

The Sutherlands Journal

Words are Power.

May 612, Festival Edition

Dragon Riders!

Word of Dragon Riders is spreading like wildfire throughout the taverns and the towns of the Sutherlands! These many accounts aren't the only thing that seem to be growing, either— a CITY, complete with buildings and walls is said to have sprung up out of nowhere and is magically growing in the direction of our fair Clanthia Proper!

The first most recently notable dragon-sighting reports a red or copper colored dragon arriving over a city of Isles. The dragon, instead of attacking the city, seemed to be under the control of a un-described rider. The rider is said to have called out a message to one of the notable Sutherlands nobles. Tavern-talk is that he spoke of something to do with people going hungry. Who was this rider— and how did he tame the Dragon? Is this a dragon that the Sutherlands heroes have fought before?

The second sighting occurred over the city of Clanthia itself, a Red dragon larger than any castle in the Sutherlands with claws that could crush the tavern and a maw that could swallow a mountain. This dragon also carried a rider, whose voice was so loud that Tiksyvanites swear to have heard it. Witnesses say that he said, "I want with the might of the worms that the tower of wormhold be raised again!"

After that, an earthquake reportedly shook the already-terrified commonfolk, and a city began to grow in the distance, and continues to grow this very moment! What will befall Clanthia Proper once the City of Worms — as some are calling it— reaches our own border?

A massive wall is said to surround the new city. Witnesses say that it has a gate— but of yet, no one has dared to enter.

Despite these historic events, it seems that the people of Clanthia are still preparing to hold the King's Festival on Saturday. Whether or not the festivities will be conducted at our own familiar tavern, or if the runners of the footrace will be dashing around the wall of the encroaching dragon-city is for time to tell.

-Corky Q., Sutherlands Journal Writer

From the little experience I have of Festival,

I have learned a lot through careful attention and brilliant luck. Thus, I want to extend my knowledge to those who are ignorant of all the wondrous things Festival has to offer while telling a few good stories and rumors all the same.

The people who run Festival are tricky. They will spank you when you aren't looking; they will steal the gold out of your pockets; they will ask you to put your own gold or items into other people's pockets, and they will entice you to doing some crazy, painful things for their sadistic pleasure. BUT, they mean the best, and thus you should participate with them very frivolously.

Secondly, there is no particular favorite that town has for any event, except for me. I believe that I should win every event, and thus, you should cheer me on. Think you have someone that should come before me and win an event? You're mistaken. I should win every event.

Against popular belief, I do have favorites in each event that I can participate—not for lack of trying but rather because of my lack of skill in certain areas (Note: I still have a little skill in those certain areas, and you should still cheer for me because I'm awesome). What areas do I talk about? The All Brawl, the Caster's Tournament, the Random Four Man, the Three Hit, and so forth are exactly what I talk about. I aim to win all of those, but I'll go ahead and shout out a few favorites.

Dashus (who may be Lord Dashus

by now, and thus I apologize if he should be called that) is my favored contender for the All Brawl, though you should still chant and yell for me to win if you're not getting beaten up inside the circle. Torien (who also may be a Lord at this point) is going to be my favorite contender for the three hit, though.. well.. you should cheer for me. That shaggy haired gentleman from the Armorsmith's Guild has been my cheered for champion every year in a foot race—he's cost me a good bit of money so far, just saying—but you should still cheer for me. And lastly, ArrEee is going to be my champion/favorite for anything that involves casting magic. In this case, you should cheer for him and not me.

Even if you have a dagger, I encourage you to participate in the Three Hit competition. I've heard stories of people winning the entire competition using only small weapons. Was it by miracle that the people won? Possibly, but I'm sure a little skill was involved. Alcohol may have been involved, though the competition is never against someone offering them free alcohol.

Against popular belief, no competitor has ever cheated in order to win the foot race competitions, especially with the use of poisons, spells, large branches, or strong rope.

