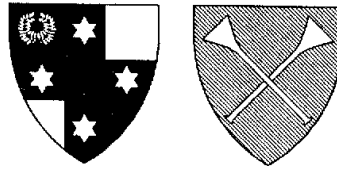


CAMEL, NOVEMBER A.S. XXV. (1990)

Meeting date: 17th November

Mailing date: ~~28th~~ November
30th



Crux Australis Herald
Baron Master Gereint Scholar

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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 November A.S. XXV.

This Month's Highlights

- Roster changes. (pages 1 and 11 — sorry)
- The *New Rules for Submissions*. (page 1)
- The Review of All Heralds continues. (page 2)
- Field heraldry: who calls "Lay On"? (page 2)
- Tassles for tourneys: we have a new system. (page 3)
- An heraldic contest. (page 4)
- Heralds as officers. (page 4)
- This month's submissions. (pages 5-11)
- News of previous submissions. (page 11)

Roster Change

In the Shire of Arx Draconis, Olaf Thordarson has scored a magnificent 97% in the Heralds Test, and has been performing excellently as a local herald. Indeed, his submissions have been so well prepared that they should serve as examples for the rest of Lochac. I therefore have no hesitation in promoting him to Pursuivant Extraordinary.

The New Rules for Submissions

Lady Vesper and I have run out of patience with the (non-)arrival of the new *RfS*. We have therefore arranged for copies to be printed and distributed throughout Lochac to all group heralds and "active" At Large heralds. The Crux Australis office will be reimbursed for the cost of this extra printing and postage — although exactly *who* will reimburse me is not exactly clear at the time of writing. If your copy of the *RfS* hasn't arrived by the time you read this, then it'll arrive in the next few days — and if it doesn't, get in touch with me immediately.

Once you've received your new *RfS*, may I recommend that you do some homework? Just reading through the rules sounds pretty boring to me so, instead of doing that, go back through the *Camels* for the past few months, have a look at the submissions, see which rules were referred to, and look up the text of the relevant rules. You'll become familiar with the structure and contents of the *RfS* far more quickly that way.

However, you probably haven't seen the *Administrative Handbook* before. Much of it has to do with

the operation of the inter-Kingdom College of Arms, and so it won't concern you directly. However, there's an excellent definition of the duties and responsibilities of local heralds. Please make sure that you read at least that section carefully.

Review of All Herald's

In addition to the new *RfS*, some 32 of you will have just received new *Roster Letters*, the first phase of my Review of All Herald's prior to retiring. The Crux Australis Herald is now responsible for *rostering* all heralds in Lochac, not just recommending them. Lady Vesper and I had been talking about this for some months, and now we've finally done it, but in the meantime we'd both fallen behind in the paperwork — hence the 32 corrections. A completely up-to-date (hah!) *Roster of Herald's* will be published in the next *Camel*.

At the same time, I've checked everyone's membership status, and I'm pleased to say that all but three group heralds and four "at large" heralds had their memberships up to date. Please keep up the good work. However, those three group heralds whose memberships have lapsed will soon receive a fairly stern letter asking them to nominate their successor. Please make sure those three letters are the last such letters that need to be written.

Field Heraldry: Who Calls "Lay On"?

I promised to find out who calls "Lay On!" to signal the start of combat, the Marshalls or the Herald's. Well, after a long conversation with Lady Vesper, I've discovered there's no hard and fast rule, and the "standard" way of doing things has changed over the years.

At the moment, central West Kingdom practice goes like this: The Herald's do the standard field litany, calling for salutes and so on. Then, their final line goes "On your honour, at the Marshall's command...", and the Marshall *immediately* calls the "Lay On!". However, there are variations — such as the Herald's calling the "Lay On!"; the Herald's and the Marshalls calling "Lay On!" together; or the Herald's calling "Lay On!" but the Marshalls formally signalling the start of combat with the clash of their staves, which happens simultaneously with the call of "Lay On!". All these variations are acceptable.

The first principle is to ensure not only that what happens on the field is not only a sport for the participants, but also that it's a piece of theatre for the spectators. Ideally, there should be one fluid motion: The fighters finish their salute to each other, maybe clashing their swords on their shields in a friendly challenge, just as the herald is beginning to say "On your honour...". Then, after the briefest of pauses, the fighters' swords move from their relaxed position after the salute to the ready position, and the Marshalls pull back their staves in anticipation. As the final words "Lay On!" are called — no matter who's larynx actually voices the words — the Marshalls' staves clash together and the fighters move forward. From the beginning of the words "On your honour..." to the fighters moving forward into combat, all this should take maybe two seconds.

As I've said before, the field litany should be presented as dramatically as possible. The announcement of the fighters by name and the direction of the fighters through their salutes is structured to build the excitement. If you then say "...and at the Marshall's command..." and wait around for everyone to decide they're ready to start, you're inserting an anti-climactic pause just before the fighters begin. It's lousy theatre.

Ultimately, the Sovereign supervises all combat on the field of honour [*Corpora* VI.A.1.d], and of course He may decree that the field litany be done in a specific way. On the other hand, if the Sovereign has not specified what happens during His Reign then I direct as follows:

In the Principality of Lochac, unless otherwise specified by the Coronet, the standard method for starting combat in the Lists shall be for the Herald's to call "Lay

On!" simultaneously with the Marshalls formally signalling the start of combat by clashing together their staves.

Whether someone actually says the words "and at the Marshalls' command" is optional. Talk with the Marshall before the tourney and decide amongst yourselves what you're going to do. And whatever you decide, keep it consistent during any one tourney.

I must stress again that this does *not* mean the Heralds are usurping the rôle of the Marshalls in "running" the fighting. Far from it. Although the Heralds might be the "masters of ceremonies" during combat, the Marshalls are still in charge of the field — which is why *they* signal the Herald that the fighters are ready *before* the Herald starts the procedure. Once the herald has started, there should be *no* pause to see whether the fighters are prepared — unless of course there's a previously un-noticed problem, in which case *anybody* can call "Hold!" If a fighter's armour isn't ready, then he or she shouldn't have been on the field in the first place. And if they're not prepared, the Marshall shouldn't have told the Herald to start.

The signal from the Marshall to the Herald needn't be verbal. Indeed, in the case of a Herald and Marshall who often work together, the signal to start might be the merest glimmer of eye contact. I find that when I'm working with Baroness Selfran the Singer as Marshall, we operate more by Thought Control than anything else!

Tassles for Tournaments: A New System

Speaking of combat-related activities, in the Principality of Lochac, we have a tradition of awarding tassles of various colours for victory in fighting tournaments. The idea began in the Barony of Rowany very early in the SCA's history in Australia, and at the time it was a simple and more-or-less logical system. But since then, it "just grewed", with new colours and colour combinations being decided upon by several local groups. The Crux Australis Herald merely recorded each new colour as it was chosen. As a result, we've ended up with a complicated and inconsistent system, and different groups were sometimes using different colours for the same thing. Indeed, the Baroness Rowany, who invented the idea in the first place, has been dismayed to see the system become so messy. This has now changed.

After a call for comment in both the *Camel* and *Pegasus*, the response was underwhelming — to say the least. Therefore, following discussions with Their Highnesses the Prince and Princess, you'll read in the December *Pegasus* that there's a new system for awarding tassles:

By decision of Their Highnesses, the following tassel colours are now considered to be reserved for the use of the Principality of Lochac to distinguish those who have achieved the highest combative achievements within the Principality:

Gold (or yellow): Winner of the Crown Tourney (for use when we become a Kingdom)

Silver (or white): Winner of the Coronet Tourney

Silver (or white) and Black: Second place of the Coronet Tourney (Lochac Champion)

Gold (or yellow): Viceregal Tourney (now disused)

Beyond these protected colours, local groups within Lochac are free to use whatever colour schemes they desire to distinguish winners of whatever competitions they choose.

