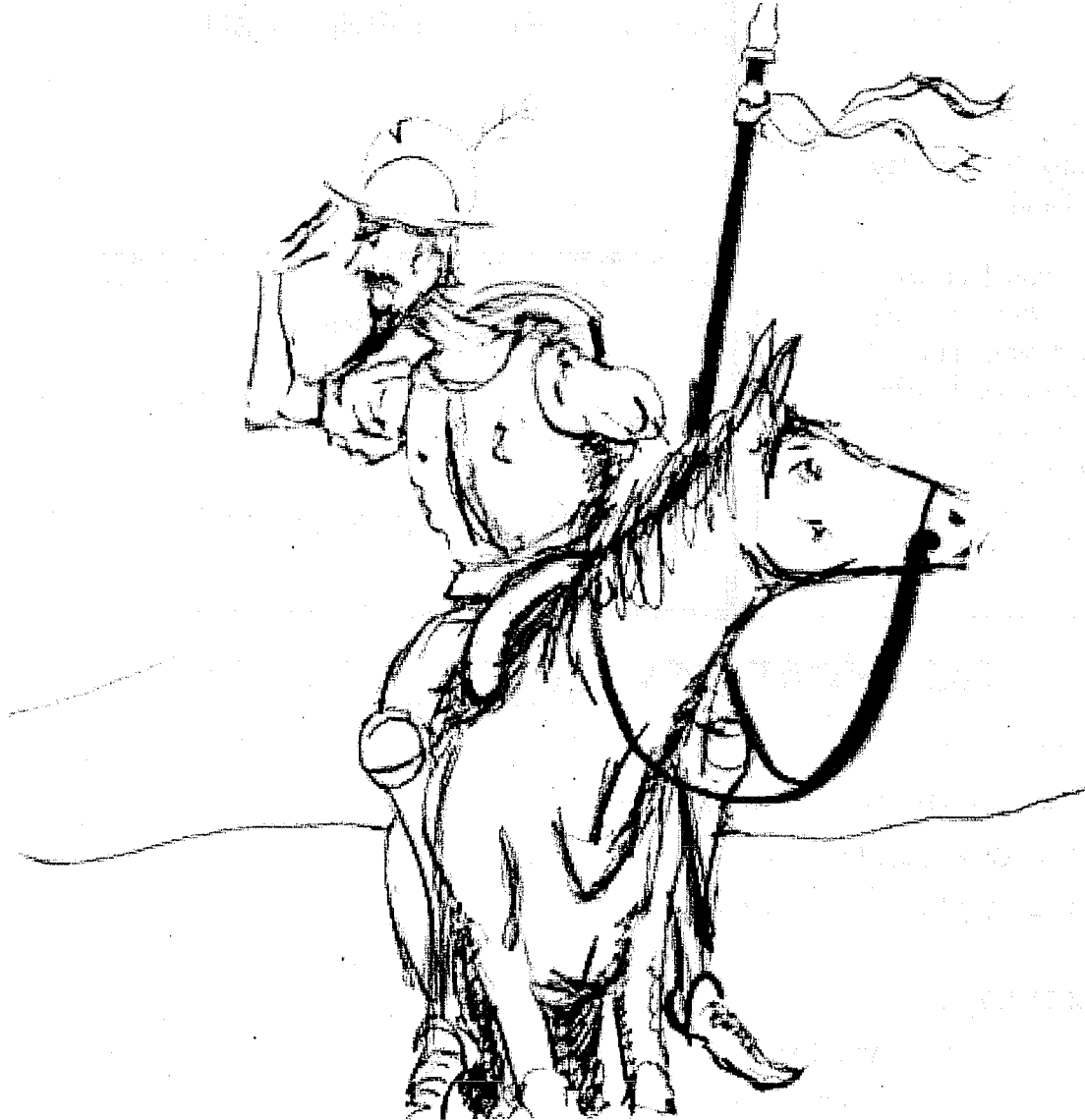


# Echoes of the Hills

News and writings from the glorious Kingdom of the Emerald Hills



Vol. XXVII, Issue 1

In the reign of Her Royal Majesty Eclipse Blackfire  
and Her Royal Highness Ominique DeMorrav

