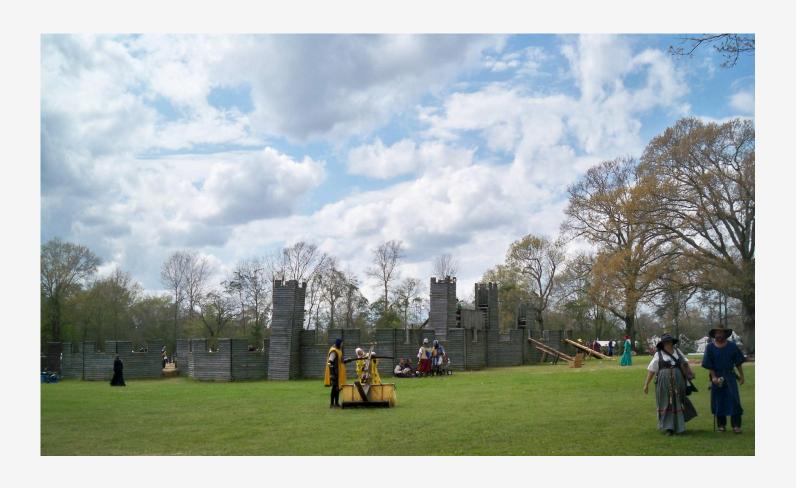
The Steppes Letter



The Steppes Letter



FEBRUARY 2022

Inside this Issue:

Missive from Their Excellencies	3
Words from our Seneschal	4
Words from our Officers	5-12
Words from Glaslyn	12
Newcomer's Academy	13
Words from our Guilds and Non-Guilds	14-15
Words from our Populace	16
Da'ud Bob Movie Review	17
Calendar	18-19
Social Media Links	20
Opportunities	21
Office Openings/Event Bids	21
Disclaimer and Credits	22



Greetings to the Steppes and Glaslyn,

Activities have resumed in the Steppes and we look forward to seeing folks at the activities we have planned. Steppes Warlord is approaching and we want to make sure that everyone is prepared for one of the best events in the Kingdom of Ansteorra.

We are dedicated to making events more accessible. There is a Newcomer's Academy class on garb happening and we are planning a couple of days as a group to work on armor or to make clothes to wear at Warlord. The event will be exciting and we want to help people prepare for having a good time!

Further down the line, we have Steppes Artisan and Braggarts War. There's always some excitement lurking around the corner around here, so keep an eye out for news surrounding our events and activities!

In Service,

Baudoyn and Katerine, Baron and Baroness of the Steppes, Lord and Lady of Glaslyn

BARON BAUDOYN DE LAYFAYETTE

bar- on@steppes.ansteorra.org

Baroness katerine le Roux d'Anjou

baron- ess@steppes.ansteorra.org



Words from our Seneschal

Seneschal Elspeth de Stervlen

seneschal@steppes.ansteorra.org

Greetings Steppes

We are looking forward to events reopening!!

We have an event steward for Warlord, thank you Tiffany DeLillo for stepping up to do this. Volunteers, and coordinators, are being requested.

We are in need of a Social Media Officer, Minister of Children, Youth Combat. Please consider applying to help our great Barony.

Officers, please remember to get your reports in on time. This is a very important part of your jobs. We appreciate your dedication.

Steppes Business Meeting will be held the 4th Thursday in March. This is due to Gulf Wars. It will resume to regular meeting time in April.

More information regarding Braggarts War is coming. Please watch the Steppes Social media for information.

I want to personally thank the officers for their time, and dedica- tion. You are all a pleasure to work with.

Baroness Elspeth de Stervlen

Words from our Officers - Herald

Unto the Populace of the Steppes and Glaslyn, Greetings!

This has been a bit of a quiet month, heraldically speaking, with a few exciting happenings. Ansteorra will be hosting Known World Heraldic and Scribal Symposium, so stay tuned for that information. We also had a Newcomer's Class that covered the award structures and court in Ansteorra, which was recorded and should be available.

With people headed to Gulf, please drive safely and stay healthy. I won't be there, but Herald's point should be available to anyone who needs consultations (and, being an in-person consultation event, you can actually bring a check if you want to submit something!)

Feel free to send me an email if you're interested in registering a new bit of heraldry – or if you just want to chat names and de- vices!

