

# A Market Day at Birka XXXIV



January 24 – 26, 2025  
*Barony of Stonemarche*  
*Baroness Deirdre Planchet*  
*Baron Keziah Planchet*

## Welcome to A Market Day at Birka and the Current Middle Ages!

A Market Day at Birka is sponsored by the Barony of Stonemarche, the New Hampshire chapter of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. ("SCA"), a nonprofit educational organization devoted to the historical study of the Middle Ages and Renaissance.

The historical inspiration for this event is the town of Birka, which flourished in Sweden on Björkö Island in Lake Mälaren during the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> centuries. During its heyday, it was a great trading center for the Vikings and travelers from the Nordic world, and goods could be purchased there from throughout Europe as well as much of Asia. It was also the location of the first Christian congregation in Sweden, founded in 831 by St. Ansgar, where Christians and pagans lived side by side in peace. Birka and the nearby town of Hovgården were added to the World Heritage List in 1993 as well preserved examples of the Vikings' trading networks during the two centuries (700-900) when they expanded economically and politically in Europe. Birka is one of the most complete and untouched Viking Age trading sites from this period. We celebrate the heritage of Birka today in an SCA context with our own market day. Enjoy!

~~~~~

### Event Staff

**Co-Event Stewards:** Magnifica Tessa Martini d'Agostino &  
Dame Fionnghuala inghen Mhic Ceallaigh

**Deputy** Lady Astridr Saegeirsdottir

**Gate Coordinator:** Lady Cezilia Raposa

**Deputies:** Baroness Eleanor Inghean Mhic Congaill, Katla of Viborg,  
Lady Lillie of Eastham

**Merchant Coordinator:** Dagny Kõtrr Eyverska

**Deputies:** Aoife Inghean Uí Briain, Baroness Lily Morgaine Grey

**Royalty Liaison:** Baron Keziah Planchet

**Deputies:** THLady Sólveig Bjarnardóttir, Mistress Amalie von Hohensee

**A&S Coordinator:** Lady Cairtriona inghean Uí Shíodhacháin

**Birka Ball:** Mistress Anne Meckil von Salm & Maîtresse Camille des Jardins

**Bardic Circle:** Faylinn of Malagentia

**Fashion Show:** Countess Fortune St. Keyne

**Gold Key:** Lady Ælfthryth the Cat

**Herald's Point:** Captain Cassandra Hobbes

**Marshal in Charge - Fencing:** Lord Trian O'Bruidair

**Marshal in Charge - Heavy:** Master Richard le Hauke

**Marshal in Charge - Youth:** Mistress Karrah the Mischievous

**Media Coordinator:** THLady Sólveig Bjarnardóttir

**Meetings:** Lady Astridr Saegeirsdottir

**Middle Eastern Activities:** Lady Erzulie

**Mistress of the Lists:** Lady Olivia Baker

**Newcomers / Info Point:** Yfir Donalsson

**Sound Mixer for Court:** Lord Arpadfin Vidor

**Security:** Skúli Britingr

**Sign Coordinators:** Ailidh Fuireast and Skúli Britingr

**Token Designer:** Lady Cairtriona inghean Uí Shíodhacháin

**Volunteer Coordinator:** Lady Astridr Saegeirsdottir

**Website:** Magnifica Tessa Martini d'Agostino

**Youth Coordinator:** Theo of Stonemarche

Cover Art by Magnifica Tessa Martini d'Agostino. The cover art is inspired by the many Gotlandic Picture Stones left by our Viking ancestors.

## **Words from Their Majesties**

Welcome to the glorious lands of Stonemarche, where all may enjoy the beauty of the mountains, the tang of salt air at the ocean, as well as our many wondrous lakes, rivers and babbling brooks. It is our fervent hope that the only weather you experience is the biting cold that is normally found this far north in the month of January, and any snow and storms have held off and not waylaid any plans.

We are blessed to have many visiting Royalty from several Kingdoms. We expect that this event will show you the brilliance of the East Kingdom!

Believe in the dream and it will come true.  
King Matthew and Queen Fiamuin

~~~~~

## **Greetings from the Baroness and Baron**

Greetings travelers! Come in out of the cold: Welcome to Stonemarche. We hope you enjoy yourself at the Market Day at Birka. Please avail yourselves of our indomitable hospitality, our spacious merchant hall, and see the ferocity of the bear pit tournaments! May your purses and hearts leave lighter than they arrived. Thank you all!

