

1592 Malvern Road,
Glen Iris, 3146
Victoria,
Australia.

11 December AS XX

Unto The College of Heralds of the Kingdom of the West
in the Crown Principality of Lochac
From Thorfinn Hrolfsson , Crux Australis Herald

Greetings my Lords and my Ladies

The College of Heralds of the Kingdom of the West in the Crown Principality of Lochac met on December the 8th. at the Shire Tournament of the Shire of Stormhold, present were Thorfinn Hrolfsson, Crux Australis Herald , Reynardine of ~~Tax~~ Lochac : Pursuivant Extraordinary at Large, Isabeau Chanteuse and Rhyllian of Starfire Retreat. Next meeting will be on January 5 in Politikopolis probably about lunch time, see me at Twelfth Night for times and directions.

Laurel King of Arms is under extreme mundane work pressures and is running six weeks behind in reporting on the results of his meetings.

Please make cheques out to myself 'Steve Roylance' as other cheques cannot be cashed and will be returned and the submission held until correct payment is made. I cannot cash cheques made out to others.

I am going to the Twentieth Year Celebarations in the Greater Known World, so there will be a need for someone to fill in this job for the time I will be away, probably from after Rowany Festival to before Midwinter. If anyone wants to volunteer would they let me know. The requirements of the job are specified by Vesper Principal Herald, this volunteer would also be the back up person for myself should I for other reasons be suddenly unable to continue in this post, then their job would be to organize the successor. This person should not have another significant position in the SCA as two jobs are two much.

Would all submissions please be supplied on A4 paper as this is the size of my files and larger paper get cut to size on folded in awkward places, smaller paper tends to get lost.

Currency rates are as usual varying and what I put here is just a guide, but it is acurate on the day I type these letters.

Name and device	\$US8	\$A1=\$US0.67
Device or badge	\$US7	\$A11.95
		\$A10.45
Name only	\$US4.50	\$A 6.70

Would Frederick Ludivocus van der Meer please return his roster letter or indicate that he wishes to be dropped from the College of Herald's roster.

I am still missing name and device submissions from several rostered people:- Gereint the Scholar (Innilgard), Snorri Ottarsson (Aneala Scir), John Bowman and Elenor of the Hart (Stormhold)

SUBMISSIONS

Mordenval, Shire of: new name, device and petition included
Per chevron inverted Vert and Sable, a chevron inverted between a lymphad and a cup within a laurel wreath Or. The closest is Otto von Schwartzkatz Sable, a chevron inverted and in chief a sun Or there is a major for the change in minor charges and a minor for the number and layout of the minor charges and a minor for the tincture of half of the field.

Michel le Blanc: new name and device
Barry of eight Azure and Argent, a mullet of three point throughout Argent fimbriated Azure, this is unacceptable as the mullet is very hard to distinguish his second choice of Barry of eight Sable and Argent, a mullet of three point throughout Or, this device seems to be free of conflict.

Brusi Anderson of the Shetlands: new name and device
Or, on a fess nebuly counter-nebuly Vert, between four hurts three and one each charged with trefoil Argent, a griffin segreant Or, despite having ten charges in four tinctures this is quite a nice balanced device.

Bradoc McCarrum of that Ilk: new name and device
Per pale Gules and Vert, a bear rampant guardant Argent, the name Bradoc can only be found as a surname, 'Brodhok' 1275 and 'Brodok' 1282 from 'A Dictionary of British Surnames', so this is returned as it does not have a period given name also 'of that Ilk' is presumptuous as it is a claim to the status of clan chief.

Bran of Lochiel : device resubmission to Crux
Per pale Gules and Or, an annulet within a bordure embattled counterchanged, this is his first alternate as his first without the per pale counterchanged is in conflict with many mundane devices and badges, by one point for the addition of the bordure.