In service,

Lady Elionora
inghean Ui
Cheallaigh
MKA Laura
Johnson
Oakenwald Pursuivant





Herald

Elionora inghean Ui Cheallaigh herald@steppes.ansteorra.org



Words from our Officers - Rapier Marshal



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

Rapier Marshal Lord Sean Tabor rapier@steppes.ansteorra.org

The mighty Steppes has been back to practice these last two weeks in Feb and will continue to build momentum with the new rules on masks handed down by their Majesties. We have been graced with even more new Rapier fighters. We continue to have good attendance at practice with the newer fighters being most consistent. Vivat! and well done.

With the Covid numbers continuing to drop, masking is now not required indoors however it is still required indoors. Our practice continues to attract the areas most excellent masters of the Rapier and Chivalric for teaching so come out and learn the arts martial!

YIS

-Sean

THE STEPPES
LETTER

PAG E 7

Words from our Officers - Chivalry Marshal

We can fight again. Welcome back steppes fighters. Just a few announcements this month. We will continue to have practice in the lead up to Gulf and during Gulf wars this year. That said if you have the chance to go it is a great event and you are missing out if you don't.

Second My time as Martial is coming to an end in a few months. I am looking for replacement candidates. It is a pretty simple job but we haven't have practice without a martial, so please consider taking on the role. Finally as events resume and more things open

Please keep your eye



Galfridus of Shrewsbury marshal@steppes.ansteorra.org

out for events we might want to do a demo at or be ready to volunteer to put on a show Several of our new fighters found us through a demo last year and this is our chance to grow the Barony. I can promise you bigger practices and events are more fun.

--

Galfridus of Shrewsburry

Knight Marshal

Barony of the Steppes

Words from Our Officers - Archery Marshal

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

Huzzah! We were able to hold practice this month! It was a blustery day shooting into a brisk headwind, but three stalwart archers braved the elements and did some mighty fine shooting.



Here's hoping for better weather next month both here in the Steppes and also in Gleann Abhann: good success to all the archers and siege engineers heading to Gulf Wars!

see you on the range, Lady Eadgyth Beornesdohtor







Words from our Officers - Minister of Arts and Sciences

MOAS moas@steppes.ansteorra.org

Greetings Steppes,

Central Regional MOAS here. We are currently seeking interest- ed individuals for the position of Steppes Minister of Arts and Sciences. If you are interested pleased submit your information to myself, the kingdom MOAC, the seneschal and the Baron and Baroness. If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to me at

central@moas.ansteorra.org

Lady Roana FitzStephen Central Regional MOAS

Words from Our Officers - Exchequer



Greeting to the populace of the barony

I look forward to serving as your new exchequer. The barony is in great shape financially with a current bank account balance of \$22,077.68

There is currently one open position of the financial commit- tee. If you are interested in this position please submit your application to the exchequer, baron & baroness, and the schen- chal. What does being a member of the financial committee mean? It means you attend the monthly financial committee meetings which are held right after the officers/populace meet- ing each month. During the financial committee meeting we dis- cuss and vote on financial policy and how the funds of the baro- ny are spent. It's a very simple job and a great way to be in- volved in the barony.

I am currently looking for people interested in serving as my deputy. As my deputy you will get a chance to learn how the financial side of the barony works and how easy and non-scary the job really is.

Please remember any check request must have a completed check request form accompanied by either a receipt or an invoice. Also if you are submitting heraldry to the herald's office payment for these must be submitted to the exchequer office.

In Service
Astrid Flokadottir

Exchequer Lady Astrid Folkadottir

exchequer@steppes.ansteorra.org



Words from our Officers - Hospitaler



The Barony of the Steppes Email List Steppes@lists.ansteorra.org

Hospitaler Lady Stefania Pane

hospitaler@steppes.ansteorra.org

The Barony of the Steppes Facebook Group https://www.facebook.com/groups/baronyofthesteppes/

The SCA's Newcomer Portal http://welcome.sca.org/

Steppes YouTube Channel https://www.youtube.com/channel/UClbUVSg5fpj_8v wH4mG38Ig

Steppes Twitter https://twitter.com/baronyofsteppes

Words from our Officers - Social Media

Applications now being accepted.



Social Media Valka Flokadottir social-media@steppes.ansteorra.org

Words from our Officers - Chronicler

Hello to all,

Your chronicler comes to you with mixed emotions. I will be heading to Gulf for the first time in a few years. It seems like I will traveling solo. Wish more of you were coming. Look forward to sharing the experience with everyone when I get back.

