

THESE NOTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL MINUTES. NO CHRONICLER WAS PRESENT AT THIS MEETING.

Meeting opened at 7:45 PM

Seneschal's report:

- Lord Gowan has been sponsored by Jack Silver and HL Josephine Blackthorn
- congratulations to HL Josephine for receiving her Goutte de Sang and her Red Scarf and to Pierce O'Briain for receiving his Goutte de Sang
- disappointed at the number of Cold Keep gentles who did *not* attend the Yule event
 - if lack of attendance continues, events may have to be cancelled
 - it was noted that no events will be held at Ferndale Hall in future
- Lady Brynn will be stepping down as Seneschal in June
 - nominations for the office of Seneschal must be made by March 31, 2004; voting on the nominations will take place at the April 2004 Council meeting and the new Seneschal will take over in June
- if any member of the shire receives a phone call or other enquiry about any current or past member of the shire, tell the caller to contact Lady Brynn (561-2830): do not give any information to these callers

Exchequer's report:

- Bank - \$884.51
 - has not deposited funds from Yule event
 - took in \$470, which covered the hall and liquor licence; event lost \$160
- noted that NSCA memberships are now due

MOTION: That the NSCA fees for the Shire be paid out of Shire funds.
PASSED

Herald's report:

- Natal'ia has stepped down as Deputy Herald to take on the office of Arts & Sciences; Godric AElfgarsson is the new Deputy Herald
- Brigit donated a book to the Shire library: The Complete Book of Heraldry by Stephen Slater
- a suggested design for the Shire badge (inspired by Yule site tokens made Lady Brynn and Lady Isabeau): a silver star with a blue snowflake
 - Brigit will make up sample designs for the next Council meeting
- a beginning heraldry class, a conflict checking class and a consulting day are tentatively planned for early in the new year; dates to be announced

Chatelaine's report:

- January Waddling Duck evening is postponed
 - may be tied in with the February event
- there is another group in Ft St James that is interested in joining Cold Keep

- Natal'ia suggested doing a demo at the new Canadian Tire store on their community stage

Master of the Blade's report:

- rapier symposium went well
 - everyone was very excited about it, esp the 16-18 year olds from Tir Bannog
 - Don Albert an outstanding teacher
 - excellent learning experience: much of the information is in the ABCs
 - a video was made of the rapier activities
- Lord Gowan now a Jr Rapier Marshall and is being sponsored to become a Sr Rapier

Marshall for the area

- rapier practices cancelled until January: Tues and Thurs nights

Master of Stables' report:

- armoured combat is quiet - very few people are turning up to practice
- HL Vlad has been experimenting with a new style of sword
 - siloflex could substantially improve the lifespan of rattan swords
 - going well so far - ask him if you are interested in a sword that could last for years.
 - * Note this is for single-hand swords only
- strongly encourages fighters, esp those taking a break over winter, to thoroughly go over all gear before stowing it away
 - this is the best time to make repairs or build new stuff

Chief Archer's report:

- the past year has been a mixed one for Cold Keep archery
 - Cold Keep archers performed extremely well, taking three of the top five spots in the principality royal round scores
 - on the down side, we were beset by injuries, inclement weather, and the (temporary) loss of our guiding spirit
 - we had a very short shooting season with few regular participants
 - hope to see more people out in next year
 - the loss of indoor practice site has been a terrible blow
 - need to shoot year-round to properly maintain our skills.

A&S report:

- Christmas on the Cheap went very well
- Cold Keep A&S championship will be held at the Feb 14 event
 - champion is encouraged to enter the Principality A&S Championship at February Investiture

Old Business:

- Lord Gowan has made sample business cards
 - it was agreed that the Shire would pay for the materials
- Lady Desiree suggested a cruise to be sponsored by the Shire and the Principality as a fundraiser; proceeds to be split between the Principality and the shire
 - she will provide more details at a later date

New Business:

- position of Chronicler is vacant as Lady Rebeca is out of the Shire for some time
 - Lord Bryn is interested in taking the office of Chronicler
 - nominated from the floor PASSED
- as the date and time of Council meetings has varied in recent months, it was suggested that the wording of our draft bylaws be amended to indicate that Council meetings are held in the third week of the month.
- new day and time for Council meetings until a new seneschal is in place: Monday evenings, 8:30 PM
- next meeting Monday January 19, 8:45 PM (amended to 8:30 PM if possible)

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 PM