

Crux Australis Herald
Baron Master Gereint Scholar
Stilgherrian • The New Scriptorium
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CAMEL
13th October A.S. XXIII (1988)

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 warm greetings. This is my *Crux Australis Monthly Letter* for October XXIII.

What does *Crux Australis Monthly Letter* spell? "CAML"? What else but "camel"? Henceforth, these letters will be known as *Camels*. They certainly bear a heavy load across great distances, most of it desert. And they're probably difficult to get on with. I don't think they spit, though.

This Month's Highlights

- Which colour tassles for which tourney? (see page 2)
- Help me find some "missing people". (see page 3)
- This month's submissions. (see pages 4-6)

Standard Apology

Remember in a recent *Crux Australis Monthly Letter* I promised to respond to all your letters within a week of receiving them? Well, it seems I was a little rash in that promise. Please accept my sincere apologies for so many letters to you being so late in coming. I also apologize for this *Camel* being late too. Despite being dated 13th October, it won't be posted until at least 7th November, leaving a very short time until the following meeting. I won't offer any excuses; no-one would believe them anyway. I will say, however, that it was due to "mundane commitments" and problems organizing printing. And never believe anyone when they say "it'll be there in the morning".

Roster Changes

Welcome to several newly-rostered Pursuivants Extraordinary: Lords Llewyn the Unruly and Wulfsgie Clovenhaft [Rowany], and Baron Tovyve Woolmongere [Innilgard]. Welcome also to the new PE for the new group of Ultima Australis in Tasmania: Julian du Bois.

I've attached a current copy of the *Roster* for Lochac and Aneala. If you notice any mistakes, please let me know as soon as you can. Please note the change to the address for Timo Auliksenpoika, the Acting PE for Saint Augustine: Timo Nieminen, Cromwell College, Walcott Street, St Lucia Qld 4067.

Are You a Paid Member?

If you're an officer of the SCA, you have to be a paid-up member. If you're the rostered herald for a local group, you're an officer. *Ergo*, if you're a group's local herald, you have to be a member of the SCA.

I've just checked the latest membership printouts, courtesy of the Deputy Registrar for Australia. Of the 26 local heralds in Lochac, at least nine were not members as of 15th October. One membership has only expired recently, so a new membership may already be in the post. But of the other eight,

one had expired around a year ago, six are newly-rostered heralds or the heralds for relatively new groups, and one has been in office for some time.

I'll check the membership list again on 15th December, when I expect to find all the local heralds with paid-up memberships.

Did You Sign a Waiver?

Just a reminder that if you go on the eric, even for one second, you need to sign a combat waiver — whether you're a fighter, marshall or herald. This is *not* the same thing as a "site waiver", or the "general waiver" on your membership card. You need to sign the appropriate combat waiver form for each event. Usually, the person taking care of waivers is the Constable, although I'm sure that like so many other things this custom changes from group to group.

Of course, if you don't want to sign a waiver, you can always do your field heraldry from the side of the eric.

On "Notes for Scribes"

On the submission forms, there's a spot called "Notes to Scribe". This is where you should note any details that are "significant" to the submitter, but that make no heraldic difference. Examples of useful notes to the scribes might be "Please make the lion's eyes blue", or "Make sure the unicorn has a twisted horn", or "I'd like the dragon drawn in the German style", or "Please use metallic silver", or "Please use this style of ermine tail". Another good one is "I'm not a good artist. Please don't duplicate my drawing exactly".

When a device or badge is registered, a copy of the drawing is sent to the College of Scribes. If they prepare any scrolls, they'll use *your* drawing as a guide. Quite often, they'll use their "artist's license" to make the design as attractive as possible. But if a submitter wants something specific, it's up to them to say so — in the spot marked "Notes to Scribe".

This might be a good time to refresh your memory of what's actually required on the submission forms. Please go and read the *West Kingdom Herald's Handbook*, Section VIII.1(b): "Filling Out the Forms". Yes, this means you.

Tassles for Tourneys

It has become the custom in Lochac to award tassles to the winners of tourneys, no matter how large or small. Here's a list of the registered tassel colour currently in use, along with the bells we award for Arts and Sciences competitions:

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

Arts and Sciences Competitions

winner	bell with blue ribbon
commendation	bell with white ribbon

Note especially the three newish ones: green and brown for roving archery, purple and green for pandy bats, and the multi-coloured one for unchivalric tourneys (the colour scheme is courtesy of the Barony of River Haven). Note also that since Lochac has become a Principality, there won't be any more ViceRegal tassles; I've included them on the list for completeness.

If you're using any other tassle colours locally, please let me know. I'll then include them on the list so we get some sort of consistency throughout Lochac.

