



# The Corvus

*A Ravensbridge Quarterly  
Publication*



# The Corvus

## The Fall 2023 Newsletter of the Riding of Ravensbridge

Submissions for the Winter issue of The Corvus are due March 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.

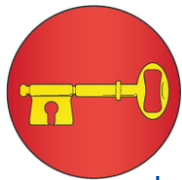
Cover Art, Riding Device, Officer Badges, and other graphics and artwork by Lady Sigrida Arnsdottir unless otherwise noted. Contact artist for permission to use.

Thank you to Aloysius Sartore and Magnus Surtsson for their assistance in proof reading this issue of The Corvus

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# The Corvus

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A message from your Chronicler

Greetings!

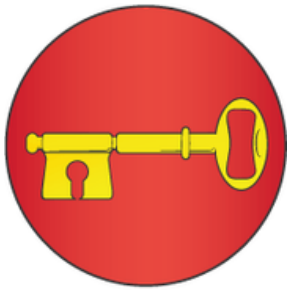
We will be publishing quarterly to start, then if our activities calendar gets busier we may do once a month. Our next issue will be our Winter issue, covering January, February, and March activities and bringing news on upcoming events.

As the years have passed, Ravensbridge has grown and accomplished many 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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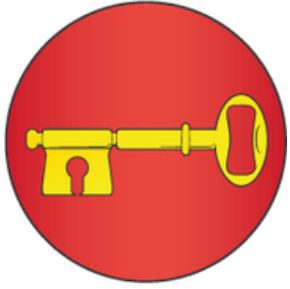
## A message from our Seneschal

### **Event Bids, or So I Want To Do This Thing**

So you've had an idea for a new event, or you want to put your own ideas into one we've hosted before. For any group to have an event, the group seneschal needs to approve both the event and the plan for running it. We do it this way as the group seneschal is where the buck stops, so to speak. If anyone has questions about how the event was done, or if insurance claims need to be filed, if someone reports harassment, the seneschal will be involved.

So how do you start? If it's an event we've budgeted for, get the budget amount from the exchequer, and start figuring out if you can hold the event for that amount. For some events it is worth checking in with the seneschal or exchequer to see if a location has already been put under contract for that event. If it's an event that's new, you have more flexibility, but you'll need to figure out a rough budget early on. Your group normally will need to approve an unbudgeted expenditure at a regular meeting. You would do the same if the pre-planned budget is significantly lower than what you feel is needed to hold an event.

The seneschal is going to want you to come up with some sort of written bid, which will describe all those questions that show up in news articles - who, where, when, what, and how. Ravensbridge has a google form for it, available on the website. If you can't get to that, check back with the seneschal or exchequer for help. In the bid, put in who's going to be the principal people responsible for the event. You don't need to list everyone who will help, but the major portions of the event should have someone listed, or at least an acknowledgement that this role will be filled. So if the event is primarily a feast, the bid should include yourself as Event Steward, and the person (not you) who's planning and supervising feast preparation - the Feast Steward. Bardic at that feast might need a steward, but if you don't have that person in mind yet, it can wait, as that's not the primary focus. However if the event is a regional bardic championship, then having that role listed is important. If you've never run an event like this, enlist as a deputy someone who has, and list them on the bid form - this lets the seneschal know you have backup and the event has solid leadership in the event that modern life intervenes.



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## A message from your Seneschal

### **Event Bids, or So I Want To Do This Thing**

Knowing who's responsible, where is the event going to be held? You can't contract with the venue until the bid is accepted, if it hasn't already been arranged by the seneschal. So be sure you tell the seneschal on the form and let them know directly if there's a deadline for getting the site, and what it will take to hold the reservation. If the site needs a check, that can take some time to get arranged. If the event site you want to use is more expensive than other events the group holds, be prepared to explain why you selected that location. Kingdom events often can have high attendance, so a space normally used by the group might not be adequate. That's ok, but the seneschal will need to know the reason for your choice.

When's the event to take place? Obviously the dates and times are important for everyone. The seneschal can also check a private East Kingdom google calendar to see if any other group has tentatively announced an event that they might be holding on your dates. If the event looks likely, it can be added to that private calendar as a warning to others.

The fun one is the "what" part. What's this event going to do, feel like, look like. Will there be camping, feast, marshaled contests or tournaments, will people want to try for a particular period for their garb, are there classes or other arts and sciences? You don't have to be exhaustive with this part, but try to hit the highlights. We all know that details can change for a number of reasons, so if something does change down the road, it's ok.

I'm going to stretch 'how' to cover everything else. How much will this cost to attend, what's a reasonable expectation of attendance, what are the big possible hurdles that may create problems during the event. Do we need to be concerned about excessive rain, or lack of, for example. Are there any site rules that are unusual, for example a feast in a building that does not allow open flames? Do we need to provide specific services or items for royalty, or are they expected at all? Are any potential trouble spots covered? What help will you need that has not yet been arranged?