Yours in Service,  
Deirdre and Keziah  
Baroness and Baron of Stonemarche

~~~~~

## **A Message from the Event Stewards**

Welcome all to the beautiful lands of Stonemarche! We are honored and humbled by your presence, and can only hope that you will be pleased by your time in our fair land.

We are grateful to have our Baroness and Baron in attendance, along with many visiting nobles and Royals. Please join us in sending a special welcome and greetings to Their Majesties, King Matthew and Queen Fiamuin, Their Highnesses, Heir Sovereign Ryoukojin of the Iron Skies and Heir Consort Indrakshi Aravinda. We also have visiting Royal guests from abroad: from the Kingdom of the Midrealm, Princeps Wigthegn the Younger and Princepissa Neassa O'Cathasaigh; from the Kingdom of Atenveldt, Queen Elizabeth Æthelwulf; from the Kingdom of Atlantia, Prince Abran de la Barra; from the Kingdom of Aethelmarc, King Bjarki Rikarðarson, Prince Timothy of Arindale, and Princess Gabrielle van Nijenrode; and from the Kingdom of Acre, King Douglas II and Queen Una I. We have also heard of several elevations, the vigil information for which will be posted after Morning Court for those that wish to attend. Congratulations to everyone who is recognised in Court this weekend!

Our society is based on service, and Birka is a fine example of what our members can do. So please join us in thanking all of the people who make this event possible: the staff members who put in countless hours before, during, and after the event, and to those who give a part of their day to check folks in, run an activity, or any of the myriad of things that go into making an event a success. We may be the Event Stewards, but without the 100+ people who assist us, this couldn't happen.

We have a special request to everyone, whether this is your first event or your 1,000<sup>th</sup>. Take a moment to acknowledge someone you don't know, whether it's admiring something they did or purchased, or just to give them a smile and say hello. We want everyone to feel welcome and included, and bring us all together so that everyone has an enjoyable and memorable time. Thank you for each smile, laugh and memory you help generate. These are what make all the effort worthwhile. It is what each of us brings that makes our Society a better place.

*Yours in Service to the Dream,*  
*Magnifica Tessa Martini d'Agostino*  
*Dame Fionnghuala inghen Mhic Ceallaigh*

## East Kingdom Royalty

King Matthew des Arden  
Queen Fiamuin Kareman  
Heir Sovereign Ryoukojin of the Iron Skies  
Heir Consort Indrakshi Aravinda

## Visiting Royalty

*(in order of the founding of the Kingdom)*

### **Kingdom of Midrealm**

Princes Wigthegn the Younger,  
Princepissa Neassa O'Cathasaigh

### **Kingdom of Atenveldt**

Queen Elizabeth Æthelwulf

### **Kingdom of Atlantia**

Prince Abran de la Barra

### **Kingdom of Aethelmearc**

King Bjarki Rikarðarson  
Prince Timothy of Arindale  
Princess Gabrielle van Nijenrode

### **Kingdom of Acre**

King Douglas II  
Queen Una I



## Site Tokens

This year's site token has some very humble beginnings. I was browsing through the online archives for the British Museum, as one does. I noticed this small piece that wasn't a brooch but was filed away with them. It was whimsical but simple in design and obviously made for some function to join things together or hang something from. I speculated over what uses it could have served over its lifetime and I wanted to see it come to life. Lady Caitriona inghean Uí Shíodhachain graciously consented to designing this year's token from a very small grainy image I had saved to my phone. For all its simplicity or perhaps because of it we struggled together to get to a vision of what this little bit of history could become.

Here are some pictures of what inspired the token for Birka XXXIV. I want to thank Lady Caitriona and all the folks who worked on the token making crew in the weeks leading up to the event. It is no small task to coordinate the casting of 1600+ site tokens from 4 different casting stations across Stonemarche, approximately 40 lbs. of pewter and over 70 hours of labor went into making these tokens.