Thank you, Lady Roana FitzStephen



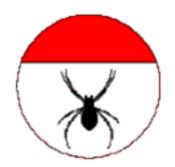




Youth Marshal
HL Alexandra Notte-Claire
hospitaler@steppes.ansteorra.org

Words from our Officers - Youth Marshal

Applications being accepted



Greetings, Steppes!

Webminister Hakon the Blacksmith? webminister@steppes.ansteorra.org

Words from Our Officers - Webminister

As we resume activities, please check out the Calendar on our website

(https://ansteorra.org/steppes/steppes-calendar-of-

events/)! It is kept up to date with the latest info about the dates, times, and locations of our events, and there is a button at the top you can press to synchronize the Steppes calendar with your personal calendar if you so choose.

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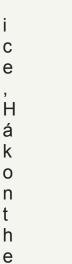
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В a С k S m t

Webminister of the Steppes



Greetings, Steppes!

Seneschal of Glaslyn Lady Alhdryð Ceorlestrange seneschal@glaslyn.ansteorra.org

Words from the Canton of Glaslyn

Glaslyn is still holding practices, though everyone is expected to wear masks per guidance from Kingdom. Please check our website and/or Facebook for any updates.

In service,

Alhdryð ceorlstrang

Words for our Newcomers Steppes Newcomers Academy



When: March 3rd, 2022, at 6:30pm.

Where: South Irving Library

The Steppes has been graced with new sprouts and transplants from far and wide. Welcome to all our newcomers!

Newcomer's Academie is monthly classes about our SCA history and culture, how to get involved, and a small sampling of the amazing skills you can learn. Newcomers, have your questions answered; Baronial lynchpins, come share your wisdom!

The third class will be on March 3rd, 2022, at 6:30pm. In-Person participants are welcomed at the South Irving Library's board room. Virtual participants are welcome through Zoom and a video of the class will be available for anyone who can't join us at that time.

Per our hosts, please do not bring outside food or drink into the library.

We also humbly request that masks be worn indoors. While garb is always welcome, it is not required.

This third class will discuss the historical clothing that we all wear, and how a newcomer can get their hands on some. Participants are welcome to join the class with sewing supplies if they want to try their hands at creating their own garb. If you do not have supplies but still want to sew, please let us know!

If you have any questions, please reach out to Rayya al-Ruqay'a or Stephania Pane at Hospitaler@steppes.ansteorra.org.

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us06web.zoom.us/i/82527160913...

Meeting ID: 825 2716 0913

Passcode: 774368

Find your local number: https://us06web.zoom.us/u/kdRgUwtgZi



Guild & Non-Guild Announcements

STEPPES

BOWYER AND

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 either HL Ironwyrm or the archery marshal who will then put you in contact with him. archery@steppes.ansteorra.org

STEPPES

Greetings Steppes,

LOOSE ASSOCIA-

TION

Currently no meetings are planned, but keep an eye out here each month for more details. Also join the Facebook group at: https://www.facebook.com/ groups/904474829584183/?ref=share

OF BREWERS

STEPPES

Greetings,

MUSIC AND VOCAL

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

NON - GUILD

Contact Mistress Xene at music@twmarsh.net addresses and more information. Currently we have scheduled practices on the second Sunday and fourth Tuesday of each month.

All music practices are cancelled for the until further notice.

In Service to Crown and Kingdom,

Mistress Xene Theriane, OL, OP



Guild & Non-Guild Announcements

Oi.	and & Non-Guna Announcements
STEPPES SCRIBAL GUILD	From The Scribes Come join us in March for Scribal Night. Wednesday, March16th at 6:30 pm. Check Facebook for location YIS THL Hadassah Sarai bas Yossi
Guild Of Hestia	The Next meeting will be the First Wednesday in March which is the 2nd. Hopefully we can do this IN PERSON LIVE rather than online!!! YIS THL Hadassah Sarai bas Yossi Maitresse d'Guilde

Words from our Populace

The Cooking Guild of Hestia

Hosts the First Annual Food Joust!!

Warlord 2022

ARE YOU READY FOR THE CHALLENGE?

A friendly competition using modern methods and ingredients to create redactions of period recipes.

