

the Star[★]



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The official publication of The Celestial Kingdom, Amtgard Inc.

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The King's Letter

Unto the Populace,

Midreign is fast approaching, and already, a number of changes have come through the Celestial Kingdom, with more on the way. The issue of the North/South principality has been settled, with 2/3 of voting members supporting the principalities. The vote prompted many people to pay dues. We also successfully administered a kingdom level vote, including the far away land of Western Dragon Hills. The principality contracts will be redrawn and signed by the corresponding princes at Midreign.

In the first week of my reign, a calendar was also drafted and published. It has been available in every issue of the Star and online. A list of park officers has also been updated and circulated. And best of all, an autocrat has been selected for all kingdom level events including midreign/coronation.

Kingdom officers have also managed to meet twice now to discuss the progress of the kingdom and plans for the future. Zircon, the guildmaster of reeves, ran an efficient and well coordinated Weaponmaster. He administered a reeves' test and furnished me with all necessary paperwork. The BOD has met twice and ruled on a number of issues (minutes of the meeting are available in this publication).

I have had the good fortune to not only visit all the Texas parks in the Celestial Kingdom, but also Feast of Fools in Huyett, Maryland. The populace supported me in an invasion of Mystic Springs, and produced excellent role-play with respect to the Spanish Crown. I was also able to attend the South Duchy's qualifications and helped judge their A&S tourney.

Also, a corpora committee has been created to review and simplify the current CK corpora (don't worry, it isn't changing, just being streamlined). I have also ordered the CK list at topica terminated in favor of a new list on yahogroups, which should allow for greater accessibility of information to the populace (such as the calendar, pictures, and published documents).

Coming up, the Celestial Kingdom has (or will have had by the time you read this), a mundane car wash and a raid on Griffons' Keep. A storage unit for kingdom materials is also underway. And finally, I will represent the Celestial Kingdom at a monarchs' meeting at Clan. And I still haven't mentioned kingdom Midreign *whew*.

I've been keeping myself pretty busy, and I greatly appreciate all the help I've received from the populace in making my initiatives a reality. I would especially like to thank Kansuke, Kaderian, Arion, Aylia, Theolanthilis, Wolfbane, Bryanna, and Thun for their work and cooperation with me. They are making the game fun for everybody by rolling up their sleeves and getting things done. I hope the second half of my reign sees as much participation and even more success.

Don Diego Velazquez
Rey del Reino Celestial

Come Celebrate the Midreign for

*His Majesty Don Diego Velazquez, Rey del Reino Celestial
And Her Highness Tipani Akara of Keinplatz, Regent*

Hosted by House Ariste:

house_ariste_ck@hotmail.com

Date: August 9-11

Location: Webberville County Park

Gate Fee: \$10.00 for ages 14+

Events:

Kingdom Arts and Sciences Tourney

hosted by Akara regent@celestialkingdom.net

Saturday, August 10: Sign in from noon to 1 p.m.

Award level must be included in item write up. Any item without said write up will be judged at highest possible level.

Kids' Quest

Contact: liepecutie@hotmail.com

Saturday, August 10: drop children off at 11 a.m., pick them up by 5 p.m.

Tournaments and Battles

Themed Feast

Open Bardic

And much more....

'Crats:

Autocrat: Circadia dmcircadia@hotmail.com

Feast: Blackthorn Blackthorn@satx.rr.com

War: Grendel lordgrendel@angelfire.com

Linden stella_blue@operamail.com

Gate: Stoney Rose and Kyra stoneyrose@yahoo.com

Celestial Kingdom

Basic Event Guidelines

1. All local, state and federal laws will be enforced at all times. Any violation of these laws is grounds for removal from site.
2. Only the head of security, the Monarch, or autocrat(s) may remove an individual from site. If a person is asked to leave, he/she will be given 30 minutes to gather his/her belongings and vacate the site. Local authorities will be called upon any refusal to leave site.
3. Anyone under the legal drinking age caught drinking alcohol and/or breaking any local, state or federal laws will be detained in a security area. That minor's legal guardian(s) will be contacted and advised to pick the minor up from the event and/or local authorities will be called.
4. Disorderly conduct will not be tolerated and may result in expulsion from the designated area. Further non-compliance is grounds for removal from the site.
5. Any physical altercations, destruction of property, or refusal to cooperate with security will be grounds for removal from site.
6. All camping areas should be kept clean and all trash removed from your campsite before you leave the site.
7. Please keep your vehicle locked at all times; we are not responsible for any lost, damaged, or stolen personal belongings.

Writs of Province

Unto the populace,

As you know, the Celestial Kingdom voted by a large margin to maintain the principalities. However, we have been unable to find the original principality contracts. This will be remedied at Midreign. During court, the principality officers will be asked to approach the crown and sign their contracts.

