



The Østgarðr E-Horse



Master William Blackfox Award Commendation, Best Overall Newsletter, A.S. LVI

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Dysclaymer:

This is the First Quarterly 2023 issue of The E-Horse, a publication of the Ancient and Honorable Crown Province of Østgarðr of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA, Inc.).

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Welcome!

The Crown Province of Østgarðr is the greater New York City chapter of the Society for Creative Anachronism, a not-for-profit educational and social organization dedicated to re-creating aspects of world cultures before 1600 CE.

We read about the period, make and wear the clothes, make and eat the food, make and use the weapons to hit our friends (who are wearing the armor), build and live in the tents, perform the music, dances, and drama, etc.

Østgarðr is part of the East Kingdom and has several cantons: Broken-bridge (Brooklyn), Appelholm (Manhattan), and Lions End (Nassau County).

If you would like to submit art for our cover page or any other page, please [let your Chronicler know!](#)



Detail of a demi-horse drinking cup from the Bronze Age Balkans, Institute for the Study of the Ancient World. Photograph by Mathghamhain Ua Rhuadháin ([Source](#))

Upcoming Events

















**Please read more about plans and guidelines in place for in-person events at the [East Kingdom Website](#).*

• In the **Ætherium** • • In the **fleshe** •
• In the **Realms of Østgarðr** •

• **ÆtS** • • **Marital Arts** • • **Bardic & Music** •

Mar 4	Crown's East Kingdom A&S Championship and Barony of l'Ile du Dragon Dormant BIA	Barony of L'Isle du Dragon Dormant (Laval, QC)	
Mar 4	Nova Schola	Shire of Hartshorn-dale (Collegeville, PA)	
Mar 4–5	Bear's Tavern: The Canterbury Tales Continue	Crown Province of Østgarðr (Peekskill, NY)	
Mar 5	Gallery Visit: Staging the Table 1500–1800	Canton of Appelholm (New York, NY)	
Mar 11	East Kingdom Ætherial Court	Ætherial East Kingdom	
Mar 11–19	Gulf Wars XXXI	Kingdom of Gleann Abhann (Lumberton, MS)	
Mar 13	Lions End Virtual Commons & Social	Ætherial Lions End	
Mar 15	Østgarðr Provincial Commons & Social	Ætherial Østgarðr	
Mar 16	Østgarðr Arts & Crafts Night	Ætherial Østgarðr	
Mar 18	High Nobility and Low Stakes	Barony of Concordia of the Snows (Scotia, NY)	
Mar 18	Stonemarche Garb Schola	Barony of Stonemarche (Gilford, NH)	
Mar 20	Brokenbridge Commons	Ætherial Brokenbridge	
Mar 25	Mudthaw	Barony of Settmour Swamp (Hackettstown, NJ)	
Apr 1	The Coronation of Brennan and Caoilfhionn	Shire of Quintavia (Worcester, MA)	
Apr 8	Black Gryphon Inn	Canton of Gryphonwald (Edison, NJ)	