Everard de Brieuse : name and device
Sable, on a cross portate Or, an anchor bendwise Sable and in the dexter chief a sun in splendor Or. The Oxford English Dictionary has 1562 against this cross, the closest device is Barnett Papworth 1060 Sable, a saltire Or which has a major for the sun instead of the dexter chief branch of the saltire and a minor for the anchor. Cross portate is not found in Papworth under devices with one cross as the major charge.

Alarice Beatrix von Thal

Change in registered name.

Her registered name is *Bronwyn ferch Eliseus*. *Alarice* is a feminine form of *Alaric*, and was supported by Brigantia in her LoI of 17 October XX. *Beatrix* is given on p.44 of Withycombe. The surname is a German placename construction, and is cited by the submitter as being used by a noble family in the 14th century. We found *Thale* in East Germany in the EB Atlas.

Daniel Windchaser

Name registered, new badge.

Sable, a triple-towered castle Or issuant from a base invected argent.

Yes, we know it's a castle in the clouds, but it is legal.

This is his second alternate. His first design, with the field azure, was in conflict with the device registered to the Shire of Dearnehelde: "Azure, atop a cloud argent, a tower Or, enfiled at its base by a laurel wreath vert". His first alternate, making the field semy of mullets argent, made the design too complex for a badge.

Dark Skies, Shire of

New, name only.

This is similar to, but sufficiently different from, the registered branch names "Dark River", "Darkwater", and "Darkwell". The shire name was chosen to reflect the air pollution caused by coal mining.

Gwynhavr of River Haven

Name resubmission to Kingdom, new device.

Argent, a bend sinister azure surmounted by a lion's head cabossed, all within a bordure sable.

Her name was originally submitted as *Glynghvar of River Haven*, and was returned for documentation.

The given name is a *Guenevere* variant, and appears once in this form in the Armorial, along with all the other *Guenevere* variant spellings. The place name is that of her branch.

The device design is her second alternate. Her first choice, with the bordure azure, was returned for conflict with Danielle of Headless House: "Argent, a bend sinister azure within a bordure azure charged with four daffodils slipped and leaved proper". *There is a point for adding the lion's head, but only a minor for removing the charges on the bordure.* Her first alternate, changing the bend to a bendlet, made no change at all, as we do not use single diminutives of ordinaries.

Lochac, Crown Principality of

New, names for two Orders, see Returns for badges.

1) Order of the Silver Lilies

This will be the Principality Arts and Sciences award. The name is similar to the registered names of the Orders of the Silver Lily and the Gilded Lily, and to several Orders of the Silver ..., but we feel that these are sufficiently different.

2) Order of the Silver Tear

This will be the Principality service award. The name is similar to the Order of the Dragon's Tear, and to several orders of the Silver ..., but we feel that these are sufficiently different.

Malak Boga

Name registered, device resubmission to Kingdom.

Quarterly Or and ermine, four bull's heads cabossed sable.

His previous submission, "Quarterly Or and ermine, an arrow inverted proper debriused by a bull's head cabossed sable, in chief a mullet vert", was returned in December XIX for conflict.

This is his first alternate. His first choice, with the bull's heads in only the ermine quarters, was judged to be too similar to the device registered to Richard of Waltherma: "Quarterly Or and sable, in bend sinister two axes argent". *There is a point for changing the type of charge, but only a minor for changing half the field. The change in color of the charges is forced by the change of field.*

Richard de la Croix

New, name only.

The surname is French, and has been registered for Kelson de la Croix.

River Haven, Shire of

Resubmission to Kingdom, name and device.

Barry wavy argent and azure, a seahorse erect to sinister within a laurel wreath Or.

The previous submission, under the name *Riverhaven*, was returned in December XIX. The name was too similar to the registered name of the Shire of Riverhold, and if it was separated, it became too similar to the Shire of River's Bend.

They have enclosed a letter of permission from the Shire of River's Bend. We feel that the name is now sufficiently different from the Shire of Riverhold.

