Western British Columbia, the Yukon Territory, and Whatcom County in Washington.² The Kingdom of Avacal was part of An Tir until June of 2015, and was a Principality consisting of Eastern and Northern British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and the Northwest Territories.³ The name of the Kingdom is pronounced “Ahn TIR” (emphasis on the second word).

II. Early History

The area that would become the Kingdom of An Tir was originally part of the first kingdom, the Kingdom of the West. The first signs of organization came in 1969 when Sir Frederick of the West Tower began to organize a new barony in the Portland, Oregon area.⁴ The first name he submitted for this group was "The Barony of the Mountains" but the heralds rejected this name for being too general. After receiving the rejection letter, the baron is said to have looked out his window and saw three mountains; Mount Hood in Oregon and Mount St Helens and Mount Adams, both in Washington. He resubmitted the name as the Barony of Three Mountains, which passed. After a major eruption of Mount Saint Helens in 1980 that caused a significant amount of the mountain to fall away, the group was, for a time, known in fun as 2½ Mountains.⁵

The baronial device of argent, a chief dancetty of three azure, in base a laurel wreath vert was passed in July 1970.⁶ The group's first event was a New Year's Eve Revel held on December 31, A.S. IV (1969). On July 1, of A.S. VIII (1973), King Paul of Bellatrix III and Queen Carol of Bellatrix III, 24th Monarchs of the West (March 24 to July 28, AS VIII (1973), granted a baronial charter to Three Mountains, and They invested Frederick of the West Tower and Anne of the White Tower as the Founding Baron and Baroness.⁷ The second group to take root in what would eventually become the Kingdom of An Tir was the Barony of Madrone.⁸ Some sources say Madrone was the first group in the area.⁹ The barony takes its name from a tree native to the area.⁵ The barony's name is pronounced “Madron-ah.”

The Barony of Madrone's first event, Sewing Fest and Practice Session, was held on January 31, A.S. IV (1970) at the home of Maid Laurellen of Evergreen in Mercer Island, Washington to prepare for the area's first tournament to be held later that year in May. The seneschal, Raymond the Mild, was on hand to run fighter practice. Lady Sheen of Ire, Maid Laurellen, and several other ladies offered instruction in sewing, and Maid Anne Borst taught few simple bransles to those in attendance.¹⁰

The First Tourney in Madrone was held on May 3, A.S. V (1971) at Clyde Schumann's Ranch in Olympia, Washington.¹¹ Raymond the Mild and Sheen of Eire became the Founding Baron and Baroness. On July 8, A.S. VIII (1973), King Paul III and Queen Carol III of the West granted a baronial charter to Madrone, on the same day that the Barony of Three Mountains received its baronial charter and invested Raymond and Sheen as Founding Baron and Baroness.¹²

On October 10, A.S. VI (1972), the first issue of Madrone's baronial newsletter, The Crier, was published by Roger the Goliard¹¹ and Nyneve.⁹ This publication would later grow into the Principality newsletter and then the Kingdom newsletter.¹¹

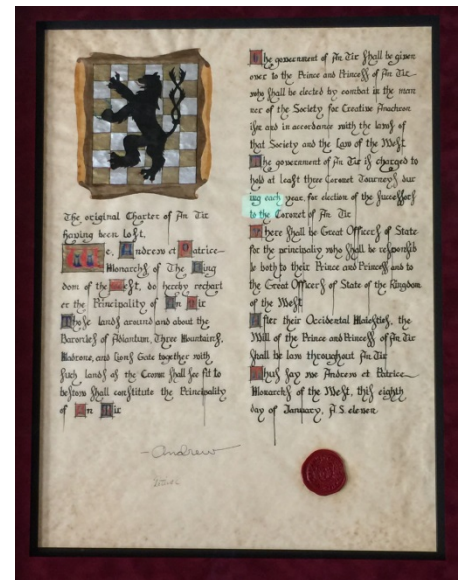
II. Principality

In the Eighth Year of the Society and the Kingdom of the West, the Baronies of Three Mountains and Madrone discovered that they met the requirements for becoming a Principality of the West.

They prepared a petition with their request and sent it off to the Board of Directors. In anticipation of approval of that petition, the two Baronies planned to host a grand celebration on Sunday May 27, A.S. VIII (1973). His Highness Paul III promised to attend as King; and this promise led to the tourney's title: Royal Tourney of Union.¹³

The centerpiece of the day was the signing of the unofficial Charter of Union (while waiting for the official document from the Board of Directors) by His Majesty Paul III and Baron Frederick of the West Tower of the Three Mountains and Baron Raymond the Mild of Madrone. This charter recognized the incipient Principality in the North (a name had not yet been chosen).¹³ Other activities for the day included fighting twilzy-wopping (a form of pillow fighting popular in the area), cookery, music, dancing, games, and court. The Tourney was held at Wallingford Playfield in Seattle, Washington, and the autocrats were Liam of the Barque and Gernot of Gallimaufry.¹³

At this same event, His Majesty created Raymond the Mild, Baron of Madrone, a Master-of-Arms. He also awarded Arms to Liam of the Barque, Dierdre Muldomhnaigh, Nyneve, Gwili, and Geoffrey of Sperance. In the last piece of business, His Majesty elevated David of Bagulay as the first An Tirian member of the Order of the Laurel in recognition of his remarkable accomplishments as a musician, composer, leader of the Baron's Singers, and member of the Voice of the Turtle,¹³ a singing group composed of Roger the Goliard, David of Bagulay, and



Replacement scroll created in AS XI to commemorate the founding of the Principality of An Tir.

Restoration and conservation by:
Duke Skeggi Nyewcombe

Photo by: Magistra Julia Semprona, OL

Maleen of Gamliel, which made its debut at the Barony's Valentine's Day Revel on February 19, 1972.¹⁴

The official proclamation recognizing the new principality did indeed come from the Board of Directors, and so in the eighth year of the Society the First Coronet Tourney for the still unnamed Principality was held on August 25, A.S. VIII (1973) at the Fallshire Renaissance Faire in Snoqualmie Falls Forest Theatre in, Snoqualmie Falls, Washington. Those wishing to attend were instructed to contact Robert of Winchester to arrange for a participant's pass so they would not be charged admission to the faire.¹⁵

Rumors had circulated prior to the First Coronet that the Principality of Northgate was an early favorite for the name of the new Principality, but at the last minute, the name An Tir, which is Gaelic for "The Land", was chosen at the event itself in the presence of Their Majesties, the Lord Seneschal, the Mistress of Arts, the Baron and Castellan of Madrone, among other dignitaries. Sir Frederick of the West Tower, Baron of Three Mountains, was the day's victor and named his Baroness, Anne of the White Tower, as his Princess.¹⁵

Then in a lovely ceremony written by Lady Karina of the Far West, King Henrik VI and Queen Seistse,¹¹ the 25th Monarchs of the West (June 23, AS VIII [1973] to January 5, AS VIII [1974]), crowned Frederick and Anne as the first Prince and Princess of An Tir. The Seneschal of Madrone, Gernot of Gallimaufry, was named as the first Principality Seneschal, and Sir Jerald of Galloway, called the Swordbreaker, became the first Principality Herald. Lord Gernot received a Grant of Arms, and Margaret of Ashford, Richard of Ravenwolf, and Robert of Winchester were awarded Arms.¹⁵