The use of a certain colour scheme by one local group will not prohibit or inhibit the use of that colour scheme by any other local group, for the same or different purpose.

In other words, we've deregulated the whole thing. Apart from the colours reserved for the Principality's (or Kingdom's) own use, do whatever you've been doing until now — and if you want to add new colours to your local system, you can do so without having to worry about anyone else. Conversely, if you feel that the previous system had become too messy, or was inappropriate, you can

ignore it, and set up whatever system you'd like for your own group.

However, freedom brings responsibility. It's now up to the herald in each local group to keep track of which colours they use for what. Make sure you have a sheet of paper on file somewhere recording your group's own traditions.

My sincere thanks to Lord Decion ap Dyfrwr Trefriw for coordinating this project for me.

An Heraldic Contest

Have you ever tried to make something to symbolize your allegiance to the Kingdom of the West? What about the Kingdom Arms? *Or, a crown (dancetty) of three points voided within a laurel wreath vert.* Well if you want to make a banner to display, or a badge to sew on your garb, then you can't use those Arms: they're the Arms of King Jade, or whoever else happens to be currently sitting on the Throne of the West as Sovereign. You can't use or display those Arms, and neither can I. So, what can we loyal Westerners *legally* use to show our allegiance?

It's a good question, and one without an answer at the moment. But we can help change that. All of the other Kingdoms of the Known World have badges, or at least "totems", that can be used by their subjects. In most cases, they're derived from the Arms of the Kingdom — the Black Lion of An Tir, the Crescent of Caïd, the Cross of Calatrava for Calontir, the Triskele of Trimaris, the Blue Tyger of the East and the Dragon of the Midrealm are all examples. Unfortunately, it isn't possible to derive a badge directly from the West Kingdom's Arms, because both the charges are restricted — crowns to Kingdoms and Principalities, and laurel wreaths to branches of the SCA. So what's left? Our imaginations!

The College of Heraldry is sponsoring a contest to design a badge for the Kingdom. The winning design should be registerable, and we'll be giving a prize to the designer. The badge design should probably feature *vert* and *Or* as the primary colours, and it will be regarded slightly more favourably if it can be registered as a fieldless badge. The contest is open only to current and former residents of the West. Entries are due at the College address (P.O. Box 10469, Oakland CA 94610-0469, United States of America) by 1st February A.S. XXV (1990), and the winning design(s) will be announced at the March Crown Tournament. Get out your sketchpad — you may be the lucky designer of the West Kingdom's new badge!

Heralds as Officers

Lady Vesper was recently asked whether it was OK for a person who's a Baronial officer or a Baron or Baroness to also be a PE At Large. The answer is an unqualified "Yes"! The rules on who can be an officer in the SCA are pretty simple. You can't report to yourself, and you (generally) can't hold two offices on the same "level". For example, while you can be both Principality Sciences officer and a Shire herald, you can't be both Canton herald and Canton seneschal. You can be a Baronial herald and a marshal at large, but you can't be both Baronial herald and a PE At Large.

A few further complications. While landed Barons and Baronesses are in effect Baronial officers, in rare cases we allow the Baron/Baroness to also serve as the Baronial herald, if he or she is the most, or only, qualified person to do the job. Also, while the offices of seneschal, herald, arts and sciences minister and marshal can't be held by the same people, in small groups overlapping with some of the other offices is allowed. (The College seneschal can also be the exchequer, or the arts officer also the lists officer, as examples.) Royalty officially can't serve as officers of any sort while on the Throne — but in practice, several Princes, Princesses, Kings and Queens have signed official Rosters of Their heraldic officers that have included Their names among the "at-Larges". Recent examples include Prince Haos of Lochac, then-Princess Krysta of the Mists, then-Princess Tatiana of Cynagua and then-King William (the Lucky). However none of them could have held staff or local group offices.

As mentioned above, each active group *must* have an heraldic officer to maintain official status. This includes Colleges and Ports/Strongholds which, while they're allowed to go periodically inactive without losing their official status, must have the minimum set of officers when they *are* active. (Seneschal, Herald and either an Arts/Sciences officer or a Marshall are the absolute minimum required. All groups sponsoring fighting events and practices must have a marshall.) Lady Vesper and I nag groups that don't have heralds. Currently in Lochac, the only culprit is the College of Saint Aldhelm [Australian National University], and they've just got A Stern Letter. Lady Vesper warns me that she'll be checking rosters with the Seneschal, Earl Marshall and Minister of the Arts soon...

Meeting Schedule

Every month, the Crux Australis Herald (or his deputy) holds a meeting to consider the heraldic submissions from around the Principality. The next meeting is on Saturday 15th December at the home of my successor, Lord Decion ap Dyfrwr Trefriw [Bruce Probst], 4 Max Court, Noble Park VIC 3174. After that, a meeting is scheduled for Saturday 19th January 1991. The meetings will continue to be held on Saturdays unless there's an outcry from the populace. And another reminder:

Remember, all heraldic submissions should now be sent to Lord Decion ap Dyfrwr Trefriw [Bruce Probst], 4 Max Court, Noble Park VIC 3174. Continue to make cheques payable to "SCA College of Heraldry".

The Hund Herald, 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 Járngrímsón [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 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 November meeting of the College of Heraldry in the Kingdom of the West in the Principality of Lochac was held on the afternoon of Saturday 17th November, at the home of the Goutty d'Eau Pursuivant. Present at the meeting were: Lord Decion ap Dyfrwr Trefriw, Goutty d'Eau Pursuivant; Master Thorfinn Hrolfsson, Hund Herald; Lord Selwyn Searobyfrig, PE for St Monica; Lord Thrainn Járngrímsón, PE At Large; and Pedair na Cluain Bheag, Cornet.

[Note: These notes and explanations were compiled by Lord Decion, and have been reproduced here with the most minor of editing. The following conventions are used: "CVD" means a "Clear Visual Difference", as defined in the Rules for Submissions, or RFS; Books cited without further details are in the Bibliography (see later).]

1. Arielle Beaumaris (change of holding name; SUBMITTED) [Aneala, HID40]

This gentle is currently registered under the holding name *Anita Beaumaris*; her original submission, *Aurn Beaumaris*, was returned by Laurel in February 1989, as the given name was considered to be an out-of-period construction.

There was no documentation provided for Arielle. However as Lord Black Wing notes, this name has been registered in the SCA several times, the most recent being February 1989. He comments that "...unless there has been a very recent ruling by the Laurel Sovereign of Arms, this name should be considered acceptable." Well, not really. If the submitters of the registered *Arielles* were mundanely named "Arielle", then they would not have needed to provide documentation; or if they were covered by the "Grandfather Clause" in some manner. Previous registration is not documentation.

Notwithstanding the above, however, the meeting endeavoured to find documentation. The

closest we could find was the male *Ariel*, which is a Biblical name, occurring in several places, for example *Ezra* 8:16. It seemed to us that *Arielle* would be a reasonable "feminisation" of this name. Also, the most recently registered *Arielle*, *Arielle of Golden Rivers*, is from the West Kingdom, and real documentation may therefore be at hand. We are therefore passing the name on to Vesper as is.

The submitter indicated that she would find *Ariel* acceptable, although she should be advised of its normal gender; she might also like to consider *Oriel*, which is documented in Withycombe (p.234).

Consulting herald: the submitter.

2. **Claire de la Mer** (new name and device; both SUBMITTED) [Llyn Arian, HID383]
Argent, an apple tree vert, fructed argent, issuant from a base wavy vert, and on a chief triangular azure two mullets argent.

The submitter is probably better known as *Claire di Micci*. *Claire* can be found in Withycombe (p.67) as the French form of *Clara* or *Clare*, and sure enough it appears in Dauzat (p.133), who mentions a "Sainte Claire" and dates the name to the 13th Century. *de la Mer* is documented in the book *Livre des Habitants de Genève Tome II — 1572-1574 et 1585-1587*, which on p.45 mentions a *Mr Gaspard de la Mer*. Copies of the relevant page have been provided, although it would have been helpful if copies of the title page had been provided as well. (And if anyone wants to buy me a copy of this book for Christmas I will gladly accept it!)

