

Herald's Point

*Newsletter for the Heralds of the
Kingdom of Atlantia
July AS XXV, being the 2000th year of Our Lord*

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Greetings from Rhiannon!

I hope you've all been having a lovely summer and are ready for Pennsic! Many, many things to discuss today, so let's get started...

QUARTERLY REPORTS

Another quarter has ended and I'm now due reports from all of you. This quarter covers the period from April 1st to June 30th. You can retrieve the form from the web page (<http://www.herald.atlantia.sca.org>) and yes, I will accept them on email. I purged the roster recently of a number of deputies and at-larges who just couldn't be bothered to report, so get those reports on in so I don't have to clean house further... Reports are due to me by July 31st.

PENNSIC

Well, Pennsic is coming soon and we have our usual activities planned. We won't be accepting submissions from the main war consult table, but Mistress Alisoun will be running the Atlantian consult table with me on Tuesday of war week from 1-5 p.m. in House Corvus camp. We're in N7 on the Serengeti and we are the camp with the long row of blue light lanterns along our road frontage and all period tents. Alisoun is going to publish notice in the Pennsic newspaper too, so by that time, she'll be able to tell you exactly where we'll be. Also, Master Bran will be taking us on the 4th Annual Atlantian Walking Tour of Heraldry. The tour leaves from the gates of Atlantian Royal at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday and lasts about an hour. It's a great way to get ideas on heraldic display, learn a little about heraldry and experience the ambiance of heraldry in action and use.

OFFICER CHANGEOVERS

The Kingdom officers have decided to make officer changeovers a bit more uniform. From now on, in order to change heralds, I must receive a warrant request (either by postal or e-mails) from not only the *hopeful* new officer, but also the seneschal and one other officer of the group. If this isn't received, then the request will be ignored. And folks, make sure your groups realize it is *just a request*. Just because you held a vote at your canton meeting, doesn't make Bob Bowplucker your new herald. It's MY choice whether or not to warrant him. I get a little annoyed when I get a letter "telling me" that Bob is Anygroup's new herald. So do the other K-officers. Didn't anybody read Corwyn's June letter???

ROSTER

By now, I hope everybody that has Internet access has checked out the new web page. If not, please do so and verify that your contact info is correct on the roster. Once you've verified that I've got the right info for you, please drop me a quick note and let me know whether or not you wish your contact info on the web page. Quite frankly, I think it's very handy for people who are looking for heraldic help, because they are able to tell at a glance whether you live near them and also gives them other options besides email for reaching you. All you need to state in your note to me is either: (1) Yes, you may publish my contact info on the Atlantian CoH page; or (2) Please publish only the following contact info for me on the Atlantian CoH page (and then set out what you wish published). These responses will go into a permanent file.

OTHER WEB PAGE STUFF

Also, if you haven't been to the web page lately, cruise by and check out the various articles and stuff we've put up to help you do your job. Have you played that heraldry game yet?

COURT EDUCATION

Duke Gyrth Oldcastle has taken on the position of Conch Herald. He will now be in charge of education of court heralds and assisting you with protocol questions. You can still come to me, but I thought maybe two resources might make things easier for you. Plus, I hope to get a few articles out of him... (wink)

HYGIENE

Yes, I know this is an odd topic, however, it's been on my mind a lot lately. Perhaps that has something to do with the fact that years of allergy medicine have given me a hyperactive sense of smell and I work during the week in a job where the great, unwashed masses come into my office... For some reason, a lot people filing bankruptcy seem to have abandoned soap (and evidently water too). And it's summer... Anyhoo, here are my thoughts on this and how it relates to heraldry. We are performing a job as officers and representatives of the Society. It behooves us to maintain a certain degree of professionalism and helps instill confidence in our abilities. Now, I don't know about you guys, but when I encounter someone who is sloppy, dirty or generally disheveled in their appearance, it causes me to doubt their abilities. I'm not saying anybody needs to go out and buy fancier clothes, nor am I accusing anyone in the CoH of being unkempt. Rather, I'm suggesting that this is an aspect of your heraldic professional life that should be considered by one and all. To present a neat, clean, organized demeanor is to inspire our submitters, monarchs, etc. to be comfortable in our abilities. One small thing I've done to further this myself is to add a box of breath mints to my herald's kit (and my MoL box). Just in case... I would recommend that to all heralds. And you never know when that might work to your advantage when you get that submitter who had the onion sandwich for lunch. You can casually take out your mints and after taking one yourself (for never should one presume they themselves are above odor; bad breath can happen to the best of us), leave them out on the consult table between you and offer (GENTLY AND POLITELY) him one! He probably doesn't realize the onions haven't subsided...