An Tir's arms, Checky Or and argent, a lion rampant tail forked and nowed sable, crowned gules, grasping in dexter forepaw a laurel wreath bendwise vert, were designed by Robert of Winchester, who was a graphic designer. The or and argent checky field was originally submitted to the College of Heralds as a "checky of 20".⁶³

In the meantime, the Incipient Shire of Lions Gate in Vancouver, British Columbia,¹⁶ began to organize when the citizens of An Tir hosted the V-Con III Demonstration on February 22-24, AS IX (1974) at the Science Fiction Convention in Vancouver. The demo event featured demonstrations of fighting, dancing, and other SCA activities. After the event, a reception was held at the home of Michel le Voyageur and his lady Susan, who would go on to become the founders of the group.²¹

Later, in October A.S. VIII (1973), Susan the Opaque, Michael le Voyageur, Pere Daniel, Illya, Bjorn of Havok and Akbar led an organizational meeting to start an official group in the area, at Susan and Michael's home. Fighting practices began three weeks later at the North Shore Neighborhood House where Bjorn was working at the time. Bjorn had heard that the S.C.A fights with rattan swords and began to *weave* swords from rattan caning used in chair seats.²²

Lions Gate takes its name from two mountain peaks which are visible throughout most of the city that create the distinct appearance of couchant lions such as those seen at gateways, which are actually known in the modern world as "The Lions". The peaks are featured prominently in the life of the city and are reflected in the many things named after them, such as Lions Gate Bridge and Lions Gate Hospital.¹⁷

The group's first official event was called Monboggian Mid-Winter New Moon Festival and was held at the UBC Student Union Building Ballroom¹¹ on January 18, A.S. XI (1975). The autocrats were Akbar the Beast, Ulfhamr, and Baron Liam of the Barque.¹⁸

The following month, Lions Gate hosted a Royal Tourney in the gymnasium of the North Vancouver Neighborhood House on February 15, A.S. IX (1975), autocrated by Susan the Opaque and Michel le Voyageur. The event featured indoor fighting due to the frigid weather. Sir William the Lucky, Father Ruthven of Rockridge, and Count William of Houghton and Countess Donna, along with their children, traveled from California to support and encourage the new shire.¹⁹

Paul IV and Carol IV, 29th King and Queen of the West, also attended the event where They awarded Arms to Sigurd von der Nordenraasa, elevated to the Order of the Pelican Edward of Stonehaven, Duncan of Chisholm, and Liam of the Barque (the first Pelicans from An Tir), and bestowed a grant on Maelen of Kyng's Lea. Their Majesties also chartered the University of Madrone¹⁸ (later to be known as the University of Ithra).¹¹ Their Majesties presented the scrolls of the original Baronial Charters for Madrone and Three Mountains, which had been on backlog. Baron Liam of the Barque accepted the scrolls on behalf of his fellow Baron who could not be present that day.¹⁹

The First Session of the University of Madrone was held on July 4-6, AS X (1975) in the Barony of Madrone at the Lakeside School in Seattle, Washington. The event was attended by approximately fifty gentles and featured a Saturday night symposium where about twenty people gathered to share knowledge and present papers on various aspects of medieval culture. A further session on Sunday night ended with a banquet prepared by Shalom ben Avram of York and the other members of the Sable Court and served medieval-style food to around 45 feasters. Prince Edward and Princess Fiona presided over court where they awarded Arms to Catherine Winifred of Tor-Bitterroot, James the Dancer, Styrbjörn Hrolfsson, Thorgeirr Eikinskjaldi and Alyanora of Vinca.²⁰

In May AS X (1975) the Shire of Adiantum held a fighting event, the Egil Skallagrimsson Memorial Tournament, on Memorial Day weekend near Eugene, Oregon. This event continued annually and became a major event on the Principality calendar, attracting fighters from far and wide, with lists often larger than Coronet lists of the day. Egil's Tourney, as it is commonly

known, is recognized as the longest continuously-held event in An Tir. May of AS LI (2016) saw Egils XLII.⁶⁴

Until the reign of Prince Edward Zifran of Gendy I and Princess Fiona di Varanus I, the 6th Coronet (June 28, AS X-[1975] to January 9, AS X [1976])²³, the young Principality had been holding Coronet Tourney and investing the new Prince and Princess all in the same day. Edward and Fiona decided to separate the two events. They passed Their Coronets onto Their Heirs, Prince Elrond Blacksabre and Princess Gilrean of Regen, 7th Coronet (January 3, AS X [1976] to May 1, AS X [1976])²³ who ascended to the throne on January 3, AS X (1976) at An Tir Twelfth Night¹¹. The event was held at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Seattle, Washington with Caitlin na Darac and Edward of Stonehaven as the autocrats. King William of Hoghton II, 32nd Crown of the West (January 10, AS X [1976] to May 1, AS X [1976]) also attended this event and Duke Paul of Bellatrix read the new Charter of the University of Ithra (formerly University of Madrone). Chancellor Michael the Black announced the appointments of Duchess Carol of Bellatrix and Baroness Amanda Kendal of Westmoreland as Regents of the University.²⁴The Shire of Adiantum was chartered as the third barony of the Principality on March 27th, A.S. X (1976). Its founding rulers were Michael of Dragonswood and Alyanora of Vinca. The name of the barony is the Latin name of the maidenhair fern.⁶⁵

The young Principality was growing and beginning to develop its own traditions, but it was still in many ways a wild land far from the center of the Kingdom. There were very few Peers in the vast area, with only three knights in the north. These hardy gentles had made the thousand mile journey to the Principality of the Mists at the center of the West Kingdom. While they were knighted for their fighting prowess, little was known about their abilities in the other facets of knighthood such as games, dancing, heraldry, entertainments, and chivalry among others. Very few members from the heart of the West who had traveled to An Tir had stayed long enough to witness these other non-fighting skills demonstrated.²⁵

Sir Theodolf of Borogrove and Mistress Anne of Caerdydd, Baron and Baroness of Madrone, and Master Gerhard Kendal of Westmoreland and Amanda Kendal of Westmoreland, Baron and Baroness of Lions Gate, considered this lack of visibility in the center of the kingdom to be a problem. They sought to find a solution that would provide a way for the good fighters of the north to prove themselves in the non-fighting aspects of chivalry to the satisfaction of those who would recommend these individuals for knighting to the Crowns of the West. After much discussion amongst themselves and with many others both in their respective Baronies and outside as well, these four decided to create the rank of Sergeant at Arms along with a process to allow gentles to earn this rank through a series of tests. This would be a rank earned by demonstrating mastery of skills, not simply an award given for past service.²⁵

Each candidate would be required to submit a request to a landed Baroness to enter the tournament (or trials as they were later called) and be judged by experts in each field. In order to pass the test, the candidate would have to be a dependable midlevel or better fighter and to demonstrate a greater level of knowledge with each of the other non-fighting skills than demanded by the requirements of Knighthood.²⁵

By creating these tests, the Principality sought to ensure that when a Sergeant from An Tir was being discussed by the Chivalry of the West, they would only have to consider that person's fighting prowess. The fact that a gentle held the rank of Sergeant would ensure that all the other requirements had been met and exceeded. There would be no question that the prospective knight had all the other necessary graces.²⁵