Thank you so much,  
Dame Fionnghualla inghen Mhic  
Ceallaigh

Left: original inspiration Right: similar  
but with more center details

## Meetings

*All meetings except the Order of the Rose and Runnymede are open to all who wish to attend.*

### Saturday, January 25:

*Most of the meetings will be held in Frost or Penstock (the old JD's Tavern). The "Front" and "Back" in Penstock refers to the seating section in front of the 3 stairs, and the seats up on the higher level. There will be signs to explain it in the room.*



| Time          | Name of Guild/Group or Class Name                             | Room             |
|---------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| 11 am - 3 pm  | Guild of Osiris                                               | Concourse        |
| 11 am - 12 pm | Thrown Weapons Marshals Meeting                               | Frost            |
| 11 am - 12 pm | Order of the Rose                                             | Penstock - Front |
| 11 am - 12 pm | The Honourable Company of Knytters of the EK                  | Penstock - Back  |
| 12 pm - 1 pm  | Runnymede                                                     | Frost            |
| 12 pm - 1 pm  | Exchequers meet & greet                                       | Penstock - Front |
| 12 pm - 1 pm  | Arachne's Web Lace Guild                                      | Penstock - Back  |
| 1 pm - 2 pm   | EK Soothsayer's Guild Meeting                                 | Frost            |
| 1 pm - 2 pm   | Event Steward Round Table                                     | Penstock - Front |
| 1 pm - 2 pm   | Keepers of Athena's Thimble                                   | Penstock - Back  |
| 2 pm - 3 pm   | Youth Combat Marshals and MITs Meeting                        | Armoury          |
| 2 pm - 3 pm   | Crown Tournament Informational Meeting                        | Frost            |
| 2 pm - 3 pm   | EK Combat Archers                                             | Penstock - Front |
| 2 pm - 3 pm   | EK Ministry of Arts and Sciences (Intro to the EK A&S Rubric) | Penstock - Back  |
| 3 pm - 4 pm   | EK Unbelts Meeting                                            | Frost            |
| 3 pm - 4 pm   | Siege Guild                                                   | Penstock - Front |
| 3 pm - 4 pm   | EK Equestrians                                                | Penstock - Back  |

### Sunday, January 26:

| Time          | Name of Guild/Group or Class Name | Room                    |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 10 am - 12 pm | EK Royal Forestry Guild           | <i>Frost / Hawthorn</i> |

## Master Schedule of Events

### Friday, January 24:

|                    |                                      |                     |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 5 pm – 11 pm       | <b>Buffet Dinner</b>                 | Penstock            |
| 6 pm – 9 pm        | <b>Gate</b>                          | Stark               |
| 6 pm – 9 pm        | <b>Information / Newcomers Point</b> | Outside Expo Center |
| 6 pm – 10 pm       | <b>Merchants</b>                     | Expo Center         |
| 7:30 pm – 9 pm     | <b>Royal Court – Friday Night</b>    | Armory              |
| 8:30 pm – 10:30 pm | <b>Birkastan - Casual Hafla</b>      | Pierce              |
| 8 pm - 9 pm        | <b>Teen Meet and Greet</b>           | Hale                |

### Saturday, January 25:

*Please note that Merchants are open during Courts*

|                    |                                                                                                             |                                   |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 8 am – 3:30 pm     | <b>Gate</b>                                                                                                 | Stark                             |
| 8 am – 4 pm        | <b>Daily Brew Coffee Shop</b>                                                                               | Outside of Expo Center            |
| 9 am – 6 pm        | <b>Merchants</b>                                                                                            | Expo Center                       |
| 9 am – 10 pm       | <b>Gold Key / Changing Rooms</b><br>(also a Quiet Space for those who need it)                              | Webster                           |
| 9 am – 11 am       | <b>Heavy List: Tournament Check-in, Authorizations &amp; Inspections</b>                                    | Ballroom                          |
| 9 am – 11 am       | <b>Fencing: Tournament Check-in, Authorizations &amp; Inspections</b>                                       | Armory                            |
| 9 am – 4 pm        | <b>Heralds Point</b>                                                                                        | Spaulding                         |
| 9 am – 4 pm        | <b>Arts &amp; Sciences</b>                                                                                  | Dartmouth on Mezzanine            |
| 9 am – 4 pm        | <b>Information / Newcomers Point</b>                                                                        | Outside Expo Center               |
| 9 am – 5 pm        | <b>Family Lounge</b>                                                                                        | Far end of Mezzanine by Hawthorne |
