

Iron Baron



March A.S. LVII

Baronial Officers

Baron - Sir Erik Martel

(Joe Goodwin) - Baron.IronMtn@meridies.org

Baroness - Mistress Gwenndolynn ni hAilleachain

(Stacy Hall) - Baroness.IronMtn@meridies.org

Seneschal - Baroness Rondalynne Seren

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Minster of Arts and Sciences - Baron Erik Martel

(Joe Goodwin) - AS.ironmtn@meridies.org

Knight's Marshal - THL Iain MacArthur

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Exchequer - Sir Cairbre mac Siomaigh

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Chronicler - THL Christopher Aubrey

(Brian King) - Chron.IronMtn@meridies.org

Chatelaine - Lady Katashi Akaiyama

(Katy Walker) - Chat.IronMtn@meridies.org

Historian - Lady Emma Wyatt

(Jen King) - Hist.IronMtn@meridies.org

Rapier Marshal - Baroness Genevieve Alaiz D'Avignon

(Kayla Adams) - Rm.ironmtn@meridies.org

Webminister - Maestra Magdalena da Parma

(Louise Webb) - Web.IronMtn@meridies.org

Dance Master - THL Iain MacArthur

(Nicholas Milano) - KM.IronMtn@meridies.org

Quartermaster - Baroness Genevieve Alaiz D'Avignon

(Kayla Adams) - Rm.ironmtn@meridies.org

Minister of Children - Lady Ailith de Steddhanam

(Ashley Steedman Bryant) -

MoC.IronMtn@meridies.org

Cover Art: A Map of the World, 1277 or after, Unknown artist/maker,
<https://www.getty.edu/art/collection/object/105WRK>

Business meetings are normally held the first Monday of the month at 6:30 via Zoom. The meeting link and any changes to the schedule can be found at the Barony of Iron Mountain Facebook page.

Fighter Practice is held Sundays at Patriot Park. (710 Oak Grove Rd, Homewood, AL 35209) Park at Corky Bell Dance Studio. Start time is dependent on weather and proximity of events. Please check the Facebook page for announcement.

Congratulations!

Rhonwyn Alyná nic an Chrosain - Sable Axe
Marianna Cristina Tirado de Aragon - Sable Axe

Upcoming Events

March 11-19 - Gulf Wars

King's Arrow Ranch, Lumberton, MS

March 31-April 2 - Spring Coronation

Shires of Thorngill and Okebourne Keep

April 6-9 - Fools War

Shire of Tir Briste

April 15 - Newcomer's Colegium

Shire of Owl's Nest

April 14-16 - Iris Faire

Barony of Glaedenfeld

Da'ud Bob's Movie Reviews for March 2023

Sometimes, frankly, things get more complicated than they need to be. Occasionally, some of this complication can be relieved by knowing some of the history that is the background of a story. And sometimes, that alone is not enough to clear it all up. It also doesn't help in this specific case that there are eight (count 'em! Eight) different movies with the same basic title, most of them differing from this month's movie only by a two or three word addition. And double-checking the release dates doesn't always help enough. Anyway, to better watch this month's movie, it helps to know that in Japan in the year 1590, during the Sengoku period of near constant civil war, three warlords in a row sought to unify the country. In order, they were: Oda Nobunaga; Toyotomi Hideyoshi; and Tokugawa Ieyasu. The setting for this movie is shortly after Nobunaga's death, when Hideyoshi was then conquering Japan, with the assistance of Ieyasu. This then, in the general background for the events that take place in this movie. And so it is that this month, Da'ud Bob reviews for you the 2013 film release of the 2011 stage production of **Seven Souls in the Skull Castle**.

Starring Macoto Awane, Tetsuya Chiba, Ryō Katsuji, Masato Kohno, Eiko Koike, Mirai Moriyama as Tenmao, Riisa Naka, Shun Oguri as Sutenosuke, Taichi Saotome as Mukaiya Ranbe, and Shōko Takada, a very brief synopsis tells us that “seven spirited souls take on the dark threat growing in shadowy Skull Castle.” A longer version is: a former vassal of the late Nobunaga, who calls himself Tenmao (the Demon King), leads the Kanto Skull Corps, an armed group hiding in the pitch-black Skull Castle. Sutenosuke happens to rescue a woman who has been chased by the Corps. To hide and shelter the woman, Sutenosuke meets Mukaiya Ranbe at a brothel district in the nearby town. Manipulated by magical fate, people start to congregate in the Kanto region. When the shared past between Sutenosuke and Ranbe and their relation to Tenmao come to light, it is also the time

when the dark ambition of Tenmao is about to be revealed. Sutenosuke heads for the Skull Castle, which is surrounded by 20,000 soldiers, to destroy it and stop Tenmao's dark ambition with just six other people. And that's just the main, overarching plot. So, yeah, it's a little Seven Samurai, but also not.

