



A Few Words From The President

Spring has finally arrived! More than anything that means new activities and events here in our nation - and of course the advent of tourist season. We'll kick that off with a bang on 16 April with our second annual Obscura Day, part of the worldwide celebration of odd places, of which Molossia is happily one. After that the tourists will keep on coming, and in among there we'll jam in all of the other activities that make Molossia great. Warmer weather means adventures and happenings, all with the usual unusual Molossian spin. We do it different here in Molossia, but that's to be expected from a nation that's just 17,920 Square Royal Nortons (11.3) acres in size. But size doesn't matter, the world still beats a path to our door - as evidenced by the amazing number of people that want to come see us! So, come visit us here in Molossia and enjoy our tiny nation (but please give us a couple weeks notice)!



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Bribe Day

20 March 2016 XXXIX

Molossia is a happy dictatorship and nothing aids in that happiness more than a happy dictator and happy citizens. Sunday, 20 March 2016 XXXIX was our first annual Bribe Day, a day set aside for Molossia's citizens to bribe The President for things that they want. A time-honored tradition in autocracies around the world, bribery and malfeasance have been decidedly lacking in Molossia in the past. This was remedied on a breezy afternoon in the Office of the President. Various Molossians lined up to meet with His Excellency and to bribe him for favors. Some bribes were accepted, such a back-scratching from The First Lady in return for watching an Adam Sandler movie, and a request for an hour of peace and quiet from Molossian citizen Bryce - in return for an hour of peace and quiet for The President. Other requests, such as room cleaning and clothes washing in return for questionable bribes were promptly declined by His Excellency. While the quality of the bribes in general were a little lacking, Bribe Day was nevertheless a great success and set the standard for a new level of despotism in our great nation.



A Rejected Bribe!

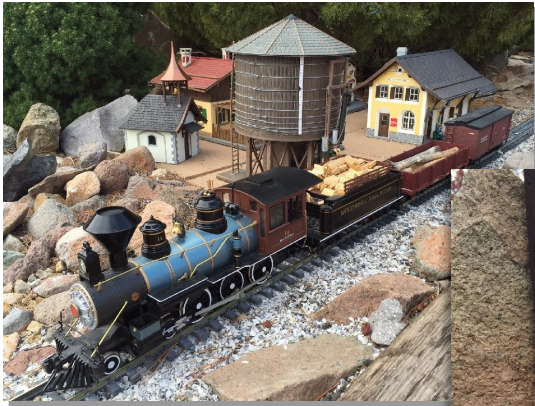


The First Lady's Bribe!

Railroad Day 2016

27 March 2016 XXXIX

27 March 2016 XXXIX marked the sixteenth anniversary of the Molossia Railroad. Through those years our railroad has served us well, hauling freight and passengers and entertaining visitors as it rolls around Norton Park. In honor of this milestone our annual Railroad Day was celebrated here in Molossia. On this occasion nearly all of the Molossia Railroad's engines and rolling stock were taken out of storage and run on the tracks. The railroad has six engines, five of which made an appearance, rolling ably around the track in spite of their age. Each engine hauled a variety of rolling stock, including flatcars, gondolas, boxcars, a caboose, a tank car and of course passenger cars. Our engineer for the day was His Excellency, The President. After a successful day of putting the Molossia Railroad through its paces, the engines and cars were stored away until next Railroad Day. In the meantime, however, our flagship engine Bighorn continues to show off the railroad to our visitors whenever tourists visit Molossia. We are quite proud of the Molossia Railroad and look forward to many more years of it serving Molossia well!



Bighorn Hauling Freight



Zephyr Under The Trees



Mustang Leaving The Tunnel



In The Tunnel



Zephyr Crossing The Bridge



A shout-out to Molossia's ladies on International Women's Day, 8 March 2016!



come see us!



In The News!

Molossia Has Recently Been Featured In A Couple of Major Magazines - Saturday Evening Post In February and National Geographic In March!

A. ELLEORE
For one festive week a year, 271 Eleorians flock to their island kingdom. It was founded in 1944 by a group of schoolteachers now known as the "Immortals."

B. SAUGEAIS
According to lore, this republic struck out from France in 1947 when a restaurateur jokingly asked a local official to show his entry permit before dining.