| 9 am – 4 pm        | <b>Youth &amp; Family Activities</b>                                                                        | Hawthorne on Mezzanine            |
| 9 am – 4 pm        | <b>Teen / Tween Gathering</b>                                                                               | Hale                              |
| 9:30 am – 10:45 am | <b>Royal Court – Morning</b>                                                                                | Armory                            |
| 11 am – 4 pm       | <b>Meetings</b>                                                                                             | See meetings for location         |
| 11 am – 5 pm       | <b>Middle Eastern Activities</b>                                                                            | Pierce                            |
| 11 am – 12 pm      | <b>Newcomers Q&amp;A: Ask their Excellencies!</b> <i>presented by the Baron and Baroness of Stonemarche</i> | Newcomers Point                   |
| 11 am – 2 pm       | <b>Heavy List Tournament</b>                                                                                | Ballroom                          |
| 11 am – 2 pm       | <b>Fencing Tournament</b>                                                                                   | Armory                            |

|                     |                                                                   |                                   |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 11 am – 2 pm        | <b>Youth Combat</b>                                               | Armory                            |
| 11:15 am – 12:15 pm | <b>C&amp;T Tournament</b>                                         | Armory                            |
| 12 pm – 4 pm        | <b>Concessions</b> open for lunch                                 | outside of Ballroom & Expo Center |
| 3 pm – 4 pm         | <b>Fashion Show</b>                                               | Armory                            |
| 4:30 pm – 8 pm      | <b>Royal Court</b> – to include <b>Stonemarche Baronial Court</b> | Ballroom                          |
| 5 pm – 11 pm        | <b>Cash Bar is Open</b>                                           | outside of Ballroom               |
| 8:30 pm – 11 pm     | <b>Bardic Circle</b>                                              | Ballroom - Pemigewasset           |
| 8:30 pm – 11 pm     | <b>Birka Balle</b>                                                | Ballroom - 3 Rivers               |
| 8:30 pm – 10:30 pm  | <b>Birkastan Hafila</b>                                           | Pierce                            |

**Sunday, January 26:**

|               |                                |                               |
|---------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 8 am – 2 pm   | <b>Daily Brew Coffee Shop</b>  | Outside of Expo Center        |
| 9 am – 2 pm   | <b>Gate</b>                    | hallway outside of Stark      |
| 9 am – 3 pm   | <b>Merchants</b>               | Expo Center                   |
| 10 am – 12 pm | <b>EK Royal Forestry Guild</b> | Frost / Hawthorn on Mezzanine |
| 10 am – 2 pm  | <b>Herald's Point</b>          | Spaulding                     |

**Event Closes at 3:00 pm**



## Activities

We were not able to include the full write ups of many of the activities. You can visit the Activities page of the Birka website for the full information and be able to read some wonderful prose! A note will follow any activity that has more information available. This QR code goes directly to the Activities Page.



### Arts & Sciences -

**Display** - Calling all East Kingdom Artisans! It is time to let the populace in on all the hard work, research and creativity you have been involved in over the past year. We gather at Birka to enjoy the many vendors, some of them sharing of their own crafts, and others of their generous supplies of materials for our pursuit of our arts. And if you are not displaying, please come and admire the works on display.

**A&S Consultations** - The goal of the EK Arts and Sciences Consultation service is to allow everyone the opportunity to meet with experienced artisans to receive advice and further their own journey on their chosen A&S path. We aim to match artisans with someone who can discuss and give advice on project scope, documentation, research, and/or potential directions for present and future projects. For more information, please visit <https://moas.eastkingdom.org/for-artisans/as-consultation-service/>

**Bardic Circle** - Come join our bardic circle in song, performance or presence. It will be a "come as you are" and perform or pass. All ages and all skill levels are welcome. Rounds welcome if you have them.

**The Birka Balle returns!** Join Mickel and Camille, followers of the muse Terpsichore, as they lead a merry evening of European Renaissance dancing. Almayns, bransles, Italian balli, English country dances, easier dances and more involved dances; a little something for everyone.

PLEASE NOTE: there will be no formal dance instruction during the Balle, though there will be moments of quick review between dances. For the Dance List, please visit the Activities page on the website.