While the local parks of the Celestial Kingdom do have contracts on file, I would like to ceremoniously acknowledge all the provinces of my realm with Writs of Province. These Writs will recognize each province as an official dominion of the Spanish Crown. I would like to see all officers of each land present for this ceremony, but would be satisfied with the ruling officer. Copies of the Writs of Province will be given to each park.

Yes, this means court may run awhile, but I ask everyone to be patient with the ceremony. This ceremony will "celebrate" that all provinces of the Celestial Kingdom have been visited by the monarch, and their lords are being asked to give fealty to the new crown. I look forward to seeing a good turnout, and an excellent display of roleplay by the populace.

Don Diego Velazquez

From the Celestial Kingdom Regent

Unto the populace,

Just a couple of reminders and an announcement. At midreign the bids for Spring War Feast (please not barbecue) are due, as well as any entries in the Spring War Art Contest. The Spring War art contest is for the art we are going to use on the T-shirts. Winner of this art contest will get free entrance into the event and a free Spring War T-shirt. Also there will be an A&S competition at Midreign, please remember that it will be in August in a hot and humid environment. So plan your entries accordingly, chocolate sculptures would not be recommended. Also, On August 31 there will be a Collegium. It will be held at the Cecil B. Long room in Bastrop. This collegium will be held along with the First (that I know of) "Feed Me Seymour" A&S competition, focusing mainly on cooking (the other stuff is admissible also). This site has oven, stove and refrigeration. Plan for enough for five judges. Please note that a full list of ingredients is required, some of the judges have food allergies and we do not need anyone to be rushed to the hospital (me personally I am allergic to seafood). Anyone who wishes to teach a class or volunteer to judge please contact me as soon as possible. So far, it looks like we will have classes on beadwork (taught by Nightshade Rose Darkjester), basic garb construction (taught by Elissa McKann, Wetlands), basic feast preparation (taught by Crom Ironwolf, Wetlands), basic bellydance (taught by Scarlet Ethindale) and Macramé jewelry (taught by Galen). More classes and a schedule will be added later as they are confirmed.

*Tipani Akara of Keinplatz
Regent of the Celestial Kingdom
Regent@CelestialKingdom.net
Akara@planet-save.com*

And yet another address from our long winded King...

Unto the populace,

I would like to remind all record keepers that Midreign is the deadline for turning in records to principality General Ministers. Records must include the following information:

1. Copies of sign ins for the last six months
2. Dues paid list
3. Dues owed to kingdom
4. Personal record sheets (award counts are all that is necessary)

Any park that cannot comply will not receive any kingdom level awards for their local populace at Midreign. I will contact the General Ministers two weeks before Midreign as to the progress of the record gathering. The following week, I will contact provincial record keepers directly.

I would also like to request award recommendations from park officers. If you recommend someone for an award, please be sure to include what number that award would be (I would like to recommend Willow for his 4th order of the rose), and why that person is receiving said award.

I would also like all class guildmasters to once again turn in masterhood recommendations to me as soon as possible.

Don Diego Velazquez

Amtgard, the Celestial Kingdom, Inc.
Summer 2002 Prime Minister Elections
Voting Instructions

our candidates are:

Bryana, Clalibus, and Galen

oting in the 2002 Summer Prime Minister Elections will be primarily
ndled through Individual Park Officers in the following manner:

1. Province Officers are to print out a complete list of all members eligible to vote.
2. Anyone wishing to vote absentee (sometimes called "proxy") must go to their Province to vote absentee.
3. The Province officer has the voter sign by their name on the printed list.
4. The Province officer signs a blank piece of paper and gives it to the voter with an envelope.
5. The voter then:
 - a. Clearly prints the name of the candidate they wish to vote for on the piece of paper.
 - b. Puts the paper inside the envelope **WITHOUT SIGNING IT**.
 - c. Seals the envelope.
 - d. Clearly prints their mundane AND persona names on the outside of the envelope.
 - e. Returns the sealed envelope to the Province Officer.
6. The Province officer signs the outside of the envelope.
7. The Province officer envelopes they have collected and their eligible voter list into a large envelope and brings it to Midreign. It must be turned in to either His Majesty Diego or Prime Minister Kaderian prior to 2 PM on Saturday, August 10.
8. Anyone who has not previously voted may do so on site beginning at 3 PM on Saturday, August 10th. The polls will remain open until 5 PM. At that time, His Majesty Diego, BOD President Esuom, and Prime Minister Kaderian will each choose one assistant to help count the ballots. The ballot counting will be done by one reader with one watcher and two tallyers each with one watcher. Everyone is welcome to be present for the ballot count.
9. The results will be announced as soon as the tallies are reconciled.
10. The winner will be the individual with the greatest number of votes.