So far, there isn't any fixed custom for how these tassles are displayed. Most fighters seem to hang them from their banners — although this assumes you have a registered device to display. Some experienced fighters have a lot of tassles. One way of displaying them all is to attach them along a length of cord, which then hangs from your banner pole. I've also seen tassles worn on a belt, like a favour. And I've seen winners of A&S competitions for music hang their bell from their musical instrument. If you've seen any other nice ways of displaying tassles and bells, please let me know.

Who Are These People?

Please look down the following list and see if you recognize any of the names:

Alexis Thrakesis	Isabella Baldovinetti
Ariella de Mar	Isolde of Minster Lovell
Bridie MacBride	Ivette de Calais
Brigid of the Marsh	James Nightstriker
Cirian Degeogaghan	John Warener of the Crossroads
Coralie of the Castlecourt	Mararaid O'Caed Radnor
Daffyd Cigfan O'Mona	Morgana de Taney
Douglas Wallwalker	Mortenvale the Grey
Ginevra Szorforini	Rosamund of Bohemia
Gottfried von der Wolven	Rurik the Grey
Griffon du Lac	Stephan de Kolt
Hamish of Col	

These folk have received awards. But I don't know which group they're from, or whether I've got their names right. In short, I don't know who they are. If *you* know which group any of these people are from, or their current mundane and SCA names, please let me know as soon as possible.

Books and Merchandise? See Thorfinn

Master Thorfinn Hroflsson [Steve Roylance] takes care of all heraldic publications in Lochac. His address is 1592 Malvern Road, Glen Iris Vic 3146. Telephone (03) 25-6348. Make cheques payable to "S Roylance". Note that some prices have risen, mostly due to the new postage rates which came into effect on 1st October.

Bruce Draconarius and Akagawa Yoshio's *Pictorial Dictionary of Heraldry (as used in the Society for Creative Anachronism)* is \$11 (\$13.10 posted). Bulk discounts are available. This is a wonderful book. Please buy it.

The first *Update* to the *Armorial and Ordinary* is \$4.00 (\$5.20 posted). The second *Update* is \$4.20 (\$5.40 posted). Complete copies of the *Armorial and Ordinary* and the *West Kingdom Herald's Handbook* are available on special order. Enamelled herald's pins are still \$3.50, or \$4 posted.

Meetings

At my regular monthly meetings we look at the latest heraldic submissions from around Lochac, forwarding some to the Vesper Principal Herald, returning others to the client for further work. The next meeting is on Thursday 17th November, starting at 7.00pm at 25 Blackburn Street, Adelaide. The meetings after that will be on Thursday 15th December and 12th January 1989 (tentative).

The Hund Pursuivant, Master Thorfinn Hrolfsson, holds weekly meetings to provide Lochac's comments on the submissions from other kingdoms. They're an excellent opportunity to learn about conflict research, and to look at examples of heraldry from around the Known World, both good and not-so-good. If there's time, you can also get your submission researched. They're 8.00pm Monday nights somewhere in Stormhold [Melbourne]. Please check with Thorfinn on (03) 25-6348 for the exact location.

This Month's Submissions

The College of Heraldry of the Kingdom of the West in the Principality of Lochac held its October meeting at The New Scriptorium on Thursday 13th October, starting at 7.00pm or thereabouts. Present were Master Gereint Scholar, Crux Australis Herald; Sir Haos Windchaser, Acting Frette Rouge Pursuivant; Robert Furness of Southwood, PE for Blessed Herman; PEs At Large Baroness Aislinn de Valence and Lord Tako Jiro; and Cornets/visitors Mistress Bryony of the Bees, Baron Toyve Woolmongere. Meanwhile, young Rowan Pawl slept in a nearby room...

1. Gillam Adestan (new, name and device; SUBMITTED) [Saint Aldhelm, HID115]

Argent, per bend argent and bendy azure and argent, in sinister chief a raven close sable.

Reaney's *Dictionary of British Surnames* documents *Gillam* as a variant of *Guillaume*, used as a surname. Withycombe's *Oxford Dictionary of English Christian Names* has *Gilliame* as a given name from 1306, and *Gillam* seems a reasonable variant. *Adestan* is a given name dating from 1194 (B Seltén, *The Anglo-Saxon Heritage in Middle English Personal Names*, p.33), and its use as a patronymic dates from 1209.

The device is clear of Corbet: *Argent, a raven sable* (Papworth, p.295). I count a major for the divided field, and at least a minor for the location of the bird. It's also clear of Annois *et al*: *Argent, three bendlets azure* (Papworth, p.287), counting a major for adding the bird, and a minor for moving the bendlets down. And of Catherine of Brackenborough: *Argent, a raven close, and in chief three roses azure* (SCA device, Aug 86), counting a major for the field and a major for the roses in chief.

