

The Whetstone

August 2007

Notes from June Bizmeet

The following are notes taken by Wolfgang after I was unable to attend because I was stranded in Iowa due to "catastrophic transmission failure." I am so glad to be home. Thanks again Wolfgang. -Iazzie

Meeting Called to Order

-Iastreb will be hosting a birthday activity day on Wednesday June 27th. It will include scrollery, fighting, a potluck supper, and dancing.

-The consul position (demo coordinator) is open.

-Their majesties sent out a survey concerning the state of the Barony. These were sent out to all kingdom baronies. Please fill these out and send them in by June 25th.

- A&S stuff. Do more. There will be an A&S competition at Silver Hammer.

- The June Whetstone is online.

- 15 scrolls were submitted at kingdom A&S.

- The kingdom needs regalia. Directions on how to make regalia are on the kingdom website.

- There will be a fighter practice demo at Maryville College on June 10th.

- May Tourney made a profit of approximately \$200.

- Silver Hammer is still happening. A clean up head is needed for Saturday night. Olrun volunteered.

- February 16th 2008 is Black Gryphon.

- There will be a Medieval Renaissance class next semester at the University of Tennessee.

- October 15-21 is Shakespeare week.

- Either August 25th or September 15th (Probably the September date) will be a Medieval Fair.

- Call Fionn to work on armor Projects.
- The August business meeting is cancelled due to Pennsic.

Calendar Discussed

Meeting Adjourned



Regnum

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Baronial Warlord: THL Aaron Hawksmoor (Chris Morris)

Baronial Yeoman: This space for rent.

Constable: Dominus Tiberius Trebatus

Secundus (Chad Riggs)

Minister of the Lists: Lord Juan Gregorio Ramiriez de Santander (Gregory Johnson), gmjohnso@usit.net

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Gold Key: Lord Faelan Haroldsson (Jay Carroll)

War!!! Border Raids

2007

The opinions and observations in this article are solely the responsibility of Iastreb Desislavich (MKA Michael Myers) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the members of the Barony of Thor's Mountain, the Kingdom of Meridies, or the Society for Creative Anachronisms. This is how I feel and does not express anyone else's opinion that I talked to. So if you do not like what I have to say talk to me directly and not anyone else. If you don't have the huevos to tell me if you disagree with me then as my friend Wolfgang says, "Piss Off!"-Iazzie

Our traditional pilgrimage to Fort Knox, Kentucky did not have a traditional ending.

Historically, this war was a hard-fought series of battles where aggression, chivalry, and kingdom pride were the rule of the day.

However, this year the war was not so competitive and kingdom pride was not necessarily in evidence. That being said, I still enjoyed my weekend, but could have done it a lot closer to home.

For whatever reason, the Midrealm had a conflict in scheduling with Border Raids. Their Royalty and a large number of their fighters went west to a War Practice with Northshield. This meant that a much smaller force than usual came to Border raids.

Meridies had a good turnout with over 150 fighters on the field and in one battle had 12 archers on the field. Thor's Mountain itself fielded more than 10 fighters. We had a solid battle plan (shocking as that may seem), and most of the Meridians showed chivalry and courage befitting our noble Kingdom.

Our fighters outnumbered the Midrealmers at least by 1 1/2 times. We dominated the first two battles, and then The Midrealm conceded the war. We then sent many soldiers to fight with the Midrealmers (Almost all of the Thor's Mountain and Nant-Y-Derwyddon).

In the battles that followed all of the fighters on the field fought courageously. However, it soon began to look like a Meridian war practice as nearly 90% of all of the fighters on the field were in black and white. Meridian soldiers time and time again led charges and were to be found at the front. (I have video to confirm this if anyone disagrees.)

I wondered why this was. I listened to many of our foes as they discussed the day. They were commenting on how that no one took this event seriously and that this did not prepare them for Pennsic, which was a much more important war. I was saddened and slightly angered by this opinion of our event. I do not feel that we are an opponent that can be so easily overlooked, but that was indeed their opinion. Maybe after the beating they took this year they may disagree, but I doubt it. The

excuses for why they lost were being made before the dust settled from the first battle.

To be honest I was a bit frustrated to drive five hours to a war that was, for all intents and purposes, over by 10:30 a.m. I enjoyed they pick-up fights with our knights as much or more than the melees. I was extremely pleased with our fighters. However, I think that we could have done this a lot closer to home.