A Letter From Your First Prime Minister Candidate

Unto the populace,

My name is Bryanna Morgywn and I would like the opportunity to serve the Celestial Kingdom as your Prime Minister. I have been in Amtgard for only six years but I feel that I can fulfill the position of Prime Minister adequately. I have experience in organizing and running events on a kingdom level as well as the book work that goes along with the elbow grease. I would be described by most people who know me as a fairly well organized person. I would strive to assist both the kingdom and local leadership in updating as well as maintaining current records for all populace members. I am easily accessible via email, snail mail, and farspeaker if anyone needed information. I have already earned 4 kingdom level Roses and thus feel I have a working knowledge of service. I am also able to attend the majority of kingdom level events in person. I can say without hesitation "local leaders beware" for you would definitely be hearing from me on a regular basis if I am voted! in as PM. I am a strong believer in communication and would not hesitate to pester people to get records and other information up to date for the benefit of the populace. As for mundane qualifications I have been employed in the accounting field for over 5 years and have a strong background in mathematics. If anyone has further questions please do not hesitate to contact me directly and I will endeavor to answer to the best of my abilities.

In service to the dream,

Bryanna Morgywn
bryanna69@hotmail.com



A Letter From Your Second Prime Minister Candidate

The CK has its Prime Minister slot opening up this midreign, as it does every midreign; and I'm pretty sure that I don't need to stress the importance of this position's integrity to the kingdom as a whole. For some fool reason, I believe that I am quite competent and the correct choice for this position.

To quickly pass over some of my resume; I've been in this kingdom since August of 1993 and a contributing and reeve qualified member of this kingdom continuously from 1995. In which time I've been baron twice, founded a park, been duke and ducal chancellor as well as fill in pro-term chancellor three times on top of that. I have filled the kingdom regent slot and have been a guildmaster and guard more times than I would care to mention. But perhaps you may remember me best as the six-time champion of the Celestial Kingdom.

Throughout my tenure, I have spent most of my time having a blast with sticks and tape on normal weekends and regularly competing in as many A&S and fighting tournaments as possible but have occasionally found the time to run some stuff as well: 2 midreigns, two Spring War tourneys, and two weaponmasters, a kingdom quest, a subcrat in near 2 dozen events, served on the BOD for Canterbury Faire as an Amtgard Representative, judge in two Olympiads, and run near twenty local A&S and War tourneys.

I've been gifted with lots of cookies through my nine years; most noteworthy to me (in no particular order): my 10 hydras, my 9 roses from OTHER kingdoms, being indoctrinated into one of the oldest, most exclusive, and best dressed companies around, earning my warlord and knighthood of the sword by winning 9 kingdom quals & weaponmasters, being granted my knighthood of the serpent for making stuff that I would have normally made just to be comfortable and look snazzy, opening my own tailoring business, discovering under a rock my new son Quentin Blaise Pomerantz with his mother Kristin/Linden Tul/Arion's squire/Ben's chick (not under the rock with Quenten but finding him with her).

But who cares about all that sh*t anyway, right? Basically, I'm trying to say I am experienced and show that I am more than willing to put up effort for people and positions in our game and for my family

and myself. I know that traditionally votes are made along political patches and stencils versus apparent ability or ineptitudes, and I have always been quite against such practices even in mundania. Traditionally, I don't write intents to run for office because of such practices, just allowing my reputation of name be shot down for political allegiance's sake.

This election, however, I have been urged by the people in charge and my own desire to see the kingdom upkept properly, I am writing this love letter from me to me for you three or four people who will actually read this in the Star before election day this Midreign.

If I am let down in my assumption of mass votes for or against and I am elected, I plan to put a big hand into the making of the Star. I plan to do (depending on the current state of affairs of the P.M. documentation) a quasi-audit of everyone's cookies/awards/tops to do an awards list like ones that were printed last by Fnord circa 1994 during Hulka's reign and try to make them an annual or semi annual event in future reigns. Most of all I plan to run the office by every number in our corpora of laws. I will guarantee no awards, weeks, or documents will disappear from the P.M. books/computers. I think it would also be a good project to get our web-site tweaked so it is up to date, has good pictures, and perhaps hosting of local park pages versus just having dead links and poor untrustworthy information.

Basically, what I'm asking is that you vote early, vote often, and vote for who will do the best job.

P.S. Did I mention that if I'm Prime Minister I can't run for champion again and that since Kristen has had our baby you can hit her again....hard?

Clalibus Henceforth



A Letter From Your Third Prime Minister Candidate

Why I am running for Prime Minister

I'm really not sure how to answer this question... I'm not used to thinking about why I run for any position. I typically run because I feel I can do the office competently, and like serving the people.

In this case, I feel I am a good choice for PM because I have worked with records off and on throughout my life. I have created databases, maintained them, updated files, filed various types of material. Among the files I've had to take care of were the ones for my JROTC Unit in high school (if you're unfamiliar, those records usually consist of all the positions a person has held, their ranks and history of their promotions, their awards, along with the orders granting those awards...not all that dissimilar from ours). And I have experience in correcting records that have somehow or otherwise been messed up. (i.e.: the person has ribbons their record didn't show any orders for) (And I successfully got those ribbons taken away on a few occasions.)

