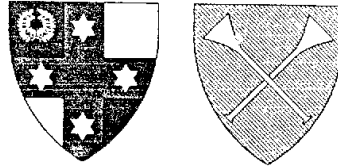


CAMEL  
13th May A.S. XXV (1990)  
[mailed 5th June 1990]



**Crux Australis Herald**  
Baron Master Gereint Scholar  
Stifgherrian • The Scriptorium IIA  
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UNTO THE COLLEGE OF HERALDS of the Kingdom of the West in the Principality of Lochac, and unto all others who might read this missive, does Gereint Scholar, Crux Australis Herald, send greetings. This is my *Crux Australis Monthly Letter* for May A.S. XXV. Just a brief *Camel* this month, because Midwinter Investiture is upon us. But there's still a few things to mention, such as:

#### This Month's Highlights

- Arrangements for the Midwinter Investiture. (page 1)
- *New Rules for Submissions* — more late news. (page 1)
- Roster Changes. (page 1)
- News of previous submissions. (page 2)
- Tassles for journeys — do we need to change them? (pages 2–3)
- The correct procedures for office changeovers. (page 3)
- Is anyone ready for promotion? (page 3)
- Are you a member of the SCA? (page 4)

#### Midwinter Investiture

This time I *will* manage to make a Principality event. (Or, if you're reading this after 10th June, "will have made it to" the event.) If you're going to be at the the Midwinter Investiture in Ynys Fawr [Hobart], please try and find the time to come up to me and discuss whatever heraldic problems you're encountering. I'll try to set aside a more formal time for administrative consultation. And speaking of consultation, I hear that Master Thorfinn Hroffsson will be organizing some sort of Consulting Table for people wanting to research their heraldic submissions.

#### *New Rules for Submissions*

The plan changes *again*. Contrary to last month's announcement, the new heraldic *Rules for Submissions* will be mailed to all local heralds after all, and not the group Seneschals. In addition, Lady Vesper will be mailing copies directly to the staff and active At Large heralds. When this will actually happen is anyone's guess, though, since at the time of writing I still hadn't heard that the Rules had been printed.

#### Roster Changes

A roster changes seems to have slipped through my net. In Aneala, the Canton of Abertridwr is now under the care of Lord Callom o Glen Albyn [James M Gray], 10 Gosnells Road, Perth WA 6110. Telephone (09) 398-2095. Initially he will be rostered as a Cornet.

#### Meeting Schedule

Bother ... this should be on the next page. Oh well, I'm not wasting another few pages now. We'll have to cope with an ugly page break. g.s.;

My regular monthly meetings are usually held on Sunday afternoons at The Scriptorium IIA, 2A Te Anau Avenue, Prospect SA 5082, starting at 2.00pm. The next meeting is at The Scriptorium IIA on Sunday 24th June. After that they're on 15th July, 19th August, 16th September and 14th October.

The Hund Pursuivant, Master Thorfinn Hrolfsson [Stephen Roylance], holds weekly meetings to provide comments on submissions from other kingdoms. There's a meeting at 8.00pm every Monday night at the home of Lord Thrainn Jámgrímsson [Stefan Akerblom], "Fjordhalla", 7 Glenlea Close, Rowville VIC 3178. There's often an additional meeting on the first Tuesday of the month, at a different venue. Regular commentary is also taking place in Aneala [Perth], Innilgard [Adelaide], Llyn Arian [Lake Macquarie NSW], River Haven [Brisbane] and Ynys Fawr [Hobart]. Contact the relevant local herald for details.

#### This Month's Submissions

The May meeting of the College of Herald's of the Kingdom of the West in the Principality of Lochac was scheduled for Sunday 13th May at The Scriptorium IIA. However, no submissions were received by that date, so the meeting was cancelled. (Naturally, two submissions arrived in the mail one or two days later.)

#### News of Previous Submissions

The West Kingdom College of Herald's *Minutes* for May arrived recently, and the appropriate extracts are included on page 6.

The Laurel Queen of Arms' *Letter of Acceptance and Return (LoAR)* for her January meeting has also arrived, and the extracts are on pages 5-6.

Due to an "administrative oversight" on my part, the submissions considered at my April meeting were delayed, and they missed the June meeting of Lady Vesper. Because there is no July meeting of the West Kingdom College of Herald's, this means that those submissions will not be considered at Kingdom level until August. This delay can be blamed entirely upon me, and I'll happily accept full responsibility. Please pass on this explanation and my sincere apologies to the affected submitters. I'll try to write each of them a brief note to this effect.