Pre-registration will begin on April 15th. Recipes will be required to be submitted to the Cooking Guild of Hestia by May 5th, along with simple documentation, so that the judges can read through them prior to the day of the competition. Judges are not permitted to participate on a team or provide consultation to teams beyond answering questions pertaining to the rules. At the time of registration, we will need to know the name of your team as well as who your Team Leader is and who your additional Team Members will be. Each team needs to include at least three people, but no more than five. Each person on your team must be responsible for researching at least one of the dishes for themselves.

Each team will be required to produce a total of FIVE dishes: Appetizer, Entree, Side, Beverage, and Dessert. **AND YOU ONLY HAVE 4 HOURS!!!!**

NOTE: Neither the Barony of the Steppes, nor the Cooking Guild of Hestia, is in any way responsible for the cost of ingredients or tools used during the Food Joust. Each team is fully responsible for all expenses they might incur by entering this competition.

Ingredients:

Meat: (choose one) Poultry, Pork, Beef

ALL of these remaining ingredients must be used in some manner:

Vegetables: Turnip, Peas, and Carrots

Herbs: Dill, Rosemary, and Thyme

Fruit: Blackberries, Pears, and Plums

Grain: Rice

Bonus ingredient: Anise

Each dish can be awarded up to 50 points with a total of 250 points being possible per team.

Points will be awarded based on: documentation, period recipe, presentation, flavor, and ingredient usage.

All cooking utensils, supplies and on site kitchens are to be provided by the teams. Please provide the following: 1 Full serving for Presentation Judging. 2-3 full servings to be divided among the judges for tasting, 2-3 servings to be divided in "taste portions" of any dishes you wish entered into the "Populace Choice" (including a list of ingredients)

Populace Choice will be a "blind judging", so only the name of the dish and theingredients list is to be available. The same for the "Populace Choice for Presentation". The name of the person or team is NOT to be anywhere on the presentation.

REMINDER This is an onsite Camp Cooking Competition.

ALL TEAM MEMBERS MUST BE PRESENT TO COMPETE. All foods will be cooked on site, so choose your recipes wisely. Unless you



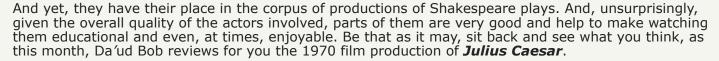
Da'ud Bob Movie Review

Julius Caesar

This month's movie review is of a film that can rightfully be thought of as a prequel to another movie, starring the same powerhouse actor playing the same character, that I reviewed for you some nine years ago, in October 2012. Indeed, now that I own DVDs of both of these movies, I can see making them a double-feature bill for watching together some time. This is not to say that either or both of them are what I would consider to be top-tier movies, despite their stellar casts. They have their issues: costuming, miscasting, glaring anachronisms, actors who either are not or at least do not appear to be

anachronisms, actors who either are not or at least do not appear to be com-

fortable with Shakespearean English.



Starring Charlton Heston as Marc Antony (a role he would reprise two years later as star and director of 1972's *Antony and Cleopatra*), Jason Robards as Brutus, John Gielgud as Julius Caesar, Richard Johnson as Cassius, Robert (*The Man from UNCLE*) Vaughn (wearing a beard) as Casca, Richard (*The Three Musketeers* and *The Four Musketeers*) Chamberlain as Octavius Caesar, Diana (*The Avengers* and Bond girl Tracy Draco) Rigg as Portia, Christopher (too many outstanding roles to recite here) Lee as Artemidorus, Jill Bennett as Calpurnia, and Derek Godfrey as Decius Brutus, I think I have to agree with the tag line for this film: "No grander Caesar... No greater cast!" The plot, of course, is about a plot. The growing ambition of Julius Caesar is a source of major concern to his close friend Brutus. Cassius persuades him to participate in a plot to assassinate Caesar. It turns out they have both sorely underestimated Mark Antony. It is, of course, the same exact plot as the 1953 production starring Marlon Brando (and in which John Gielgud, who is Caesar here, played Cassius) that I reviewed back in October 2002.

Good points: It's Shakespeare's words. The standards of the Roman legions. As usual with a Shake-speare play, there are a number of quotes which have passed into the general vocabulary: "It was Greek to me." "Yon Cassius has a lean and hungry look." "Cry 'Havoc!', and let slip the dogs of war." (You might also recognize this last from Christopher Plummer as the Klingon General Chang in *Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country*, which also featured a number of other quotes from various Shakespeare plays.)