I am hardworking, dedicated, have grown really fond of the CK, and would like the opportunity to serve as this kingdom's Prime Minister.

In service,
Lady Defender Galen Silverthorne



Calendar of Events

August

- 04 CK Board of Directors' Meeting
*Discussion of BOD operational procedures
"Greenfire Keep"-starting at 10:00 am
4519 Merle Drive, Austin
(Aylia@angelfire.com)
- 09-11 CK Midreign
Webberville County Park, Webberville
Autocrat: House Ariste
(house_ariste_ck@hotmail.com)
- 18 Talonfield MiniQuest
Fisherman's Park, Bastrop
(warlock45@hotmail.com)
- 31 Collegium
Cecil B. Long Room, 1020 Main Street, Bastrop
(Regent@celestialkingdom.net)

September

- 05-08 PacWar 4, Mystic Seas
(http://www.pacwar.com/)
- 13-15 Wetlands Midreign
Jones Country Camp Grounds in Colmesneil, TX
For more info, contact: Lady Raegan Tobyclothes
(crescent_scar@hotmail.com)
- 14 Gypsy Dragon Faire, hosted by Squire Bryanna
(bryanna69@hotmail.com)
- 15 Talonfield MiniQuest
Fisherman's Park, Bastrop
(warlock45@hotmail.com)
- 22 Talonfield Duchy Officer Intents due
- 29 Kingdom Quest
Traitor's Gate, McAllister Park, San Antonio
Autocrats: Scarecrow & Grifierr
(ripcored_42@hotmail.com)
- 29 Talonfield Champion Tourney/Elections
Fisherman's Park, Bastrop
(warlock45@hotmail.com)

October

- 06 CK Quals, hosted by Drakenroc
Lake Creek Park, Round Rock
Autocrat: Woody
(warpig38@hotmail.com)
- 10-13 World Banner Wars 3-Emerald Hills
Tanglewood Forest
(http://www.amtgard-eh.com/)
- 19-20 CK Elections Weekend

November

- 01-03 CK Coronation, site TBA
Autocrat: House of Darkness and Evil



Qualification Results for Southern Grand Duchy of the Celestial Kingdom Fighting Tourney and Arts & Science Competition June 2002

Theo met his qualification requirements for the position of Grand Duke with a cumulative score of 3.468.

Both of the candidates for the Grand Regency did not qualify, therefore it went to a vote of confidence in which Squire Allahna was elected to be Grand Regent

Sir Farlo was the only individual to turn in quals entries for the position of Grand Champion. He did not meet his qualification requirements and will not be Grand Champion.

The new pro-tem Grand Chancellor is Lt. Squire Colonel Darkjester. A new Grand Chancellor will be elected for a full term during Southern Grand Duchy Midreign.

Single Sword

- 1st Reynen
- 2nd Sir Emanon
- 3rd Sir Farlo

Writing

- Aylia- 3.675
- Galen- 3.125
- Giggletoy- 2.85

Armor Construction

- Gaius- 4.25
- Farlo- 3.0

Sword and Board

- 1st Raton
- 2nd Waco
- 3rd Sludig

Cooking

- Theo- 4.05
- Galen- 3.675

3-D Art

- Brenna Skullcleaver- 3.66
- Giggletoy- 3.57

Florentine

- 1st Raban
- 2nd Sir Farlo

Weapon Construction

- Kaxzz- 3.625
- Aylia- 3.225
- Farlo- 3.1

Garb

- Ondine de la Muvak- 4.475
- Galen Silverthorne- 3.6375

Two Man Teams

- 1st Waco & Raton
- 2nd Sir Diego & Thun

Shield Construction

- Farlo- 2.25

Performance

- Theo- 4.1
- Galen- 3.5
- Giggletoy- 3.3125

Great Weapon

- 1st Guido
- 2nd Scarecrow
- 3rd Gaius

Passive Construction

- Galen- 3.425

2-D Art

- Linden- 4.0
- Farlo's GF- 3.875
- Giggletoy- 2.76

the Kingdom of the Wetlands

Midreign XIII

When: September 13-15, 2002

Where: Jones Country Camp Grounds in Colmesneil, TX

Cost: \$10/person (Children will be charged full price for entrance)

Scheduled Events:

Circle of Steel Tournament

Castle Battle (there are 2 scheduled castle battles) There is a castle onsite

Grappling Tournament

Assassin Hunt

A&S Tournament

Iron Garber Tournament

Auction

Autocrats:

War Skill Events - Sir Trelath

Assassin Hunt - Raegan Tobyclothes

A&S - Prince Zachry Ironwolf

Feast - House of Hawk

Security - Chewie Lightguard

Ate - Sawin

Auction - Sir Trelath

It should be noted that pets will not be allowed at this event (because of the BS I had to put up with the last time I ran an event). No dogs, cats, ferrets, etc. If you show up with an animal you will not be allowed on site. If you "smuggle" your animal in, you will be removed from the site immediately--no refunds, regardless of how long you've been on site.