PROMOTIONS

And now that I've offended half the college, it's time to recognize your compadres who have excelled and achieved a new rank. I do so want to thank each and every one of you for the diligence and care you show. Please join me in congratulating the following individuals:

Promoted to Pursuivant Extraordinary

Aedric the Greene

Ceridwen Merc Tudwal Penwyn

Corun MacAnndra

Maire inghean Dhunchain mhic Oisdealbhaigh

Promoted to Pursuivant

Edvard Gayer

Leifr Johansson

Matsudaira Toshiyori

Bryce de Byrum

So, until we next meet (and you all breathe onion breath on me), remember, it's summer...
WATER IS OUR FRIEND!!!

Love you all,
Rhiannon, Triton

TINCTURES

Tincture is the term used to mean the color of a device or coat of arms. There are three categories of tinctures: colors, metals, and furs.

There are five colors used in the SCA. These are:

Heraldic Color Name	Common Color Name
Sable	Black
Gules	Red
Azure	Blue
Vert	Green
Purpure	purple

There are additionally four other colors that are very rarely used in mundane heraldry post period but we do not use them in the SCA. They are bleu-celeste (sky blue), murrey (mulberry), sanguine (blood red), and tenné (orange). If a device is submitted to you that has a blazon that includes one of those four colors, or is colored such that the red looks orange or pink, then the submission must either be reblazoned (depending on how it is colored in) or recolored. Sable,

gules and azure were the most commonly used of the colors in period. Vert is more rare than ermine, a fur, and purpure is so rarely used as to be almost unnoticeable. You will find out that purpure is overused in the SCA.

There are two metals used in heraldry. These are:

Heraldic Metal Name	Common Metal Name and Color
Or	Gold - yellow
Argent	Silver - white

The Rules of Submissions in the SCA state that a color may not be put on a color, nor a metal on a metal. This is largely upheld by general period practice, but you will find some examples in period of color on a color and metal on a metal.

The furs are a combination of a metal and a color that is drawn in a way to represent the fur of common European animals, predominantly squirrels. The furs are:

Heraldic Fur Name	Heraldic Classification	Common Fur Name
Ermine	Metal	White/Silver with Black "Tails" on it
Counter-Ermine	Color	Black with White/Silver "Tails" on it
Erminois	Metal	Yellow/Gold with Black "Tails" on it
Pean	Color	Black with Yellow/Gold "Tails" on it
Vair	Neutral	A design of horizontal blue and white rows of objects shaped like the top of the Washington Monument - one row has the points up and the next one has them down - the rows fit into each other such that a point up is right next to a point down

There is also a variant on vair called potent, which is the same color combination as vair, but instead of points resembling the top of the Washington Monument the design has in essence capital letter T's. Another variation on vair is called vair en pointe and in this case all the points line up such that all points going up are on top of those going down.

For the purposes of the no metal on metal rule, each fur is taken on its own case. The field color determines which class it falls into. Vair is considered neutral based on its equal division of both metal and color just as potent is.

Please note that the SCA, to avoid typographical errors, uses the term "counter-ermine" to describe the black background with white/silver tails, while period sources call that tincture 'ermine'.

NOTICE

Any Atlantian heralds who wish to have letters of commentary included in the Atlantian LOI packet should contact Lord Blaise de Cormeilles at blaise@scadian.net or (703) 941-6162 (NLT 11PM).

From the Editor

Greetings all from Lady Mordeyrn Tremayne!

The newsletter is available electronically at: <http://herald.atlantia.sca.org>

All members who have email addresses are informed via email when the issue is available. Those who do not have web access will be mailed a copy.

The full College of Herald's of Atlantia Roster is available at <http://herald.atlantia.sca.org>. It will now longer be maintained on my personal website.

If you have articles you wish printed in the next edition, please send them via email to angelanc@lucent.com as a text file or in Word. At this time, the next issue is going to be very bare, as I have more articles... here's your chance to shine!

In service to Crown and Kingdom,
Mordrea

The Legal Stuff

Herald's Point is the newsletter for the members of the College of Herald's of Atlantia. This is the July 2000 issue. This newsletter is published quarterly (March, July, September, December) and is available from Lady Mordeyrn Tremayne (Angela Pincha-Neel) 125 Oakridge Ave, Fayetteville, NC 28305. Herald's Point is not a corporate publication of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA) and does not delineate SCA policies. Herald's Point DOES delineate Heraldic policies as they relate to the Kingdom of Atlantia. Corrections and updates should be sent to the Triton Principal Herald, Mistress Rhiannon Ui Neill.