

# Steel Meeting

## Minutes Of Meeting

March 14, 2004

### Attendees:

- William Marlow (Greycloake)
- Kelly Coco, Shire Reeve
- Chet Karasinski (Cheslov)
- Mary Marlow (Arduinna)
- Joan Karasinki

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. Among the subjects opened for discussion:

1. The necessity of compiling accurate records for the MRFG. The current records are outdated, containing many former Markland members and people whose memberships have lapsed. We have no way of knowing who our qualifiers are, who their apprentices and trainees are, or who is actually qualified to fight at Markland recreation events unless you send us your information. Please help!!

### Guild Records

It has become increasingly apparent over the past year that the records of the Markland Recreation Fighters Guild (formerly the Steel Qualifiers Guild) are in horrible shape. We NEED to know how many Markland members are qualifiers, how many are qualified fighters, how many are apprentices, how many are currently training for qualification, etc. We also need contact information updated so that we can send more timely notices of meetings and upcoming events to the members. Please contact Greycloake at [greycloake@juno.com](mailto:greycloake@juno.com) with your information.

### Current Membership (membership current\*): Qualifiers

- Joe Carpenter
- Siobhra DeWar
- Chet Karasinki
- William Marlow
- James Peterson
- John Roop
- Jeff Masiello

### Apprentices

- Jennifer Glover
- Gwyn Allen Ward

### Qualified

- Kelly Coco
- Jon Evans

- Alix Evans
- Michael Haarstick
- Ray Johnson
- Joe Lightman
- Alvin Lightman (?)

#### Trainees

- Brian Cook with Chet Karasinski
- Brian of Lyndon with Chet Karasinski
- Rob Cowan with Siobhra DeWar
- Peter Edwardson with Chet Karasinski
- Sean Geddie with John Roop/William Marlow
- Clark Jarrod with Siobhra DeWar
- William Jacobson with John Roop/William Marlow
- Cliff McDowell with Siobhra DeWar

*\*The above list is based on Markland members whose dues are current. If your name is not listed above and you are a steel qualifier, are steel qualified, apprenticed, or have received training in recreation combat, PLEASE CONTACT US AT ONCE!! We can't add your name to this list unless you let us know you should be on this list.*

#### Guild ID Cards

Since we have had some problems laying our hands on the Steel qualification disks for the guild, Greycloake asked his lady, Arduinna, to design a set of ID cards for the different ranks in the Markland Recreation Fighters Guild. These were reviewed and accepted by all members of the Guild present.

If you would like to receive an ID card, please send Greycloake the following information:

Mundane Name,

Medieval Name,

Date you received basic training (for Novice/Trainees & Guests),

Or Date you became Steel Qualified (for Steel qualified Fighters),

Or Date you became an Apprentice (for Apprentice Qualifiers)

or Date you became a Master Steel Qualifier,

Names of the Steel Qualifiers who trained you or approved you to advance in rank within the Guild.

(sample card is in the minutes. If someone can make an image or pdf of the card it would be appreciated so I can put it here.)

The suggested rankings within the Guild would be:

#### Novice

has received basic combat training at a single event and was approved by the Battle Master and steel qualifier to fight with wooden weaponry at that single event

#### Guest Participant

A member of another recreation combat organization who has received basic combat training and been approved to participate in a single recreation event. Participation level is set by the approving qualifiers as Novice (N) - may only use wood or participate as non-combatant, Probationary (P) - may use steel weaponry but only fight with members of own group, or Advanced (A) - may use steel weaponry and fight

with any other qualified fighter on the field. At the Markland Althyng, a fee of Five (\$5.00) dollars was set for such non-Markland members to participate at the event.

#### Trainee

has attended one or more rec practices or events and has been accepted as a trainee with a steel qualifier

#### Steel Qualified

Has completed training period and is considered by trainer to be competent to handle steel weaponry in recreation events.

#### Advanced Steel Qualified

A steel qualified fighter who has received training/certification in additional recreation-style combat training outside of Markland (i.e. stage fencing).

#### Apprentice Steel Qualifier

A steel qualified fighter who has been qualified for a period of two (2) years who has proven ready to train to advance to the rank of Master Steel Qualifier. Apprenticeship period lasts one (1) year.

#### Master Steel Qualifier

A steel qualified fighter who has completed apprenticeship with a Master Steel Qualifier and proven competent in own use of steel weaponry. Has also proven they know guidelines and rules well enough to train other fighters in recreation combat. May take on trainees and apprentices at this rank.

