



# The Steppes Letter

January 2022



# Barony of the Steppes: January 2022

- Calendar of Events .....2
  - Event Information
- Words From the Baron & Baroness.....4
- Words From the Officers.....5
- A Sonnet by Brian O'hUilliam.....9
- Guilds of the Steppes.....10
- Words From Glaslyn.....12
- Da'ud Bob Movie Review.....13
- Links, Tips, and Tricks.....14

This is the January 2022 issue of the Steppes Newsletter, a publication of The Barony of the Steppes of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. The Steppes Letter is available from Kathryn DePalma [chronicler@steppes.ansteorra.org]. It is not a corporate publication of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Incorporated, and does not delineate SCA policies.

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# Calendar of Events

## January 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Chivalric, Rapier, & A&S Practice	4 Culinary Guild	5	6	7
						12th Night
8 Archery Practice	9 Fighter Practice & Business Meeting	10 Chivalric, Rapier, & A&S Practice	11	12	13	14
						Coronation
15 Archery Practice	16 Fighter Practice	17 Chivalric, Rapier, & A&S Practice	18	19 Business Meeting	20	21
						Queen's Champion
22	23 Fighter Practice	24 Chivalric, Rapier, A&S, Newcomers' Academy	25	26	27	28
29	30	31 Chivalric, Rapier, & A&S Practice	<b>Key:</b> <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Events</span> <span style="color: green;">Steppes Practice</span> <span style="color: red;">Glaslyn Practice</span>			

[Find all of our events on our website](#)



# Event Info

## January 2022



### Steppes' 12th Night

Saturday 7th 9AM - 8PM  
St. Luke's Lutheran Church  
1210 W Belt Line Rd,  
Richardson, TX 75080

### Coronation

Saturday 14th 8:00AM - 5PM  
Bexar Bowling Society Hall  
15681 Bexar Bowling,  
Marion, TX 78124

[Website](#) - [Facebook](#) - [Paypal](#)

### Queen's Champion

Saturday 21st 9AM - 8PM  
Orange County Convention  
and Expo Center  
11475-B Hwy 1442  
Orange, Texas 77630

[PayPal](#)

### Archery

First & Third Sundays  
2PM-5PM  
Westlake Sports Center  
601 Gross Rd, Mesquite, TX

### Chivalric & Rapier

Tuesdays 7PM-9PM  
St Luke's Lutheran Church  
1210 W Belt Line Rd,  
Richardson, TX

### Glaslyn Practice &

### Business Meeting

Mondays 6PM  
North Lakes Park 2001 W.  
Windsor Dr., Denton, TX

### Steppes Business

### Meeting

3rd Thursday 7PM  
Palio's Pizza  
1469 W Campbell Rd,  
Richardson, TX

### Thrown Weapons

On hiatus

### Newcomers' Academy

4th Tuesday 6:30PM  
St Luke's Lutheran Church  
1210 W Belt Line Rd,  
Richardson, TX

### Culinary Guild

1st Wednesday 7PM  
901 N US 75-Central Expy  
1000, Plano, TX

### Scribal Guild

Tuesdays 7PM-9PM  
St. Luke's Lutheran Church  
1210 W Belt Line Rd,  
Richardson, TX

### Music Guild

On hiatus

\*All SCA Practices and  
Meetings are free to attend



**Baron**

**Baudoyne de Lafayette**

baron@steppes.ansteorra.org

**Baroness**

**Katerine le Roux d'Anjou**

baroness@steppes.ansteorra.org

Greetings All,

It has been a busy year for the Steppes. A year of growth and good times. The officers (present and prior) of the barony care deeply for the Steppes, and that is reflected in the many successes we have had last year.

This group is not one to rest on its laurels. The mighty oak is always growing, changing. This year, we have a golden opportunity to really push the Steppes to new heights. It is the 50th Anniversary of the creation of this barony and we have some fun things in store for everyone!

To kick off this year, we have 12th Night, an event that is full of activities and fun! Then comes the 50th Warlord in May. That is shaping up to be an awesome weekend and we hope that all can attend this historic event.

We are proud to serve and lead such a proud and passionate barony who keeps coming up with new ways to have fun together. 2023 is going to be a year to remember! You won't want to miss what we have planned!

