

Echoes of the Hills

Newsletter of the Emerald Hills



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Echoes of the Hills | v.38.i.1 | Jan 25, 2007 | Reign 38



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Officers for Reign 38

January to June 2007

Monarch	Sutra Bahuas	monarch@amtgard-EH.com
Regent	Nexus Crow	Regent@amtgard-EH.com
Champion	Blaise DeMurray	champion@amtgard-eh.com
Prime Minister	Sir Morgan Ironwolf	pm@amtgard-eh.com
Treasurer	Elder Vermillion	treasurer@amtgard-eh.com
GM of Reeves		gmr@amtgard-eh.com
7.0 Rules Committee		
Representative	Sistar Tolken	kidwell@yahoo.com

The Class Guildmasters

Anti-Paladins	Sir Trinity	Archers	Sir Trinity
Assassins	Sir Delphos	Barbarians	Draeven
Bards	Sir Larin	Color	Tanara
Druids	Elder	Healers	Typhus
Knights	Sir Morgan	Monks	Sirrakhis
Monsters	Sir Delphos	Paladins	Sir Nevron
Scouts	Sir Sparhawk	Warriors	Tobias
Wizards	Sir Larin		

<i>The BOD</i>	<i>Mundane Name</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Term Expires</i>
Dreanya Jurista.....	Andréa Jacobs	President.....	JUNE 2007
Elder Vermillion.....	John R. Elder	Treasurer	MAR 2007
Sistar Tolken	Kevin Kidwell		JUNE 2007
Sutra Bahuas	Jorge Rodas		JUNE 2007
Dante Benedictus	Dorian Snider		DEC 2006
KodiaK	Chris Koeberle		DEC 2006
Faith Silverrose	Erin Daughtery		JUNE 2007

<i>The RGK</i>	<i>Term Expires</i>
Ewen McFadden (Landlord, 972-686-7755)	N/A
Samantha Three Jugs(RGK Selected Seat)	N/A
Elder Vermillion Treasurer/EH BOD Rep/Secretary	BOD Rep
Sutra Bahuas (Monarch).....	JUNE 2007
Shamus Green.....	SEP 2007
Whisper (Monarch Appointed).....	MAR 2007
Sir Wolverine	MAR 2007

Email the RGK at rgk@tanglewoodforest.org

Amtgard-EH.com Contacts

Webmaster

Webmaster@Amtgard-EH.com

Administrator

admin@Amtgard-EH.com

Kingdom Calendar

January 2007

- 7 - Sun: Park Level Quals @ Eagleshire
20 - Sat: Crown Visit n' Roving Battlegame @ MWG
26-28 - Fri-Sun: G-Kon Demo @ G-Kon

February 2007

- 2-4 - Fri-Sun: Celestial Kingdom - Midreign @ Giddings, TX
4 - Sun: Weapon Construction Workshop @ TBA
11 - Sun: EH Banquet @ Finder's Keep
17 - Sat: Workshop - Basic Approach to Art @ TBA
18 - Sun: Crown Visit / Roving Battlegame @ Eagleshire
16-18 - Fri-Sun: Kingdom of the Wetlands - Midreign @ Wetlands
24-25 - Sat-Sun: Kingdom Dragon/Weapon Master @ MWG and FK

March 2007

- 3 - Sat: Golden Plains Coronation @ Golden Plains
9 - Fri: Frank Miller's '300' Premiere - Possible Demo
10 - Sat: Crown Visit / Roving Battlegame @ Midnight Sun
14-18 - Wed-Sun: Spring War @ Giddings, TX
30th-31st - Fri-Sun: EH MIDREIGN @ Tanglewood Forest

April 2007

- 8 - Sun: Crown Visit / Roving Battlegame @ Finder's Keep
15 - Sun: Workshop - Bellydancing @ TBA
28 - Sat: Mini-Quals Workshop @ TBA

May 2007

- 4-6 - Fri-Sun: Celestial Kingdom - Endreign/Coronation @ Giddings, TX
12 - Sat: EH Crown Quals @ Midnight Sun
13 - Sun: EH Crown Quals [Mother's Day] @ Eagleshire
18-20 - Fri-Sun: Kingdom of the Wetlands - Endreign/Coronation - Wetlands
20 - Sun: Workshop - Reeving and Corpora @ TBA
26-27 - Sat-Sun: [Memorial Day Weekend]

June 2007

- 1-3 - Fri-Sun: A-Kon (Possible Demo) @ A-Kon
9-10 - Sat-Sun: Crown Elections @ All Parks
17 - Sun: [Father's Day]
22-24 - Fri-Sun: EH End Reign/Coronation @ Tanglewood Forest

Monarch's Corner

Hail Emerald Hills,

Congrats Eagleshire for having had a great park quals. I do regret not having made it up there but I salute you all for competing and qualling! Congrats all!

We had a pretty dang impressive turn out this Saturday 20th! About 30 folks showed up and we had our first RP themed battlegame! Althing was held and votes/discussion was taken/made.

I managed to drop off important materials to all park reps. Each park received a 'Get out and get em' recruiting packet. Thanks to Finders Keep for managing to send a delegation to MWG. The battlegame was hard fought and extremely amusing/entertaining. Photos are available on-line! Roleplay will be posted soon. Keep up to date and get involved! Ask your local PM or Regent about helping getting a flyer and sticker!

Congrats to Asmodious for receiving an order of the Emerald. You and your family are a gods sent to the park, keep the populace on their toes and keep up the great work! To the park officers, well done on not giving up on the park. And a big hearty well done to Kenta for receiving a Crimson for doing a great job staying on top of preparing for the kingdom visit. Good things are on the horizon for MWG!

Thanks again MWG for hosting our visit and a special thanks to Ogre and Aidan for granting the Royal caravan a much needed warming stop at your hospice!

Make sure to mark your calendar for Feb. 11. We will be having our EH/GP get together banquet, details can be found on page 12! Come on up and get your grub on folks!

Volume 38 Issue 1 | Jan 25, 2007 | Reign 38
Regards all and see you soon!

Grand Inquisitor Sutra Bahuas
Monarch of the Emerald Hills

We've had a great start to this reign and there is still many more things to come! The crown visit to Mourningwood Glen was a great success, despite the weather, and Sutra and I are excited about the next ones in line. Don't miss The EH banquet on February 11th, where the Court of Hearts will be Holding a feast and awards ceremony. Also, I am sending a call to all artisans and fighters to roll up your sleeves again as the spring monarchy proudly presents Dragonmaster and Weaponmaster, Saturday, the 24th at Mourningwood Glen and Sunday, the 25th, at Finders Keep.

The EH Midreign isn't too far off, so anyone who is wishing to lend a hand for quests, battlegmaes, workshops, or even help for cleanup on sunday would be most appreciated. Until then, live the dream, and lay on!

Prince Regent, Squire Nexus Crow
The MAD Hatter, Spring Reign, 07'

Minutes for 12.9.06 BOD Meeting

In Attendance:

Kala Schmitto
Andréa Jacobs
John Elder
Kevin Kidwell
Chris Koeberle (late)
Erin Daugherty (late)

Guests:

Mary Clair McGrane
Aaron Simpson
Meeting called to order at 11:00am at 301 Centennial Blvd, Richardson, Texas 75081.

Routine Business

November 18, 2006 minutes
John Elder moved to approve the minutes.
Passed 4-0.

Monthly Update: BOD correspondence (Jacobs).
Letters resent on December 4, 2006 via certified mail to the new addresses provided for Aaron New and John Hergert. According to the USPS website, the letters had not yet been picked up by the recipients. Letter also sent via regular mail to Aaron New. This letter has not been returned. Received information that Mr. Aaron New is intentionally not picking up the certified letter. No information on Mr. John Hergert.

Letter sent on December 4, 2006 via certified mail to Mr. Robert Grady regarding the questions he presented to the Board. Letter picked up by Mr. Grady on or about December 6, 2006.

Monthly Update: Petitioning/Interested Parks (Mabank/(2)Tal Dagore parks (Schmitto))
No new information.

Andréa Jacobs moves that the Board remove Mabank discussion from old business if no response by next month. Passed 4-0.

Old Business

Update: RGK and treasury report (Elder)
RGK did not have a meeting. Tabled.

Proposal for fundraising policy (Jacobs)
Andréa Jacobs presented the proposal for the fundraising policy. Chris Koeberle and Erin Daugherty requested further research and information on auctions, garage sales, and selling services. Proposal tabled for further revisions.

Zero Tolerance Policy (Schmitto)
Althing scheduled.

