A Few Words From The President

Well, it’s that time of year again, the holiday season! A time for gatherings and fellowship and a time for good cheer. As Molossia is a family nation, these traditions are important to us, and we thus place great emphasis on family gatherings. So, as other activities wane in December, Christmas and other holidays celebrations reign supreme. This month we will celebrate Christmas around the National Christmas Tree in Government House, and then Boxing Day (with accompanying shepherd’s pie) the day after. And, like most, we will count down the minutes to the new year (even though our official new year celebration is also Chinese New Year). And of course we will be sending out our annual Christmas Cards again this year. So join us in this season of merriment and have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Inside this issue:

- Past Is Future and Guy Fawkes
- Molossian Holidays
- Last Word With The First Lady

MOLOSSIA HOLIDAYS
**Past Is Future In Molossia**

As winter settles into Molossia, there have been a few new changes to our nation. Molossia has embraced retro-futurism, aka steampunk, as a motif and the results show. Steam piping now adorns the Salt Mine, iron fixtures now decorate various buildings in Red Square, and the crow’s nest of the Constabulary, previously just a lookout, now has the added duty of airship dock. Should lighter-than-air craft once again grace the skies, Molossia is prepared to receive them, in the hopes for a new era of old-school transportation. Minor changes include a new hat for Fred the Customs Agent, and a whole new face for Trader Tom of the Molossia Trading Company, and of course goggles for all. Other retro improvements lie ahead, including a steam engine to run the lights of Red Square and more. As Molossia looks to the past for inspiration to build our future, it is certain that no matter what, that future will at least be a tad bit more unusual!

---

**Guy Fawkes Night**

On 5 November 2022 XLV, Molossians celebrated our annual Guy Fawkes Night. Guy Fawkes Night, or Bonfire Night, is a popular event in Great Britain, dating back to the foiled Gunpowder Plot of 5 November 1605 when Guy Fawkes and 13 of his cohorts conspired to blow up Parliament and King James I of England. After the plot was uncovered and the conspirators executed, the 5th of November became an official holiday in Great Britain, adopted likewise in Molossia, in recognition of our English roots. Prior to the holiday, Molossian citizens gathered in Government House and created their own Guys, to burn in effigy. That done, on the 5th of November, the bonfire in Red Square was lit and Molossians gathered for the evening festivities. Dinner was shepherd’s pie, Molossian style, accompanied by hot apple cider and hot chocolate. Dessert was mini cakes, departing from the usual caramel apples. Then the Guy Fawkes rhyme was recited by the company, after which the Guys were committed to the bonfire, one by one, the President’s going in last. The evening was concluded with gentle revelry around the fire until it became coals and the celebrants dispersed. A fine time was had by all and we all look forward to next year's Guy Fawkes Night!
**Molossian Holidays**

As the holiday season - Thanksgiving (although not an official Molossian holiday), Christmas and the New Year - are upon us, it’s nice to take a look at all the other holidays that happen through the year. Molossians celebrate many holidays annually at least one a month and most are a part of our culture - while some are adopted from other cultures. Though the January 1st New Year is celebrated, it is not an official Molossian holiday. Rather, the Lunar (or Chinese) New Year is the symbolic start of our year, even though this often takes place in late January or during February. Before that, though, is Emperor Norton Day, honoring the first micronationalist, Joshua Norton, Emperor of the United States. In March is the annual Day of the Dude, celebrating by bowling, and 30 April is Heroes Day, remembering the Heroes of Molossia. Founder’s Day is Molossia’s biggest holiday, celebrating the birth of our nation on 26 May 1977. A variety of other days follow, including Space Day on 5 May, Navy Day, celebrating our Navy, on 4 June, President’s Day, honoring His Excellency, The President on 30 July, and The Running of the Dogs, celebrating Molossia’s canine citizens on 26 August. Just three days later on 29 August we remember the tragedy of Hurricane Katrina, followed by Moonpie Day in September. The Day of Merriment, 15 October, celebrates our beloved First Lady, followed shortly thereafter by Halloween and Día de Muertos, honoring Molossians who are no longer with us, and Guy Fawkes, adopted from Britain. This brings us back to Thanksgiving, an American holiday but celebrated equally in Molossia by gathering families and feasting. Christmas and Boxing Day round out the year with merriment and family love. Yes, Molossians have a lot of holidays, but we also have a lot to celebrate in our wonderful nation!

**Upcoming Tours Of Molossia**

Tours of our nation are currently planned on the following dates only:

- Saturday, 22 April 2023 XLVI at 10:00 AM PST (First Tour Of 2023)
- Saturday, 20 May 2023 XLVI at 10:00 AM PST
- Saturday, 17 June 2023 XLVI at 9:00 AM PST
- Saturday, 15 July 2023 XLVI at 9:00 AM PST
- Saturday, 19 August 2023 XLVI at 9:00 AM PST
- Saturday, 16 September 2023 XLVI at 10:00 AM PST
- Saturday, 14 October 2023 XLVI at 10:00 AM PST (Last Tour Of 2023)

Yes, it snows in Molossia! We get that question a lot, how does it snow in our desert nation? Well, Molossia in what is called the “High Desert”, near the Sierra Nevada Mountains. We get snow several times a year, turning our dry desert into a winter wonderland!
Hello everyone! I can't believe that it's Christmas time already! December is here and that means that this is the season of giving. Giving gifts to people makes us feel good and the person receiving them feel good as well. A gift doesn't have to be a monetary item. You can give from the heart by helping someone out with something that you excel in. Giving knowledge to each other is the best kind of gift, it never expires and encourages personal growth. Think of a way that you can give someone a gift this season. You can volunteer your time at a local youth center or even just hop on a message board and offer advice to young micronationalists. Giving of yourself is the most rewarding gift anyone can give. Think outside of the (gift) box this season!

Thank you and until next time...

Merry Christmas!
~Adrianne