Leaves in the Wind,

**Baron Baudoyne and Baroness Katerine**



# Word from the Baronial Officers



## Seneschal

Elsbeth de Stervlen  
seneschal@steppes.ansteorra.org

Greeting Steppes,

We hope everyone has a terrific Holiday Season and s very safe New Years day.

12th Night is coming up, we cannot wait to host everyone! It's been too long. The feast sounds delicious.

Warlord turns 50 next year!!!!!! There are TONS of areas to help, contact the event steward. Gilli, for more info.

This year has been fun, interesting and challenging, here's looking to a much more fun 2023!!!

## Baroness Elspeth de Stervlen



## Exchequer

Lady Astrid Folkadottir  
exchequer@steppes.ansteorra.org

Greetings populace

As of 11/30/22 the group's bank balance is \$20,074.48. At the december financial committee meeting we approved the 2023 budget.

Since we have many new members I thought it would be a good idea to share with everyone how paypal for event pre registration works. If an event is set up for paypal there is a link to a google form that people can fill out to pre register for an event.

You have to do a separate form for every person you are pre registering, this includes children. When you fill it out use the same email address for everyone you are pre registering. Paypal is a manual process managed by the paypal deputy. Typically within 24-48 hours you will receive an invoice to pay via paypal. This will have the total for all people tied to the same email address. If you don't see an email after 48 hours check your spam folder as it sometimes appears there.

We are accepting applications for the quartermaster position. This is a deputy position of the exchequer. It is a great job for someone who is interested in getting their feet wet in being an officer. Job responsibilities are to assist with load out/in for our events and the yearly storage inventory. Living near the storage unit (Carrollton TX off George Bush & Kelly blvd) a plus but not a requirement. If interested please send an application to me, the senchal and B&B.

In service

Astrid Ffolkadottir



## Webminister

Hákon the Blacksmith  
webminister@steppes.ansteorra.org

No news from the webminister this month. As always, the Steppes' website can be found [here!](#)



## Archery Marshal

Eadgyth Beornesdohtor  
archery@steppes.ansteorra.org

Unto the populace of the Barony of the Steppes, your Archery Marshal sends greetings.

Gentles, it's cold out there! Time to do some maintenance on your equipment. Winter is the time to clean and wax your arrows. Paste floor wax or car wax works fine. Waxing your arrows (don't forget the tips) keeps moisture out, and can reduce wind resistance, increase arrow penetration, and make it easier to pull your arrows out of the target.

And, of course, you'll extend the life of your bowstring by waxing it regularly with a good quality beeswax.

The 1st Sunday in January is New Years Day, so our next scheduled range is the 8th of January at our usual spot: Westlake Park Archery Range, 601 Gross Rd, Mesquite, TX 75149. Until then, best wishes for a wonderful holiday and safe and happy New Year!

Yours in joyous service,

**Lady Eadgyth Beornesdohtor**



## Rapier Marshal

Lord Sean Tabor  
rapier@steppes.ansteorra.org

Unto the Barony of the Steppes,  
Ld. Sean Tabor sends greetings!

This last year has been a busy one for fighting in the Steppes. We have had great attendance at our fighter practices by the fighting community, their supporters and our Arts and Sciences community. We look forward to the fighters and the artists inspiring one another's projects. Some are inspiring all on their own as fighters AND artists. Our fighter practice has become known for it's warm, welcoming culture and friendly competition. We have also seen cross pollination between Rapier and Chivalric with our fighters participating in BOTH during practice.

This makes us one of the very few practices in the kingdom to have achieved this. Vivat Steppes Fighters! We are now taking our fighting spirit on the road with the Ironwood Company. Many will see our colors and hear the deeds of this brave band. Our next generation of fighters is coming out regularly to practice and increasing their skills at home. It is with humble appreciation I see so much growth, companionship, and improvement happening. I am proud to call the Barony of the Steppes my home.

YOU DID THIS MY FRIENDS,  
VIVAT THE STEPPES!

