

STRONGHOLD THE GAZETTE

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Don't Remember the Past Year?



By George Aleister Wright

If you find yourself unable to remember what happened in the past year, you might have been dead! Rumor has it that the formerly living may have been brought back to life, possibly due to a pact made between Ozians and the Elemental forces. Another possibility is that your memory might have been stolen by a gruesome figure in a black cloak. Please inquire to your local authorities for assistance.

Apparatus Raffle!

By George Aleister Wright

Support your local artisans! Wright Inventions is proud to present the apparatus raffle! Talented artisans have craft wonderful items such as gun holsters and pouches, all of which we will convert to a single apparatus of your choosing! Each raffle ticket will entitle you to vote for the best item, and a chance of winning one of those items as well. A raffle ticket is 2 bits, or 3 tickets for 5 bits. The artisan voted 1st place will receive 35% of the proceeds, 2nd place 25%, and 20% for 3rd place. Each Wright brother will receive 10% for administration and apparatus conversion expenses. Please see your nearest Wright brother for raffle purchases.

Town Meeting Recap

By George Aleister Wright

A surprise attack was committed by the Hell Runners during the October town meeting of Stronghold Horizon. Witnesses state that a young woman stood up during the meeting and declared "This (Stronghold Horizon) is our town", and began to attack the townspeople. Though quickly subdued, it was a reminder that the Hell Runners continue to pose a nuisance to all law-abiding citizens. It was declared officially that the Hell Runners are Enemies of the State, and are to be prosecuted with extreme prejudice.

In other town meeting news, the townspeople were informed that the undead blockades have been taken down after official notices were given to the Scarecrow army. This news caused some distress among the townspeople, for fear that this action may cause an influx of zombie attacks in the coming months. Townspeople are advised to carry anti-undead weapons or items on their persons at all times.

And lastly,

though Mayor Invento had recently declared that all changelings be given the vote, it seems that he was overstepping his authority and inventing the laws. Regarding changeling voting rights, elder changeling Clawdette spoke against the universal application, convincing the townspeople of Stronghold Horizon to maintain the current laws as is.

Families Reunited All Around Oz

by Arthur Newsie

A strange and exciting phenomenon has been occurring all across this great land of Oz over the past few weeks. People who were presumed dead, or even confirmed dead, have been returning to their homes and families in a completely healthy state. So far, it seems that these individuals remember everything up until the point of their death, and then nothing until suddenly "waking up" months or even over a year after their last memory. No one is sure why or how this has been occurring, but many speculate that the fairy Lurline has returned to Oz and begun working her magic once again.

This reporter had the opportunity to speak with one of the newly reunited families in Lairabee County. Renee and Sam Farmer lost their son, Jack, late last November. He never returned home after a trip out to buy supplies for the household.

"We thought perhaps he had gotten held up waiting for something at the at the feed store and decided to stay the night in town," Renee recalls, "But when he didn't return the next day, we really started to worry."

"I went in to town to see if I could figure out what was going on, and when I arrived no one there had seen him. He never showed up to the store," Sam said, shaking his head, "I looked all over between our house and town for weeks, and never found a darn thing."

Jack was gracious enough to explain his mysterious disappearance. "I was on my way to the feed store, but I must have taken a wrong turn at one of the forks in the road and ended up stumbling into a river after it got dark. I don't remember much after that aside from being wet and cold."

Jack has been thoroughly checked out by a member of the Ripper's Guild from the local outpost, and appears to be perfectly healthy. He has returned to helping his parents on their farm and preparing for the winter that's sure to come upon us very soon. They have one more mouth to feed now, but also one more set of hands to help.

Seed of Trouble

By Roman Blake

Confusion, that was what most of us were feeling last month when Marshall Silver asked the town to meet at the Red Poppy for 'trouble coming to town'. I have my own theories on what happened, and I'll share what facts I know.

The local Immortals, lead by former Judge Cookie, were given a magical seed. They planted this seed, and fueled by magic it grew into a sprout. Someone or something assaulted its planting to prevent its creation. The attack failed and the sprout was safe.

Everything was kept hush for the next few months during spring through fall. I'm assuming this cabal was attempting to reverse winter, and return to a perpetual spring. As soon as the sprout sprang to life the seasons began to change; the future looked good.