I know that it is our traditional war, but I have to question whether this is best for us in the future. This might be as much or more fun if we picked this up with our now independent sister, Gleann Abhann. I hope the Midrealm will take interest in this war again, but only time will tell. This is just my two cents worth. I want this to become a big, fun rivalry again, filled with passion and honor, but I want us to be taken seriously.

I want to be clear that I am not taking anything away from our Meridian Army. We rocked! We were coherent and we fought with pride and honor. We went up to meet an opponent that underestimated us and promptly gave them a serious beating. I hope to see the trend continue and hope to see the day that our foes tremble at the sight of the black and white of the Meridian war machine. Vivat Meridies!!

Recipe Gallery: Tapas

Traditionally Tapas are a form of appetizer. The way my Lady uses them is that she puts the tapas on the table and lets people eat them as they start to gather around the table. These are foods that are munched on as people socialize and prepare for supper. It is almost a pre-appetizer. These recipes come from

Mediterranean Cooking Collection: Spanish by Pepita Aris. Cook, store, and enjoy. –Iazzie

Tapas of Almonds, Olives, and Cheese

Ingredients:

For Marinated Olives:

- 1/2 tsp. coriander seeds
- 1/2 tsp. Fennel seeds
- 2 garlic cloves crushed
- 1tsp. Chopped fresh rosemary
- 2 tsp. Chopped fresh parsley

-1 tbsp. Sherry vinegar

-2 tbsp. Olive oil

-2/3 cup black olives

-2/3 cup green olives

For Marinated Cheese

-5 oz. Manchego or other firm cheese (other cheeses such as cheddar and mozzarella will work)

-6 tbsp. Olive oil

-1 tbsp. White wine vinegar

-1 tsp. Black peppercorns

-1 garlic clove sliced

-Fresh thyme or tarragon sprigs

-Fresh flat leaf parsley or tarragon sprigs, to garnish (optional)

For Salted Almonds

-1/4 tsp. Cayenne pepper

-2 Tbsp. Sea salt

-2 tbsp. butter

- 4tbsp olive oil

- 3/4 cups blanched almonds

- extra salt for sprinkling (optional)

Directions

For Olives

-Crush the coriander and fennel seeds in a mortar with a pestle.

- Work in the garlic.

- Add the rosemary, parsley, vinegar, and olive oil.

- Put the olives in a bowl and pour the marinade over the olives.

- Cover with plastic wrap and chill for up to a week.

- Garnish with fresh herbs, if desired, just before serving.

For Cheese

- Cut the cheese into bitesize pieces, removing any hard rind, and put in a small bowl.

- Combine the oil, vinegar, peppercorns, garlic, thyme or tarragon and pour over the cheese.

- Cover with plastic wrap and chill for up to 3 days.

For Salted Almonds

- Combine the cayenne pepper and salt in a bowl.

- Melt the butter with the oil in a frying pan.

- Add the almonds and fry them, stirring for 5 minutes, or until golden.
 - Tip the almonds, drippings and all, into the salt mixture. Toss the almonds until coated.
 - Let cool, then store in an airtight container for up to 1 week.
 - Sprinkle with salt just before serving.
- fingers at the other, the other gender should place their hands on their hips.

Dance Review: Washerwomen's

Bransle

This dance is a mimed Bransle. Mimed bransles mime other activities. This particular dance mimes wash day. The man scolds his wife to do the laundry. She in turn scolds him. The clapping represents the beating of the wash. The steps are repeated until the music completes (usually four times). -Iazzie

Washerwomen's Bransle (Bransle des Lauandieres)

Source: Arbeau.

Setting: A line or circle of dancers

Version: 1.0

Peace:

A: 1- 4 Double left, double right.

5- 8 Repeat 1-4.

B: 9-10 Face partner, single left, right, men shake fingers.

11-12 Repeat with women shaking fingers.

C: 13-14 Face in, double left, clapping hands,
15-16 double right,
17-18 double left, clapping hands,
19-20 individually turn around to left using 4 kicks.

Discussion:

This is a mimed Bransle. Arbeau says (Evans/Sutton translation):

"... is thus designated because by clapping their hands the dancers make a noise like the women beating the washing on the banks of the Seine."