2. A proposal to update our Combat Rules; removing those sections which do not need approval by the entire Fyrd of Markland, clarifying the wording of existing rules, and removing repetitive rules. We would establish a Charter for the Guild, set up a Fighter's Handbook for the trainees and other fighters, etc.

#### Discussion of Rules Changes

Kelly Coco feels that we should wrap up rules changes and present them to the Fyrd in toto. He and Cheslov agreed with Greycloake that we should take everything out of the Rules that doesn't require the vote of the Fyrd before it can be approved and set up a Guild Handbook which would

1. state the Markland Recreation Fighters Guild Charter,
2. clarify our Combat Rules (i.e. removing duplicate passages)
3. lay out rules for Participation in Recreation events (which would add the newly approved ruling from the Fyrd regarding guest participation of members from other recreation organizations),
4. set up a training handbook (Fighter's Guidelines) for all members wishing to train in recreation combat, become steel qualified, and possibly advance in rank to Master Steel Qualifiers, etc.

Cheslov feels that we need to make certain we do not make the rules too complicated for our own good. He cited the rule regarding minor participation (children under the age of 18 need parent present and/or written permission to participate) as an example. In most civil laws, written permission is given in lieu of a parent being present. The rule will be amended accordingly. Greycloake's lady, Arduinna, is working on editing our current rules and guidelines and a copy of the completed work will be available for all members to review soon. Kelly Coco is proposing to make the Reeves Guild for Fratricidal Combat into an actual organization with more structure and guidelines.

3. Making Rec more visible in Markland by having steel qualifiers attend as many of the Markland events as possible. This would give guild members several more opportunities to advance in rank during a calendar year.

#### Getting Visible to Get more members involved

Kelly Coco began this portion of the discussion by stating that the Fighters Guild needs to do something at all Markland events. We need to give people an opportunity to get involved and learn. We need to get

people engaged and show them what to do and where to go with Rec. He went on to state that he approves of the work that Bill Marlow (Greycloake) has been doing in this regards; he believes that Greycloake is finally giving the Guild the ability to meet this goal. Greycloake went on to state that this will give every Markland member who wants to earn the rank of steel qualified fighter in time for the Hastings demo a chance to do so. Cheslov had no arguments or additional comments on this matter.

#### Events for Rec Guild

In order for all Markland members to get a chance to earn steel qualification rank before the Hastings demo, we are going to make rec training available at as many of the Markland events as possible. It will also allow the Guild members more opportunities to advance in rank during the year.

Here are a few events where we are going to be present:

T&A War - Tohickon Campground - April 2-3. Greycloake will be there to work on Rec training with anyone who needs it. Additional steel qualifiers are encouraged to attend.

Celtic Fire - Marietta Mansion - end of April 2004. The event organizer has agreed to allow a battle recreation practice at Celtic Fire. Any Markland member who wants to participate, combatant and non-combatant alike is invited to take part in the recreation of the Battle of Eddington where Alfred the Great, Saxon king of Wessex, defeated Guthrun the Dane. Good practice for Shield walls, non-combatant participation, etc. Contact Greycloake for details, to offer services as steel qualifier trainer, etc.

May - Sheev will be Steel Qualifier at a Markland event being held opposite the West Windsor Ren Faire. Steel qualifiers are encouraged to attend to support her. Greycloake will be presenting the Guild proposal at the Council meeting held at West Windsor on Saturday night.

June - Something Southern - Site TBD. An event in the Annapolis area for rec training. Another Rec Guild meeting possible to discuss Spring Council results and continue discussions on guild business.

Hastings Demo - October 2004 - at Montgomery Co, PA event. House Von Drakken, hosting group.

#### 4. Other items of discussion as time allowed:

##### An Apology for Directions

Arduinna wishes to apologize for sending out the wrong directions to the Rec Guild meeting. The address that MapQuest gave her was the mailing address for the library system, not the actual geographic location of the New Castle County Library in Bear, DE.

#### 5. Closing

The meeting for the Markland Recreation Fighters Guild ended at 3:45 p.m. when the members attending adjourned to Stewart's Pub for an early dinner and some personal interaction not related to Guild business. NOTE Remember, if you would like a copy of the proposed updates/changes to the Guild rules and guidelines, please send us your contact information along with your request for a copy.