The device appears free of problems. It's clear of the arms of Kyd, *Argent a tree eradicated vert, pendant on the branches a bugle horn Or, on a chief azure three mullets of the field* (Papworth p.1115); there's a CVD for adding the base and another for the line of division of the chief. It also squeaks past the arms of Syer, *Argent on an oak tree growing out of a mount in base vert, surmounted on the trunk by a crescent gules, on a chief gules three mullets argent* (Papworth p.1115); there's a CVD for the tincture of the chief and another for its line of division. Finally there's the device of Eluned merch Gwynt, *Argent a pine tree proper issuant from a mount vert and on a chief azure a moon in her complement* (SCA, January 1982). There's a CVD for the line of division of the chief, and another for changing the type and number of charges on the chief. The submitter should be advised to draw the base smaller and the tree and the mullets larger.

Consulting heralds: Conachar MacAlpin and Melloney de Charteris.

3. **Cleifien Iestyn ap Cadfall ap Ianto ap Danno ap Richard ap Owen ap Rhys o'er cwm Rhiodawr** (new name and device; both SUBMITTED) [Stormhold, HID459]
Gyronny of ten argent and sable, on each gyron a daggër, blade to centre, counterchanged.

This gentle is probably better known as *Iestyn of the Mound*. This name is Welsh (couldn't you guess?), and best taken a bit at a time, the easy bits first: *Iestyn*, *Ianto*, *Richard*, *Owen* and *Rhys* are all period Welsh given names, and *ap* is the standard patronymic indicator in Welsh. These can all be documented from M&M (pp.141, 133, 186, 172 and 185 respectively). *Cadfall* is not specifically documentable but *Cadfael*, the name of a Welsh saint, is. (See M&M p.62, and Bartrum p.174.) Yonge cites several Welsh names beginning with *Cad-*, where *Cad* means a "battle or defence" (pp.251-52). Therefore *Cadfall* sounded plausible to us, but as the submitter will permit spelling and grammar corrections, it would be no problem to substitute *Cadfael* if necessary. The closest to *Danno* that we could find is *Dan* (Bartrum p.182), or *Denw* (ibid, p.158). Could *Danno* be a variant of either of these? *Cleifien* is claimed to be Irish Gaelic for "small blade", and is used here as an honourative, or nickname; apparently not an uncommon Irish naming practice. We were unable to confirm or deny the grammar. The submitter asserts that *o'er cwm Rhiodawr* is Welsh for "of the realm of air". We had our doubts (*cwm* is Welsh for "valley", as far as we understand); in addition it could be construed as a claim of non-human origin. We would be happy to see this epithet dropped altogether, but it just might be legal, so we are passing it on to Vesper. The Harpy Herald, Mistress Keridwen o'r Mynydd Gwyrdd, is the Society's

expert on Welsh names, and just happens to be a regular attendee at the Vesper meetings, so we would appreciate it very much if she could cast an eye over this one for us.

And yes, this is a very long name, but our current *RfS* put no upper limit on size of names (unlike the old rules); and the Welsh used names formed in this way up until recent historical times.

The device is visually similar to, but technically well clear of, the device of Coinneach Mac an Leigh, *Gyronny of ten azure and argent, on each gyron an arrow, point to centre, counter-changed* (SCA February 1985). Even if you don't grant "complete difference of charge" between arrows and daggers, it's worth a CVD and there are CVDs for the changes to the field and charge tinctures. We did not feel that the visual similarity was close enough to cause a problem.

There was Quite Some Comment about the gyronny field, however. Apparently it's mundane heraldic practice to have the gyrons split "*per fess*", whereas this submission is split "*per pale*". A slight visual difference does result. My personal opinion is that it's not worth worrying about, but others at the meeting disagreed, and stated that the device should be either blazoned *Gyronny in pale*..., or redrawn. The issue is not important to the submitter. We will ask Vesper to make a decision on this matter for us.

(Irrelevant comment from the meeting: knowing the submitter as we do, this device does not have nearly enough knives on it!)

Consulting heralds: the submitter and Decion ap Dyfrwr Trefriw.

[A Note from Gereint: *I wasn't going to add anything to Lord Decion's writing-up of the submissions, because he's done it so well. But I've now decided I'll add in my own tuppence-worth on this submission, for what it's worth. (Tuppence, I suppose.) Although there isn't a specific 50-character length limit on names any more, I have seen some very long names like this returned before. Although it is indeed period practice for the Welsh and some others to have names of this length, it's incredibly inconvenient to try and fit such long names in the spaces allowed on pre-printed award scrolls and in other documents, and we do like to spare field heralds some of the torture involved in reading out long names over and over again at every tourney. I suspect the submitter will be asked to drop some of the elements from the registered form, although of course informally he can use a name as long as he likes. (Whether anyone will ever bother listing the full thing is an interesting point.)*

As for the device, well, we register the picture, not the words. I'll put my money on Lord Laurel blazoning it as Gyronny per pale..., as has been done once or twice before in the Society's heraldic history. And if I were a betting man, I'd also put a few shillings on the charges being blazoned as ten daggers in annulo, points to centre, counter-changed. Any heraldic artist worth their salt would put each of the ten daggers on one of the ten gyrons — it's a bit "obvious". Any takers?]

4. Creage Iomhar MacGhilleAindrais (new name and device; name SUBMITTED, device RETURNED) [Aneala, HID594]

Sable, a saltire engrailed Or and in base a lion dormant argent.

This name is the submitter's third choice. His first, *Creage Eideared MacGhilleAindrais*, is merely the Gaelic form of his mundane name (Craig Edward Anderson). This runs afoul of the new *Administrative Handbook*. In the section *Submission Regulations: Protected Items*, paragraph I reads in full:

Any Name or Armory Used by the Submitter Outside the Society — To preserve the historic distinction between an individual's Society identity and his or her identity outside the Society, no item will be registered to a submitter if it is identical to an item used by the submitter legally or in common use outside the Society. This includes (but is not limited to) a legal name, a common use name, and

armory registered with any jurisdiction other than the College of Arms of the Society.

Here, "identical" does not mean "exactly equal to", but rather "close enough to be interchangeable". In fact, in Scotland, the submitter's legal name is the Gaelic version!

[Gereint adds: *There has always been such a provision in the SCA's heraldic rules. We're trying to emphasize the fact that a person's Society persona is not the same as their mundane identity. In particular, awards and honours earned within the SCA do not "carry over" into the mundane world, and vice versa. Ensuring that everyone's Society name is different from their mundane name in some way is a reminder of this dichotomy — if I'm permitted to use words like "dichotomy" in a note like this.*]

The submitter's second choice was "any alternate spellings", but obviously this does not get around the basic problem. His third choice was to substitute *Imhear* or *Iomhar* for *Eideared*. This is a completely different name, and as one out of the three phrases has been changed, this is now clear of conflict, as per *RfS* V.4 ("Difference of Phrases").

The submitter has provided photocopies from E Dwelly's *Illustrated Gaelic Dictionary* (no publishing details provided, although I seem to recall that particular book was published in Scotland around the turn of the century). This documents *Creag* as the Gaelic for *Craig*. We could find no documentation for the additional 'e', but it may be an acceptable variant. Although this book documents *Iomhar* as meaning *Edward*, O'C&M gives it as being equivalent to *Ivor*, from an old Norse name (p.117). This seemed more likely to us. Dwelly gives *MacGill' Anndrais* for *MacAndrew* (which in turn is equivalent to *Anderson*), but the submitter's spelling was found in Bain (p.36).

