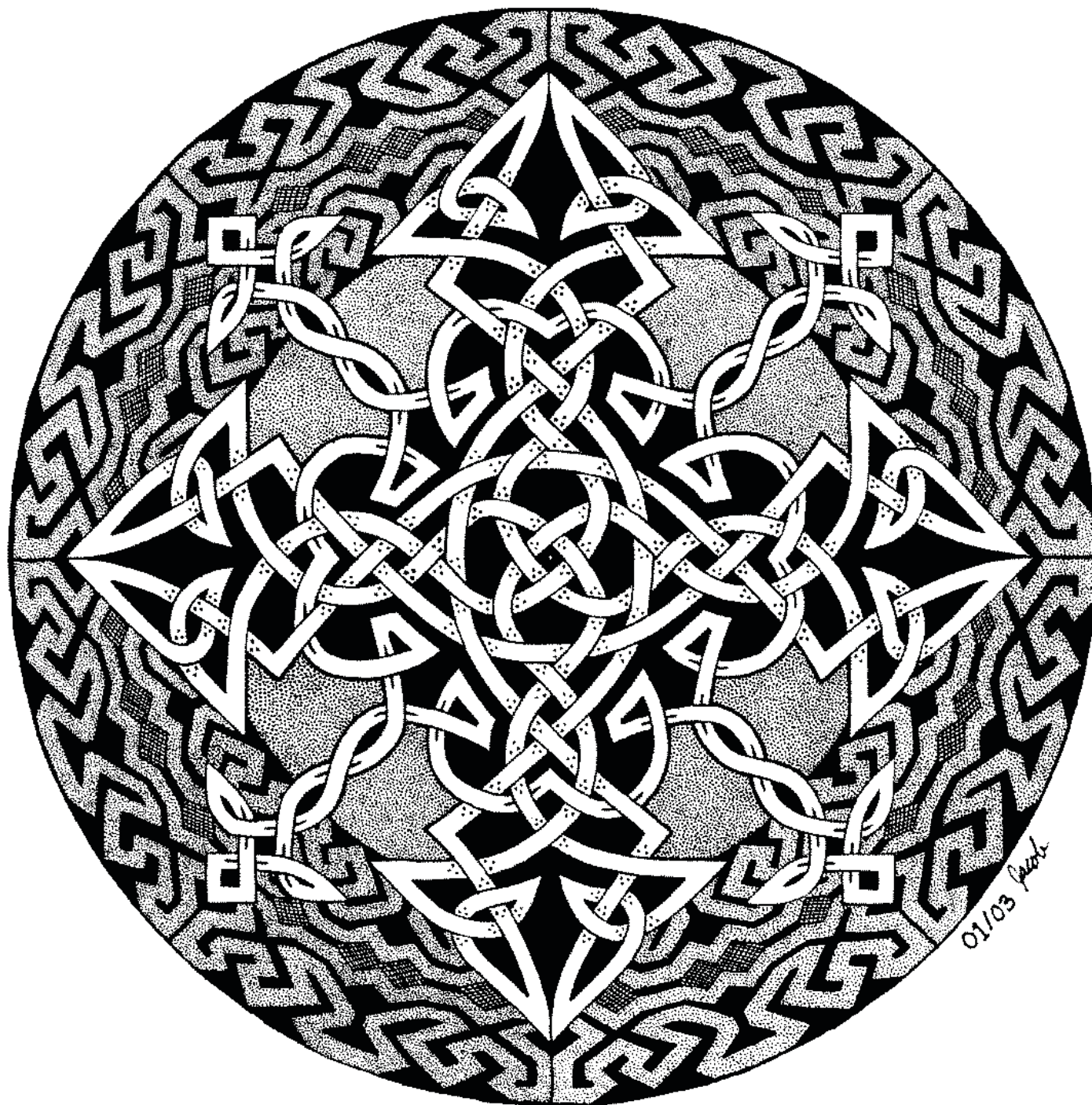
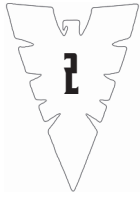


HORSEFEATHERS



VOLUME XVI, ISSUE I - DECEMBER 20TH, 2008



HORSE FEATHERS - VOLUME XVI, ISSUE I - DECEMBER 2008

PRODUCED FOR THE REIGN OF

Contessa Cassandrah Scarpaw, Duchess of Pegasus Valley
Lady Nacoochee Mother Hen, Ducal Consort
Lady Shayleigh, Chancellor
Tiwaz Gustav Ormandson, Ducal Champion
Grellen, Heir Apparent
Lord Marcil Firestalker Woodsman, Scribe
Grand Duke Sir Alucard Draconis, Captain of the Guard
Lord Lorithavon, Fashion Police