The first trials were held on July 16, A.S. XII (1977)¹¹ at Black Fens, the home of Master Michael the Black and Mistress Stevanna of Houghton. There were three candidates each from the baronies of Madrone and Lions Gate. By day's end, one gentle, Seamus MacCuraidh of Glenerochaidh, had passed the tests to become the first Sergeant in the Knowne World. He received a brown belt with a special buckle to denote his new rank of Sergeant.²⁵ Seamus would go on to be knighted on June 25, AS XIII (1978) by King Gregory of York and Queen Bevin Fraser of Sterling, 20th Crowns of the West. He later changed his name to Thorin Njalsson, and ruled as King of An Tir 7 times.¹¹

After several years of the Sergeant Tournaments, an equivalent rank of Yeoman was created for archers. This was followed by creating the rank of Gallant (accent on the second syllable) for the rapier fighters. The rank of Courtier emerged for those in the field of service, and the rank of Lancer would come for equestrian activities.²⁵ This concept spread beyond the original two groups to all of the baronies of An Tir, and some other kingdoms have also emulated this system.²⁵

While the specific trials vary from barony to barony, common subjects of the tests include heraldic knowledge, dance, medieval games, leadership ability, chivalry, courtesy, and knowledge of combat with emphasis on the particular rank being sought. Some baronies hold all the trials during one two-day camping weekend while others choose to spread the process throughout the year.²⁵

On July 30, A.S. XII (1977) at the Purgatorio Coronation Festival held at Big Trees Camp, Redwood Regional Park in Oakland, California, King Paul of Bellatrix VI and Queen Carol of Bellatrix VI, 37th Crowns of the West (July 30, AS XII [1977] to January 7, AS XII [1978]), elevated Michael the Black to the Order of the Pelican and awarded him an Augmentation of Arms: an inescutcheon sable, thereon a lamp within a laurel wreath Or, which represents the University of Ithra, which Michael founded.²⁶ This was the first Augmentation of Arms to be granted in the SCA.¹¹

An Tir began to grow and flourish with the creation of new branches and the advancement of older groups. The Crier expanded and began to publish information for the entire Principality, but as An Tir grew, so, too, did the issues of communicating with the Heartland of the West Kingdom so far away. Although the Crown of the West visited An Tir occasionally and did try to recognize the merit of their subjects in the North, distance often made this difficult. Many An Tirians felt that few awards were given to those unable to make the long journey down to the heart of the West where the vast majority of the Western Crowns and the Western Peers resided.²⁷

In addition to this lack of recognition, An Tir's officers sent in their reports to their Western superiors, but those reports were not always acknowledged. Officers at all levels in the Principality often went unwarranted through their entire terms of office. Difficulties with getting membership fees processed properly kept many from getting their newsletters and prevented groups from advancing due to a lack of reliable membership numbers. Notices for An Tir events were sent to the Page, the West Kingdom newsletter, but went unpublished, thus denying official status to those events and created the impression that there was little activity in the North for those in the busy center of the kingdom.²⁷

It was likely that many of these problems were created by overworked and undertrained volunteers and the technology available at the time (mimeographs for copies, everything being sent by mail⁶⁷) and the still informal nature of Society in those days rather than active obstruction. The people of An Tir didn't always see it that way, however. Disparaging comments directed at the Principality by some of the active and influential Westerners convinced many people that there was at least some active obstruction behind the issues.²⁷

The people of An Tir grew restive, and began to dream of becoming a kingdom in their own right, but several officers of the Kingdom of the West, and the requirements to qualify for Kingdom status put in place by the BOD, seemed to obstruct this goal in every possible way. Bickering amongst the people of An Tir made matters even more difficult. As the unrest grew, a plan emerged to persuade the Coronet of An Tir to declare the Principality as an independent Kingdom.²⁷ This plan was shared with select members of the populace who came to refer to themselves as the Rebel Alliance and was comprised of many active and influential members of the Principality, including several officers. A number of people looked into the legal requirements of creating a new non-profit corporation, and the necessary paper work was prepared so that the Rebels would be able to quickly form a separate U.S. non-profit corporation if it became necessary to cut ties with SCA Inc.²⁷

Then Viscount Sir Edward Zifran won Coronet Tourney again, fighting for Alma Tea av den Telemarken, and they were crowned the 12th Prince and Princess of An Tir on August 13, AS XII (1978). ManfredKriegstreiber, fighting for Koressa Thokubjalla, won the following Coronet

Tourney, and they were drawn into the plan as well. Eventually it was decided that the Principality would make its bid for independence at An Tir Twelfth Night, scheduled for one week after the coronation of Terrence of Halliday and His Queen, Allisandra, the 38th Crowns of the West (January 7 AS XII [1978] to April 29, AS XII [1978]). Terrence was an unpopular figure in the North for his perceived opposition to An Tir becoming a kingdom.²⁷ The idea was for Prince Edward to declare himself King, place the Crown on his own head, and then Crown his successor Manfred as King rather than Prince – all as the head of a new, independent organization.⁶⁶

In the midst of all of this controversy, someone told Gerhard and Amanda Kendal, Baron and Baroness of Lions Gate, about the plan. The Kendals took their vows of fealty seriously and felt they had to inform the King of the West, Paul of Bellatrix, and the members of the Board of Directors of this plan

King Paul was infuriated when he heard the news, especially since he had long supported An Tir. He considered some of the leading Rebels as friends and didn't understand why no one had informed him of the issues An Tir was facing.²⁷ After a flurry of activity among those in charge, An Tir was declared to be in a state of rebellion. Royalist Barons Gerhard of Lions Gate and Theodulf of Madrone were appointed as Viceroys by King Paul. As the situation escalated, it soon became clear that there was a considerable divide within An Tir itself with many being Royalists and some being Rebels.²⁷

At An Tir Twelfth Night AS XII, both Viceroys were present, bearing the black and white striped staves of their office. Sometime before that event, the Rebel Alliance had chosen gray as their color, representing the color of An Tir skies "proper". In a display of solidarity amongst those who supported kingdom status, they wore gray armbands to the event that came to be known as Rebellion Twelfth Night so that their Prince could look out among them and see how many supported An Tir independence.²⁷

The Royalists had learned of the grey armbands in advance of the event and showed up wearing purple ribbons to display their allegiance to the West. Prince Edward and Princess Alma Tea along with their heirs, Manfred and Koressa, looked out upon their people and saw great division among them. Even though speeches were made and petitions for a declaration of independence was presented, neither Edward nor Manfred felt that they had a clear mandate to declare An Tir an independent kingdom.²⁷

An hours-long meeting privately took place in a side room, where the Viceroys and Edward the Stuff, Madrone's seneschal, among others, negotiated with Prince Edward, Manfred and leading partisans who sought secession. The discussion finally turned on the very practical idea that staying in the SCA, with its mundane legal structure already in place and its nationwide scope, was much better than being a relatively small group out on the edge of things, running

their own business. But it took a long time to convince everyone of the wisdom of that approach! The outcome of these negotiations was a resolution to pursue all ways to become a kingdom through existing channels, to actively seek increased contact and benefits of membership from the national organization, and to remain within the SCA.⁶⁶

Presiding at Court a scant half-hour after this meeting ended⁶⁶, Prince Edward received the royal crowns that had been prepared for him and his consort, and stated that he would hold them in trust for the day when An Tir would become a kingdom. The Rebel Alliance was disappointed at the failure of their plan, but they bowed to the will of their Prince.²⁷ Edward then lifted the coronets and crowned the heirs, Manfred and Koressa, as Prince and Princess of An Tir.