Status: Current Parks seeking permission from Parks and Recreation Departments for permission. (Board)
John Elder moved to withdraw request that parks seek permission from Parks and Recreation Departments. Passed 6-0.

Revisiting proposal for New Park Contracts requiring permission from Parks and Recreation Departments. (Board)
John Elder moved to not require new parks to get permission from Parks and Recreation Departments. Passed 6-0.

Process for notification of parks that new/old contracts are needed. (Board)
Andréa Jacobs announced she would post on the announcements list and the forums ASAP that copies of contracts are needed.

Proposal for new Petitioning Parks contract (Jacobs)
Andréa Jacobs requested additional information from members regarding the substance of the petitioning parks contract. Tabled.

New Business

No new business was submitted.
Next meeting scheduled for January 13, 2007 at 11am at 301 Centennial Blvd, Richardson, Texas 75081.
Meeting adjourned at 11:45am.

Message from the EH BOD

Dear Populace of the Kingdom of the Emerald Hills ~

We, the Board of Directors, do not make it a practice to respond to allegations made on the forums, list, or groups as communications from the Board are not the response of one person but of seven and on behalf of the corporation. However, we felt it necessary to respond to the current e-mails because many of the facts and authorities that have been presented here are incorrect.

This is a specific response to the following allegations: (1) Amtgard: Kingdom of the Emerald Hills, Inc. ("Emerald Hills") is currently "being sued"; (2) the Board threatened to impose the zero tolerance policy if the populace did not vote it in through an Althing; and (3) the Articles of Incorporation vest the management of the corporation in its members. If anyone has any further questions or concerns, please contact us at bod@.... Our next meeting is scheduled for February 17, 2007 and open to the public. We welcome agenda submissions from anyone. In addition, we try very hard to timely respond in writing to all requests for information, clarification, and answers.

World Banner Wars Incident

First, Amtgard: Kingdom of the Emerald Hills, Inc. is not currently named in any civil lawsuit or criminal proceeding. A demand letter was received on or around October 16, 2006 requesting additional information. The Board of Directors responded to that demand letter by (1) sending a representative to the Navarro County Sheriff's Department on October 17, 2006 to provide contact information to law enforcement, and (2) sending a certified letter responding to the request for insurance information. See October 2006 Minutes.

At this time, the Board is unaware of any civil lawsuit related to the incidents at World Banner Wars. The Board will make an official announcement if any civil lawsuit is filed against the corporation.

Criminal charges were filed in Navarro County on October 17, 2006. Amtgard: Kingdom of the Emerald Hills, Inc. was named in the police report only as a contact for information and is not a party to any criminal proceeding. The Board will make an official announcement if any criminal charges are filed against the corporation.

Zero Tolerance Policy

When the Zero Tolerance Policy was first presented at the October 28, 2006, the Board approved the wording unanimously. The Zero Tolerance Policy was not the creation of the Board. The Board did not advise that if the Zero

Tolerance Policy was not approved that the Board would summarily institute it. The Minutes from October 28, 2006 reflect the Board's discussion and decision regarding the Zero Tolerance Policy.

Quote: › docWrite("quote") "Zero Tolerance Policy A zero tolerance policy is being submitted to an Althing today. Andréa Jacobs suggests that should this not pass the Althing that the board needs to investigate a similar policy under their own authority.

John Elder moves that the BOD recommend that this Althing item passes in its current wording. Passed 7-0-0."

See October 2006 Minutes. The only decision the Board made at that meeting was to advise the populace that the Board approved the current wording 7-0-0. It was discussed that should the Althing item not pass we would investigate creating a policy under our own authority, but (1) there was no vote on that and (2) it was to investigate the creation of such a policy. The intent was to research what we could and would do to limit any possible future legal liabilities of the corporation if the policy did not pass.

The Board did not put a deadline on the populace to decide on the no-tolerance policy nor did the Board do anything more than approve the wording submitted to the Board. The Board only acted as reflected in the minutes of October 28, 2006.

The Articles of Incorporation

The Articles of Incorporation filed with the State of Texas do not set forth that the management of the affairs of the corporation is vested in its members. See Articles of Incorporation. Article Seven of the filed Articles of Incorporation defines the members' rights as follows:

Quote: › docWrite("quote") "ARTICLE SEVEN: The classes, rights, privileges, qualifications, and obligations of members of this corporation are as follows:

This corporation shall have one class of membership. Any person shall be qualified to become a member upon payment of the initial dues, and shall continue as a member upon paying the semiannual dues. The method and time of payment of dues shall be determined, by the Bylaws of this corporation. Additional provisions specifying the rights and obligations of members shall be contained in the Bylaws of this corporation pursuant to, and in accordance with, the laws of this state." See id. at 5 (emphasis added). That is the only explanation of the rights and authority of members in the Articles of Incorporation.

The Corpora (by-laws) vest in members the power to

Message from the EH BOD cont

“change, add, or delete from the Laws of Amtgard or the governing laws of the Emerald Hills.” See Corpora, Section V.E.2. This section also does not vest management in the members. A lot of non-member-managed corporations require changes to the by-laws be made by a majority of the members. A “member-managed” entity is where members participate in the management and operational control of the corporation. The by-laws do not dictate that the management or operational control of the corporation is conducted by its members. Therefore, neither the by-laws nor the Articles of Incorporation expressly provide that the management of the Emerald Hills is with the members.

We explain this only to point out what the Corpora and filed Articles of Incorporation do and do not say. Our only intent is to act to limit the legal liabilities of the corporation. Vernon's Civil Statutes Article 1396-2.28(A) defines our responsibility as follows:

Quote: “A. A director shall discharge the director's duties, including the director's duties as a member of a committee, in good faith, with ordinary care, and in the manner the director reasonably believes to be in the best interest of the corporation.”

See Tex. Rev. Civ. Stat. Ann. art. 1396, sec. 2.28(a). We have no intention of affecting the way that Amtgard is played (which we cannot do). We have no intention of changing the by-laws or the rules of play (which we cannot do). Our intention is to make sure that we all can play Amtgard in the Emerald Hills without having to worry that the Emerald Hills will be civilly and/or criminally liable for the actions of its members, visitors, or guests. As the Board of Directors would be the named party in any criminal proceeding or civil lawsuit against the corporation, it is how the Board, and its officers, act in these situations that will decide whether a suit is successful. Therefore, the Board has not only the authority but the duty and responsibility to take actions to limit the legal liabilities of the corporation.

Again, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the Board at bod@flail.com. You can also refer to our Standard Operating Procedures if you have any questions about the Board's current procedures. See BOD SOPs.

Respectfully submitted,
Andréa Jacobs
Madam President, EHBOD

Intent for PM

Lady Dreanya Jurista

Populace of the Emerald Hills ~

I, Lady Dreanya Jurista, hereby declare my intent to run for the Kingdom position of Prime Minister. I have spent the last nine months assisting Grand Duke Sir Morgan Ironwolf as he has successfully completed one and one half terms of Prime Minister and I have learned a lot.

Though I have never served as Prime Minister, I have been involved “behind the scenes” with various aspects of this Kingdom since I helped update the Tanglewood Forest Lease in 2004. Currently, I am the President of the Board of Directors and have worked with others in updating the Board of Directors' Standard Operating Procedures, RGK Charter, and Tanglewood Forest Land Rules and Regulations.

As Prime Minister, I will continue the projects that Sir Morgan has promoted as well as my own. I will work with local PMs to continue efforts to get the ORK completely updated. I will also make an effort and provide a schedule so that I can work with the local PMs to keep the records accurate.

I will also continue to provide Player Handbooks to dues-paid members and add to the Player Handbook to ensure that our dues-paid members have the most up-to-date and thorough information at their disposal [Updated Character Sheets are next].

I will also utilize the local PMs to disseminate the newsletters to the members that I do not see regularly.

As assistant to Sir Morgan, I have been working with him on organizing and combining the paper archives of the Kingdom. Sir Morgan's ultimate goal is to sort through the archives and have all of the paper work scanned onto a CD. This way, the Kingdom PM need only have the CD in his/her possession and the paper records can be left safely in the Kingdom storage unit. If this project is not finished before Sir Morgan steps down, it will be done during my term.

In addition, the final stages of the “Operation Gate” will be finished. We will continue to use the Gate List so that members and visitors will not have to re-sign Waivers and Event Contracts. With the new EH Gate Register, we will be utilizing the *new* EH Membership Cards so that members will only have to show their EH cards, pay, and sign-in to enter gate. My goal is to make Gate faster, more efficient, and less painful for all.