YIS,  
**Ld. Sean**



## Chivalric Marshal

Centurion Magnus Creppinson  
marshal@steppes.ansteorra.org

Howdy everyone! Practice has been coming along very good. We're seeing more turnout both of new and experienced players. We will be keeping up melee unit training leading up to BAM as well as individual sparing. Looking forward to seeing everyone out there!

### Magnus Creppinson

Steppes Knight Marshal



## Minister of Arts & Sciences

Hadassah Sarai Bas Yossi  
moas@steppes.ansteorra.org

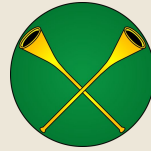
Our A&S Minister has been hard at work, and asked me to pass along a quick message!

A&S gatherings on the 17th and 24th will be dedicated to making t-tunics and pants. Interested participants need to bring their own fabric and sewing machines, if they have them.

She is also interested in seeing ideas for classes that you would like to teach at future A&S gatherings. Please email ideas to her to get a schedule set.

In Service to the Dream,

**Sayyida Rayha al-Ruqay'a**



## Herald

Elionora inghean Ui Cheallaigh  
herald@steppes.ansteorra.org

Unto the populace of Steppes and Glaslyn,

With a few mundane things that have come up and the demands of the holidays, I'm sorry to say I've fallen a tad behind on emails and submissions this month. I'll be prioritizing getting those moving again. Thank you for your patience.

As a reminder, I'm about halfway through my allotted time as Oakenwald Pursuivant. Since it's easier to learn if you have a chance to shadow someone, I'm putting out those feelers for a successor (and always looking for site or voice heralds!) Please let me know if this is something you're interested in and I'm happy to accept a deputy or two. The local herald position is primarily administrative – most of the book knowledge can be outsourced, and we have a number of excellent resources available.

Heraldry Roundup is in the works, and will be published in an upcoming issue – stay tuned!

In Service,

**Lady Elionora inghean Ui Cheallaigh**

MKA Laura Johnson

Oakenwald Pursuivant





## Social Media Officer

Lord Gilli Refsson

What a wonderful year we have had in 2022. We have increased activity in both our Facebook as well as our Discord servers. 2023 is shaping up to be an exciting year with a multitude of events in our Barony and across the Kingdom.

Please keep in mind, when promoting events, moderation is a good thing. Some standard practices to consider, if you are promoting an event, posting once a week leading up to the event is encouraged, but we do not want spam our own groups or other groups with the same information. This has not been a problem here in Steppes, so please do not think anyone needs to change anything! Keep doing what you are all doing.

Also, if you want something promoted on our social media outlets, send me a message or email so we can get all of the relevant information together. Looking forward to an awesome year!

In service to the Dream,  
**Gilli Refsson**



## Hospitaler

Signý Sigurðsdóttir  
hospitaler@steppes.ansteorra.org

Please join us for our first Newcomer Academy class, “Wat is the SCA?” on Tuesday, January 24th. It will start at 6:30 so the new fighters can still make practice. Newcomer Academy classes will be held on the 4th Tuesday of every month at the church before fighter practice.

**Lady Signý Sigurðsdóttir**



## Chronicler

Rayya al-Ruqay'a  
chronicler@steppes.ansteorra.org

Happy Holidays to the Steppes and Glaslyn!

We've survived the furor, and are hopefully ready to hibernate for a while. Events coming up include good food, better company, and a change to lounge around in your gaudiest garb.

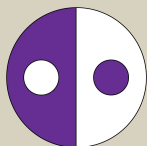
Consider sending pictures of your finery into the newsletter to show off the artisans' hard work! I would especially love to see explanations of the stranger pieces of garb and accessories that go with your region, culture, and time period.