The spirit of winter, as we saw last month, saw the sprout as an error to be corrected. She made a bitter ultimatum upon both the town and the sprout. Upon compliance, the spirit of winter would return those who had died from hunger and cold. After a sustained standoff, the harshest demand was met. This was enough to appease the spirit of winter. She left and, I am assuming, kept her side of the bargain.

This is my accounting; Luke, Cookie, and Brackie would be the ones to talk to for more details.

STRONGHOLD THE GAZETTE

Hush Now to Blush Now

Sex & Relationship Advice Column form the experts

Hello. I have this question and I didn't know who else in town to go to so I was just wondering... Part of my job is to tie people up sometimes and when that happens I get these... feelings. Then later when I'm by myself those feelings come up again and I keep thinking about that person I tied up, sometimes I practice tying myself up. Is that normal?

-A tongue-tied tier-upper

Of course your interest is normal! People have a great many differences in appetites and menus and their tastes vary from very simple to setting up complex scenarios that might take days to procure and set up. The good thing is that now you know what might put an extra spark in your relationships! We suggest you continue in your practice and when you feel comfortable, then invite that special someone to assist in making sure you don't get away... If you need assistance with ideas or techniques do consider attending one of our upcoming informational workshops. Cheers.

I like it when my lovers pull my hair and slap my behind real good. I've had poor luck with Stormriders, dropping hints and the like. When I flat out asked one of them to oblige me he put his pants back on and left. How do I broach the subject without scaring their Johnsons away?

-Stormrider rider

Dear SR, what can be said about people who come from a land named for virgins? One thing we always encourage at Wiggles is negotiate before the clothes come off! Bring up your desires directly, but don't wait until the intimacies have started. Ask them to give it a try, explain that you find it fun. But be aware even Ozians aren't always up for the spicier side, so you made need to be patient in your quest, be ready to hear some "no's." If you continue to come up short, head over to Wiggles and ask for Ginger. You won't be disappointed. Kiss kiss, Georgie.

There's this beautiful girl in town that I swoon over every time I see her, but I don't think she even knows I'm alive. What do pretty girls like?

How do I get her to notice me?

-Lovestruck in limbo

Lovestruck,

Girls are really nice, as long as you don't hurt 'em without Mommy saying it's okay! If you wanna make friends with her and get her to notice you, you really ought to try and give her a cookie! Everyone loves cookies! I made some really good friends with cookies before! Oh! Or you could give her a dolly! Everyone loves dollies, but you gotta make sure they aren't like the nice dolly who lives in town. She shouldn't be given to people 'cause she's her own person-like! But dollies are really nice to give as presents. I like my cat (you can't have him), but you could also do a bunny or a different kitty or a doggie... Or you could give her a big sword!!! All the girls I know like swords! They aren't all like the ones I carry, I don't think. Mine doesn't fit in pants... but Daddy and Georgie talk a bunch about how much they like 'em! They're really big and long and stuff and make people happy! Daddy's got one she keeps inside the room inna special place 'cause it's only for people who are paying, she says. You could probably ask her about that one! Give your pretty girl a sword and a cookie and a dolly and I bet she'll be your friend in no time!! :D

Mack

'allo. I don't rightly understand why anyone would want to have an advice column on such intimate matters but since you're around maybe you can help me. My husband I have been married for close to twenty years. Our love making is closer to a horse race, always has been. I don't think I've ever won and he's plum tuckered out by his finish line. I just don't have that much fun but I want to make him happy. Do I just keep lying there until he's done, till death do us part?

-Bored in the bedroom

B in B, instead of a horse race, try a leisurely stroll. Instead of letting him set the pace, make it clear that you're leading the way. Lead by example; you may have to be firm, but it will be worth it. Take your time, enjoy the view, and the smell, and the taste and well you get the idea. Then switch, make sure to tell him what feels good and what doesn't. By the end you should both feel good and the only fatigue should be languid enjoyment. For a more hands on approach sign up the both of you for one of our couples' enjoyment classes. Kiss kiss, Georgie.

