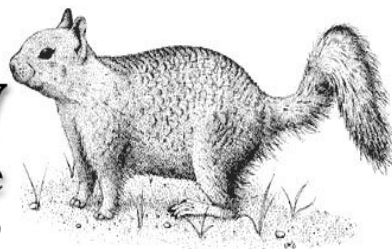


# Stil da Vida Monthly

From the Ministry of Culture

ISSUE 2

MAY 1 2009



## **HOLIDAY OF HATRED**

### The 25th Anniversary

25 years ago, on May day, the Talossan Flag was stolen and every May 1st since then, the nation has recalled this eventful time, by celebrating the Holiday of Hatred.

\* \* \*

The leading events to the flag's theft were highly politically charged and reach back to December 1982 when King Ben prepared a list of government jobs to be filled with citizens of the nation. This was the early days of cabinet government.

Due to political, and somewhat personal, differences between several members of this early government, there was a fair amount of in-fighting and snubbing of certain key figures by various other key figures.

These events led to the flag that was flying at the Kings residence to be stolen on May 1st 1983. The King declared May Day to be "A perpetual Holiday of Hatred" and claimed that "the fundamental struggle at work in the human sphere of existence is the struggle between Good and Evil." He went on to praise "totalitarianism" as the only way to oppose "criminal zombies who have sought to destroy all social cohesion from the dawn of humanity. Only when corpses hang from the façade of City Hall will people realize that their rights, granted them by the almighty State, are protected. No freedom for the criminal or the potential criminal! All power to the State!"

A new flag was later purchased to replace the stolen one from a local flag making factory, Eder Flag.

## **CULTURE CALENDER**

### **DON'T FORGET**

1 May – Holiday of Hatred

28 May – Juneau Day

## **FLAGS AT HALF MAST**

### Talossan Tribute to Tragedy in USA

The Royal Talossan Navy extended their deepest sympathies to the families of those killed in a shooting spree in Binghamton, NY, USA, on behalf of the Kingdom of Talossa by issuing a directive to all Naval Bases, Naval and Privateer Vessels to fly thier flags at half mast.

The Flags were flown at half-mast for 12 days from the 3rd of April 2009.

The directive was issued by T.M. Asmourescu, CAPT MRT Commanding.

## **TLC DISBANDS**

The Talossan League of Centrists, or TLC, has disbanded less than a month after the political party formed.

The Party Leader, Éovart Grischun, announced that he was disbanding his party on March 29 to rejoin with the party that he originally left, RUMP.

Grischun has been welcomed back into RUMP with open arms.

**Don't Miss Next Month's Issue**  
**Pre-Election Special**  
**Out 1st June 2009**

## Felicia Nadaliça

### Citizen Birthdays in May

May 1: Cjara Brainerd  
May 4: Tric'hard Carschaleir  
May 6: cagatay  
May 7: John McGarry  
May 8: Xhorxh Ûnamind  
May 10: Andy Sinclair  
May 11: Albrec'ht Cheleir  
May 14: Don Deutschmann  
May 16: Carrie Canda  
May 18: Nik? & Kevin Fillingim  
May 19: Cari Schiósál Defiançal  
May 27: Gwydion  
May 28: gomezj0528  
May 29: Richard Gorrara  
May 30: Xen Gryphon

## Citizen Returns

### A Lost Brother Finds His Way Home

Joseph Walkland, A cybercit residing in the United Kingdom, has returned to Talossa after an extended period of disappearance. Walkland returned making apologies on April 21st.

He made a general blanket apology for his absence, however, he made direct apologies to King John and to Lord Hooligan.

At the time of press, we are yet to hear from the immigration department on whether S:r Walkland will be allowed to return without a renewed citizenship petition.

Walkland is a former Minister of Stuff and resident of the Cezembre Province.

## DIPLOMACY

Several citizens have been playing the game of Diplomacy recently. The game has been GM'd by Lord Hooligan and has been ongoing for several weeks now.

The Ministry of Culture hopes that the renewed interest in the national pastime continues.

## Immigration News

### Who has joined the Kingdom?

**Maggie McNab** joined as a prospective on March 10 (and making her first post on the 14th) and was naturalised to the province of Atatürk on March 30th. Maggie has adopted the Talossan name of Margreta da l'Abap, and the nickname 'Perla'. Perla is the Talossan word for 'pearl', which is where the name Margaret derives from.

Early March saw **Richard Gorrora** join as a prospective. Richard is yet to make a post on Wittenberg, however, it has been reported that shortly after joining that he was involved in an automobile accident and will be with us shortly.

March also saw the arrival of **Frank Okorie Okogbue**. Frank is yet to make his first post.