## ECHOES STAFF

Cover Art: Rayel Greenholde

Written contributions:  
Eclipse Blackfire, Ominique  
DeMurray, Nevron Dreadstar,  
Moogie, K'tai bin R'al

Editorial staff: Darkangel bin  
R'al, K'tai bin R'al, Martello  
Entropy, Moogie, Rayel  
Greenholde

If you would like to submit  
artwork or written material  
for inclusion in future issues  
of "Echoes of the Hills", you  
may submit it via e-mail to  
[echoes@amtgard-eh.com](mailto:echoes@amtgard-eh.com), or  
deliver it personally to  
anyone on the editorial staff.

# News from the Crown

## Queen Eclipse Blackfire:

[ Regrettably, Her Majesty could not be reached for  
comment at press time. We look forward to hearing  
from her in future issues of Echoes. - Ed.]

## Regent Ominique DeMurray:

I hope to see everyone out at the roving battles and  
the competitions.

Bring your friends! Bring your parents! Bring your  
friends' parents!

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

### *JULY:*

- 14 - Cuiviedor Amarth Monarchy Visit
- 19-22 - Gathering of the Clans
- 28-29 - Tanglewood Work Weekend

### *AUGUST:*

- 05 - Monarchy Visit Eagleshire
- 11 - Monarchy Visit Emerald Woods
- 17-19 - CK MidReign
- 25-26 - Tanglewood Work Weekend
- Aug 31 - Sep 2nd - Labor Day Mundane Camping Party on Friday night;  
2nd Roving Booty Battlegame and Althing on Saturday @ Tanglewood Forest

## A bit of fayre cookerye

(aka "how to drive a spell checker nuts")

### Hedgehogs

Yrchouns:

Take Piggis mawys, & skalde hem wel; take groundyn Porke, & knede it with Spicerye, with pouder Gyngere, & Salt & Sugre; do it on the mawe, but fille it nowt to fulle; then sewe hem with a fayre threde, & putte hem in a Spete as men don piggys; take blaunchid Almaundys, & kerf hem long, small, & scharpe, & frye hem in grece & sugre; take a litel prycke, & prycke the yrcouns, An putte in the holes the Almaundys, every hole half, & eche fro other; ley hem then to the fyre; when they ben rostid, dore hem sum whyth Whete Flowre, & mylke of Almaundys, sum grene, sum blake with Blode, & lat hem nowt brone to moche, & serue forth. (Source: Two Fifteenth-century Cookery Books)

Serves 6-8

2 lb (4 cups) minced (ground) pork  
2 Tbsp Breadcrumbs  
1/2 tsp Ginger  
1/2 tsp Mace  
2 tsp Salt  
1/4 tsp Pepper  
2 Tbsp Sugar  
1/2 oz (1 Tbsp) softened butter  
2 Egg yolks, beaten  
2 oz (4 Tbsp) butter  
4 Tbsp vegetable stock or water  
2 oz slivered almonds  
food colourings

Mix the first eight ingredients. Bind with the beaten egg yolks and form in a ball. Place in a buttered pan. Cook, covered, for 1 hour, basting at intervals with the rest of the butter melted in the vegetable stock or water. Dye the slivered almonds with the food colourings, and stick them all over the pudding so that they look like the quills of a hedgehog or sea urchin.

From Seven Centuries of English Cooking,  
compiled by Maxime de la Falaise

## ONE MORNING

IN THE MORNING SUN I SIT AND I WAIT  
THE LIGHT ENVELOPS ME, FLOODING THE GATES  
ANIMALS OF ALL KINDS ANSWER MY CALL  
I AM THEIR MASTER, ONE AND ALL

FROM THE DAWN OF TIME I HAVE BEEN THE ONE  
I'LL NEVER LEAVE UNTIL I AM DONE  
AS THE SUN RISES HIGHER AND TRAVELS THE SKY,  
THE CREATURES AROUND ME ALL BEGIN TO DIE.

