

Herald's Point

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

Greetings from Rhiannon, Once and STILL
Triton!

Well, I know you are all very confused and so am I. But it looks like I'm staying on for a while longer. I am advised that Laurel has declined to warrant Master Bran due to objections she received. I have received no information as to what those objections might have been. You may contact Laurel directly with any questions or opinions. I am sorry, however, that you are going to miss out on Bran's unique approach and enthusiasm. I think he would have been a nice change of pace and of great benefit to the College of Heralds and Kingdom.

On to other matters. I have asked Duke Gyrth to assume the duties and title of Conch Herald. The Conch Herald is in charge of court heraldry education, protocol and ceremony questions. Hopefully, he and I can coordinate more classes along these lines, because I know there are many who wonder about such things...

Speaking of protocol and such, there is one small thing I need to discuss and that is forms of address. I have noted over the past couple of months that some heralds have taken to using the form of "Jane, Lady Doe" when calling people into court. Unfortunately, folks, although this is a very period form of address, it is specifically prohibited by Corpora VII.c.1. "Jane, Lady

Doe" implies "landedness" or ownership of geographic areas, which in the Society is only allowed as an attribute of the Crown, Territorial Prince/ess and Territorial Baron/ess. The proper form to use is "Lady Jane Doe".

Gulf Wars was great! Put it on your calendar for next year!!!

Be courteous; be helpful; be happy!

Rhiannon

The Ordering Of Precedence In The Kingdom Of Atlantia

By Lady Isabella Benalcázar
Sea Urchin Herald
(Mka Anne Dorwart)

The Order of Precedence (OP) is the system of rank used in the Society for Creative Anachronism. It is a hierarchy of awards that determines the placement of each rank with respect to each other. This system is frequently called upon to organize processions, which are done according to the Order of March. The Order of March is the reverse Order of Precedence. The OP records awards that are more or less permanent awards. One is only king for six months but will have their ducal title for life. The OP tells us who got what when and how that award relates to other awards.

The highest rank belongs to those gentles who have sat on the throne as King and Queen more than once. At the end of their second reign, they become Dukes and Duchesses. The next rank is for those who have been a monarch once. After their reign ends, both the former king and the former queen receive Patents of Arms (PoA's) and are given the rank of Count and Countess (Dukes and Duchesses already have their

PoA's as one must first be a Count or Countess before becoming a Duke or Duchess). Then come Viscounts and Viscountesses. These are individuals who have sat on the throne of a Principality. While Atlantia currently does not have a Principality, we recognize the Viscounty rank from other kingdoms and place it in our OP accordingly.

After the royal peers come all members of peerage orders. They are the Chivalry (which consists of Knights and Masters of Arms), Laurels, Pelicans and the Order of the Rose. Knights and Masters of Arms are awarded for excellence in fighting, honor and chivalry; Laurels for excellence in the arts; and Pelicans for exceptional service. The Order of the Rose is an order for former royal consorts, and in Atlantia, the Rose is equal to the other 3 peerage orders, but this is not the case in all kingdoms. Among themselves the members of the peerage orders rank the same, and they all are given Patents of Arms. A Laurel is the same as a Pelican is the same as a Knight. However if a procession occurs or one must determine who is the highest ranking person present, then one takes into consideration the date that the peer became a peer. A Knight who was made a knight in 1988 would "outrank" a Laurel who became a Laurel in 1994. This means that the Laurel would walk before the Knight in a Procession, as the Order of March puts people in reverse precedence order. This is true for all ranks within the OP from Dukes all the way down to baronial awards. After the members of the peerage orders come Territorial Barons and Baronesses. Please note that some kingdoms do not put the territorial barons or baronesses so high in their Orders of Precedence. The above system - Dukes, Counts, Viscounts, Peers - is pretty much a Society standard but some kingdoms place

the Territorial Barons and Baronesses lower in their Order of Precedence.

After the Territorial Barons and Baronesses come those members of Orders of High Merit. These orders convey upon their members a Grant of Arms. Currently Atlantia does not have any Orders of High Merit but it does recognize that such orders exist in other kingdoms. A person who moves into Atlantia will retain their place in the OP despite the lack of a corresponding Atlantian Order of High Merit.