Bad points: The costumes are more medieval than they are Roman; that is to say, they are far more tunic than toga. And the colors! So many pastels. (You'd almost think that they made this movie in the 1950s instead of 1970.) Jason Robards as Brutus is often a little wooden, giving most of his lines almost in a monotone. It's only when he is expressing his character's anger that you really start to feel him putting himself into the role. Antony's over tunic. Medieval rather than Roman pavilions. The soldiers' armor. The helmets. Antony's lion's head pauldrons (shoulder armor). Those saddles are not Roman. And they have stirrups! (Stirrups don't appear until almost 1,000 years later.)

Zero breasts. 2½ gallons of blood. 29 dead bodies. Dagger fu. Sword fu. Torch fu. Lance fu. Great Caesar's ghost fu. Cart rolls. Thunder rolls. Cavalrymen roll. Gratuitous vultures. Gratuitous horse skeleton. Gratuitous elephants. (No, really!) Gratuitous dancing girls. Gratuitous sweat. Gratuitous rioting and looting. Gratuitous masseur. Academy Award nomination to a bearded Robert Vaughn as Casca for giving one of his better performances here. A 37 on the Vomit Meter. Two stars (out of four possible). Da'ud Bob says, "It's maybe not the best of Shakespeare, but it is Shakespeare. Check it out!"





2022							
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
27	28 Glaslyn Practice	Chivalry & Rapier	2 Guild Of Hestia	3 Newcomer's Academy	4	5	
Archery Practice Chivalry	7 Glaslyn Practice	8 Chivalry & Rapier Steppes So-lar	9	10 A&S Meeting	11	Gulf Wars - Kingdom of Gleann Abhann	
13 Musie Practic E Chivalr	14 Glaslyn Practice	15 Chivalry & Rapier	16 Scribes Guild	17	18	19 Gulf Wars - Kingdom of Gleann Abhann	
20 Archery Practice Chivalry	21	22 Chivalry & Rapier	23	24 Busines s Meeting	25	26 Commanders Crucible — Hellsgate	
27	28 Glaslyn Practice	29 Chivalry & Rapier Music Practice	30	31	1	Elfsea De- fender: Pearl and Ruby An- niversery	



LETTER

PAGE 19

Calendar Details

Steppes Regularly Scheduled Meetings

Local monthly meetings maybe in-person or virtual. Please check Facebook to see how to access those meetings that are being held virtually. Meeting information is usually posted a few days in advance.

First and Third Sundays @ 2 PM-5 PM - Archery Practice at 601 Gross Rd, Mesquite, TX 75149

Second and Fourth Sundays @ 2 PM-5 PM — Chivalric Practice -Check Facebook for location

Mondays @ 6 PM – Glaslyn Chivalry Practice at North Lakes Park 2001 W. Windsor Dr., Denton

Tuesdays @ 7 PM – Chivalric/Rapier Practice - Check Facebook for location.

THE STEPPES

Wednesday 7/7 @ 7 PM – Newcomers' Academy — Check Facebook for location.

Sunday (on hiatus) @ 2PM-4PM – The Music Guild of the Steppes is planning to meet for practice at Xene and Llywelyn's house in Cedar Hill. Contact music@twmarsh.net for more information.

2nd Thursday of the month @ 7 PM - A&S Night - Virtal Meeting

3rd Thursday of the month @ 7 PM –Business Meeting - Check Facebook for location

1st Wednesday of the month @ 7 PM - Cooks Guild - Check Facebbook for loacationst

3rd Wednesday of the month @ 7 PM – Scribal Guild - Check Facebbook for loacation

Tuesday (on hiatus) @ 7PM-9PM – The Music Guild of the Steppes is planning to meet for practice at with rapier and chivalric in the park if weather permits, otherwise meet at Esme and Sean's house. Contact music@twmarsh.net for more information.

Second and 4th Wednesday of the month @ 7 PM - Thrown Weapons Practice - Check Facebook for location

•

Kingdom Events

3/12-3/20— GULF WARS: for more information check https://www.qulfwars.org/

3/26 — **COMMANDER CRUCIBLE:** for more information check <u>https://ansteorra.org/hellsgate/commanders-crucible/</u>

4/1 — ELFSEA DEFENDER - - DIAMOND AND RUBY ANNIVERSARY: for more information check https://ansteorra.org/elfsea/elfsea-defender-pearl-and-ruby-anniversary/



Social Media

PAGE 20

There are many sites on the Web and Facebook for SCA interests. Below are a few. This is in no way an endorsement for any of the groups listed, or a final list. It is just a way to direct people to groups that they might not know about, that may be of interest.