Exploring Oz

Winkie Country / Land of the Winkies

Munchkin Country is inhabited by the Winkies, humans of mostly average height. Many proudly wear yellow, their country's color. The country is mostly grassland and plains, with farming done near the many rivers. They are notably the land's leaders in tin production. It has a high population. The land used to be ruled by the Tin Woodsman (Nick Chopper, originally a Munchkin) until he was deposed by Azkedellia back in the day.

Notable Winkies:

Nick Chopper- also known as the Tin Woodsman. He is originally a munchkin, but rules over Winkie Country as the king. He supports Ozma with great zeal.

Jack Pumpkinhead- made from magic, a helpful source of information and friend to the Scarecrow.

Stick-in-the-Muds- a muddy people who use long stilts.

Quilties- a group of humans who's job it is to make all of the quilts for the Emerald City.

Notable Winkie Locations:

The Black Forest- in the south, home to Gloma, the Good Witch.

Wicked Witch of the West's Castle- where Dorothy melted the witch and freed the people. It was originally the palace of Nick Chopper, but he found it "too damp" and so moved to the Tin Palace.

The Tin Palace- where the king, Nick Chopper, lives. The Scarecrow's Mansion- designed by Jack Pumpkinhead, the mansion is five stories tall and resembles an ear of corn.

Truth Pond- the waters free the bather of enchantment, but the next three things they say must be the truth.

Merry Go Mountains- a trio of mountains that twirl in the air.

The Tottenhots- a nocturnal group of sprites.

Oogaboo- the smallest and poorest kingdom in Oz, hidden in a valley.

Thi- a wild kingdom filled with Thistles. The humanoids living there have gold stomachs and throats, to allow them to eat thistles around the city.

They use mechanical dragons as workers.

Herku- a city ruled by a giant named Vig, a dictator.

The city is made with burnished copper and the residents use a drug called Zosoza that makes them skeletally thin and immensely strong, which helps them keep a breed of giants as their slaves.

Bear Center- a forest where stuffed bears live, ruled by the Leavender Bear.

Marsh Land- a very muddy area home to the Stick-in-the-Muds



STRONGHOLD

THE

GAZETTE

Market Extravaganza! Looking for a Lurlinemas gift? Need to stock up on your winter supplies? Come to the Stone Inn after the town meeting and have a look-see! Have items to sell? 1 bit for ½ a table to setup your wares. 2 bits for an entire table! See Mr.Devereaux for details.

“Healing Shrubberies at Work”

By George Aleister Wright



Only hours after the Wright Invention Healing Shrubberies were presented to the Red Poppy Tavern, Hilde Hall, and Stone Inn, the townspeople have already benefited from their healing effect. Miss Georgie, an employee of the Wiggles, recounts her story of survival. “We were having a wonderful night at Wiggles enjoying some music when the undead ambushed us. Though we were able to defend ourselves, Madame Snickerdoodle was injured during the altercation. Madame is usually the one who tends to our illnesses and injuries, so we were in a panic and I started to rush out to find a doctor when the lovely glowing shrubbery caught my eye. We activated it saving the madame’s life! Thank you Mr. Wright!”



Snow Cone Party at the Stone Inn

By George Aleister Wright

The Stone Inn patrons enjoyed a snow cone party after an altercation with ornery ice folk. It seems that the ice folk were trying to “storm” the Stone Inn, but were deftly repelled by the guard towers. As commented by one of the patrons “This may be one of the safest and tastiest places in all of Stronghold Horizon!”

Service Providers, Come See Us!

By George Aleister Wright

Do you need help marketing your talents? The Wright brothers are seeking talented people to provide prizes for an upcoming services raffle! Perhaps you are a gifted fighter? Maybe you can provide building security or serve as a bodyguard! A penchant for singing? Foot rubs? Come see the Wright Brothers for details! Space is limited.

WIGGLIES Casino and Brothel

Casino Hours:

Fri: 11:30 PM - Close

Sat: 4 PM - 7 PM ; 10 PM - Close

Sun: Closed for cleaning



Feeling lucky? Heavy pockets?

Take a chance and roll the dice!

You could be the next big winner at Wiggles!

Are you in need to companionship?

Love? Romance?

Lust

Passion?