The device was blazoned as *a saltire enhanced*, but I'm not sure that this has any defined meaning for a *saltire*; in any case, it's unnecessary, as any competent heraldic artist will make sure that the centre of the *saltire* is high enough to provide room for the *lion* in base. The device is unfortunately in conflict with the arms of Cromway, *Sable a saltire engrailed Or* (Papworth p.1062). We can find a CVD for adding the *lion*, but there are no others. No changes to the device were permitted.

Consulting herald: the submitter.

5. **Felice du Maison de la Chat** (new name; RETURNED) [Huc Draconae, HID601]

This submission has a number of problems. Firstly, the only documentation provided was that the name was French; the submitter indicated that corrections to grammar and spelling to preserve the meaning were permitted, but no indication of the desired meaning was provided! Still, our rusty French translates this as "Felice of the house of the cat". Firstly, this is grammatically clumsy — it would be much better as "Felice of the cat's house". However, that translation has, umm, unfortunate connotations... and we did not feel justified submitting a name like that without clear indication that it was definitely what the submitter wanted! Furthermore, we were very unhappy with the similarity to "Felix the Cat". The submitter is strongly advised to avoid combining "Felice" and "Chat" in the same name.

Apart from that, Felice is a perfectly period name, found in Witherby (p.116), and Dauzat (p.251, as *Félice*); furthermore *Maison* (or *Demaison*) is found in Dauzat as a surname (p.406), so the submitter might like to consider *Félice Maison* or *Félice Demaison*.

Consulting herald: Peter the Uncertain.

6. **Guimora Peverel of Scopasheall** (device resubmission to Laurel; SUBMITTED) [Innilgard, HID484]

Or, on a roundel sable, a cross of four lozenges Or.

This gentle's name was registered in June 1990. Her previous submission, *Gules, four mascles conjoined in cross within a mascle Or*, was returned by Laurel at that time for conflict. (Interesting to note that it was actually four *lozenges*, not *mascles*, that was submitted — but this

expert on Welsh names, and just happens to be a regular attendee at the Vesper meetings, so we would appreciate it very much if she could cast an eye over this one for us.

And yes, this is a very long name, but our current *RfS* put no upper limit on size of names (unlike the old rules); and the Welsh used names formed in this way up until recent historical times.

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(Irrelevant comment from the meeting: knowing the submitter as we do, this device does not have nearly enough knives on it!)

Consulting heralds: the submitter and Decion ap Dyfrwr Trefriw.

[A Note from Gereint: *I wasn't going to add anything to Lord Decion's writing-up of the submissions, because he's done it so well. But I've now decided I'll add in my own tuppence-worth on this submission, for what it's worth. (Tuppence, I suppose.) Although there isn't a specific 50-character length limit on names any more, I have seen some very long names like this returned before. Although it is indeed period practice for the Welsh and some others to have names of this length, it's incredibly inconvenient to try and fit such long names in the spaces allowed on pre-printed award scrolls and in other documents, and we do like to spare field heralds some of the torture involved in reading out long names over and over again at every tourney. I suspect the submitter will be asked to drop some of the elements from the registered form, although of course informally he can use a name as long as he likes. (Whether anyone will ever bother listing the full thing is an interesting point.)*

As for the device, well, we register the picture, not the words. I'll put my money on Lord Laurel blazoning it as Gyronny per pale..., as has been done once or twice before in the Society's heraldic history. And if I were a betting man, I'd also put a few shillings on the charges being blazoned as ten daggers in annulo, points to centre, counter-changed. Any heraldic artist worth their salt would put each of the ten daggers on one of the ten gyrons — it's a bit "obvious". Any takers?]

4. Creage Iomhar MacGhilleAindrais (new name and device; name SUBMITTED, device RETURNED) [Aneala, HID594]

Sable, a saltire engrailed Or and in base a lion dormant argent.

This name is the submitter's third choice. His first, *Creage Eideared MacGhilleAindrais*, is merely the Gaelic form of his mundane name (Craig Edward Anderson). This runs afoul of the new *Administrative Handbook*. In the section *Submission Regulations: Protected Items*, paragraph I reads in full:

Any Name or Armory Used by the Submitter Outside the Society — To preserve the historic distinction between an individual's Society identity and his or her identity outside the Society, no item will be registered to a submitter if it is identical to an item used by the submitter legally or in common use outside the Society. This includes (but is not limited to) a legal name, a common use name, and

armory registered with any jurisdiction other than the College of Arms of the Society.

Here, "identical" does not mean "exactly equal to", but rather "close enough to be interchangeable". In fact, in Scotland, the submitter's legal name is the Gaelic version!

[Gereint adds: *There has always been such a provision in the SCA's heraldic rules. We're trying to emphasize the fact that a person's Society persona is not the same as their mundane identity. In particular, awards and honours earned within the SCA do not "carry over" into the mundane world, and vice versa. Ensuring that everyone's Society name is different from their mundane name in some way is a reminder of this dichotomy — if I'm permitted to use words like "dichotomy" in a note like this.*]

The submitter's second choice was "any alternate spellings", but obviously this does not get around the basic problem. His third choice was to substitute *Imhear* or *Iomhar* for *Eideared*. This is a completely different name, and as one out of the three phrases has been changed, this is now clear of conflict, as per *RfS* V.4 ("Difference of Phrases").

The submitter has provided photocopies from E Dwelly's *Illustrated Gaelic Dictionary* (no publishing details provided, although I seem to recall that particular book was published in Scotland around the turn of the century). This documents *Creag* as the Gaelic for *Craig*. We could find no documentation for the additional 'e', but it may be an acceptable variant. Although this book documents *Iomhar* as meaning *Edward*, O'C&M gives it as being equivalent to *Ivor*, from an old Norse name (p.117). This seemed more likely to us. Dwelly gives *MacGill' Anndrais* for *MacAndrew* (which in turn is equivalent to *Anderson*), but the submitter's spelling was found in Bain (p.36).

The device was blazoned as *a saltire enhanced*, but I'm not sure that this has any defined meaning for a *saltire*; in any case, it's unnecessary, as any competent heraldic artist will make sure that the centre of the *saltire* is high enough to provide room for the *lion* in base. The device is unfortunately in conflict with the arms of Cromway, *Sable a saltire engrailed Or* (Papworth p.1062). We can find a CVD for adding the *lion*, but there are no others. No changes to the device were permitted.

Consulting herald: the submitter.

5. **Felice du Maison de la Chat** (new name; RETURNED) [Huc Draconae, HID601]

This submission has a number of problems. Firstly, the only documentation provided was that the name was French; the submitter indicated that corrections to grammar and spelling to preserve the meaning were permitted, but no indication of the desired meaning was provided! Still, our rusty French translates this as "Felice of the house of the cat". Firstly, this is grammatically clumsy — it would be much better as "Felice of the cat's house". However, that translation has, umm, unfortunate connotations... and we did not feel justified submitting a name like that without clear indication that it was definitely what the submitter wanted! Furthermore, we were very unhappy with the similarity to "Felix the Cat". The submitter is strongly advised to avoid combining "Felice" and "Chat" in the same name.

Apart from that, Felice is a perfectly period name, found in Witherby (p.116), and Dauzat (p.251, as *Félice*); furthermore *Maison* (or *Demaison*) is found in Dauzat as a surname (p.406), so the submitter might like to consider *Félice Maison* or *Félice Demaison*.

Consulting herald: Peter the Uncertain.

6. **Guimora Peverel of Scopasheall** (device resubmission to Laurel; SUBMITTED) [Innilgard, HID484]

Or, on a roundel sable, a cross of four lozenges Or.

This gentle's name was registered in June 1990. Her previous submission, *Gules, four mascles conjoined in cross within a mascle Or*, was returned by Laurel at that time for conflict. (Interesting to note that it was actually four *lozenges*, not *mascles*, that was submitted — but this

must have been a typo on Laurel's part, as the conflict was still valid.) This submission is a redesign.

