



# The Corvus



*A Ravensbridge Quarterly  
Publication*

# The Corvus

## The Summer 2024 Newsletter of the Riding of Ravensbridge

Submissions for the Fall issue of The Corvus are due December 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 Arnisdottir 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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# The Corvus



A message from your Chronicler

Greetings!

We will publish quarterly to start, then if our activities calendar gets busier we may do once a month. This issue will cover July, August, and September activities and bring 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 Arnsdóttir

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# The Corvus

## Elections are Here

It's that time again. Elections for officer positions are upon us. We will be making nominations at our October meeting on the 24th. The meeting will be online and the link can be found on our [Ravensbridge Official Discussions Group](#) Facebook page

Anyone can be nominated or you can nominate yourself. You must have a paid SCA membership to hold an office and to be able to vote.

All positions are up for nominations

Seneschal

Chatelaine

Chronicler

Exchequer

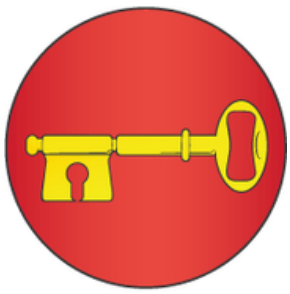
Herald

Chancellor Minor

Minister Of Arts and Sciences

Webminister

Descriptions of some of the positions will be on the following pages.



# The Corvus

## Local Seneschal Position

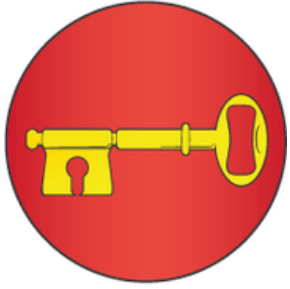
### Description

The local seneschal is commonly explained as what would be modernly known as the local group president. That's certainly true, from the organization's perspective— but from being in the job for a bit, I tend to think of it as the local cat herder.

Why? Because the SCA encompasses such a wide variety of groups, people, and hobbies, and they don't all want to go the same way all the time.

The seneschal is expected to keep everything rolling along – make sure the officers get their reports in, make sure we have officers to do those reports, run meetings, keep the group's goals in mind and help everyone work towards making them happen. The seneschal can't run events in their group, but does need to work with the event steward and exchequer to get the event reports completed.

The seneschal works with the exchequer and the finance committee, which is usually whoever is at the appropriate meeting, to develop a budget for the following year. When special projects come up, the seneschal facilitates forming a group of interested parties to complete the project. The seneschal is the person of last resort for any requirement that isn't filled by someone else. So it is definitely to the seneschal's advantage to recruit volunteers to be officers, event and demo stewards, and special project participants. Because the job is the final stop, it is also prudent to at least skim the policy handbooks and documentation for different offices.



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## Local Seneschal Position Description

Like the other offices, should the local seneschal need help from above, there are regional seneschals, and of course the East Kingdom and Society Seneschals. It's also good idea to build some connections with the other local provincial, shire, baronial and canton seneschals, they can really help as they often experience the same problems and concerns. Whenever possible, handing problems at the lowest level possible, perhaps with some advice from other local seneschals, is usually best. A problem can and sometimes has to be brought to the regional or the East Kingdom Seneschal, but that does tend to take that problem out of the local group's control.

One further part of the job is sometimes saying "No" when one would really prefer not to. The seneschal is the public face of the group when dealing with media, which means that the role is responsible for working to maintain and improve the reputation of the SCA. Putting our best face forward means that the seneschal is expected to uphold Society, East Kingdom Law and most importantly, modern civil law. So the seneschal must sometimes decline what might seem like a "good idea", as on occasion that law will not allow those ideas, or the appearance of that "good idea" might create a mistaken impression to members of the media or the public.



# The Corvus

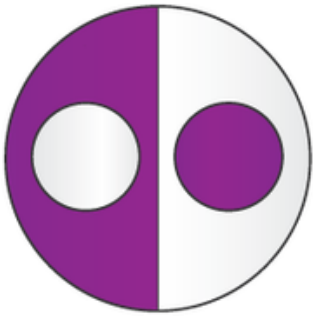
## Local Seneschal Position Description

The position really is that of the local “enabler” – if you like helping other to do well in their pursuits, while helping the group as a whole, and can be discreet, polite and diplomatic when needed, a little bit organized, and a bit flexible on your feet when external events happen, big or small, you’ll do well with this role. With some commitment to being available to local interested gentles, and commitment to a little time every week to keep up with communication, most of the time you’ll be ahead of the game and doing well as a seneschal. When that little bit of time isn’t quite enough, being able to reach out to group members, appropriate neighbors and officers, and you’ll find the rest will fall into place as well.

There’s support out there, and it feels good when everything comes together and you and your friends get to do the fun parts – the whole reason for the SCA in the first place.

