

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

4 February AS XX

Unto The College of Heraldry 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 Heraldry met in Quimera de Oro on the morning of February 2, present were Thorfinn Hrolfsson, Crux Australis Herald, Rhyannon of Starfire Retreat, Aharon Rodrieguez d'Alguilar and Francis of Bath. Next meeting will be on March 6 then at the Rowany Festival there will be a consulting table for one day.

A reminder that all heraldic appointments are on a Royal Warrent executed at the recommendation of the Principal Herald of the Kingdom, for changes to the roster of heralds one needs to notify me in writing. I will pass this information on to the Principal Herald, who will update the roster and issue the appropriate documents. So if you resign I need a letter stating your resignation and a recommendation for who is to succeed you.

Laurel King of Arms in his last letter of Acceptances and returns has made some significant changes to the rules of conflict by precedent. The first change is that a fieldless badge may not take ANY difference from the field, such that it may be displayed on any field and difference can only derived from the shape and tinctures of the charges. The second change is that counterchange of tinctures across a line of division counts for a minor point only, that is Per fess Azure and Argent is a minor point from Per fess Argent and Azure.

Prices for Heraldic submission based on the exchange rates of February 3 are:-

	\$A1 = \$US0.71
Name and device \$US8.00	\$A11.25
Device or badge \$US7.00	\$A9.85
Name only \$US4.50	\$A6.30

Tassles

There is a Lochac tradition that the winner of a list is awarded a tassel to hang off their banner. The list of what colour tassel is awarded for each type of list is maintained by myself, there have been some additions to this list recently. If there are other additions please let me know.

<u>Tassel colour</u>	<u>List type</u>
Gold	Crown
Silver	Coronet
Red, white and blue	Viceroy
Black	Branch championship
Purple	Open weapon
Red	Two handed weapons
Green	Archery
Brown	Progressive melee
Red and white	Suprise weapons
Green and purple	Pandy batte

Submissions

Lochac, Crown Principality Heraldic Title

Intendens Centaurus Pursuivant this is latin for Pointing Centaur, the holder of this title will be the assistant to Crux Australis Herald in those areas so designated.

Kyla of Caladh new name and device

Per fess wavy Purpure and Argent, a seahorse erect maintaining a harp and in dexter chief a mullet, within an orle counterchanged, this appears to be clear of conflict.

Leofic of Mona new name and device

Per pale Purpure and Vert, an altar Or flammant Argent, in chief a crescent Argent between two crescents Or. The name is not documented but appears to be in the Anglo Saxon/Celtic idiom the device appears to be clear of conflicts.

Duibheasa of Mona new name and device

Or, a frog displayed tergiant Vert and in chief three crescents in arch Gules, this appears to be clear of conflict.

Richard de la Croix device resubmission

Argent, two unicorns rampant regardant addorsed Sable, surmounted by a maltese cross Gules, within a bordure Sable, this is very similar to the device he submitted in December which was returned for excessive complexity (CS 4:1), his alternative of Argent, two unicorns rampant regardant addorsed Sable, and a maltese cross Gules appears to be clear of conflicts.

Richard de la Croix new badge

Sable, a sword inverted Or, surmounted by an eagle Argent issuant from flames Gules and Or within a bordure embattled Or, this is much too complex for a badge (CS 3 1/2:1) and would be returned for excessive complexity even if it were a device. Also the flames are colour on colour.

Michail vom Shattenreich new name and device

Submitted as Michial von Shatternreich, 'Shatternreich' is German neuter word which translates as 'Shadowkingdom' as this is not a place name it will need a definite article, however in German there are some contractions and 'von dem' to 'vom' is one of them. Argent, a cross gules surmounted by a seahorse erect maintaining a sword and in sinister chief a mullet Sable, this is in conflict with the flag of St. George (England) there is a major point for adding the seahorse and a negligible for adding the mullet as a mullet is a standard mark of tincture and it is usual to add these in chief. His alternative of adding a bordure Sable will clear this conflict.

Merewyn degli Fiori name resubmission

This is a correction of the grammatical inconsistencies of the original submission, see Laurel's October LoA&R for details.

Nygell yr Baedd Gwylt name' resubmission

He has provided copies from a Welsh dictionary describing all the words of his by names unfortunately these are all in the nominative case, as Welsh does all sorts of strange things to spelling and word order depending on the context. There is a welsh scholar at Kingdom who will be able to correct the grammar.

Stormhold, Shire of device resubmission

Azure guttee de eau, a viking longship afronte Or, charged on the sail with a laurel wreath Gules, this appears to be clear of conflicts.

I remain my Lords and my Ladies your servant in Lochac

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'THORFINN' in a stylized, slightly cursive script.

Thorfinn Hrolfsson , Crux Australis Herald

from Baldwin of Erebor, Laurel King of Arms.

October letter of
Acceptances and
Returns

My lords and ladies,

No, I haven't dropped off the face of the earth (although I've wondered a couple of times myself). I've taken work home from the office every night since the week preceding Thanksgiving, with predictable results.

Aharon Rodriguez d'Aguilar. Name only.

Gwynfor Lwyd. Name and device. Azure, a bar gemel couped and pointed at both ends argent between two frets couped and a chess pawn Or.