This is the submitter's *third* choice. Her first, *Or, on a lozenge sable, a cross of four lozenges Or*, was found to be in conflict with the SCA badge *Or, on a lozenge azure four more in cross argent* (Stuart of Lindley, April 1986). There's a CVD for the tincture of the lozenge, but because the cross is a "tertiary" (*i.e.* a charge on another charge) we need to find *two* differences to get a full CVD — and there's only *one* (the tincture). Her second choice, *Gyronny of eight Or and argent, on a lozenge sable a cross of four lozenges Or*, uses an illegal field — a field cannot be divided into more than four parts unless the tinctures of the field have good contrast (*e.g.* a metal and a colour, but not a metal and a metal) — see *RfS VIII.2b.iv*.

The third choice seems problem-free. It's clear of the SCA badge *Or, on a heart sable a lozenge Or* (Suzanna Jewell, February 1989, for the House of Jewels) — we find that there's a complete difference of charge (*RfS X.2*) between a *heart* and a *roundel*.

Consulting herald: René du Bon Bois.

7. **Gytha Halfdan** (new name; SUBMITTED) [Aneala, HID595]

Copious documentation was provided with this submission. Unfortunately all of it was from "baby name books". Fortunately, these particular books have *relied* heavily on real sources (primarily Withycombe, by the look of it), and they're not too bad. *Gytha* is found in Withycombe (p.135), deriving from the Old Norse *Guthr* ("war"); the submitted spelling was used by the wife of the Earl of Wessex in the 11th Century. *Halfdan* is a descriptive byname, from the Old Danish for "half-Dane"; you can read about it in Reaney's *DøBS* on p.162, under *Haldane*.

It's been said before, but it obviously doesn't hurt to say it again: **Avoid Baby Name Books!** They're OK as a "first point of reference" but they will very rarely be useful as documentation. [*End of rant.*]

Consulting herald: the submitter.

8. **Hieronimus de Hansworst** (New name; SUBMITTED) [Stormhold, HID602]

Hieronimus can be found in Withycombe (p.175), under *Jerome*. It dates back to the 4th Century, where St Eusebius Hieronymus Sophronius, better known as St Jerome, who having nothing better to do with his time, wrote what became the basis for the Vulgate edition of the Bible. The submitter wishes the byname "the buffoon", in Dutch. Thus would seem to be *Hansworst* (hand-sausage?), which is a neuter word, and should therefore take the neuter definite article — whatever that might be in Dutch. We certainly didn't know; *de* falls into the category of "a wild guess". Needless to say, the submitter will accept grammatical corrections.

Consulting herald: Decion ap Dyfrwr Trefriw.

9. **Meadhbh O'Labhraidh the Malevolent** (device resubmission to Vesper; SUBMITTED) [Stormhold, HID524]

Azure, four lozenges, one, two and one, and a chief engrailed Or.

This gentle's name was registered in September 1990. Her original device submission, *Azure, four lozenges in cross and a fess enhanced Or*, was returned by Vesper in June 1990, for non-period style and mundane conflict. This is a slight modification that simplifies the original design somewhat.

It should be clear of numerous devices listed in Papworth; for example, the arms of Gulway: *Azure three lozenges and a chief Or* (p.968) — there's a CVD for changing the number of *lozenges* and another for changing the line of division on the *chief*. Similar counts clear it of others listed in Papworth and in the SCA *Ordinary*.

I was going to submit this as *..four lozenges in cross...* but it was pointed out that it would be a good idea to change it to *...one, two and one...* so that it would not be confused with a cross

of four lozenges (as in Guimora's device, above).

Consulting herald: Deçion ap Dyfrwr Trefriw.

10. **Pedair na Cluain Bheag** (new name and device; both SUBMITTED) [Stormhold, HID603]

Purpure, on a bend sinister engrailed Or, a bend sinister pean, in dexter chief a griffin segreant Or.

Pedair is intended to be a Scots Gaelic form of "Peter". Although we could not find this spelling, we did find numerous others (such as *Peadar* or *Peadair*), so it seemed a reasonable variant to us. If this is unacceptable, he'll accept *Peadair*, found in Dunkling (p.113) and elsewhere, or *Pedr*, which is his mundane given name. The byname is intended to be Scots Gaelic for "of the small field"; we couldn't confirm this but it seemed OK. He has permitted grammatical fixes to preserve the meaning.

The device appeared to be free of conflict. He has been advised to draw the *bend pean* a little narrower. As far as we can tell, aligning the ermine spots along the bend is simply a standard representation — charges on a *bend* generally follow the line of the bend. Note, however, in this case, that the ermine spots are *not* charges, because *pean* is a fur and therefore a standard tincture, spots and all. Which is just as well, otherwise the device would be illegal for having too many layers (a charge on a charge on a charge — see *RfS* VIII.1c.ii).

Consulting herald: the submitter.

11. **West Kingdom: Canon Pursuivant** (new heraldic title; SUBMITTED) [HID604]

This is to be the title for the Crux Australis deputy in charge of maintaining the heraldic database in Lochac, producing *Orders of Precedence*, *Alphabetical Awards Lists*, and other duties as directed. The first holder of this title will be Baron Master Gereint Scholar, effective immediately he resigns from Crux Australis Herald.

According to *The Collins Concise Dictionary of the English Language* (2nd edition), *canon* is a noun meaning, amongst other things, "a general rule or standard, as of judgement, morals, etc." and "a list of the works of an author that are accepted as authentic" (p.161). The *Compact OED* (p.329) further provides this meaning: "*Math* A general rule, formula, table esp. a table of sines, tangents, etc. *Obs*", and dates its use in this meaning to Chaucer in 1391. Therefore in its various meanings as a list or table we find the name to be highly appropriate for the position.

Some question was raised about possible religious connotations, but no-one at the meeting found it objectionable, and it's certainly no worse in this regard than the already registered titles of Vesper and Compline.

Consulting herald: Gereint Scholar.

[Note: Due to an administrative hitch, this submission was not considered at the Crux Australis meeting, but rather at the Hund Commenting meeting the following Monday.]

12. **Wolfgang Travaal** (new name and device; both SUBMITTED) [Aneala, HID593]

Quarterly sable and argent, in sinister chief a wolf's head erased sable, a bordure dovetailed counterchanged.

The given name is German. The submitter asserts that it was a "common German name throughout the Middle Ages", which may well be true, but is not exactly documentation. Still, checking our encyclopaedias we found Count Palantine Wolfgang William, of Neuberg, who was signing alliances with Spain in 1613 and converting to Roman Catholicism the year after — so we assume that he was actually given his name in period.

Travaal is, however, completely made up, and many thanks to the submitter for admitting it. He'd like something pronounced "tra-varl". He admits that his research could not unearth anything remotely like it and neither could ours, although we do note that there is a Dutch adjective *vaal*, meaning "drab" or "dun". We'll pass the name on, however, just in case Lady Vesper can do better than we were able to. If not, he's provided an alternate — *Wolfgang of*

Transylvania — which should be free of problems.

The lovely device seems free of problems. The *wolf's head* was blazoned as *langed gules*, but as it makes no heraldic difference I've left that as a note for the scribes.

Consulting herald: the submitter.

As usual, I've included drawings of all the devices considered at the meeting. This month, you'll find them at the bottom of page 12.

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News of Previous Submissions

The West Kingdom College of Herald's *Minutes* for September arrived some weeks ago. However, due to my own delays, the submissions that would normally have been considered at that meeting collided with those scheduled for the *October* meeting, the *Minutes* for which arrived on 20th November. The extracts for Lochac may be found on pages 13-17.

At the time of writing, the Laurel King of Arms' *Letter of Acceptance and Return (LoAR)* for his October meeting had not yet arrived.

Errata

In the October *Camel*, I made a classic typographical blunder. However, I *do* know the difference between "reign" and "rein": it's just that my typing fingers don't.

