Vol. 5 No. II April 14 148

Wright Publishing

Founded Oz CXLV

#### Guilds Reorganized!

The rulers of Oz would like to extend their appreciation to the citizens of Oz who took the time to travel to the Emerald City to provide their input on how the guilds should be reorganized to best serve the interests of the memberships of the guilds and the citizenry of Oz. It was enlightening to hear the impassioned opinions and support for the rulers of Oz.

The new guild structure is as follows:

**Under Ozma** 

Ozma's Army
The Hospitality Guild
The Mercantile Guild
The Bit Lenders Guild
The Rippers Guild - Moved from
Azkadellia

Under The Scarecrow
Scarecrow's Army
The Ivory Tower - New Guild!
The Grubbers Guild
The Tinkers Guild
The Mephetics Guild - Moved from
Azkadellia

Under Azkadellia
The Civil Authority
The Bureaucrats Guild
The Drudgers Guild - Moved from The
Scarecrow
The Masons Guild - Moved from The
Scarecrow

As has been noted above there is a new ruling Guild in Oz! The new guild, The Ivory Tower, will be working for the gathering of knowledge and performing research into Oz, its people, the flora and fauna of the lands of Oz, and the surrounding areas. We all look forward to seeing the great things that will be done by this guild.

As part of the negotiations that led to the Drudgers Emerald guild moving from The Scarecrow to Azkadellia the practice

# **λ** Deaceful Succession



Following weeks of large deliveries to Ozma's palace and rumors among the citizens of the Emerald City, a spectacular coronation ceremony dazzled Ruling Guild representatives and common citizens alike. Ozma the Peacemaker has retired from her era of rulership and crowned her daughter, the Princess Ozma, as the ruling descendent of the Royal Family of Oz.

This succession is the first to occur since Ozma the Peacemaker, King Scarecrow, and Azkadellia signed their peace treaty and created the Trifecta system of rulership. There was some concern voiced by citizens that Scarecrow and Azkadellia would refuse to acknowledge Princess Ozma as a member of the Trifecta. However, both rulers attended the coronation ceremony and graciously welcomed Princess Ozma as the third Trifecta member. Ozma is expected to join Azkadellia and Scarecrow in meetings throughout the coming week as she becomes oriented to her new role.

of non-guilded people being enslaved involuntarily will no longer be supported by the guild. Free people may continue to indenture themselves in exchange for payment or forgiveness of debt. Additionally, those convicted of crimes by the Civil Authority will be remanded to the Drudgers to serve out their term working to better Oz and pay reparations for their offenses.

Guild representatives will be be traveling throughout Oz to answer questions and encourage citizens to join the guild that best represents their skills and interests.

#### A Rise to Rulership

What came as a surprise to many across the Land of Oz was apparently not at all shocking to the Munchkins of Lairabee County, Munchkinland. The Lairabee Family, the long time Ruling Family of the Grubbers Guild, is bankrupt. What may have seemed obvious to the locals who had a front row seat to the increasingly desperate requests for "store credit" and quickly emptying estate had apparently been kept relatively quiet outside the boundaries of the county historical run by their family. The aptly named Lairabee County was in fact recently turned over to the citizens of Horizon's Stronghold, and the family's decline has been swift ever since the change.

The Acres Family of the Emerald City has taken over as the Ruling Family of the Grubbers Guild. They will be the first family of Emerald City rather than Munchkin lineage to hold this title. The Acres Family has been quick to send representatives to the other Ruling Families in order to make proper introductions, and many of the other notable Grubber families are receiving visits from the Acres as well. The Lairabee Family has collectively refused to make any statement.



Civil Authority

No articles, advertising, or opinions shall be presented promoting a violent, subversive agenda or actively encouraging and contributing to civil unrest.

# TRONGHOLD GAZETTE

# E

# Snicker Bits

Q: Mebbe let's say you look at someone in the face and you get a real calmin' feelin' cept in yer guts. That's where feels like someone set off a butterfly land mine while yer leanin' inta the wind in the fuckin' Glitter Fields. Am I dyin'?

A: No, you're having memory loss, consult a physician immediately!

Q: How do you become real? The velveteen rabbit got to be real cuz all his hairs were loved off but I don't have that many hairs and I don't feel real yet.

I just want to be real so I can be a good witch like Glinda and I'm scared that I never will.

A: Not everyone IS real! But sometimes if you pretend to be real you turn real! Find someone you know who pretends to be real, they'll teach you how to do it!