GUILDMASTERS

Archers – Grand Duke Sir Alucard Draconis
Barbarians – Lurker the Pie-us
Bards – Lurker the Pie-us
Druids – Baron Styxx Nobleheart
Healers – Alucard Draconis
Monks – Lord Ming Yuelong
Monster – Baroness Lila Von Weiss
Reeves - Lord F'lar Starfire
Scouts – Lord Marcil Firestalker Woodsman
Smiths - Kaulik von Aufinger
Warriors – Lurker the Pie-us
Wizards – Kai Rael



MESSAGE FROM THE SCRIBE:

Hello, and this is your scribe, Marcil Firestalker Woodsman, and I have an important list of upcoming dates for you guys! Things that are coming up soon in the second half of Cassandrah's reign:

December 20th, 2008: Althing

January 10, 2009: Althing; Declarations due for Board of Directors election.

January 17, 2009: Free Breakfast at the park. Come early for questing! Board of Directors election today

January 31st, 2009: Declarations for Crown elections are due.

February 7th, 2009: Crown Qualifications A&S and Fighting Tournaments.

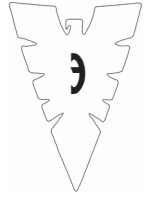
February 21st, 2009: Crown elections

March 7th, 2009: Coronation feast with a barbarian theme. Location TBA by Kaulik.

In addition we are scheduled to have another tourney each month as well as another quest each month run by Tiwaz, our champion. Be ready for this! There are Arts and Sciences meetings every other Wednesday as well, so if you need more equipment, come ready to learn!

*-Lord Marcil Firestalker Woodsman
Scribe of Pegasus Valley*

UNTO THE POPULACE OF PEGASUS VALLEY:



We are a little more than three months into the current winter reign, and I am feeling optimistic! Even though the chill closes in like a stalking wraith, our attendance remains strong, and new players are signing up on a monthly basis. We have held monthly tournaments, including Weaponmaster, during which our fighters have shown great skill and honor on the battlefield. Prizes have been awarded for those whose tenacity helped raise them to the highest levels of accomplishment in all the recent contests. Even the recent quests have been interesting and enjoyable for those involved, and a great place to earn game items.

These successes are due, for the most part, to YOU as a member of our fair Duchy. Congratulations! Keep it up, and as spring arrives, our numbers should grow; each new member shall be welcomed and will add to our diversity. We'll continue our monthly tournaments, quests, and battlegames, as well as holding Arts & Sciences meetings once every two weeks. As winter progresses, we will be planning next year's Harvest War, preparing for the Rio Grande Highland Games, and trying to reach more potential members at a variety of locations.

My challenges to you for the next three months:

1. *Get Involved: Make Something Awesome! Do Something Helpful! Plan or Run Something Fun!*
2. *Recruit One Person. Make Them Stay on for a Spell!*

For either of these goals, you may say, "How!?" I have lots of advice, help with finding supplies, and plenty of flyers and ideas for demos. Grab 10 PV flyers or business cards when they are distributed later this month, and hand them out every time someone asks why you are wearing that funny costume, or what you did over the weekend!

In closing, I propose a toast: To a Sublime Holiday season, and a bounty of 'new blood' in the New Year!"

*-Contessa Cassandrah Catrina Scarpaw
Duchess of Pegasus Valley
Squire to Sir Randall the Steadfast
Lady of House Wolfrider
Defender of the Black Dragon*

MESSAGE FROM THE TROLL

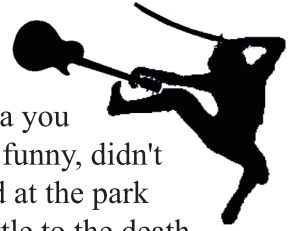
The Pegasus Valley website (www.pegasusvalley.com) was upgraded earlier this year to a community based site. Group officers can now add stories and information to the front page news and calendar. There are user blogs and construction logs if you want to share what is going on, document a project you are working on, or just need a place online to post your writing. The gallery is available for everyone to add Amtgard photos, artwork, flyers, and even a section for adding photos to your own O.R.K. page.

