

# Winter Althyng Minutes

The meeting began at 12:30 PM.

## **Calendar of Events:**

MB reminded the Fyrd to make events official as soon as possible (including educational demos, which have rarely been posted on the Calendar of Events in the past) by either mailing or hand delivering Official Event Forms to any Witan member other than the Bocman, or faxing them to MB directly by calling ahead first at (732) 892-5664, who can sign them and immediately fax them to the Bocman.

Sundays 10 AM – 2 PM – House Von Draken Fighter Practice, official. Elverson, PA. Indoor fighter practice. For information, contact David Lindsay at (215) 723-5024.

3/18 – 3/20 – First Annual Garb Making Weekend, unofficial. 925 Ellison Avenue in Point Pleasant, NJ. Hosted by Rivenwood. The purpose of this weekend is to help newcomers to Markland (6 months or newer) make garb that will take a beating. All are welcome to teach or bring handwork and extra sewing supplies (machines, scissors, tape measures, hand sewing needles, etc.). Sewing machine time is only guaranteed to those who really need it. Those working on garb should bring fabric and thread (or money – we will be leaving for Jo-Mar's from 925 Ellison Avenue in Point Pleasant on Friday evening at 5:30). We will be working on garb all day on Saturday, and Sunday until 9 PM. Crash space is available if requested – bring blanket, pillow, towel, and money for take-out. Eric will cook pancakes Saturday morning, and spaghetti Saturday night. Please RSVP to Mary Beth by Saturday, March 12th at [Aeldorman@Markland.org](mailto:Aeldorman@Markland.org), or (732) 892-5664.

## **Directions:**

From PA and points West: Take your best route to I-195 East, towards Shore Points. Take exit 35 A, which puts you onto Route 34 South. Proceed straight around a circle to continue on Route 34 South. Route 34 South becomes Route 35 South. Once you cross over the bridge, you are in Point Pleasant. Obey the speed limit! Cops here are jerks. Stay on 35 South through Point Pleasant for 1.5 miles from the bridge, keeping to the right. Staying in the right line, 35 South automatically puts you onto Route 88 West. Pass the Ocean Bay Diner on your right. Go through one light on 88 West. After the light, take the third right onto Rue Avenue. If you pass an elementary school on your left, you went too far. After making a right onto Rue Avenue, make your second right onto Ellison Avenue. We're the gray house with blue shutters at the corner of Rue and Ellison. Park anywhere. Ring the doorbell by the paved driveway (925 Ellison Avenue).

From points South: Take your best route to the New Jersey Turnpike. Exit at 7A, I-195 East towards Shore Points, and follow directions above.

TBA – April – Trip to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City, unofficial. Hosted by Rivenwood. Consisting of observation of medieval textiles through museum curator of Ratti Textile Center. Admission group fee would include museum access for the whole day. For more information, contact Mary Beth at [Aeldorman@Markland.org](mailto:Aeldorman@Markland.org).

TBA – April – Spring Council Meeting, unofficial.

TBA – April – Masquerade Ball; hosted by the Ladies Order of Claddagh. This year's Ball will be held in the Baltimore area.

5/21 – 5/22 – West Windsor Lions Renaissance Faire, official. West Windsor, NJ. Hosted by The Circle. Public Renaissance Faire – Frat fighting, fencing, living history, merchants and more. For more

information, contact Don Thorp ("Kegger") at [dptharp1@aol.com](mailto:dptharp1@aol.com) or (609) 597-8016 or Fox at [Norseraider314@hotmail.com](mailto:Norseraider314@hotmail.com).

Directions:

Look at a map! Find your best route to I-295. \*\*From I-295, take exit 65 A (Sloan Ave. East). This exit is between the Route 33 and Route 1 exits. Go through three traffic lights to the end of the road. Make a left. After three traffic lights, the road will go from four lanes of traffic to two, start looking on your left for the entrance of the Mercer County Park. There will be signs in the park directing you from there.

From the NJ Turnpike and Garden State Parkway: Take your best route to I-195 West. Take I-195 West to I-295 North. Follow from \*\* above.

On or about June 22, 2005 – Spothed's Spear Tourney (in commemoration of Spothed reaching an age evenly divisible by 5!) Location and date to be announced. Looking for an event host; in lieu of one, event will be held at Blackbird State Park, near Smyrna, DE.