We sent copies of the flier to the park leaders, if you wish to have one sent to yourself, send a private e-mail with my name or the word "Midreign" in the heading. E-mails sent with neither of those in the subject will most likely be deleted (I hate junk mail).

The rules for the WARSKILL EVENTS (Circle of Steel tournament, Castle Battle, and Grappling tournament) will be posted here (hopefully soon) by Sir Trelath.

The ASSASSIN HUNT will be full class, details will be forthcoming (meaning they are on my old computer and I have to beg and plead to get that arcane

The IRON GARBER COMPETITION will be run something like this: Each contestant (or group of contestants, if you wish) will be given a box with artsy craftsy type stuff in it (scissors, fabric, paper, glue, tape, needle, thread, pipe cleaners, string, etc.) and the contestant(s) will be given 1 hour to come up with the "best" A&S entry they can. Entries will be judged based on creativity, appearance, and relevance to the game. More than one entry can be made if time allows, however, only one box of supplies will be given to each contestant(s). Entries will be graded on a 5.0 scale, +.5 will be given to the first entry completed. It's basically Iron Chef (the TV show) but for A&S. If you have material or supplies you would like to donate, please send me an e-mail. Also, if you are interested in judging, please drop me a line.

A&S COMPETITION...Zachary will most likely tell me something definite around the beginning of September. But, I think he's planning on running it like Dragonmaster. The tentative categories are as follows: Dragon Bardic, Dragon 2-D, Dragon Cooking, Dragon Miscellaneous, Smith Write up, Court Garb, Fighting Garb, Garb Accessories, Owl Active construction, and Owl Passive construction. The above listed is TENTATIVE at best, no definite details have been given to me. Any questions can be sent to warlordslayer@hotmail.com, but your best bet is to either call the house (979)774-3442 or e-mail me at crescent_scar@hotmail.com

AUCTION: The auction will be run by Sir Trelath. Donations are being requested. Please bring stuff to donate to the auction. All proceeds will go directly to the Kingdom Coffers. So bring SOMETHING to donate. If you know for a FACT that you can't get to Midreign and can't find anyone to bring your items, E-MAIL ME and I will make sure that it gets to the auction.

FEAST is being served by House of Hawk -- Ladyhawk and I are meeting in a week or two to discuss it, details (i.e. a menu) will be posted at that time.

Questions or comments can be sent to me, just make sure that I can easily identify the e-mail as pertaining to Amtgard/Midreign.

Sincerely,

Lady Raegan Tobyclothes

crescent_scar@hotmail.com

(979)774-3442 (if you call, and get the answering machine and decide to leave a message, please leave your NAME and PHONE NUMBER)



Spring War X Dragon Art Competition

The Spring War Committee is looking for two designs. one for the front and one for the back of a T-shirt. Submissions may be no larger than standard letter size (8 1/2 X 11). Only black and white drawings will be accepted. Originals only. The winning entry will NOT become property of the Celestial Kingdom. But the CK Spring war Committee will require written permission from the artist to use the design for any Spring War Publicity, which may include but not limited to: flyers, T-shirts, gate favors...etc, etc.

The winner will receive one
FREE ADMISSION voucher
to Spring War X and a

FREE SPRING WAR X T-SHIRT.

Minutes of the Board of Directors' of the Celestial Kingdom, Amtgard Inc. Saturday, June 29, 2002

Members present:

Mistie Brown
Carlos De la Garza
Mark Pickett
Jean Smith
Christi Nolen
Jason Peters
William Winnie
Therese Thomas Peters *non-voting BOD secretary

Non-members present:

Sharron Larrison
Erycha Baxley
Jaymee Baxley
Doug Bedingfield

Mistie Brown:

Calls meeting to order at 2:45pm
Carrow's Restaurant, Austin TX
Opens floor to old business

Carlos De la Garza: First order of business-

Approval for a storage unit for the
Celestial Kingdom, Amtgard Inc. to be built at
Therese Thomas Peters' property,
4517 Merle Drive, Austin TX 78745
and accept bid as building contractor for the unit
from George Szigeti Jr.

Mistie Brown:

Opens floor to discussion

-Discussion-

Mistie Brown:

Motion to accept bid from George Szigeti Jr. to build a storage unit for the
Celestial Kingdom at 4517 Merle Drive, Austin TX.

William Winnie:

2nd the motion

Mistie Brown:

Call to vote

-Vote passes 7/0-

BOD accepts the bid from George Szigeti Jr. to build a storage unit for the Celestial Kingdom
at 4517 Merle Drive, Austin TX.