Apr 10	Lions End Virtual Commons & Social	Ætherial Lions End	
Apr 14–16	East Kingdom's Brewers' Collegium (Brew U)	Crown Province of Østgarðr (Peekskill, NY)	
Apr 15	Spring's Inspirations	Province of Malagentia (Gorham, ME)	
Apr 16	Service Schola	Barony of Carillion (South River, NJ)	
Apr 17	Brokenbridge Commons	Ætherial Brokenbridge	
Apr 19	Østgarðr Provincial Commons & Social	Ætherial Østgarðr	
Apr 20	Østgarðr Arts & Crafts Night	Ætherial Østgarðr	
Apr 21–23	Waking of the Salamander II	Barony of Bhakail (Media, PA)	
Apr 22	Baronial Sweet 16 & Bardic Championship	Barony of Iron Bog (Moorsetown, NJ)	
Apr 22	Maket Day at Sigtuna	Barony of Ruantallan (Stewiacke, NS)	
Apr 22	Schola at the University: Wolfie Welcomes the Ducks	Barony of An Dubhaigeainn (Stony Brook, NY)	
Apr 22	Tournament of Daffodils	Shire of Midland Vale (Port Jervis, NY)	
Apr 24	Whyt Whey Commons	Ætherial Whyt Whey	
Apr 29	Balfar's Challenge	Barony of Dragonship Haven (Guilford, CT)	
May 6–7	Malagentian Test Kitchen	Province of Malagentia (Pownal, ME)	
May 8	Lions End Virtual Commons & Social	Ætherial Lions End	
May 13	At the Sign of the Dancing Fox XXII—Foxes al Fresco	Shire of Nordenhalle (Kingston, NY)	
May 13	Regional Fencing Practice—C&T Focus (Plus Spear and Rapier!)	Province of Malagentia (Cape of Elizabeth, ME)	
May 15	Brokenbridge Commons	Ætherial Brokenbridge	
May 17	Østgarðr Provincial Commons & Social	Ætherial Østgarðr	
May 18	Østgarðr Arts & Crafts Night	Ætherial Østgarðr	
May 19–22	Middleground 2023	Shire of Lyndhaven (Upper Gagetown, NB)	
May 20	al-Hafla	Barony of Buckland Cross (TBD, PA)	
May 20	Lions End Schola: Let the Lions Roar	Canton of Lions End (Glen Head, NY)	
May 26–29	Panteria XXVI	Shire of Panther Vale (Thetford Center, CT)	
May 26–29	War of the Roses! FORTY-Mumble	Barony of Concordia of the Snows (Schaghticoke, NY)	
May 26–29	The Quest for Wit and Wisdom XXXVIII	Barony of Settmour Swamp (Pittstown, NJ)	
Jun 2–4	Southern Region War Camp	Barony of Carillion (Manalapan, NJ)	
Jun 9	Opening of the Inne at Coldwood	Shire of Coldwood (Peru, NY)	
Jun 10	Iron Bog Investiture and East Kingdom Equestrian Championship	Barony of Iron Bog (Swedesboro, NJ)	
Jun 12	Lions End Virtual Commons & Social	Ætherial Lions End	

Jun 15	Østgarðr Arts & Crafts Night	Ætherial Østgarðr	
Jun 15–18	Les Beltaines XXXIV	Barony of Havre des Glaces (St.-Mathieu-du-Parc, QC)	
Jun 16–19	War of the Pearls II	Barony of the Bridge (Charlestown, RI)	
Jun 19	Brokenbridge Commons	Ætherial Brokenbridge	
Jun 21	Østgarðr Provincial Commons & Social	Ætherial Østgarðr	
Jun 23–25	Return to Vinland Raids	Barony of Smoking Rocks (Yarmouth Port, MA)	  
Jun 30–Jul 2	Northern Region War Camp	Shire of Glenn Linn (Greenwich, NY)	
Jul 10	Lions End Virtual Commons & Social	Ætherial Lions End	
Jul 13–16	Great Northeastern War XXXV	Province of Malagentia (Hebron, ME)	 
Jul 17	Brokenbridge Commons	Ætherial Brokenbridge	
Jul 19	Østgarðr Provincial Commons & Social	Ætherial Østgarðr	
Jul 20	Østgarðr Arts & Crafts Night	Ætherial Østgarðr	
Jul 24	Appelholm (Whyt Whey) Commons	Ætherial Appelholm (Whyt Whey)	
Jul 28–Aug 13	Pennsic L	Kingdom of Æthelmearc (Slippery Rock, PA)	  
Aug 14	Lions End Virtual Commons & Social	Ætherial Lions End	
Aug 16	Østgarðr Provincial Commons & Social	Ætherial Østgarðr	
Aug 17	Østgarðr Arts & Crafts Night	Ætherial Østgarðr	
Aug 21	Brokenbridge Commons	Ætherial Brokenbridge	
Sep 9–10	Carolingia 50-Year Celebration	Barony of Carolingia (Westford, MA)	
Sep 11	Lions End Virtual Commons & Social	Ætherial Lions End	
Sep 18	Brokenbridge Commons	Ætherial Brokenbridge	
Sep 20	Østgarðr Provincial Commons & Social	Ætherial Østgarðr	
Sep 21	Østgarðr Arts & Crafts Night	Ætherial Østgarðr	
Sep 29–Oct 1	Bloodfeud in the Danelaw: A Viking Age Immersion Event	Shire of Coldwood (Plattsburgh, NY)	
Oct 6–8	Ghosts, Ghouls, and Goblins	Barony of Carillion (Manalapan, NJ)	
Oct 9	Lions End Virtual Commons & Social	Ætherial Lions End	
Oct 16	Brokenbridge Commons	Ætherial Brokenbridge	
Oct 18	Østgarðr Provincial Commons & Social	Ætherial Østgarðr	
Oct 19	Østgarðr Arts & Crafts Night	Ætherial Østgarðr	
Oct 23	Appelholm (Whyt Whey) Commons	Ætherial Appelholm (Whyt Whey)	
Nov 11	Harts & Horns	Shire of Hartshorn-dale (Douglassville, PA)	
Mar 9, 2024	Thélème at Penn Returns	Bailiwick of Iveyinrust (Philadelphia, PA)	

