



The Østgarðr E-Horse

[Upcoming Events](#) - [Ars & Schola](#) - [Seconds](#) - [Vyllage Square](#)

Dysclaymer:

This is the Second Quarterly 2021 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 medieval and Renaissance culture. We read about the period, make and wear the clothes, make and eat the food, build the swords and hit our friends (who are wearing armor), build and live in the tents, perform the music and drama, etc.

Østgarðr is part of the East Kingdom and has several cantons: Brokenbridge (Brooklyn), Whyt Whey (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!

Upcoming Events

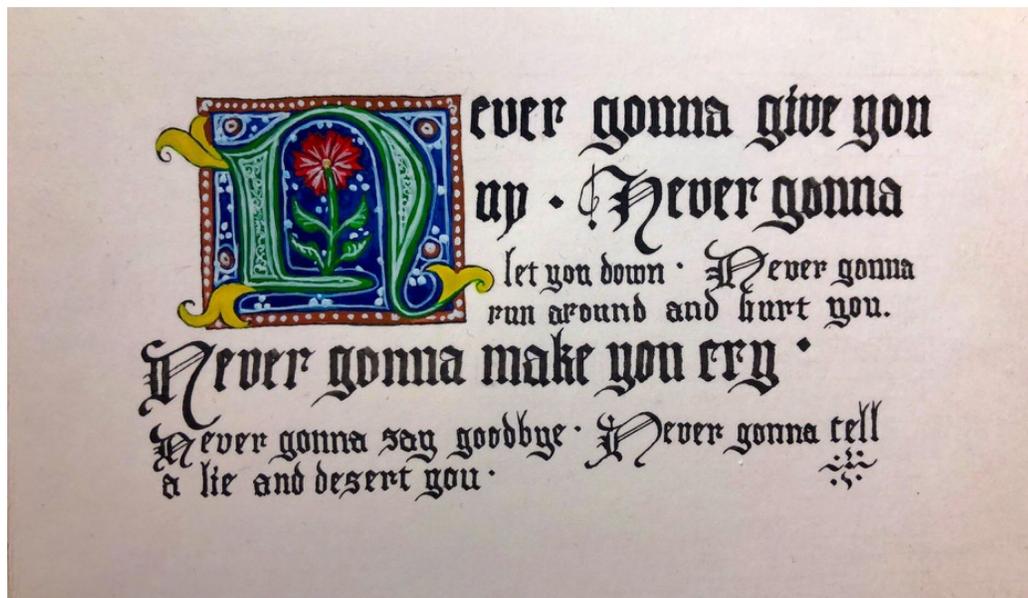
**Please read more about plans and guidelines in place for in-person events below, in "Board of Directors Resolution to Further Lift Suspension of In-Person Activity".*

• In the Ætherium • • In the flesh • ~ • *FetS* • • Martial Arts • • Bardic & Music •

June 5	<u>Southern Region War Camp—Ad Astra</u>	Barony of Carillion (Manalapan, NJ)	
June 5	<u>Saturday Night Solar—Olive Oil: From Antiquity to Your Kitchen</u>	Ætherial Whyt Whey	
June 5-6	<u>Sparkly & Shiny III: A New Spring</u>	Ætherial East Kingdom	
June 13	<u>Ethereal Court X of the Eastern Consules, Tindal and Alberic</u>	Ætherial East Kingdom	
June 19	<u>Saturday Night Solar—Seahorse Origami</u>	Ætherial Whyt Whey	
June 26	<u>Barony of Bergental's Sommer Draw</u>	Barony of Bergental (Montgomery, MA)	
July 11	<u>Ethereal Court XI of the Eastern Consules, Tindal and Alberic</u>	Ætherial East Kingdom	
July 17	<u>Shoot! No Pennsic!</u>	Barony of Dragonship Haven (Meriden, CT)	
August 8	<u>Ethereal Court XII of the Eastern Consules, Tindal and Alberic</u>	Ætherial East Kingdom	
August 27-29	<u>Academy of St. Clare V: Itchin' To Get Stitchin'</u>	TBA	
September 24-26	<u>To River War or Not to River War</u>	Barony of Iron Bog (Mullica Hill, NJ)	
October 15-17	<u>Shire Wars IX: The Battle of Kulikova</u>	Shire of Blak Rose (Jonestown, PA)	
February 26, 2022	<u>Veisla Schola</u>	Barony of Concordia of the Snows (Scotia, NY)	
March 12, 2022	<u>Thélème at Penn Returns</u>	Bailiwick of Iveyinrust (Philadelphia, PA)	
May 27-30, 2022	<u>Panteria XXV</u>	Shire of Panther Vale (Thetford Center, VT)	
June 2022 (exact date TBA)	<u>War of the Pearls I</u>	Barony of the Bridge	