Their previous device submission of "Barry wavy argent and azure, a seahorse rampant erect within a laurel wreath Or" was returned for conflict with the Crown Province of Ostgardr: "Argent, a seahorse erect azure within a laurel wreath vert."

Siona of the Eagle's Nest

New, name only, see Returns for device.

The given name is a feminized form of *Sion*, the Welsh form of *John*.

Wolfwine Grimwald

Name registered, new device.

Argent, a wolf with the head of a demon, rampant guardant gules maintaining a seax sable within a bordure sable charged with estoiles Or.

This is clear of the device registered to Rory Phelan, which is listed incorrectly in the O&A. Rory's blazon is given as "Argent, a fox rampant guardant gules between two flaunches sable", but in both the LoAR and the emblazon in our files the fox is not guardant. *There is a point for the change from flaunches to a bordure, a minor for the addition of the estoiles, and at least a minor for the different between a fox rampant and this monster rampant guardant.*

The following submissions were held for consultation:

Lochac, Crown Principality of

Order names submitted, new badges returned.

1) Order of the Silver Lilies: (Fieldless) Three "acanthus leaves" in crescent, conjoined, points outward, argent.

This winds up looking like a roughly circular and six-pointed figure. However, it is not possible to recognize the elements that make up the figure, and it does not admit of simple blazon. The emblazon is in visual conflict with the badge of the U.S. Arctic Test Center: "Azure, a snowflake, points in pale, argent" (MilHer).

2) Order of the Silver Tear: (Fieldless) A gout de sang charged with a gout d'eau.

This could also be blazoned as "A gout argent fimbriated gules". It is too similar to a badge registered to the Barony of Jaravellir: "A gout de sang charged with a kernel of wheat Or". *The only change is in the charge on the gules gout.*

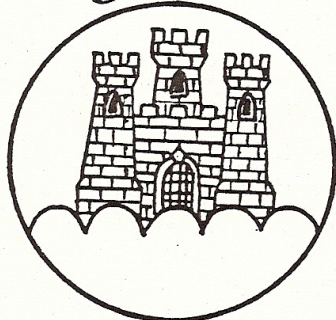
Siona of the Eagle's Nest

Name submitted, new device returned.

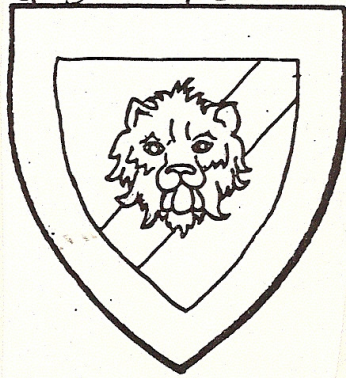
Per pale argent and gules, a cross parted and fretted and interlaced with an annulet counterchanged, in dexter base an eagle displayed sable.

This is too similar to the device registered to Emeric Wendell: "Per pale argent and gules, a Maltese cross counterchanged". *There is a point for the type of cross, and a minor for the addition of the eagle in base, but this does not add to the two points required between devices.*

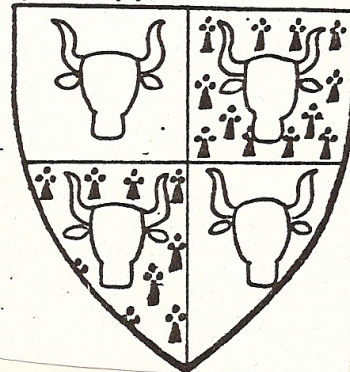
DANIEL

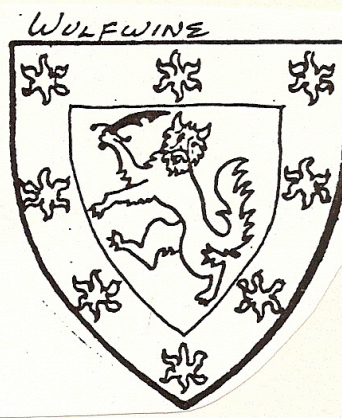


GWYN HAVYR



MALAK





Arian of Shadowvale. Name only.