Umm, that's all I have. I hope to see you in the competition circles!

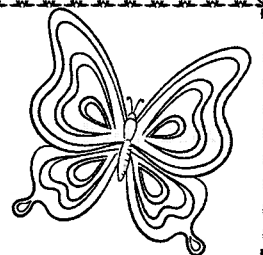
Your's truly,

R.E.

Amazing Treasure, Spectacular Hunt Extravaganza!

My tiny home is overflowing with odds and ends- having buried my mate somewhere within these peaks of little treasures. Come play a game of riddles, quests, treasures and surprises! This Saturday, during Festival, join me for a treasure hunt the likes of which Clanthia has never seen! Bring a compass and a clever mind!

-Thistle Pixie



Rare Interview with a Wild Elf: Tehaketala

"My name Tehaketala. I am Wild Elf, of tribe of Creeping Field Mouse. Snake is my totem brother. I travel now on spirit journey, to hear what Tyrra has to say to me. She brings me here, to South-land, and here in South-land, I find new cousins and friends."

Q: *What have you learned since you've come to Clanthia?*

T: "I learn much. I learn that barbarians pretend to be like my people, but only destroy for fun and greed, and burn the forest - they dirty the name of the honor of those who embrace the clean, primal way of life that wild elves and rangers live. I learn that all elves have many foes, who attack us all for what only a few, very far away, do, a few who are not linked to those who suffer. I learn, too, that many, not just foes of elves, judge the many because of the few."

Q: *Can you tell our readers who seem to be the worst foes? What kinds of battles have you been in recently?*

T: "Pantherghast monsters are worst foe for all elves. My huku says to small children of my tribe, "Be good, or Pantherghast eat you!" - I thought was only story to scare the young, but I see now, Pantherghasts are real. But worse than those, is the foe of necromancy. Some here do not like me because I and my people will not embrace necromancy and that which corrupts and taints. But they do not see - so many do not see - that those who do not embrace it cannot be embraced BY it. Many elves, far from here, have had the taint of necromancy forced upon them. How long before the taint spreads? Many times, I fight by the side of the people of the South Lands against Barbarian Foes. They fly their dragons, they burn the forest here, they make huge messes as they loot for petty things. Also, once I fight against undead beetle. That was scary."

Q: *What do your people think of you spending time in the city?*

T: "My tribe trust me not to let civilization trap me. It is much like your kind traveling deep into the woods. Maybe you spend a day or two where you do not belong for reasons, but soon, you must go home. There is very little city, but very much untamed wilderness. My home is always close, no matter where I go. I come to your cities to say what I must say or do what I must do or see who I must see, and then I return home until I must say, do, or see again."

Q: *Is there anything that you want to teach or advise to the people of Clanthia?*

T: "Many in your city think "Wild" in "wild elf" means uncultured, savage, stupid, ugly, just because we do not live as you do. This is not so. The word "wild", in wild elf, means growing without human aid, it means to break limits, it means passion, it means emotion. We are proud, cultured, graceful, wise, we choose to talk and live our way, using only what we need. Our way is not easy, but Tyrra rewards. We are strong, we cannot be corrupted by dark magics, all of Tyrra is our home, all creatures of nature our friends. My people can be great ally against foes who threaten all, but who wishes to help those who scorn their ways?"

Potions for Sale!!

I will now be offering potions for sale at each gather. The following are currently available for purchase: **Renew, Spirit Armor, Return Magic, Spell Protection, Greater Endow, Endow, Cure Wounds, Cure Critical Wounds, Greater Bless, Cure Disease, and Cure Light Wounds.**

Potion availability is limited to a first come, first serve basis, but I will do all I can to accommodate each request. Pre-orders for future gathers are welcome and I do accept trades. If along your travels, you find supplies which enhance potion making ability, I will gladly custom craft an array of potions for a small fee.

Prices vary depending on the quantity and type of potion. Please message me or see me at the upcoming gather to further discuss your individual needs.

