

STRONGHOLD ^{THE} GAZETTE

Vol. 2 No. 5 March 20, 147

Wright Publishing

Founded Oz CXLV

Per the Bylaws of the Civil Authority, Section IV, the Right of Review, Wright Publishing cannot assume the associated risk of publishing the Stronghold Gazette at this time. We hope to resume publication immediately upon receipt of official authorization by The Civil Authority.

We apologize to our readers for any inconvenience.

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Town Meeting of Horizon's Stronghold

January 10, 147^{Phibloc L. Threx}

The town meeting on Lurlinemas Day started with a warm reception and season greeting from Mayor Pfeffernusse. With that came a commendation of the generosity within the community that has had to eke out their living from the harsh environment around them. With that generosity came a gift from the Mayor to the new Marshal on behalf of the town made specifically for helping to hunt the ooglies.

Miss Glass then appeared and announcements were started. Addressing the murmurs of issues with claims to the properties within Horizon's Stronghold - assorted issues still effecting several people and estates - the Mayor has set forth a plan to prevent such problems in the future. Within the legal capacity, Mayor Pfeffernusse will be changing the rules of how a property claim operates. No longer will it be just "throw down your bedroll and a table and be done with it." No, the long term legality and filings with law and bureaucracy, the paperwork needed to be attained, the deeds and rights that may yet belong to another complicate the issue far beyond that simple and disruptive frame of reference. Simply put, there is action needed, and action is what will be taken.

The Mayor expects a more concrete example of this at the next meeting, and with it a further progress report of what the final goals, thresholds, and implementation would look like. Ultimately, the Mayor promises that this will result in a restructuring of taxes. Further, taxes are expected to greatly lower for some and substantially simplify for all. Certainly there will be some filing fees and costs

associated with the legitimization of certain land and building ownerships or rental agreements, but overall there will be a tax savings for the populace. Currently, the idea is to allow the property rights to be available at cost, and not at the detriment of any one group, so that there is greater transparency in the machinations of our community.

Switching topics, the Mayor then chose to address the rabies in wild animals and changelings. From the dear Dr. Sebastian LeCroix, Horizon's Stronghold has received an alchemical rabies cure - of limited supply, but certainly better than what was had before. With this supply has come new guidelines: do not kill rabid changelings - merely incapacitate them; bring these changelings once incapacitated to one of the several personages (the doctor himself, Clawdette as elder changeling, and several others who will be assigned at a later time) who will be carrying these cures; they will be administered by those who have them and the changeling will be set free as it pleases. This is quite the humanitarian effort organized for the town and we would all like to see it succeed!

In passing, the Mayor would like it known that there are some beings one may see coming and going to a place that is promised to them. Do not bother them. Let them be and the will not harm anyone. There are some talks that the cultists may be tied to Famine, but the extent of truth to that story, we as yet do not know. Finally, Mayor Pfeffernusse gave some parting Lurelinemas advice: be aware, be safe, and avoid giant maws.

Cont. page 3

From the Mayor Snickerdoodle's Desk

Esteemed people of Horizon's Stronghold, your generosity at the charity Eye Ball has warmed my heart. The money raised provided a great boon to those who had lost their sight to Ooglies and it is our hope that we can also use it to prevent future tragedy at their hands.

Unfortunately more tragedy has struck in our fair town; the Immortal we have all come to know as Blaze is no longer with our town. His fiery heart no longer burns from beneath his mountain, but to sate the hunger of Famine. His sacrifice to save the lives of thousands for the cost of his own shall be remembered not only by Horizon's Stronghold, but in the lives of every person that Famine no longer threatens.

As word spreads of how Horizon's Stronghold continues to overcome hardship and adversity, we have become a growing beacon for refugees from nearby counties and locations that have fared poorly in recent times. We would all like to help our neighbors, but we must also tend to our own families. A growing population strains our resources, so refugees should be expected to contribute their labors and what skills and knowledge they have so that we may all continue to prosper together.

Finally, our fair town's first council meeting was a great success. It is my hope that with more frank and honest discussions of topics of importance from the various groups in our town that we will continue to grow in strength and unity.

Be safe and healthy, everyone.

Are You Breaking the Law?

By George Aleister Wright

My fellow Horizon's Strongholdians, we must regretfully inform you that you may, at this very moment, be breaking the law. As informed newspaper men and women, we were under the impression that we understood the laws of the land, and in fact, printed said laws in our premier edition Vol I no. I May 31, 145. When we were informed that the laws were being revised, we immediately printed said revisions in the Gazette, Vol I. no IV Jan 17, 146.