#### Tassles for Tournaments

In the Principality of Lochac, we award tassles of various colours for victory in tournaments. Maybe it's just me, but I think the current "system" for of colours is a complete mess. The idea of awarding tassles began in the Barony of Rowany very early in the SCA's history in Australia, and at the time is was a simple and more-or-less logical system. But since then, it "just grewed", with new colour and colour combinations being decided upon by several local groups. The Crux Australis Herald has merely recorded each new colour as it was chosen. As a result, we now have a complex system which looks like this:

|                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| Crown               | gold                 |
| Coronet             | silver               |
| Viceregal (disused) | red, blue and silver |
| Branch Champion     | black                |
| Open weapons        | purple               |
| Sword and shield    | blue                 |
| Two-handed weapons  | red                  |
| Archery (range)     | green                |
| Archery (roving)    | green and brown      |
| Progressive melée   | brown                |

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Chivalric weapons | blue and yellow                           |
| Surprise weapons  | red and white                             |
| Pandybat          | green and purple                          |
| Unchivalric       | yellow, purple and blue, with orange cord |

In addition, I'm told that in Aneala, the colour for a Baronial Championship is blue and white, not black — the result of Aneala being separate from Lochac for some years. Now if you ask me, this system doesn't make sense. Some tassles are selected according to the weapon combination being used, others are determined by the "prize" for winning, such as the Coronet or a branch championship.

It is my intention, therefore, to put together a proposal for a new and consistent system of tassles, which I hope might be Proclaimed by Their Highnesses at Twelfth Night. (I suppose I really should have discussed this with Their Highnesses first. Oh well...) But there are a number of issues we need to consider first. How many tassle colours do we need to define? Should they all be defined at Principality level, or should the Principality merely define a few colours, such as those for Coronet lists, and leave the rest to local custom, unregulated? (This last option would solve the problem of different colour tassles being used in Aneala, for instance, because it could be up to each group to use whatever system they like.) And what happens with the tassles already awarded: do fighters need to change their existing tassles?

I've delegated the collection of comments and the preparation of the proposal to the Goutty d'Eau Pursuivant, Lord Decion ap Dyfrwr Trefriw. Please send your comments to him [Bruce Probst], 3/8 Anderson Street, Templestowe VIC 3106. Telephone (03) 846-2777. Lord Decion will need to receive your comments by 31st July. (Thank you, Lord Decion, for taking on this job. One more thing I don't need to worry about.)

**"Hi, I'm the New Herald for..."**

It's been more than a year since I published the correct method of handing over office to your successor, so I thought that it's probably time for a reminder that changing an officer is a *little* more complex than the method given in this section's heading.

When a herald knows that he or she is going to leave office for one reason or another — being "promoted" to group seneschal seems to be the popular reason — he or she should contact their Principality Herald (that's me) and introduce their successor as soon as that successor is found. It is not on to skip town without finding a replacement! If a direct introduction isn't possible (which is likely given the size of Lochac), then a letter of introduction is in order.

But what if the old herald has indeed skipped town, or hidden permanently under a rock? Then the new herald ought to introduce him- or herself to me, and some annoying paperwork is in order. For Colleges, Cantons and Shires, a note from the seneschal that the new person is indeed the new herald is sufficient. Sooner or later, that note finds its way to the Vesper Principal Herald, who will amend her roster accordingly and, sooner or later, get a Roster Letter to the new herald. In Baronies, the Baron and Baroness need to sign that note too — the Baronial Herald is their officer and they have some say in who it is. And Vesper has a say too; suffice it to say that she believes that the people who do the work ought to get the nice titles.

**Is Anyone Ready for Promotion?**

In every SCA group, there are people doing heraldic work who haven't been assigned a formal rank in the College of Heraldry. We call these people "Cornets". Now it seems to me that there are lot of Cornets around Lochac who've been Cornets for some time, and I suspect that some of them could well be ripe for promotion.

The lowest permanent rank in the College is "Pursuivant Extraordinary" (PE), given to someone who's shown a continuing interest in heraldry, willingness to work, and talent in any of the three areas of heraldry: armory ("book heraldry"), field and Court. "Pursuivant" is the title generally given to those who continue to work and have competence in all three areas. All higher ranks go to people doing specific jobs, such as "Crux Australis Herald", for the time they're doing the job.

To become a PE, you need to have submitted your name and device (and if it's returned, continue to have resubmitted in a timely fashion), to have passed a brief test in book heraldry, and to have done one of the following, or equivalent:

- submitted at least two devices as a consulting herald; *or*
- taken part in a minimum of two satisfactory Courts; *or*
- taken part at two satisfactory events as a duty or field herald.