Incidentally, I was keen to blazon this device as *Argent, three bendlets azure, and in chief a raven close sable*. A good mediæval heraldic artist would probably have drawn that blazon with the bendlets toward the bottom of the shield, and the raven nice and big at the top — just like the submitted drawing. However, everyone else at the meeting thought the given blazon described the device more accurately. Besides, blazoning it my way puts the device in technical conflict with Annois, cited above: I'd count a major for adding the raven, but nothing more.

2. Hamish Morgan (new name and device; RETURNED) [Llyn Arian, HID393]

Argent, a cross parted and fretted, and on a chief azure two tankards argent.

The submitter documented *Hamish* to Yonge's *History of Christian Names*, under the section for *James*. Yonge says (p.18) "the Highlanders call the name *Hamish*, the Irish, *Seumuis*."

But according to Withycombe (p.144), *Hamish* is "an attempt to render phonetically *Sheumais*, the vocative of *Seumas*, the Gaelic form of *James*. [Sir Walter] Scott has a *Hamish MacTavish*, but the present vogue of the name seems to be due to the novels of William Black (1841-98), very popular in their day, in several of which he makes use of the name *Hamish*. The use of this pseudo-Gaelic form is to be discouraged." The reference to the writings of Scott means *Hamish* was invented in the mid-1800s.

Dunkling's *Scottish Christian Names* (p.68) and O Corráin & Maguire's *Gaelic Personal Names* (p.165) both confirm that *Hamish* is, as the latter puts it, "a bastard Scottish form" of the Gaelic *Séamus*, although neither gives a date of first use.

Despite the fact that the SCA has registered *Hamish* once before, in 1982 to *Hamish Kornilov*, I can find no support for the name being used in period, and considerable evidence to suggest that it was a 19th-century invention, out of our period by a few hundred years. (That 1982 registration might have been because the submitter's mundane name was *Hamish*. Or maybe we just didn't know better then.) I must therefore return the name.

Morgan is a period surname, dating from at least AD1214 (Reaney, p.244)

The device appears free of conflict, but without a suitable name to go with it, it must also be returned. (Holding names can only be formed by the Laurel Queen of Arms.)

3. **James the Unknown** (resubmission to Crux Australis, device only; SUBMITTED) [Stormhold, HID141]

Barry of four gules and argent, four piles inverted in point throughout counterchanged.

The name was submitted to Vesper last month.

This device was submitted to me at the same time, when it generated quite a bit of comment. The blazon is reasonably straightforward, with a standard field treatment (even if drawn with fewer bars than usual), and standard charges. But I still think it looks like a check tablecloth or tiled floor receding into the distance — a three-dimensional perspective effect that just wasn't used in mediæval heraldry. On the other hand, its unacceptability was, perhaps, marginal. Certainly one person at the meeting didn't find it a problem. So I put it in my "pending" file, sent James a letter outlining the problems I saw, and awaited his response before submitting the device further.

James was in touch after my October meeting, asking me to submit the device anyway. It appears free of conflict.

4. **Lavinia of Tyrol** (new name and device; SUBMITTED) [Blessed Herman, HID181]

Per bend sinister Or and vert ermined Or, in dexter chief a harp vert.

Lavinia was used by Shakespeare in *Titus Andronicus*. Withycombe (p.192) says that *Lavinia* was the daughter of Latinus, the second wife of *Aeneas*. The name came into popular use again after the Renaissance. The close variant *Lavina* is "occasionally" encountered in the 13th and 14th centuries, with first usages recorded in 1201 and 1203, and *Lavena* in 1346. *Tyrol* is a region of what is now northern Austria.

The device appears free of conflict.

5. **Myfanwy Elen o'r Caerfyrddin** (new name and device; SUBMITTED)
[Saint Aldhelm, HID394]

Quarterly argent and azure, four owls within an orle, all counterchanged.

Myfanwy is a common Welsh female name dating from before the 14th century, and has been registered many times before — some of them in Lochac. *Elen* is also a common Welsh name: one *Elen* was the mother of the famous 14th century figure Owain Glyndwr. *Caerfyrddin* is an alternate version of the name *Carmarthen*, a town in Dyfed, Wales.

The submitter wishes to make her name as historically accurate as possible for the period ca.1400. Bearing this in mind, consulting herald Morag Ameredith has attached documentation showing that a better form of the name might be *Myfanwy Elen o Gayrfyrddin*. We'll seek the assistance of more experienced Welsh scholars to help form the correct version.

The device appears free of conflict.

[Note: By default, owls are close guardant.]

6. **Timo Auliksenpoika** (name submitted June XXIII, device resubmission to Vesper; SUBMITTED)
[Saint Augustine, HID339]

Sable, a pale argent between two swords inverted Or, a chief argent.