In more exciting news, the Celestial Kingdom and the Wetlands have indicated their desire and willingness to adopt the Gate List and Membership Card system as well. I am already working with members of those Kingdoms so that your EH Membership Cards will allow you the same access to the CK and WL events. I make no promises as to whether these goals will come to fruition; however, the interest is there and I will continue to provide those Kingdoms with any information they need to make these goals a reality.

If you have any questions about my platform, or anything else, please feel free to contact me here or via e-mail at dreanya@yahoo.com. I look forward to hearing from you.

*In service,
Lady Dreanya Jurista*

Announcements

Topic: Updated Emerald Hills Website

Sutra:

Check it out! www.amtgard-eh.com. I will be working on helping keep it updated. See any errors or have a suggestion, please let me know!

Topic: World Banner Wars VIII - 2007

Sutra:

I'm taking bids for Banner Wars 8 set to premiere in October 2007. Taking bids till the end of Feb. Feb 28th to be exact. Ya in?

Topic: Attn: Members who claim EH as their park.

Sir Morgan:

Dear Members ~

In an attempt to make it easier for members who claim EH as their park to let me know when and where they play, week-to-week, Dreanya has created an interactive webpage. EH Credits Form:

<http://www.amtgard-eh.com/pm/crform.htm>

After you visit a park, all you need to do is input the date, your name, and park and hit "submit" and I will be automatically notified. I will then update the ORK. You can still e-mail me your credits each week if you prefer to sirmorgen@hotmail.com or pm@amtgard-eh.com. Grand Duke Sir Morgan Ironwolf, EHPM

Topic: Reminder from the GMR

Tolken:

In order to gain credit in a class you must play that class in a battlegame, and to play that class you must have the appropriate garb.

If you do not have garb, you can only play peasant and only get warrior credit.

Topic: Mid-term elections

Tolken:

The PM/Treasure/RGK election will be held on the weekend of March 10-11.

The follow position are open and the following people have declared.

PM - Dreanya Jurista (Andréa Jacobs)

Treasurer - Elder Vermilion (John Elder)

2 RGK seats -

Topic: G-KON ALERT!!!

It's this weekend! We're on the front page under New Announcements!

Tell your friends,

Tell your kids,

Tell your bros,

that this weekend, we WILL be at G-Kon, spreading the divine word that is 'Amtgard' to the masses.

We'll be demo'ing all round the clock on Saturday and Sunday, so drop in and help out!

Points of interest!

Matt has given us the green light to drop our literature into the 500 'first-come first-serve' goodie bags and Amtgard, EH has stepped up to the plate!

Included in each bag will be:

1- Color Tri-Fold Flyer

1- Color Sticker with kingdom crest and web addy

1- First time 'newbie guest to TWF' coupon

So without even trying, we'll have reached 500 unsuspecting future members! Mwuhaha..okay, maybe not that many, but hey, it's worth a try.

Directions:

<http://tinyurl.com/22n5fy>

Hope to see you there!

Sutra

p.s. Still need confirmations for volunteers who will get a discounted ticket this weekend!

EH Galleries On-Line

Aylin and Sutra's Online Photo Gallery

Visit the public photo amtgard photo albums of
Aylin:

http://photos.yahoo.com/aylin_karyn

Visit the public photo amtgard photo albums of
Sutra:

<http://photos.yahoo.com/jrodas00>

DragonMaster XX

Prince Regent Nexus Crow

The Court Of Hearts is proud to present:
DRAGONMASTER XX

On the February days of Saturday, 24th - DM/WM at Mourningwood Glen Sunday and the 25th - DM/WM at Finders Keep

On Saturday we will be setting up a large enclosed space for the event. This "pavilion" will be large enough to hold judging, games, food and the poker tournament.

On Sunday, The people of Finders Keep have graciously rented a Cabin/banquet hall in Lucy Park to showcase an indoor event.

CULTURAL ENTRIES ELIGIBILITY

Joint entries and group entries will be accepted. Regular Registration is from 11 am to 12 pm on the day of the event, February, 2007 (Online registration will be available).

Judging will promptly begin at noon. Please have ALL entries registered by noon. Special situations will be reviewed.

- Deadline to register is 12 pm.
- Limit of 3 entries per category. Only your best two entries in any given category will count towards your "overall" score.
- Cooking Entries – Bring all necessary serving utensils.
- Written Entries – All entries, except publications, must be 5 pages or less, include 5 copies, be typed and bound.
- Bardic Entries – Bardic entries will be reserved as the last leg of judging. (Unless you must leave before then). Please be considerate with the usage of your time.

Scoring System

This event will be scored on a BTA (Better than average) 3.5 system. Ideally, the competitors will have diverse talents and score well. The object of this scoring system is to keep people from winning the cultural tournament by flooding one category or entering a lot of poor quality entries in order to increase their score. Cultural winner will be the person with the highest combined score from entries that meet the following requirements; only the entrant's two best entries in any given category will count towards their overall score. Entries that achieve a score that is lower than 3.5 will not count towards the entrant's overall score.

CATEGORIES

COOKING

Due to the delicate nature of cooking entries, this category will be judged first. Entries will be judged on taste, texture, appetizing presentation and difficulty. There will be 5 judges and entrants will need to provide enough of each entry for all of them to taste. Be prepared to have a way to maintain your own dish until it can be judged (hot/cold). Bring plates, cups and utensils if they will be needed to judge your entry.

·**Appetizer**: A dish intended to be served as an appetizer.

·**Main: Course**: A dish intended to be served as a main course.

·**Dessert**: A dish intended to be served as a dessert.

·**Vintners**: A drink that was brewed or fermented. Mixed drinks are not considered brewed or fermented.

·**Other**: A dish or drink that does not fit into any other category.

WRITING

Entries will be judged, where applicable, on form, content, grammar, spelling and usefulness to the body of Amtgard knowledge. With the exception of publications, please try to limit these entries to 5 pages or less. Publications entries only require one copy. All entries require 5 copies total, except Publications.

·**Factual**: Writing that presents factual information such as a

process, event or research of some kind. Examples would be weapon smiting instructions, a recounting of an Amtgard event or a history of the Romans. When presenting researched information, it is a good idea to site references and give credit.

·**Fictional**: Writing that is not intended to be factual such as a persona histories and stories.

·**Poetry**: Poetic verse.

·**Publications**: Published works such as newsletters, books, collections of articles, etc. These entries are judged on the editorial content only, such as presentation, suitability of the collection, format, etc. It is not necessary that the entrant have written every article. However, articles should never be published without the author's consent and credit MUST be given. Any work not done by the entrant should be noted.

BARDIC

Entries will be judged on difficulty and entertainment

DragonMaster XX

Prince Regent Nexus Crow

value.

·Singing: A vocal presentation with some expectation of rhythm and pitch.

·Oratory: A vocal presentation with no expectation of rhythm

or pitch; i.e. Storytelling, jokes and theatrical pieces.

·Instrumental: A musical presentation performed on an instrument with some expectation of rhythm and pitch.

·Dance: A presentation of bodily movement with some expectation of rhythm.

ART

Entries will be judged on artistic presentation and the difficulty of the medium.

·2-D Art: Art intended to be viewed from only one side such

as drawings, paintings, stained glass, relief carving, computer graphics, etc.

·3-D Art: Art intended to be viewed from at least 3 sides such as sculptures, painted miniatures, stuffed animals, blown glass, etc. People often enter things into this category that would do better in Passive Construction. 3-D art is judged primarily on artistic presentation; Passive Construction is judged primarily on construction. A stained glass box would go into either 3-D Art or Passive Construction depending on what the entrant wanted to focus.

·Photography: Art created by taking a picture. Digital images that are mostly photographic would also fit into this category.

Amtgard related photographs please. (Spinning a tale relating the photograph to Amtgard is encouraged)

GARB

Entries will be judged on durability, attractiveness, design and difficulty.

·Fighting: A major item of garb intended to be worn in battle such as tunics, pants, tabards, shirts, etc.

·Court: A major item of garb not intended to be worn in battle such as dresses, doublets, cloaks, etc.

·Monster: A major item of garb that would qualify as garb for a monster in the Amtgard Rulebook.

·Favor: A garb accessory intended to be worn on one's belt.

·Jewelry: A garb accessory intended to be worn as jewelry

such

as crowns, coronet's, necklaces, bracelets, rings, etc.

·Accessory: A minor item of garb such as hats, belts, shoes,

bracers, etc. that would not fit into another category.