C. MOLOSSIA
President Kevin Baugh's War Department scrapped plans for an army and air force but does have a five-rift navy that "stands ready"—in the Nevada desert.

D. SEBORGA
Residents of this medieval principality believe independence was granted in A.D. 954. Italy isn't convinced, but Seborga operates consulates in 19 countries.

E. ATLANTUM
None of its 3,000 citizens actually reside in the 200-acre Australian realm, but Emperor George II rents out the whole thing—dynamite included—on Airbnb.

PHOTOS: LEO DELANTONARI (A, B, C, D); REPUBLIC OF MOLOSSIA (CURRENT);

Declaring Their Own Kingdoms

A king without a kingdom is not without options. For centuries, wannabe rulers intent on independence, political subversion, religious freedom, or just a laugh have laid dubious claim to territories. Some call these domains "micronations."

Where have self-appointed rulers planted flags? On islands: Off Denmark's coast is the Kingdom of Elleore, which bans *Robinson Crusoe* as slander against island life. In deserts: Nevada's Republic of Molossia sells bonds to fund land— with East Germany. And in the ocean: The ruler of the Principality of Seborga, a WWII-era British Navy sea port, says he once foiled a hostage-taking coup.

By international law, those aspiring to nationhood must have a government, a permanent population, defined territory, and a capacity for foreign relations; some tiny nations also have flags, constitutions, and currencies. What most don't have is recognition. They exist, as their founders do, on the fringes. —Nina Stochlic

National Geographic

any immigration fees, but why? Why not. "You just want to have your own country—the Little Castle" is a commanding blue-green fish and full medals of questionable honor jacket, the benevolent dictator to the embodiment of the self-reflective satire endemic to most micronations.

THE GRAND CITY OF WESTARCTICA
Raison d'être: Nonprofit awareness

"I meet the entreprising leader of Westarctica, you'll have to travel to West Hollywood, California, where he works as a recruiter for a media company and advocates

MICROCON ATTENDEES

Kingdom of Runtania: Runtania is 0.34 acre in the U.S. state of Georgia, but Queen Anastasia calls it an "absolute monarchy based on divinity."

West Who: This online micronation's capital city is Whoville. The group makes its own stamps, and anyone can become a citizen.

Kingdom of Shiloh: This virtual micronation is home to a nonprofit sports team of amateur medieval-style sword fighters, called the

House of Homestead: It claims 16 acres in the European principality of Andorra. There, a abandoned hall in a medieval castle is "in the making," according to the website.

The Ambulatory Free States of Oaxaca: Oaxaca is a volcanic rock, which its leader describes as her "after-guy."

Kingdom of Great Salt: Located in the state of Washington.

By definition, a micronation is any entity—physical or virtual—that purports to be or have the appearance of being a sovereign state, but, you know, actually isn't. They do not enjoy governmental recognition, but that doesn't stop them from trying. Almost all of MicroCon's attendees have written letters to their home governments requesting diplomatic recognition.

"These people still want to be Americans. They just want to be Americans on their own terms," said researcher Steven F. Schaffel, who broke down the origins of micronations and their appeal in modern times via an inspirational keynote address delivered to the conference via YouTube. The Nevada-based shipping clerk has been a student of the micronation movement since the 1990s, when learning about the Vatican and the UN post office ignited his interest in the whole countries within countries concept.

According to Schaffel, MicroCon's attendees are mostly peacemaker, independent dreamers who get a kick out of printing their own stamps and minting their own money and "telling" over their own tiny slivers of private property. He describes the current phenomenon as "a big, litany role-playing game that involves a lot of self-aggrandizement."

Yet micronational leaders haven't always been so benevolent. The very first micronation, according to Schaffel,

MicroCon's attendees are mostly peacemaker dreamers who get a kick out of printing their own stamps and minting their own money and "ruling" over their own tiny slivers of private property.

By the 1990s, the Internet's democratizing force made it much easier to create virtual micronations, where mini-constitutions and eccentricity-planted flags based on political views. Almost half of MicroCon's attendees, like the Kingdom of Hamaland, create society on the Internet and are difficult to differentiate from other social networks or message boards.