The device previously submitted, *Sable, a pale between two compass stars of four points Or, a chief argent*, was returned by Vesper in July for clarification. The "compass stars of four points" were nothing like standard SCA compass stars, but more like "mullets of four points, each debriused by an annulet" — "more like the logo of a modern banking corporation than any period charge". [How this managed to sneak past a *Crux Australis* meeting is a matter of some mystery and considerable embarrassment.]

Timo has decided to submit a new design, which appears free of conflict.

7. **William Elleison** (resubmission to Vesper, name and device; SUBMITTED) [Stormhold, HID292]

Or, two chevrons cottised, in base a sinister arm in armour, embowed to dexter, sable.

This device was previously submitted under the name *William Eleison*. It was returned by Vesper in April XXII (1988) since although *eleison* is a common Greek word meaning "have mercy", there was no evidence of its use as a surname.

Elleison is, however, similar to many documentable surnames, such as *Ellison* and *Elaison*. *Reaney* (p.116) gives variants *Elyssone* (dated 1296), *Elisson* (1379), *Ellyson* (1487), all meaning "son of *Ellis*". Under the variants of *Alison* (p.5), *Reaney* gives *Elison* (1514), *Alyson* and *Helysone* (1535) and *Aleissone* (1381), amongst others.

Withycombe shows many examples where '-l-' and '-ll-' are used almost interchangeably: *Al(l)an* (pp7-8), *Bassil(l)* (p.44), *Colette* and variants (p.70), *El(l)a* (p.100), *Phil(l)ip* (under *Philippa*, p.245), and to a lesser extent *Anabell/Anabill* (p.26). The '-ai-' and '-ei-' seem to be mutable too. *Reaney*, cited above, has both *Elaison* and *Aleissone*. The French equivalent to *Alan* can be spelt either *Alain* or *Alein* (Withycombe, p.8). Lack of time prevented the search for more examples.

Given this variety of spellings known to have existed, *Elleison* seems a reasonable variant. Presumably, it would be pronounced much the same as *Ellison*.

On the other hand, one person at the meeting thought it was still a bit close to the Greek word *eleison*, and had the twitches. This was probably caused by a familiarity with the text of the Christian Mass.

Oh... and *William* is probably the most common period male name you can find (Withycombe, p.293, for what it's worth).

The device appears free of conflict.

[Note: I admit that when it comes to documenting spelling variants of names, I'm never sure exactly what counts as a "reasonable variant" and what doesn't. What I do know is that if a particular culture has the name *Tog also spelt *Tug, and the name *Rog also spelt *Rug, and the name *Mog also spelt *Mug, then it seems reasonable to suppose that they also spelt their name *Fog as *Fug. The three known cases here seem to justify a general rule: "You can interchange -og and -ug".

Remember that although the College of Heraldry can and will try to document spelling variants — or at least have a go at justifying them — the final responsibility of "proving" a name's legitimacy falls to the submitter. Always include as much documentation as you can.

Personally, I'm in favour of people choosing "real" mediæval names, rather than making something up. There are thousands of documentable period names, in all languages and styles. I believe that in the long run people will be happier knowing their chosen name is really mediæval. Besides, it fits better with the SCA's stated aims of education and accurate historical re-creation.

There, I've had my rave. I'll calm down now.

By the way, note also that in the preceding paragraphs I'm using the standard linguist's convention of using an asterisk * to mark words or usages which are hypothetical or known to be incorrect.]

News of Previous Submissions

The West Kingdom College of Herald's *Minutes* for September arrived on 11th October. I've attached the relevant extracts as pages V-1 and V-2.

The Laurel Queen of Arms' *Letters of Acceptance and Return* for August and September have yet to appear. Laurel has made her decision on a number of submissions, but we have yet to hear the result. Those affected are: Bohdan Nepran (name and device), Callum of Glen Albyn (name and device), Cathrine the Friendly (name and device), Duncan MacAlpin Shieldsbane (name and device), Barony of Innilgard, Order of the Golden Owl (name only), Rashid al Faqih (name and device), Rhianwen ni Dhiarmada (device), Robert Furness of Southwood (name and device), Robin Reynardo (name only), Rosalinde von Braunschweig (name and device), Simon de Lyons (device) and Steven Longshanks (device).

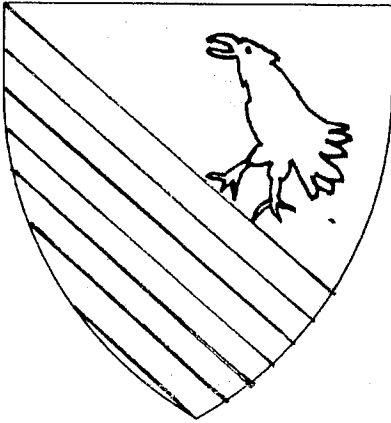
Your servant,

gereintus scholaris †

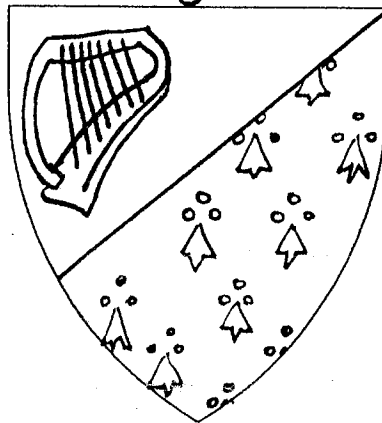
Baron Master Gereint Scholar
Crux Australis Herald