Ars & Schola

Contact your Minister of Arts and Sciences for information on upcoming *DIGITAL* workshops and events.



◀ Left: Zahra al-Andalusiyya has an interesting way of practicing her scribal arts. Gouache and Higgins Black Eternal ink on Bristol paper using Speedball nibs C-4 and C-5.

Saturday Night Solar: Seahorse Origami

June 19, learn how to make your own Origami Seahorse with Michele the Ubiquitous!



Did you know that origami is a period art? It is! Join us June 19 as Michele the Ubiquitous of the Canton of Hawkes Reache to teach us how to make an origami seahorse/hippocampus!

Michele created the hippocampus model for Alexandre and Eularia's investiture (A.S. L) since she couldn't find a seahorse model that captured the look of a seahorse from a medieval bestiary. So she designed one herself!

Then, when you're done with your paper seahorse, don't forget to send a picture of it to your Chronicler to be featured in next quarter's issue of *The E-Horse*!

(Photo credit to Michele the Ubiquitous.)

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.

Seconds

Being the Abridged Minutes' from
Commons' Meetings' Past

Please click [here](#) to view the Full Minutes'

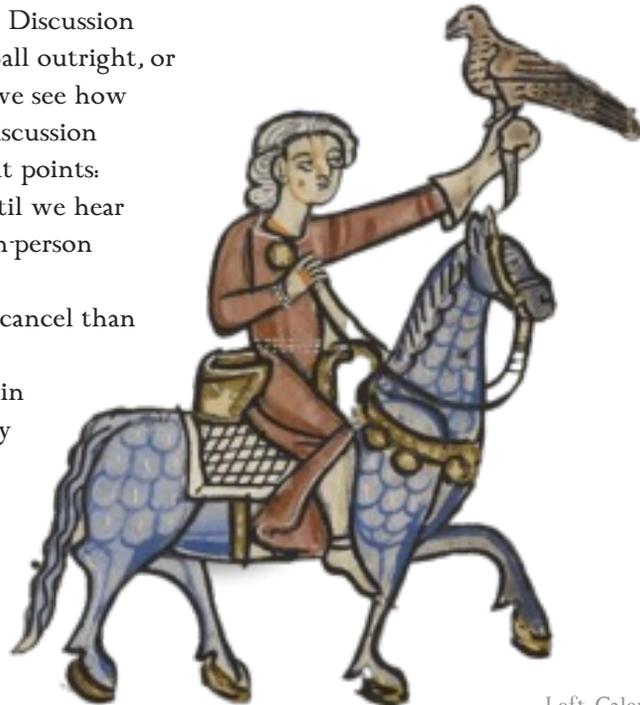
March 2021 Minutes • Østgarðr Commons

Opening

- Called to order at 7:35pm.
- Thank you Lada, for contributing calligraphy and puzzles to Chancellor min. supplies
- Thank you to Arnora, stepping down as Brokenbridge webminister
- Welcome aboard to Catelin, Brokenbridge webminister, and Hanya Vladimirovna Polotskaya, Brokenbridge MoAS
- Whyt Whey needs officers
- Anne stepping down this summer; speak to them to sign up as deputy webminister
- Brokenbridge seneschal instituting office hours, informal gathering, all welcome
- *E-Horse* out March 1; next June 1. Please send material to the chronicler.
- Virtual Herald's Point a rousing success!
- Virtual fencing practice Thursday nights 8-9, 2-3 participants

Officer Report Items For Discussion

- Cancel Ragamuffin's Ball outright, or continue planning as we see how conditions change? Discussion included various salient points:
 - Kunigunde: wait until we hear from Kingdom on in-person events this summer.
 - Anne: would rather cancel than plan to hold
 - Oliver: Blue Mountain Lodge not taking any group reservations for this year
 - Jenna: no children's vaccines available
 - Randve: adults will not be at 75 percent (vax'd)



- Francisco: deposit? Can roll it over?
- Alienor: Barleycorn?
- Given loss of site, no vote needed. Ragamuffin's Ball and Goat's Tavern off for this year; Oliver to propose them in August for 2022.