Ars & Schola

[Contact your Minister of Arts and Sciences](#) for information on upcoming workshops and events.

The Tasting Room with Vitasha

Welcome to *The Tasting Room*, a series of articles by **THL Vitasha Ivanova doch'**, which will be published over the course of the next several issues of the E-Horse. We hope you enjoy the articles in this series, as well as the recipes in them!

Wine Comparison—Pinot Grigio

Spring is in the air, and we turn to thoughts of flowers blooming, cute little fuzzy animals, and picnics on the lawn with a glass of white wine. I don't often find a white wine that I like, but at a recent Kingdom Brewers Guild meeting, Master Timotheus Zacharia lead us in a tasting of Pinot Grigio.

In ancient times, the Pinot variety of grapes was grown in Gaul (present day France). In the first century AD, the Romans conquered Gaul and brought back the wine and vines and began production of their own Pinot wines.

The wines we sampled were from Italy, Washington, California, and South Australia. The growing location will affect the flavor of the grapes, and thus the wine. This taste variation can be attributed to the minerals present in the soil, the amount of precipitation in the region, the type of soil (clay retains water, whereas sandy soil lets the water run right through it), and the amount of sunlight the region receives.

The Pinot Grigio profile is slightly

sweet with citrus and floral notes. The alcohol, acids, and sugars in the wine should be well blended, and no one of those characteristics should stand out.

We ordered the wines from the driest to the sweetest as anticipated by the factors mentioned above. Here are the comments and evaluations of the wines we sampled.

Cavit Collection, Dell Venezie

2013 imported from Italy This wine was somewhat dry, as expected from the region, yet fruity with a floral or "green" taste. It possessed some acidity and was a bit sour. It was commented that the flavor "Hits the sides of the tongue."

Beringer, California

2013 We found this wine to be sweeter than the Italian Pinot Grigio, and not quite as acidic. You could taste more of the grape. It was said that the ground comes through as a bit of a sand taste, or mineral taste, in this wine.

Oxford Landing Estates 2012 imported from South Australia

The flavor zipped straight down the middle of the tongue. The drier climate means less water which can skew the flavor. We found this wine to be more acidic than the Californian Pinot Grigio, and weaker in flavor.

Vino 2012 Mattawa from Wash-

ington Apple and earth scent sprang forth from this wine, and it involved the whole tongue.

It had the expected acidity, but was complemented with tastes of lemon, apple, honey, and "green/earth". It was said to have almost a pine or floral—perhaps geranium—quality to the flavor.

All in all, the wines were drinkable and matched the Pinot Grigio profile, but the one that we found to be the most balanced and closest to the ideal was the **Vino 2012 Mattawa from Washington**.