Q: I had a great friend who was a construct. He was decommissioned recently because his program was overwritten and he was going to kill the whole town and I still can't get over the grief. I don't want to stay in Horizon Stronghold because of the memories.

What should I do?

A: Horizon's Stronghold happens to be the current home laboratory of one of Oz' most advanced scientific minds! Seek him out!

Q: At what age is it appropriate to allow children laudanum?

A: That entirely depends on how much you want the child to shut up. Whiskey and Night-shade also do this.

Q: It's very taxing to maintain balance between chaos and calm in a place as chaotic as this. What would the drawbacks be of a complete wipe of the land?

A: Time. Unless you get a VERY large towel

Q: I have a lab-mate who I can't effectively communicate with. No matter what I say or do, he seems displeased with my behavior. He doesn't talk much, so he often beats me or shakes me by the collar to show his anger. I am worried that he will break some of my precious lab equipment. Please help. Please

A: Angry people are usually mad because they don't feel loved enough. Show your lab mate you care about them!

Q: My mom and dad keep telling me to help people and do all these tasks but it is a lot of work. I just want to sleep, but now they have me babysitting a flower and that takes a lot of effort. I don't really have the option to not listen to them, since they're always there even though I only see them at night. What do I do?

A: Get them tickets to the theatre! Clearly your parents are not up to snuff on enjoying themselves.

Q: I am very angry lately. Whenever I see a Mangaboo I just want to rip its throat out and chew on its leaves!! I know this isn't rational

but how do I control my fury towards the creatures that seem to taunt me when they walk past me? I mean their leaves are just asking to be eaten. How do I stop the impulse to rip them to shreds?!?!

A: How do you know you'll even like the taste? Get some Mangaboo leaves for chewing and see what you think then!

Q: I have difficulty communicating with others. I fail to understand the objective of many people goals. This makes it hard to gain their trust to further use as leverage on the conversation. I see that

you have no difficulty talking with others.

How is it that you do this?

A: I know jokes and tricks. People love jokes & tricks!

Have A question only
Snicker Bits can Answer
Send to
Stronghold Gazette
Horizon Stronghold
Snicker Bits



# Red Doppy Lounse

Still the same great people and prices as before,
But now we are focused on providing you a more
Relaxing atmosphere with good drinks,
Good snacks, and good fun.

Come and see us!



# STRONGHOLD GAZETTE

Vol. 5 No. II April 14 148

Lurlines Blessins co all of Oz By Thuun

Each year the people of Oz come together to celebrate a day in honor of Lurline. Warm gifts, good friends, amazing food, and generous hosts all attended to give us a memorable evening in the Wonderful World of Oz. The event was attended by Horizon stronghold, who currently holds the county seat, and held in the bureaucrats grand hall. Mayor AxIs good news of twin boys certainly brightened up the festivities as good wishes and blessings were bestowed upon her. Toasts and revelry were had to unite the good people of Oz in our most blessed holiday. Many new Stormrider faces from the land of Earth came to make their first debut in our world, and warm welcomes were extended as well as good company greeted. Skaraxxis was most kind to have his chattel act as staff for the gun contest. The secret Krampus as usual was a delight, as gifts from gems to jewelry and armbands and accessories were exchanged. There were some reports that children had of course been taken by Krampus never to be seen again, but they all deserved it.

Isme: "it was quite wonderful, my favorite food is the pot roast and mashed potatoes, and seeing everyone looks so lovely."

Thomas silver: "it's always wondrous to gather with family and friends for celebrations"

Lucrecia Nightshade says "A joyous event was had by all." As the evening came to a close. Until next year, may the blessings of Lurline find us all.



### Exchauze excravazanza For Suild Sovernmenc

By Thuun

In addition to the amazing festivities, the bureaucrats Guildhall was a prime location for this recent holiday gather because Brunhilde Blinderfoot, Munchkinland bureaucrat made the announcement several days prior that during the celebration Horizon Stronghold will be representing their counties interest in the ongoing negotiations between our illustrious rulers Azkadellia, Ozma, and The Scarecrow. The county was given their chance to provide their input on how they believe the guilds should be managed, and which of the three rulers should govern each guild. Many of the good people of Oz offer their opinion to the representatives who attended. Chevalier of Ozma Fleur, Knight Maxlight Scarecrow, and Representative Athame of Azkadellia. Tin man Thomas Silver offered the following "Fair guild distribution is great, and the end goal is for Oz to progress in prosperity." While Frankie James offered that Ozma is competent and beautiful and can handle all seven guilds. Bureaucrat guild representative Materially consulted with everyone wishing to have their voice heard. How fortunate we the good folk of Oz are that those who rule over us care to listen to the words of their people.

