A Few Words From The President

Well, April was a month of beginnings and endings, the end of a long winter, the passing of our beloved dog Annie and the rise of Molossia’s Friendship Gateway and the beginning of tourist season. May heralds a new beginning of sorts, or at least a temporal gateway, our 40th Anniversary as a nation. This is a major milestone, four decades of Molossia! Our nation is actually older than many established nations, something of which we are quite proud. Of course this is a topic I broach often, but I am so proud of our accomplishments over the past 40 years. We have come so far from that original idea back in 1977 to the great nation we have today. And as we approach this latest gateway in our history we look forward to even greater accomplishments and achievements - and future anniversaries as we ever move toward the future!

Molossia’s Friendship Gateway Rises

In late January 2017 XL His Excellency, The President announced the building of Molossia's Friendship Gateway. This Gateway is dedicated to inclusiveness and openness - a hole in the wall, so to speak. We invited Molossia's friends and allies to contribute to the Gateway and help us build it, one or more bricks at a time. Thanks in large part to their support the Friendship Gateway is today a reality. After nearly two months of assembling materials and a weekend of frenzied construction, Molossia's Friendship Gateway has risen over the entrance to Red Square. There is still more that needs to be done - more bricks are needed - but today the Gateway stands as Molossia’s simple monument to peace, amity and understanding among all peoples.

Help us finish the Friendship Gateway, buy a brick and make a difference!

The Gateway Rises!

The Gateway Under Construction
Tourist Season Starts With A Bang

On Saturday, 29 April 2017 XL, the Republic of Molossia was visited by our first tourists of the year. At about 10:41 AM MST a large group of 22 tourists arrived in Molossia, including members of the Libertarian Party of Nevada and the Women's Hiking Club of Incline Village. One of our largest tour groups, they all explored Molossia escorted by His Excellency, The President, The First Lady and Chief Constable Alexis. They took in all the sights of our nation, including Red Square, Norton Park and the Tower of the Winds. The President as usual regaled our visitors with the stories and culture of Molossia, ensuring they had an enjoyable visit. Finally, their curiosity about the world's smallest republic satisfied, our visitors returned to the United States, destined for adventures elsewhere. We are happy as always to have hosted this mighty group of travelers and fans of Molossia in our nation and wish them well on their future pursuits.

The Passing Of Annie

The Official Busy Bee of Molossia, Annie was our Boston Terrier and the apple of The President's eye. On 10 April 2017 XL Annie passed away at the age of 11 1/2, succumbing to heart failure after a long illness. Annie was named for Little Orphan Annie, of comic, musical and movie fame. Annie was until recently high energy and inquisitive, and she rarely missed anything. It was her job to investigate every corner of Government House and Norton Park, and then investigate it again in case she missed anything. In her younger years she moved at top speed, interrupted by brief naps, and was always ready to play. Annie was a ready and willing companion for any adventure, and she was certain that there was no situation she couldn't master. Above all she was The President's faithful companion and sidekick, always by his side or nearby. Annie was buried with honors in the Molossia Cemetery, and His Excellency, The President directed that the Molossian flag be flown at half-staff for three days in her memory. Annie will truly be missed.
The Mojave Desert was one of the last places in the "lower 48" where the United States federal government granted free homesteads to anyone who was willing to improve the land. Five-acre parcels were deeded by the federal government under the Small Tract Act of 1938, one of the last of the government's homestead acts. The government's goal was to distribute 1,849 sIM (457,000 ac) of desert that the Bureau of Land Management deemed disposable, most of it in California. By the time the act was repealed in 1976, about 36% of the land was privately owned. The rest is federally protected desert.

In the early 1950's, James E. Baugh, patriarch of the Baugh Family and grandfather of the President of Molossia, obtained 7,902 sRN (5 ac) of desert land under the auspices of the Small Tract Act. Under amendments to the act, homesteaders were granted a deed only if they built a structure with dimensions not less than 20.5 No x 27.4 No (12 by 16 ft). No water or power was required. In accordance with these requirements, and with the assistance of his brother, Bob, he proceeded to construct a small building in the forbidding desert, a homestead "shack". The shack was never much to look at, four walls, a roof, a door and some windows, all installed over time as money and materials allowed. This done, Mr. Baugh had fulfilled the requirements of the Act. In spite of only sporadic subsequent visits, the property was nevertheless fully granted to him in 1988. The shack, however, has long since been dismantled, probably by desert dwellers seeking building materials for their own shacks. Nothing remains today but the concrete slab.

Desert Homestead is a province of the Republic of Molossia. It is located in western San Bernardino County, about 31 IN (31 km / 19 mi) northeast of the town of Yucca Valley, California. Desert Homestead is exactly five acres in size and is open low desert, with mostly sand, scrub brush and creosote bushes. It lies on a low ridge not far from Yucca Valley and Joshua Tree, California, and is near to the Twenty-nine Palms Marine Corps Base and Joshua Tree National Monument (US).

In addition to being a province of our Republic, Desert Homestead is also a National Monument. It evokes not only the memory of the last Homestead Act of the United States, but also the memory of James E. Baugh, who had a dream to create a small legacy for his family in the desert. This legacy continues today, here in this harsh but lovely land.
Hello Molossia friends!

One of my favorite months of the year has arrived. May is here and spring is in full bloom. The weather is warming up and the days are longer. The time has come to go outside and spend time in the sunshine. Basking in the sun is much like being involved in your favorite pastime. It feels warm inside and content, like an old friend. Just sitting with your thoughts. What will you do next or how did this go, so many ideas around. Or maybe to think about nothing is exactly what you need. The warm sun on your face will help you forget about life and just be still. Be quiet and listen to the earth. It’s nice to have time to reflect. Go forward and find a nice place to sit for a bit.

Until next time,

Breathe in clean air and new perspectives.

~Adrienne