In the wake of the failed Rebellion, many people of An Tir continued to dream of one day becoming a kingdom and to discuss the best way to achieve that goal. These discussions would ultimately bring Royalists and Rebels together as a united people. The issues that caused the unrest were slowly addressed and the BOD worked with the officers and people to begin to clarify the processes for a Principality to gain Kingdom status.²⁷ It would be a mere four years later that An Tir would become a kingdom in its own right. In the meantime, life in the Principality continued.

At the Coronet Tourney held March 25-26, AS XII (1978) at Bellfountain Park in Benton, Oregon between Caer Lyon (Corvallis) and Adiantum (Eugene),²⁸ Prince Manfred Kriegstreiber, 13th Coronet, (January 14 to May 13, AS XIII [1978] created the non-armigerous Order of the Iron Chain to recognize courage in the face of real danger in the context of an SCA event,²⁹ in response to an incident involving a horse rescue at the previous Coronet in which he and three others participated.³⁰ Being a skilled iron worker, Manfred created the first Iron Chains as the regalia of the Order and awarded them during court to Morimoto Koryu (later known as Draggi Kathigitis) and Guillaume de Vinvert²⁹ of the Barony of Madrone and Harold of Warrington of the Barony of Lions Gate.³⁰ This Order is unique to An Tir and does not seek out new members. As of this writing, the Order has just 15 members.³⁰

On March 25, AS XII (1978), Viscount Sir Steingrim Stallari won Coronet Tourney and named Mistress Janeltis Karaine, Starfollower, OL as his Princess. They assumed the thrones as the 14th Coronet of An Tir on May 13, AS XII (1978) in Janeltis' home group, the Barony of Three Mountains.³¹ Although Janeltis was 77 years old upon her ascension to the throne, her endless enthusiasm, sharp wit, generosity, talented spirit, and graciousness along with her strong belief in the monarchy combined to endear her to the populace. Master Cathal Sean O'Connlaun of the Shire of Seagirt was inspired to launch a petition asking the Board of Directors of the SCA to create Janeltis the Dowager Princess of An Tir, the only permanent royalty in the Knowne World. This petition garnered great support in An Tir and was presented to Their Majesties James IV and Verena IV, 40th King and Queen of the West (August 19, AS XIII [1978] to

January 6, AS XIII [1979]) who whole-heartedly agreed and championed the cause with great fervor before the BoD. On October 7, AS XIII (1978) at the West Kingdom Fall Crown Tourney at Big Trees Camp in Oakland¹¹, James and Verena, with the blessing of the BoD, conferred upon Viscountess Janeltis Karaine, Starfollower the title of Dowager Princess of An Tir, such rank continuing forever and always.³²

Up until AS XIII, An Tir had followed the ways of the West Kingdom and had three reigns a year. But there were always difficulties with fighting Coronets in the rain/snow of March. Prince Ulfred and Princess Valkyrie (Sept 9 AS XIII [1978] to Jan 13, AS XIII [1979]) decreed that An Tir would have only two reigns a year, establishing the pattern An Tir still follows of two Crowns and two Coronations events per year. Prince Ulfred and Princess Valkyrie also set July Coronation as the event where the Champion of An Tir is fought for and the winner is installed.¹¹

On May 18th, AS XIV (1980), An Tir was gathered at the Snoqualmie Campground in Washington state outside of Seattle for May Coronet Tourney. On arising that Sunday morning attendees were told that Mount St. Helens, an active volcano 80 miles south of the site, had begun a catastrophic eruption! People looked to the south and saw what looked like a giant black forest fire boiling up on the horizon. The rain of ash and debris continued all day, closing Interstate 5 to the south and many highways going east, with effects on driving conditions that delayed An Tirians trying to return home. For a few An Tirians it took up to five days to get back to their homes. Egils tourney held in late May took place under a light fall of sun-obscuring ash from a subsequent mild eruption, and became known as “Egils Freeze Your Ash Off.”⁶⁶

The principality continued to grow and prosper with the populace becoming much more cohesive. This cohesion was helped by acquiring an An Tir anthem. The song “Brave and Bonny Host” was composed by Master Roger the Goliard and Arias the Innkeeper’s Daughter during a long drive from Madrone to the Myrgan Wood Border War in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan in the summer of AS XV (1980). The song was first sung for an audience at a Madrone Culinary Guild meeting days after their return from the war. Guild members helped complete one unfinished verse, and heartily cheered the song. Song sheets were distributed at the next several Coronet events, where the new anthem was sung in court.⁶⁸

The University of Ithra also helped the Principality develop more cultural cohesion. The University organized classes and workshops throughout An Tir. In AS XIV (1980), Mistress Rowenna de Manning (OL) was named as the third Regent of the University, and served as Chancellor of the Madrone campus for the next six years.⁶⁹ One goal of the University was, and continues to be, to offer classes that can help people function well in the Current Middle Ages. To this purpose, Baroness Amanda ensured the development and frequent offering of three SCA-oriented classes that became standards for a University degree: “Chivalry and Etiquette,” “Introduction to the SCA,” and “Marshalling and Fighting Appreciation”.⁷⁰

On January 17, AS XV (1981) at the An Tir Twelfth Night Coronetting of Scellanus of Skye and Maelen of Catcott, 20th Prince and Princess of An Tir (January 17 to July 12, AS XV [1981]), held in the Barony of Lions Gate, Baron Gerhard Kendal of Westmoreland, Earl Steingrim Stellari, Baron Theodolf of Borogrove and Baroness Anne of Caerdydd presented a petition to the Board of Directors through Frederick and Nicorlynn, 47th King and Queen of the West (January 3 to May 2, AS XV (1981)], to elevate An Tir to the status of the kingdom.¹¹

The text of the petition read as follows and was printed in The Page in April of AS XV (1981):

"Unto Their Majesties, the King and Queen of the West, and through Their august bodies, to the Directors of the Society for Creative Anachronism; we the people of An Tir send most courteous greetings.

As loyal subjects, we ask that You grant us the right to present this petition.

We collectively at this time ask, nay, demand that You grant unto the Principality of An Tir the status of Kingdom in the Society for Creative Anachronism.

For eight years we have been as a child at his father's feet. Now we have grown, and we are ready to seek our own way in the Knowne Worlde.

To this end we offer our abilities, our officers, our peers, and our people (yea, well more than two hundred of us) for Your observation and approval.

It is our wish that Your Majesties grant our petition, and champion our cause with the Board.

Should this petition meet with Your Majesties' approval, we ask that Your Signatures appear first, so that Your loyal subjects may sign without regard for fear or favor.

Presented this seventeenth day of January, Anno Societatis XV, being Anno Domini MCMLXXXI (1981)."