Arbeau specifies the finger shaking in the tabulation. When one gender is shaking their

The Games People Played:

Tablut

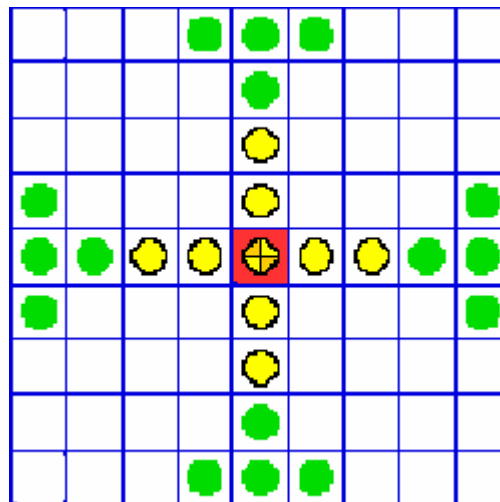
TABLUT

compiled by Modar Neznanich

Tablut is a Finnish tafl game.

A tafl game is one where the sides are unequal (in size or strength).

This is a variation of the Norse game known as Hnefatafl.



In Tablut the two sides are known as the Attacker Side and the Defender Side (sometimes called the King Side).

It is played on a 9 square by 9 square board. Playing pieces move orthogonally. (Vertically or horizontally, but not diagonally.)

The Attacker Side starts with 16 playing pieces (positioned in the above diagram as green pieces).

The Defender Side starts with 9 playing pieces (positioned in the above diagram as yellow pieces). There are 8 regular pieces and 1 King piece. (The King piece is marked in the above diagram with a "+" symbol on it.

The center square of the board, called the King's Square is depicted as red in the above diagram.

The object of the Attacker Side is to capture the King, which is accomplished by surrounding the King on all four orthogonal sides, or surrounding the King on three sides with the center square of the board (the King's Square) being the fourth side, or if the King and another Defender piece are enclosed on all sides so that neither the King or the other Defender piece can move.

The object of the Defender Side is to move the King piece off the board.

Other playing pieces (of either side) can be captured by orthogonal interception. That is to say that the piece is "caught" between two opposing pieces, either two horizontally, two vertically, or one of each.

If a playing piece moves between two opposing pieces voluntarily, it is **NOT** captured.

If the move of a Defender piece (either regular playing piece or the King piece) gives the King piece a clear line of exit from the board, the Defender player must announce this.

If the King piece has two clear lines of escape from the board, the Defender must announce this also.

If a move of an Attacker piece gives the King piece a clear line of exit from the board, no announcement must be made (by either side).

The players take turns moving one piece, beginning with the Attacker Side.

The number of squares a piece may be moved is determined by the roll of one 6-sided die.

The number roll on the die is the maximum number of spaces a piece may move; fewer spaces may be moved if desired.

The number may **NOT** be split between pieces.

Only one piece is moved per turn.

A piece can only move in one direction during a turn .

Joelisms

We'll be bringing finger foods. - Iastreb
My fingers get really hungry. - Jerusha

Oooh, he played the Crown Card. - Ana

Be careful what lamps you rub. - Will

If it's smaller than a football, it's not a dog, it's an accessory. - Will

We don't scare the horses. - Catherine

It's an infestation of Laurels. - Catherine

It's the Prize Procurement thing. That's a whole different office. -

Marta Bon

It will be the Thor's Mountain Wikipedia. - Catherine

Sounds like Liz has stepped up to herd these cats. - Iastreb

... after which Roan and I got chopped into dog meat. - Will

You can't listen to each other if you're not singing. - Nahla

I live in ... paradise. The seneschal's a genius and smells nice. - Will

Heaving bosoms are always period. - Catherine

I can't write Joelisms on official notes. - Catherine

Bowling for the Baroness. - Catherine

... and make sure we all have our poop together. - Iastreb

My name is not Gwen but I answer to it. - Mistress Wuennemon die Naherin

Oh, yeah, we're gonna be beating your door down for *that*. - Katrina

I speak East Kingdom if you need me to translate. - HRH Maximillian

I bet you're his favorite protégé now - HRM

Deirdre

Bad done to him is ill advised. - Baron Salih

You'll have to turn a hose on us. - Catherine

Feather envy. - Liz

Sanity is temporary at times. - HRM Deirdre

Do you HAVE food in your house? - HRM Deirdre

It all happened around me. - Catherine

My G's are not working. - Alysea

*Death does not excuse you. - Alysea
Well, it used to. - Roan*

Having a tenor moment. - Roan

Don't get on the dress. That'll cost. - Alysea

That sounds like running 'round naked in the woods, speaking French. - Catherine

*<in cheerleader style> Marthe Elsbeth!!!
Better than Syphilis!!! Rah!!! Rah!!! Rah!!!
-Joel*