Mistie Brown:

Motion for \$500.00 of Kingdom funds be made available to Carlos De la Garza
by July 15th for supplies in building the storage unit.

Christi Nolen: 2nd the motion

Mistie Brown: Call to vote

-Vote passes 7/0-

\$500.00 of Kingdom funds will be made available to Carlos De la Garza by July 15th for supplies in building the storage unit.

William Winnie: Review of Lease Agreement for the property, 4517 Merle Drive, Austin TX between Therese Thomas and the Celestial Kingdom, Amtgard Inc.

Mistie Brown: Opens floor to discussion

-Discussion-

Mistie Brown: Motion for the Lease Agreement between Therese Thomas and the Celestial Kingdom, Amtgard Inc. to be approved by the Board with the following two revisions to be made:

1. On item #15: That the storage building's ownership is designated as property under the Celestial Kingdom, Amtgard Inc. (RENTER).
2. Final paragraph after "\$24": add - "or the amount of the additional property taxes (determined by multiplying the assessed value of the building by all applicable tax rates), which ever is greater.

Carlos De la Garza: 2nd the motion

Mistie Brown: Call to vote

-Vote passes 7/0-

Lease agreement between Therese Thomas and the Celestial Kingdom, Amtgard Inc. approved by the Board of Directors with the above revisions to be made.

Mistie Brown: Opens floor to new business

Mark Pickett: Opens discussion of the Celestial Kingdom's new corpora, concerns and possible revision issues.

William Winnie: Discusses past proposed amendments for the new corpora and that only Althing needed for the approval of the corpora and states that the corpora is not the business of the BOD.

Jean Smith: Asks for specific areas of the corpora that Mark Pickett sees as problematic.

Mark Pickett: States that the corpora only intended purpose was for the general operational procedures of the game.

Carlos De la Garza: States that he has appointed a committee to review and streamline the new corpora.

Mistie Brown: Asks for write up from William Winnie regarding the possibility of a permanent Treasurer position

William Winnie: States that write up of the detail of the position are still unavailable.

-Continued discussion of CK Corpora and BOD procedural operations.

Mistie Brown: Motion for the Board of Directors to schedule a meeting to discuss the creation of a separate BOD operational procedures manual on Sunday, August 4th, 2002 at 4519 Merle Drive in Austin.

Jason Peters: 2nd the motion

-Call to vote-

Vote Passes 7/0

Board of Directors will meet to discuss BOD operational procedures on Sunday, August 4th, 2002 at 4519 Merle Drive in Austin.

Mistie Brown: Opens discussion of the Celestial Kingdom Checkbook/Checking Account with Frost Bank.

William Winnie: States the previous Board of Directors voted to add 2 signatures on to the checking account and that there were differing opinions of how to go about adding signatures to the account between the Austin and San Antonio branches.

Sharron Larrison: States that the Frost Bank home branch for the checking account is in San Antonio where she set up the account for the kingdom.

-Continued discussion of the checking account/checkbook

Mistie Brown: Motion that Mark Pickett be added as a 4th signature to the Celestial Kingdom, Amtgard Inc.'s checking account at Frost Bank, San Antonio. (Checking Acct # withheld from publication in the Star due to security concerns)

William Winnie: 2nd the motion

-Call to vote-

Vote passes 7/0

Mark Pickett will be added as a 4th signature to the Celestial Kingdom, Amtgard Inc.'s checking account at Frost Bank, San Antonio.

Jason Peters: Motion to remove either Kenneth or Irlen Keyes as a signature on the Celestial Kingdom, Amtgard Inc.'s checking account at Frost Bank, San Antonio.

Christi Nolen: 2nd the motion

-Call to vote-

2 Abstain

2 For the motion

3 Against the motion

Motion denied

Carlos De la Garza: Motion for William Winnie, Prime Minister of the Celestial Kingdom to hold checkbook until the next BOD meeting scheduled for August 4th, 2002 when BOD operational procedures will be discussed.

-Call to vote-
Vote passes 7/0
William Winnie, Prime Minister of the Celestial Kingdom will hold checkbook until the next BOD meeting scheduled for August 4th, 2002 when BOD operational procedures will be discussed.

William Winnie: Presents financial documentation of the Celestial Kingdom to the BOD to be reviewed.