Brothel Hours:

Always Open for Business



WRIGHT PUBLISHING

IS LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD OZIANs
TO JOIN THE NEWSPAPER
FREELANCE AND STAFF JOB AVAILABLE

TOWN MEETING: SATURDAY, 3:00 PM

Your elected officials will be available to discuss issues plaguing the town.

- Please remember the following rules in the open forum.
- Please do not fire your weapons during the town meeting, roofing is expensive.
- Please keep your Constructs and other devices under control for the duration of the meeting. We don't want a repeat of the Great Hypnotica incident.
- Anyone found excessively intoxicated will be removed by an officer and held until sober.

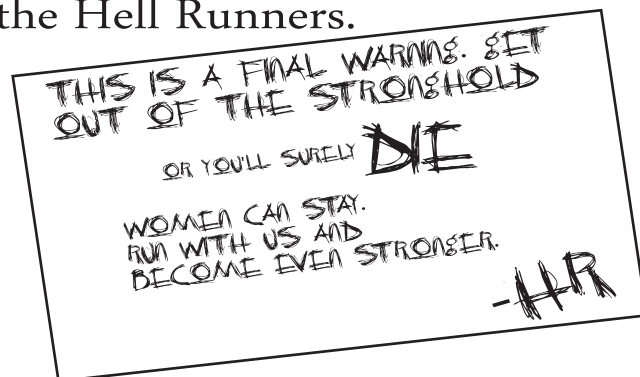
Tax Collection after town meeting**TAXES & YOU**

By Lucrezion acting officially as Town Treasurer

By requirement of the Emerald City and in order to assure a community chest for the medicines, foods and other items that our town so greatly needs, TAX POLICY is in effect. Each resident of Horizon Stronghold shall pay THREE BITS every tax-season. In the interest of fairness, those not eligible for full votes will pay a reduced amount: TWO BITS for partial votes, ONE BIT for those who cannot vote.

To lighten the burden, the Treasury has agreed to accept certain goods at a reasonable discount from market value. At least ONE BIT per Person must be paid in cash, for we must have coin to send to the Emerald City. Overpayment may be logged as a CREDIT against future taxes, or may be spent to help pay the taxes of others.

A few weeks after the incident at the town meeting, the Wright brothers Punlishing received the following message from the Hell Runners.



PS Dear HR, you now have a 3bit debt with wright publishing for your ad

**NEED AN UPDATE TO
YOUR OLD APPARATUS?
WRIGHT
INVENTIONS**

**Odd Sightings
In Quadling Country**

by Oliver Sudden

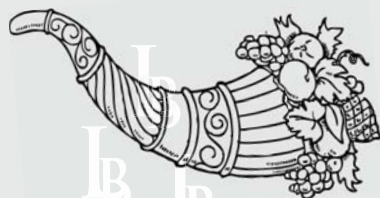
Reports have been coming in from Quadling Country that the number of undead has been significantly reduced for unknown reasons. The remaining Quadlings have been tentatively rebuilding their homes and townships in preparation for the return of those who fled the zombie menace and the cold snaps. But this isn't even the strangest report from Quadling!

There have also been reports of undead fighting amongst themselves. It appears that a fraction of the remaining undead in Quadling Country have broken away from the rest and set to wiping them out. Rumors abound as to why this might occur, and the stories reported by the Quadlings have varied wildly. Some state that a group of witches are controlling this small faction of zombies and others have made claims that Glinda the Good or even that a new Wicked Witch has risen.

**Not Everything is Peaches
and Cream**

By George Aleister Wright

The infamous "Peaches" does exist! Peaches Made an appearance in the town of Stronghold Horizon recently. For several months now, a "crazy old woman" has been wondering the area looking for her dear Peaches with a "heart of gold". If by "heart of gold" she meant an eight foot long battle axe she would be correct. The malfunctioning, rampaging construct was subdued by many, many, bullets.

**LAIRABEE FEED**

LOOKING TO SUPPLEMENT YOUR FOOD
RATIONS FOR COMING COLD SEASONS?
LOOK NO FURTHER!

LAIRABEE FEED STORE IS OFFERING DEALS ON

SEEDS SEED STARTS
FERTILIZER GARDEN TOOLS

AND MUCH MUCH MORE

STOP BY THE LAIRABEE FEED
STORE FOR ALL YOUR GARDENING NEEDS!