So here's to relaxing on your patio on a balmy Caidan spring day with a glass of Pinot Grigio in hand. Cheers! ❄️

** This article was originally printed in the April 2015 edition of the Gyldenholt Press (Barony of Gyldenholt, Kingdom of Caid).*



A Migration Era Shopping Bag

by Hlaldige Alienor Salton, known as Piglet

Where it started:



Where it ended:



Back in 2019, I learned how to net a bag from following along with Sally Pointer on her YouTube video, "How to make a net bag for a Roman legionnaire" ([Source](#))

Using kitchen cotton, I netted a bag body, then added a chain crochet edge and a lucet cord drawstring. Voilà, a practical, useful shopping bag! (left)



Fast forward to June 2022, when a friend offers space in their madder dyepot. Maybe because it was kitchen cotton, and not mercerized (?), it took the dye beautifully (right).

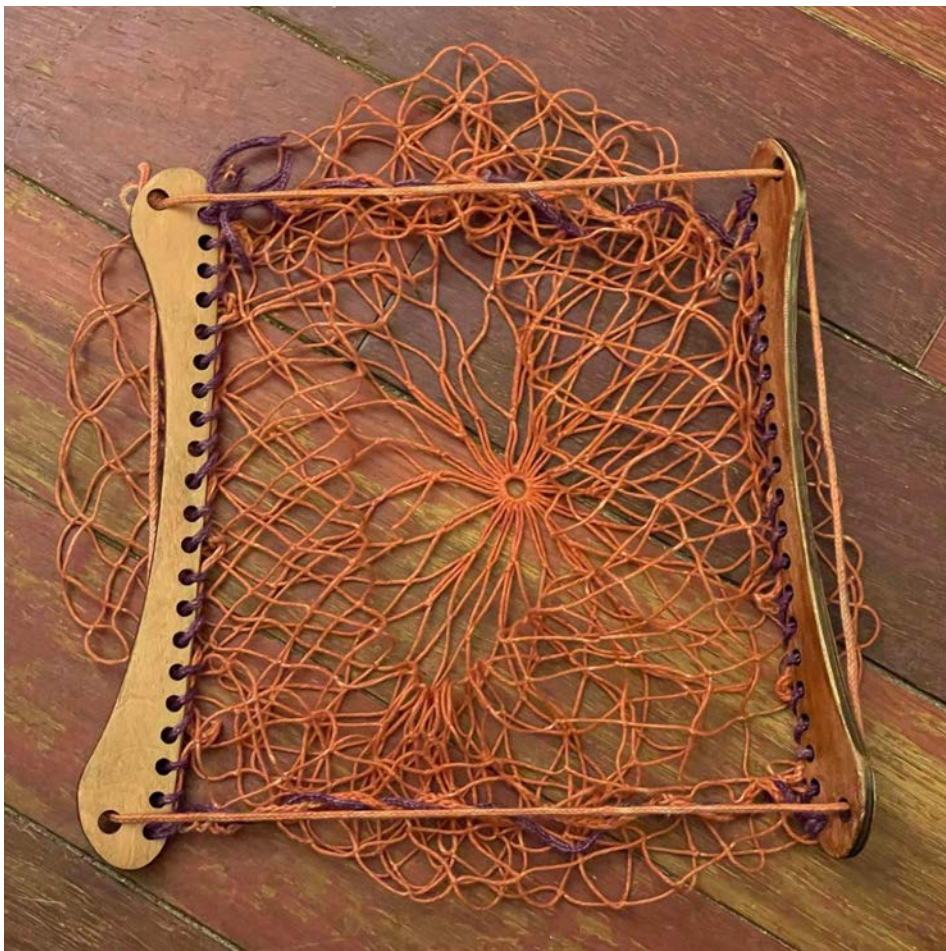
I continued using the bag for a while in this con-

figuration, rather like a modern string shopping bag. Much as I love the security of the drawstring, it was awkward to maneuver contents into the bag with such a loose and floppy mouth.