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## A message from your Seneschal

### **Event Bids, or So I Want To Do This Thing**

Try to give the seneschal and exchequer enough information to know how the financial aspects of the event will work. Most events should at least break even, but that's not necessarily a requirement. Groups often use big events to fund smaller ones that would otherwise be impractical. If there are going to be horses present, or if golf carts or any other unusual equipment or performances are planned, put that in the bid so the seneschal can arrange the appropriate insurance, permissions and waiver forms.

Once you have the bid together and submitted, make sure your seneschal knows that it's in the queue. Asking if they received it and if they have questions won't hurt, and do try to be available later on in case they have further questions. Be available at the local business meeting as much as you can, so when the discussion about the bid comes up you can answer populace questions. It's easier to accept a bit from someone who's available and present than from someone you can't contact. The event steward has to be available during the event and during the planning phase, so if you're going to be away for a while, make sure the seneschal knows what's happening, and who's filling in when you're out. We know life happens, we just want to be sure the event happens properly too.

I expect this seems like a lot, and sometimes it is. Big events need more preparation. But if you're looking to have a smaller local event, most of the information gathering won't be difficult. Try to keep the event manageable for you and your staff, there's no requirement that it be overly complicated. Hold an event to do something you want to do, and that you'll enjoy. Some of the best events have begun simply because one or two people wanted to do something basic with their friends. You'll likely find that a lot of other people also agree and want to do the thing too, and will be overjoyed that you made it happen.

Aloysius Sartore,  
Seneschal, Riding of Ravensbridge,  
Province Malagentia





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A message from  
your Archery  
Marshal

## Harvest Moon

On September 23, Malagentia held their annual Harvest Moon event with the help of many from Ravensbridge. One of the competitions was the archery championship hosted by myself, Magnus Surtsson. The archery theme this year was Dungeons & Dragons. The competition included many great archers from Malagentia, including several from Ravensbridge. We also had representation from archers using recurve bows, long bows, and crossbows at all skill levels. The competition started with an “attack roll” which was a D20 shoot that each “player” had to shoot a certain score based on their archery rank. After a successful attack roll, the players had to take on an approaching hoard of attacking goblins. That shoot was a modified advancing soldier shoot with points awarded based on the distance away that the goblins were. After the goblins were eliminated, we were down to a final 8 who now needed to hunt for some food for the adventuring party. There were several 3D animal targets and each archer could shoot each animal twice to earn up to 6 points. Now with an adventuring party with full bellies, the final 4 were able to continue with the adventure. Unfortunately, the halfling paladin got themselves caught by a mimic treasure chest! In order to save them, the archers had to shoot the mimic while avoiding hitting their companion.



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With a successful rescue mission, the final 2 were finally ready to take on the final boss, a giant beholder covered in dangerous eye stocks. The finals came down to Max and Mickel, 2 crossbow grandmasters and perennial favorites for the Malagentian archery championship. The large beholder loomed in an attack position in front of our archers with a large center eye looking menacingly at them while 4 smaller eyes extended out each side of its body. Completing the look was a very large mouth with sharp teeth. In order to defeat the beholder, the archers had to shoot all 4 eye stocks then shoot the large center eye. After a tense battle, Mickel came out victorious!





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## Soothsayers Guild

Have you ever wondered about historical divination practices? Do you have a skill that you perform in divination? Come talk to us! We attend events! We are currently working on being more visible at events but as long ago many of our skills remain hidden! We are a Royal Guild and we want to get to know you!

<http://www.soothsayersguild.org/>

Our current Guild Mistress Arastorm the Golden can most frequently be found in a merchant's area at Cabuchons and our deputies are approachable! We hold many classes or workshops at GNEW or Pennsic. Please take a moment to visit our web page!

<http://www.soothsayersguild.org/Techniques/index.shtml>

Are you looking for someone to talk about your future with? Many events have that available and you just have to look for them. Lady Vivian does an amazing job and would love to sit with you. You may also reach out and ask if any of us will be at an event you plan to attend and we can set up a time to meet with you!

~Lady Hesychia of Ravensbridge  
Northern Region Deputy  
Soothsayers Guild  
245219@members.eastkingdom.org





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## Practices and other activities

- Every Tuesday Evening 5:45 Fighting and Fencing practice in Portland
- In Malagentia, monthly Dance practice , scribal night, and craft nights are available to attend
- Monthly Business meetings, Fourth Thursday of the month

For more details go to

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

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

## Upcoming Events

- Tourney of Love Feb, 17th Bangor, ME

## 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!**