Upcoming Events/Activities of interest to the populace

- An Dubhaigainn Persephone's Return Schola (Jenna teaching Pennsic 101)
- Settmour Swamp Mudthaw & investiture

Upcoming Commons Meetings

- April 21 social
- May 19 business
- June 16 social

Closing

Ed. note: At press time, the May Commons Minutes were not yet available. You can view them in full at ostgardr.eastkingdom.org.

Left: Calendar page for the month of May with a man on a blue horse, hawking (detail). Origin: France, N. (Liège) ([Source](#))

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!](#)

Board of Directors' Resolution to Further Lift Suspension of In-Person Activity

by Zahra al-Andalusīyya

On May 25, 2021, the Board of Directors passed a Resolution to Further Lift Suspension of In-Person Activity in the SCA as of July 1st, 2021. You can read the full text of the document [here](#).

In plain-modern-English summary, however, it allows SCAdians in North America (that's us) to hold events in-person, provided that we follow certain rules:

1. All local (mundane/modern) laws and policies must be followed!
2. Wear your mask! Especially for Court, bardic circles, or any activity that involves voice projection.
3. Bring your own food, and when you eat it, make sure you are socially distant.
4. No overnight camping.
5. All events are outdoor events...
6. ...with no more than 150 people, and...
7. ...require preregistration.

That's it! It's less than 10 things! It isn't 100 percent the events we know and love, but it is one giant step closer to being able to play our favorite game again.

In the meantime, let's dust off our garb, tune our psalters, wipe the rust off of our blades, sharpen our quills, and get ready to get back in action.

I can't wait to play with you all again.

Fabric Gatekeeping? Here's a Tip: Don't

by Catelin Straguhin

Ed. note: This article comes from Catelin's blog, *The Naked Knitter*, which you can read and follow [here](#).

Social media has an interesting way of making you aware of things that, while it seems like common sense to you, appears to be a hair-triggering, spittle-making, absolutely bonkers debate to others. Today's subject is on the concept of gatekeeping... Fabric.

Yeah, fabric.

Let's start at the beginning. One Instagram user @alateish (aka Alatheia) shares screenshots from an 18th century sale-buy group on Facebook, shaming someone for selling a pair of silk polyester breeches for an affordable price. They go on to say that shaming someone for making beautiful objects out of poly or rayon blends is not helpful, and not everyone can afford natural fibers. This sentiment is also voiced by other 18th century costumers, which are also voiced by historical costumers, re-creators, cosplayers and hobbyists, and eventually it lands in my feed and it has me going "Who's got the time and energy to belittle fabric choices?" It turns out, a good amount of people do.

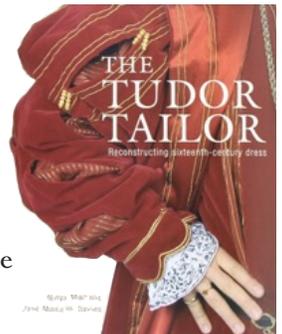
Social media also has an interesting way of magnifying on an issue that, while appears to be short-lived and petty, stems from a deeper root of systemic issues and (particularly to historical costuming) a community's inability to regulate themselves and adapt for growth and change.

Here's a reason why shaming someone for their fabric choices is not helpful: the availability of fabric is a geo-political hot button. Yes, fabric has ties to politics and we shan't ignore it in this blog. It

is extra disappointing to shame others for fabric choices when it's a documented case that costs and accessibility to fabric is a tale as old as time.

