Inside this issue:

- Nevada Day Continued and Around Molossia 2
- A Visit to Cherokee 3
- Last Word With The First Lady 4

**Cooped Up In Molossia**

The Republic of Molossia is proud to be entering a new agricultural age. In an effort to attain more self-sufficiency, our government is launching a concerted effort to produce our own food. Past efforts in this direction have produced very limited results, but this new emphasis will inject fresh energy into the project. The first steps will be to raise chickens for eggs, and to this end a brand new chicken coop has been built directly behind Government House. The next step will be the creation of a large garden, with a wide variety of vegetables grown for our nation’s consumption. Future plans include beekeeping, a distillery and possibly the introduction of goats. While our nation, lacking as it does area and natural resources, will likely never be food self-sufficient, these steps are an extension of our ongoing Functionality and Sustainability Project, ensuring that our infrastructure works and sustains our nation. This farming initiative will certainly reduce our dependency on US markets for food as well as enhancing our independence and national pride, and makes our great nation even greater!

**A Few Words From The President**

I spoke last month about how late winter is actually a time of renewal and projects here in Molossia, and such has already been the case. As you can read below, in January we inaugurated our new chicken coop, the first step toward a new agricultural era here in Molossia. Our nation is quite dependent upon the United States for all of its resources and we hope that by ushering in a new agrarian approach we might lessen that dependency a little. Besides chickens, the plan includes a large garden, and later beekeeping, a distillery and perhaps someday even goats. Though our county is small these additions are certainly achievable and, besides feeding our nation, will go a ways to increasing our national sovereignty. Molossia has long had a project we call the Functionality and Sustainability Project, which works to create infrastructure that actually functions and sustains our nation. Certainly agriculture, even on the small scale that we will practice it, fits into that mold. This new direction is an exciting one for our nation, and something we have never really tried before. It is certain to enhance Molossia and make it an even greater place than it already is!
The Republic of Molossia is pleased to announce the advent of its first "sovereign" motor vehicles. Of course there are many cars and even a truck among the conveyances that call our country home. But, because of our small size and proximity to the US, those vehicles must be registered in the US. Recently, however, two minibikes were added to the transport fleet in Molossia and these are registered in Molossia alone. This makes them the first vehicles sovereign to our nation, and not under the authority of the United States. In spite of being registered solely in Molossia, these minibikes can still nevertheless voyage across the border into the US, local to Molossia, much as cars from the US can travel to Canada. The minibikes will be used to roam around our nation, and into the wilds over the border, as desired. We are quite excited and proud to have our own sovereign motor vehicles here in Molossia now, and look forward to them serving our nation well for many years to come!
Emperor Norton, enlightened ruler and Molossian icon

Emperor Joshua Abraham Norton looms large in Molossia. There are a park, a unit of measurement and a cannon named for him and he appears on our money and stamps. The day of his death, 8 January, is a holiday in our nation, celebrating the life and accomplishments of the only royal ruler the United States has ever had. After trying to corner the rice market in San Francisco, and thus losing his fortune, and court cases, Joshua Norton in 1859 declared himself to be Norton the First, Emperor of the United States and later Protector of Mexico.

Emperor Norton immediately set about to rule, issuing a proclamation on October 12, 1859 abolishing Congress. In 1860, he proclaimed the dissolution of the Republic. Following these themes, he abolished the Democrat and Republican parties in 1869. The Emperor kept himself informed by reading newspapers, attending state legislature sessions in Sacramento, and patronizing public lectures or debates. Though open to debate as to its authenticity, Emperor Norton reportedly declared that anyone using the term “Frisco” to refer to the City was guilty of a high misdemeanor punishable by a $75 fine.

A few of Emperor Norton’s proclamations proved incredibly prescient. He called for the formation of a League of Nations approximately 50 years before it happened and ordered the construction of a bridge and tunnel between San Francisco and Oakland over 60 years before the Bay Bridge began to take shape. He advocated for women’s right to vote over 40 years before they received it. He frequently called for the fair treatment of minorities, including Chinese, African-Americans, and Native Americans.

Emperor Norton spent his days “inspecting” his realm in San Francisco. He spent many afternoons at The Mechanic’s Institute Library, reading newspapers and writing his proclamations. Officers at the Presidio gave him a uniform that he wore and to which he added a tall hat with a peacock feather and a cane or umbrella. He would speak about how things should be to anyone who would listen. He would “knight” those who helped him or children or those having a bad day by declaring them king or queen for a day.

An “auxiliary” policeman, in reality a private security guard, arrested the Emperor in 1867, intending to have him committed to a mental institution. No less than the Chief of the San Francisco Police Department ordered Norton released and issued an apology on behalf of the entire department. Police officers were sure to salute Norton thereafter. The Emperor later pardoned the security guard for arresting him.

For much of his reign, Emperor Norton lived at the Eureka Lodgings at 624 Commercial Street, paying 50 cents per day, often paid by others, for a small room. Nearby was the headquarters of the San Francisco Call where Mark Twain worked in 1863-64. Twain would later base the character of “The King” in the Adventures of Huckleberry Finn on Emperor Norton. The 1870 United States census listed Norton as a San Francisco resident and his occupation as Emperor. He created his own scrips of money that were accepted in many San Francisco restaurants. When his uniform began looking ragged, the Board of Supervisors got him a new one.

On January 8, 1880, the Emperor collapsed near Old St. Mary’s Cathedral while on his way to the monthly Hastings Society debate. He died before help could get him to a hospital. On January 11, 1880, the San Francisco Chronicle headline about Emperor Norton’s funeral stated: “Le Roi Est Mort” (The King Is Dead).

Upcoming Tours Of Molossia

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

Saturday, 23 April 2022 XLV AT 10:00 AM PST (First Tour Of 2022)
Saturday, 21 May 2022 XLV AT 10:00 AM PST
Saturday, 18 June 2022 XLV AT 9:00 AM PST
Saturday, 16 July 2022 XLV AT 9:00 AM PST
Saturday, 20 August 2022 XLV AT 9:00 AM PST
Saturday, 17 September 2022 XLV AT 10:00 AM PST
Saturday, 8 October 2022 XLV AT 10:00 AM PST (Last Tour Of 2022)
Hello all, February is here and the year is chugging right along! How are you guys doing with your resolutions? Are you continuing positive self talk to get you through? February is the month of love and there is no one more special of your time and care than yourself. You need to fill up your cup before you’re capable of filling others. I know life can seem too busy to worry about yourself when there is so much else going on, but you don’t want to run out of steam and turn to resentment. It doesn’t matter if your kids are big or small, or if you only have fur babies. Everyone in your life needs you to be happy and healthy. Part of loving others is loving yourself. So, take that walk, make that healthy dinner, pull that book out to read for a few minutes - or the entire day. You’ll feel happier and more refreshed to take on whatever is waiting for you when you’re done. Do a little everyday to make a self care routine. Even your family will notice the difference and be happier. Setting the example of self care is a better model then burning at both ends.

Thank you all and until next time,

Let your light shine bright from the inside out.

~ Adrianne