9/2 – 9/5 – Holy War & Battle of Agincourt, official. Knight's Rest Farm, Hainesport, NJ. Hosted by The Circle & Companions of the Cross. Pick your deity of choice and fight for the honor of your God. Scenarios will center around battles over religion through history. Sunday, we will be recreating the Battle of Agincourt. Rec Master Wilhelm Greycloake will be running the Battle of the Hundred Years War. Novices of Rec and people interested are highly encouraged to attend and participate. Small frat fighting battles on Sunday for those not wanting to participate in Rec Battle. \$7 per adult for the weekend. Kids 12 and under, \$3 for the weekend. Kids 5 and under, free. Troll opens Friday afternoon at 4 PM. There's a Canal Liquors, a Shop Rite, and several WaWa's near the site. Contact Fox MacAodhagen for more info at [Norseraider314@hotmail.com](mailto:Norseraider314@hotmail.com) or (732) 389-3615. Contact Master Wilhelm Creycloake for Rec info at [MasterAtArms@Markland.org](mailto:MasterAtArms@Markland.org).

Directions from the South (MD and DE):

Take I-95 North, and exit at I-295 towards Del Memorial Bridge / NJ-NY/NJ Turnpike. I-295 North becomes US-40 East. US-40 East becomes New Jersey Turnpike North. Take the NJ Turnpike 33.7 miles to Exit 4 towards Philadelphia/Camden. Continue on Route 73 North. Take I-295 North towards Trenton. Take exit 40A towards Mt. Holly. Continue on Route 38 East. Turn right on Ark Road. Arrive at 1816 Ark Road, Hainesport, NJ.

Directions from the Jersey Shore:

Take the Garden State Parkway South to Exit 98 towards Trenton (I-195 West/Allaire Airport). Continue on Route 34 North. Take I-195 West towards Trenton for 27.6 miles. Take exit 6 toward Penn. Extension/Camden onto the NJ Turnpike South for 17.2 miles. Take exit 5 towards Mt. Holly/Burlington. Turn right at a light after the toll plaza. This puts you on Burlington County Road 691 (High Street). Turn right onto Mt. Holly Bypass. Proceed for 2.1 miles. Turn right onto Route 38 West. Proceed 2.1 miles. Bear right on Creek Road, turn left on Hainesport Mt. Laurel Road, and turn left on Ark Road. Arrive at 1816 Ark Road, Hainesport, NJ.

From PA and areas West:

Take I-276 East towards New Jersey/Exit 28-30 for 16.8 miles. I-276 East becomes the NJ Turnpike Ext. Take the NJ Turnpike south exit towards Camden. Proceed about 6.8 miles to Exit 5 towards Mt. Holly/Burlington. After 2.3 miles, turn right on Mt. Holly Bypass. After 2.1 miles, turn right on Rt. 38 West. After 2.1 miles, bear right on Creek Road, turn left on Hainesport Mt. Laurel Road, and turn left on Ark Road. Arrive at 1816 Ark Road, Hainesport, NJ.

10/8 – 10/9 – Marietta Medieval Festival, official. Glenn Dale, MD. Hosted by Andrew Mychalus. Living history demonstrations will be given by the Longship Company, Ostvik Vikings, Vinland Vikings, and the Nocman Initiative. For more information, contact Andrew Mychalus at (717) 993-0063.

### **New Business:**

Sir Angus pointed out the importance of attracting living history re-enactors back to Markland during the announcement of the Calendar of Events. Further attention will be paid to this matter at the Spring Council Meeting, preferably with the event coordinator of the Marietta Medieval Festival in attendance.

### **Markland finances:**

According to Markland's Financial Report for the Year 2004, as prepared by Mary J. Marlow (Arduinna Greycloakeswif), it was pointed out that Markland brought in an additional \$955.26 in 2004, and that Markland's total available funds equate to \$9,272.32. It was suggested that Markland may use these funds to lower membership dues, publicize public educational re-enactment, or reward Markland groups for hosting public educational re-enactment demos (perhaps according to frequency, etc.). This will be further discussed at the Spring Council Meeting, as the Bailiff was not available to answer specific questions.