Earlier this month, I read some exciting new opinions on Viking bag handles, which WILDLY coincide with my own. ([Source](#)) So I put together the Viking bag handles I was gifted at Deck the Halls of Valhalla (Brokenbridge's inaugural event of the 2023 season) with the bag body, using some lucet cord I had previously made out of a hand-dyed linen from Ursula's Alcove. I threaded the original drawstring through the upper holes on the bag handle frames. (right)

Now, the bag opening has a frame that supports without restricting, and evenly distributes the weight of the bag contents for ease of carrying and storing, notably by hanging over 2 nails on a wall. (right)





Piglet's Migration Era Shopping Bag, in action:

Photos by Piglet



Are you working on something amazing? Let your Chronicler know! Even if it isn't quite finished yet—you never know who you'll inspire.

Vyllage Square

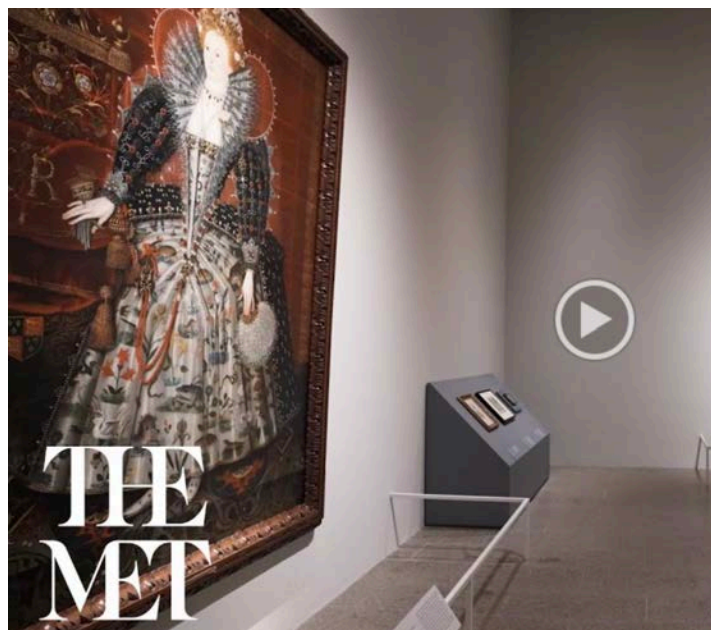
Welcome to the Vyllage Square: your space to chat about what's new (or old—we are the SCA), cool, exciting, funny, intriguing, thought-provoking, puzzling... anything you think other people in the Province should know. Have something to say? Share it with your [Chronicler](#)!

The Tudors: Art and Majesty in Renaissance England Met Museum Exhibit

Several members of Østgarðr were lucky enough to see the Met exhibit on Tudor era art before it closed on January 8, 2023. In case you missed it, enjoy these video tours of the exhibit, from Her Excellency Vicereína Angelica di Nova Lipa.



Video Exhibit Tour (approx. 20 min, no dialogue)



Guided Tour and Discussion with Curators (approx. 30 min, captioned)

The Season of Heraldic Love

Every February, the #HeraldicLove campaign encourages the populace to display their armory or allegiance on a heart-shaped field to show their love for the historical recreation community. While less common than shields, heart shapes are seen in a number of period armorials.

Detail from the Armorial de Flandre et du Hainaut, by Jacques Le Boucq, illustrated in Belgium, 15th Century



Haven't gotten around to designing an armorial device of your own yet?

Anyone can display the badges of the Society, Crown Province, East Kingdom, or our cantons to show those around you where your heart is.

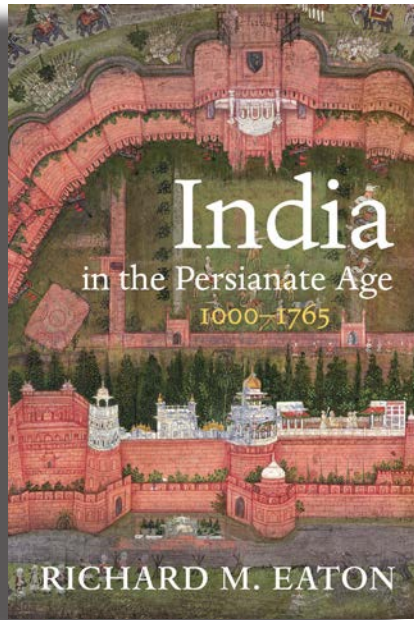


*Illustrations by
Mathghambain Ua Ruaðbáin*

Book Review; India in the Persianate Age: 1000–1765

by Angelica di Nova Lipa

The World History Encyclopedia tossed this review over the transom, and it looks to be of interest to those interested in the Mughal age of India.