-BOD reviews financial documentation-

Mistie Brown: Motions for the meeting to adjourn

Christi Nolen: 2nd the motion

-Meeting Adjourned-



*The Denizens of Tori-Mar need your help.
The land of Tori-Mar has been invaded by*

Vampires

*Ironshanks, Duke of Tori-Mar, invites one and all to the
Midreign of Tori-Mar
on Sunday, August 25, 2002 between the hours of 2:00-6:00 p.m.
at Walnut Creek Metropolitan Park
on North Lamar between Braker and Parmer Lane.*

*There will be a full class Quest/Battlegame
involving the removal of the **Vampires**.
There will also be an arts and sciences tourney and feast.
The feast fee is \$5.00.*

*And as always.....ditching, ditching, ditching.....
Event sponsored by the Travelers.*

Rediscovering the Ceremony

I was given this historical reference regarding the knighting ceremony at least 5 years ago, when Amtgard was something still very fresh and new to me. I wish I could tell you who gave it to me or the author of these words is, but it was so long ago that I received them that I am unable to say now. In their rediscovery, I have come to think-over again our roleplay customs with the knighting ceremony. And although I do not agree with all the practices discussed in the article below that were used in the medieval knightings, not to mention that women knights (dames) are not even spoken of, I do admire the solemnity and intent of the event. I hope that it makes others, old and new to the game, think as well. And maybe if thoughts become discussion and discussion becomes action, the face of our knightings may evolve to new heights. Cheers to the Dream!

-Duchess Dame Aylia Greenfire
Knight of the Flame, Knight of the Crown

Initiation

A squire was eligible for knighthood when he reached the age of twenty-one. By the thirteenth century the initiation into knighthood had grown into an elaborate religious, almost mystical, ceremony - a far cry from the original Teutonic custom of girding a sword on a youth to mark his transition to manhood.

In times of peace the ceremony usually took place around a major Christian festival such as Easter or Whitsuntide, when it was hoped the weather would be fine enough for much of it to be held outdoors.

Usually several squires were dubbed at one ceremony. At the initiation of the future Edward II in 1306 his father proclaimed that all eligible squires seeking to be dubbed should come to London to share this honour with his son. Two hundred and seventy-six squires turned up and in the crush two were killed, several fainted and fighting broke out which had to be halted before the ceremony could continue.

The ritual of initiation began with a ceremonial bath the night before the dubbing. Even though the bath was primarily for cleanliness it came to be regarded as an act of purification - a second baptism. As the squires sat in wooden bathtubs water would be poured over them. One chronicler tells us of squires who sat fully clothed in the tubs. The aspirants were then asked if they were ready for the water to wash away their former life. On making an affirmative reply, they were then drenched.

Next the young men had their beards and their heads shaved, as an act that symbolized their submission to the will of God. Often they were understandably reluctant to lose all their hair, so only a token lock was removed.

The squires were now ready to be dressed. Each was clothed in a new white tunic, symbolizing purity, under which he would wear a smaller

black tunic with black hose and shoes to remind him of death. Over this would be thrown a magnificent red cloak to show his nobility and his willingness to shed blood for his God and his Church. Finally, a white belt was placed round his waist, denoting his chastity.

Now it was time for the young men to go to church, where they would spend the night in vigil. Placing their new arms on the altar steps, they would pass the night meditating on the ceremony to take place the next day. They were not allowed to sit but had to either stand or kneel throughout the night. Their sponsors or a priest would be at hand to give encouragement if the temptation to sleep became too great.

The Vigil

During the vigil the young man would have time to contemplate the duties and responsibilities of knighthood. He might also have repeated this prayer of initiation:

"Hearken we beseech Thee, O Lord, to our prayers, and deign to bless with the right hand of Thy Majesty this sword with which Thy servant desires to be girded, that it may be a defense of churches, widows, orphans and all Thy servants against the scourge of pagans, that it maybe the terror and dread of all evildoers, and that it may be just in both attack and defense."

Dubbings

The actual initiation took place the following morning following the vigil. In the sight of the whole congregation gathered in the church the squire's sword and arms would be blessed. He would then progress to the place where the arming was to take place. His sponsor would fit his armour. It was held to be auspicious if a woman helped with the arming of a knight and even more so if the woman was the young man's fiancée. When armed with his hauberk, cuirasses, and gauntlets he would then receive his golden spurs, the right one always being attached first. Finally, the sword was girded on so that it hung on the knight's right side.

Fully armed, the new knight would kneel to receive the accolade, or colee, from his sponsor to remind him of the duties of knighthood. Originally, this was a heavy blow delivered to the neck, which would send the young man reeling. In time its force lessened to a gentle tap.

The ceremonious form of initiation was possible only in peacetime, of course. In times of war men were often created knights on the battlefield, the words "Be thou a knight" being a sufficient ceremony. Such initiations gave rise to plucking of three blades of grass, symbolizing the Blessed Trinity, to remind the new knight of his new role in life. Sometimes squires were hastily dubbed before a battle to make up for fighting numbers. The historian, Froissart, claimed that before the battle of Aljubarota in 1385, 140 Spanish knights were created for this reason.

This was doubtless a great morale booster for the army, with so many new knights eager to do honour to their new station in life. Indeed, to be dubbed on the battlefield was often the only way that an impoverished squire could gain knighthood.