In His Majestie's Hand: "We hereby support and encourage all Our loyal subjects of the Principality of An Tir to sign, act, and behave to become a Kingdom. Done by Our hands this 17th day of January, Anno Societatis XV, being Anno Domini MCMLXXXI (1981)."³³

III. Kingdom

The people of An Tir were preparing for the next Coronet Tourney to be held September 5-7, AS XVI (1981) at the McLean Boy Scout Camp in the Barony of Lions Gate when word came from Their Highnesses Ulfred II and Sumingo, 21st (and final) Coronets of An Tir (July 12, AS XVI [1981] to January 16, AS XVI [1982]), that the Board of Directors had approved the petition to advance to kingdom status at its August meeting. Their Highnesses decreed that the upcoming Coronet scheduled for September would now be the first Crown Tourney of the incipient Kingdom of An Tir. The Victor and Consort would be crowned at the Twelfth Night celebration in the Barony of Madrone. The Seneschale of the West, Mistress Hilary of Serendip, followed up

this proclamation with a single page insert in the September Page that included an edited version of the tourney from the August Crier to ensure that all publishing requirements were met.³⁴

On Labor Day weekend, the populace of An Tir and the Kingdom of the West turned out in large numbers for the first An Tir Crown Tourney.³⁵ Their Majesties Steingrim II and Lenora, 49th Crowns of the West (August 22, AS XVI [1981] to January 2, AS XVI [1982]), travelled from their home in the Barony of Three Mountains for the occasion. Princess Sovereign Maythen II and Prince Consort William II,³⁵ 5th Coronets of the Principality of the Mists (May 9 to November 21, AS XVI [1981]), and Duke Frederick of Holland and Duchess Nicorlynn also attended. Saturday hosted various meetings, a live boffer chess tourney, and new fighter and weapon forms authorization with Prince Ulfred.³⁴

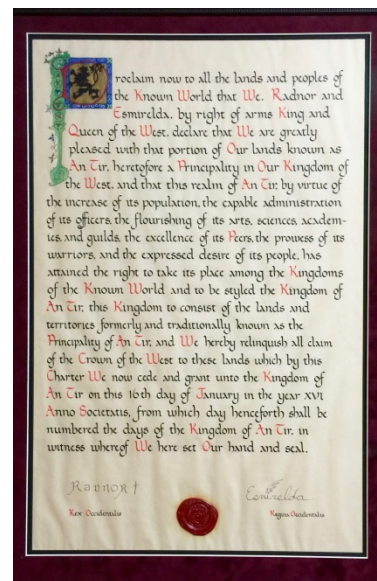
The Crown lists were held on Sunday. As the minstrels played and sang “The Brave and Bonny Host”, the shires and baronies of An Tir processed into court, followed by the fighters, all with much pageantry as banners flew. It was a large list of fighters. Some accounts put the number of entrants at 70.³⁵ The fighters formed two rows in front of the royal pavilion; unbelted fighters in the front, belted knights and experienced fighters in the back. Each unbelted fighter challenged the belted/experienced fighter of his choice for the first round.³⁴

With such a large list of contenders, the fighting took up the better part of the day. The crowd witnessed many breathtaking displays of prowess and chivalry on the field of combat. Viscount Sir Edward Zifran was called upon to do an encore of his dramatic death performance which featured realistic shrieks, gasps, and a flip in full armor.³⁴

After a hard fought contest, the victor was Master Manfred Kriegstreiber for Ragwen of Glenbourne³⁴ who would take the name Morag Campbell of Glenbourne before her ascension to the throne.³⁶ The first finalist was Sir Seamus d'Erochai (later known as Sir Thorin Njalsson) fighting for Lady Bolverk of Momchilovich,

The second finalist was Sir Scellanus of Skye fighting for Viscountess Maelen of Catcott.³⁶

Among the last Kingdom of the West awards given on that day, the native An Tirian King and Queen of the West, Steingrim II and Lenora, elevated to the Order of the Pelican Edward the Stuffy, who led the team that executed the organizational work of assembling laws, defining boundaries and awards, and ensuring officers were in place to fulfill the requirements for An Tir to function as a Kingdom of the SCA.⁷¹



Restored Kingdom scroll
commemorating the creation of the
Kingdom of An Tir.
Restoration and conservation by:
Duke Skeggi Nyewcombe
Photo by:
Magistra Julia Semprona, OL

In keeping with the principality tradition of Twelfth Night Investitures, the Coronation of Manfred and Morag took place at An Tir's first Kingdom Twelfth Night on January 16, AS XVI (1982) at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Seattle, Washington in the Barony of Madrone. The autocratting team was led by Baroness Anne of Caerdydd, and the Madrone Culinary Guild, led by Master Roger the Goliard, prepared the feast.³⁷

The Kingdom of the West had just celebrated its own Coronation the week before so it was King Radnor III and Queen Esmiralda III, 50th Crowns of the West (January 2, AS XVI to May 8, AS XVII [1982]), who crowned Manfred and Morag as the first King and Queen of the new Kingdom of An Tir.¹¹ In Their first court, the new monarchs created Sumingo of Amaranth the final Viscountess of An Tir and the last Lady of Valorous Estate.,³⁸

Sworn in as An Tir's first Kingdom Seneschal was Master Donn an Bronach, who had served the Principality for many years, including in the Barony of Madrone as seneschal, a founding member of the Madrone Culinary Guild, and as a master calligrapher and illuminator of award scrolls.⁷¹

An Tir's second Crown Tourney was held on May 15, AS XVII (1982). Torgul Steingrimsson won the tournament that day to become the 2nd Crown Prince of An Tir, but his first choice for his Princess abdicated, and Torgul then named Angharad Banadaspus Drakenhefd as his Crown Princess.⁶²

As the 2nd King of An Tir, Torgul wrought a significant change in the Kingdom through a royal command, and in An Tir the King's Word is Law. He decreed that by the next Crown event mundane tents and plastic sunshades would no longer be allowed to be pitched in the first row around the Eric, and that modern camping equipment should not be visible from the Eric. This spurred some inventive tent-construction over the following year and a renaissance of beautiful period pavilions that made An Tir shine.⁶⁶

Not long afterward, mighty fighter and skilled metalsmith Jarl Torgul won the commission to craft new crowns for the new Kingdom. People of the kingdom gave silver coins and contributions to help pay for the precious elements and the work. Stones from the Principality crowns were incorporated. His beautiful Crowns, first used in a Coronation ceremony on January 10, AS XII (1987), sparked awe wherever An Tir's Kings and Queens went.⁷²

At May Crown in AS XVIII (1983) held in Walla Walla, Washington in the Barony of Wastekeep, An Tir saw the snow that burned. Cottonwood fluff dropping from the trees caught fire on Friday night and quickly spread throughout the camp. One gentle was taken to the emergency room with a leg injury from running to fight the fire.³⁹ The event became known as Flaming Snow Crown.^{66,71}

This May Crown also marked the 10th anniversary of the Tourney of Union and the creation of the Principality of An Tir. The populace of the Shire of Wastekeep hosted a party featuring a large cake made from both white and yellow batter, baked into a checky pattern, and decorated with the arms of AnTir in frosting.³⁹ Jarl Torgul Steingrimsson won the Crown lists that day. Subsequently it was learned that his chosen consort did not fulfill membership requirements. The Crown Tourney was held again on July 9, AS XVII near the Barony of Madrone, and Jarl Manfred Kriegstreiber won, inspired by Morwen of Wye, and they were crowned King and Queen at Court the same day.⁷³