**Fashion Show - "Drumroll please!** Queen Fiamuin, harkening back to her history as a Chirurgeon, has decreed the Queen's Challenge theme shall be: *The Four Humours*. She wishes to see outfits inspired by the colors, textures, and meanings behind Black Bile, Yellow Bile, Phlegm, and Blood! (I mean, is it really your outfit if you haven't bled on it anyway?) However, the judges are not doctors, so do not bring them samples!

The Queen's Challenge is only one category of the Birka Fashion Show, we also have competitions for Early Period, Middle Period, Late Period, and Non-Western Garb with special commendations for best group and best kid garb. All skill levels are welcome and documentation is appreciated, but not required. \*\*Our goal is that you show off the garb that makes you feel your most fabulous\*\* A limited number of forms will be available and must be received \*by the start of the show\*.



Scan me to sign up!

**Fencing** - Greetings all! Fencing at Birka this year will again be held in the Armory and will consist of a Bear Pit Tournament, a C&T Tournament, and an Open Fencing List for pickups and teaching opportunities.

**Rapier** - The first half of the tournament is a Reverse Bear Pit with a max of two (2) defeats per run where the victor reports; the second half is a Conventional Bear Pit with a max of three (3) victories where the defeated reports. The tournament will be scored where every fencer is given one point for every fight they participate in and one point for every win they accrue. For both halves, Double Kills will leave the pit and report to the MOL.



together. For more information, see the Activities Page of the website.

**The C&T Tournament** We will be running the Cut & Thrust Bearpit Tourney at Birka again this year; Sir Ivan and Master Wyck will be running two adjacent lists, randomizing list entry to ensure that each fencer gets to fight as many opponents as possible. There will be two awards – Longest Streak and Most Overall Wins. Fabulous Prizes! Prestige! Glory! This is your basic hold-the-field and it will run for one hour. Wounds will not be retained this year. Mandatory two-minute break after a combatant has fenced five bouts in a row. We will aim to start fifteen-thirty minutes after Saturday Morning Court (will adjust as the situation dictates).

**Heavy List** - Our Traditional Bear Pit is back! Enjoy the fast pace of this wounds retained tourney in a 10x10 list. Visit the Activities page of the website for the rules.

**Herald's Point** - If you are looking for help with a name, creating or modifying your arms, interested in a personal badge or one for a household, or just want to geek out about the history of heraldry, please feel free to come up to Herald's Point on Saturday or Sunday. We have moved to Spaulding which is on the Concourse near the Expo Center (Merchants). Open 9-4 on Saturday and 9-2 on Sunday. Any skill level welcome!

**Newcomers Point** - New to the SCA and have questions? Returning to the SCA and want to refresh your memory? Transplant? Newcomer's point is a great place for you to visit. You can ask questions and be pointed in the right direction of folks who can assist you in your journey through the current middle ages.

**Youth Combat** -Open to all interested youth aged 6-17, will run in the Armory. Loaner gear will be available on a first come, first served basis.

11am – 1pm: Inspections, armoring, and authorizations followed by pickups, training and games.

1pm – 2pm: The Birka Youth Combat Tournament will be a Roll Your Fate Tournament. Each combatant will roll a pair of dice, which determines the weapons form or other fighting conditions they will have to follow for the bout.

## ROLL YOUR FATE

- 2- THE FLOOR IS LAVA
- 3- ZOMBIE FIGHT (HEAD KILL ONLY)
- 4- SWORD AND SHIELD
- 5- PROTECT YOUR STUFFY
- 6- GREAT WEAPON
- 7- SINGLE SWORD
- 8- DUAL WEAPON
- 9- DAGGER (STABBING ONLY!)
- 10- SHRINKING POTION! FIGHT FROM YOUR KNEES!
- 11- DUCKY!!
- 12- DIZZY BAT

BONUS! ROLL A PAIR- CAN KEEP OR REROLL ONCE

**For Arms!** The Youth Combat Program is seeking donations of armor for loaner gear! We have many new marshals who are eager to start active programs back home, and older marshals who have had a lot of the loaner gear walk off over the years. Help us keep the program thriving! For more information visit the Activities page on the website.