**Aloysius Sartore,  
Seneschal, Riding of Ravensbridge,  
Province Malagentia**





# The Corvus

## Chancellor Minor: Youth and Family Activities and Engagement Officer: Office Spotlight

As Ravensbridge's Chancellor Minor I provide Family Point activities for local events and demos. I put a call out for teachers and other background-checked individuals, so I can put together a schedule that has a variety of activities for all age ranges and ability levels. I have been building up our local youth officer support system and have been able to expand what is offered at events, with me being physically at Family Point less often. I report to the East Kingdom Chancellor Minor when needed. As a Riding Officer I attend the monthly Ravensbridge business meeting.

I have been the Chancellor Minor for Ravensbridge since 2019, but I have been working with Youth as a background checked Youth Officer at Large since 2011. The Chancellor Minor is an elected Officer for the Riding with a 2 year term that can be extended with re-election. The position is not a required officer position for the Riding, so it can be left vacant. If it is vacant the Chatelaine, Seneschal and event autocrats would work together to promote engagement of family and youth activities at demos and events. Youth Officers at Large are SCA members that have completed the SCA background check so that they can help out with Youth activities. YOaL is not an officer position and currently don't need to do reports. Additional background checked Youth Officers at Large are always welcome! Let me know if you are interested in becoming a YOaL.



# The Corvus

## Chancellor Minor: Youth and Family Activities and Engagement Officer: Office Spotlight

I am looking to step down from the Chancellor Minor position this winter. I will be available to work with anyone that is interested in stepping up into this position. I will assist in every way I can for any event/demo. Please reach out to me with any questions on this position.

Nominations for Ravensbridge Officer positions will happen in October, with elections planned for December.

The Office of the Chancellor Minor exists to integrate families and children into the events and activities of the East Kingdom in a meaningful way. The SCA is a family-friendly and family inclusive organization, and it is the job of this office to help facilitate that

East Kingdom Office of the Chancellor Minor information is found at <https://chancellorminor.eastkingdom.org/>

SCA membership is needed for all Officer positions (financial assistance is available if cost of membership is a hardship). The Chancellor Minor also needs to pass an SCA background check, which the East Kingdom pays for. All SCA Youth specific activities require 2 unrelated adults be present, and 1 of those adults must have a valid background check on file.

**Amee le Mort**

**Chancellor Minor**

**Riding of Ravenbridge**



# The Corvus

## Chronicler Job Description

As our local Chronicler I am responsible to attend monthly meetings and take notes about the meeting.

I am also responsible for putting together this great Newsletter, The Corvus every Quarter. While it is done now every quarter, there is nothing to say that it can't be done monthly if we had enough news to report.

### **According to East Kingdom Law**

#### **Local Newsletter policies**

##### **A. Reasons for a local or organizational newsletter**

A local newsletter is less formal than a Kingdom newsletter. It exists to serve the needs of a local group or organization, to inform and educate that group of people about the SCA community in which they live, and to further the educational purposes of the SCA. It is crucial that the members of a local group communicate with one another, and a newsletter is an excellent method of communicating with the populace. A functioning newsletter is considered a positive factor when a group applies for advancement. Any group that wishes to achieve the status of Barony must have a regular newsletter. Baronies and any group that aspires to higher status than baronial must have an active newsletter. A Barony and any group that aspires to higher status than Baronial must have an active newsletter and a warranted chronicler. Baronies must publish a newsletter on a regular basis, no less frequently than quarterly



# The Corvus

## Chronicler Job Description

### **B. Definition of a local or organizational newsletter**

A local branch or organizational newsletter is the recognized publication of a recognized group or educational organization within the SCA, Inc. It cites that local group or educational organization as its publishing authority, keeps any funds in an official SCA, Inc., branch bank account, and has as its editor a chronicler who is warranted by the Kingdom Chronicler. No other publications are considered for the purposes of this policy. Local chroniclers who are not warranted by the Kingdom Chronicler cannot use branch funds for the publication of the newsletter, or cite that the local group or educational organization as its publishing authority

We as Ravensbridge do not utilize and group funds for our publications. We do however post our newsletters on our [website](#) and on our [Ravensbridge Official Discussions Group Facebook page](#).

If you would like to read more about Kingdom laws regarding this positions You can go to <https://www.sca.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/ChronPolicy.pdf>

**Sigrída Arnsdóttir**  
**Chronicler Riding of Ravensbridge**



# The Corvus Chatelaine Position

Who was the first person you interacted with when you became interested in the SCA? Were they knowledgeable? How about Friendly? Could they help you find answers, or meet people that are interested in the same things you are? That is a Chatelaine!

As a Chatelaine you will keep records of new people and talk with them to help them find a path. You may point them towards a guild, or introduce them to a marshaled combat person in hopes of getting started. It will be important to file quarterly reports, but those are quick and you get frequent reminders! The most important task a chatelaine has is interacting with people and getting them to other people who can guide them on their journey. You will be responsible for gold key. The Riding will often come together to maintain the gold key or complete an inventory. Developing or helping with newcomer events, scholas or community interaction is the second most important part of being a chatelaine. Many people will help guide you in this area! You will receive a binder that has contacts for all of the guilds and all of the areas of the East Kingdom to build upon and make yours. There are contacts and those can be updated as you need to. The best part of being a chatelaine is watching a new person develop and become active.