Construction Entries are judged on construction, presentation, difficulty and application to proposed function.

·Passive: Something not intended to go onto the battlefield such as boxes, steel weapons, decorative wooden weapons, stuffed animals, etc. This is a category for constructed items that would not fit into another category.

·Active: Something intended to be used on the battlefield such as ballistae, bows, fighting wands or throwing mugs. This is a generic category for things that would not fit into armor, weapon, or shield construction yet are still intended for rough battlefield use.

·Armor: Something that would qualify as armor by the rulebook

standards in Amtgard such as padded armor, chainmail, brigantine, greaves, thigh plates, helmets (although they would not actually count as armor), etc.

·Weapon: Something that would qualify as a weapon by the rulebook standards in Amtgard such as sword, spear, arrows, rocks, throwing dagger's, madus, etc.

·Shield: Something that would qualify as a shield by rulebook standards in Amtgard.

·Banner: Something intended to be used as a banner and judged on construction and appearance.

ROSE

Anything made for the benefit of the club intended to be donated to the club. These are scored on their construction and design as well as their contribution to Amtgard.

Along with the title of Dragonmaster, we will be hosting a 'Best Of Show' category. Games of strategy and refreshments galore will be offered. Try your Hand at Our Poker Tournament. Play with Talons, win fabulous prizes!

If you have any questions, please contact me at
seamus_de_rhymer@yahoo.com

Good Luck!

-Nexus Crow, TMH, spring reign 2007

Announcements

Topic: Emerald Hills and Golden Plains Banquet Details

Emerald Hills and Golden Plains Banquet Details

Where:

Golden Corral @ Wichita Falls, Tx 76307

3812 Kemp Blvd

940-691-1818

Manager: Cathy

When:

Feb. 11th, Sunday @ 3pm.

How Much:

Adults \$ 9.49 + \$1.69 Drink

Children (includes drink) :

0-3 Free

4-8 \$3.69

9-12 \$4.69

Simply pay at the register and find all the purdy banners and stuff.

So come on down/up/over Sunday February 11th at 3pm. Be safe coming over, but don't miss out!

Sign-in for anyone who attends will be made available!

Remember to show up for a court setting as there will be Court held. Awards will be handed out. A semi-professional photographer (Sutra) will be present with backdrop and lighting to take couples/friends/family Valentine portraits for free.

Golden Corral and Cathy have been gracious enough to allow us this opportunity to show off Amtgard and it's populace to the mundane world on a small scale, so make sure to proudly and honorably represent the great game and kingdoms we call our own.

Thanks again for ya'lls input.
Sutra

ES Quals Results

My compliments to all contenders in the tourneys this afternoon! -Sirrakhis

Eagleshire Baronial Qualifications Results

The Emerald Hills proudly presents Sir Brennon Viridian as Baron of Eagleshire and Dame Nightengael as Regent of Eagleshire, On this 7th Day of January, in the year 2007 Reign 38 of His Royal Majesty, Sutra Bahuas, King of the Emerald Hills

Arts and Sciences Results

1st Dame Nightengael 3.8*

2nd Sir Brennon Viridian 3.65*

*Since no contestants had competition in any A&S event, the ranking was determined solely by average score rather than weighted by place points.

Name of Entry	Category	Score
Sir Brennon		
Grey Sword	Weapon Construction	3.0
Shield Shield	Construction	3.5
Weapons	Std. Rev. Publication	4.2
Plate Elbow Arm Harness	Armor Construction	4.0
Bleu Cheese Mashed Potatoes	Cooking-Appetizer	3.2
Armorer's Tool Kit	Passive	3.0
Dame Nightengael		
Silver Dress	Court Garb	4.8
Sable Pride Tunic	Fighting Garb	4.0
Crown Guard Belt Favor	Rose	3.0
Earrings	Jewelry	4.2
Bard's Sash	Garb-Accessory	3.0

War Tourney Results

Rant 1st Duo 2nd Wyrms 3rd

Honorable Mention:

Wyrms qualified for a 1st Order Warrior with 5 wins in a row.

Drey was commended on an exceptional shot call.

Name/Points

Rant (5,5) 10 Duo (3,1,3) 7 Wyrms (1,5) 6
 Blake(5) 5 Blaise (5) 5 Everlast (3) 3
 Tuk! (1,1,1) 3 Drey (3) 3 Wolverine (1,1) 2
 Nightengael 2 Darktigger 1 Aidan 1

Single Sword Name Place Points

Rant 1st 5 | Duo 2nd 3 | Tuk! / Wyrms 3rd 1 / 1

Single Sword Off Hand (One Shot Kills)

Blake 1st 5 | Everlast 2nd 3 | Duo / Wolverine 3rd 1 / 1

Sword and Shield

Wyrms 1st 5 | Duo 2nd 3 | Tuk! / Darktigger 3rd 1 / 1

Open

Rant 1st 5 | Drey 2nd 3 | Aidan 3rd 1

Sword and Shield Off-Hand

Blake 1st 5 | Nightengael 2nd 3 | Tuk! / Wolverine 3rd 1 / 1

RP Background for Reign 38

Sutra Bahuas

She stood on the scorched bleeding earth. A wicked grin formed on her dripping lips. Her eyes darted back and forth as she read the fear in the air. Spattered blood oozed from her pretty cheek. Bits of flesh and entrails slid of her aching hands.

She had found her way to the waypoint in the Aether. The last world withered away, lifeless. Devoid of any amusement she left it to find another.

Happy thoughts once visited her. It was never explained why or when she went missing. They found her family ripped to shreds. Mother and father, brothers and sisters.

Only the smeared writing on the walls held any clues.

'...salvation found in oblivion...'

We will be running a Gothic Alice in Wonderland theme this time around and I invited you all to join us, for this is sure to be one interesting trek into one of the most beloved fables ever conceived.

Everyone knows Alice's' side of the story. The Queen and King of Hearts were always up to no good, terrorizing all the lands inhabitants.

What has been left out is why many of the royal actions were deemed extreme.

Alice has entered our world to destroy the lands we call home, until our plane of existence is snuffed out like a candle. Driven by lunacy, she will rend the kingdom apart in an attempt to recruit her Alician Rebellion; using her craft of deceit to ensnare a legion of mindless followers.

Why is she here and what is she after? That's what we will attempt to piece together for the next 6 months, diving into both the written word and live roleplay.

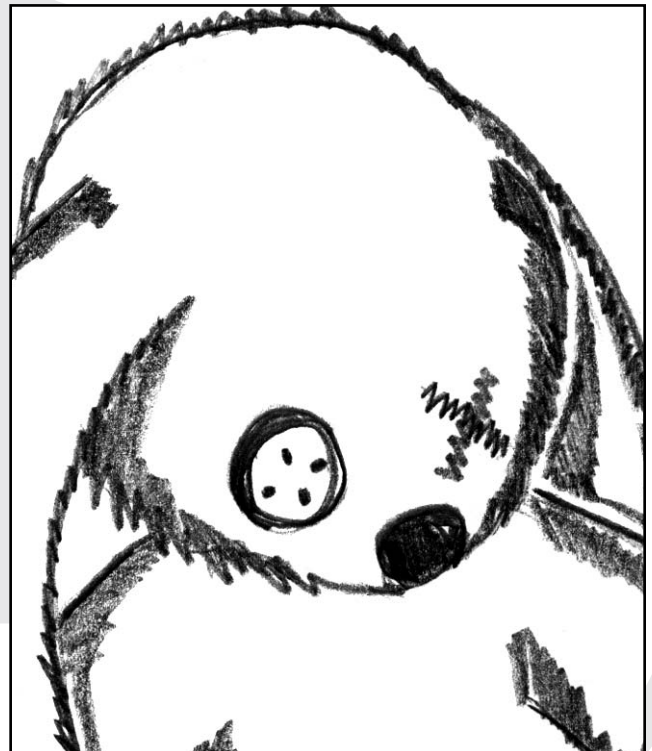
We will be holding RP themed battlegames at all four parks with a possible 5th visit to Tanglewood Park in May. Come out and support your park and kingdom!

Have a favorite character from the tales you want to portray? Want to join the kingdom in the fight to save our lands? Think that Alice has come to liberate us from our fleshly tombs?

Let Gabriel and Kenta know. I have officially opened a Quest Crafters Guild with them in charge. Want to help them design scenarios? Let em know! The Guild will be made available shortly for any and all who want to begin the revival of making quests and battlegames both intriguing and fun for RP and Stick purposes.

Get involved, write some rp, dress the part, ROLE-PLAY!