## Youth and Family Activities

### Saturday:

**For all activities in Hawthorn:** The room will be open for children to play games, do some crafts, and play with one another. All children under 10 years old must be with their responsible adult at all times, and per Kingdom Law cannot be dropped off at Youth Point. Organized activities will also be offered, and are listed below. ***At least one adult who has been warranted as a Youth Officer by the SCA will be present for all activities.***

**In Hawthorn,** on the Mezzanine.

9 am - 5 pm      **The Family Lounge** (on the Mezzanine at the far end by Hawthorne) -

Parents and children of all ages are welcome to this space where families can get away from the hustle and bustle of the event. There is a bathroom directly across from it, couches for nursing or to calm fussy children, and space to put toddlers down to play safely. Small fidget toys will be available throughout that time (non-choking hazard). The same child supervision rules that apply for the rest of Birka will apply in this space as well as the classroom space next to it. Unsupervised children will be asked to locate their adults.

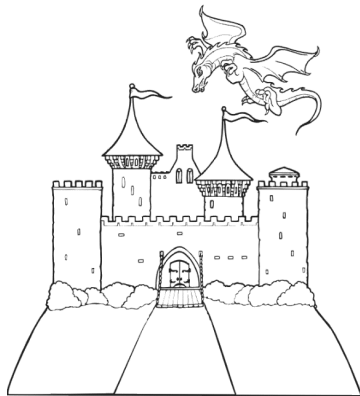
10 am – 4 pm      **Youth Garb Swap** - Bring Youth Garb, marked with an approximate size if you know it, and donate it or swap it with other youth who need garb! At the end of the day, unclaimed garb will be donated to local Gold Keys.

10 am – 4 pm      **Open Gaming and crafting** - There will be gaming and crafting available all day. Youth can come and enjoy the activity scheduled during that time or do their own thing.

10 am - 11 am      **Family Meet and Greet and Garb Swap.** *Come meet other SCAdian families with children! Bring your kids' old garb and pass it down to others who need it. Give your kids a chance to meet other kids they might not have met yet.*

11 am - 12 pm:      **Stuffy Throw** Throw foam axes and knives to win stuffies! All kids may take one stuffy they hit home with them! Open to youth of all ages

12 pm - 4 pm      **Peg People Market** Create your persona as a peg doll - paint and wig materials provided. Once you're ready, collect your bag of buttons and hit the Peg Doll Fair Market for garb materials. No sewing skills are required, but if you're a budding sewist and interested in learning how to sew dolls clothes, feel free to drop by! Ages 3+, donations of money and/or fabric scraps appreciated.



## *Teens and Tweens:*

**In Hale**, off of the Expo Center Concourse sitting area.

Please note: This area is intended for those 12 and older.

### **Friday Night:**

8 pm – 9 pm           **Teen Meet and Greet.** (Hale) *This is a chance for those citizens of our kingdom between the ages of 13-17 to meet one another and talk about the SCA and what interests them.*

### **Saturday:**

10 am – 4 pm           **Open Gaming and Hangout**   There will be gaming and a place to hangout available all day. Come and enjoy the activity scheduled or do your own thing.

### ***Role Playing Games:***

#### City of Mist

City of Mist is a tabletop role playing game that is narrative focused, allowing the players to use the power of Myths, Legends and Stories to create the world as they wish. This adventure has been created specifically for Birka and the Merchants who come to the event. The name of the scenario is "Birka Trade Hall Heist." Dice will be available to borrow for the game. You can keep your character after the game. **This will be a game for beginners. Max of 6 players**

10 am – 11 am       **Character Creation / Selection**   Basic characters will be created using the Player Handbook. You will learn about the characters and legends in City of Mist.

12 pm – 4 pm       **Game Time.** We'll start by going over some of the basics of game play, then jump right into the adventure! We'll continue to help you figure out when to roll dice and which dice to roll as the adventure progresses.

#### **DnD: The Final Stand**

Prepare for a fight to save the world. The overlord is mere days away from conquering the world, and you hope to make it BACK HOME safe and sound. **This game is recommended players who have played DnD before!**

10 am – 11 am       **Character Creation / Selection**   You can make your own characters, but if you really don't feel like it there will be some pre-made characters available.

11 am – 4 pm       **Game Time.** We'll break for a quick lunch around 1:00.