I SIT AND I WEEP, IT'S NOT WHAT I PLANNED  
SPEAKING TO MY SUBJECTS, I'M TOLD IT'S BECAUSE  
OF MAN  
WHAT IS THIS BEING? I DON'T RECALL ITS NAME  
ALL MY ANIMALS LIVE IN PEACE, CAN'T HE DO THE  
SAME

WITH THE SETTING OF THE SUN THE LAND IS EMPTY  
ALL MY ANIMALS ARE GONE, WIPED OUT COMPLETELY  
THIS THING CALLED MAN HAS DONE THIS TO ME  
THIS THING CALLED MAN WILL ANSWER TO ME

I GATHER UP MY ENERGY AND SUMMON ALL MY POWER  
BEFORE THE NIGHT IS THRU ALL MAN WILL COWER  
MY DESTRUCTION WAS TOTAL, MAN NEVER HAD A  
CHANCE.  
I SLEW THEM ALL, THEN I STARTED TO DANCE

IN MY WAKE, FIRES DID BREAK OUT  
CONSUMING ALL THE LANDS, NOTHING COULD PUT IT  
OUT  
IN THE MORNING SUN I SIT AND I WAIT  
THE ANIMALS ARE ALL GONE, THERE'S NONE TO SHARE  
MY PLATE.

NO DEER TO WATCH RUN, NO BIRDS TO WATCH FLY  
AS THE TEARS RUN DOWN MY FACE, I LAY DOWN AND  
DIE

NEVRON

*Above the ancient earthen floor,  
Among the cloud enshrouded sky,  
On raven's wings, I fly.*

*Through fog of time and temperament,  
Amidst the old forgotten lore,  
On raven's wings, I soar.*

*And to the noisesome battlefield  
Where death makes song with clanging  
note,  
On raven's wings, I float.*

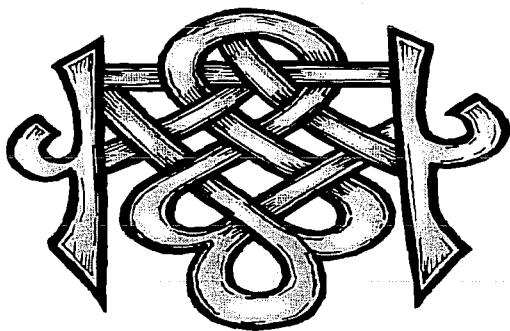
*Then swoop I down to meet my foes,  
Turn, swoop once more from cloudy  
height,  
On raven's wings, I fight.*

*And when the battlefield is still  
But for the whispered wind's exhale,  
Across the sight of broken land,  
On raven's wings, I stand.*

*On raven's wings, I climb.*

*A destiny of my design,  
On raven's wings, I shine.*

*'Nique*



## Little Red Healer Sash

by K'tai bin R'al

Once upon a time, in the modest duchy of Midnight Sun, there lived a cheerful little girl who was always called "Little Red Healer Sash".

This was not her real name, of course. But her mother was a Healer, well-known in Midnight Sun, and she wore a red sash as the mark of her trade. When the girl was very young, Mother made her a little red sash of her very own, and the little girl was so delighted that she was never seen without it. And soon all her neighbors simply called her "Little Red Healer Sash".

One morning, Mother received a letter from the Duke. The nearby shire of IronCloud had fallen victim to a mysterious illness, and several of its citizens were too weak to work or even walk. The sheriff of IronCloud hoped that Mother could make them all better.