An example from *The Tudor Tailor*:

"People strove to wear the best they could afford ... Christmas expenses for the Lestrage Family in 1519 serve to illustrate purchasing power at the beginning of the 16th century. A day's wage for a laborer would buy a yard of the cheapest cloth (canvas at 4d a yard), while his wages for six months would barely buy a yard of the dearest (cloth of gold at 58s 8d a yard), and a fine cloak, at £20, would require more than 3 years labor." (Ninya Mikhaila & Jane Malcolm-Davies, *The Tudor Tailor*, Chapter 4, pg. 35)



This principal still applies to us in the 21st century. What is affordable to an American is widely different than to those in South America or Eastern Europe. While an American on median wages may be able to afford limited supplies of "100 percent natural fibers" these gatekeepers covet so, such cannot be said of clothing counterparts in Lithuania or in parts of Brazil. In fact, linen or broadcloths may not be available due to the sheer demand of clothing factories for general production in mainland Asia or consumers in Canada. In fact, the reason why parts of the western world is even able to provide natural fabrics to the retail market is can be

attributed to the existence of rayon and polyester in the industrial market.

To create a fictional gate in which to filter tailors, stitchers, cosplayers, and historical interpreters on the arbitrary standard of "natural fibers" continues to reinforce the systemic issues of class, race, and disability status. The other side of this coin is that once all members who do not adhere to this standard, when they are finally gone, the steadfast guardians of such an ostentatious gate will then

"The philosophy is simple, if difficult to execute: be the change you want to see."

turn and build a new one; such is the self-fulfilling prophecy of gatekeeping and its ultimate result: the death of a community.

The most interesting facet of watching this play out on social media is the refreshing accountability held by prominent members of their communities. Dr. Christine Millar (aka Sewstine) makes the concise point that in order for fabric companies to continue creating reproductions of historical fabric they must produce them as either rayon blends or polyester blends, and if anything are entirely synthetic.

Even Zack of Pinsent Tailoring discusses his personal use of synthetic material in the early days

of his tailoring career, adding the asterisk that while he makes the personal choice to seek and use natural fibers for environmental purposes, Zack has no plans to shame anyone for doing otherwise. Watching respected members of their communities to speak about their experiences with fabric and creating give us a common thread: that gatekeeping as a principal is not acceptable and that we must do better.

These "Fabric Wars", as it has been coined, being the hydra of community bane, what can we as makers do?

The philosophy is simple, if difficult to execute: be the change you want to

see. Reach out to people to share resources such as academic papers, textile providers, sewing techniques to maximize fabric use. Educate others on the specific purposes of each fabric and how to utilize it to the best of their abilities. Discuss the impact the fabric industry has in your area. Write to your retail providers with feedback, or write to your representatives and voice your needs. If you cannot be the change you want to see, all you'll end up finding are gates and their keepers.

Let's see how this "Fabric War" plays out on social media.



Herein Listed are the Officers of Østgarðr:

Viceroy	Il-Kha'an Suuder Saran	Archery	Lady Arnbiorg Helga Niálsdóttir
Vicereine	Il-Khatun Lada Monguligin	Fencing	Lord Alexander MacLachlan
Seneschal	Hlæfdige Alienor Salton, ka Piglet	Youth Marshal	Bóaire Mathghamhain Ua Ruadháin
Exchequer	Lord Francisco de Braga	Minister of Lists	Lady Marion of York
Herald	Lady Drasma Dragomira	Webminister	Bóaire Mathghamhain Ua Ruadháin
Chatelaine	Sayyida Laila al-Sanna' al-Andalusiyya	Chronicler	Lady Zahra al-Andaluzia
Chancellor Minor	Kunigunde Weidemann	Chamberlain	Baron Ian of Clan Mitchell
Minister of Arts & Sciences	Randve Lil Hammar	Historian	Mistress Sofya Gianetta di Trieste
Right Marshal	Lord Ervald LaCoudre Edwardson the Optimistic		

Seneschal of Brokenbridge Lord Ragnarr Bliskegg

Seneschal of Whyt Whyt Mistress Vika Grigina z Prahy

Seneschal of Lions' End Nagashima Ichiro Ujimichi

Herein Listed are the Provincial Champions of Østgarðr:

Armored Combat	Lord Muiredach Ua Dálaigh	Arts and Sciences	Lord Ragnarr Bláskegg
Fencing	Engel der Pfau	Bardic	Armiger Catelin Straquhin
Archery	Lord Mongu Chinua	Youth Combat	Finnbjorn Ægirson
Thrown Weapons	Cullen Powers		