The possibility and feasibility of Markland's expansion into Texas was presented during the discussion of Markland finances, to which the Aeldorman halted debate as tertiary to the pre-established agenda. The Witan resolved to further examine what Markland's by-laws and insurance company may or may not allow for, and the issue will be further discussed among parties directly involved. Further discussion of this at a corporate meeting of Markland may or may not be necessary prior to that group's possible formal petition before the Fyrd to join Markland at an Althyng in the future.

### **Old Business:**

Pox and Plague publication – the issue of reducing the frequency of the Plague publication from 4 times a year to twice a year, with Poxes sent during all subsequent months could not be voted on, as the Plague Editor recently learned of a possible alternative format that may or may not save Markland money, and improve the overall appearance of the Plague. This possibility, along with the possibility of establishing a not-for-profit mailing address also to save money will be more thoroughly researched by the Plague Editor, who will report on this at the Spring Council Meeting. Carina Gonzales (Dame Violonte de Leon) offered her services to assist the Plague Editor in the future.

Webpage format – it was stated that the Plague and the updated Markland Annual should ideally be included on the webpage, but that this would cost an additional fee. This fee will be researched once the Markland by-laws have been reintegrated with the past decade or so of approved changes, and the Markland Annual has been assembled by the Bocman, with the help of the Aeldorman (possibly by the Summer Althyng). The webmaster announced that the responsibility of maintaining the webpage if a fee were to be introduced for mundanes to participate would not be feasible, and as none present were able to offer assistance in this matter, it was removed from the vote. The vote was called to close all or part of the Markland discussion boards to the public, and passed. The Aeldorman moved, as per the suggestion made by Spothed, to give the Webmaster authority to decide which parts of the Markland discussion boards shall be closed to the public, to which the Webmaster agreed. The motion was passed, and the Webmaster will give the Fyrd an update on progress made and assistance required at the Spring Council Meeting.

Frat rule changes – the proposed changes to the frat rules made by Mor Grendel were discussed, altered slightly, and passed. For an updated version of Markland's frat rules, see them posted under Rules on the webpage.

### **Appointed Positions:**

Plague Editor – nothing new to report, besides discussion of Pox and Plague publication

Webmaster – nothing new to report, besides discussion of webpage format

**Officer Reports:**

Interim Bocman – updated the Fyrd on Insurance matters (currently being looked into), and expresses enthusiasm to continue as Bocman

Bailiff – Markland databases have been updated – contact Mary with additional information

Shire Reeve – not in attendance due to family obligations, MB announced that Muscles will be posting suggestions for frat scenarios to the webpage shortly, and would like anyone with specific suggestions to e-mail him at [ShireReeve@Markland.org](mailto:ShireReeve@Markland.org)

Aeldorman – Announced the International Alliance of Medieval Re-enactment Societies plans to hold their 6th International meeting April 25th to May 1st in Portugal. For further information, contact MB. Also, the city of Waynesboro, VA has asked Markland if we would like to participate in their first annual Renaissance Faire on June 25th. Anyone interested in serving as event contact and coordinating with the city of Waynesboro, contact MB for more info. Also, MB announced that she had appointed Drey to draft a checklist covering how to run a successful event, which will serve as an addendum to the official Event Form. It is almost finished, and is in the process of being reviewed by the Witan. Anyone with specific ideas can e-mail them to MB. In terms of general communication, the Fyrd was reminded to send all changes in personal contact info to the Bailiff. Changes in group contact info go to the Webmaster, and errors on the webpage make it very difficult to disseminate information. It is important to keep these up to date. In the future, Althyng and Council Meeting agendas will be posted online and e-mailed to group contacts before the meeting, as had been the case with this Althyng. After meetings, the Bocman will post minutes to the Webmaster, and e-mail them to all group contacts. Group contacts should forward them to their groups, and make sure important issues are understood and discussed.

Election of Bocman – Scott, our current interim Bocman, ran unopposed for the position and was voted in to serve officially until the Summer Althyng.

The Witan formally thanked Von Draken for their last-minute hospitality in accommodating the Althyng, rescheduled due to inclement weather on January 22nd, '05.

The meeting was concluded at 3:40 PM.