A new friend of the Kingdom has arrived to the Nation. **Ián Válcadác'h**, the younger brother of Gódafrieu Válcadác'h, has arrived to conduct an ethnography study.

On April 6th, **Luke Flatley** arrived as a Prospective. A citizenship petition has been made in his honour.

On April 8th, **Ray King** arrived as a Prospective. **John Wilberforce** and **Tycho Van Die** both came to the nation on April 20th.

## Newspaper Day 2009

Stil da Vida Monthly, the nations latest news publication, was happy to help celebrate the 2009 Newspaper day, the 24th anniversary of the national holiday, on 23rd April.

Newspaper day pays tribute to the first Talossan newspaper, which was released on 23rd April 1984. Since that day, there have been several newspapers and magazines published and released by journalistic citizens over the past two decades.

## UNIVERSITY NEWS

The Regent of the university has returned, vowing to rejuvenate the institution and increase falling attendance numbers. She has made a call, along with the Minister of Culture, for citizens to offer new courses for the coming term.

# Parlamînt Naziunál

## A Look At The Bills From The April Clark

### 39RZ15 The I Can't Believe It's Not A Talossa Website Act;

-- A bill that will require all official Talossan websites be run by a governmental department, while non-official sites must bear a visible label stating that the site is indeed unofficial.

The Act has **PASSED** the Cosà

The Act has **PASSED** the Senäts.

### 39RZ16 The Talossan Government Transparency Act

-- A bill that will require the Prime Minister to publish a report every 2 months detailing the work of the Government.

The Act has **PASSED** the Cosà

The Act has **PASSED** the Senäts.

### 39RZ17 SENSE OF THE ZIU: Humanitarian Aid Fund, Redux

-- A bill that will require the government to set up a humanitarian aid fund.

The Act has **PASSED** the Cosà

The Act has **FAILED** the Senäts.

### 39RZ18 Creation of a Magistracy Act

-- A bill that will require the creation of a magistrate's court.

The Act has **PASSED** the Cosà

(Cosà Vote Only)

### 39RZ19 Order of the Bonacon Act

-- A bill that will require the formation of an order of merit for entertainers (Talossan and non-Talossan, alike).

The Act has **PASSED** the Cosà

The Act has **PASSED** the Senäts.

**39RZ19 has been VETOED by King John**

### 39RZ20 Senats Reform Amendment

-- An amendment to the Organic Law that will provide the ability to remove a senator from office.

The Act has **PASSED** the Cosà

The Act has **PASSED** the Senäts.

### 39RZ21 The WTF Amendment

-- An Amendment to the Organic Law that tidies up some language and removes a peice of redundant text.

The Act has **PASSED** the Cosà

The Act has **PASSED** the Senäts.

### 39RZ22 The Pengöpäts: Land of Fun Amendment

-- An Amendment to the Organic Law that changes the status of Pengöpäts from colony to province.

The Act has **FAILED** the Cosà

The Act has **FAILED** the Senäts

Vote Of Confidence Results:

ÜC = 126

NON = 32

# Provincial Roundup

## Benito:

The April Legislative session of the Benito Corporative Chamber has seen two Acts being voted upon. The first Act was The Order of Benito Act, which establishes a provincial honour and makes King John the very first recipient of that honour. The second Act was The Benitian High Court Act, which Establishes a Provincial Court system as well as the Benitian Bar Association. Both acts look set to pass the Chamber.

King John has appointed Owen Edwards as the new Cunstaval of Benito. The Previous Cunstaval D:na De Winter stepped down from office due to time constraints outwith Talossa.

**The Benito Corporative Chamber has gone into recess for the month of May.**

## Cézembre:

The Senator for Cézembre, X. Pol Briga, has reached out to the citizens of the province to come to him with any issues that they feel need to be addressed by him. This comes following the debates regarding the Senats Reform Amendment

## Atatürk .

Çelis del Peracour has begun work as the Premier of the Province. It is believed she has attempted to initiate discussions off Wittenberg with her fellow provincial citizens.

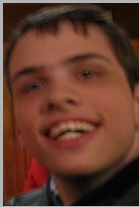
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Absolutely nothing else has happened in our nations provinces, which is the way we seem to like it.  
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## Citizen in Federal French Contest

### Talossa's most northern citizen competes in Russian Contest

In non-Talossan news this month, A. Likazar Bisquinc, our most northernly cybercit, whom resides in Murmansk, Russia, has participated in a Russian Federal contest in the French Language, known as the Scholar Olympic Games. The contest, held in the Russian city of Oulyanovsk, saw 201 participants battle it out. Bisquinc has succeeded and received prizes in the school tour, city tour (Murmansk) and regional tour (Murmanskaya Oblast) stages of the competition. He moved onto the main competition, known in Russian slang as "Vseros", with two friends Tania and Sacha.