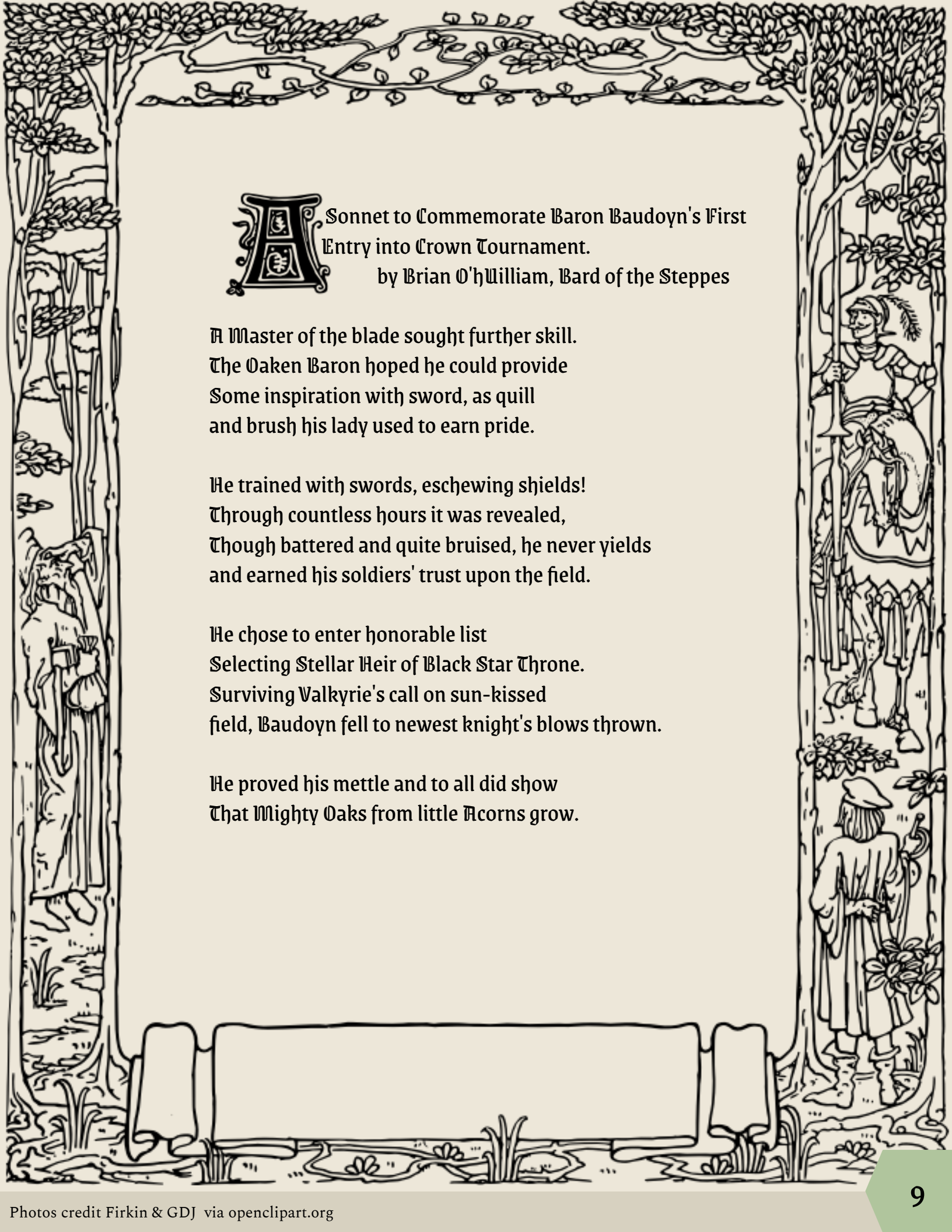
In Service to the Dream,  
**Sayyida Rayya al-Ruqay'a**

## Baronial Positions Accepting Applications:

Minister of Children, Youth Combat Marshal, & Quartermaster.

[Apply Here](#) to help your Barony do great things!





**A** Sonnet to Commemorate Baron Baudoy'n's First  
Entry into Crown Tournament.  
by Brian O'hWilliam, Bard of the Steppes

A Master of the blade sought further skill.  
The Oaken Baron hoped he could provide  
Some inspiration with sword, as quill  
and brush his lady used to earn pride.

He trained with swords, eschewing shields!  
Through countless hours it was revealed,  
Though battered and quite bruised, he never yields  
and earned his soldiers' trust upon the field.

He chose to enter honorable list  
Selecting Stellar Heir of Black Star Throne.  
Surviving Valkyrie's call on sun-kissed  
field, Baudoy'n fell to newest knight's blows thrown.

He proved his mettle and to all did show  
That Mighty Oaks from little Acorns grow.