HOWEVER,

The paper recently learned on Jan 11, 147 that there is a whole set of additional laws that the townsfolk are subject to.

One of these laws was broken by Mr. Devereaux. He was not tried by elected judge Death, or her judge pro tempore Miss Nightshade. Mr. Devereaux was tried and convicted, and is now ineligible to apply for citizenship of this land for at least another year.

After the trial, we immediately sent a formal request for a copy of said laws to the Bureaucrats Guild. We have been furnished with a copy of these laws and they can be found on page 2 of this paper.

New Town Council

The new town council had it's first meeting in January.

In attendance was

Mayor Snickerdoodle

Clawdette as elder changeling

Marshal Jebediah Collins

George Bernard Wright

Georgie

Lucrezion

Miss Nightshade

Mr. Buckworth

Van Der Gold - Guilty

by Reid Barker

The Squirrel King has held a trial in absentia for the accusations of food crimes against Brachelia Van Der Gold, Princess Spot, and their conspirators in the Black Market. He has found them guilty as charged in the shocking theft of his nuts. Ms. Van Der Gold has been unavailable for comment regarding this new state of affairs. The Squirrel King has offered a reward of, "The printhely thum of 100 nuts from the royal vault," for the apprehension of these outlaws.

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The Old Laws which bind Immortals

(Not known outside of Immortal communities)

1. Respect The Land – The lands of Oz are the well from which immortals spring. All immortals are tied to this land, no matter their type or form.
2. Respect The Purpose – Each immortal fills a role, a purpose. Some share their purpose with their kin and kind, others are unique, but each has a purpose.
3. Respect Each Other – From the greatest Immortals who sprung for at the moment of creation to the smallest born from the imaginings of men, each deserves the respect of all.
4. Respect The Home – A being's home is sacred and to be respected. Respect your host's hospitality, treating them as you would be treated in your own home.
5. Respect The Parley – If there is disagreement between immortals, come together peaceably to discuss a resolution.

The Laws of Oz

which pertain to citizens, legal aliens, residents, and visiting entities

- I. The Lands of Oz include Gillikin Country, Munchkin Country, Winkie Country, Quadling Country, and the Lands held by the Emerald City.

II. Hierarchy of Laws

- a. Laws of the Land of Oz are paramount. All laws of the various countries, counties and towns must be legal within the laws of Oz.
- b. The Civil Authority is free to establish laws for the better governance and management of the many lands of Oz. These laws are to be enforced by the Civil Authority, and may contradict, supersede, or bypass normal Ozian laws, when deemed appropriate.
- c. The four countries within Oz may make their own laws for their own lands. These laws apply to all within those borders, unless otherwise denoted in these laws, the laws of the respective country, or the laws of the Civil Authority.
- d. Cities, towns and unincorporated communities may pass laws binding themselves and those within their borders. These laws must be congruent with the laws of Oz. These laws can be amended or suspended by the Civil Authority, when deemed appropriate.

III. Citizenship –

- a. Birth - Any being born within the borders of any of the lands of Oz, but not necessarily those born beneath or above the lands of Oz, to parents who are themselves citizens shall be considered a citizen of Oz.
- b. Sponsorship – Any being may be sponsored to citizenship by an adult citizen in good standing with the law and their community. It is the sponsor's responsibility to educate their ward on the laws and traditions of Oz, its many countries and peoples, and all other things required to live happily and well in these lands.
 - i. Duration – A sponsorship shall last no less than six months. A ward may apply to become a full citizen after that time has elapsed, but may also continue learning from their sponsor for as much as fifty years.
 - ii. Resolution – Once either the ward or the Sponsor feels that the ward has learned enough, they may submit the proper paperwork to their local Bureaucrat's Guild representative. The paperwork, the process for submitting it, and the representative shall be determined by the Bureaucrat's Guild or the Civil Authority.
 - iii. Military Exceptions – Non-citizen residents who voluntarily serve in the military can be sponsored by the Military as an organization, rather than an individual citizen. While actively serving in the military, they shall be treated as a full

citizen unless otherwise noted in the law.