Mother was worried when she saw the letter. She wanted to go help the people in IronCloud, but she did not want to leave the people in Midnight Sun without a Healer if they got sick. So she sat down and wrote a letter to her friend Tigara Silverstar, a grumpy but good-natured elf who lived in the woods nearby. Tigara was a Healer too, and while Mother knew Tigara would not want to go to IronCloud, she hoped that the elf would not mind staying in town for a while so that she could go.

When she was done writing the letter, she put it in an envelope, and put the envelope in a basket along with some beeswax and dried herbs, then called for her daughter.

(Continued on page 9)

*Camping events require preparation; Gathering of the Clans even more so. So as a service to Amtgarders new and old alike, the Echoes staff proudly presents the award winning advice:*

## **MORE THAN YOU EVER NEEDED TO KNOW ABOUT PREPARING FOR YOUR FIRST CAMPING EVENT**

BY MOOGIE

*If you are getting ready for your first overnight Amtgard event, this guide will have you as prepared as the veterans. In an attempt to be thorough, I've really gone overboard - you can probably get along without quite so much preparation and equipment as I've listed here. However, many of these things are absolutely essential, and many will make your first event far more comfortable and enjoyable. If you are going to your first event in the company of more experienced Amtgardians, many of these items can be borrowed, and some may not be necessary depending on circumstances. Use this as a guide, but ask around and see what the people in your group suggest. Most of all, get involved in the activities at your first event, and have a great time!*

### **SITES**

*Before you pack or prepare for the event, it's important to find out what kind of site the event will be held at. The most common types of sites are tent camping with running water and tent camping without running water, or primitive camping. There may be sites with access to cabins, heated or unheated. A site with running water may have water faucets, flush toilets or showers, or any combination of these. A primitive site will most likely have outhouses or port-a-potties, but you will want to bring extra water for drinking.*

### **INFORMATION TO CHECK IN ADVANCE**

*There is some information you will need to get before the event. Try to obtain the following before you get on site. Some of this information may be provided at the gate.*

- **Directions**  
*If you can get the phone number of the site or someone who will have a phone on site, this can be handy if you get lost.*
- **Event Fees**
- **Site Rules**  
*Check to see if the site allows alcohol  
If you plan to bring a pet, be sure to find out pet policies from an autocrat or a monarch before the event, or you may find yourself turned away at the gate if a site does not allow pets.*
- **Waiver requirements**  
*Many events require a special form or waiver to be filled out and signed by the legal guardians of a minor. This form may be required regardless*

of previous waivers you may have on file. Be sure to check in advance if you are a minor, to see if this is required.

- **Medical facilities**  
Some events have a first-aid station or "med tent". If you have a medical condition or are taking medication, it is a good idea to inform the med tent in case there is an emergency. If there is not a med tent, it might be wise to alert those you are camping with, or security or a monarch. If there should be an emergency, that information may be life-saving.
- **Check the weather**  
This helps a lot in knowing what to pack.

## PACKING LISTS

### Identification / Cash

- **Driver's License / ID Card**
- **Medical Insurance**

Keep all cash and valuables locked in a car or carefully hidden, and don't bring valuables that you don't need for the event. If you are driving, you might bring an extra set of car keys. I've seen more people at events lock their keys in the car than I can count. If it's a long drive, you might want a cell phone for safety.

### GARB

- **Several changes of clothes**
- **Extra socks**
- **Warm weather/cool weather change of clothes**
- **Cloak/foul weather gear**
- **Comfortable Shoes**  
(bring an extra pair in case they get wet or muddy)

You will be very thankful for the extra socks.