In Their final court at this event that came to be known as "Crownation", Ulfred and Adara, 3rd Crowns of An Tir (January 8 to July 9, AS XVII [1983]), elevated the Shire of Blatha an Oir, which means Blossoms of Gold in Gaelic⁴⁰, to the status of Barony – the first new barony in the Kingdom. Micheil MacGhillebrath of Dunmaglas and Rowan O'Ceallachain of Muscraidhe were invested as the founding Baron and Baroness by Their Majesties.³⁹

In February AS XIX (1984), the Kingdom Seneschale, Countess Morwyn of Wye (4th Queen of An Tir) designated the province of Alberta, Canada as a region comprised of the Baronies of Borealis and Montengarde, the Shires of Bitter End, and Windwurm in order to delegate some of her workload. Ragnar the Bold was named as the first regional seneschal. The formal process of moving towards Principality status was put into motion by the choosing of a name. The late Sir Conrad von Graz first discovered the word Avacal on a reproduction of an old Spanish map drawn in 1566 by Bolognino Zaltieri of parts of Western North America as a designation in the approximate area where modern day Alberta sits, and he thought it sounded like good name for the proposed region.⁴¹ The populace agreed and chose Avacal as the name for this new region.⁴¹

In May AS XX/XXI (1986), King Arthur and Queen Melissa led a large group of An Tirians in attending the SCA Twenty Year Celebration held in Ansteorra (Houston, Texas) on the grounds of the Texas Renaissance Fair. An Tir volunteers logged the most service hours among all the kingdoms, and brought for Arts and Sciences display the first Great Boke of An Tir, a huge volume, hand-calligraphed and hand-bound describing the Kingdom, and a fabulous 100+ foot long Seagirt Tapestry⁷⁴, which is made with materials and style the manner of the Bayeux Tapestry depicting events from the Shire's (later Barony's) history of Seagirt.^{66,71}

With the reign of Dak Ulfredsson and Lao Yu (January 10, AS XXI [1987] to July 11, AS XXII [1987]) An Tir was ruled by the first non-European to ascend to the Sable Thrones. Queen Lao, who had a beautiful and fully-developed Chinese persona and was in character whenever in public, created the Honor of the Carp, a non-armigerous award given by the Queen for excellence in persona development. In China, the carp is a symbol of perseverance in the face of adversity. The Honor was expanded during the reign of Queen Meagan (July 11, AS XXII [1987] to January 16, AS XXII [1988]) to include excellence in encampments.⁷⁵

In AS XXII (1987-88), with Montengarde and Borealis given the status of baronies, the shire of Myrgan Wood (Saskatoon, SK, Canada) in the Kingdom of the Middle increasingly looked in a westward direction. Eventually the members of the shire voiced their desire to join the Kingdom of An Tir. Treaties were signed and Myrgan Wood, along with the entire province of modern Saskatchewan, was added to An Tir thus making, An Tir geographically the largest Kingdom in the SCA. It took some people up to 30 hours each way to drive to events.^{66,76}

In October of AS XXV (1990) the Avacal Regional Newsletter (ARN) began publication. The first issue featured a contest to name the newsletter and sought opinions on the region pursuing principality status. The newsletter would come to be called the Avacal Circus.⁴¹

At An Tir Kingdom Twelfth Night held on January 11-12, AS XXVI (1991), the Region of Avacal was elevated to the status of Crown Principality by Tjorkill I and Hlutwige I, 16th King and Queen of An Tir (July 7 AS XXVIII [1989] to January 13, AS XVIII [1990]). While this designation has no formal existence under the governing documents of the SCA, it can be used to recognize the growth of a region and can be considered a semi-formal declaration of an area's intent to work toward Principality status.⁴²

At this same Twelfth Night event, King Tjorkill and Queen Hlutwige created the Order of the Honor of the Lion of An Tir. This award is given, with the recommendation of the previous recipients, to honor those who emulate the ideals and embody the essence of what it is to be a true An Tirian.⁶⁶ It may be bestowed only once per reign. Recipients may place the title "Lion of An Tir" after their names, and are so styled. They are entitled to include a lion, tail forked and nowed Sable, as a supporter in their arms, and may add to their personal banner a stripe on dexter chequy Or and Argent, to signify their estate.⁴³ Their Majesties invested Duke Master Manfred Kriegstribler, first King of An Tir, as the principal of the Honor.¹¹

At the Crown Tourney held on May 15-17, AS XXVII (1992), the Region of the Summits (modern day Oregon) was elevated to the status of Crown Principality¹¹ by Darius I and Jacyntha I, 22nd Crowns of An Tir (July 11, AS XXVI [1992] to January 9, AS XXVI [1993]). Gwion o Llanfair ap Bleddyn was named as the seneschal in June.⁴⁴

The summer of AS XXX (1995) brought sad news on July 21st when the kingdom learned that Her Serene Highness Dowager Princess Janeltis Karaine Starfollower had passed away at the age of 94. An Tir's heart was broken over her loss. In honor of her memory, a member of the populace registered a star with the modern authorities in Her name. It is located in the Andromeda Galaxy and serves as an eternal monument and reminder of her gracious spirit.⁴⁵

The Kingdom of An Tir celebrated the birth of its first Principality on March 3, AS XXX (1995) as the Summits held its First Coronet Tourney and Coronetting. Thorin V and Sineidin, 29th Monarchs (January 16, AS XXXI [1996] to July 20, AS XXXII [1996]), invested the victor, Sergeant Lawrence of the Marshes and Lady Mirriam de Xaintrilles as the First Prince and

Princess of the Summits. Lawrence prevailed over Master Timothy McDaniel fighting for Lady Fearga.¹¹

June 7-16 of AS XXXI (1996) brought a unique event to the Kingdom of An Tir. The Crown and people of An Tir hosted the SCA Thirty-Year Celebration held at the Clark County Fairgrounds, north of Portland, Oregon in the Barony of Stormgard.⁴⁶ This was a 10 day-long event featuring tournaments, dancing, archery, bardic circles, rapier combat, merchants, war scenarios, classes, Madrone's War Elephant, and the opportunity to meet gentles from all over the Knowne World. The attendance was just under 6,000 people from the US, Canada, Europe, Australia and New Zealand.⁷⁷ Master Jean-Louis de Chambertin led the kingdom in this endeavor.¹¹ This event also saw the first Known World Women's Tourney, The Lionesses Tourney, which was sponsored by Baroness Sancia of the Barony of Glymm Mere.⁴⁷

On the weekend of June 29 to July 1, AS XXXI (1996), Thorin V and Sineidin presided over the First Coronet Tourney of the Crown Principality of Avacal in the Barony of Borealis. Duke Rorik Gunnarsson won, inspired by Lady Gwendolyn Gover. He prevailed over Sir Aethelhere the Unsteady, inspired by the Honorable Celine D'AVINGNON.¹¹

On August 2-5, AS XXXVI (1996), the Kingdom welcomed its second Principality as the First Coronetting of the Principality of Avacal was held in the Barony of Myrgan Wood. Skepti I and Onore, 30th Monarchs of An Tir July 20, AS XXVI [1996] to January 11, AS XXVII [1997]), invested Duke Rorik Gunnarsson and Lady Gwendolyn Gover as the first Prince and Princess of Avacal.¹¹