Today, about 98 active micronations litter the globe from Australia to Antarctica. Micro-national movements even have their own archive file at the U.S. State Department, kept by the Office of the Geographer. It's called the Ephemeral Nations File, and according to researcher Schaffel, it consists mainly of micro-countries' petitions for diplomatic recognition—and their subsequent rejection letters. (Ironically, the Office of the Geographer did not respond to these letters.)

So what keeps these leaders going?

Underneath the state flags, flag and shiny coins, three threads appear to run through the phenomenon: self-aggrandizement (see, Your Grace, creative self-expression and costume design), or passion for a cause (like the Kingdom of Hamaland, a socialist micronation in Washington state's Puget Sound region whose five citizens attempt to buck U.S. capitalism by growing their own food, doing their own taxes, and "harvesting natural medicines").

Micronational leaders have neither actual celebrity nor real wealth, so they're grabbing attention in the most efficient way possible: by running their own countries. It's a bonafide fan-meets-model UN, a self-called "harvesting natural medicines."

As Schaffel eloquently said in his MicroCon 2015 keynote, "Dreamers and poets will always build castles in the sky, but only fools and fanatics will try to live in them."

Here's a sampling.

REPUBLIC OF MOLOSSIA

Raison d'être: Hobbyist tourism

The Republic of Molossia sits on a 1.3-acre bit east of Panguitch, Nevada, that President Kevin Baugh purchased in 1998. Its bank is a wooden hut, which doesn't safeguard real money, but rather houses a stack of "Valera," a self-created currency made of paper disks. Its post office doesn't create real mail, but it does make uppin, Postmaster Fred, who reads just in case. Its railroad is a toy railroad, and the "native navy" consists of Molossia citizenry (Baugh's 27 family members taking book "enthusiasm" on late labor with legit guns).

"You, too, can own Molossia, or even join its navy. If you call ahead and give Baugh two weeks' notice," he is open to a certain extent by theme parks. But there's no real profit in having your own country," said Baugh, who works full time in human resources and doesn't charge visitors



The bank makes the main MicroCon attendees leaders Prince Arthur of the House of Homestead of Andorra, President Kevin Baugh of the Republic of Molossia, and Grand Duke Thras of Westarctica pose outside Grauman's Egyptian Theatre in Hollywood.



Members of the House of Homestead of Andorra.

Republic of Molossia

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Visit Molossia's website at
www.molossia.org.

We're also on Facebook, at
www.tinyurl.com/MolossiaFacebook

And follow us on Twitter at
www.twitter.com/Molossia.



News, music and more from the
World's Smallest Sovereign Republic!

April Calendar

Qingming Festival - April 5th - A day for sprucing up of the entire nation and honoring departed Molossians. Celebrated also by serving cold food - which usually means a trip to Subway!

Kickassia Invasion Victory Day - April 11th - The day Our President kicked the Kickassians out of Molossia!

St. Expeditus' Day - April 19th - Feast Day of the patron saint of Molossia.

Heroes Day - April 30th - The day on which we recognize the Heroes of Molossia.

THIS MONTH'S WEATHER

Molossia's weather is always gorgeous, with plenty of sunshine and temperatures year-round of 22° Celsius (72° Fahrenheit). However, our little country is surrounded by the US and they are so close, their awful weather invades frequently! So the weather report reflects both our weather and theirs.

	Molossia	US
Maximum Temperature	22° C / 72° F	21° C / 70° F
Minimum Temperature	22° C / 72° F	-2° C / 27° F
Average Temperature	22° C / 72° F	9.4° C / 49° F
Monthly Precipitation	0 mm	14.2 mm
Sunshine hours	Pretty much every day!	

The Last Word With The First Lady

April has arrived and spring has sprung! Flowers are blooming, baby animals are all around and it feels like a new beginning for the year. Speaking of new beginnings, we just welcomed our second grandson, Noah Nicholas, into this world! We are so excited!

Spring time is nice and fresh, with the sun shining and outdoor plans afoot. Remember all of those plans you were making this winter while you were stuck inside, get out there and make them happen! Here in Molossia we have grand plans for spring and summer! What will you do this spring? Tell us on Twitter with hashtag #springfun @molossia. We would love to see your photos!

Have a great month and until next time...

Do not fear, spring is (finally) here!

~Adrienne