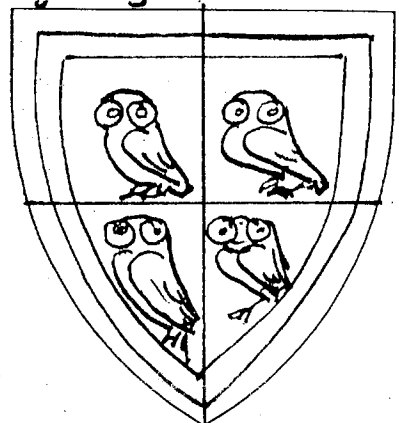
Gilliam Adestan



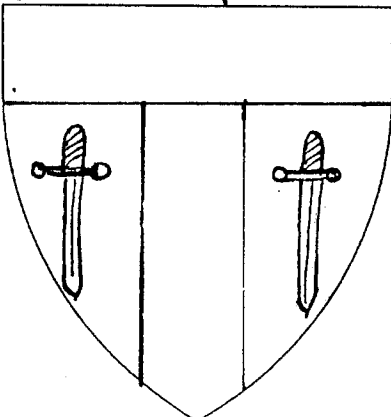
Lavinia of Tyrol



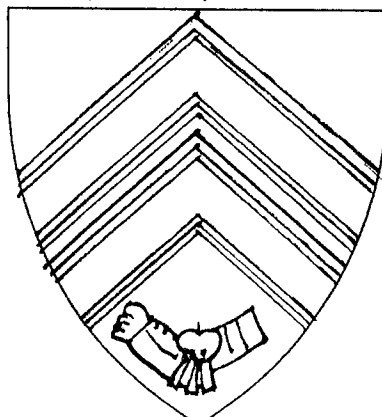
Myfanwg Elen



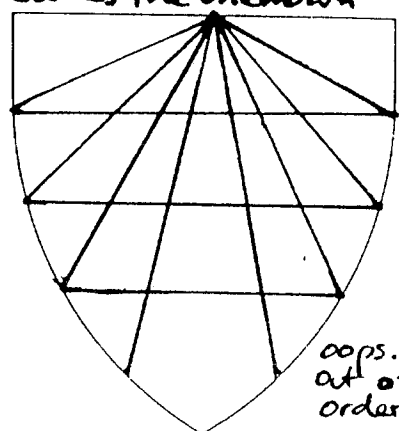
Timo Aulksenpoilca



William Ekison



James the Unknown



oops...
out of
order!

* STOPPRESS... West Kingdom Minutes for October arrived... see pages V-3 to V-5 following. gereint †

The following submissions were passed by the Vesper Principal Herald of the Kingdom of the West on 11th September XXIII (1988), and were SUBMITTED to the Laurel Queen of Arms:

4. David de Saxby (Abertridwr) new device, name in process

Gyronny argent and azure, a chimera with the body and head of a lion passant, a goat's head guardant issuant from the back, and the tail a snake, all Or, a bordure counterchanged.

His name was on our LoI of August '88 and is in process. His device was returned on the Kingdom level for conflict with the arms of Baron Alwyn Stewart, "Gyronny argent and azure, a sea griffin erect Or within a bordure counterchanged". His Excellency was applied to for permission to conflict, and has graciously allowed it. The chimera is specifically blazoned because it seems that there really is no default composition for a chimera, (according to Bruce and Yoshio, Pictorial Dictionary, page 19.)

8. Jessica of Fearn Abbey (Parvus Portus) new name and device

Purpure, three acorns inverted Or and a chief triangular erminois.

Shakespeare used the name "Jessica" in The Merchant of Venice. "Fearn Abbey" appears on Moncreiffe's Scotland of Old Clan Map, just north of the town of Gayre.

9. Karel of the Three Isles (Stormhold) new device, name in process

Per saltire gules and argent, in base a panpipe argent.

His name was submitted on our LoI of August '88.

11. Myfanwy of Aberystwyth (Mordenvale) device resubmission

Per chevron argent and azure, two ravens sable and a wolf's head cabossed argent within an orle counterchanged.

Her name was approved on the LoAR of September '87. At our meeting of 7 August we considered this device and found it to be in conflict with the device submitted for Duncan MacAlpin Shieldsbane on our LoI of June '88, "Per chevron argent and sable, two ravens and an estoile within an orle, all counterchanged". We could barely count it clear, (if we tried real hard), but as the two submitters live within the same general area of the same Principality (Lochac) we returned it. Myfanwy has now received permission to conflict from Duncan.