More to come,
Sutra - The King of Hearts



The Time is Here

Shalee Crowe

The sun was just cresting the horizon as a soft wind danced with the willows. not far away at the waterfalls edge a lone figure stood looking deep into the churning waters at the base. She was in deep concentration, but she was not alone. She never was not since the attack on her life, what a silly scout. No other attempts had been made on her but Gott had made it his personal mission to keep her safe. If she did what she was thinking his mission could become much more difficult, perhaps she should talk to him....

"Is there anything wrong Mysteri?" as if he had been reading her very thoughts. He had become accustomed to her moods and knew how to read her at this point.

"Gott you have come to know me almost a little to well, Come I wish to discuss something with you."

Gott motioned to someone in the woods another one of the members who had appointed themselves her guard...it was good to see how the people had banded together. The Finvarra, Lord and Lady had all said they should not have there lives above those of the members of the house apparently the members felt differently.

"OK We have been looking into some serious matters as of late, that is Sutra, Nexus and myself more and more people have been hearing about the elves coming back to the hills and some of these people have been waiting for just the right time and names to start there hunt. I intend to give them one... my own it will be up to each individual to decide if they to with to announce there blood lines but I will not hide mine any longer."

Gott looked at Mysteri for a long moment, no emotion registering upon his face, then he nodded and walked away. Mysteri was unsure how to take his actions but he was still close she did know that. Probably trying to figure out how to keep her safe after her announcement came through.

Mysteri called to her trusted bird pulling a sheet of parchment from her pocket. " I have a great task for you my friend you know who needs to read this and who to avoid please take great pains to insure the safety of this page. She read the message again making sure she was doing the right thing by sending this but feeling the support of generations of lost elves pushing her onward.

Tobias' Plight

Tobias

having been left with nothing and spending the last few months in the monastery with these "monks" or moreso a house of readers, Tobias happened upon their library one day. As ever, Tobias was bored; he'd been taught to read common by those who raised him, so he found an intriguing book on Alchemy and was instantly enthralled.

As the months passed by he read every tome on the subject he could. "With this i could be reborn and shed this wretched and frail shell," he thought to himself one evening before falling into his normal slumber.

The next Tobias decided to test out his readings and conduct some form of experiment. He gathered what beakers, cauldrons, and other such items he would need along with his shortsword, "årkendråpa," an item he had acquired from a band of goblins at war with the orcs. It had many an Orc's blood on it and the blade was permanently stained with it.

After a few successful transmutations of pigeons into cockatrices, which were quickly dispatched, he felt more comfortable with his skills and began devising a way to restore himself to his former glory. the strong. the powerful. the hearty warrior he had once been.

Tobias would rather be an Orc than an Elf.....
The days pass and the abbots and monks become weary of Tobias.... for he hasn't left his chambers in nearly 2 weeks. They have heard strange noises.... felt an unsettling air when passing his door.... he hasn't eaten (that anyone knows of) in the same timespan.

.....some would call tobias successful
some would not call him so.....

(working on monster to be submitted to GM of Monsters. unique monster... wont be horribly overpowered. but it's 6:30 in the AM. time to sleep, will work on it while at work and tomorrow. look forward to "Tobias: The Orc-bred" should be fun ^_^ i'm not gonna get many class credits after this....lol)

The Court of Hearts

Various

The day had been eventful.

Pulses of electric excitement flowed through the crowd as the populace slowly filed into the grand halls of the kingdom.

Coronation day had come.

Guards had been posted throughout the perimeter ensuring the security of the newly arrived masses.

Queen Linden of the Celestial Kingdom slid into place almost unnoticed, not wanting to attract much attention to herself. It was near impossible, dressed in the gown fit for the nobility that she is, she attracted much attention. Some less desirable than others. Her enchanting regent followed in her steps, accompanied by her stoned faced escort, a vision of military elegance.

Tzar Slyddur of the Kingdom of the Wetlands entered the halls, his presence demanding respect. His quick eye surveyed the scene. They spoke volumes of plans and calculations demanding to be exacted all at once. His control was indeed something to commend.

The crowd grew silent as Queen Reine entered the great hall, escorted by a powerful champion, her Prince regent closely behind. Much had transpired in the kingdom, no chances could be taken this time around.

The setting was lavish and relaxed. Darting eyes and quick rumors weighed the air with anxious curiosity. Names and faces flashed by as time ticked away.

Tick.

Awards and recognitions were bestowed as the people waited.

Tock.

Queen Reine scanned the room with unshakable confidence. With the help of key figures, she had managed to pull together an almost impossible peace among the warring factions within the kingdom. Time would tell how well peace would be appreciated in the hills of emerald.

Tick.

Her sanguine lips formed the question, a shudder in the air, almost undiscernable. A rattle in the fabric of reality. No, it was nothing, surely. Her eyes searched the room for the dark one, the one who would accept the crown. Tock.

'Sutra..' no sight of him, a trail of concern laced the name, '...you do want to be king...don't you?'

Laughter erupted among the anxious gathering.

Not many sense reality with the absence of time. A flicker in her peripheral caught her attention as a figure materialized, alone and to her left. It was Sutra, just as she remembered him.

He had been missing from public eye for almost two months now. Much had been exchanged tween the two. She knew he was the one who had betrayed the shadows in order to right a wrong. He was the one who fought in the name of the kingdom against the dark curse of the banished god. He was the one who brought terms for the northernmost keep.

A hushed wave of silence emanated from the restless masses. He approached alone. Still, the guards knew, where there was a Sutra, there was the dark.

The future king approached the royal court, his black long coat trailing behind him quietly. Glinting bits of metal seemed to bleed through the material. It coalesced around his figure as if alive.

Almost as if on cue, three sets of glowing red eyes materialized, seemingly lost floating orbs of fire. Then the powerful emission of dark power surged in the air as their owners became corporal. Three death knights formed behind him, a fourth person strode in their wake.

Nexus, the incoming regent, confidently made his way to towards the Queen as well. It was the black cloud that caught the populace even further off guard. Figures formed one by one, quickly engulfing all three high tables.

The Court of Hearts

Various

The Guild had come.

Queen Reine's guard stood fast, a relaxed wave of her hand setting them at distrustful ease. She knew Sutra's word on a peaceful transition could be trusted. A master assassin whose word could be trusted, how amusing, she must have pondered.

'Guard her...' the queens eyes defiantly teared with heartfelt passion '...for she means so much to me.' His eyes meet hers in earnest desire to understand her emotions.

'Respect those who came before you and those who will come after you...', she offered a trembling smile. His mind leapt as he caught a glimpse of what was to come. He eagerly nodded.

With the grace only a queen could possess, she placed the crown of the Emerald Hills on it's new servant, Sutra Bahuas.

She smiled one last time, signaling to her court to take their place among the people of the kingdom.

'Thank you m'lady Reine, but let it be known on this day. That the pain you have suffered will not go unrewarded. For having represented the kingdom proudly and honorably, you will know bear the mark of Duchess.' Nexus happily nodded to her.

Tears welled up in her eyes, Sutra knew words were not enough to console or thank her.

'Stand proud Duchess Reine Von Doom, for you have made us proud.'

The thunderous cheers from the populace shook the castle walls. Quickly, the herald attempted to conclude the royal event with the last phrase that would begin a new age in the Emerald Hills.

'Thus ends the court of Grand Inquisitor Sutra and Regent Nexus'

Festivities were quickly under way, waves of well wishers meet with the new regent, Sutra resigning himself to

the comforting company of the misty apparition of a lithe female.

'Congrats my love on this brave venture...' Her voice dripped of honey, he could almost taste it. A sigh escaped his parted lips.

He looked among the celebration underway. He could feel it, the rip in the fabric of existence.

She was coming.

And there was nothing he could do about it.

S
[con't]

Kenta RedHawk:

Kenta listened to the bardic, a bittersweet smile on his face. His Knight Sir Gavin had returned from his hermitage, but his good friends Sir Sean Carlton and Kayla were leaving for the wetlands. He sat sipping the well watered grog that Cygnus had given him, when suddenly his eyes glazed over and the cup fell from his nerveless fingers

"And the night shall be day when the Starborn falls. The Dark One will rise and take her to his breast. Innocence and hope shall die with their combined first breath. Now comes Alease Akivasha, Alease Cari Streaga, Alease isa Morte Sith, Alease de Char."

the sights behind his eyes and the words he spoke were too much for his already fragile health. Blood began to leak from the corners of his eyes and mouth. Kenta RedHawk, in speaking prophecy, would see no more. And in the back of his mind insane giggles sounded as if a banshee had found laughter.