During the Hundred Years War, a French squire, Regnault, captured the English Earl of Suffolk. When the Earl discovered that his captor was not a knight, though he was of gentlemanly birth, he dubbed him forthwith: only a knight could capture another knight.

The spirit of initiation was sometimes abused, however. On one occasion, three knights set out on an adventure which, for reasons unknown, needed a fourth knight to make up their numbers. Riding through the fields they came upon a hapless peasant quietly tending his crops. They seized and immediately dubbed the astonished man, then set him on a horse so that they could continue on their quest. Unfortunately, it appears that the poor peasant, rather than the irresponsible knights, was punished for this action.



The Handshake

In many areas of the world, the handshake is still regarded as a perfectly acceptable method of greeting. It is often the action that sets the tone for most business transactions.

In early days, the handshake was performed by each participant grasping the other participant's forearm and giving a good, firm shake. This assured both parties that the other party was unarmed, and communicated each participant's ability to defend himself in hand-to-hand combat.

In modern times, the handshake has been moved to take place hand to hand, but it is still about the implied message. Please allow me to run through the three most common handshakes and their conveyed messages:

- * **The Handshake-** This is a good, firm handshake. Sometimes it is delivered as bone-crushing, but it is never weak. This shake lets your companion know that you are confident and that you respect them.
- * **The Limp Wrist-** This is characterized as a light clasp of the hand. It may be used with women by bone-crushers who are afraid of breaking her hand. (Please break my hand! I'd rather nurse a wound than mistake you for a nancy boy!) The message here is that you have no idea why people shake hands, you do it out of tradition. I now know I can walk all over you, you pansy!
- * **The Cold Fish-** You know it. You hate it. This one is characterized by almost no contact. An alarming number of people are using this one. The message is loud and clear: I'm too good for you. You have coolies. Please leave me and my obsessive-compulsive, hypochondriac nature alone. (I have actually refused to do business with perpetrators of this particular handshake...just something about them I cannot trust...)

All right, so now you know what to watch out for, both as giver and receiver. Don't be a cold fish! Show you're a man! Grab that offered hand and shake it with confidence!

-Lady Defender Galen Silverthorne

Paradise

I could not trudge behind you
Nor follow your every step.
For I would the day rue
To become a woman kept.

And in this world, my prancing
Should never be in the lead.
Your spirit bewitched, trancing;
A man drinking of this mead.

But I would dance beside you,
You have only me to ask.
Adam and Eve in skies blue
Paradise of equal task.

-Duchess Dame Aylia Greentire



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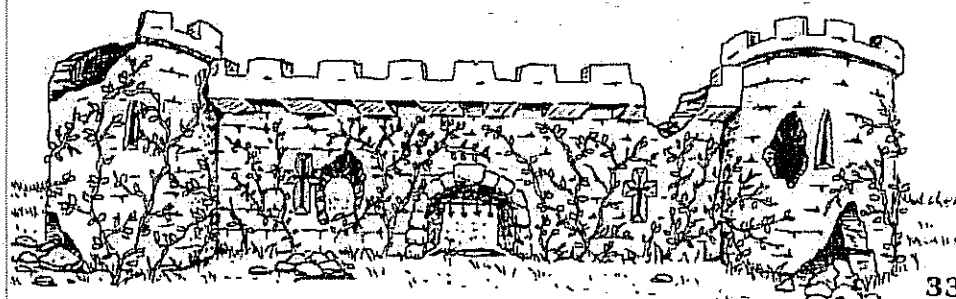
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Tell Me

Tell me little fly on the wall
Does she ever think of me?
Does she look to see if I am there?
Does she smile, thinking of what could be?

Tell me little fly on the wall
What happens when I have her attention?
Does her heart grow soft and warm?
Or does it grow thick with tension?

Tell me little fly on the wall
Do I take her breath away?
Does she lie awake in anticipation
Of seeing me the next day?

Tell me little fly on the wall
Does she ever speak my name?
But most of all, little fly,
Tell me, do we dream for the same?

-Lord Squire Seyer Caasi

A Letter From the Editor

Unto the Populace of the Celestial Kingdom,

This is the last Star that I will be publishing for the CK as Editor in Chief. I have wrestled a bit with the newsletter over the last three months and it will be an experience I will never forget. I would like to thank everyone for the time and contributions to this endeavor and to Squire Seyer Caasi for his art direction of the layout of this issue. Please note that there is not a section on where to give future submissions for the Star. This will soon be decided upon with the election of the next Prime Minister at the upcoming CK Midreign. I hope that all of you have enjoyed these issues of the Star and will continue to support it through your writing and artistic contributions.

In Service,
Duchess Dame Aylia Greenfire
Editor-in-Chief



Artwork Credits

Don Diego Velazquez-Cover, 16, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 33

Lord Squire Seyer Caasi-20, 35