



Themes of
Aguest

The Star of the Celestial Kingdom

April 1998

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Calendar of Events

July 23-26	Clan XVI, Cloudcroft, New Mexico
Sept 4-7	Harvest War
Sept 26	Olympiad

Web Pages

Celestial Kingdom Web Page	http://member.aol.com/taznip/ck.html
Amtgard Atlas	http://amtgard.pinkpig.com/atlas/

Monarch's Letter

Well Met Unto My Populace,

As we come to the close of my wonderful reign, I reflect upon the last six months. I would first like to thank everyone for giving me the opportunity to hold this office and a special thanks to the Autocrats for bringing us such fine events, and who could possibly forget the feasts ...WONDERFUL!!! Spring War was a blast. Although it rained, I heard nothing but good things about it. Thanks Arion.

With the start of the Bell War, I tried to rekindle some of the role-playing that I thought had dwindled. I think this has gone well, and hope it will continue on. It's grown in leaps and bounds on the field, and on the net.

During this time, we've had some problems, but overall I think the whole Kingdom has come together to prove that, EVERYONE, no matter what their differences, can get along to further the cause of Amtgard.

I hope I have met all of your expectations as Monarch of the Celestial Kingdom, Lord knows I've tried. In closing, I'd like to say that I've had a good time, and am proud to be listed with those great rulers past of the greatest kingdom in Amtgard... The Celestial Kingdom.

One Final Time,

Squire Mandigore Bloodblade Darkjester Rex
Ruler of the Celestial Kingdom

Spring Quals 1998 Culturals Results

SHIELDS:

Belgarian	3.75
Sir Arion	3.54
Clalibus	2.48
Ernaken	1.27

PASSIVE CONST.:

Medryn	Candle holder	3.65
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COOKING:

M. Wynd	Apple Pastries	4.9
Clalibus	Pickled people	1.7125

BARDIC:

Kaderian	A New Day (poem)	3.5125
	Responsibility	3.475

2-D ART:

Lowol	flyers	3.15
	Map	3.16
Diego Velquez	Self-portrait	4.125
	Rulebook,	
	6.1 cover	4.23
	Squire Phocian	3.926
	Tarenton	3.6
Dreil	City Map	4.15

GARB: (we did not sepearate these items into the different categories when we were judging them)

Black Gryphin	Tabard	2.5
Silver Cobra	tunic	3.58
	Cloak	3.2
	tabard	3.38
	tunic & pants	3.58
Kaderian	tabard	3.25
Labook	tabard	3.0
Diego Velaquz	brown tunic	3.1
	blue tunic	3.08
Mistress Wynd	casa shirt	4.35
	harem pants	4.25
	tabard	4.5
clalibus	shirt	3.76

ARMOR:

D'mon	Armor	2.0
Xenith	armor	3.05
Jasmine	armor	3.05
Lowol	bracers	2.625
	armor	3.56
F. Thomas	kid's armor	4.25
	bracers	4.2
	buckler	3.92
Ernaken	bracers	3.1

WEAPONS:

Belgarain	sword	3.8
Greylin	sword	1.92
M. Wynd	dagger/polearm	2.7
	sword set	1.79
Kaderian	sword	2.8
Sir Arian	sword	3.22
	dagger	3.12
Clalibus	sword	1.48
lance	sword	2.8
F. Thomas	polearm	3.8
	daggers	3.9
Ernaken	sword	.66
Labook	Kid's sword	2.7
Diego Velaquz	dagger	2.1

3-D ART:

Xenith	Mask	3.03
F. Thomas	Great Sword	3.91
	Crown	4.24
	Bunny Ears	3.59
Lowol	Plaque	3.01

WRITING:

Kaderian	A New Day(poetry)	3.35
Sir Arion	Non-fiction	3.25
	Poetry	3.7875
	Sht.Story Fiction	3.6
Lowol	Book of Doom	3.4
Clalibus		2.575
Mars	Web page	.53

HERALDRY (Rose):

Kaderian	Star	3.5
Oriana	Dragon Banner	3.9
Clalibus	Banner	3.9
F. Thomas	C.K. Medallions	3.66
Lowol		3.1

ACCESSORIES:

Yonahah	Belt Pouch	3.11
	Belt	3.0
Greylin	Belt Favor	2.5
M. Wynd	Crown	4.1
	Belt bag	4.09
	belt favor	4.01
	Necklace	3.6
	Belt	4.28
Kaderian	Spell balls	2.83
Xenith	Jewelry	3.74
Jasmine	Necklace	3.07
Hagar	Pouch	3.56
	Hairclasp	3.63
	Lighter case	2.775
Lowol	Map carrier	3.175
	pipe	3.35
F. Thomas	crown	3.525
	pages belt	3.04
Diego Velaquz	brooch	3.41

Regent's Letter

To the populace of the Celestial Kingdom

Hello

Thank you all for your support in making this a great reign for me as your Regent. I did have fun because of all of you made it happen.

But now my reign is over so please give your support to Lady Mistress Wynd as you supported me."