**Hesychia of Ravensbridge  
Chatelaine the Riding of  
Ravensbridge**



# The Corvus

## Minister of Arts & Sciences Description

The Minister of Arts and Sciences helps organize times and places for artisans to gather and share project ideas, tips, and problems. Encouragement and facilitation is the goal. This can be done at events with classes, displays or competitions, or at other times with workshops or classes at public or private locations.

The MoAS is an elected position with a 2-year term limit that can be extended with re-election. East Kingdom Law requires that the Riding of Ravensbridge (and other Cantons, Ridings, Colleges, Strongholds and Ports) have a Herald or Knight Marshal or MoAS (only one of the three is needed).

In the past Ravensbridge's MoAS has put on A&S displays/competitions at H&M and Ravenbridge Yule, and assisted with some Malagentia events when requested. A&S project days have happened monthly/quarterly at private residences, at weekly fighter practices, and randomly as people request. The MoAS is expected to attend monthly Ravensbridge business meetings and submit reports to the EK MoAS twice per year.

Ravensbridge's Minister of Arts and Sciences office is currently vacant, as our previous A&S Minister moved out of state. If you have any questions about the A&S position, please feel free to reach out on our Facebook page or to any Ravensbridge Officer.

East Kingdom Office of the Ministry of Arts & Sciences information is found at <https://moas.eastkingdom.org/>

# The Corvus

## Other Officer Positions



### **Herald**

Our herald works with people in the group to explain, select and register heraldry for their persona in the society. For more information:

<https://www.sca.org/resources/heraldry/>



### **Exchequer**

The exchequer is the keeper of the group's treasury, duties include accounting and budgeting.

For more information:

<https://exchequer.eastkingdom.org/>



### **Webminister**

The webminister is the coordinator for online technical needs of the group. The role is to facilitate content generation online and communicate with the Kingdom Webministry as needed.

For more information:

<https://webminister.eastkingdom.org/>

# The Corvus

## L/A Balloon Festival Demo Summer A.S. 59

As most of you know, the Balloon Festival in Lewiston-Auburn may not have happened this year. It had been canceled and then it was back on in a moment. As a group, we came together to create and execute a wonderful and educational demo for the public in a short time.

We had fiber arts, illumination, and calligraphy! OH MY! The fiber artists had beautiful displays of finished works and were on hand working their magical fingers and answering questions. Our youth officer brought some crafty items for the youngsters to enjoy and participated in the Festival's Family Fun Day activities. Scribal artists were showing off their amazing talents while enjoying great conversations with curious onlookers.





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Forges and Fencing! (That sounds like an awesome D&D adventure.) The forge was blazing with heat all day on Saturday, and Erik of Vastergotland showed off his amazing skills. Throughout the Demo, we had a stupendous group of fencers displaying their sportsmanship and drawing in the crowd. We even made in to the Local Newspaper The Sun Journal!



Nicole Hastings, left, and Tim Osborne fence Saturday afternoon at their encampment at Simard-Payne Memorial Park in Lewiston during the second day of the Lewiston-Auburn Balloon Festival. They are part of the Society for Creative Anachronism.

*Russ Dillingham/Sun Journal*



I want to send out a huge THANK YOU to all of our volunteers! You are appreciated!

We look forward to working on this again next year. Always a pleasure.

YIS

Sigrída Arnsdóttir Demo Coordinator

Diann “Deedles” Larrabee Deputy Demo Coordinator

# The Corvus

## 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
- Ravensbridge Archery Practice Monday & Wednesday evenings 5-7ish in Leeds

For more details go to

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

## 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!**

# Upcoming Events

- The Coronation of Matthew and Fiamuin Oct 5, Manchester, NH
- The Endewearde Hunt Oct 11-14 Newbourgh, ME
- Crown Tourney Oct 26 Rutland, VT

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

## Honors and Recognitions

This summer was truly a great summer for Gentles receiving the recognition they so deserve.

### **Great Northeastern War**

Lydia Webbe Joined the Order of the Silver Crescent

Mary of the High Hills Joined the Order of the Silver Brooch

Vivien Valois Joined the Order of the Silver Brooch

Danielle Morton Joined the Order of the Tygers Cub

### **Harper's Retreat**

Slaine An Doire Joined the order of the Silver Wheel

Rwuan Osbern Joined the Order of

Magnus Surtsson won The Archery Championship, Now Being The Baroness's Champion for the next year

### **Harvest Moon**

Rwuan Osbern won the fencing Duckal Challenge

Magnus Surtsson Won the Malagentian Archery Championship