Looking for Alice

Sir Delphos Darkheart

So ended the opening court of the "Grand Inquisitor of the Emerald Hills"...

The words had note of finality, of certainty, of clarity, which carried over the attending Royals, Nobles and Gentiles of the Kingdom and out into the Realm, dissipating within the Spirit of the Great Wood Herself.

A note struck in the very key, which just happened to opened a rift between the Worlds.

Though much later some would argue that it was no simple coincidence and that the key had been searched for, over the course of many years.

But the sign had already been seen...

The White Rabbit had been spied by more than one "Sane" Noble...

and most everyone knows that this apparition is, more often than not, followed by strange tales of Mythical Creatures, Living Chess Pieces and a House of Cards...not to mention a Young Lady by the name of Alice.

So, it was certain that trouble and discord would soon be on the rise.

For the Grand Inquisitor was also known as the "King of Hearts"...

and anyone whose even heard of Alice, knows that she has no love for the Royal House of Hearts...

As the tale unfolded in the mind of the Death Knight, a smile...

or rather the fiendish grin of the inner Cat, found its way into the deepest darkness of his blackened soul.

The Smile, without form or body, floated within the center of the abyss, yet the energy emanating from around it was different somehow.

Full of Mischief, Malice and Mayhem it was, with a laughter not unknown to the Death Knight. A kind of laughter that was contagious and malignant, a perfect enigma of dark and light

Delphos thought about that feline smile quite often and certainly missed the joy it felt when sharing its mental amusements with others and watching their brains work out the riddlings which the Cat loved to ponder upon in the sub-chambers while sitting with the Caterpillar.

...and Alice thinks she "made them all up"...

Never mind that the Cat and the Caterpillar had known each other long before Alice ever walked through the mirror or fell down that hole or went through that door!

The World existed before Alice... Right...???

We have our share of Griffins and Unicorns...

There's just more Werewolves, Trolls and Giants, with the stray Elf or Three.

"So, Alice was coming... Here?"

The Caterpillar asked again in utter shock...

For he could not believe his own ears...he had none to speak of.

"That's right" the Cat replied.

"Here!"

"Why would she want to come here?" the Caterpillar exclaimed...

"She hated it the last time, why come back?"

"She's after the King of Hearts..."

I hear she wants to Kill Him just like she did the Queen... and something about not believing in any of us..."

The Cat tried to explain the situation...

though he really didn't understand it himself.

What made her think that we were merely her own psychotic delusions?

What if she was right?

Then if she were to Die... what would happen to this world?

He needed to find this Alice and see what made her tick...

So the Cat sent word out to all Felines in the Realm to be on the prowl for this "Alice" character and find out everything about her.

Thus far, Alice has not been seen...

to be continued...

Reflections in the Looking Glass

Kenta Redhawk

"Merry Yule Father," Cody said solemnly.

"It is good to hear your voices boys"

"We came as soon as we heard," Kenta's blind eyes turned to the sound of Jordan's voice. "And no, my little artificer, I can see nothing and healing spells seem to have no effect."

"How did you know what I was thinking."

"I know you all too well son, besides you mutter when your thinking too hard, but still it is nice to have you all home."

"Changeling sent a note, shall I read it for you?"

"It would be difficult myself, would it not?"

Dear Kenta,

I will dispense with the pleasantries as wind has brought word of your condition. Be fair warned that prophets tend to see too clearly but. pay not enough attention to what is right in front of them. As it is the boys were sent home to aid you. Cody wishes to learn the sword which the elves have not enough talent for (to say nothing of teaching humans), Jordan has master his studies with the gnomes and is well versed in both magic and science, and Trey has yet to find his way. You will need all of their help in the dark days to come. I fear this is the end of the age of man. I pray that it is not so, but if it is they, being the race of man must play their parts as well.

Sincerely,
Changeling

"Hasn't found his way!" Trey exploded, "Those pointy-eared freaks told me that all I was good for was a barbarian chopping wood."

"Calm down son, some of the best people I know are barbarians. Besides all things must start out small. Now boys to tell you the truth about my condition. I

have been given a vision of the future. Our jobs are to show the people the truth of the lies that the Court of Hearts has perpetrated for decades. We must also protect the messiah, Alice, may she live in the light forever. She will lead the kingdom into the light of truth."

Kenta's sightless eyes stared off into the trees. He could no longer see the birds, but the sound of their chirping was soothing none the less. He could feel a presence nearby. The opposite of all he believed in, and an unholy maniacal glee.

"The truth is like fire boy. It either creates or destroys, but it never leaves anything untouched. But you found that out the hard way didn't ya boy? Look to the cards if you would find the truth of this world. That is if you can open your eyes to see it" a strange voice purred into his ears.

"GO ON! SCAT!" Cody bellowed at the black cat sitting on the porch below his father's feet. "I know how much you hate those things Dad. It is gone now, I'll make sure it doesn't bother you again"

"What were you doing Cody?" Kenta asked, his eyebrows arching.

"Playing solitaire to pass the time"

"Show me"

Cody the ever dutiful son led his father to the kitchen table where the card game was laid out

"The King of Hearts" Cody started to describe the layout of the cards.

"is played upon the Queen of Clubs, but in know the faces of the cards. The King is Sutra, the Queen is Reine." Kenta mumbled wonderingly.

"Dad you can see again!!"

Reflections in the Looking Glass

Kenta Redhawk

"No, only the cards my boy. Doesn't it seem strange that the cards all have the faces of real people?"

"Dad, they're just cards. I don't see any faces"

"Look" Kenta began to lay our more cards

"King of Hearts = Sutra"

"Queen of Clubs = Reine"

"Jack of Clubs = Forest"

"hmmm, what's this the Joker left in the deck, with Nexus's face"

"and the Queen of Spades...blurred as if unknown"

"see the way they line up. The clubs are aligned with the Hearts.

The Spades and Diamonds in opposition. I wonder what it means...maybe that the warlike clubs will help the corrupt court of hearts in the name of duty, whereas the Spades will oppose the Court and use those who crave money and power"

"Dad, you're starting to creep me out. Can you explain what you are talking about?"

"Well son, there are those that believe that this life is just a game. So if this is true, then these playing cards should be just as good as a Tarot deck. And the secrets to life is to figure out which game is being played"

Late...Very Late

Sir Forest Evergreen

Forest sat near the water's edge, relaxing in the warmth of an Emerald Hills winter day. It was too nice a day to be inside, and besides, the Kingdom was at peace with itself, and the brewing war between the CK and the WL was not yet to the point that the EH needed to decide what, if any, there involvement would be.

The game of solitaire he had been playing was at a stalemate, and some of the cards blew across the grass in the breeze. Forest was about to go get them, when they conveniently began marching back into place, single file. So Forest sat back down and stared at the clouds passing by, and the clouds smiled back at him.

Suddenly there was a great commotion, the playing cards yelled as they were scattered all about, and Forest's walking stick was knocked into the water where it quickly sank (it wasn't a swimming stick after all). Forest looked for the cause of the uproar, and an odd looking white rabbit, wearing a court tunic and carrying a pocket watch ran past, mumbling to himself.

Forest jumped up. Something was wrong! No one was needed in there court garb today, and he had no idea what a "pocket watch" was. he was going to get to the bottom of this...

The Arrival of Alice

Kodi

Everyone was living their lives, smiting, training, and waiting, When all of a sudden, the sky turned blood red. The people of Wonderland were wondering what was doing this. A noise as terrible as the Queen's scream had lifted into the air, and there was a crash near the farms of Wonderland. Kenta, had foresaw the arrival of Alice, the hero of all the land. She had defeated the queen once. But Wonderland had changed, everything was evil. Kenta's son, Kodi, heard about the legends of Alice, and thought they were true. When the smoke cleared, a woman, the size of the Queen of hearts, had appeared, so brings the arrival of Alice...

The Mad Hatter

Nexus Crow

The notes once again rose and fell in a myriad of cacophonous music, filling the air with the sourness of discord. A large pipe organ to the side of the room played magically, unaccompanied by the hands of any being.

The chamber was lavishly decorated, yet dark. None but a few candles lit the large room, casting a gloom on the eccentric feast table that made its way down the length of the hall. At each chair, a dark figure sat, a quiet commotion weaving in and out through the guests. At the head of the table, Nexus crow sat comfortably, looking down at a half-eaten lobster that was still trying to advance across the plate at a piece of whitefish. A large top hat crowned his head, a monocle resting on his wild eye.