## AMTGARD EQUIPMENT

### CAMPING GEAR

- **Tent**
- **Sleeping bags/blankets/pillows**
- **Folding chairs**
- **Flashlight**

### PERSONAL ITEMS

- **Stuff you usually bring, make-up, hairbrush, toothbrush, etc.**
- **Toilet paper**  
(Bathrooms or port-a-potties may not be adequately stocked)

- Sunscreen
- Insect Repellent
- Feminine Hygiene Products
- Medications
- Birth Control

### EXTRAS:

- **Wet Wipes**  
(Quick cleanup of scrapes and cuts, and an impromptu shower)
- **Chapstick**  
(This seems like a luxury item until you need it)
- **Fingernail clippers/file**  
(In case you break a nail fighting, not just vanity, a broken nail can scratch you up and hang on everything)
- **First Aid Kit**  
(or just band-aids, alcohol, etc.)
- **Dental floss**  
(Squeak says: I hate feast staying in my teeth and it's usually stringy meat)
- **Q-tips**
- **Towels, shampoo, soap**  
(If there are showers available. Warning, they may not have hot water)

### FOOD/WATER:

- **Water**  
Definitely bring plenty of drinking water. It's easy to get dehydrated at an event.
- **Cooler**
- **Gatorade**
- **Sodas/Alcohol**

If you plan to eat on site, bring food of your choice, the following are prepared foods that are great for snacks or with meals

- **Applesauce**
- **Jello pudding snacks**
- **Granola bars**
- **Fruit**
- **Cereal**
- **Crackers**
- **Beef jerky**
- **Hot Dogs**
- **Slimfast shakes** (Squeak says: these are a great way to get a meal on the ditch field and they can go in the cooler (and are cheap). When I remember them I love them, how many times have you gone out to ditch and forgotten lunch? This is a good solution)

*If you want to cook on site, you may need the following:*

- *Matches*
- *Firewood*
- *Lighter fluid, a fire log or fire starters*
- *Grill/skewers*

## **GETTING ALONG AND HAVING A GOOD TIME**

*It helps to know what's going on at an event. If you are fairly new to Amtgard, you may want to find out more about the social structure of the game.*

- *Learn to identify knights, squires, and the crown*
- *Identify companies, major households and their camps*
- *Bring a rulebook to look up any questions about rules of play.*

*To make finding a campsite and setting up easy, camp with friends. If you don't know anyone, find an empty campsite, or ask permission to camp with another group.*

*If drinking is permitted, don't overdo it. Use your common sense. Getting too drunk among people you don't know well is not safe, and is not a great way to win their respect.*

## **Spread the word!**

**RATH'S SPELLCASTER "CHEAT SHEETS" ARE NOW  
AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD ONLINE:**

**[HTTP://WWW.MIDNIGHTSUN.ORG/SPELLSHEETS.HTML](http://www.midnightsun.org/spellsheets.html)**



## LITTLE RED HEALER SASH

(continued from page 4)

"I need you to do Mother a very big favour," Mother said to Little Red Healer Sash. "I need you to take this basket, which has beeswax and herbs and a very important letter in it, and go to Tigara's house in the woods. Stay to the roads, and don't dawdle on the way. I want you to be home before dark. Okay?"

"Yes, Mother," said Little Red Healer Sash. She had been to Tigara's house many times, and knew the roads by heart. And Tigara often had fresh bread or cookies waiting for her, so she was eager for a chance to visit. She took the basket and set off at once.

But even though Little Red Healer Sash was a very good girl and minded her mother most of the time, it was so hard for her to stick to the road. There were flowers to pick, and squirrels to chase till they ran up a tree, and lovely purple berries that Mother could make into jam.

By the time Little Red Healer Sash remembered her errand, she was well off the road, so that she could not find it again. While the woods were not a frightening place to be, she knew she would be late finding Tigara's house, and Mother would give her a scolding and a spanking. Afraid and sad, she began crying.

It so happened that Nevron was in the woods that day, and he heard Little Red Healer Sash crying. He was very tempted to take his dagger and stab the little girl in the back – he'd had a bad day, and slaughtering innocents always made him feel better – but he knew the Justicars were sparring not far away, and if she screamed, they might hear her and come after him. So, he decided, he would have fun with her in another way.

"Well, now," he said quietly as he approached. "What seems to be the matter here?"