Good points: The fight choreography! I don't know who choreographed the fighting, but he or she deserves any and all possible awards for it. The plots and counterplots throughout: betrayal; sacrifice; friendship; love; bravery; and self-sacrifice. There are plenty of plot twists to keep your interest through this three-hour-long movie.

Bad points: Much of the play/movie is very frenetically paced.

Zero breasts. Four gallons of blood. (I'm glad I wasn't on the cleanup crew following the filming!) 49 dead bodies. Katana fu. Staff fu. Spear fu. Spade fu. Glaive fu. Ladle fu. Iron pipe fu. Knife fu. Drug fu. Dried rice ball fu. Musket fu. Florentine sickle fu. Flute fu. Fan fu. Crossbow fu. Pistol fu. Repeating gun fu. Breast pistol fu. (No, really!) Armor-piercing sword fu. Gratuitous talk of breasts. Gratuitous slightly-crazy bladesmith. Gratuitous bent katana. Gratuitous name calling. Academy Award nomination to the actor playing Tayut for: "A person will kill for rice, but rice will not kill for a person. Therefore, rice is more valuable than a person." A 63 on the Vomit Meter. 3½ stars. Da'ud Bob says, "Now I'm going to have to go find and watch the other Seven Souls in Skull Castle movies: Red (2004); Blue (2005); Season Flower (2017); Season Wind (2021); Season Bird (2021); Season Moon Jogen (2021); and Season Moon Kagen (2021), just to see what the differences are. If I'm successful in this quest I'll let you know the results. In the meantime, check this production out! It will be well worth your time."



The Shires of Thorngill and Okeborne Keep welcome you to Dalwhinnie Fields for the

Coronation of Garick and Yasamin

March 31 – April 2



No fooling, it's a Coronation. How will Their Royal Majesties Randver and Arianne depart the Thrones? Will there be mayhem? Will there be blood? Will eldritch powers play a part? Come and see for yourself, one thing is foretold – the Thrones of Meridies will be vacant. But fear not, they will not sit empty for long, after all the name of this event *is* Spring Coronation.

The line of Meridies is secure and strong, for we have most puissant Heirs. See His Highness Garick crowned King of Meridies by right of arms, and Her Highness Yasamin crowned Queen of Meridies by right of heart and soul.

Evening activities include a most excellent feast, prepared by Mistress Genevieve Aliaz d'Avignon and Mistress Muirghean inghean Rioghain, followed by the White Rose Ball.

Fees:	Before March 17, 2023		After March 17, 2023		Children
	Member	Non-Member	Member	Non-Member	
Daytrip	\$21.00	\$26.00	\$25.00	\$30.00	FREE
Weekend	\$27.00	\$32.00	\$30.00	\$35.00	FREE
On Board (FEAST)	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00

Make checks payable to: **SCA, Inc./Shire of Thorngill**

Reservations: Philippa of Mildenhale (Annette Taylor) 334-538-9589, email excheq.thorngill@meridies.org

Autocrats: Kevin Eriôl, (Everett S. Wallace) 334 328-0866, email: boethius@bellsouth.net

Qurra Al-Bayida Al-Bedowiyya (Sierra Rodgers-Farris) 205 885 5549, email: selainerodgers@gmail.com

Site Information: Dalwhinnie Fields, 1515 Pine Flat Church Rd. Selma, AL 36701

Directions: Make your best route to AL-14 W (West of Selma). Turn North onto County Rd 58 then right turn near mile marker 101. Dalwhinnie Fields will be approx. 1.5 miles down the road on the left. THERE WILL BE SIGNS TO HELP YOU!

Site opens at 5:00pm on Friday March 31, 2023 and closes at 10:00am on Sunday April 2, 2023.

Iron Baron
1579 Vestridge Circle
Vestavia Hills, AL 35216

This is “The Iron Baron,” a publication of the “Barony of Iron Mountain” of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA, Inc.). “The Iron Baron” is available from: The Barony of Iron Mountain c/of Brian King at the address above. It is not a corporate publication of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., and does not delineate SCA, Inc. policies. The contents of this publication, “The Iron Baron,” are copyrighted 2019, by the chronicler’s office of the Barony of Iron Mountain. Ownership reverts to the authors and artists.