

## The Festival of the Passing of the Ice Dragon

The Festival of the Passing of the Ice Dragon is the premier Arts & Sciences event in the Kingdom of Aethelmearc. It is the largest A&S competition outside of Pennsic as well as being one of the largest Heavy and finest fencing events within the kingdom. This year the event celebrates its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

This event is sponsored by the Barony of Rhydderich Hael to mark the “Waiting Time” as they wait for the days of sun and the time planting once the Ice Dragon has passed through their lands. Activities include a day full of tournaments, competitions, and shopping for your end of hibernation entertainment, the Arts & Sciences Pentathlon, heavy weapons, rapier, youth combat and youth rapier, thrown weapons, and tavern style dining throughout the day with good food.

This year Ice Dragon will be held on March 15, 2008 at the Erie County Fairgrounds at 5600 McKinley Parkway, Hamburg, NY, 14075.

The focus of Ice Dragon is the 'Pentathlon' or the Pent for short The A&S Competition consists of 20 separate Categories. Contestants can win one or more main categories in the A&S Competition. However, to participate in the Pentathlon, they must submit entries in 5 different MAIN categories. This is actually two competitions in one.

Ice Dragon is renowned for the quality of its documentation and research as well as the quality and variety of the entries it attracts. Many of the entrants are enthusiastic researchers, and Ice Dragon provides an excellent opportunity to get feedback from judges and to meet other talented artisans and observers in similar fields of interest.

To learn more about this exciting A&S competition, visit this link <http://www.lightlink.com/rhiannon>, and click on Ice Dragon 2008. You can also find more information at the Barony of Rhydderich Hael website-- <http://www.wnysca.org/phpwcms/index.php>



# February 2008 Meeting Minutes

## Attendees

Richard		
Etain	Katherine	Petr
Jason	Marianna	Vincenzo
Jolene	Snaebjorn	Klaus
Hrefna	Denise	Griffin
Grimolfr	Grandma	Heidi

The first order of business was to vote on the new seneschal. The vote was 13 for and 1 opposed (This vote belonged to Jason, the official naysayer of the shire, so it was business, not personal), and Richard handed over the office to his successor.

Marianna declined the call to make a speech preferring to launch right into officers reports.

Heavy Fighting. – Klaus informed the group that the indoor winter site has been well received and turn out has been good. We had a recent practice with people from several different groups. There will be no more practices until March 2.

Youth Fighting – Snaebjorn stated that the next youth practice will be held at the indoor site on March. 2.

Fencing – Fencing marshal wasn't present, but Jolene and Klaus reported that while Bri was at the last fighter practice, there was no fencing due to Bri's injury to her hand.

Arts and Sciences – A&S officer wasn't present, but Katherine says that Beth hasn't had time to reschedule any A&S activities because she is settling into a new job.

Marianna inquired about the interest level in a Pennsic 101 class. We have several members for whom this will be their first Pennsic. If there is enough interest, we will provide a class on the subject. Hrefna added that she will be publishing articles in the upcoming issues of the newsletter about Pennsic.

Petr offered a class on making sand candles, and Grimolfr and Hrefna offered a class on candles as well. Both classes will be more about modern candles but will still be fun. Etain may offer a class on period embroidery  
One of our newcomers, Heidi offered a class on period beadwork.

Exhequer – Hrefna reported the shire’s balance as \$4189.26. The year end report is done. The shire lost \$600 on the year but that’s because we spent a \$1000 the storage shed. The shire had a really good year.

Chronicler – Hrefna says submissions are always welcomed.

Webminister – Grimolfr reported that the web site is still up.

Herald – Marianna says the herald has been slacking, but will be back on course soon.

Marianna reported that the shire’s Twelfth Night event was a big success. Everyone is looking forward to next year. Jolene has volunteered to autocrat next year’s event.

A vote was taken to accept Griffin as the new exchequer. This vote carried 13 for and 1 opposed (This vote belonged to Jason, the official naysayer of the shire, so again, it was business, not personal).

Snaebjorn reported to the group that Sylvan Glen is now home to the Region 1 Youth Academy Deputy as Laird Wulfric Grimbeald has recently accepted this post.