Another Roster Change

Oops. Forgot one. In the Barony of River Haven, the Canton of Parvus Portus has split. Half retains the name Parvus Portus, and the local herald is Gildon of the Glen, as before. The new Canton is called Huc Draconae (apparently it's Latin for "Here there be Dragons"), and the local herald is Lord Wulfstan of Broxton [Alex Law], P.O. Box 2379, Toowoomba QLD 4350.

Final Words

And so ends another *Camel*... well, except for the stuff stuck on the end. Next month sees my final *Camel* for, as you all know I'm retiring as Crux Australis Herald at Twelfth Night. I'll be including a

complete *Roster of Heraldry*, a list of armigers who haven't yet submitted their name and device, and a list of people who've had their submissions returned more than six months ago and who haven't yet resubmitted. And I'll also be totally self-indulgent, and offer some Parting Words.

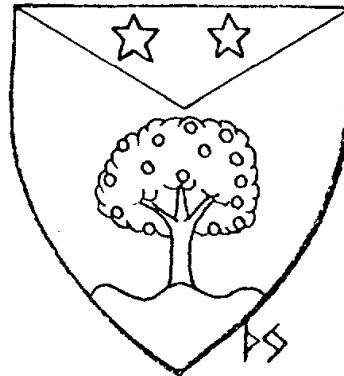
But until then, I remain...

Your Servant,

Baron Master Gereint Scholar
Crux Australis Herald

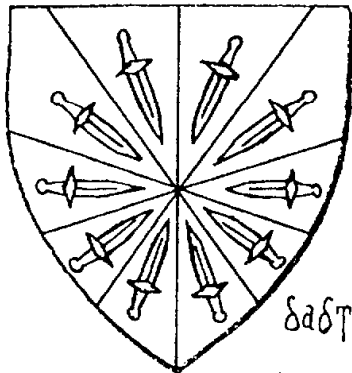


2. Claire

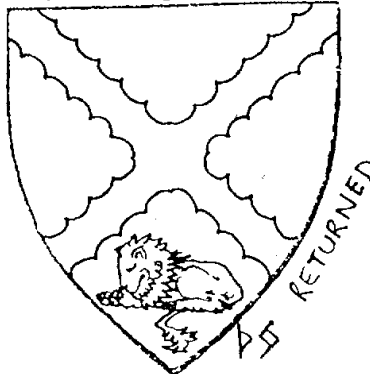


þs: Thrain Járngrimsson
ðæðt: Decion ap Dyfnwr Trefriw

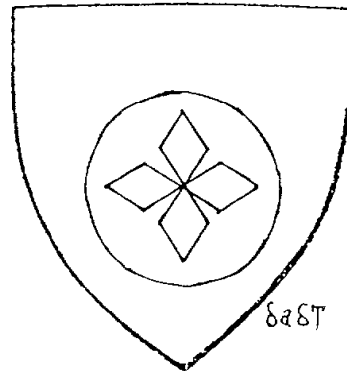
3. Cleifien



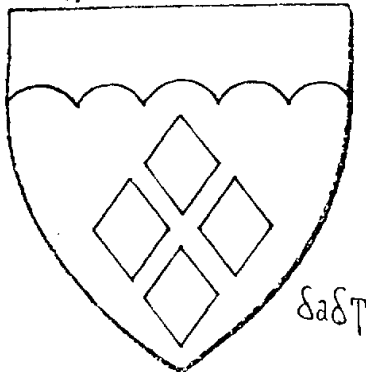
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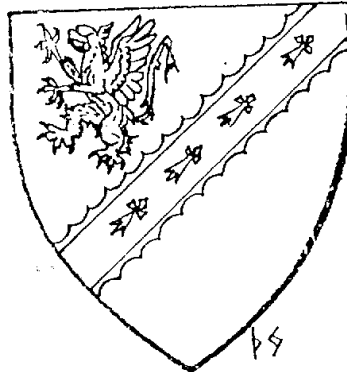
6. Guimora



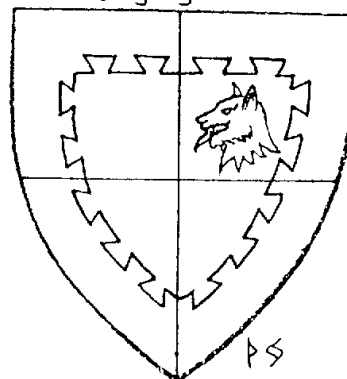
9. Meadhbh



10. Pedair



12. Wolfgang



The following submissions were considered by the Vesper Principal Herald at her meeting on 14th October A.S. XXV (1990) and were SUBMITTED to the Laurel King of Arms:

4. Armand de Montfort Lyons (St. Monica, Stormhold) change of registered name

His currently registered name is "Simon de Lyons" (registered on the LoAR of February 1988). "Armand" is dated to 1348 by Withycombe, (page 151, under "Herman"). Reaney DBS, p. 224 dates "Montfort" to the Domesday Boke. Lyons is a city in east central France. Surnames with no preposition were found commonly in England and France in the Middle Ages. The submitter wishes no changes to his registered armory. Consulting herald: Selwyn Searobyrig.

5. Arx Draconis, Shire of (Lochac) new name and device

Vert, a sword proper debruised in chief by a laurel wreath argent, the wreath maintained by two dragons combattant Or.

The Shire's name is Latin and means "Dragon's Keep" or "Fortress". Consulting herald: Oláfr Thordarson.

7. Benedetta de Spenser (St. Bartholomew, Stormhold) new name and device

Vert, in bend three wyverns erect to sinister Or.

"Benedetta" is the Italian form of "Benedicta", which is dated in Withycombe to the 13th C. As Reaney DBS (p. 303) notes both "le Spenser" and "Le Despenser" in period, this seems to be a reasonable formation. Consulting herald: Llewellyn Judde of the Marches.

9. Ceridwen ferch Dafydd ap Cradog (Arx Draconis) new name and device

Vert, a fess wavy between four leeks, three and one, argent.

The submitter has provided documentation showing "Ceridwen" in Withycombe (p. 61); "Dafydd" from both Bartrum (Early Welsh Genealogical Tracts) and Morgan and Morgan (Welsh Surnames) and "Cradog" from Morgan and Morgan, p. 67. "Cradog" is a variation of "Caradoc"/"Caradog" and, while not precisely dated, it is implied that it is very early. Consulting herald: Oláfr Thordarson.

16. Gareth Deufreuddwyd ap Rhys (Innilgard) APPEAL of Laurel return of device

Or, a wyvern erect gules within a bordure per bend sinister sable and gules.

His name was registered on the LoAR of June 1990. At that time, this device was returned. The then-Laurel stated in the return that: "The full blazon of the arms of Dragomanni make it clear that they should be blazoned in Society terms as Or, a wyvern gules. Thus, this device conflicts with Dragomanni." However, the Pictorial Dictionary (Bruce & Yoshio) clearly states "the wyvern is statant by default" and a survey of several of the other heraldic authorities (Woodward, Parker, Franklin & Tanner and Fox-Davies) supports that statement. A further examination of the actual blazon for Dragomanni in Woodward, A Treatise on Heraldry, p. 292 shows it to be "Or, a dragon gules (d'Or, à un dragon ailé à deux pattes de queues les ailes levées." Literally, the French blazon translates as "Of Or, with a dragon winged with two paws of gules, the wings erect (or raised)." A further look in Parker's Glossary of Terms Used in Heraldry confirms that "pattes" is the French for "paws" (p. 449) and in the blazon refers to the fact that the wyvern has "à deux pattes" - only two feet rather than the dragon's usual four. The final phrase "les ailes levées" is literally "the wings erect". Woodward's (p. 712) notes "ailes" as the term for wings, or winged and Parker, again, notes that levé is the French term "used of a bear when erect"; one can safely assume that it means the same thing when used in other contexts. Therefore, (you knew I'd get to the end of this argument eventually!) if Dragomanni's wyvern had been anything other than statant, the default position, that difference in position would have been included in the blazon. As it is blazoned, only the wings are erect, and that is very explicitly mentioned. The bottom line is that Woodward's translation of the blazon is perfunctory and that the former Lady Laurel's interpretation of it, "in Society terms" was incorrect. It is, in our terms, "Or, a wyvern (statant), wings elevated, gules." There are two clear CVDs from Gareth's submission, one for the position and another for the bordure. Consulting heralds: Robert Furness of Southwood and Gereint Scholar.