The link leads to a full review.

While the book can be purchased through the World History Encyclopedia site, a quick search in the New York Public Library catalog found it available as an e-book.

“This is a groundbreaking work on the middle period of Indian history. It shows how hidden assumptions dominated the thinking of colonial rulers and let nationalists prevent a realistic

assessment of an important phase of Indian history. Far from being a dark period, it witnessed a high level of sociocultural exchange and economic vitality. Under the Mughals, India became an economic superpower. I would highly recommend this work to both general readers and specialists in Indian history.”
[Read full review by Shankar Chaudhuri, published on 14 December 2022](#)

Amazon...Frown? AmazonSmile Cancelled, Costing Non-Profits

by Zahra de Andalusíyya

Just a few issues of the *E-Horse* ago, in Vol. 15 (published September 1, 2022), we published an article about the AmazonSmile program, which donated a portion (0.5%) of profits from eligible Amazon purchases to various non-profit organizations, including the SCA. To

that date, the SCA had made \$39,218.59 in donations this way.

However, according to a report from Lady

Angelica di Nova Lipa, Amazon has discontinued the program as of February 20, 2023. Citing the over 1 million participating organizations, they expressed concern that their support was “spread too thin” and felt that the program “has not grown to create the impact that [they] had originally

hoped”. They also emphasized their other ongoing charitable efforts, such as Amazon Future Engineer and Amazon Disaster Relief, and encouraged participating non-profits to continue to “seek support from Amazon customers by creating their own wish lists.” According to [NPR](#), this cancellation comes along with a spate of other cost-cutting measures for the mega-corporation, including 18,000 layoffs at the beginning of this year.

It’s worth noting that Angelica received this announcement by email on January 18, amounting to a month’s notice before the cancellation of the program. The news was met with alarm on social media, especially from smaller non-profits who depended on the program far more than larger ones with other, more reliable sources of income.

What does this mean for you and the average SCAdian? It depends on how much you usually use Amazon. It is still the world’s second-largest company by revenue, behind only Walmart (according to Wikipedia), and that’s not particularly likely to change significantly anytime soon. As we stated in our Spetember 2022 article, it is still best practice to purchase items from your local small businesses and independent artisans. This was true then, and perhaps even more true now. They need and will appreciate your support more now than ever!

If you’re looking for alternatives to Amazon, sites like Etsy, Bookshop.org, Overstock, and Newegg.com can serve in terms of product range and shipping times. Or, if you do find something you want to buy on Amazon, you can usually click on the seller and purchase the item directly from them. ☘

A Persona(l) Tale

The following is an excerpt of a fictional story written by Lady Zabra de Andaluzia, based on the persona and advice of Mistress Sofya Gianetta di Trieste, now Vicereine of Østgarðr. It can be found in full on Her Excellency's [EK Wiki page](#). Contact Zabra if you are interested in fleshing out your persona with a bit of storytelling.

Lady Sofya was born to the cool, dry winds and imposing hills of Trieste, Italy, a lively seaport in the crook of land bridging the Mediterranean and Balkan peoples. The second child of the prosperous Vasotto family, she learned sewing and needlework, music, dancing, writing, household management: all the skills necessary for attracting a suitable match for a Lady of her rank. Young Sofya's parents secured a marriage with the dashing son of the Gianetta family, Nicholò, and Sofya's life spread out like a well-trodden path before her. She started happily, devoting herself to her new husband's care, managing his house, and bearing him two healthy children: Lorenzo and Alessa.