If you are not already on the Pegasus Valley e-mail list, please visit the website to sign up. This is the primary method of communication for Pegasus Valley during the week and a lot of information about upcoming events is posted there.

*See you online...
Glenalth Woodwalke*



FROM THE LOCAL NINJA COUNCIL



Hello, if you are reading this message, it means that I poisoned that soda you drank a few minutes ago. Yes, the carbonated one. You knew it tasted funny, didn't you? Anyway, on to business. After recent violations of ninja code that occurred at the park itself and on our mailing list, I had decided to put our shinobi to the ultimate test: a battle to the death over a small number of meaningless objects. As usual, you guys picked up on this quickly and were soon backstabbing each other and bashing each other's heads in like expert thugs. But there were a few of you who showed the true cunning and skill of the ninja, and I had chosen to honor these people.

Your rankings in this competition were based on the number of scrolls that you collected, each adorned with various kanji and representing different elemental forces. The person with the most scrolls was the winner. The scrolls consisted of fire, water, earth, wind, lightning, and metal, and each of them were hidden in different locations. Those of you who could see the light found the lightning scrolls, and those of you who were excellent ninja and fought and/or died bravely and excitingly were given a water scroll as a divine present on your way to the afterlife. Unfortunately, nobody killed the evil wizard plaguing the land, so he kept his two elemental fire scrolls. Metal scrolls were found in combat, and the earth scrolls were hidden... on the ground.

The final standings are as follows:

- 1) Our first place winner, and ninja of the year, was none other than Ming Yuelong. He has the skills of a ninja, and collected over four scrolls!*
- 2) Our second place winner, and ninja side-kick of the year, was none other than Kai. He has most of the skills of the shinobi, and managed to collect a few scrolls.*
- 3) Unfortunately, our brave ninja failed to complete the mission I had set forth for them, and did not kill the wizard who threatened our establishment! As such, third place was awarded to Tiwaz, the enemy wizard, who managed to keep his two scrolls. He even made off with one of our prized swords, and sold it on the black market!*

Each of our winners was(will be) awarded a hand-made Amtgard katana, made by yours truly, with the engravings of their choice in the blade. These things are indeed pretty fancy if I do say so myself! If you happen to want a katana for yourself, I will gladly make one for you at minimal cost(probably around \$10 bucks for one), to cover the cost of materials. Flat blades look nicer on the field, so we look more attractive to on-lookers and get more attention that way!

Anyway, expect more ninja-themed madness in the near future, as I fear darkness is on the rise in our land. This is of course, the cryptic foreshadowing that will influence the plot of future conflicts that I design!

-Lurker the Pieous

Impromptu Leader of the Council of Imaginary Ninja

FROM THE INTERNET

A number of the changes this year were pretty far-reaching and led to standardization of text across the entire book. As part of the transition process we also moved out of expensive, difficult-to-use software and into much simpler software (so other people who get the job can maintain it). As a result, many sections of the book had to be touched in order to achieve the goals set forth by the CoM changes. We did the work of several revision processes all in one go. In recognition of that fact, I skipped from 7.3 to 7.5. I didn't go to 7.4 because then we would get the odd/even changes/clarifications thing out of synch.

If you see anything you like in this revision you can credit it to the hard work of the Rulebook Committee, the CoM, and the new Rules Revision Guy (Rath). If you see anything you dislike, you can blame me.



Due to the in-depth alterations required, a few errors may have crept in. I reserve the right to fix those errors over the next few days. Please don't post them here, just PM me with them. I tried to get them all, but you never know. I'll increment the filename to make clear what is going on.

We have the rulebook available in .doc format, now. I'll be releasing that on request once any errors are cleaned out for you guys that like to do weird formatting side projects with the rulebook. Bear in mind that if you start editing the rulebook you're likely to get a nasty letter, but if you're just trying to put it into a different format you're likely to get encouragement.

It has been my pleasure to work on the rulebook and to help it get to where it is now. I am even more pleased to be seeing it change from the purview of just a few men to an open and transparent process managed by the people of Amtgard with an equal voice for all groups.

I would also like to take a second to thank Kurse and Randall, without whom none of the things that have happened over the past couple of years would have been possible. It truly has been a labor of love for all three of us. We have a lot of plans for the future of Amtgard, and I hope you are all as excited about them as I am. We have been in a period of unparalleled improvement in the organization and quality of our society and I hope that, together, we can all push forward into an even brighter future.

-Sir Brennon

The current rulebook is available at www.amtgardinc.com and www.pegasusvalley.com/newbie/

A LETTER FROM OUR CHAMPION?