"Friends", said Nexus "It is most pleasurable to have you here and alloo you are nice!" He motioned his arms outwards.

A voice droned from the end of the table. "Has anyone seen the Sugar?" the answer was called as another guest threw the sugar bowl, sending it flying over to the edge of the table. Nexus smiled and laughed, not a heartfelt laugh, but one that echoed with insanity. "As you all know, unless you don't in which case you do not, The kingdom had changed a bit in perspective. This....Alice character is rather going to be a diffi.....SWITCH!!!!!!!!!" Nexus Yelled the last bit, the part that was quickly answered to as every guest hastily got out of their chair and took another seat.

Nexus Sat and then curtly continued "...cult person to deal with if we aren't able keep the altars from opening up the portal to Wonderland." several heads nodded in agreement.

"As such, It is now time to start sivissitating our agenda, as my seer's glass has been rather cloudy for the past few weeks after our delightful coronation, I have so much to do.

The sound of a snapping string stung the air faintly and a figure near the middle of the table fell limply in their chair. Nexus paid no attention but kept on rambling.

"We must capture this Alice, and anyone who dares help her....off with the head of any person who aids her!!!!....SWITCH!!!!!" yet again every person switched seats on command.

"Twinkle ,Twinkle little cat. how i wonder what you're at?" Nexus stared blankly off into space in ponderance. The Cheshire Cat would surely take care of her.

Nexus reached down and grabbed a rather large teacup and sipped slowly. The entire left half of the table guests raised their arms in strange mannerisms, lowering them gently as Nexus raised his hand from the glass.

"Now if you don't mind, my guests so dear, i say we've had our fun.

Shall all of you be trotting home again" He said, But answer came there none.

Nexus laughed again, growing into an insane howl as he fell from his chair onto the ground, his hands clutching his sides in glee.

The figures at the table flailed wildly, knocking over drinks and dipping their hands into fine puddings and tarts. Nexus stopped abruptly , his smile gone, and returned to his feet.

"Time to stop playing" He said, as he slowly removed the strings from his fingers, a figure dropping with each string he let loose. Soon, all of the dummies lay silent at the banquet table. Nexus walked over near the pipe organ and made its music cease then neared a small table that held a chess set, obviously being played recently, as many pieces had been taken on both sides.

Nexus grabbed his bishop and moved it diagonally. "Checkmate" he proclaimed happily, then suddenly frowned. "Funny, I've never lost before!"

Tea for Two

Various

Sutra:

Sutra leaned back into the freshly built chair. It was nothing impressive. A simple wooden frame with not padding. His experiences with soft cushy chairs and long winded daydreams were all too familiar.

Shifting in his chair, he rested his eyes for a moment. Wringing his exhausted hands, he placed the quill down. The past few days were spent writing more missives and instructions that in the past year. It was reasonable he could presume, that his new ordinance demanded his full attention.

With aching neck and closed eyes that sorely stung, he heavily inhaled and noticed a new scent in the sun illuminated room. Odd, the guards would have made some sort of clatter. The herald should have announced a guest.

Slowly pulling his head back into comfortable position, he curiously cracked his lids open ever so slightly.

A rabbit.

'A march hare to be exact...' it calmly rattled. It's large fuzzy head shifted to the left waiting for the monarch's reply.

Sutra closed his eyes and chuckled. Too many letters, not enough sleep.

Nervously, he peeled his left eye open to confirm the progression of madness. He had seen a large rabbit like being sitting across from him a few ticks ago with both eyes. He began to reason, 'If I only open one eye, and he's not there...then that would safely lead me to believe that I am only half a cretin.'

No, the rabbit dressed in only a bright red military coat with shiny lapel buttons and medals sat comfortably, seeming becoming irate at the hosts inconsiderate charades.

'Well, then that makes you a certified loon, not that you're only willing to half heartedly believe there is a March Hare seeking an audience with you, but that you haven't offered your guest a cup.'

"A cupa?"

"A cup of tea."

"Oh, well...you must understand, that I am not accustomed to meeting with many people...err sorry...with many..." Sutra struggled for the word..."with many subjects of the kingdom of late..."

The march hare raised an unamused brow and tried politely to stifle a yawn.

"I do beg your pardon, it's only that since taking the wreath...the festivities in the lands have all but stalled much of the mechanizations typical of an active kingdom. But I am glad that many have taken leave to spend time with their friends and families. It's important for the livelihood of the people."

"Two sugars please."

"Two sugars?"

"And a pinch of cream thank you very much."

"What?"

"Well I can't very well take my tea plain now can I your majesty?"

"Oh! Right! Very good!"

As Sutra leaned over to prepare the specified tea, the March Hare eagerly opened.

"Now, with things here in your lands a little quieter than late, we will have much time to talk and go over the petition."

The plop of the second cube of sugar in the steaming cup of tea interrupted the hare's momentum.

"Petition?"

"Yes, the Rasaphrax Memorandum"

"The Rasaphast Memoriawhat?"

"The petition to shut down the unauthorized structures in our lands."

"Come again?"

"Come now your highness, don't be coy with me. You would have had to give the approval for these those eyesores!"

The march hare leaned forward and produced a long scroll from his small coat. Sutra mildly marveled at the nifty magic trick.

Unraveling the corn husk tie, the scroll was rolled out to its full splendor. Gold ink. Impressive. The designs looked vaguely familiar.

"There are four of these throughout the lands. To be honest, I don't fancy them one bit. They corrupt the natural. Not good for business as you would understand."

Sutra leaned in and squinted at the detailed illustrations of the 4 shapes. His mind reeled and jaw dropped.

"I thought they were destroyed..."

"Well then your information is lacking, not to mention anything else that you considered to have control over..."

He recognized the shapes. The four altars that were proudly rumored to have been eradicated under the guidance of the last

Tea for Two

Various

monarch.

"That's not all..." The march hare pushed the scroll back and revealed a second parchment underneath. A wanted posted. "I haven't exactly seen her, but what I do know is that she brings with her discord. She is above all else deceitful. Who would have thought, such a seemingly sweet girl could harbor so much anger."

Sutra traced the words and pondered a moment.

"...Alice..."

"We have much to discuss my new friend, indeed we do."

S
[con't]

Septumus:

The shadows moved of their own volition around the new King's quarters it seemed. Anyone who saw the crowning would have realized that darkness wasn't all that resided in the shadows around here. Septumus peered down a hallway with poor lighting causing a sanguine hue to cover the area. It was already strange enough to be here without the intention of walking away with a paycheck ... but something else? Talking coming from the end of the hallway, from the King's quarters. There were no visitors announced nor expected.

Not good.

Septumus bolted down the hallway forsaking stealth for urgency. The voices were faint through the thick door making it hard to make anything out. He reached down and slowly tried to open the door, it was locked. He certainly couldn't break the door down and picking it open would take longer than he felt he had. Line of sight.... Looking through he key-hole revealed nothing informative except for an open span of floor, but that was what he wanted.

Arriving on the other side of the door had Septumus on the defensive immediately, weapons drawn and looking around for any amount of threat. All he saw was the King sitting in the back with a bit of a bewildered look on his face. It must have been from his randomly entering the room with weapons drawn.

"Pardon my intrusion" was all Septumus could manage to say to the King as he turned to leave. The half empty cup of tea sitting well out of reach of the King was paid no heed as he left.

Mounringwoods

Sutra Bahuas

Sutra lay as comfortably as possible in the thorn bush. Even wincing caused a cascade of glorious pain. Waves of pulsating sensations racked his body.

Maybe it was the broken ribs on his left side, the landing portion that absorbed the unscripted tumble down the decent gap in the earth.

He breathed in quiet gasps. Maybe if he didn't breath too much, the pain could be tricked into a lulled stupor. With every inhaled grunt, he was reminded of his miscalculation.

The caravan had been ambushed. Not by men seeking to pillage a majestic looking caravan, but by a band of lithe goblins. Hundreds of them. He had seen goblin raids and tribal wars between the different shades of them as well, but nothing like this. This legion was different, they bore a mark. All the same, etched into their leathery skin, over their sternum. Many of them scabbed over or infected, others freshly carved.

An eye and a tear, he thought, from what he could make out on the blurs of assailing marauders. He made a decent stand, teleported only once. His bow had been broken about 10 minutes into the fight. A short sword could only get him so far.

He held his breath and listened. An occasional squeal of a dying goblin, a low moan from a fading man. The carnage was undoubtedly sinister. He hadn't seen this much blood shed since the battle on the fields of Midnight Sun.