Thank you again

Your soon to be Ex Regent

Black Rose

The Princess of Darkness

AKA Sir Ke-She

FROM THE NET

A Proverb

A stone in the middle of a stream called out to a twig floating by "How lazy and weak you are, Twig! Even this mere stream may pick you up and carry you wherever it wills. You should be more like me! I stand firm against the water and it parts around me.!"

"Quite true, brother stone!" replied the Twig, "However, I am not fixed in one place as you are. Nor, when this stream floods up to become a river, will the water overwhelm and drown me. Rather, I will always rise above it!"

After listening to this exchange, I realized why I like the stream so; for there is no obstacle which it cannot, silently, bear.

— Doc, 8/23/97

PRIME MINISTER'S LETTER

Greetings all

Wow! What a busy three months it has been!!! Zodiac and I took a trip to Oregon and had an absolute blast at the Mystic Seas mid-reign. With the CK groups in the Northwest area voting to join Mystic Seas, it looks like they will be able to get the guidance and leadership they deserve. Qualls went smoothly and elections resulted in a landslide victory by Father Thomas and Mistress Wynd (rather easy when you're the only candidates huh? ;) Seneschals and Chancellors have been scrambling like mad to get awards lists together, and I have spent the past two weeks like a zombie at my computer entering them into the handy dandy Kingdom database.

As I have promised, character sheets will be available at Coronation. I will try to have them with me at all times, so anyone may come get one at any time. Please, look at these carefully. I am hoping that people will hold on to these, so that if – in the future – there are questions about awards, you will have proof of awards as of this date. These are the awards that your chancellors have given me, so if you think they are not correct, you will need to provide me with paperwork to prove otherwise. You may notice that there are no records of weeks on these sheets. I have updated weeks in the kingdom database, but trying to keep them completely up-to-date is nearly impossible on a kingdom level. Check with your local records keeper to make sure that these are correct.

This Tyrant has brought much roleplaying to our kingdom these six months, and the new Dark Lord and Lady promise no end to it. So raise a glass to the new Monarch and share a drink (or two or three) with the old.

hugs

Shanti

Editor's Letter

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this issue. The next issue is planned for shortly after Coronation and should include the usual letters from officers plus Guildmaster listings, Coronation financial report and other Coronation happenings. One province has sent me a list of dues paid - I would like to have this information from all parks, and intend to publish what I get. This is valuable, as at least two members I know of have proven their long-term dues paid status by means of a list published in the Star when no other evidence was available. Something else I would like to publish - articles from those of the populace who have established expertise in any aspect of the game. - "How to" stuff. These would be of great benefit to all of us, from the greenest newbies with NO CLUE, to the "Old Guard" veterans with many years under their belts.

I am restating the editorial guidelines here, as there seems to be some confusion regarding what is and is not acceptable for publication. What IS acceptable is virtually everything, providing it does NOT contain any of the following: Personal attacks, direct or indirect, against either individuals or groups of individuals; personal whining (My "SSSS" was "YYYYYYYYYY" - these people are incompetents, or crooks, or both); anything containing language generally considered inappropriate for general publication (come on, folks, you all know "the list" of unacceptables); and anything resembling any kind of "X" rated writings. It is perfectly acceptable to write about perceived problems in the Game or the Kingdom, so long as it is stated in general terms; and it is even better if the author first identifies a problem area then proposes a solution. OK, ENOUGH with the soapbox for now....

Kaderian

Spring War V - The Autocrats Parting Shot

By Arch-Duke Sir Arion Reinquist

We have finally closed the books on the SW-V event and I have the pleasure of letting you all know that this years Spring War event was, from a bean-counters point of view, a wonderful success. The Preliminary planning proved exactly on target, and despite poor weather for fighting on Saturday, the Event made just over \$1000.00 profit for the Kingdom.

We had just over 650 persons attending (an exact count was not available because we opened the gates under the heavy rain of Saturday morning). The spectacular feast served up food for 450+ persons. The cash control & gate security worked very well. The hospitality tent was occupied by folks telling stories, eating bread, cheese & soup, or getting out of the weather for many hours over the long weekend. The Games NOT called on account of bad weather were well attended.... and, despite that insidious rain, fully 95% of the attendees wore smiling faces.

Friday evening, Juggling under the lights went on for almost two hours. Saturday the site facilities really showed their value as they easily supported a Dollar Tourney sponsored by the Green Dragons, Some of the most vicious ditching I have EVER seen (it made Clan Ditch Fields look like a Cakewalk), allowed socializing in an enclosed, heated room... even as Brother Stephan prepared a FEAST the likes of which LEGENDS ARE MADE OF... Also, an improptu Cultural Tourney was sponsored by Dragon's Haven on Saturday. Sunday, under the threat of more rain most people left - however a few dozen hearty souls refused to leave the field without one grand melee. It was messy, it was raucus and it was fun!!! A "No Champions" tourney was also held on Sunday - guess who won? Squire Qualin: the same adept fighter who recently won the fighting portion of the Crown qualifications tourney! Congratulations Brother Annihalus Member!