*Y'all are not going to wave my colon around.
I'm going to be firm on this. - Will*

**Those* brains aren't gross. - Catherine*

*It's new for us. It's like the jellyfish on the beach that you just have to poke with a stick.
- Will*

It's a motorcycle "gang." Born to raise grandchildren. - Will

*We don't know where we're going. - Catherine
But we're almost there. - Solveig*

The Loch Bed Monster. - Catherine

<evil laugh> I have the credit card. Get out of

*my pouch. - Anon. at
Windrose Armoury*

He's taken a left at Albuquerque. Work with me. - Iastreb

*She sent him to the AKC, so he's got papers.
- Iastreb*

The Gulf Wars heraldry tent is like the DMV. - Marianna

The children, they look like poodles. - Iastreb

She crapped in her nest. - Catherine

They became French and learned how to surrender. - Iastreb

We are Viking. Prepare to assimilate us. - Solveig

*No s**t. There he was. One man against 10,000 babes. - Will*

Pissed off Mexican with hot peppers and knives. - Will

When you put chilies next to habaneros, things happen. - Iazzy

It's generally not a good idea to call your Laurel "Dude". Ziggy

"Perking". What a great verb. - Catherine

To not be on the radar is an ugly moment. - Will

She is no longer a felony. - Will

Breast-icles. - Iazzy

It was crude and crass. It was Meridian. - Iazzy

Those boys can do armpit farts in plate. - Will

... 'cause when they went east, the Russians

*kicked their a**.* - Iazzy

No Wildness. - Catherine
They're from Connecticut. - Will

I'm a pilgrim in an unholy land. - Will

You're job is to make ice cubes in hell. - Solveig

These are free-range potatoes. - Catherine

I have the master list of Joelisms. - Marthe

You have reached that level of greatness that made me gag on my food. - Danr

As a juggler, I am master of the drop. - Will

I know not to argue with Mommies. - Iazzy

It was dark. I missed. - Will

Jamie's flesh eating cicadas. - Danr

He says there's a goat in his bed. - Katriona

I'm a court junkie. - Grimwolf

More goat, less dragon. - Will

Would you like a kosher hot dog cooked in bacon grease? - Danr

Do I actually get a Premier parking spot? - Danr

There were no sexual overtones in what I was saying. That scares me. - Danr

Having three Grants means I have three 'ships', thus I am an admiral. - Christian

Are you coming from the land of spicy food? - Danr

And, by the way, I'm skipping lots of the story. - Danr

People tend to live happily ever after and all the stories are politically correct. - Danr

And we're going to wait until Esperanza gets back to know how to cook it. - Catherine

I'm not wearing pants. - Christian

...47, which is the food channel. - Ysabella

At least they're not on fire. - William
Cheap shot. - Danr

If you were pregnant, oh, wait, I am. - Solveig

Would you stop calling them meat tubes? - Danr

Comfort food made with lye. - T.J.

I'm willing to be a pervert for you. - Iazzy

That's a previous wet. - Marthe Elsbeth

The big animal dude said you should not have your cat in the shower. - William

The whole family was doing their impression of dead people. - Solveig

Squeaky fabric. - Catherine

We match. We both have WD-40 on our garb. - Marianna

I love the smell of WD-40. It smells like victory. - Catherine

I'm very laid back competitive. - Solveig

He's so straight he squeaks. - Catherine

You're not allowed to be hot until your daddy's dead. - Catherine

First of all, it's not the apprentice's fault. -

Andronikos

*He has hidden talents I didn't know about. -
Katriona*

Not anymore. - William

*We can't put up posters. The fire marshall is
psycho. - Iazzy*

Mr. Harbrace here. - William

*I pulled off my first double noogie of the war. -
William*

*It's Ed's cold. He gifted it with juiciness. -
Solveig*

*I need some shopping bling. How will I get
discounts without shopping
bling? - Catherine*