Bisquinc earned 56% of the total points available, which finished him 105th out of the 201 contestants. Bisquinc was happy enough with this result due to the fact that the winners were from Moscow. In a private interview with SDVM, he said *"You know, the winners all were from Moscow: they have SIX lessons per week, they also go to France for training every year, while we, the northernmost people, have only ONE facultative lesson! So i'm glad i've earned such a good result for Murmansk. I've shown that i'm the best of the best in my region!"*



## **PARTY FOCUS**

### **A Column For Party Leaders**

This month's Party Focus is Written by Flip  
Molinar of the FGP

When it comes to being a Talossan, there is nothing I enjoy more than the friendship and bonds that exist between all Talossans, no matter to which leader their allegiances may lie. However, when I think of Talossa, I think of something much greater than a mere social club or interest group. No my friends, I see a Talossa with a cause ... a mission, if you will. But what exactly is the mission that I see now so vividly in my mind? That vision is one of meaningful existence and purpose in why we have come together united forever through the very thread that is Talossianity.

What then is our purpose you ask? Our purpose is to help those in need. A month seldom goes by where I do not read an application for citizenship in which the applicant wants citizenship for one core reason: they want to experience what they otherwise could not in their mother country. They want a chance to be heard, a chance to be recognized for who they are and not who society perceives them to be. They wish to be free from judgment on the unfair basis of factors that do not mark their true character.

That, my friends, is why Talossa must live on, not only in the privacy of our hearts and minds, but in the eyes of the world as well. Though we may still be branded as traitors and treasonous villains, we must fight on, as peacefully as ever to ensure that the world knows of Talossa and her mission. I might have my liberty, but I would gladly give my life to protect Talossa, which is, in turn, protecting the liberty of all the oppressed throughout the world.

***Stil da Vida's Newest Monthly Column***

## **From the Desk of Danihel Lupelet**

### Talossa Reaches Out

In this nation of Talossa, most of us are blessed with good fortune and reasonable wealth. We can be reasonably certain that we will be able to feed ourselves and our families throughout our lives. Essentially, we are mostly well-to-do people. However, in this sense, we are not in the majority. Most people would have heard the statistic that the top 10% of adults own 85% of the wealth of the world (wealth being defined as assets minus debts). If you have more than US\$61,000 in assets, then you are part of that top 10%. The top 1% of adults (anyone with more than US\$500,000 in assets) own 40% of global wealth. On the other hand, 50,000 people a day die out of poverty – meaning that they are too poor to stay alive.

However, this column is not about making people feel bad for being relatively wealthy. This is about something that we Talossans can do, as a nation, to help those less lucky than ourselves.

Many people have heard of the website FreeRice.com. For those who haven't, it is essentially a multiple-choice quiz on subjects that you can choose, with questions getting harder as you get more correct. However the most important part of FreeRice.com is that it donates 10 grains of rice through the UN World Food Program to be given away in places such as Rwanda, El Salvador and Myanmar (to find out more about this organisation, [www.wfp.org](http://www.wfp.org) is a good place to start). It does this by showing an advert each time you get a question right, and using the money to buy rice.

I was thinking, what if Talossa began to help this effort? Let's take the 'active population' of Talossa to be everyone who has logged in in the last 24 hours. The last time I checked, it was 22 people (and this does not include 20 members of our Ziu, including active Talossans such as Mick Preston and Ieremiac'h Ventrutx, so the real number may be higher). Imagine if each of these 22 people donated 200 grains of rice a day more than usual (so if you already do do this, do it more) by answering 20 questions correctly. That would mean that we, as Talossans, would have donated 4,400 grains of rice on the first day, and 1,606,000 over the course of a year. I think that this is an exceptional example of how Talossa can reach out as a group to those less fortunate than us. So Talossans, get on those computers and start giving!

# **Letter & Emails to The Editor**

## **WARGAMING (by National Gamesmaster, Owen Edwards):**

(This article was supposed to be included in last issue's special feature, "Addressing The Nation". However, the author missed the publication deadline and the article wasn't used. So here it is, for those who want to read it).

I've played wargames, roleplaying and board games for about 15 years or so - since I was very little. I suppose the fact that these sorts of games give one access to another time, another place, and another culture attracted me to them initially; I enjoy games of skill, but it was the escapist in me that enjoyed them most. History, science fiction, fantasy - I've often spent a lot more time in those realms than in the present! I started playing wargames with Games Workshop's various lines, before moving on to historical gaming, via "Fire and Fury", a 15mm miniatures game set in the American Civil War, and the DBx range - generally modelled for 15mm games, ranging from the ancient world to about 1700. I fought at Shiloh and Naseby and beyond, with samurai and Aztecs and innumerable others. I got into tabletop RPGs a while after, and in the course of my "career", I've made a lot of good friends, and more recently, business partners.

