
Riverdance Hold

Creator Name: Meg King

Hold Contact: cassidoria@aol.com

Current Holder: Lord Rourke

Badge and Colors: Gold & green. The badge is simple, the left half bright gold, the right half rich green, and a wavy stripe down the middle of deep blue, like the waters of the River Dance.

Minor Holds Beholden to Hold: Lahaina Dolphincrafthall - Master Challen, Chunga Cothold, Fortune's Run cothold, others TBD

CLIMATE & ECONOMICS

Riverdance Hold lies just south of 40°. The climate is similar to Benden Hold. Cool summers, fairly cold winters, although not too cold due to its closeness to the sea. Lots of precipitation due to the marine influence. Much cooler at the south end of the holding which is south of 50°. Makes a very good wine. Has a lot of good farmland.



GENERAL INFORMATION

Riverdance Hold is settled on the south bank of the gentle Dance River which eases from the East toward the sea in the western part of the territory protected by Kadanzer Weyr. The Hold itself is built of shaped fieldstones brought from the surrounding lands. The two level structure has graceful lines and airy spaces, within the confines of Thread safety, of course. The interior is filled with panels of stained glass created by the small but dedicated crew of glasscrafters who make their homes in the area. Many other artisans have donated their time and efforts into making the Hold a lovely place. Huge metal shutters bearing knotwork patterns seal the windows when necessary, but normally they stand open to admit the sun to every corner.

Riverdance makes its living by the products of its fields and hands. Rolling fields of grains and fruit trees provide for the needs of Riverdance and other holds in addition to the Weyr and Lahaina dolphincrafthall. The rich forests are tended lovingly to provide exotic woods for musical instruments, serving dishes and highly polished boxes, often given as gifts. Deep deposits of clay further down the riverbank offer themselves up to the potters whose magic create bowls and cups of simple elegance and other ceramic items. Where the river opens into the sea, fine sand is available for the glasscrafters' use, and many items may be found throughout the lands which are turned into coloring agents for their stained glass. West of the Hold, the Dolphineers' Crafthall Lahaina was set up on lands donated by Lord Rourke. Riverdance continually offers support and sometimes interested apprentices to encourage the Hall's growth.



SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS

Dolphineer's Crafthall at Lahaina Hold; a minor glasshall at Riverdance. The truly special thing about Riverdance is the aura of encouragement for the artisans who reside there. Lord Rourke and Lady Maren, his wife, are caring, interested holders who genuinely appreciate the skills and talents of those who maintain the high level of beauty and graciousness that makes Riverdance what it is. A haven for artisans, thinkers, and all others who visit.



SPECIAL EVENTS

Informally, there are musical and cultural activities all the time. Twice or three times a year, Riverdance Hold sponsors Gathers which give the crafters a chance to show off to as many as can attend. The merchants' square at these Gathers is the place to go to look for just about anything one could want.



IMPORTANT PEOPLE

Lord Rourke - Rourke is a good-natured man who enjoys people and always wants to ensure that they are happy. He does not feel compelled to be "in charge" but his presence generally assures that things are properly done. He is open to new ideas. If it is reasonable and looks to benefit the hold and her people, he will consider it and likely try it. He is a very social person who enjoys ceremony and celebration. He also tends to be very involved in the inner workings of things. He is tall and well built, his hair tending towards salt & pepper, and his grey-blue eyes show a sense of humor. He has a soothing tenor voice that is easy on the ear, and a fine singing voice well coached by the Hold harpers. He loves to sing and enjoys telling a tale or two and on occasion, making short speeches at celebrations. He adores his wife and children. (Persona of Meg King)

Lady Maren - 5'10", slender and willowy, Maren has coppery red hair with deep auburn and light golden highlights. It is always beautifully though simply arranged. Her eyes are hazel, tending towards amber. Her face nearly always bears a cheerful expression and she carries herself very gracefully. She is very supportive of Rourke and the children, and encourages the holders in their endeavors. She treats people fairly and is very seldom uncharitable about those who do not see things the same way, though she clearly has her own opinion on people who act abusively or intolerantly. She is very proud of the family, and both she

and Rourke have a very earthy outlook on life. (Persona of Meg King)

Others: **Gordian** -- Hold heir, 18; **Casey** -- The Hold steward and Rourke's brother; **Derek** -- a craftmaster farmer and Rourke's younger brother; **Ryann** -- a master glasscrafter and Rourke's younger brother; **Colin** -- a journeyman potter and Rourke's younger brother; **Lady Leonora** -- Rourke's elderly mother; **Riordan** -- a master glass crafter and Maren's brother; **Feren** -- 9, Rourke's son; **Kitara** -- 7, Rourke's daughter; **Tamrin** -- 3, Rourke's daughter; **Brien** -- 2, Rourke's son.