



# The Martyr's Rede a newsletter of Swordcliffshire



December 2008

## December Meeting Minutes

Meeting convened at 7:39

In attendance: 10 voting adults, no offspring

### Officer Reports:

Exchequer did "show and tell" of new check binder and checks. Generally approved to be a nice set-up! Reports to 'higher ups' now to be submitted electronically in Excel format - so a joint effort btw exch. and seneschal may be necessary.

Minister of Fence: EOY report late, but will submit ASAP... We currently have 3 authorized fighters, 1 trainee, and 1 youth. Some responses to Kingdom list of inactive fighters have been sent.

Minister of Heavy Weapons: arrived to cheers and worries about the ceiling. A cycle for resuming fighter's practices was discussed, with Mondays being preferred. Guillane will check on a specific week w. Reserve Center personnel. Practices will include Rapier, Heavy, and Youth (provided we can arrange for a youth marshal...)

Seneschal: has spoken to "Her Excellency" (later clarified as HE Maria Theresa) from Illiton about Fall Crown bid - not likely they will bid; another possibility for a bid might come from Wurm Wald, depending on how Maidens goes...

Web-minster/Chronicler - newsletter for Nov published. Made attempt to call 24 hour line for Host My Site regarding domain registration renewal - they were closed....

Ethyl Autocrat - nothing new...

Yule Party planning: We have loads of meat - a whole pan full (sez Devin, making large motions with hands). Please bring Tupperware etc for leftovers. Lots of folding tables available. Head count currently somewhere btw 22 and 42... Gift Exchange price limit: \$10.

Food thoughts: Genevieve: bread; Katrina: threatens cheese, Jhondo: booze and something rice-y; Tom: a dessert-like thing; Guillane: Manchego spread; Tan Po: vegetable and potstickers; David: cheesecake.

No new business.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:3x-something pm.

## Upcoming Events:

December 18: Swordcliff Yule Party at KSoOD

January 8: Swordcliff Business Meeting

January 22: Swordcliff A&S mtg.

January 31: Festival of Maidens

February 5: Swordcliff Business Meeting

February 7: White Knights - Dark River

February 19: Swordcliff A&S mtg.

July 11: Feast of St. Ethyl the Martyr

## Movie Review: "Mongol"

by Genevieve

On a cold, wintry night, 5 shire members convened around cheese-laden flat bread and ale at HL Guillane's and watched a movie about a cold, wintry climate and the man who eventually became the region's leader. "Mongol" is the story of the future "Ghengis Khan". It starts with the protagonist at age 9, off to select a bride from a neighboring tribe. While returning to his own tribe, his father, the current Khan, is poisoned and thereafter ensues a long rivalry between Khanates while the budding Khan is an outcast wandering the countryside, growing up and gathering a 'following' of his own. His resourceful wife is eventually claimed as an adult years later, kidnapped, regained again - pregnant... she then goes into hiding when Ghengis is captured and imprisoned, springs him after several years but is pregnant again - the price of her having the means to rescue him. He then begins to gather an strong army, defeats his back-stabbing blood-brother, writes laws, and seques into the leader he will be remembered as, hoping to someday sire his own flesh-and-blood... (tho he has yet to conquer any neighboring countries)

All-in-all it was amusing enough, tho' tends to skip past years at a time with little marker other than the aging of the children. The best chance for pulling the audience to the edge of it's seat - when young Ghengis plunges thru an ice-over lake - is clipped at that moment and he seems just fine laying in the snow in the next scene - I'd expected some battle with the elements or at the very least he'd be a tad icy-looking... Also, the ending seemed inconclusive for my "traditional plot-curve" dependent tastes. The scenery of Mongolia is beautiful tho' and the costuming acceptable (but not my area of expertise, so I can't speak to it's authenticity..) I did love the yurts - looks like a pretty cozy habitat to have!

I would rate this one fairly well as a fictionalized documentary of a life. If you want action and adventure - there are some battles, but not grippingly so.

## Shire Officers:

Seneschale - Guillane de Vaux

Exchequer: Katrina

Heavy Marshal: Tan Po

Pursuivant: Thorgeirr inn Vikverski Karllson

Marshal of Fence: Devin Breighhallach

Minister of Arts & Sciences: Orry Guerin de Mt St Michel

Chatelaine: Cydeaux of Brittany

Chronicler: Genevieve de Vaucresson

Web Minister: Genevieve de Vaucresson

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