Fear me, I am Anti-Tiwaz! I have taken our champion and placed him in a cold and dark place where he can not write submissions to the newsletter! Bwahahaha!

Tiwaz has a number of plans for you guys, so listen up! It seems that there have been a number of attacks on our duchy over the past 3 months or so. First, you guys lost a bunch of gold to some pesky goblins. It was an epic failure. In the upcoming battle after that, those same goblins had given all of their gold away somehow, presumably by buying liquor or something that is really expensive and easily waste-able. So, some other bad monsters ended with lots of gold!

Those monsters used the gold to buy off a greedy Black Dragon, who then decimated our land's defenders. The casualties were many. The skeletons who defeated you laughed through their cold, cackling jaw bones. Eminent doom seemed looming just overhead. But you had another chance, defending a small fortress across a short bridge that spanned a chasm that one could nearly jump across. The dragon, along with a single goblin archer, and a skeleton who was cracking too many jokes, raided your fortress. Although the dragon was defeated temporarily, and the skeleton was smashed to pieces thanks to Kategar, that pesky druid, that stinky goblin defeated you guys and took your building! It probably smells horrible now! Anyway, there are more adventures coming up soon, so be prepared! Maybe you guys can win this time?

Also, there are monthly tournaments scheduled. I heard we have some sort of mystical system that is keeping track of fighter rankings, so you will want to show up so you can improve your rank!

~Anti-Tiwaz

Alternate Dimension Counterpart of the Champion of PV



And now, your favorite part of the newsletter! It's those filler stories, obituaries, and random stuff submitted by the populous! To start things off, Glenalsh has submitted to us a secret recipe for cheap, quick, and easy bread that can be very tasty with the right selection of ingredients. It is as follows:

QUICK AND EASY SODA POP BREAD

(makes two small loaves in 30 minutes)

INGREDIENTS

- * 3 cups flour
- * 12 oz of warm soda (1 can worth, no diet sodas)
- * 1 tablespoon yeast

INSTRUCTIONS

- * Mix the ingredients together.
- * Separate the dough into two halves and place in small bread pans.
- * Bake at 375 degrees for 20-25 minutes.

NOTES

- * Nearly any type of soda works in this recipe as long as it has sugar or high fructose corn syrup in it.
- * Artificial fruit flavors usually turn out well while subtle flavors can be hard to detect in the bread.
- * The Mountain Dew family of sodas and energy drinks also give an interesting alternative form of caffeine intake.
- * Berry, grape, and apple juices can be substituted for soda but you will have to wait for the bread to raise a bit after you put it in the bread pans.



NINJA POETRY

And, a special treat, we seem to have a menacing poetic message from... more ninjas? What is this madness?

What does this madness mean? I think it means you should ask around about the Council of Imaginary Ninja. They might have some clues as to what will happen next.

ROSES ARE RED
VIOLETS ARE BLUE
THE NINJAS ARE COMING
WHAT WILL YOU DO?

WE'LL CHASE YOU
AND CATCH YOU

AND FILL YOU WITH FRIGHT
THE NINJAS ARE COMING
IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT

SO BRING YOURSELF A SWORD
OR AT LEAST A SHARPENED STICK
THE NINJAS ARE COMING
SO YOU BETTER FIGHT QUICK.

I'M RUNNING OUT OF PROSE HERE
SO I'LL MAKE THIS AS BLUNT AS I CAN
YOU CAN'T CATCH ME
BECAUSE I'M THE BIG BAD NINJA MAN!

And here we have another thrilling submission by Glenalth; it's a monster write-up for some sort of gnome. Looks interesting!



GNOME, COLLECTOR

More of an annoyance than a real threat, gnomes are bad things to have around the house prior to crown qualifications and Gnomes that collect things are doubly bad to have around. In particular, Gnome Collectors enjoy grabbing shiny objects, magic balls, dull objects, underwear, and pretty much anything else that is lying around and vanishing along with their new found treasure. They collect these things in a pile in their secret lair for part of a secret three step plan.

Garb: Tunic, cone shaped hat, and beard (male and female).
Summoned by: Dropped Crown Qualifications entries or underwear.
Type: Humanoid.
Q/M Ratio: .5/1
Armor: 1 point of natural armor due to size.
Weapons: None
Immunities: None
Natural Lives: 5
Abilities & Traits:
Magic-like Abilities: Teleport (Ex) (unlimited, but must teleport into lair)
Vulnerabilities:

Lair: Must maintain a lair with all of their objects that they have collected. The lair is a 10' diameter circle that is considered out of game. If a gnome is seen entering or exiting it's lair, players may spend a 60 count to search the lair and recover their items. The gnome may enter and leave the lair freely. Dead players may collect their own equipment from the lair.

