



# The Corvus

*A Ravensbridge Quarterly  
Publication*



# The Corvus

## The Winter 2023 Newsletter of the Riding of Ravensbridge

Submissions for the Spring issue of The Corvus are due June 15th. Please send your officer letters, educational or entertaining articles, original color artwork, photos, class handouts and “How To” guides for subjects pertaining to our SCA lives.

Cover Art, Riding Device, Officer Badges, and other graphics and artwork by Lady Sigrida Arnsdottir unless otherwise noted. Contact artist for permission to use.

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# The Corvus

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# The Corvus



A message from your Chronicler

Greetings!

I am excited to be your new Chronicler. I am looking forward to bringing you the news from the past 3 months, bringing your attention to upcoming events, and entertaining you with fun articles.

We will be publishing quarterly to start, then if our activities calendar gets busier we may do once a month. Our next issue will be our spring issue which covers April, May, and June activities and brings news on upcoming events.

As the years have gone by Ravensbridge has grown and accomplished a lot of great things. We have a great future ahead of us and more to do. I invite anyone with comments, ideas, or submissions for what they would like to see please email me.

YIS

Sigrída Arnisdóttir

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# The Corvus

## *Birka 2023*

After a long break, Birka was back in full swing this year. It was good to see old friends again and shop. There of course was a variety of things that happened at Birka. Unfortunately for me I don't get to see a lot of it because I am a merchant. However one of my favorite things to sneak away for is to see the Fashion show. This year the Queens challenge was mythological creatures. Three lovely Ladies from our Riding stepped up to the challenge and came up with some pretty creativ outfits.



### Lydia of Brus

Deep in the woods of Cumberland, Maryland, dwelled a terrible creature- the Snallygaster. Germanic immigrants told stories of the Schneller-geist (fast ghost) that haunted their settlements. The Snallygaster was said to be a terrible dragon like creature: half-bird, half-reptile, with a beak of metal that dangled wriggling tentacles. This fearsome monster was known to eat chickens and wayward children. The Appalachian Mountains, where the Snallygaster appears, are sisters to the Scottish Highlands. These old hills were once part of the same mountain range in Central Pangea. Garb is inspired by fashion of the British Isles in the 9th-11th C. Saxon gunna, tunica, and head rail in a color palette chosen to allow the Snallygaster to blend into the shadows of the woods. The tentacles were crafted from yarn hand-painted by Snallygaster Fibers in their Secret of the Ooze colorway.

# The Corvus

## *Birka 2023*

### Eyia Refr



photo credit Brenden Crane

My costume was inspired by the Waterhouse painting of Ulysses and the Sirens and similar illustrations portraying the Harpy/Siren. I wanted to use a similar color pallet to the Waterhouse painting, so I picked browns, tans, and blacks. I knew I wanted to incorporate a look of feathers but wanted to keep it plausible for the period, so I opted to make a dagged hood with layers to simulate feathered wings and take inspiration from 15th century styles. Each feather was a separate piece that was lined and turned, then added to the hood and sleeves. I also wanted to bring the feather motif into the rest of the look in case I happened to take the hood off. I added similar feather-shaped layers to the pin on sleeves in brown and black to contrast the black and cream color of the hood. After the garments were finished, I added some pop by making lucet cord to trim the hood in. And of course, the look could not be complete without harpy-esque feet, which was also a huge inspiration, so chicken leg socks were a must.

### Scorpion Genie

This Birka fashion show garb was inspired by the legends of the Jinn, otherwise known as a genie, that presented as scorpions throughout medieval Arabia. The gown is a traditional hand embroidered Syrian gown, with a headscarf that is befitting of a genie, full of gold thread, gems and rhinestones which veils the genie from being fully visible. The headpiece is carved from floral Styrofoam & helmet concussion padding, glue and curtain rod wire. It was spray painted gold and then bejeweled from head to tail with bits and pieces of shimmering jewelry. Even the genie's skin, nails and toes glittered gold...this scorpion genie tossed golden edible wishes into the audience as she walked down the runway.

### Vivien de Valois





# The Corvus

EVENT SEASON IS HERE!

photo credit Magnus Surtsson

It's time to dust off the camping gear, break out the warm-weather clothes and start making things to spruce up your kits. It is realized that we have obviously been having events up to this point, however being able to be outside, there is just something about it that gets the blood pumping.

For me Camping is the signal of the beginning of the real summer season. Panteria is the indicator for me that summer is here.

## Upcoming Events

- April 15th Spring's Inspirations
- April 22 Jehan's Fighting and Fencing at the Fort
- April 29 Balfar's Challenge & Dragonship Haven Baronial Investiture
- May 6-7 Malagentian Test Kitchen
- May 19-21 Consort's and Sovereign's Archery Championships
- May 26-29 Panteria XXVI

In Addition to the listed events, there are also everyone's two favorite events coming up.

The Great North Eastern War and Pennsic. 50.

Registration and details for GNE is coming soon. GNE is set to happen July 13 - 16

Pennsic 50's Registration is open now.

Pennsic online registration began Jan 8 for online

May 31 for mail in

Ends June 11 paid

June 6 unpaid

Pennsic begins July 28 and ends Aug 13

More details can be found at <https://www.eastkingdom.org/events>



# The Corvus

## Archery Corner

Welcome to another archery season! The snow is melting and the days are getting longer and warmer.

We have not started scheduling outdoor practices yet, but stay tuned for announcements. There are many upcoming events that will feature archery, including:

- April 29, Balfar's Challenge
- May 13, Tournament of Roses
- May 19-21, C&S Archery Championship
- May 26-29, Panteria
- June 30-July 2, North Region War Camp
- July 13-16, Great North Eastern War

If you are interested in becoming an archery marshal, would like to be more involved in the archery community, or are looking for some coaching, please contact me:

Archery Captain Magnus Surtsson

[archery@ravensbridge.eastkingdom.org](mailto:archery@ravensbridge.eastkingdom.org) or on Facebook messenger

## Practices and other activities

- April 8 Clean up day at Callie and Morty's property
- April 16 Crafting day at Erin Cabena's
- Every Tuesday Evening 5:45 Fighting and Fencing practice in Portland
- April 13 Dance practice at 7 in Gorham
- April 16 Regional Throwing weapons practice 12-4 Saco
- April 20 Malagentia Scribal Night at 7 in Gorham
- May 3 Malagentia craft night at 7 in Gorham
- May 26-27 Clean up at Callie and Morty's property

For more details go to

<https://ravensbridge.eastkingdom.org/wordpress/ravensbridge-calendar>  
and <https://malagentia.eastkingdom.org/main/calendar>



# The Corvus

## *Honorable mentions*

At Birka this year some of our populace were awarded for the efforts to the East Kingdom.

These people are:

Magnus Surtsson was awarded the Sagittarius

Aloysius Sartore received Stonemarche Keystone Baronial award

Viven de Valois won the Queens choice fashion show

mythological creatures

Hesychia of Ravensbridge recieved her Silver Wheel

## *Other Happenings*

Hesychia of Ravensbridge was taken as a Protégé to Mistress Fia Kareman of Stonemarche at Birka

Sigrida Arnsdottir was taken as Protégé to Master Godric of Hamtun at Tourney of Love

## **Visit our website**

**<https://ravensbridge.eastkingdom.org> for more information about Ravensbridge and to join our mailing list.**

**It requires a google account but it can be any one you'd like to use. We'd like to send newsletters, information about events to the mailing list, so we can be available to people who don't use Facebook. You can send messages there too!**