#### Wicked Wicches Recurninc!

Reports have been coming in over the last few months that a new Wicked scourge is on the rise, from the outskirts of Gillikin to the heart of the Emerald City. Green-faced witches have been seen terrorizing good Ozians in shocking numbers. Rumors abound that some of these Wicked Witches were recipients of Ozma the Peacemaker's reformation treatment, and that in the case of Wickeds the treatment is no longer sticking.

Ozma the Peacemaker could not be reached for comment on the matter of the failed treatment, but it appears she has stepped down from her rulership to be replaced by her daughter, Ozma. Ozma's first act as ruler was to disband the Royal Society of Witchhunters, the order previous Ozma's founded in order to hunt down dark and wicked witches. Ozma has deferred the hunting and prosecuting of Wicked Witches to the Civil Authority. Azkadellia could not be reached for comment.

Scarecrow's Army has been mobilizing to deal with monsters and minions summoned forth by the tide of Wicked Witches.







# STRONGHOLD GAZETTE



# Town Schedule

Saturday Noon -2 p.m. Market

2 p.m. - 3 p.m. Town Meeting

Sunday Morning



#### From the Emporium

Hello Ozians!

In the intentions of sharing cultures the Emporium will be hosting the Great Egg Hunt, or on earth called Easter. When spring comes and the bunnies come out and hide colored eggs for us to find. What does this mean to you? Friday the 14th, or Good Friday from Earth, we shall be coloring the eggs at the Bed and Breakfast. Vinegar and die will be provided, however, if anyone wishes to boil silk on their eggs feel free to bring your favorite silk swatches. You'll also need a basket to collect the eggs on Sunday morning. I look forward to the celebration!

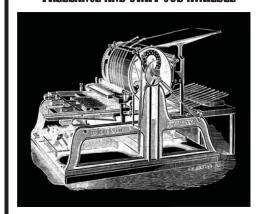
#### What's that Smell?

By F. Artimus

I swear it wasn't me, but this question that many Citizens of Larrabee and surrounding counties have been asking. The smell of rot has filled the air instead of the fresh spring flowers. Tree blossoms have been rotting and falling off of trees as soon as they bloom. People have been seeing their dead loved ones walking about.

A new undead plague has fallen upon the land of Munchkin, and until this curse is lifted this reporter's advice is to not walk alone, especially at night.

# TO JOIN THE NEWSPAPER FREELANCE AND STAFF JOB AVAILBLE





#### The Ivory Tower's First Annual Semi-Annual Audic is Dere!

Greetings loyal citizens of Oz!

It is with great pleasure that The Ivory
Tower announces its intent to conduct its
first major research project now that it
has been so graciously granted full Guild
status and patronage from the Scarecrow; The Semi-Annual Audit!

What is The Semi-Annual Audit you may ask yourself? Good question, citizen!

Members of the populace will be given the privilege of answering the guild's most pressing questions so they may further the academic prowess they are so rightfully known for.

Will you be chosen for this most prestigious task? Another good question, citizen!

Keep an eye out for a message from The Ivory Tower!

# Wanted: Vertical Ascension Expert (Enthusiast will suffice)

I need someone who knows how to get me up into the night sky. I would like to go home, but do not have the knowledge or skills to get into space. I would prefer that you have experience in going into space, but I guess it's fine if you don't as long as you can help me do it. If interested, contact Itri Sterling (that's me). You can probably find me at night time. I am easy to spot as I sparkle a lot and look tired.

# Dorizon's Scronshold Evencs Commiccee NEEOS YOU

Letter to the Editor

#### Calls for A Magical Guild

Wicked Witches have been sighted throughout Oz, and some seem to be pushing a guild agenda. Many Ozians have heard these green-faced menaces calling for the "Rise of the Artificers Guild," the former magic-users guild which was officially disbanded in YoO 61 by Ozma the Conqueror. This talk of a guild by Wicked Witches has gotten legitimate magical Ozians talking, and they are saying "well, why not us?"

With Ozma the Peacemaker having stepped down and her daughter Ozma stepping up to replace her, some think now is the time for the legitimate Artificers guild to return. There are calls ranging from magic users needing a place, too witches are best suited to fight the Wickeds. Unfortunately, magic and those who practice it are extremely varied in Oz, and the Bureaucrats have received at least 12 separate applications for the formation of a magic-users guild.

Until some unity can be found among magic users, this movement for a new Artificers guild may never get off the ground.