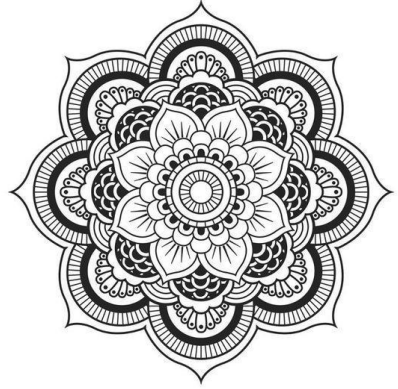


## Middle Eastern Activities

### **NOTES:**

*Masks are not required but we will have fresh masks and hand sanitizer available for the "Birkastan" Birka 2024 Middle Eastern Dance Room.*

*Teachers and Performers: you must bring musicians or your music on a device that has Bluetooth (Please test ahead of time—you may have to take your phone out of its case). And a reminder to all, please only video (and tag on social media) those you have permission to.*



### **Friday Jan. 24 in "Birkastan" (Pierce)**

**Casual Hafila** 8:30 - 10:30 pm Recorded music but musicians are welcome to sit in. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to participate in the open dance!

### **Saturday, Jan. 25 in "Birkastan" (Pierce)**

**CLASS 11 - 11:45am: (45 min) *Debke Means Stomp!*** with Lady Erzulie

Come learn the basic rhythm and steps to this unisex Levantine folk dance from the Lebanese, Jordanian, Palestinian, and Syrian communities that we can then dance at the Saturday Night Birkastan Halfa!

**CLASS 12 - 12:45pm: *Beyond 8's Drum class*** with Rich and Penny

Would you like to learn to drum the rhythms that are beyond 8? 9/8, 10/8 and if time permits 28/8. Come join us as we explore Karsilama, Gypsy (Rom) 9, and Samai while we learn the songs they best fit. And, if we have enough time, we can explore Daveed's 28/8.

**CLASS 1 - 1:45pm: *Skirt work*** with Kalilia

Please bring a 25 yard skirt for this class for best ability with moves

**Middle Eastern Dance Performances** 2-3 pm (60 min):

**CLASS 3:15 - 4 pm: (45 min) *Gamify Your Dance*** with Zabel

Let's get playful with your dance! Discover how to develop and play dance games as a fun, stress free way to move beyond dance blocks in your practice. We will play some of my favorite games, and learn how to utilize them in your personal dance practice, building choreography and improvisational performance.

**CLASS 4:15 - 5 pm: (45 min) *Power Poses in Indian Dance*** with Mistress Lakshmi

Common gestures, postures, facial expressions, etc, that go with various power moves and powerful people. Also some very cool powerful goddess iconography – so let's take a look at that. No prior experience needed, can be done seated or standing

**Live Music Hafia** 8:30 – 10:30 pm We will start the event with a set led by Rich Parker on dulcimer and Hagop Garabedian of The Athenian Corner Ensemble on accordion after which all musicians are welcome to sit in.

Donations requested for Hagop's music services — suggested \$5 to \$20 range.

All musicians are welcome to sit in. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to participate in the open dance!



## Rules and FAQ

### Rules

All participants must:

- Wear their site token in an easily visible manner at all times. Your Coronet is NOT a token. Please be considerate of this rule and reasonable requests by staff.
- Wear an attempt at pre-17th century clothing, which is generally referred to as "garb." If needed, loaner garb is available at Gold Key (Webster). ***Garb is required on Saturday, and is encouraged on Friday and Sunday.***
- Act in a manner consistent with Chivalric ideals and courtesy.
- Follow the instructions of the Event staff.

Participants may not:

- Wear "Fantasy" outfits (Elven Ears, Fairy wings, Steampunk, etc.).

Failure to follow any of the Event rules, or the rules of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. may result in expulsion from the site without refund.

### FAQ:

**Air Purifiers:** We will have 22 air purifiers scattered around the site.

**Alcohol:** Any alcohol to be consumed in public areas (any area that is not a private hotel room) must be purchased from the hotel bar, restaurant, or other concession area per the hotel's liquor license. If you purchase alcohol from one of the hotel concession areas, you must stay in that area to finish your drink. You may not wander around the event with an open container. If you wish to share your personal reserve, please invite people to your private hotel room.

**Changing rooms:** We have moved the changing rooms to Webster this year (with Gold Key) which are set up for a single person or small family. You may leave items on

the provided racks, but the Event makes no guarantees of their safety. We recommend that you keep your valuables with you at all times. If you are uncomfortable using the changing rooms, you may use the bathrooms. Please do not leave any items in the bathrooms or the changing rooms.