15. Saint Julian the Hospitaller, College of (Lochac) new name and device

Quarterly argent and azure, a cross flory quarterly sable and argent, in dexter chief a laurel wreath, on a chief sable, three mullets argent.

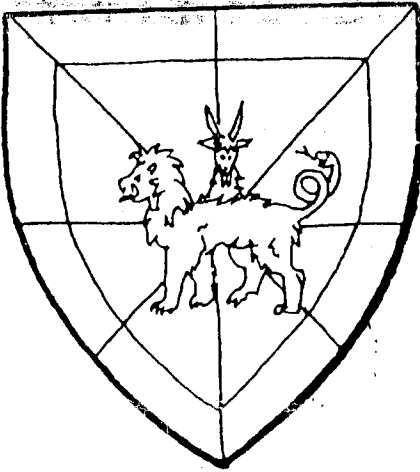
St. Julian is cited on page 226 of Farmer, The Oxford Dictionary of Saints, and is probably entirely mythical. The device verges on being too complex, but is saved from that fate by using only three colors.

16. Saint Monica, College of (Lochac) new device, name in process

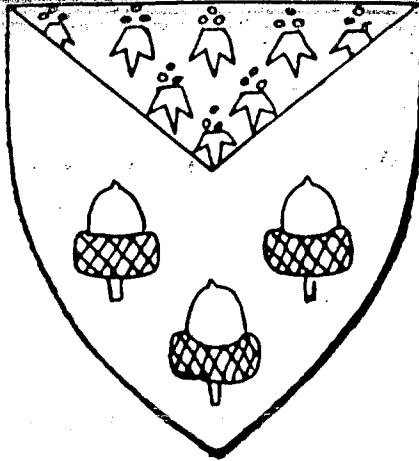
Per chevron azure and argent, two quills in saltire and a laurel wreath counterchanged.

Their name was included on our LoI of August '88. We consider this to be (just barely) clear of the device of Rosemary the Nightengale, "Per chevron argent and azure, in chief two quills and in base an ankh within an annulet counterchanged". We see a minor for the swapping of the tinctures, a point for the change in position of the charges in chief and a big minor for the change in the charge(s) in base. We think it squeaks by.

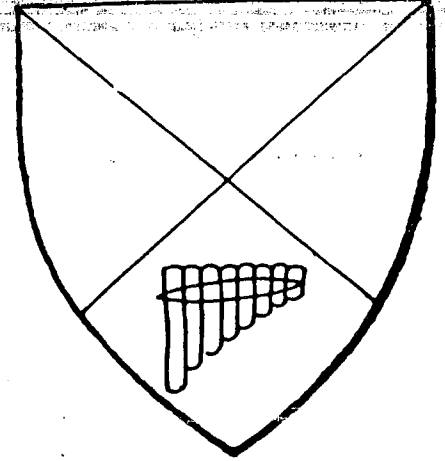
4. DAVID



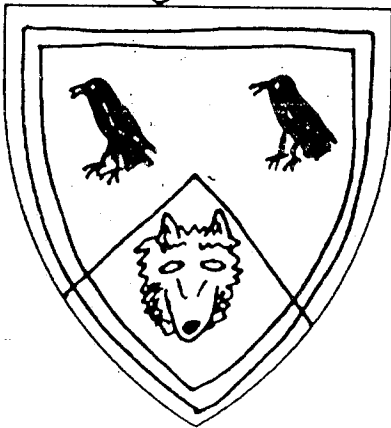
8. JESSICA



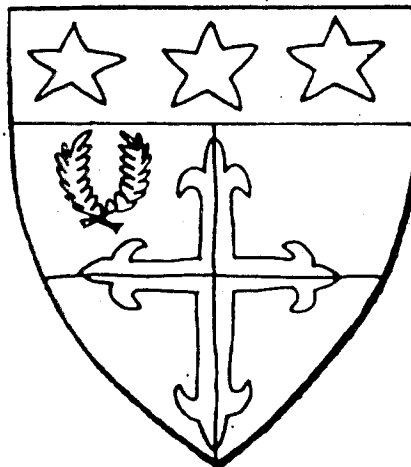
9. KAREL



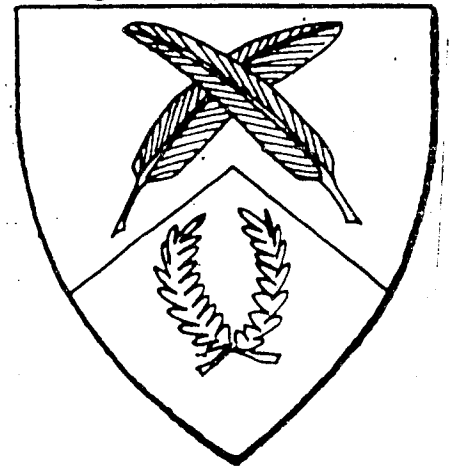
11. Myfanwy



15. ST JULIAN



16. ST MONICA



The following submissions were RETURNED by the Vesper Principal Herald of the Kingdom of the West on 11th September XXIII (1988):

Cyradd Uchel, Shire of (Lochac)

name and device returned

Per chevron Or and azure, in cross a castle triple-towered, two laurel wreaths and a hand in benediction coupé counterchanged.