After many years of being the Northern Region of An Tir, the area consisting of most of the province of British Columbia, and two northern counties of Washington State, Skepti II and Asa I, 38th King and Queen of An Tir (July 15, AS XXXV [2000] to January 13, AS XXXV [2001]), recognized as the area as the Crown Principality of the North (later to be known as Tir Rígh) at Kingdom Twelfth Night in the Barony of Seagirt on January 13, XXXV (2001).⁴⁸

At Kingdom Arts & Sciences Championship on March 2, AS XXXVI (2002) held in the Shire Shittimwoode (later known as the Shire of Thornwood⁴⁹), the Crown Principality of the North petitioned Their Majesties Wilam and Siobhan, 41st Crowns of An Tir (January 12, AS XXXVII [2002] to July 20, AS XXXVIII [2002]), for full Principality status. The petition was accepted, and after consultation with the Kingdom Seneschal, Viscountess Callista, His Majesty called forth Jarl Hwulf, Guardian of the North, He then commanded Hwulf to hold a coronet tournament at his earliest convenience to choose the first Prince and Princess of the North.⁵⁰

The group's first name choice was Tir Rioga, meaning 'Royal Land'. The elements of this name were documented from a modern English-Irish/Irish-English dictionary. No other evidence was presented and none was found that rioga was ever used in a Gaelic place name in period. Without any documentation for this name, it was rejected. The group's second choice was Tir Rígh,

meaning 'King's Land'. With several documentable examples available, Tir Rígh was passed in November of AS XXXVI (2002).⁵¹ The name Principality of the North had been commonly used for many years but was not passed.⁵³

At the Board of Directors meeting on April 26, 2003, Tir Rígh officially became the third Principality of the Kingdom of An Tir. Davin IV and Groa III, 43rd Monarchs of An Tir (January 11, AS XXXVIII [2003] to July 19, AS XXXIX [2003]) were named the Prince and Princess until the First Coronet Tournament can be held.⁵²

Tir Rígh's First Coronet Tourney was held on June 14, AS XXXVIII (2003) at the Fraser River Heritage Park in Mission, British Columbia in the Barony of Lions Gate.⁵³ From a field of 33 combatants, Sir Einar (Oak) Guntharson, inspired by Thora Golvik, bested all fighters, eliminating Sir Ulf Bloodfoot Fallgrson, inspired by Celdae the Seeker, to win the tourney. Einar and Thora were crowned the First Prince and Princess of Tir Rígh by King Davin IV and Queen Groa III that same day. Ulf and Celdae were inducted into the Orders of the Blue Spear and the Blue Lady, respectively. These awards are given to the fighter who finishes second in Coronet Tourney and to the fighter's inspiration. These awards are given only once to an individual.⁵²

On February 22, XXXIX (2005), King Skeggi I and Queen Taisiia I, 47th Crowns (January 8, AS XXIX [2005] to July 16, AS XL [2005]), announced that West Kingdom resident Duke Uther Der Hount had asked to fight in An Tir's May Crown Tourney for An Tir Duchess Angharad Banadaspus Drakenhefd. His Majesty went on to say that after thoughtful discussion with His Queen and Their council that They had decided to grant His Grace's request for many reasons.⁵⁵ Skeggi explained that He and His Queen were old traditionalists who wished to honor the spirit of An Tir's Principality days when An Tirians such as Torgul, Dak, and Ulfred, among others, traveled to the West Kingdom to fight for the Crown. The West Kingdom Crown Tourney had always been open to all gentles who would swear fealty to the King and the Kingdom. An Tir had continued this tradition upon becoming a kingdom, trusting that the best fighter would win. His Majesty told of Uther's love for An Tir and its traditions, how his mentors and heroes were of An Tir. He spoke of Uther's service and participation in An Tir which included teaching, training and befriending all he meets. His Majesty extolled Uther's Honor and Chivalry, and expressed His joy at accepting Uther to An Tir with open arms.⁵⁵

Duke Uther swore his oath of fealty to the King and Queen of An Tir at Their Twelfth Night celebration. At Skeggi's and Tasiia's May Crown Tournament held on the weekend of May 20-22, AS XL (2005) in the Shire of Corvaria, Duke Uther won the day for his inspiration, Duchess Angharad.⁵⁶ On July 16, AS XL (2005), Uther and Angharad VI were crowned the 48th King and Queen of An Tir,⁵⁵ (July 16, AS XL [2005] to January 4, AS XL [2006]).

In the fullness of time, the Ladies of the Rose and Valorous Estate came to recognize the need to memorialize those gentles who have passed in the Kingdom of An Tir. In response to this need,

they created the The Riderless Horse ceremony. Variations of this ceremony have appeared in many cultures throughout history. It provides an instantly and universally understood message as well as a solemn and dignified way to remember those we have lost.⁵⁷

At that same Crown Tournament, The Riderless Horse ceremony was first presented. The Ladies of the Rose and Valorous Estate approached the throne in pairs. HRH Angharad led her 3-year old black Percheron, Maximus, his back draped with a caparison which incorporated the retired Kingdom Champion's cloak. The caparison was made by Countess Dagmaer in Hvassa, Duchess Asa Starradottir, Viscountess Ynesen Ongge Xong Kerij-e, and Viscount Rapheal the Rogue. Over 120 handmade tassels were attached to the black and red caparison to remember those gentles who had passed over the years. King Skeggi read remarks prepared for the observance, and the Queen Tasila added two new tassels to honor those most recently deceased.⁵⁷

This ceremony continues to be repeated each year at September Crown, with a different horse each time if possible. The Ladies of the Rose and Valorous Estate collect the names to be remembered from a variety of sources. A new tassel is added for every An Tirian who has passed since the previous ceremony. Their names are then added to the online Scroll of Honor web page to further commemorate their passing and a hand-made scroll of all of the names travels with the caparison which is displayed yearly at Twelfth Night.⁵⁷

In February AS 40 (2006), the Principality of Avacal created a planning officer to help determine the requirements for the group to become a Kingdom. This effort went on quietly for several years until February AS 47 (2012) when the question received renewed attention. After detailed discussions with the populace, the decision to move forward was made. April of that year brought an increased effort to re-engage and inform the populace. Enthusiasm began to build about the move to Kingdom and the work to reach that goal began in earnest.⁵⁸

During the reigns of UlfR and Caoimhe, 62nd King and Queen of An Tir (January 12, AS XLVII [2013] to July 20, AS XLVIII [2013]) and Wenar III and Sina, 33rd Prince and Princess of Avacal (August 3, AS XLVII [2012] to February 23 AS XLVII [2013]), Avacal delivered its preliminary Bid Package to the Board of Directors in January of AS XLVII (2013) along with a request for the option to hold a formal polling. The BoD granted permission for Avacal to move forward in its bid to become a Kingdom and to poll the populace. By December, AS XLVII (2013) Avacal began a large scale communication campaign to educate the populace on the details involved with moving towards Kingdom status and encouraged everyone to voice their opinions whatever they may be.⁵⁸

In July of AS XLVIII (2014), Avacal conducted its second official polling of the populace to determine if enough interest existed to move forward to Kingdom status which garnered an

impressive 84% of the populace responding with 85% of respondents casting their vote in favor of becoming an independent Kingdom.⁵⁸

The BoD approved Avacal's petition to become the 20th Kingdom in the Society in January of AS XLIX (2015). Savaric and Dalla, 67th King and Queen of An Tir (January 10, AS XIX [2015] to July 18, AS L [2015]), announced the news via social media.⁵⁹