- c. Voting – Full citizens of human or immortal or similar stock receive a full vote. Changelings, property, non-citizen residents, and others receive partial votes in any and all elections.
- d. Loss – A citizen may lose their citizenship as an Ozian in several ways, including but not limited to the following:
 - i. Crimes Against Oz – Defined and determined by courts empowered by the Crown, or by the Civil Authority, if no other official is available.
 - ii. Crimes Against the Civil Authority – Defined and determined by the Civil Authority.
 - iii. Malfesance against Oz, its people, or its Magic.
- IV. Taxes – The rate of taxes paid to the Crown and the Civil authority is to be determined regularly, applied fairly, and collected locally. The recognized Guilds may be requested to inform the committee on various information to provide for a proper tax rate. The membership of the Committee shall be determined by a representative of the Civil Authority and a representative of the Crown.
- a. Countries, counties and townships may impose their own taxes, provided they do not create an undue burden which prevents their citizens and residents from paying their taxes to the Emerald City.
- b. Failure to pay taxes can result in fines or other punishments, to be determined and applied by the Civil Authority.

V. Military

- a. The Crown is free to establish and maintain a military based in the Emerald City, but free to operate throughout all Ozian lands. Any commands from an officer of the military are to be treated as if they bear the weight of the law, until such time as those commands can be reviewed by the appropriate authority.
- b. Officers of this military may sign conscription papers to bring a citizen or non-citizen resident into the military.

VI. Justice –

- a. If a person is accused of a crime against the state, the crown or the civil authority, the official representatives of the wronged government or agency will determine which jurisdiction is best suited to try the case, including setting the location, the Judge, and the laws under which the accused will be tried.
- b. The methodology of the trial will be determined by the Judge appointed to the case, but a bare minimum for a legal trial is that a judge sits, hears the accusations brought (by the representative of the wronged government or agency) and hears the pleas of the accused. It is encouraged that the judge hear other testimony in court, that the judge use a visual method for determining the accused's guilt, and that there be a court recorder (usually a bureaucrat or civil authority member).
- c. The punishment for a convicted criminal shall be determined by the judge who sits on the trial, unless that judge defers the right to another authority or unless the punishment is defined by the law in question.
- d. Appeal – Full citizens have the right to appeal their conviction within 90 days of said conviction. Changelings, property, and non-citizen residents do not have the right to appeal. Those who own property or who have sponsored a non-citizen resident may appeal on behalf of their ward, but if they choose to do so, they will be required to accept the same punishment as their ward, if the appeal fails. If at all possible, the same judge who heard the original trial shall hear the appeal. If they are unavailable, or choose to recuse themselves, another may be appointed. If none can be found to hear the appeal, the appellant must go to the Emerald City to submit their appeal there.

VII. Civil Litigation and Tort Law

- a. The civil laws of Oz shall be kept by recording cases brought before a Judge, argued, heard and decided. Case law shall

be the only acceptable form of argument, and all judgments are recorded and become law. Each jurisdiction, from Oz through unincorporated counties may determine their own case law.

- b. Appeals – If one feels that their civil trial was improperly decided, they may appeal to the Civil Authority for a review. The appellant may also request a review by the Crown.

VIII. Food Laws

- a. With the coming of Winter and winter, the return of Death and death, and the sudden discovery of starvation, of paucity, and of lack, and widespread famine, it shall henceforth be illegal to:
 - i. Horde food – which is defined as holding more food or food-substances than can be consumed in one week. Families, towns, and Great Houses can collectively hold their food, provided that they account for each person's allotment.
 - ii. Destroy food – Destruction of food in any manner other than consuming it for its nutrition.
 - iii. Waste food – Preparing more than is necessary and then throwing it away.
 - iv. Steal Food
- b. These laws shall be enforced by all governments and agencies. If anyone witnesses a violation, they may report it to the nearest authority, and it will be tried by the appropriate judicial authority.

The Laws of the Civil Authority

1. Report – All things must be known to the Civil Authority. Report accurately and correctly.
2. Record – All things must be known to the Civil Authority. Record accurately and correctly.
3. Review – All things must be known to the Civil Authority. Review for accuracy and correctness.

The Bylaws of the Civil Authority

- I. Establishment and Empowerment –
 - a. The Ministry of Domestic Security, also known as The Civil Authority, is established to promote and support order and wellbeing in the Lands of Oz. As such, the members and agents of the Civil Authority are authorized to act in their official capacity in any Land of Oz
 - b. Should the laws, bylaws or orders of the Civil Authority contradict a country, county or local law, the agents or members of the Civil Authority are empowered to amend or suspend any such law. Such amendments or suspensions must be submitted for review no later than 30 days after the initial conflict.
 - i. If the agent or member is found to have acted improperly, they will be tried for Crimes Against the Civil Authority.
 - ii. If found guilty, the agent or member shall be punished with at the minimum a loss of rank and authority, but up to execution with their remains being turned into a construct.
- II. Orders-
 - a. The Emerald Civil Authority – Authorized to act within the Emerald City, to keep order and peace.
 - b. Bureaucracy of Tax and Budget – Agents who specialize in managing the flow of the economy in the respective regions and municipalities.
 - c. The Civil Authority – Tin Men who are assigned to each Country and County. Ranks include, but are not limited to Head Marshalls, Marshalls, and Patrolmen.
- III. Personal Powers and Privileges
 - a. Each agent or member of the Authority is permitted to act as the official representative of the Authority.
 - b. Each agent or member is authorized to request funds or resources from the Authority, though they will be required to submit a complete report explaining their actions.
 - c. The government of each town, county and country is obliged to support the decisions and directions of their local member or agent.
 - d. The life of each member or agent is of significant