This is why I leapt at the chance to be National GM; what better way could I give to Talossa's culture than out of the games that I've spent so much time on? For as long as I'm GM, I want to participate in and, sometimes, lead great games amongst Talossans; and one specific mission is the development of a game for Talossans, by Talossans. There's some ambitious ideas on the backburner, but for now I'm focusing on a wargame based on the siege of Constantinople 1453 - with both the military and political aspects. This era of Byzantine history is both fascinating - the last, courageous Emperor of Rome leads a tiny, rag-tag army against the best organised army, a hundred thousand strong, in the world - and is the direct precursor to one of King Robert I's published games, "Byzantium Reborn". That game was about an alternate history, where - to the historian Steven Runciman's words - the Greeks have the chance to reunite a whole people, long sundered by the Ottoman conquest of Byzantium.

Uniting both a fascinating topic and Talossan history, I hope this planned game will be of great enjoyment to all Talossans!"

Owen Edwards, National Gamesmaster (Via Wittenberg Private Message)

## **Last month's Issue of SDVM was met with a warm response. Here are some of the messages received via Wittenberg:**

Sir C.M. Siervicül wrote on March 30:

“Wow, very cool! Well done, Éovart.”

Danihel Forestal wrote on March 30:

“Very impressive work. You're setting a new standard for activity among Ministers! (Hell, among all citizens!)”

Istefan Lorentzescu wrote on April 8:

“Great job loved it please keep the colour”

Lord Hooligan wrote on April 20:

“Just wanted the nation to know that behind the scenes, off-Witt, I have most certainly congratulated Éovart for this excellent first issue in our nation's new monthly publication. A tremendous contribution from our new Minister of Culture!”

Tric'hard Carschaleir wrote on April 23:

“Just fantastic! Keep up the good work!”

# **GRISHUN**

## **SUNBURN 2009**

The sun has finally arrived in Scotland after what seemed like one of the coldest winters I've ever lived through and with the summertime approaching my thoughts have been turning to the idea of taking a vacation. With the exception of a few day trips here and there, I have not properly gone away for almost three years with September 2006 being the last time I actually took a break from my absolutely hectic life. Of course, I have these thoughts every spring and rarely do I follow through with them, however, this year I am seriously contemplating it. I was looking over a few brochures earlier tonight including some overseas locations such as Gran Canaria, The Dominican Republic, Egypt and Las Vegas. Of course, when I was at the travel agents today I picked up the brochures for London as I love the west end musicals, much to my partners dismay.

So as I pondered over where I should go and what factor of sun lotion that I should buy, a sudden realization occurred to me...There are two very definite locations missing from my little pile of brochures. The first being Havana, a place where I have always wanted to go ever since Fredo Corleone sipped his Banana Daiquiri on those culture ridden streets, and the second being Talossa. Since this epiphany I have spent the past three and a half hours completely planning out a *Haxh*. For those of you who don't know of this word yet, *Haxh* is Talossan for Pilgrimage, with the word being borrowed from Arabic. According to the Talossan Glossary, "A Talossan who lives outside Talossa "makes the Haxh" by traveling to and visiting Talossa".

Where should I go? What sights will I see? My head is buzzing with excitement. Visiting my official office at the Ministry of Culture's headquarters is probably a good idea, I really need to make sure that my staffers are actually doing some work over there and not just playing Twister all day. I could take a drive to the famous historical sites, for example, I could stand in the battlefields in which the Cone Wars took place. Landmarks? I could take a stroll past the University of Talossa and perhaps I could catch a glimpse of a Talossan flag waving in the wind on the shores of the Talossan Sea.

Of course, it probably wont happen, due to the economic crisis giving me a good 'what for' recently. In all likelihood I will probably be writing about my vacation to Loch Lomond at some point in July or August, however, the seed has been planted in my mind, which means the idea will manifest into an obsession. So, citizens within the city walls, get your beer money ready, for a son of the mother land wishes to be there. Save me a seat at Hooligan's Bar, I plan to be there within the next...hmm...say 3 years?

**To find out more about making a Haxh to Talossa  
be sure to read the Talossan Tourist Guide written by Éovart Grischun  
Coming Soon**

## **Contacting the Ministry of Culture**

*Stil da Vida is brought to you by the Ministry of Culture. All fan mail, letters and complaints should be sent to the MINISTER OF CULTURE.*

Minister of Culture  
Éovart Grischun  
ministerofculture@kingdomoftalossa.net

Ladintsch Naziunal  
Cresti M. Siervicul  
cmservicul@kingdomoftalossa.net

National Gamesmaster  
Owen Edwards  
owen@kingdomoftalossa.net