The Incipient Kingdom of Avacal held its First Crown May 1-3, AS L (2015) in the Shire of Bitter End in Red Deer, Alberta, Canada at the Benalto Ag Grounds. The event steward was HL M. MacLaren.⁶⁰ King Savaric and Queen Dalla witnessed as Albrecht von Rugen won the day for his inspiration Nasheeta Al-Rakkasa.⁶¹

They were crowned the First King and Queen of Avacal at Their Coronation which was held June 26 to 28, AS L (2015). It, too, was hosted by the Shire of Bitter End in Red Deer, Alberta, Canada at the Benalto Ag Grounds. The event steward was Rhyannon Wettenhale.⁶¹

At Kingdom Twelfth Night held on January 9, AS L (2016) the amazing craftsman Master Sir Torfin Torgulson presented new crowns for An Tir at the first court of King Eirik Daegarsson and Queen Driffina Ulfgarsdottir (January 9, AS L [2016] to date.) King Eirik and Queen Driffina gave honor to the previous crowns that had served the Kingdom for 29 years, and then replaced their regalia with the new crowns to wear.⁷¹

The Kingdom of An Tir is one of the oldest groups in the Society for Creative Anachronism, tracing its roots back to the first kingdom and the earliest years of the Society. As of this writing, in the waning months of AS L, this kingdom has much to be proud of, with traditions dating back decades. The people of the great Kingdom of An Tir look forward to the future with hopeful hearts and great anticipation of what glory lies ahead.

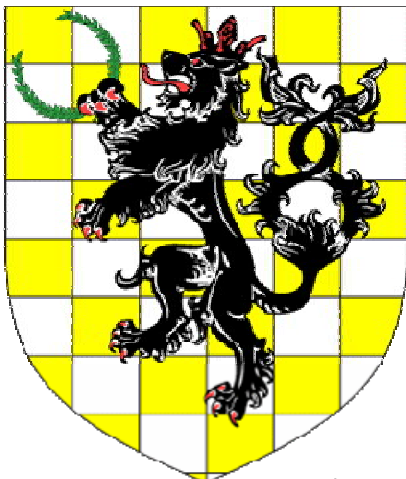
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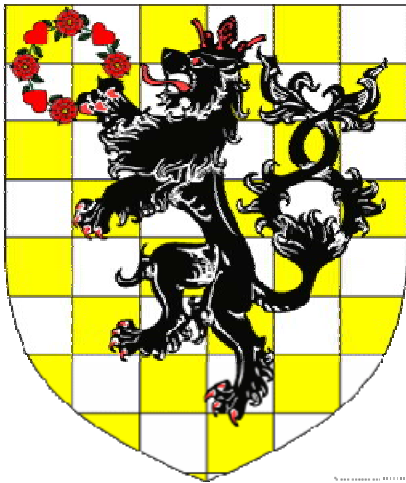
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- 61) http://wiki.antir.sca.org/index.php?title=Avacal_First_Crown
- 62) Personal communication with Angharad Banadaspus Drakenhefd via Facebook on November 29, 2015.
- 63) Personal recollection of Theodulf of Borogrove.
- 64) <http://history.westkingdom.org/Year10/AdiantumEgils.htm>
- 65) <http://wiki.antir.sca.org/index.php?title=Adiantum>
- 66) Personal recollections of Edward the Stuffy
- 67) Personal email communication with Duke Paul of Bellatrix
- 68) Personal recollections of Mistress Arias the Innkeeper's Daughter and Rowenna de Manning
- 69) http://wiki.antir.sca.org/index.php?title=Rowenna_de_Manning
- 70) From the University of Ithra Handbook and personal recollection. – Rowenna de Manning
- 71) Personal recollection of Rowenna de Manning
- 72) http://wiki.antir.sca.org/index.php?title=Dak_and_Lao
- 73) http://wiki.antir.sca.org/index.php?title=An_Tir_Timeline_XVIII
- 74) <http://wkneedle.bayrose.org/Articles/seagirt.html>
- 75) http://wiki.antir.sca.org/index.php?title=Lao_Yu
- 76) Myrgan Wood history wiki http://wiki.antir.sca.org/index.php?title=Myrgan_Wood
- 77) Personal recollection of the autocrat, Master Jean-Louis



Kingdom Device. "Checky Or and argent, a lion rampant tail forked and nowed sable, crowned gules, grasping in dexter forepaw a laurel wreath bendwise vert."



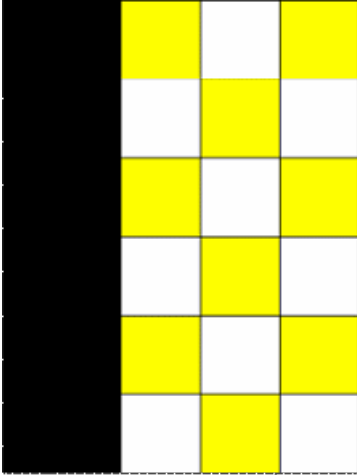
Queen's Device "Chequy Or and argent, a lion rampant, tail forked and nowed sable, crowned gules, grasping in dexter forepaw a wreath of hearts, points to center, alternating with roses gules, barbed and seeded proper."



Populace device #1 "Chequy Or and argent, a lion's head caboshed within a bordure sable."



Populace Badge #2 "(Fieldless) A lion's head erased contourny sable."



Ensign (display as flag only):

"Checky Or and argent, a dexter tierce sable."



The Principality of the Summits

Azure, a gryphon passant and on a mountain argent, a goblet azure within a laurel wreath vert.

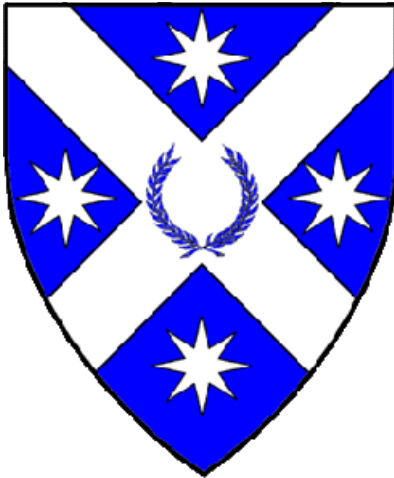


The Consort's Device - Azure, a griffin passant, on a mountain issuant from base argent a goblet azure environed by a wreath of barberry vert fructed azure.

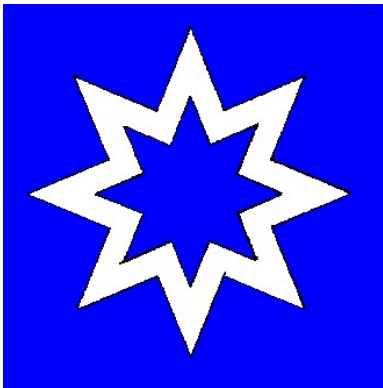
Populace badge - (Fieldless) A chalice azure.



The Principality of the Summits - Azure, on a saltire between four mullets of eight points argent a laurel wreath azure.



Populace Badge - Azure, a compass star voided argent.



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Disclaimer: This paper has been produced using a wide variety of sources and materials such as newsletters, event announcements, emails, personal communications, etc. While every effort has been made to write an accurate history, many of the source documents are based on the personal memories of individuals.