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importance and value, to be protected at all costs. If threatened, the agent is authorized to take whatever steps are reasonable to secure their safety, up to and including executing the offender at that moment. If such an event happens in public and the threat is not imminent, the offender can be brought to trial.

i. Such trials shall be presided over by the local member or agent of the authority of highest rank, provided they are not the offended party.

ii. If no member or agent is available to sit in judgment, the trial can be sent to the County Seat, the Emerald City, or a neutral third party can be appointed to sit as judge.

iii. Penalties include at least a fine and loss of any official position. If the offender is not a citizen, they will be denied citizenship for a period of no less than one year.

IV. Right of Review –

a. The Civil Authority retains the right to review any and all publications printed within Oz. This review is for accuracy, correctness and content.

b. Anyone found to be publishing content not approved by the Authority can be fined or punished in other ways.

V. Right to Privacy

a. The Civil Authority may deem any document, information, person, or thing “private” and thus “secret.” That which is deemed “private” may not be discussed in print, may not be discussed in the public arena, and should not be discussed in private.

b. Individuals who discuss private matters in public shall be punished as deemed appropriate by the local agent or member of the authority.

Town Meeting con

Marshal Jebediah Collins then stood for further announcements. He seeks to organize a town militia with one person to be a point of contact for each building. Those who were interested approached him after the meeting but if you find yourself likewise inclined to aid in the effort, please see the Marshal and make yourself known.

Finally, Luc had an announcement to the merchants and craftsmen for the economic well-being of Horizon’s Stronghold. He has put forth an invitation to several military organizations and larger settlements to serve as a type of supply chain, offering services and products for them. What he needs to substantiate this effort to would-be retailers and purchasers is an example of our wares. As such, he offers any producer and provider of service room in several parcels to exemplify their products and therefore (hopefully) garner interest and investment.

It seems like a sound business endeavor, ideal for pumping money into the small community. Perhaps this may be the thing to lift the burden of squalor from Horizon’s Stronghold. This is also supported by the farmers, who are looking to find a way to support themselves and feed their families this winter. Last winter there was not enough. And it is not far from the collective memory what happened then. But, as with all things, if you are in dire need or know of someone who is, speak to Mayor Pfeffernusse. He will find a way to help you.

WIGGLIES

Casino and Brothel

Located inside Hilde Hall.
Amenities include full bar, snacks, private rooms, music.

Casino Hours:


Fri: 11:30 PM - Close

Sat: 3:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Sun: Closed for cleaning

Brothel Hours:

Always Open for Business



Announcing a
BRAND NEW casino game:
Wiggles Dice!

A fast paced game of chance, the more players, the more fun!

Are you In Need of Companionship?
Love? Lust? Romance?
Passion?

Satisfaction guaranteed! Be serviced with a smile!
Wiggles takes pride in
the variety and skill of our capable and experienced
courtesans to suit your needs and fill your every desire.

We host and cater full service Bachelor and Bachelorette parties!
Walk-ins welcome! Schedule yours today!

The town meeting ended with a brief remark on the Lurlinemas dinner to be held for the community and the Charity Eye Ball.

As a personal aside from the writer, I would like to extend my deepest sympathies on the death of Blaze, the Immortal who gave his life for us and thus spared Munchkinland from the wrath of Famine. May we all remember our time with him fondly and seek to embody his spirit of charity and devotion to this community. Horizon’s Stronghold may not be the most extravagant with wealth or the most comfortable place to live, but it is home to many and sanctuary to even more.

A Hearty Thank You!

I just wanted to write to thank the generous people of Horizon Stronghold. I cannot begin to tell you how much it means to me to be able to see well again. The new eye is better than the one that creature took from me. It was inspiring to see so many come together to help those of us that had lost our eyes.

May your harvests be bountiful and your plates always full.

Thank you!
Cropper Root

**TOWN MEETING:
SATURDAY,
2:00 PM****Gather Up Your Emeralds!**

The recent influx of new citizens to Horizon's Stronghold has brought a new issue to light: we need deeds for buildings. New policies will be announced at this month's town meeting.

