



The Martyr's Rede a newsletter of Swordcliffshire



May 2009

May Meeting Minutes

Meeting convened at 7:38 pm
In attendance: (Umm - forgot to take a head count...)

Officer reports:

Seneschale: Quarterly report filed w. Rory

Chronicler/Webminister: attacks of "life" plus no article submissions prevented completion of April Rede Will post "As Is" for minutes record.

Exchequer: Balances: Checking: 733.09 Savings: 1341.75

Marshal of Fence: Practice on Sundays have resumed at the park. Last practice had some heavy drills, but no fencing. Conversation on construction of pells ensued after MOF report

Ethyl Staff: Cydeaux printed out the Pale ad for Elaine Jayne and submitted it for June and July issues. Pig and chicken have been obtained and need to both be mentioned on the website. Discussion of site tokens ensued, eventual idea was to string stamped coins (donated by Karida's House of Discipline) onto cord or ribbon at A&S meeting.

Old business: none

New business: Cub Scout demo upcoming, dates to choose from: June 24, 25 or 26. Theme for the day camp is "Knights in Shining Armor" so fighters are needed. Also calligraphy, brass rubbing. This will be in Decatur. Contact HL Guillane if you can attend.

Meeting adjourned: 8:42 pm and everyone headed out for Star Trek.....

Upcoming Events:

June 5-7: Ragnarok Rampage, Carraig Ban
June 12: Border Skirmish, Ravenslake
June 27: Crystal Chamfron, Shattered Crystal
July 11: Feast of St. Ethyl the Martyr
July 17-19: Simple Day, Sternfeld
July 24 - Aug 9: Pennsic War
Sept 5-6: Middle Kingdom Academy of Defense, Ravenslake
Sept 18: Fields of Cloth and Gold, Milton

News of Note:

Starting this year, Coopers Lake Campground will no longer accept travellers checks or money orders. If you are attending Pennsic, be prepared. See "The Pale" for more

Book Review by Rowena of the Rowanwood

"Tales of Judge Dee" by Zhu Xiao Di

I don't know how many of you are familiar with the Judge Dee series of ancient Chinese detective stories, but I am pleased to report that the series has been revived!!!

The original Judge Dee series was written by a European, the late Robert Van Gulik, and based somewhat on ancient Chinese court cases. The original series by is still in print if you would like to pick it up, but the flavors differ a bit. In the original Judge Dee books, the actual cases on which the stories are based can be found at the end along with the sources.

The new Judge Dee is written by a Chinese and is probably a bit more authentic as to the procedures and consequently a bit more heavy-handed and gruesome. But both the old and the new give interesting (sometimes uncomfortable) peeks at the social mores and some give a lot of social history of the time and culture. Some of the court techniques are similar to medieval courts (i.e. testimony under torture), and the authority allowed the judge is shocking today.

It is a collection of different cases put before a magistrate who at that period in history was also the investigating officer. The stories are basically short stories strung together.

It's a good read and I'm glad to see the judge has returned!

Shire Officers:

Seneschale - Guillane de Vaux

Exchequer: Katrina

Heavy Marshal: Tan Po

Pursuivant: Thorgeirr inn Vikverski Karllson

Marshal of Fence: Devin Breighballach

Min. of Arts & Sciences: Gunther von Sachsenhausen

Chatelaine: Cydeaux of Brittany

Chronicler: Genevieve de Vaucresson

Disclaimer: This is the May 2009 issue of the Martyr's Rede, a publication of the Shire of Swordcliff, a branch of the SCA Inc.. Copies are available on our website: home.comcast.com/~swordcliff/index.html, or from the Chronicler. The Martyr's Rede is not a corporate publication of the SCA Inc., and does not delineate SCA Inc policies. Copyright 2009 Society for Creative Anachronism Inc. For information on reprinting articles from this publication, contact the Chronicler at garblaurel@comcast.net