But even the clearest path can muddy in a heavy rain: all was not well within the house of Gianetta. Rumors swirled about in the upper echelons of society that her husband was secretly engaged in sordid affairs—gambling, some said, embezzlement of the foulest sort, said others. Either way, he was heavily in debt, and unable to repay what he owed. If the rumors were true, not only could the family's business be ruined, but their name would be sullied, making it impossible for Sofya to find suitors for her children, quashing the possibility of advantageous alliance. The brewing discord came to a horrifying head when Nicholò was gutted in

front of his home and left to die, while Sofya could do nothing but watch.

With nowhere else to turn, Sofya found herself on the doorstep of her formidable elder brother, Tommaso de l'Arzento. While Sofya had been enjoying married life, Tommaso had been employing his silver tongue in pursuit of broadening his political reach—and deepening his pockets. A powerful figure in the Triestine political scene, Tommaso had won the favor, and the ear, of many a notable dignitary—some even said that of the bishop himself.

Tommaso quickly took action, building a prominent monument for Sofya's late husband, quietly paying off some of his more unsavory debts, and effectively silencing the rumors about his moral lapses. It was his deep pockets that kept the family mercantile business afloat until Lorenzo was old enough to take over.

Sofya wanted nothing more than to put the unpleasantness of the past behind her, and so she redoubled her efforts in pursuit of suitable marriages for her children. It was not long before Lorenzo was married to Beatrice, a beauty from another reputable Triestine family. Soon after that, her daughter Alessa secured an engagement with Petro di' Scarpa, another merchant and no less than a member of the Great Council



Photo by Cateline La Broderesse in Venice. With such an auspicious match, Sofya knew that, finally, her troubles were over.

Soon the family business was not only doing well, but expanding. While her husband had been alive, Sofya had learned some of the tricks of his trade, and had excelled especially at managing client relations. To assist her son and his expecting wife, and to keep herself busy, she began to take on more duties dealing with special customers in search of unique luxury wares. Soon she was traveling far and wide to meet these clients, and it was on one of these trips her life would change again...



E-Horse Wins Commendation for Best Overall Newsletter, William Blackfox Awards

Jubilation followed the announcement of the *E-Horse's* Commendation at the William Blackfox Awards for Best Overall Newsletter! These awards are given each year in honor and memory of Master William Blackfox, author and illustrator of the *Warthaven* cartoon.

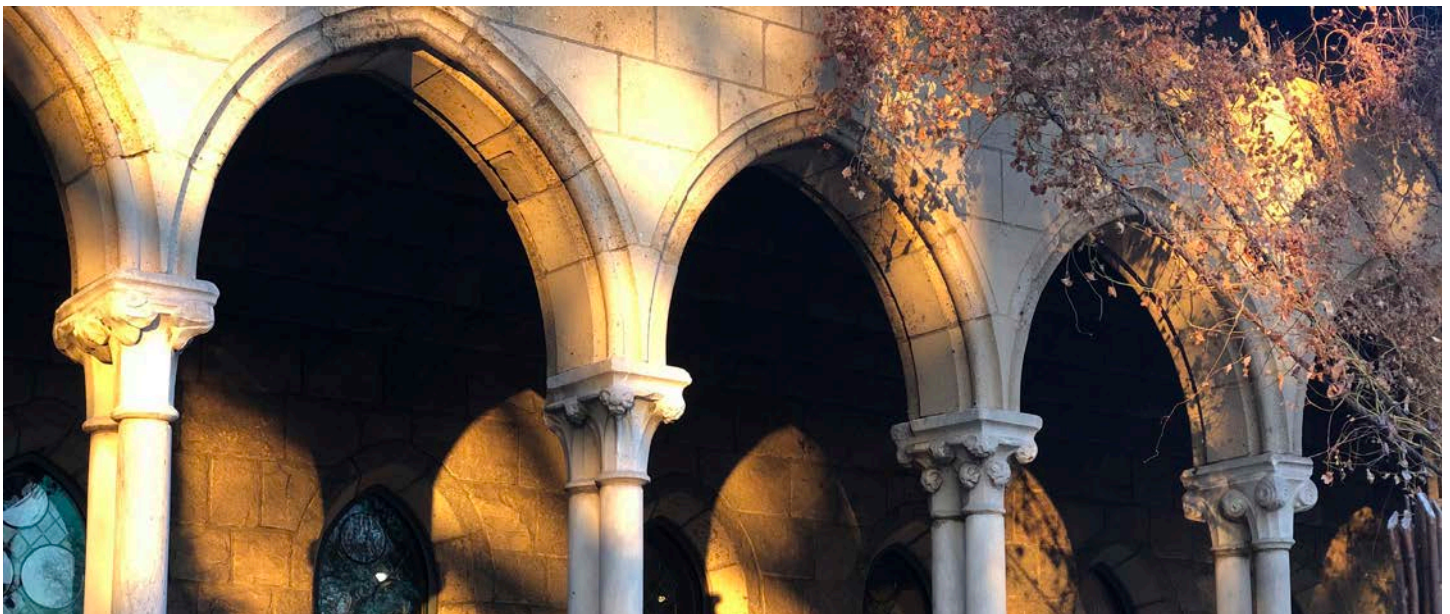
All newsletters throughout the SCA, from the smallest shire to the Provinces, are eligible for nomination for the award by their Kingdom Chronicler. This amounts to hundreds of newsletters competing for only eight award categories and eight commendations.