This event was directed by a single Commander-in-Chief, that being myself, backed up by a crack team of Generals and Leiutenants: **Brother Stephan** - Grand Master of the Arts of Foodfare, **Lady Ariel** - Gatekeeper and Dark Mistress of the Perimeter, and **Sir Theodrik, Dame Shanti, Sir Uursor, Sir Welrick & Lady Lukretia** for developing and promoting the arts of war... each coordinating and being supported by dozens of others.

Special thanks to two of my squires, **Father Thomas** and **Zodiac** and to **Sir Kaderian** for providing extra muscle and effort where necessary so that I could point and **KNOW** that it would be done. You can't buy service like that. I honor your devotion.

While members of the Battle Company **Annihalus** contributed executive staff to the event, Spring War V was only possible because of the selfless dedication and back-breaking labor contributed by members of All companies and households. Special notice and thanks is hereby extended to the **Wardancers, the Tigers and the Dark Jesters... All Amtgard Owes Their Thanks To You.** You all showed that you have what it takes to **MAKE** an event.

To make the event work well, on behalf of the CK, I opened commercial accounts with Austin Rent-All and Sysco Foods - Both of these vendors provided EXCELLENT services and products. Following the event, on behalf of the CK, I mailed out thank-you letters to each of the dozen or so vendors who contributed to the planning and execution of SW-V. An executive summary was issued to the Crown and BOD containing all receipts, account information, thank-you letters, and a financial summary.

In comparing SW-V to the previous SW-IV (that actually **LOST** money) I'm extremely proud of the efforts of the SW-V staff. As Autocrat I was able to make a \$100.00 donation to the City of Burnet for providing staff to gather and deliver truckloads of firewood to the site and a second \$100.00 donation to the

fairgrounds for making the extra effort to have new stadium lighting in place and conduct emergency repairs to the shower building at our request. A list has been tendered to the Monarch recommending over 125 awards for event contributors. I have great confidence that he will act upon it.

As Autocrat I did some things this year that I thought would improve the event. 1 - In keeping with the ORIGINAL concept of the event as conceived by Grand Duke Sir Michael Hammer of God and Baron Squire Balinor, SW-V was planned as a FIGHTING ONLY EVENT. 2 - A hospitality tent was provided as a gathering place for the masses to allow for outdoor bardics and clearing of the tiled room by midnight. 3- Many (Unused) Battlegames were scheduled for the event. 4 - Lots of flyers were available to let people know schedule of events. 5 - Food was planned ahead and bulk purchased to allow us to serve YOU better quality and more period feasts.

For the benefit of you, The Celestial Kingdom, and the rest of Amtgard, I truly hope that those that follow the SW-V staff are as competent and care as much these guys did! They all constitute the best that Amtgard is...

Ever in the Shadow of Service

Arch-Duke Sir Arion Reinquist

The Last Hangover

As the tingling darkness is parted by a dim but growing light, I could see, for the first time, the carrion crows circling overhead. Unlike on any other morning after the day of battle, I could not remember the night of carnal revelry following glorious victory.

Somewhere off in the darkness, concealed behind veils of dust and pre-dawn haze, muffled voices speak of the battle. Directly above, backlit by the reddening dawn sky, between myself and the crows, the massive grey head of my war steed "Thunder" moves into my field of vision. His bit glistens with the morning dew, glinting red in the morning sun. Why has my Squire saddled him up so early?

Thunder's muzzle, framed in rectangular darkness, drops to mere inches above my face - I must have slept in my great helm! I feel nothing as he nuzzles my head. No warmth of breath on my neck, no coolness of metal against my cheek. Oddly, my neck offers no resistance as my helm-encased head rolls to the side. Thunder's dark form passes from sight as my gaze rolls as well, landing, as the sun just breaks the horizon, upon a decapitated form in armor stained by the darkness of another's victory. My armor...

A NEW DAY

In an instant the sun was gone from my life
Days, Weeks, Months went by and still it cut me like a knife

The sparkle and glitter like a grand parade
How could it so soon be caused to fade?

Time heals all wounds, so they say
How I ache for the dawn of that new day

Love Everlasting was our Pledge
Now it's driven me to the Edge

I raise my face to the Heavens asking "WHY?"
When no answer comes, again I cry

Time heals all wounds, so they say
How I ache for the dawn of that new day

As I struggle with a grieving heart
I wonder "When will the healing start?"

Years go by and still I feel the pain
much like standing in a cold hard rain

Time heals all wounds, so they say
How I ache for the dawn of that new day

It seems an eternity before I begin to mend
and hear at last the voice of my friend

The cold hard rain becomes warm gentle showers
Then, somehow, I begin to notice flowers

I stop and smell them - - they still smell sweet!!
At long last, someone new I meet

Time heals all wounds, so they say
I LIVE again, in the dawn of this new day

for Kitty, who was my steadfast friend in my darkest hour

5 MAY 1944

At 10:00 AM the ship was ordered to proceed to the south of the island of Iwo Jima.

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