Discussion was held about Ice Dragon. Submissions are in the works. Petr will talk to Mariia when she is feeling better about having a class on documentation for this event.

There is new private club in Frederick called The Haven. It is set up for gamers and reenactors. They have gaming tables and supplies along with crafting stations and supplies. They will be offering a forge soon. The shire should look into taking a field trip to check it out.

The Brewhaha at Denise’s to celebrate her first batch of mead was a success. There was plenty of food and many friends to share it with. There will be a Brewhaha 2 in the near future.

Hrefna reported that the Siege of Glengary has been submitted to the kingdom calendar and Master Huen will be cooking feast once again.

Jason submitted a four color brochure to promote the shire for consideration. He passed out several copies and asked for comments at the next meeting.



## 13th Annual Siege of Glengary

Last summer was a time of great hope in the Shire of Sylvan Glen. After months of intense negotiations and diplomacy, we had reached an agreement with our long time enemy, the Barony of Highland Foorde in the Kingdom of Atlantia. We entered into an alliance with our former nemesis with the goal of ridding our respective lands of the bold and brash brigands menacing our highways and byways.

In the fall, we marched onto the field of battle to face the hooligans who had been cornered. We felt that victory was close at hand only to find bitter betrayal as the Barony of Highland Foorde and those fighting with her turned on us and joined forces with the bandits in an audacious ploy to regain the Sylver Apple of Sylvan Glen for themselves. Fortunately for us, a few quick witted shire folk realized what was happening and spirited the Apple away to safety before the overwhelming numbers of Atlantians had won the battle.

After such shocking defeat, the populace of Sylvan Glen feared that Highland Foorde, flush with their victory, though deprived of the Apple, may embolden the marauders to make yet another grab for our treasured talisman. It looked as if a very dark time was about to descend upon the shire, but then rumbles of war from the distant north began to reach our ears. As the rumbling grew louder, we saw a lifting of the dark foreboding that had settled over the shire. This great loud noise heralded the rise of a new power and an immense army began to amass on the borders of Highland Foorde. As this army has continued to grow, Highland Foorde has called upon every able-bodied fighter to attend to the defense of her eastern and northern borders, and so now they have little time or energy to spare on our small shire.

Our joy over this turn of events, which briefly offered us the hope of peace, was short lived as reports of small groups of raiders hitting our farms and orchards to the south started to trickle in. Our intelligence gathers have learned that this new enemy believes that there the way to great treasure lies hidden within the Glengary Monastery and they are preparing to raid this cherished repository of knowledge. There are a great many secrets large and small hidden within the chambers of this building though they are of a far different sort than these new raiders seek. We must not let these secrets fall into the wrong hands. The safety and security of Sylvan Glen and, indeed, the very Kingdom of Aethelmearc are at stake. So once again, we find ourselves calling to our friends, our allies, and the Great Sylver Stag to come to our aid as we defend the gateway to Aethelmearc from a new threat.

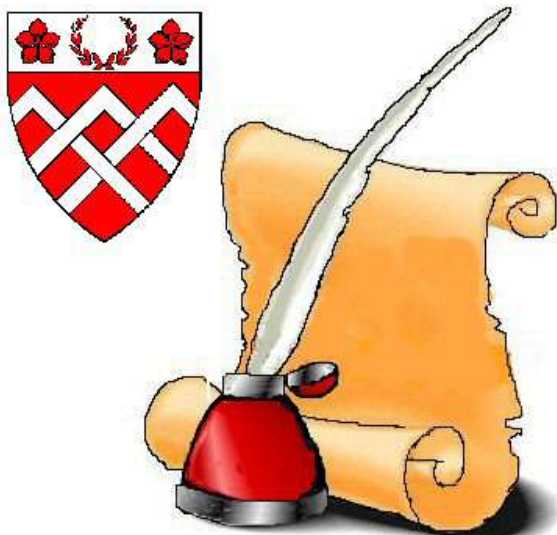
The day's activities will include heavy fighting, youth fighting, thrown weapons, archery, bardic and A&S, and a feast for 60. Join us the Camp Frame 4-H Camp (No street address) in Hedgesville, WV 25427. The autocrat for this event is Lady Hrefna Ulfvarinnsdottir (304-886-124, [siege@sylvanglen.org](mailto:siege@sylvanglen.org)).