Lady Astraea
Arch Healer of Rossanoe
Long Live the King!
Long Live the Queen!
Long Live the Heir!

Mysterious Murder is 'Eyeing' your loved ones! -

Corky Q.

Keep an eye open, or someone will open one for you. Reports report reportedly that a murderer is on the loose. He or she - or it is leaving a newly-notorious calling card: An Open Eye.



Victims include the upper-class elves of Sadhe, as well as persons from the other baronies- save for Isles, or so they say. Officials shake their heads as they describe the grisly scene- not only is it Murder, but the symbol of this terrible person (or group?) is carved into the flesh of his, hers, or its victims.

(We predict that the property value of homes in the Isles will soar... at least, until the murderer decides to take an island vacation.)

Some Tavern-goers have asked themselves, "Have we seen this symbol before?" No one seems to be sure, but one thing strikes true- It is indeed difficult to get a good night's rest with a killer on the loose.

What will the Sutherlands officials and heroes do to thwart this serial killer? Will they be able to uncover the mystery of- THE SCARY TERRIBLE AWFUL HORRIBLE EYE MURDER!?!

Is Magic your passion?

Do you seek a place of learning?

A Mentor? Companionship?

A place of Neutrality?

Join the Celestial Guild!

Seek out your local member; look for the blue and silver. Remember - Knowledge is Power - Join us in gathering knowledge, mastering magic, and protecting the Sutherlands!

Place Your Bets!

As we arrive at the annual festivities, even the common folk are betting on which of their representatives will win what events in the festival games. Baronial pride is especially high, and we are hoping for some excellent displays of skill this year. We are supplying below a list of the winners from last year who must defend their titles, as well as a list of our own favorites for 612. We expect some upsets and some boosted egos— who will win bragging rights for the next twelve months? A diversity of events will give the Sutherlands Heroes an ample opportunity to pit themselves against each other for once (rather than against the terrible bad things that so often plague the Sutherlands and her allies). The most reportedly memorable individual Champion's Champion was indeed Dashus of Darkholme (or perhaps Nessa the gypsy, if you prefer the Arts to blood and battle). Ruffle your feathers and sign-up for those contests— it's anyone's game this year! We encourage you to venture out and meet these competitors— it'll make it easier to know who to bid for—and you might learn something!

We also encourage you to utilize this handy chart to keep track of your own anticipations and results. Don't forget to save some of your gold for our many lovely sponsors (whose ads you will find printed all throughout the Sutherlands Journal).

Competition	Time	Last Year	SJ Choice 612	My Bet	Actual/Winnings
Foot Race	11:00 AM	Dosan	That Panda Guy		
Relay Foot Race	11:30 AM	Isles	Armorsmith's		
Three Hit	12:00 PM	Bob/Arimias	Ethelred		
Archery/Thrown	12:30 PM	Tidus, AG	Khara, Sadhe		
Caster's Duel	1:30 PM	Dashus, Darkholme	Orion, Mage's Guild		
Four Man Team Event	3:00 PM	Isles	Isles		
Cooking (Sweet)	3:00 PM	Mubuntu	Holly, Armorsmith's		
Cooking (Savory)	3:00 PM	Nessa, Gypsies	Bia, Gypsies		
Brewing	3:00 PM	Nessa, Gypsies	Lachlan, Isles		
Two Man Random	4:00 Pm	Akari, Torien	Sinnel, Sudbyr/Astraea, Rossanoe		
Capture the Flag	5:00 PM	NEW!	Ivory Stags		
Trivia!	5:00 PM	NEW!	Iris, Sadhe		
All Brawl	6:00 PM	Dashus	Sessith		
Crafting	7:00 PM	Nessa, Gypsies	Nessa, Gypsies		
Talent	7:00 PM	Nobody/Cinder, Black Dragons	Blood Star		
Iron Man	All Day 12 pm-6pm	Ethelred/Tristan	Lawrence, Healer's Guild		
Rogue's Challenge	All Day 12	Arr Eee	Sygil, Ivory Stags		
Scavenger Hunt	All Day 12	Nessa, Gypsies	Ket, AG		
Battle Shots <i>by Akima</i>	??	??	Akima		
Homunculus Battles <i>by SooOOooOOOdus</i>	??	??	Soodus Golem		

