

HorseFeathers

Duke's Address

"Are you a Stickjock or a Flurb?"

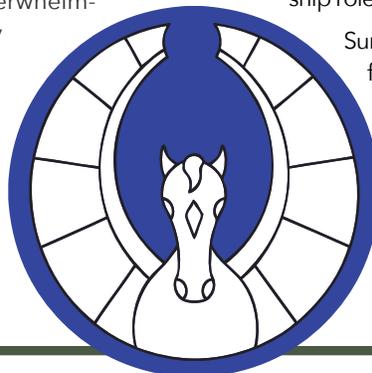
I hear this question, and variations of this question, on almost a weekly basis. Sometimes it's asked to an individual, but often I hear it asked about our park in general and even about households and companies. When I ask people what they think a Stickjock or a Flurb is I get varied answers but in general they can be defined as follows:

Stickjock -- One who is primarily interested in the combat aspects of the game.

Flurb -- One who is primarily interested in the role-play aspects of the game.

This seems pretty simple, but problems arise when these two interests are put at odds. Stickjocks vs. Flurbs has become such a common argument that it becomes difficult to come into any type of LARP without being labeled as one or the other. This is where the negativity starts that eventually damages groups and turns people away from this hobby that we supposedly all love. Of all the LARPS that I have researched, observed and been involved in, I feel that Amtgard is the one that does the best to balance these two preferences. With that said, I also feel that we, Amtgard as a whole, do a terrible job at it. Whenever an "us vs. them" attitude is taken within a group, one side always ends up on the losing end. That side is then demonized, or at the very least devalued, to the point that anyone who holds those views either switches sides, shuts up or leaves the group. As I see it, this impacts Amtgard in many ways but a few of them are really distinct.

Recruiting/retention becomes very difficult in this environment because new players are already overwhelmed. When one group or the other is dominant, or there is conflict between the opposing groups, those first few experiences a new player has, quickly become overwhelming in a negative way instead of that "Oh my god, I can't get enough!!!" way. The second negative impact is intergroup relations. When one group has the opinion that another group is different from them, negative attitudes quickly develop. Groups begin to avoid each other, or worse, when one group does attempt to interact with another group and is ridiculed for their



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If you would like to have anything published in the newsletter, please submit it to: PVHorsefeathers@gmail.com

views, then downright hostility can occur.

Just about everyone who knows me knows that I love to fight. Gimme a stick and a target and I'm a happy man. Everyone also knows that I will roleplay the heck out of a goblin or a white rabbit or just about anything I'm asked to. Do I have a preference? Sure I do. Would I be happy with one and not the other? Maybe but that's not the point. The point is that I love this game and this game is a balance of both fighting AND role play. Without both represented equally, there is no Amtgard and if we want to see our hobby flourish and thrive, we have got to get rid of this idiotic Stickjock vs. Flurb mentality.

Duke Fu

Regent's Address

There are several upcoming events that you might be interested in. Arts and Sciences this Tuesday, on UNM Campus, we will be having a discussion about autocratting and bidding for events. If you have ever considered taking a short-term leadership role, maybe autocratting is for you! Come find out!

Sunday the 11th, is Savage Highlands Crown Qualifications. If you like to travel, why not show some support for our newest sponsored land?

Tuesday, the 13th, there will be a class on Mongolian hat making. Come make a snugly hat to keep your head warm during the cold winter months!

Lady Isoud MacArdy

Note from the Prime Minister

We are in the process of moving our bank account from the bank to a credit union. We currently have a total of about \$1300 between the two accounts.

-Inferno

LADY ISOUD'S LITTLE SHOP

STANDARD GARB AVAILABLE AT A REASONABLE PRICE!
 BASIC BROADCLOTH TUNICS OR PANTS FOR \$20
 EMBELLISHMENTS FOR A MODEST UPCHARGE

COMMISSIONS FOR MORE COMPLEX ITEMS ARE WELCOME AND ARE ACCEPTED AS TIME PERMITS, SUCH AS DOUBLETS, SURCOATS, CORSETS, AND DRESSES!

CONTACT ISOUD AT THE PARK OR AT
ISOUDSLITTLESHOP@GMAIL.COM

"I LOVE A LITTLE SHOP!" -THE DOCTOR

Soon-to-Level List (as of October 27)

- Aethelflade - To level 2 Warrior - 2.75 credits
- Bad Bardigan/True That - To level 3 Bard - 2.5 credits
- Balder - To level 3 Healer - 1 credits
- Balder - To level 4 Warrior - 2.75 credits
- Carol Cabiedes - To level 2 Healer - 2.5 credits
- Draylia/Pidwiggin - To level 2 Scout - 2.5 credits
- Emro - To level 3 Assassin - 1.5 credits
- F'lar - To level 3 Healer - 2.75 credits
- Firedrake - To level 2 Scout - 2 credits
- Forthil - To level 2 Warrior - 2 credits
- Fu - To level 5 Scout - 2.75 credits
- Glenalth - To level 3 Scout - 2 credits
- Goreax - To level 2 Barbarian - 1 credits
- Kit - To level 2 Monster - 2 credits
- Kit - To level 2 Wizard - 1 credits
- Mossy Zinc - To level 5 Monster - 1 credits
- Mossy Zinc - To level 5 Wizard - 0.75 credits
- Naga/Nagateth - To level 4 Archer - 2 credits
- Squirrel - To level 4 Assassin - 0.25 credits
- Sylph - To level 4 Healer - 2 credits
- Talifer Impetus - To level 2 Warrior - 2.75 credits
- Theodoxus - To level 3 Assassin - 2 credits
- Trey - To level 6 Scout - 2.25 credits
- Tristan - To level 3 Healer - 1.75 credits
- Twig - To level 4 Monk - 1 credits
- Twig - To level 2 Monster - 1 credits
- Twig - To level 2 Wizard - 1 credits
- Ulrik - To level 2 Druid - 2.75 credits
- Zeus - To level 2 Monk - 1.25 credits

Shadow's Weapon Wagon

Daggers \$5, Swords \$15, Polearms and Staves \$25, Shields \$30.

See Warlord Shadow to make an order!

Prices Subject to change since Exedor is just copying the ad each month.

Editor's Note: I'm not getting very many submissions to the newsletter. That disappoints me since I'm pretty sure that at least some of you are wonderfully creative people! Such a shame that I can't put anything in the newsletter from you! **SUBMIT THINGS TO THE NEWSLETTER! DO EET!**

-Editor Exedor