Your humble Chronicler wishes to thank the populace of Østgarðr for their help in achieving this prestigious Commendation. She quite literally could not do it without you! All content is provided by the populace—I'm just here to collect it all, and put it together in a way that I hope is intuitive and useful for everyone, and maybe nice to look at, too. Without you all there would be no *E-Horse* to begin with, so thank you!

Special shoutout to **Mathghamhain Ua Ruadháin**, who has been exceedingly helpful in proofreading, without whom the Regnum (list of officers and champions) might be three years out of date, and who puts up with my consistently inconsistent and last-minute emails.

Now send me your art and articles!!!!

—
Zahra de Andaluzia
Chronicler, Østgarðr



The Met Cloisters, November 2021. Photo by Zahra de Andalusiya

Regnum

Herein Listed are the Officers of Østgarðr:

Vicereína	Lady Angelica di Nova Lipa	Chapcellor Minor	Lady Kunigunde Wedemann
Vicereína	Mistress Sofya Gianetta di Trieste	Knight Marshal	Lord Ervald LaCoudre Edwardson the Optimistic
Seneschal	Lord Nagashima Ichiro Ujimichi	Fencing Marshal	Lord Alexander MacLachlan
Deputy Seneschal	Lord Alexander MacLachlan	Minister of Lists	The Honorable Lady Vitasha Ivanova doch'
Exchequer	Hlafdige Alienor Salton, aka Piglet	Webminister	Lord Friderich Grimme
Deputy Exchequer	Lord Francisco de Braga	Chronicle	Lady Zahra al-Andaluzia
Herald	Dama Drasma Dragomira	Social Media Officer	Lord Albrecht Anker
Chatelaine	Lord Albrecht Anker	Historian	Bóaire Mathghamhain Ua Ruadháin
Minister of Arts & Sciences	Lord Brandr Aronsson		
	Seneschal of Brokenbridge		Lady Arnora Ketilsdottir
	Seneschal of Appelholm (Whyt Why)		Hlafdige Alienor Salton, ka Piglet
	Seneschal of Lions' End		Lady Iola Wulfsdotter

Herein Listed are the Provincial Champions of Østgarðr:

Armored Combat	Lord Albrecht Anker	Arts and Sciences	Lord Ragnarr Bláskegg
Fencing	Jarl Ozurr "Bootgiver" Styrbjarnarson	Bardic	Lord David Anthony
Archery	Lord Mongo Chinua	Youth Combat	Lord Finnbjorn Ægirson
Thrown Weapons	Finnolfr Hrafasson		