Eastern Elbow Time. - Marthe Elsbeth

*I'm done. Thank you for playing, here's your
consolation prize. - Catherine*

*Mama said, don't talk to strange onions. -
Catherine*

It's not genetic. It's Beer-etic. - Iazzy

*This is the best beer ever! - in four part
harmony, everyone*

*I shook sticks at a lot of pointy hats. Problem
was they shook back. - Iazzy*

Yeah, 'cause Solveigs aren't stupid. - Solveig

Our daughters are growing fins. - Iazzy

Mobius strip underdress. - Catherine

*You're just not Nordic. That's all I can tell you.
- Solveig*

Subtle as a hand grenade. - Iazzy

He's the little brother I never wanted. - Iazzy

*We thought he was the spawn of Satan. -
Solveig*

*He seems like a poster child for lithium. -
Solveig*

*Sun addiction. I can quit any time I want to. -
Iazzy*

*I had fun in the merchant area watching the
Yankees wilt. - Will*

She wasn't born. She walked out. - Iazzy

*I'm just a suck up. I'm not a brown noser. -
Will*

Solveig is the Princess of Bland. - Solveig

You sock perverts. - Catherine

*Apparently that's a venal sock perversion. -
Catherine*

*I can't march and sing at the same time in a
kidney belt. - Will*

*I'm not going to escalate the poke-noogie war.
- Will*

Solveig is pregnant. Marthe is old. - Solveig

Her nose is resistant to beeping. - Will

*That's what my problem is. The sun came up. -
Solveig*

*That yawn was contagious and wandered
around the camp. - Iazzy*

*We're making the cooler pee... - Catherine
... 'cause we're lazy butts. - Kelly*

Food first, then mud. - Danr

*Who are you and what have you done with my
wife? - Danr*

There's snot in wood? - Katriona
Yes, it's wood snot. - Solveig

I'm as hot as my pants. - Danr

Oh, Bums are lovely. - Grimwolf

It depends on the lighting. - Grimwold

Don't put your underwear in the chair. Put it in the wagon. - Danr

Once you've lit your crotch on fire, no one can do anything worse to you. - Danr

I'm drinking water now.... Mmmmmm.. - M.E.

He was wearing that shirt in a very inappropriate way. - Catherine

... especially if you prevent them from stuffing their hand in the fire.
- Solveig

I was wearing my art bazooka. - Will

I realized I was the only non-peer at the table. - Iazzy
That's okay. I get that in my bed. - Catherine

The good news is: you're getting an award. The bad news is, it's a really long one and you have to kneel. - overheard

These are not the port-a-potties you want. - overheard at the TRB party

I can't be squired. My head is fuzzy. - Andronicus, now Ansteorran squire.

Let's go fishing for ice. Let's see how many ice floes we can catch. - Solveig

I'm a Yankee. If I want my chair, I'll boot you. - Solveig

The Lilies War Chorus. - Iazzy

... Because we're on vacation. - Iazzy

It's a pop quiz. You're failing. - Solveig

I swear I can hear Marianna's eyes rolling. - Solveig

We have mindless heavy lifting. - Catherine

What's that? What's that? What's that? Gotta take over a small country.

What's that? What's that? - a Pelican with ADHD

No bursting into flames. - Solveig

Marthe would not take over a small country. She would diplomatically deal with the situation. - Solveig

She's leaving sarcasm on the table. - Iazzy
Stop that. Ewww. We have to take these tables home. - Catherine

The sarcasm in this camp not so much drips as flows. - Iazzy

When you don't hit someone hard enough, because we don't want to maim our friends. - Iazzy

I got 'ohh, shiny'ed. - Iazzy

Come fight me, you sissies. - Solveig

Stupid air guitars. - Kelly

I believe I don't want that translated. - Solveig

I'm enunciating. There's a car in the way. - Solveig

You'll get pregnancy-explosis. - Will

Your cats are going into the shop. - Solveig

<with a lilt> We're making her roll her eyes. - Bill

That would leave Word droppings all over your code. - Will

Dude, you have serious thrill issues. – Kelly

It's speed court –HRM Boru

The thing that he said to me that I was most proud of was, "You guys don't look like the Meridian Army." – General Aileghnan

*That's the last time I go naked to court.
-Wolfgang*

I am not allergic to life. –Marthe Elsbeth

*I found clay jackpot! Come over here. –
Aleksandra*

Save the chicken, save the world. –Catherine

Mutants attract each other. –Master Danr

*Who needs a pillow when you have a glaive. –
Aislin*

*It's a Jimmy Hoffa trunk. You can hide bodies
in here. –Wolfgang*

*Are we still Team Traitor or do we get to fight
for our kingdom now? –Wolfgang*

*Where are the nine-foot-tall, seven-sandwich-
eatin', one-eye-brow, bulletproof, swamp-
Yankee Trimarians? –Sir Logan*

*It's a knight-deposit box. – HRM Asa of
Trimaris*

*In Meridies it is customary to fall down when
you are dead. –Count Seth*

*You should know. You get to fall down a lot. –
Count Seth*