# Culinary Guild of Hestia

We will be cooking for 12th Night... servers needed!  
Discussion at Guild meeting!

[Facebook group here](#)



# Scribal Guild

Hello

We are in need of assistance with getting ahead on charters for 12th Night. Please come out to Tuesday Fighter Practice and help paint charters. Also, if you have Baronial Charters and have not done so, please let me know which you have either completed or in progress.

YIS  
Hadassah



# Steppes Loose

## Association of Brewers

Greetings Steppes,

Currently no meetings are planned, but keep an eye out here each month for more details. Also join the [Facebook group here](#).



# Music and Vocal Non - Guild

Greetings,

Practice at home until further notice. Watch the Facebook group at St. Romanos Chorale and Oakwood Consort.

Contact Mistress Xene at [music@twmarsh.net](mailto:music@twmarsh.net) for addresses and more information.

All music practices are cancelled until further notice.

In Service to Crown and Kingdom,

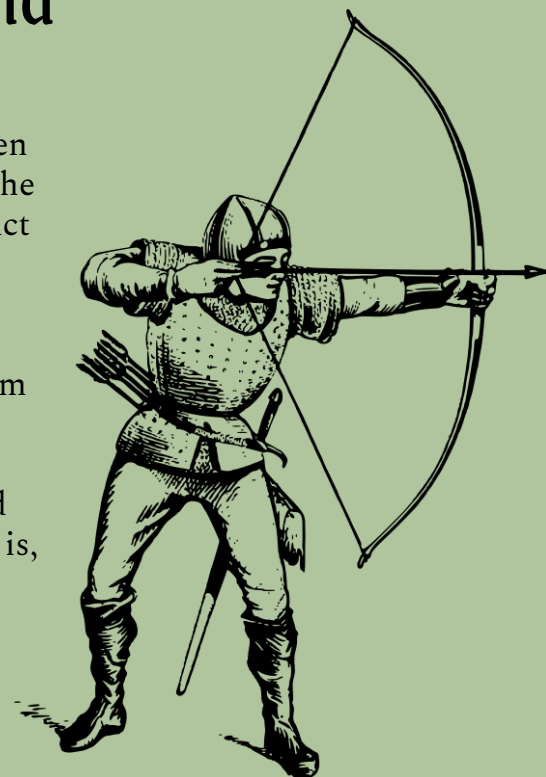
Mistress Xene Theriane, OL, OP



# Steppes Bowyer & Fletchers Guild

The Steppes Bowyer and Fletchers Guild is the oldest archery guild within Ansteorra that we know of surviving even the later established now defunct kingdom's archery guild. The Guild exists to share knowledge between members and instruct others how to accomplish all the projects, skills, and items required to round out personal kits for our SCA archery community. We have recently included thrown weapons and siege weapons to our instructional activities since the kingdom has combined all airborne missile activities together.

Guild meetings are a bit sporadic at the moment but ideally we will meet on the last Friday of the month at a guild members' home. If you want to know when the next meeting is, please contact the Steppes archery marshal.  
[archery@steppes.ansteorra.org](mailto:archery@steppes.ansteorra.org)





Greetings Steppes!

Weather and holidays have combined to make a slow month for Glaslyn. When not cursed by weather, we're always happy to see visitors from our Barony on Monday nights!

Hope to see many of you again on Twelfth Night, we'll be there!