This name and device were pended from the July meeting until Vesper recieved a copy of the group's petition. The name is Welsh, and is supposed to mean "Shire of (the) High Reaches", as in "High Mountainous Place Out There". However, the literal translation of what was submitted is "High Striving". This is not the sort of place-name used by the Welsh, who normally refer to some concrete object, rather than to an ideal. As they allowed no changes, the name is being returned to the group with some ideas for names with similar sounds and/or meanings. The device is a bit busy, but appears to be free of conflict. When the group decides on a name, the device will be reconsidered.

STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS

The West Kingdom *Minutes* for October arrived just as I was preparing this month's *Camel* for mailing. Therefore...

The following submissions were passed by the Vesper Principal Herald of the Kingdom of the West on 9th October XXIII (1988), and were SUBMITTED to the Laurel Queen of Arms:

6. Giles Leabrook (Innilgard) new name and device

Erminois, a saltire flory purpure.

According to Withycombe, "Giles" was a very popular name in France during our period. Cottle, The Penguin Book of Surnames, p. 214, cites "Leabrook" as a surname derived from an Old English placename.

- James the Unknown (Stormhold) new name only

"James" ought not to need documentation; "the Unknown" is a common epithet. We determined that this name does NOT conflict by translation with that registered to "James Qui Connait", which means (in French), "James Who Knows".

12. Lachlan Tadhg (Innilgard) new name and device

Gules, on a sun argent, a boar's head erased gules and on a base argent, a trefoil gules.

"Lachlan" was a very common Scots given name. It is cited in Withycombe on page 190. "Tadhg" is the genitive form of the given name "Tadc", cited in O' Corrain and Maguire p. 168. The device is close to, but clear of, the device of Conroy der Rote, "Gules, on a sun argent a falcon's leg couped a-la-quoise proper". There is a point and a minor for adding a charged base, and another additive minor for the change of type and colour of the tertiary.

15. Rowanna Nachteule (Riverhaven) name and device resubmission

Sable, a sword bendwise argent between two owls Or.

The given name is made-up. It could be a variation of either the given name "Rowan", (judged to be compatible with SCA use), or of "Rowena", which Withycombe, (p. 259) says was originated by Geoffrey of Monmouth (1200's) who bestowed it upon the daughter of the Saxon chieftan Hengist. As there are two closely related English given names similar to this, we think that "Rowanna" should be compatible with the SCA. "Nachteule" is German, and means "nightowl". The device is radically redesigned from her original submission, (which was also quite nice and had no problems).

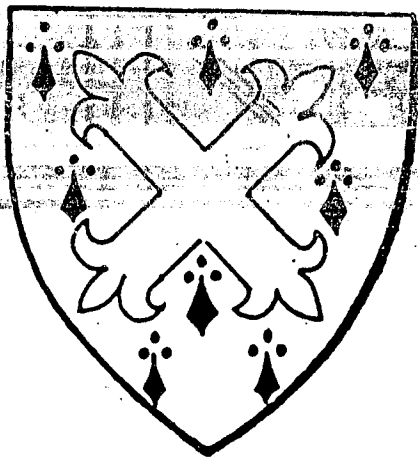
16. West Kingdom - Aquarius Pursuivant heralds title resubmission

This is the proposed title for the Pursuivant for the Barony of Riverhaven in the Principality of Lochac. They previously submitted "Hippocampus Pursuivant", which was found to be in conflict by translation with the herald's title registered to the East Kingdom for the "Seahorse Pursuivant".

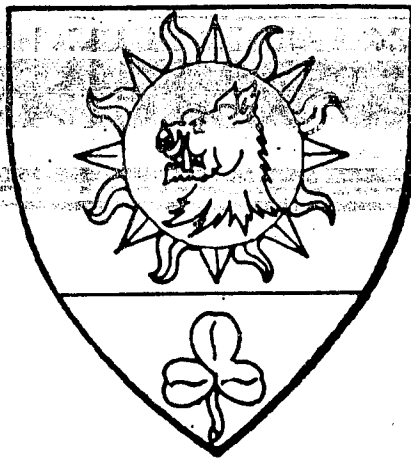
17. West Kingdom - Goutte d'Eau Pursuivant new heralds title

This is the proposed title for the Pursuivant for the Barony of Stormhold in the Principality of Lochac. It alludes to the gouttes on their arms and the dampness in their air - to which the Principal Herald can attest.