Reynardine of Tara. Name change (from Reynardine of Lochac); appeal.

SYNOPSIS: The name was originally returned by Master Wilhelm in June 1984, on the grounds that "A man may not use 'of Tara,' as that was the seat of the High Kings of Ireland." Vesper appealed the rejection, arguing that "Neither the name

alone, nor the name in combination with the device or badge, are presumpt[u]ous." The appeal was first processed in October 1984, at which time I stated that I was unwilling to uphold the current ruling (that a man could not be of Tara, but a woman might), and I requested the opinions of the College on what restrictions we ought to place on the name. Based on the information at hand, I concluded that Tara did not appear to be "the sort of place from which ordinary folk might hail" (classing it with Avalon), and in January 1985 I prohibited the name altogether.

Vesper has appealed this ruling, arguing (1) that Tara is not the Irish equivalent of Avalon, (2) there are a number of places named Tara in the world, so the name is not unique, and (3) Tara was abandoned by the O'Neills in the 6th century, and was not a royal seat after that time.

REASON FOR RETURN: The historical and mythological connotations of the place name Tara are such that it does not appear to be a normal place of human habitation. Some attribute this to the magical and religious associations of the site; others to its place in history and legend as the seat of the High Kings of Ireland. The fact remains that many perceive the byname of Tara as a presumptuous claim. Until this objection has adequately been met, I am unwilling to permit use of the name.

DISCUSSION: (1) I did not say that Tara is the Irish equivalent of Avalon. I said, "This would seem to place Tara in the same category as, say, Avalon" (i.e., a place with which humans may be associated in story, but not "the sort of place from which ordinary folk might hail"). I would suggest that Vesper go back and read the entire paragraph in the LoAR, that my remark might be taken in the context in which it was made.

The use of Avalon as a parallel example was a reference to a discussion which took place in the correspondence several years ago (precipitated, I believe, by TERREL OF AVALON) over whether one could be "of Avalon." It was suggested at one point that Avalon was another name for Glastonbury. As I recall, this was countered with the argument that the mythological connotations took precedence over the historical or archeological ones.

(2) None of the other Taras cited has been shown to have existed in period. The uniqueness of the name does have some bearing on the case; but we musn't forget that the question of "presumptuousness" hinges largely on what people are likely to perceive. The assumption being made here is that Goodman Jack will think of the place in Ireland (if not the southern plantation), but not, say, the one in Yugoslavia. I must certainly conclude that Tara of the Kings is what the applicant had in mind; otherwise, he wouldn't have written "Tara is a place in Ireland where my persona was born" on the submission form.

(3) It has not been shown that Tara was a place of normal human habitation after the O'Neills departed. All we have to go on at this point is the statement that "there was a battle there in which the Danes were defeated in 980."

CONCLUSION: The association of Tara with magic and with the kings of Ireland is strong enough that, pending solid evidence refuting it, I must proscribe Tara from SCA use.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: One of the people on my staff dug up a book (I believe it was titled Irish Kings and High Kings), part of which I found time to read. As I recall, one of the arguments made by the author is that the legends of Ireland are for the most part inseparable from its history -- even if something didn't happen, or didn't happen the way the legend has it, succeeding generations of Irishmen accepted the legend as true, making it an integral part of their culture. If this is true, then the associations with the Tuatha Dé Dannan, or with one of the royal families of Ireland (whether or not they were High Kings at the time), may be implicit in the name of Tara. It would seem to follow that any

perceived associations (magical or royal) are supportable, regardless of the later history of the place. I can't prove any of this (I didn't even keep a bibliographic record of the book), but it seemed an interesting enough theory to be worth mentioning.

I remain my Lords and my Ladies your servant in Lochac

THORFINN

Thorfinn Hrolfsson , Crux Australis Herald