The following submissions were considered by the Vesper Principal Herald at her meeting on 14th October A.S. XXV (1990) and were SUBMITTED to the Laurel King of Arms (continued):

20. Isabeau of the Wylde Woode (Rowany) new name and device

Argent, three oak trees gules, a bordure sable.

The given name is cited by the submitter to 1371 in the Encyclopedia Britannica, Vol. 12, p. 652 for Isabella (aka Isabeau) of Bavaria. The rest of the name suffers from "superfluous 'e' syndrome", but, as "wilde" and "woode" are both cited in the OED as period spellings, and the "i" to "y" shift is very common, I guess we'll have to live with it. The gorgeous device almost makes up for the twinkie name. A look through our files indicates that Boncueur's badge, Argent, three trees eradicated in triquetra, the roots entwined about a heart Or, a bordure sable, would now more likely be blazoned as Argent, three trees eradicated and conjoined in pall, roots to center, proper, charged with a heart, Or, a bordure sable. There is more than enough difference, but a reblazon for Boncueur (the original SCA Registrar and the recipient of the very first Pelican for great service to the SCA) might be in order. Consulting herald: Nygell y Baedd Gwyllt.

21. James Ericsson (Innilgard) new name and device

Per chevron azure and Or, in pale a comet fesswise headed of a compass star Or and an acorn proper.

This is the sort of name that really needs no documentation. According to the PicDic, the default for SCA acorns is brown. Consulting herald: René du Bon Bois.

23. Jawys de Godeleia (St. Monica, Stormhold) name registered, new device

Per chevron argent and azure, two rapiers in saltire and a cross of four fusils counterchanged.

His name was registered on the LoAR of June 1990. The components of the cross could as easily be blazoned as "passion nails" but we feel that "fusils" are a bit more descriptive. Consulting herald: Selwyn Searobyriq.

26. Karl der Kriegerhelm (Llyn Arian) name pending, new device

Per bend argent and gules, a great helm counterchanged within a bordure embattled sable.

His name was on our August LoI and is pending at Laurel. Consulting herald: Gilchrist Morgan.

27. Katharine of Wotton-under-Edge (Innilgard) new name and device

Lorengy argent and sable, a chevron and in base a roundel purpure charged with a triskelion of legs argent.

"Katharine" is cited on p. 186 of Withycombe, it was a very popular saint's name in period. The placename is stated by the submitter to have been mentioned in the Domesday Boke, but no evidence was supplied to back this up. However, it exists today (sans hyphens) and is found in our AA Big Road Atlas of Britain. Consulting herald: Kenelm de la Dale.

32. Nicolette du Loire (St. Monica, Stormhold) new name and device

Sable, two bendlets wavy between a roundel and an open book, argent.

"Nicolette" is found in the 13th C. French romance Aucassin et Nicolette; Dauzat dates it to the 12th C. The Loire is the longest river in France. Consulting herald: Selwyn Searobyriq.

33. Oláfr Thordarson (Arx Draconis) new name and device

Argent fretty azure, four ravens close, heads lowered, two and two, gules.

"Oláfr" is one of the most common Norse given names and was the name of several period Norwegian kings and even a saint. It is cited in Bassi, p. 13. "Thordr" is also cited in Bassi, and the precise patronymic form, "Thordarson" is found in Gordon, An Introduction to Old Norse, on p. 381. The addition of the phrase "head lowered" is modeled on the blazon for the arms of Leonie de Grey, passed on the LoAR for August 1989. As we are firmly of the opinion that "fretty" is a field treatment rather than a semy, we consider this to be clear of Aulier, Argent, fretty azure, (Pap. p. 882), under X.1. Consulting heralds: Gereint Scholar, the submitter.

The following submissions were considered by the Vesper Principal Herald at her meeting on 14th October A.S. XXV (1990) and were SUBMITTED to the Laurel King of Arms (continued):

37. Saint Bartholomew, College of (greater metro Stormhold) name and device registered, new badge
Sable, on an open book argent, a bee terqiant sable, banded Or.

The College's name and arms were registered on the February 1988 LoAR. They wish a badge for the use of all members of the College. Consulting herald: Llewellyn Judde of the Marches.

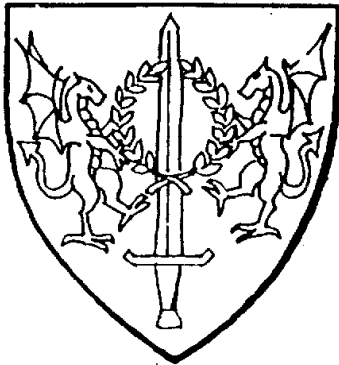
43. Thomas the Troubadour (St. Monica, Stormhold) new name and device
Azure, a fess argent masoned sable, in chief a decrescent argent.

Thomas is cited well in period by Withycombe on p. 279. Troubadours are period. While evocative, we do not think this name is in conflict with the famous "Thomas the Rhymer". Because this fess is masoned, it is clear of Blott, Azure, a fess argent (Papworth p. 702). Consulting heralds: the submittor, Selwyn Searobyriq.

44. Valentine du Promontoire (St. Bartholomew, Stormhold) new name only

"Valentine" is only dated to 1553 in England by Withycombe (p. 286), but was the name of one of the early Christian martyrs. The locative is correct French for "of the headland" (or "promontory"). Consulting herald: Llewellyn Judde of the Marches.

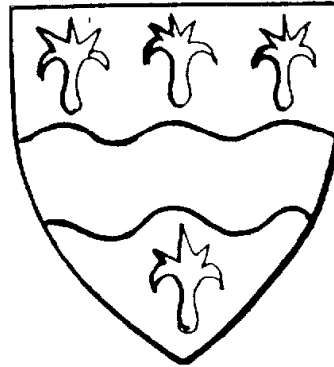
5. ARX DRACONIS



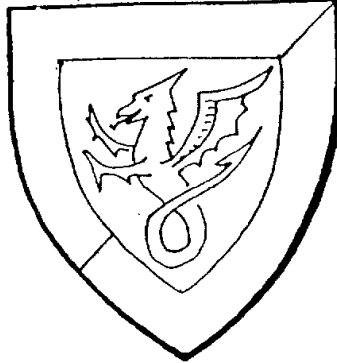
9. BENEDETTA



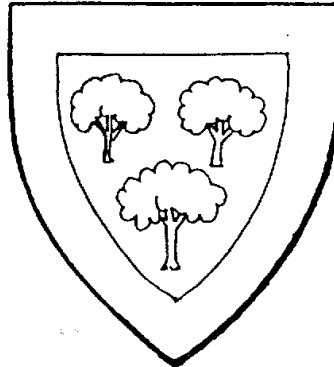
9. CERIDWEN



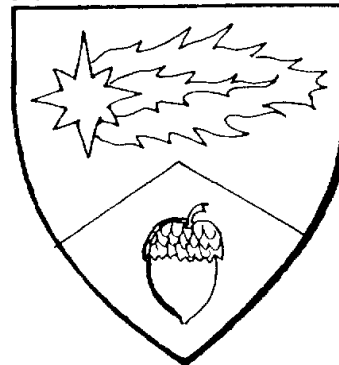
16. GARETH D.