Slowly, he realized he could feel every push of blood coursing through his veins. With each heartbeat, he could feel his left side pulsate and stop, followed by another heartbeat, his right side mirroring in action. He had never really noticed that. Not even in meditation.

He stared up into the gray skies above. No guiding stars this time, only the cloudy remnants of his short breaths.

Snow, this time of year? Small flakes of ice began to sprinkle the land. Like pin pricks on his skin, he wondered about what could have been.

Sleep. Tired...so tired.

Sleep.

Mounringwoods

Sutra Bahuas

[no you don't]

Sutra's consciousness halted at the music box voice.

[try again]

"What?" grunted the unamused fallen monarch.

[again]

"Your majesty..."

His spirit slammed into a physical barrier. He had felt weightless only seconds ago, and now, corporal restraints contained him. The thunderous drumming of his fresh headache was deafening.

Squinting, Sutra slowly peered ahead.

The sound of neighing horses and barked commands slowly reached his mind. A young man stood before him as he seemed to wait patiently.

"The caravan, it's ready."

Looking around, Sutra attempted to absorb as much scenery as possible. The ground was clear of snow, muddy trenches dug into the ground where carriage wheels ventured.

"Has the snow melted?" the baffled dark one asked as he checked himself. Brushing his long coat off, not out of vanity, but ensuring he was indeed not dreaming.

"Snow your majesty?" replied a bemused passerby.

"The weather scholars do call for snow, but not until tomorrow."

"Ah, yes...of course."

"The caravan is ready for inspection"

Sutra stood against the chilled breeze. He pressed a trembling hand against his left side. No pain. Odd.

"Form three smaller traveling parties, none taking the main roads. I..." images of burning wreckages, once a royal cara-

van flashed in his mind, "I want them to get to know the lay of the land."

"Yes sir."

"And send messages to each province. To the the baronies and duchy, to make their way down to the Shire of Mourningwood with great care and diligence."

"And what of the reports of the goblin resurgence?" Asked the approaching veteran war captain.

"As you would prepare any official visit to a province friend, with great care and caution."

With instructions given, the men were off in their directions, fulfilling the grand inquisitors requests.

Sutra stood in the main square once more. He paced towards the same stone bench he had rested upon that very summer as he watched the locals enjoy the warm weather.

The overcast grey sky stood frozen. An occasional crows squawk echoed in the square.

Reaching into his pocket, he produced the last missive to come from the shire known as Mourningwood.

"Dark times...evil gods....altars....last stand."

He knew what was left undone had to be completely crushed before his reign could successfully proceed.

Messages had been sent across the lands, to each company and household requesting their assistance in strengthening their homelands.

Talks of the undead walking to the southeast, and of the closing of the borders to the kingdom in the southwest had become the sign of the times.

Dark times indeed.

S
[con't]

Foul Weather

Various

Kenta RedHawk:

Kenta lifted his face to the wind. The smell of snow and ice on the wind

“Good, this will slow them down, and give us more time to find the last altar”

Kenta had paid scant attention to the troubles of the previous reign. But his visions had shown him that they were related to the upcoming prophecy.

“Besides, finding and using it will make the Puppet King Sutra decidedly uncomfortable. I know that it is not a place of worship for the White, but the enemy of my enemy is my friend. It will at least give me some clues about how to bring down the Crimson King”

Sutra:

Kneeling at the altar, he waited nervously. His mind paced back and forth, arguing about how to properly address his ignored Deus.

The pungent aroma of unnamed incense weighed heavy on the chilled air.

Glowing candles flickered in the occasional breeze that would mercifully break up the thick air once in a while. Grotesque shadows played on the already unattractive faces of crude idols.

Hidden among the gaps, others knelled or stood. Chanting in their native tongues to gods they had never seen or felt. He was not alone.

He knelled in front of a simple symbol.

It was not the oldest in this room of worship. It was not the newest cult inspired by those eager to throw the kingdom into chaos either.

Sutra wrung his hands again. It wasn't piety that drove him here. It was the reoccurring dreams he had been experiencing lately.

They all ended the same. A part of him pleaded for redemption. It always ended the same.

“Deus, if you're listening, I know I haven't...” his throat dried up, his mind wrestled emotions searching for the right words. He had learned the rituals when he was young, but he felt they had failed him.

“I know I haven't sought you out as I should have, but I...I need your guidance.”

He remained motionless, the feeling of guilt effortlessly convoluted with a twinge of embarrassment.

If only mother could see this now, he mused to himself. He knew she could. She saw everything. She was with him...now. Always.

“I will make my trip to the west, to the Mourningwoods. It seems...the gods have set their faces against me. I have never paid heed to them. Never have I paid tribute to them. Perhaps it is out of anger or amusement that they wish to see this season pass in wintry desolation.”

The shadow waited patiently, hoping for a sign or inner voice. The coughing of an old maid echoed through the sanctuary.

“If it is your will, I will travel there and meet your enemy. I will bring your voice to the wilderness. They will live as free men, unburdened by lies or misconceptions....as one day I will do as well.”

A crying infant disturbed some of the old world patrons, some sending angry glares at the young couple who had sat at their preferred altar for more than an hour. They had almost completed the presentation and blessing of their new born, before the child had awoke hungry.

Sutra slowly stood as he steadied himself on the stone wall. Tugging at his cowl preparing to leave, the silent monarch overheard the slanderous murmurs of an usher.

Shaking his head, Sutra interrupted the angry mans scolding of the young mother, eager to soothe her child.

“They will leave when they are finished with their prayers. Do you understand?”

“And who do you think you...” the scowling face turned to rebuke the voice, when he realized the owner.

The gilded brim of the crown subtly peaked from underneath the sackcloth hood. The tale-tell Phoenix seemed to have an eerie glow to it.

Foul Weather

Various

"Your...your majesty...had I known....I w..."

"I know..."

Nodding approvingly, Sutra paid his respects to the new mother, as he caught a glimpse of the child.

The thought of what kind of kingdom the child would grow up in, was one of many countless concerns that had taken root in the dark ones spirit.

One of many questions he would try to answer.

The sun lurked behind the thick gray veil of clouds.

Horses shuffled along with riders on their backs. The weather was not the most inviting. So far, the path was more approachable than expected.

He wondered if the missive he had sent out almost a month ago had reached their destinations.

Had Sir Trinity, Sir Logan, Sir Forest, Sir Fytakin, Sir Martello, and all the other captains or voices of households received his call to allied arms.

It had been a month since he had last seen the prince regent, Nexus. He hadn't heard or seen from the duly appointed kingdom champion either. Lady Blaise had indeed been the recipient of many recent blessings. He was glad for her, and was eager to meet with her again. He had much to discuss with both the prince and champion.

Only time and weather permitting would tell whether he and his requests made it to his/their planned destination.

S
[con't]

Crown Visit to MWG

1.20.06

We had a pretty dang impressive turn out this Saturday 20th!

About 30 folks showed up and we had our first RP themed battlegame!

Althing was held and votes/discussion was taken/made.

I managed to drop off important materials to all park reps.

Items included:

10 sets of children's activity books
100 Color/B+W Amtgard EH flyers
100 Color business cards with Amtgard info
30 Color stickers with kingdom website/device

Each park received a 'Get out and get em' recruiting packet.

Thanks to Finders Keep for managing to send a delegation to MWG.

The battlegame was hard fought and extremely amusing/entertaining.

Photos are available on-line at:

<http://photos.yahoo.com/jrodas00/album/576460762386277763>

or

<http://photos.yahoo.com/jrodas00> (look for Amt1.20.06MWG)

Roleplay will be posted soon. Keep up to date and get involved!

Ask your local PM or Regent about helping getting a flyer and sticker!

Congrats to Asmodious for receiving an order of the Emerald. You and your family are a gods sent to the park, keep the populace on their toes and keep up the great work! To the park officers, well done on not giving up on the park. And a big hearty well done to Kenta for receiving a Crimson for doing a great job staying on top of preparing for the kingdom visit.

Good things are on the horizon for MWG!

Thanks again MWG for hosting our visit and a special thanks to Ogre and Aidan for granting the Royal caravan a much needed warming stop at your hospice!

Remember to get your vote in for the Althing item to your local PM and be heard!

Also, I believe the workshop that was 'rescheduled' for today is on hold until further Regent notice. Thanks again for your patience and good amtgarding today!

Regards all and see you soon!
Grand Inquisitor Sutra Bahuas
Monarch of the Emerald Hills

Kingdom Gallery

Various