Prices are as follows:

Camping: \$12.00, day trip, \$8.00. Children ages 6-15 camping, \$7.00, day trip, \$3.00. A light lunch will be provided Saturday and is included in the site fees. Feast is an additional \$6.00 for adults, and an additional \$3.00 for children ages 6-15. Children age 5 and under camp and feast as our guests, but please register them. There is a \$3.00 surcharge for non-members. A Travelers Repast and a light breakfast and lunch on Saturday are included in the site fee.

Pre-registration is encouraged, especially for those wishing to feast, as at-the-door feast slots will be limited. Master Huen Damebridge will once again be preparing a sumptuous meal for your delight. Please make checks payable to "SCA, Inc.-Shire of Sylvan Glen." Kindly send reservations by September 15, 2008 to Lady Mariia Kotok (Marilyn Kinyon), 1598 Sawmill Rd., Hedgesville, WV 25427, [mamalynx@allvantage.com](mailto:mamalynx@allvantage.com), 304-229-1854. No calls before 10 AM or after 10 PM. When sending payment for a group, please include both SCA and mundane names of gentles attending along with names and ages of all children.

Directions: Take your best route to I-81. Take exit 16W in West Virginia. This merges onto Rt. 9. Follow Rt. 9 through the town of Hedgesville, WV. Once you pass the Hedgesville Fire Dept., it's approximately 3 miles to Camp Frame Rd. Turn right on to Camp Frame Rd. Continue on this road, staying to the right. Camp Frame is at the end of it.



### *A Word from the Autocrat*

This is the image I am working on for Siege 13. It is still rough and needs some work. The event has been placed on the Kingdom calendar and our invitations will go out sometime in April or May.

# Newcomers' Corner

By: Lady Hrefna Ulfvarinnsdottir

## What is Pennsic?

The Great Pennsic War is an event held at Cooper's Lake Campground in Slippery Rock, PA, but to call this grand spectacle "an event" is quite an understatement. Trying to explain Pennsic to someone who has never experienced is difficult because if you ask a hundred people what Pennsic is, you will likely get a hundred different answers. Explaining Pennsic to non-Scadians is even tougher.

Pennsic War is the single largest event in the Known World. It runs for two weeks in the summer and attracts on average 10,000 to 11,000 people. It is an annual Brigadoon with tents, a real community that takes over the campground and then disappears into the August sunshine. The Kingdom of Aethelmearc hosts this annual gathering of warriors who fight in the war between the mighty Kingdoms of the Midrealm (sometimes referred to as the Mid or Middle Kingdom) and the East. The motto of this event is "Annual enemies, eternal friends". On the battlefield warriors fight to win, but once the battle is done, they are great friends. While war is the focus, there are plenty of peaceful and non-martial activities for those who do not wish to fight.

The first week of Pennsic is quieter than the second week, which is often referred to as War Week. For that first week, the focus is on Land Grab, a system by which groups are assigned their camping spaces and the land grab agent (the person organizing your group's camp) starts the process of setting up camp. This week offers the chance to catch up with old friends, shop the merchants early, and to take classes at Pennsic University for those fortunate enough to be there for two full weeks. Attendance is lower for this first week as most people who can't stay for two weeks, will opt to come for War Week when the fighting begins.

The opening ceremony for War Week is a sight unparalleled anywhere in the Known World. The Kingdom of Aethelmearc leads the pageant followed by the Kingdoms of the Midrealm and the East and then by each kingdom in turn. The banners, the spiffy clothes, the music and the singing are glorious to behold. Once Their Majesties of the Known World have settled onto the stage, Aethelmearc invites the Midrealm and the East to state their grievances and then each kingdom declares which side it will fight for. With their new allies firmly entrenched, Their Majesties of the Midrealm and the East break the War Arrow and hostilities commence.