20. ISABEAU

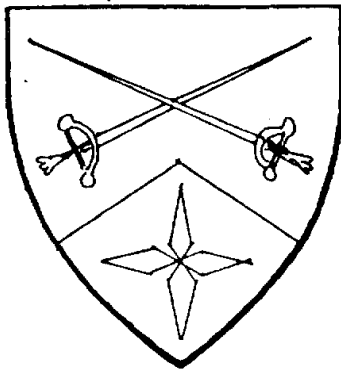


21. JAMES E.

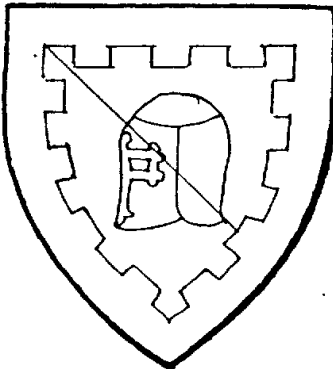


The following submissions were considered by the Vesper Principal Herald at her meeting on 14th October A.S. XXV (1990) and were SUBMITTED to the Laurel King of Arms (continued):

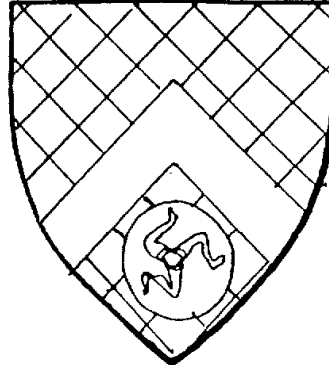
23. JAMYS



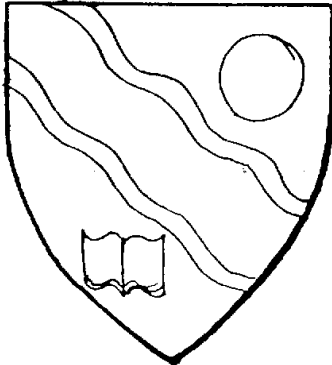
26. KARL



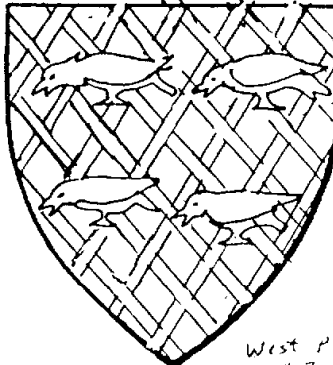
37. KATHARINE



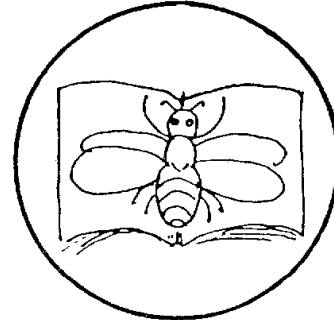
32. NICOLETTE



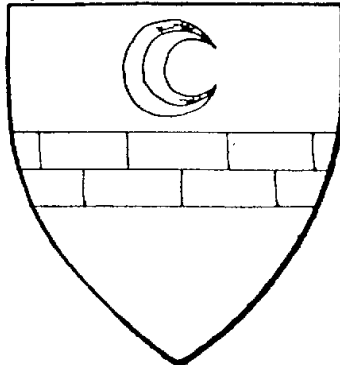
33. OLÁFR



37. ST. BART.



43. THOS. THE T.



The following submissions were considered by the Vesper Principal Herald at her meeting on 14th October A.S. XXV (1990) and were RETURNED:

Mélisande de Gratia e Sprezzatura (St. Monica, Stormhold)

new name and device RETURNED

Per bend wavy "lindenblattschnitten" purpure and argent, in sinister chief a plate.

There are a good many problems with this name and device, some larger than others, and none of them really involving the weird word in the blazon. First, there's the name. "Mélisande" is a perfectly fine given name; Withycombe cites it as a variant of "Millicent" and notes yet another form to 1213. However, the byname is supposed to be Italian and mean "of grace and nonchalance". If you haul out the Italian dictionary, you will find that indeed, "gratia" means "grace" and "sprezzatura" means "nonchalance". However, names simply were not formed in that manner in the Middle Ages. Even though the

The following submissions were considered by the Vesper Principal Herald at her meeting on 14th October A.S. XXV (1990) and were RETURNED (continued):

College is usually quite lax in requiring that SCA names be period in form, this is beyond what I feel that I can bring before the College of Arms and Laurel and attempt to defend as compatible. The name "Thomas the Brave" is fine - even "Karl the Meek and Mild", while improbable as a real medieval name, is within the scope of the Society. However, "Thomas of Bravery" or "Karl of Meekness and Mildness" would be over the edge. Even though this is not in English, and therefore would not be as jarring to the majority of SCA folk, it is still unacceptable. We will ask her to either 1) be "the Graceful" or "the Nonchalant" or even "the Graceful and Nonchalant" or 2) and far better, take an Italian surname derived from "graceful" (such as "Graziano") and if she must incorporate both concepts, add "the Nonchalant" as well in proper Italian. While she did authorize minor changes, we feel that this name should have some radical ones before being subjected to the scrutiny of the College of Arms. The device uses a period German heraldic concept that is roughly equivalent to a line of division. The German blazon is "lindenblattenschnitten" - "linden-leaf shaped", and by the time she comes up with a reasonable name, we'll have the time to research how it has been blazoned in SCA terms in the past. It would be ever so much better with two roundels, but is acceptable. Consulting herald: Selwyn Searobyriq.

Thomas of Abraxa (St. Bartholomew, Stormhold)

new name and device RETURNED

Per pale argent and gules, a hand balance, handle to base, maintaining in the dexter pan a heart and in the sinister pan an open book, counterchanged.

There are a fair number of problems with both this name and device. There is nothing inherently wrong with the given name "Thomas" (which was very popular throughout the Middle Ages). However, "Abraxa" was the original name of Utopia in Sir (or the Sainted, depending on your point of view) Thomas More's book of the same name. It is not a likely place for anyone in the real medieval England to have hailed from. However, the Rules for Submission do allow literary places to be used in names - when they are otherwise compatible with the SCA. However, the word "abraxas", from which "Abraxa" appears to derive, goes far beyond More. It is noted in Benet's Reader's Encyclopedia (p. 3) as a cabalistic word important to the Gnostics (an extremely important and period group of heretics) with complicated numerological and mystic associations. It was also one of the names of the goddess Aurora's horses, for what that's worth. The combination of Sir/St. Thomas' given name, a name taken from the literary work for which he is best known, and a piece of armory which portrays the balance (or conflict) between emotion and intellect, a theme of much of More's writing and entire life, is Simply Too Much. We will advise the submitter to tone down the allusions. Consulting herald: Llewellyn Judde of the Marches.

The following submission has been withdrawn by the submitter, and is currently pending at the Kingdom level:

Slaine MacKeelta (Arx Draconis)

name registered, appeal of Vesper return of device PENDED

Sable, three straight-armed celtic crosses argent.

Upon consultation with the submitter, I am pending his appeal of my June return of his device. It was returned for conflict with Lake, Sable, three crosses crosslet fitchy argent, (Papworth p. 671) and many other real-world arms featuring three crosses in the same colors. As the Rules are now being interpreted, even though one CVD can be gotten for a change in type of cross, a change in type, even when the cross is not one that has ever been used before (like these crosses) is not good enough to qualify for Complete Difference of Charge. Hence, the conflicts. When the submitter's letter of return was written he was advised to appeal the decision, as it then seemed that a case before the College of Arms might well be resolved in such a matter that we would grant Complete Difference of Charge between some types of cross. However, the case in question seems to have been stalled for some reason, and no resolution has been made. From the comments in the recent correspondence on the matter, it seems that there would be virtually no change of this passing. The submitter has agreed to allow this appeal to be pended until the other matter is resolved one way or another.