Helpful SCA & Ansteorra Web Links

www.sca.org

www.ansteorra.or

2

http://historian.ansteorra.org/wiki/index.php?title=Main Page

Needs much updating, let's all get on that!

www.steppes.ansteorra.org

www.calendar.ansteorra.org

www.hospitaler.ansteorra.org

www.heraldry.ansteorra.org/honors (Awards

List)

Book of Face Groups

- 1. Barony of the Steppes https://www.facebook.com/groups/baronyofthesteppes/ Unofficial group
- 2. Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA)- Official Facebook group for the SCA https://www.facebook.com/pg/SocietyForCreativeAnachronism/about/?ref=page_internal
- 3. Legion of Swashbucklers: https://www.facebook.com/groups/253854098018212/about/ Open to all rapier fighters.
- 4. Steppes Cooks: This group is for those interested in cooking.
- 5. Steppes Calligraphers and Illuminators Guild
- 6. Canvas Castle Showcase- https://www.facebook.com/groups/471086229603006/ Show off your tent, camping furniture, or anything that makes your camping experience more homey.
- 7. Elizabethan Costume- http://www.facebook.com/groups/29374273995/ For those people fascinated with the clothing, accessories, hairstyles, cosmetics, etc. of the 16th century. Although the name says "Elizabethan," anything from the Tudor period (1485-1603) is fair game for discussion.
- 8. Garb for Sale http://www.facebook.com/groups/130311470376509/ For selling clothing, camping equipment, feast gear, period books and services.
- 9. SCA Runway https://www.facebook.com/groups/460750480615188/?ref=ts&fref=ts For showing off your fashion.
- 10. Tudor Conversations- http://www.facebook.com/groups/TudorWorld/ An on-going conversation among enthusiasts of the 16th century exploring the world of the Tudors, with occasional excursions among the early Stuarts.
- 11. Viking Clothing https://www.facebook.com/groups/279611679205/ For all clothes Viking!
- 12. Vikings of the SCA http://www.facebook.com/groups/244158265607631/ For those interested in all things "Viking" related in the SCA.
- 13. SCA Equestrian https://www.facebook.com/groups/34623283817/ For those interested in Equestrian Arts.

- 14. SCA Garb http://www.facebook.com/groups/scagarb/ For discussion of researching and making all types of garb.
- 15. SCA Camping https://www.facebook.com/groups/367915673351579/ For discussion of period camping gear.



Steppes Business Meeting

3rd Thursday of the Month from 7 PM to 9 PM See Barony Facebook page for location

This is open to the Populace! If you have topic to discuss and you are not able to come, please send them to our Seneschal to update the Agenda. Officers, the same goes for you. The Financial Committee meeting is after Business meeting.

Chivalric and Rapier Fighter Practice

Tuesdays 7 PM

Haggard Park 901 E 15th St, Plano, TX

75074 A second opportunity for chivalric

practice

Second and Fourth Sunday afternoons from 2-5pm.

Rawhide Park 13579 Rawhide Pkwy, Farmers Branch, TX 75234

A&S Nights - See Barony Facebook page for

location 2nd Thursday of the Month from 7 PM to 9

PM

Scribal - Third Wednesday of the month will have open charter painting for those who wish to paint our awesome charters as well as some structured classes ranging from beginning to advance techniques as well as original scroll work. We will be planning and working on scrolls for our baronial events too, so bring your ideas. See Facebook for location

Cooks Guild - First Wednesdayof the month. See Facebook for location

Local Offices Open for Applications

Greetings Steppes!

We have a few offices needing to be filled.
Minister of Arts and Sciences
Youth Combat
Minister of Children
Social Media
YIS,
Seneschal of the Steppes
Elspeth de Stervlen



Applications can be found on the Ansteorra website at: http://seneschal.ansteorra.org/forms/ApplicationJan08.pdf

THE STEPPES LETTER

Disclaimer

This is the March 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 Brenda McHenry 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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Thank you to the following artist and photographers for your contributions to this newsletter:

Page 2 Border Art - Thomas of Eynsham Page 3 Photo - Mistress Elen

Cover Art _ Lady Roana