*All competitions are to be held **Saturday May 26th.**

***All times are estimates, and will be adhered to when possible.

Signup sheets will be posted in the tavern **Friday night.

RUMORS! COMPLETELY TRUE!*

The best dark knight Tyrra has seen in some time is running the Healer's Guild.

The horror of the pantherghasts is nothing compared to the doom that Dangerclaw shall soon bring upon the elven people!

Lord Dashus will not be attending festival this year due to being on location to pose for the inaugural issue of "Baroness's Beefcakes". In other news, most experts are saying the likelihood of another Champion-Champion are slim for this years festival games.

The BloodStar headquarters in Clanthia got burned down because none of them were there to protect it.

Baron Veldarin of Sahde has been heard muttering about collecting all of Clanthia's Magial furniture so that he can start Crazy Veldarin's Used magical Furniture Emporium.

The rogue's guild is warring amongst itself. One faction is led by a blind man and the other is led by a deaf man.

ArrEee is going to win everything.

There will be no Rogue's Tournament this year.

Sudbyr is still around... but what group of folks will be the next to step up and run the Barony?

Seers predict that only unaffiliated persons will win the festival games this year.

Who Ordered the Mongoose?

Magical Tattoos
for Sale!
1 gold Each
Festival Special
Buy One Get One Free
Inquire with Brinli at
The King's Festival

Rumor has it that the Sutherlands journal is slowly becoming a bunch of pages of advertisements- People apparently aren't afraid to make money.

Lamia has mastered the fine art of placating even the highest of Nobility with cheesecake.

Last Gather, the seers of the Sutherlands all disappeared, and they have been replaced with simlacrym- or was it ink monsters? Either way, no one seems to be afraid of dragons.

Lord Orden of Sahde has been seen putting a little extra something in his wines to be sold at festival. When asked what it was, he responded with "It's magic!"

A new towns person by the name of Autumn was seen being dragged away in tears by members of Sahde, who promptly threw her into a carriage, to take her to her new "home." Has Sahde resorted to kidnapping to swell it's ranks?

....blood will be coming you can bet the stars in the night sky on that.

Rumor has it, a sylvan in blue and white has been seen attempting to capture pony sized beetles deep in the woods using a carrot a stick and a weasel.

"Iron Fist Sessith", the peasants whisper.

When did the Age of Man become the Age of Kissing up to Dragons?

Stymied by life?
Suddenly at a loss?

If you need a bit of advice for what path to choose with your life, perchance you should .

**Ask an overly blunt
Sudbyrian.**

Submit all questions to the Journal, to the attention of Sinnel Elsewhen.

(Neither Mr. Elsewhen nor the Sutherlands Journal offer any guarantees regarding advice, except otherwise noted.)

It's been 837 days since you last witnessed the glory of....

Sooo0o0oOOo0o0odus'es'



Homunculi Battles!

Build your fighters, equip them with magic items, stack them with spells, then watch them beat each other senseless!

Open calling to earth formal casters: Take the 900 seconds and make a contestant

Scroll available for supervised casting, some extra components available for cheap!



Unlucky in love?
Need some help in relationships? Wish you had as many suitors as the average Gypsy?

Well look no further! I, **Bandolier Lamia Sbaity**, am offering my services as an advisor to the broken-hearted, for free!

(Yes, free. Believe it or not.)

Just send your questions into the Sutherlands Journal, care of Bandolier Lamia, and I will make all your heart's wishes come true!
Or at least, get you a date.