DISCUSSION: According to A Grammar of Middle Welsh, lenition occurs after a personal name, so the mutation of the initial ll in the adjective llwyd 'dark grey' to a single l is correct. (D. Simon Evans. A Grammar of Middle Welsh, pages 14 and 19. Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies, 1976.)

Gemel means 'coupled, paired, twin'; it is derived from Latin gemellus 'twin'. (Webster's Second) Two bars are thus "a bar gemel," four bars are "two bars gemels," and so forth.

Fitched is an anglicized derivative of the French verb ficher 'to stick, drive' (as in "to stick [or drive] in"); the English dictionaries translate it as 'to fix' (as in "to fix in the ground"). It means that something (specifically, a cross) has been "pointed at its lower extremity." Parker mentions crosses "fitchée of all four" and with ends "double fitched" and "treble fitched," but he attributes these scornfully to "theoretical" heraldic writers, and doubts there are any examples.

Woodward (p. 123) says that "the pale (with its diminutives) is sometimes found pointed (aiguisé, or fitché) at its lower end." (Aiguisé means 'whetted, sharpened; pointed': Dubois I 20) Julian Franklyn (Shield and Crest, pp. 80-90) mentions a cross "fitchy of all four," then states that the usage "is misleading as far as the origin and meaning of the term is concerned."

My feeling is that the term should probably be used only when the foot of something is pointed, and have therefore substituted pointed at both ends for fitchy in the above blazon. I'm not sure how legitimate this usage is stylistically, but don't feel I can make a strong enough case for returning it.

Johanna Wendover. Name only.

Thorfinn Hrolfsson. Badge. A demi-lion issuant from the lower half of a fleur-de-lys azure, maintaining a "thorn" rune sable.

DISCUSSION: This combination isn't quite as recognizable as I would like. It is distinctive, though, and there is precedent for things flowing into or terminating in fleurs-de-lys. This seems reasonable for a badge. (Obelisk says that the rune depicted in the emblazon is actually a wynn, not a thorn -- "the angular portion needs to be moved down to the center of the stick part.")

RETURNS

Merewyn della Fiore. Name and device. Per pale Or and sable, three lilies, stems conjoined, and in base two elm leaves, stems in saltire, counterchanged.

REASON FOR RETURN: Quoth Brigantia, fiore is a masculine noun; thus 'of the flower' would be del Fiore, and 'of the flowers' would be degli Fiori. The applicant has asked that we make no changes in her name without consulting her. The device appears acceptable.

PENDING: This submission has been carried over to the November letter.

Lochac, Region of. Seal for Crux Australis Herald. On a roundel, on a pale between four mullets, two and two, two straight trumpets palewise in fess, bells to base and chief.

Hrolf Herjolfsson. Device. Quarterly sable and Or, a sun, cardinal points throughout, within an orle of roundels counterchanged.

Lochac, Region of. Seal for Crux Australis Herald. On a roundel, on a pale between four mullets, two and two, two straight trumpets palewise in fess, bells to base and chief.

DISCUSSION: This submission raised two questions: whether a regional herald was entitled to register a seal, and whether the badge itself was legal.

The first question is rather messy. I was unable to find any statement of the restrictions in the Rules for Submissions, and so turned to rulings from the LoARs. In April 1980, Master Wilhelm forbade badges for subsidiary offices "especially within the heralds. Seals may be used, but it is the opinion of myself and my staff that there is no need or justification for registering a seal to a heraldic office below the level of Principality Herald." In March 1981 he restricted heraldic seals to "titled Heralds and Principal Heralds." In March 1982 he said that "individual kingdom offices may register tinctureless seals." He barred tinctureless badges in May 1983, with the exception that "Titled heralds may continue to register tinctureless seals for use by their offices in sealing documents."

Crescent is of the opinion that "titled Herald" was being used sloppily here, to mean either "principality herald" or "kingdom or principality herald." This explains the otherwise redundant "titled Heralds and Principal Heralds" in the March 1981 ruling, and establishes a consistent policy beginning in April 1980.

As much as I would like this to be the case, I find that a seal was registered to Torch Herald in May 1983, and to Oaken Herald in December of the same year. Whether or not this represented a change in policy, from May 1983 onward it would appear that "titled herald" was being applied according to its common usage (also known as a "capital-H herald"). Crux Australis is a titled herald, and is therefore entitled, under the present rules, to register a seal. (Please note that this will not be the case in the future; see the cover letter for details.)

The second question has to do with the fact that this is a fieldless badge. According to the Rules for Submissions (XI.7), "Fieldless badges may not use charges that issue from the edge of the field, like a pale ... because there is no edge and so the shape is unspecified." The West has attempted to circumvent this problem by blazoning the seal as "on a roundel," which violates the spirit of the law. [V.11] It also runs afoul (technically, but not of the spirit) of the ruling prohibiting a roundel from bearing more than one charge. (15 Jul 83, p. 11)

It is not, however, altogether unreasonable to specify the shape of the seal as circular; and herald's seals do represent a rather glaring exception to the rest of the Rules. I also note that, in August 1982, Master Wilhelm registered a seal for Sea-Wolf Herald: On a roundel a pale invected ... I am therefore making a specific exception to the Rules for this submission. [V.7]

Reynardine of Lochac. Badge. Per pale vert and purple, a windmill, sails set saltirewise, Or.

REASON FOR RETURN: Conflict with TER MEULEN: Vert a windmill Or.-(Rietstap)
There is a minor point of difference for change in tincture of half the field.