## Seneschal

Hákon the Blacksmith  
seneschal@glaslyn.ansteorra.org

## Exchequer

Lady Machteld van den stienhuse  
treasurer@glaslyn.ansteorra.org

## Knight Marshal

Mistress Colleen O'Kelly  
marshal@glaslyn.ansteorra.org

## Hospitaler

Lady Alhdryð ceorlstrang  
hospitaler@glaslyn.ansteorra.org



# Da'ud Bob Movie Review

## *Hamlet*

Oh, my word! Won't somebody stop me before I buy again?! Please? Let's face it; I have a problem. The problem with having this particular problem is that, frankly, I'm unwilling to do anything to fix it. As a consequence, I find myself periodically going on-line to Amazon or some DVD store and searching for – and what's worse, finding – new (well, new to me) movies of, or based on, the plays of Shakespeare. And, not content with simply finding them, I purchase them, have them sent to my home, and – alas for you – review them. Is this a problem? Well, probably not for you. However, it means that I end up with such things as: three different versions of *As You Like It*; four versions of *Richard III*; five versions of *King Lear*; ten different productions of *Macbeth* (including one set in modern India and another set in feudal Japan); and no less than twenty different versions of *Hamlet* (including one set in modern India, one set in medieval China, two that look at the action through the eyes of other characters in the play, and one done like a news/interview show). Now, having this many different productions of a play isn't necessarily a bad thing. I know that I see something new every time I watch a different version. But that means that I have to take what I see, new or old, and tell you all about it. And so it is that this month, Da'ud Bob reviews for you the 2015 film of a live performance at the Royal Exchange Theatre in Manchester, England, of *Hamlet*.

They did a little gender-bending in this one, as it stars Maxine Peake as Hamlet, John Shrapnel as Claudius, Barbara Marten as Gertrude, Gillian Bevan as Polonia (yes, not Polonius), Thomas Arnold as Horatio, Ashley Zhangazha as Laertes, Katie West as Ophelia, Claire Benedict as Marcella, Claire Benedict in two roles, as Marcella and the Player King, Michelle Butterly as Margaret and as the first Gravedigger, Peter Singh as Guildenstern, and Jodie McNee as Rosencrantz and as the second

Gravedigger (thus at least five women playing what are usually male roles), the plot is pretty much the same as every other production of *Hamlet*: Hamlet's father is dead, Hamlet's uncle is the new king, and the new king has taken Hamlet's mother as his wife. Consumed by grief, Hamlet struggles to exact revenge for his father's murder, with devastating consequences. It being a Shakespearean tragedy, most everybody dies at the end.

Good points: It's Shakespeare's words. And it's almost the full version of the play. (We don't get anything about "Old Norway" or "Young Fortinbras" here, but really, they're pretty much all background stuff anyway.) Especially in the first act, Peake really makes Hamlet's depression and grief palpable. Polonia/Polonius, as usual. The sets were minimal (it was done on what was mostly a bare stage, and in the round), but they made it work well. All in all, it's a better than average production.

Bad points: Rosencrantz as a Goth (modern Goth, not medieval Goth) was a little jarring to me. (But then, I'm an old fogey.) There's a little too much yelling in places. It's possible to express deep sorrow and even anger without screaming. At least I thought it was possible. I was a little uncomfortable with Ophelia in her madness stripping down to bra and panties. It did have the effect of making her seem more vulnerable. So maybe it's just me with an issue with this.

Zero breasts. ½ gallon of blood. Five dead bodies. Revolver fu. Sword fu. Poison fu. Hamlet rolls. Player rolls. Ophelia twirls. Gratuitous poetry. Gratuitous drugs (not ingested). Gratuitous sexual innuendo. Gratuitous heavy metal music. Gratuitous raspberry. Gratuitous rainbow-colored knit cap. Academy Award nomination to Maxine Peake as Hamlet for bringing some new insights into the character. A mere 47 on the Vomit Meter. Three stars. Da'ud Bob says, "It may be 'Just another version' of this classic play, but it will show you Hamlet in ways that you have not seen in other productions. Check it out!"

# Come Say Hello!

Barony of the Steppes

[Facebook Group](#) - [Facebook Official](#)

[Discord](#) - Twitter - [Instagram](#) - TikTok

Canton of Glaslyn - [Facebook Group](#)

Kingdom of Ansteorra - [Facebook Group](#)

[Discord](#)



## Other SCA Groups

- [Legion of Swashbucklers](#)  
(SCA Rapier Fighters)
- [SCA Garb How-To](#)
- [SCA Camping](#)
- [SCA Equestrian](#)
- [Scriptoris of Ansteorra](#)
- [Kingdom of Ansteorra ~  
Repository of Class  
Handouts](#)
- [Destash](#)  
(second-hand gear)

## Useful Links

- [SCA Home](#)
- [Ansteorra Home](#)
- [Steppes Home](#)
- [Glaslyn Home](#)
- [Kingdom Calendar](#)
- [Newcomers](#)
- [Recommend  
Someone for  
an Award](#)