**Children:** We ask that children under 5 are with a responsible adult at all times. Children between 5 and 10 should be within sight and hearing distance of a responsible adult. Parents/guardians are responsible for the behavior of their children. Continuous non-compliance can result in expulsion from the site without refund. Minors may attend the event with an adult who is not their parent/legal guardian provided that the proper paperwork is provided. A medical release and minor waiver must be signed by the parents/legal guardian and brought to site with the child.

**Food:** For more information on menus and pricing, visit the website.

- The Hotel will have two concession stands set up from 12- 4 pm outside the Expo Center and Ballroom for lunch on Saturday. (see website for menu and prices)
- The Current Restaurant will be open for breakfast and dinner.
- Penstock will be set up for a buffet dinner Friday night. (see website for menu and prices)
- The Daily Brew will be open from 8 am - 4 pm on Saturday and from 8 am - 2 pm on Sunday near the Expo Center.
- The Lobby Bar will be open both nights from 5 - 11 pm
- The Bar outside the Ballroom will be open for drinks on Saturday night from 5 - 11 pm.
- There are many local restaurants in the surrounding area, some of which offer DoorDash and other delivery options. You will need to meet any food delivery in the hotel lobby.

**Gold Key:** Need loaner clothes for yourself or a friend who is new to the SCA? We will have Gold Key (loaner clothes) located in Webster.

**Hospitality Areas:** This year we will again have several areas designated as "Hospitality Areas," which will have tables and chairs for everyone to use to meet with friends, take a break, or just sit down for a spell. We ask that you respect that these areas are open for everyone by not taking them over for your meeting or household and leaving them cleaner than you found them. All rules that apply for the rest of the Event apply here as well. As with everything in the SCA, please be courteous to all.

**Lost & Found:** Mundane items such as keys, wallets, and cell phones should be turned in to the front desk. Medieval items can be brought to Gold Key (Webster).

**Masks:** While masks are no longer required, Covid cases and norovirus are on the rise. If you feel more comfortable wearing a mask, please do so, especially in the more crowded event areas. KN95 masks have been provided by the East Kingdom and there are also surplus cloth masks from other events. Masks can be found at Gate, Pre-Reg, Info Point, Merchants Hall, outside the Ballroom, and outside A&S on the Mezzanine.

**Parking Validation:** To receive the *\$8 day rate* or *\$15 overnight parking rate* for the event, you *must* have a validated parking ticket. If you do not, you are likely to be charged the normal parking rate. You can have your ticket validated by the Hotel staff at the Hotel registration counter, or at the self-serve kiosk located in the Expo Center to the Right of the main entrance.

**Pets:** The hotel and event area are not pet friendly. Only service animals are allowed. Any misbehaving animal may be asked to leave the event.

**Pewter:** We will have a drop off area for any pewter tokens you do not wish to keep. If the token has sentimental value, please keep it! Any tokens turned in will be melted down and recast into new tokens for future Birkas. Pewter may be dropped off at Gold Key (Webster). A table will be set up near lost and found. 137 site tokens were made from donated pewter this year.

**Public Spaces:** Please be aware that all corridors in the hotel are open to the public, and are not limited to Event attendees. You should not leave personal items unattended in these areas. You should also expect to see people who are not part of the event, and are therefore not in garb in these areas. Any rooms rented by the event are also considered public spaces and fall under the hotel's liquor license. Only hotel rooms are considered private spaces.

**Royal Room:** If you have a need to get a message to the Royal household or drop something off for Royal Court, the Royal Room is located in Coolidge on the Mezzanine. This room is specifically for the Royalty, and is not part of the public event space. This room also falls under the hotel's liquor license.

**Scroll Case Return:** Have a scroll case, or perhaps many, that you would like to return for others to use to bring home their new scroll? We will be collecting scroll cases this year. They may be dropped off at Herald's Point (Spaulding). A table will be set up just inside the entrance.

**Scroll Drop:**

**Kingdom Court:** Please bring any scrolls for EK court to the Royal Room located in Coolidge on the Mezzanine

**Baronial Court:** Please bring any scrolls for Stonemarche court to Herald's Point located in Spaulding

**A Market Day at Birka Website**



**Online Merchant Book**



