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Gryphon's Keep News Letter

"The Beak & Talon"

Issue #7 (Aug 07)

Four months have passed since the last news letter. As usual time has continued to flow faster than a raging river. Geoffrey has been working hard as the Autocrat of the first Shire of Phoenix Glade event to be held within memory. Even with its sinister name Daggers & Hemlock (an Assassin's Gathering) <http://www.phoenixglade.org/event.html> it has the makings of being an event remembered by all and sure to become one of the annual events everyone looks forward to attending. Did I mention in door fighting with air conditioning!

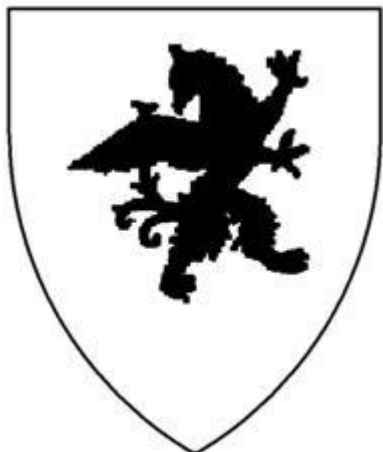
Lord Larian has returned from his far reaching journeys and has brought back some beautifully stitched Gryphons that will make our tabards uniformed and "regal". They are \$25 each, so if you have not requested one do so soon before they are all sold.

I am very proud to announce the latest members to be awarded the Order of the Sable Gryphon. Geoffrey and Roland received the honor at the Fort Walton Beach Library Demo. Earned through there dedication and support of our fine household as well as their work within the Shire. I am proud to call you brothers in arms!

Be sure to read my thoughts at the end of this news letter.

Strength in Unity,

Thomas Alfred
Steward of Gryphon's Keep



What happened since the last news letter?

In the last news letter I talked about our huge success putting on the demo during the Saturday in the Park at the Heritage Museum. Our first success was followed by another as we put on a well received event at the Fort Walton Beach Library. Other than that the summer has been quite. Our busy season is coming with the cool weather in the fall. Until then we will continue to train. Keep an eye out for instructional fighting links that Larian will be posting on the Household website. I must say that you can learn a lot from a video. In just the last fighter practice I used a move I saw in an instructional video on close fighting and it worked!

Fort Walton Beach Library Demo 19 May 2007 – This demo was a huge success in the local community and received the biggest media coverage to date for the Shire. The Shire populace supported in calligraphy and spinning, but the heart of the fighting demo was once again three Gryphons' (Roland, Geoffrey, and me). Despite the heat we put on a great fighting demo that inspired the crowds to cheer wildly and yell huzzah with enthusiasm. The fighting was enhanced by the sound of war drums provided by Todd "Angus" Hanning. Dressed in his fine Stewart Tartan he beat along with the battle adding well timed flourishes at crucial moments and death beats as a fighter fell. I hope he has the opportunity to join us again.



Thomas taking a dirt nap after a well landed blow by Roland.

Up and coming events:

Daggers and Hemlock – 25 Aug 07

Pillage on the Plains – 5 Oct 07

Panhandle Skirmishes - 20 Oct 07 (<http://www.trimaris.org/files/events/2007-panhandle.jpg>)

The Thoughts of Thomas (Steward of Gryphon's Keep)

I think we have demos down to a science now and I will be coordinating the next one for the Heritage Museum in 2008. We have played a great part in the politics and operations of our Shire. I do believe our name is spreading. I wish for us to continue these things but also take the household a few steps further. There are three things I wish us to concentrate on: continue to develop our fighting skills, recruit, and attend events as a household.

I do not even know if I will be able to make it for sure yet, but I would like us to try and make Panhandle Skirmishes as a Household this year. It is close enough to make it a day trip event even when staying for feast (I did it last year). The large scale battles are non-stop throughout the day and we can fight as a unit and of course feast together as the sun sets and exchange tales of great deeds and valor.

Currently we have a strong core of very active well trained fighters. Our numbers have remained steady throughout the last year, but I want us to work on gathering more warriors to our banner. This will allow us to train as a unit and fight as a unit at events like Panhandle Skirmishes and Gulf Wars. I want our enemies to see a wall of black, and red with blazing gold Gryphons marching as a solid unit down on them and watch the fear in their eyes as they are cut down or pushed back by the force of our attack. I have

been in battles and have seen the enemy fall before me; it is a sight and a feeling I want you all to know. Gather our forces as battle approaches!

Strength in Unity,
Thomas Alfred
Steward of Gryphon's Keep



To see past news letters please go to:
<http://www.gryphonskeep.org/page1002.html>