All this is a rough outline only. Section III of the *West Kingdom Herald's Handbook* describes the requirements for advancement in some detail.

The Herald's Test is a three-page thing that takes an hour or so. It covers the basics of armory. You're expected to know the names of all the tinctures and the common furs, the names and appearances of the "ordinaries" and common charges, the names for the usual positions of beasts and birds, and the basics of how to blazon arms. There's no time limit. The only restriction is that you should complete it from your own knowledge, without referring to anyone else or to reference books. You'll be on your honour to do so; no-one will check.

Let me know if there's someone in your group who's ready for promotion. Read through those requirements again and think about it. If someone's ready for the Test, let me know and I'll send a copy.

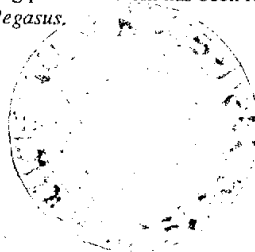
By the way, new and potential heralds should submit their SCA name and device as soon as they find something they're happy with. There are lots of reasons why this should be done sooner rather than later. A couple hundred new devices are registered every month, and it gets harder and harder to register a good simple design. It's better to try and register an SCA name before you use and fall in love with something that can't be registered. And heralds should try and set a good example.

#### Membership

Finally, a friendly reminder that Article VII Section 8.1 of Lochac's Laws requires that "all local officers must be at least Family or Associate members of the SCA with immediate access to the newsletters provided by a sustaining membership". This means that if you're a local herald you should be a member of some sort — and if there isn't anyone else in your home getting *Pegasus* with their membership, then you should be a Sustaining member yourself. If you're poor, I'll understand if you're a little slow in getting your membership organized. However, you really *do* need access to *Pegasus*, since it's assumed that anything printed therein has been received by the populace. There's a membership form in every edition of *Pegasus*.

Your Servant,

*gereint scholaris*  
 Baron Master Gereint Scholar  
 Crux Australis Herald



The following material is extracted from the covering letter to the Laurel Queen of Arms' *Letter of Acceptance and Return* of January A.S. XXIV (1990):

#### SUBMISSIONS ANALYSIS

The results of the January meeting continued the trends set in the two previous meetings run under parallel processing. Note that we have not calculated overall acceptance rates for this meeting and will not for the next couple of meetings since the percentages would be seriously skewed since items that pass under *either* set of rules will be accepted.

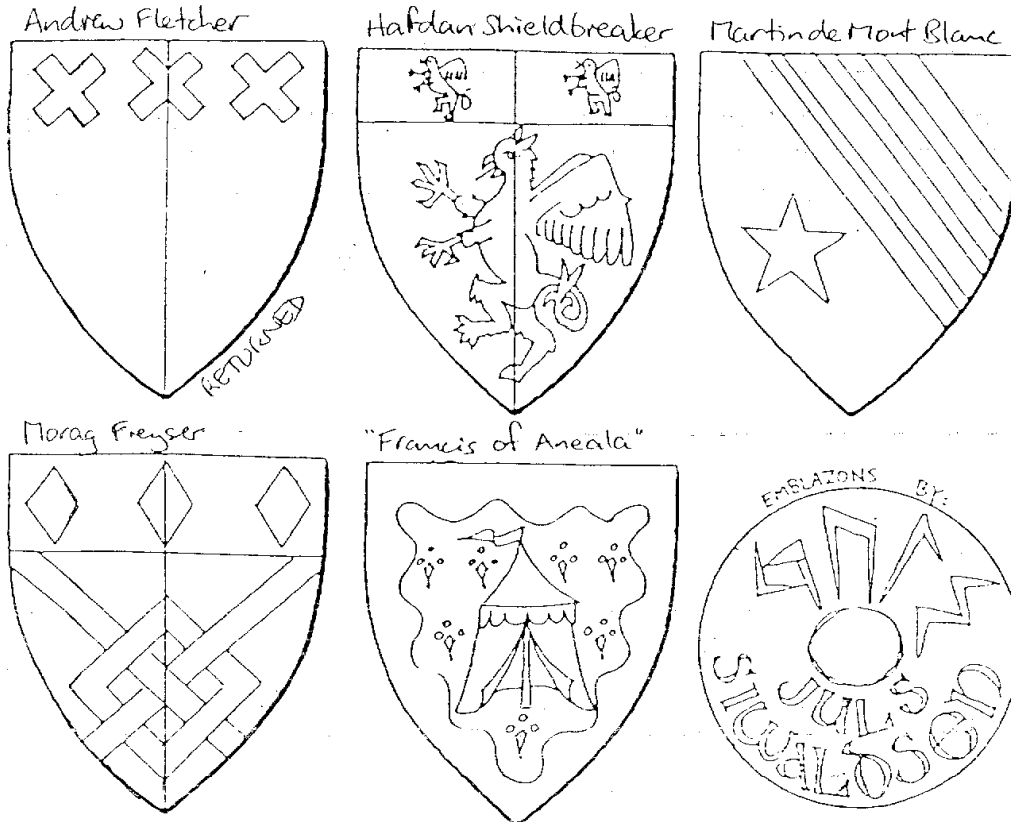
Passed under both sets of rules: 204 total, 113 name, 91 armorial  
Returned under both sets of rules: 44 total, 15 name, 29 armorial  
Passed under old rules, but not new: 7 total, 0 name, 6 armorial style, 1 armorial conflict  
Passed under new rules, but not old: 19 total, 5 name, 4 armorial style, 10 armorial conflict  
Holding Names formed: 4  
Corrective Actions: 12