TAXES & YOU

By 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.

Tax Collection after town meeting

**Holiday Weekend
Happenings
in Horizon
Stronghold**

Pie baking contest: enter either the savory or sweet category. If you're interested in being a judge, it costs 2 bits. Turn in for contest after town meeting 3Pm at the Poppy. The winners of the contest split the prize money!

Red Poppy Scavenger hunt: trade 3 bits for a list of clues! Whoever gathers the most charms by Saturday dinner wins! The winners get the prize money!

Art Wall: art supplies and large sheets of paper are provided by the Red Poppy. Come and add your images of Springtime and hope to celebrate Oz's rebirth!

Stone Market at The Stone Lodge noon to two

Tribute to a great Leader.

By Thunn

The town of Horizon Stronghold would like to thank former Mayor HP Invento for his dedication and service to its citizens and its prosperity. 38 year old Stormrider Howard Philip lived in Colville, where he established himself as a brilliant inventor and scientist. On election night, when he might have been elected mayor, there was a storm. He had built a machine to harness the storms power, but it had been sabotaged. Howard isn't sure if his machine attracted or caused the tornado, but it blew him and many folks from Colville into Oz where he survived the landing, and eventually found his way to Horizon Stronghold.

"When I first arrived here in Oz, I saw color take a life of its own. Everything became brighter, and the world was so vivid like a dream. I was entranced by Oz. It seemed like a place where anything could happen, where wishes could come true."

"In my time as mayor I've come to realize 1 thing. The people here can survive anything. They're not merely a town full of people, we are all a tight nit family, and that's why nothing can stop us. I look forward to all of the prosperity that's in the future of this town."

The people of Horizon Stronghold thank you Howard Philip Invento, for all your hard work and sacrifices.

Services Raffle!

By George Aleister Wright

The Wright brothers are pleased to bring you the services raffle! Nine talented locals have agreed to provide various services as prizes for your enjoyment. The cost for one raffle ticket will be two bits, or three tickets for an emerald! Each of the talented locals will receive ten percent of the proceeds, with the remaining ten percent for administration costs. Tickets will be on sale at the Stone Market. The drawing to be held after the Town Meeting! Each winner will be allowed to pick one of the services in the order they are drawn.

Show your support to our local talent!

Prizes

Wiggles- Courtesan time-with the Courtesan of their choice
Lucrezion Nightshade- Crystal ball reading
Miss Dolly- High Tea time
Miss Mac - Bodyguard time or plate of cookies
Billy- Courtesan time
Ex Marshal Silver- Weapons training with Firearms or Sword
Clawdette- Locksmithing skills
Thadeus- Weapon training or bodyguard (1 escort upon request)
Catherine- Messenger (1 message within 1 day of travel)
Roman- One use of magical arts

Charity Eye Ball a huge success!

By Thunn

Town sees a bright future on the Horizon! Since the infection of the Ooglies, the town of Horizon Stronghold has shown their ability to rise above tragedy and come out ahead with heads held high and hearts opened. Therefore, to raise funds in an effort to help recent victims of the vile eye monsters, the Red Poppy inn hosted a marvelous ball for Lurlinemas. The Wright brothers had been raising awareness for some time before the festivities with their promotions for games and invitations. Ms. Glass has continuously been decorating the tavern and preparing the staff. Madame Felicicia Snickerdoodle originally put forth the idea seeing the victims of the Ooglies in such dire needs.

"It is possible to have one's eyes replaced, but it's very expensive." She said during an interview. "We should come together in these harsh times to help promote a sense of community. Everyone should be helping each other this far out in the woods." The Madame also expressed the towns need to support their depu-

ties and marshals.

As the events of the evening began to unfold the spirit of Lurlinemas spread through the hearts, the party seemed to take a sudden turn when it was interrupted by the Ooglies themselves. The very eyeballs the Eye Ball was thrown for turned their eyes at the Eye Ball and its attendees. The good folk quickly rallied together to dispatch them. Their defeat was both inspiring and symbolic as per the intent of the occasion. The money raised in the first round of games alone was enough to fund the replacement eyes needed for the victims of the Ooglies. The total funds raised for the evening was 38 emeralds and 1 bit. The cost per eye is 5-6 Emeralds. Extra funds will be donated to the local peace keepers. The food was spectacular and the After the Eye Ball, newly elected Mayor Pfeffernusse Snickerdoodle gave a closing speech thanking the town for going above and beyond in their generosity and kindness.