Greedy: Gnomes will attempt to collect any shiny or interesting objects that are dropped by others. They will make sure that no one is looking before they try to grab it. Gnomes may not use the objects they collect; they must place them in their lair.

Levels

1st. No additional abilities.

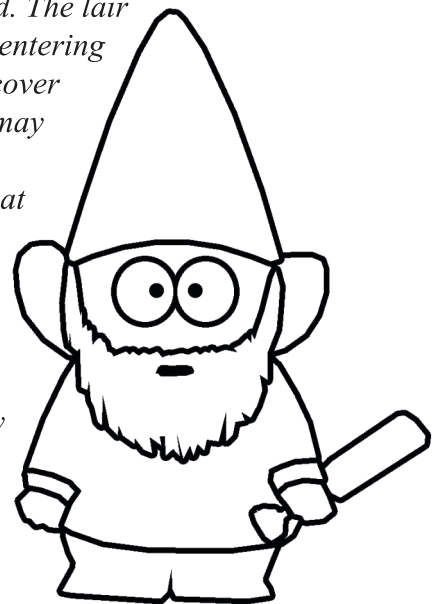
2nd. Distraction (Ex) (1/life): The gnome may point in a direction and say "Hey, (person's name), look over there!" to cause the target to look that way for a 10 count.

3rd. May use a single throwing dagger.

4th. Natural armor increases to 2 points.

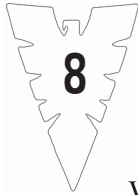
5th. May use a single melee dagger.

6th. Sanctuary (Ex) (1/life): As per Sanctuary, but must sing a song instead of chanting.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

The BoD meeting came to order approximately 2:30 PM on Dec. 13th, 2008. Attending Board Members included Monarch Cassandrah, Prime Minister Shayleigh, President Lila, Secretary Kate, Treasurer Mossy, and Alternate Tiwaz. There was no old business to discuss. New business consisted solely of a short discussion on the Board elections coming up in January. The elections will be run by F'lar, our GM of Reeves, and will take place on January 17, 2009. Declarations will be due one week beforehand, on January 10, 2009, when the last meeting of the current Board will take place. After these dates were established, a motion to adjourn was made and seconded. Meeting adjourned approximately 2:45 PM.



WEAPON MASTER RESULTS, DECEMBER 6, 2008

Well Weapon Master has come and gone and it looked like everyone had fun. Here are the places for each tournament:

	1st	2nd	3rd
Single Dagger	Glenalth	Lorithavon	Eldacar
Single Sword	Eldacar	Tiwaz	Glenalth
Sword and Shield	Eldacar	Lorithavon	Kai Rael
Flail and Shield	Glenalth	Styxx	Kai Rael
Polearm/Reach	Tiwaz	Glenalth	Lorithavon
Florentine	Tiwaz	Glenalth	Eldacar
Open Weapon	Eldacar	Tiwaz	Lorithavon
Two Man Teams	Styxx/Eldacar	Glenalth/Lorithavon	Kaulik/Tiwaz
Overall	Eldacar	Glenalth	Tiwaz

And the winner is:

1st Eldacar with 4 1st places, 2 3rds

2nd Glenalth with 2 1st places, 3 2nds, and 1 3rd

3rd Tiwaz with 2 1st places, 2 2nds and 1 3rd

I saw plenty of honorable fighting and people taking their shots. That makes it a lot more fun for everyone, so thank you all.

*In Service
Lord F'lar Starfire
Guildmaster of Reeves
Duchy of Pegasus Valley*

ART CREDITS

Cover: "Chaos Knot" by Dandan

Page 2: The image used on the first Pegasus Valley banner

Page 3: "Spooky Ghost" by Glenalth

Page 4: "Guitar Ninja" by Glenalth

Page 6: "Amtgard Santa" by Glenalth

Page 7: "Underpants Gnome" by Glenalth

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Submissions for the next newsletter should be turned in to Marcil, the current scribe of Pegasus Valley. We need news of what's going on, articles on how to do things, stories about your persona, poetry and songs, proposed monsters, new battle games, original artwork, and high contrast photos. SUBMIT!