Little Red Healer Sash had heard many stories about Nevron and the evil he had done, but she did not recognize him, and thus did not know to be afraid. Sniffing, she told him about the errand she had been sent on, and how she had gotten lost.

"I'm taking a letter and some beeswax and herbs to Mother's friend Tigara. If I was on the road, I would know where to go, but now I'm so lost."

Nevron suddenly got an idea. He smiled and spoke warmly. "Why, now, you're not very far from the road at all. In fact, I was stopping by to see Tigara myself. Follow me and I'll show you where the road is."

Little Red Healer Sash did not know any better, and followed him willingly. And true to his word, he led her to one of the many roads that ran through the woods. She was delighted, and hugged him around the knees.

"Thank you, sir. Now I can find Tigara's house!"

"You're welcome. In fact, let's have a race to see who will get there first. Since my legs are longer than yours, I'll give you a head start. You start running, and I'll count to ten before I start running. Okay?"

"Okay!" And Little Red Healer Sash was off like a shot, her sash trailing behind her.

But Nevron did not count to ten. Instead, he Teleported instantly to Tigara's house and knocked on the door.

"Who is it?" Tigara yelled angrily. She was busy making a new batch of salve, and did not like being disturbed.

"It's Little Red Healer Sash," Nevron called, straining his voice so it sounded like a little girl's.

The voice didn't sound quite right to Tigara. She began to prepare a Stun spell.

"The door's unlocked. Come in," she yelled when she was ready. Nevron burst in immediately, and was able to kill Tigara before she finished casting.

He barely had enough time to hide the body and disguise himself with one of her cloaks before there was a knock at the door.

"Who is it?" Nevron said, trying to sound like Tigara.

"It's Little Red Healer Sash! Mother has sent you a letter and some herbs and beeswax!" the voice came through the door.

"What a lovely surprise! The door's unlocked - come in!" Nevron said. Little Red Healer Sash opened the door and stepped inside. She looked at the pot on the stove, and stared nervously at the person wearing Tigara's cloak and putting herbs into the pot.

"Tigara, why are you wearing a cloak while making salve?"

"My dear, it is because I was so very cold this morning. I haven't warmed up yet."

"Tigara, why are you putting a poisonous herb like dragon's blood into a salve?"

"My dear, it is because this salve is for people I don't like very much."

"Tigara, when did you get all that blood on your athame?"

"My dear, it was the last time a little girl asked me too many questions!" And Nevron threw off the hood of the cloak and lunged at Little Red Healer Sash with his dagger. He would have

gotten her, too, but he got all tangled up in the cloak. And as he struggled to get loose, a huge fireball shot through the open door and struck him dead. Soon after, the Justicars themselves filed into the little house. They found that Little Red Healer Sash was all right, and after a little bit of looking, Rath was able to find and resurrect Tigara. So Tigara got the letter and the herbs and beeswax after all, and filled Little Red Healer Sash's basket with cookies and a pot of salve (real salve, not the stuff Nevron had tainted), and Brennon teleported Little Red Healer Sash back home to her Mother, and she was always very careful to be a good girl and mind her mother after that.

## Shield Foam!

Here's your new source of shield foam, just in time for Clan and Banner Wars!

FOAM FABRICATORS, INC.  
11650 Emerald St.  
Dallas, TX 75229  
972-241-0096

Directions from Mapquest.com:

[Take these with a grain of salt, and some lime and tequila if you're of age. – Ed.]

From westbound 635, take the I-35E South exit (#27C), on the left towards Dallas.

Merge on to I-35 E South.

Take exit #439 towards Royal Lane. Turn right on to North Stemmons Frwy/I-35E.

North Stemmons Frwy/I-35E becomes North Stemmons Frwy/Emerald St.

NO MINIMUM ORDER as long as you buy full, uncut, 48x108 inch sheets at \$40.00 each.

Buzzwords to live by: H-Cell, Laminated Plank, 2 inch, white, density 1.7.