The following submissions were REGISTERED by the Laurel Queen of Arms on 21st January A.S. XXIV (1990):

- 0 Adelbert von Strasburg. Change of name from David of Aneala.
- 0 Aveline de Roet. Name only.
- CA Eleanor Terrington. Blazon correction. Or, a blackbird rising, wings elevated and addorsed, purple, within a bordure sable charged with six *millet* heads in orle Or.  
When this was registered in November, 1989, the "i" in the millet heads transmuted into a "u" with somewhat startling results as Mistress Marta noted.
- CA Elizabeth Saint Clair. Blazon correction. Vert, two goblets *in fess* between three mullets of eight points Or.  
As Brigantia has noted, when the device was registered in November, 1989, the position of the modifier made the mullets, not the goblets, the charges in fess.
- 01 Hafdan Shieldbreaker. Name and device. Per pale sable and Or, a griffin segreant and on a chief two griffins segreant counterchanged.  
Charging a chief with the same charge(s) that serve as the primary charge is rather eccentric but legal.
- 0 Joab Cohen. Name only.
- 0 Julian du Bois. Name only.
- 0 Leif Gregson. Name only.
- 1 Martin de Mont Blanc. Device. Purple, four bendlets enhanced and in base a mullet Or.
- 1 Morag Freyser. Device. Per pale argent and gules, a fret counterchanged, on a chief per pale vert and argent, three lozenges counterchanged.
- 0 Tristram Broderson. Name only.
- 0 Wulfgar of the Frozen Isle. Name only.
- 0 Wulfstan of Broxton. Name only.
- H1 Frances of Aneala. Holding name and device. Ermine, a pavilion affronty within a bordure wavy sable.  
The submission was made under the name of Zarifah Um-el-Laban al-Badawi, which was returned in November, 1989.

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The following submissions were REGISTERED by the Laurel Queen of Arms on 21st January A.S. XXIV (1990) (continued):



THE FOLLOWING SUBMISSION WAS RETURNED by Laurel 21 Jan XXIV (1990):

23. Andrew Fletcher. Name and device. Per pale sable and Or, in chief three saltorels couped counterchanged. As Silver Trumpet has noted, the politician Andrew Fletcher cited in the letter of intent is of some importance in Scottish history (the 1911 edition of the Encyclopedia Britannica, probably the best one to have appeared, contained a column and a half devoted to him). Even though he is out of period (1655-1716) he is important enough to protect and this is a direct conflict under both rules. As the submittor specifically forbade formation of a holding name, we have to return the device submission as well.

The following submissions were considered by the Vesper Principal Herald of the Kingdom of the West on 6th May A.S. XXIV (1990) and were SUBMITTED to the Laurel Queen of Arms:

3. Aveline de Roet (Dismal Fogs) name registered, device resubmission

Per chevron sable and azure, a seahorse erect maintaining a pitcher, in chief a crescent, all argent.

Her name was registered on the Jan. '90 LOAR. Her device had been previously returned under the old Rules for conflict with Eilonwy Andereth, "Azure, a sea unicorn rampant regardant argent." Under the old Rules, addition of a standard mark of cadency, (the crescent), was not worth a full point of difference. The new Rules make no such distinction between marks of cadency and other secondary charges, so this ought to pass. Consulting herald: Frae Fitzalloyne.



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