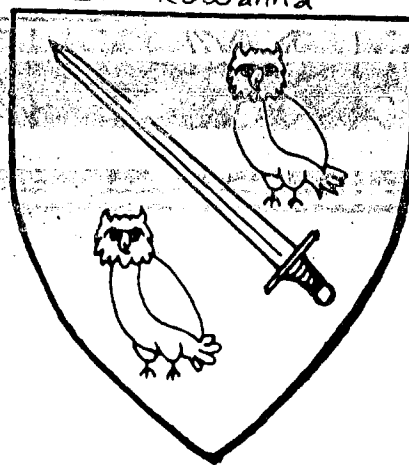
6. Giles



12. Lachlan



15. Rowanna



The following submissions were RETURNED by the Vesper Principal Herald of the Kingdom of the West on 9th October XXIII (1988):

Aine of the Hounds (Riverhaven) device submission returned, name pending

Azure, two piles in point inverted throughout ermine between two nautilus shells, the dexter pile charged with a Rottweiler's head couped, the sinister pile charged with an Irish Wolfhound's head couped and facing sinister, all proper.

This device has been previously returned by the Crux Australis Herald in the Principality of Lochac for poor style. The submitter has appealed that return to Vesper. I concur with Crux Australis' return and am returning this device because it has several major stylistic problems. The first problem is the excessive use of proper. While there are a very few charges that can only be identified if they are rendered in their proper, or natural, tinctures, ("an orange tree fructed" comes immediately to mind as a example), in this case, heraldic tinctures could be used without seriously compromising the identifiability of the charges.

The second stylistic problem is the dissimilar tertiaries. The primary use of heraldry is for identification, and while two identical dogs heads as tertiaries would not be easily identified, two dissimilar ones are impossible to distinguish at any distance greater than a few feet. (This is assuming that this device were to be depicted on a standard sized shield or banner.) The third problem is that while the Rottweiler's head "proper" is a nice dark brown and black, an Irish Wolfhound's head "proper" is a silver grey. It has been previously ruled by several Laurel Sovereigns of Arms that silver grey does not have sufficient contrast against argent, (or against a metal-based field like ermine), and that the use of proper may not circumvent the Rule of Tincture. As drawn, the Irish Wolfhound's head on the ermine pile is effectively "argent, fimbriated and detailed sable". This is what is called "thin-line heraldry", and it is unacceptable.

The fourth problem is an odd one. Mirror symmetry is a more modern introduction into heraldic style and in a truly medieval device, both dog's heads would be facing the same direction. (With the exception of beasts combattant or addorsed, most objects in medieval heraldry always faced the same way.) Mirror symmetry is not unacceptable in SCA heraldic design, (although the submitter will be told that it is less authentic), but this device combines both bilateral symmetry, (the shells), and mirror symmetry, (the dogs heads.) It would be improved if either the dogs heads were facing the same way, or the shells were "addorsed" also!

The submitter did allow some stylistic changes. She would allow the nautilus shells to be argent and/or would allow the dogs heads to be blazoned as "two mastiffs' heads sable". However, in her letter of appeal to Crux Australis, she indicated that she intended to display her device, if passed, with the heads of a Rottweiler and an Irish Wolfhound, no matter how it was blazoned. Changing the shells to argent and instructing the scribes to render them as "proper" is a very small artistic difference, and is the sort of thing that we like to recommend to

submitters who want "proper" charges. However, the difference between "two mastiffs' heads sable" and "a Rottweiler's head and an Irish Wolfhound's head, both proper" is much more significant. While one could tinker with the emblazon of a "mastiffs' heads sable" to easily make it into something closely resembling a Rottweiler's head, there is a LARGE difference in shape between a mastiff's head and an Irish Wolfhound's head, and a very significant difference in colour. In view of the submitter's declared intent to not display her device as registered if we blazon it in the only way it could pass, I am returning this submission.

We will be writing to the submitter explaining the return in some detail, and suggesting some alternate designs that might give her the elements of her device that she wants, while staying within the bounds of heraldic acceptability.

Stormhold, Barony of - Order of the Silver Drakkar
Order of the Golden Drakkar

new order names

These names are in conflict with the title registered to the Kingdom of Atlantia for "Drakkar Pursuivant". The Rules for Submission specifically state that order names will be checked for conflict against heraldic titles as well as against awards and household names. According to the Rules (NR24a & b.), the addition of an adjectival phrase is not sufficient difference. The Order of the Silver Drakkar is also in conflict with the title registered to the East Kingdom for "Silver Dragon Pursuivant".