Then come those who hold their arms by grant (Grant of Arms or GoA). Next are those members of an Atlantian Order of Merit and those who are members of other kingdoms' similar orders. An Order of Merit conveys upon its members an Award of Arms (AoA) if the person does not already have one. In Atlantia we have the Pearl (excellence in the arts), the Golden Dolphin (excellence in service), the Sea Stag (excellence in fighting) and the White Scarf (excellence in rapier). After the members of Atlantian or another kingdom's Orders of Merit are those members of a foreign Principality Order of Merit and then those of a foreign Baronial Order of Merit. These two orders still convey an Award of Arms. Please note that no barony in Atlantia has the right to award arms with their baronial orders and we do not currently have a principality. Next come Supporters. This is an unusual category. Supporters are a special privilege granted to an individual to use a beast of some variety to "support" their arms. These beasts appear to be holding up a coat of arms on the side of the shield. They are not registerable via the College of Heraldry. Supporters are granted by the Monarchs very rarely, and the particular beast is usually specified. The most common supporter granted in this kingdom is the seahorse.

Court Barons and Baronesses are below supporters. Then is the Royal Mandarin of the Court. This award was given out only once in Atlantia's history to Master Vuong Mahh before Atlantia was a kingdom. I do not know why, nor has it been given since. Next come what is known as the "Armigers Simple." These are the people who have Awards of Arms. Again as in all the estates of rank listed above, an AoA ranks the same as another AoA save for a procession that employs the Order of March (an AoA which was granted in 1992 would march after one granted in 1994).

The above awards are the only ones which technically carry "precedence." In the mid 1990s Atlantia began listing in the OP the other kingdom and baronial awards that are below AoAs. On this list, Kingdom awards come next. These awards may or may not be considered in the Order of March at the discretion of the royal or territorial baron/ess who is presiding over the procession. Atlantian awards include the Kraken (fighting - given to nonbelted fighters only), the Queen's Order of Courtesy, the King's Award of Excellence, the Undine (personal service to the Queen given at Her discretion), the Silver Nautilus (extraordinary achievement in the arts), the Nonpareil (given only once per reign this award recognizes courtesy, honor, and chivalry above the call of duty), the Yew Bow (archery), the Academie d'Espee (rapier award - no longer given now that the White Scarf Treaty has been signed), the Shark's Tooth (acts of valor on behalf of the kingdom), the Sea Urchin (for children under 16), and the Hippocampus (for children who are under 16 who already have a Sea Urchin). . Augmentation of Arms are also listed in this category. Augmentations are granted by the Monarchs for exceptional service and are registerable via the College

of Arms of the Society. (In fact such registration is highly encouraged by heralds.)

Next in the OP listing are those kingdom level awards from other kingdoms which do not carry precedence. They are considered to be equivalent to Atlantian awards when doing the Order of March if the procession includes them. Then would be listed those Principality awards that rank below an AoA. Awards from Atlantian baronies are then listed. Finally those baronial awards from baronies outside of Atlantia are listed.

It is the responsibility of the Kingdom Clerk of Precedence to maintain the kingdom OP in alphabetical order (in order to make it easier to locate individuals). Baronial, shire and other group heralds are responsible for maintaining an Order of Precedence for their members. Local group heralds are also responsible for assisting the Kingdom Clerk of Precedence by informing him or her when an individual has moved into Atlantia from another kingdom. Each time a court is held - baronial or royal - the presiding herald must submit a court report to Triton Principal Herald of Atlantia, the Kingdom Clerk of Precedence, the individuals who held the court, and the local group herald within two weeks of the court so the records may be updated. The kingdom OP is available on the web through a connection from the Atlantian homepage.

So to summarize, the Order of Precedence is the system that determines which award ranks where among the list of awards that are present in our Society. Those members of the same award are ranked equally in the Order of Precedence, but not in the Order of March. The Order of March is that system by which processions are organized based on the highest award an individual has received and differentiates between those of

equal rank by the dates that individuals received their awards.

Creating An Order of Precedence

By: Mistress Isabella

1. Download/print out the kingdom OP from the web page or ask another person with web access to help you with this.
2. Highlight the names of people who are in your group. Have someone else who has been in your group longer than you have also review this list. Remember that Atlantia does not delete people who have moved from its OP listing. Therefore there might be several individuals who are listed as being “of <insert your group name>” on the list. It is up to you whether you do or do not choose to list people who have moved from your group on your OP. The kingdom will carry them regardless.
3. Put the list of names in alphabetical order. Then compare these names with the SCA Armorial and make sure to have the correct spelling of all registered names. Also make sure you have the correct blazons for their registered devices.
4. Double check all names to see if anyone on your list got their award under a different name than they registered (for example if John of Bright Hills got his AoA and then registered his name as Antonio Rivera de Trujillo) and make note of that. All such instances of this sort need to be reported to the Kingdom Clerk of Precedence and Kingdom Clerk Signet as soon as possible. Additionally look at all the names to see if people are listed twice (such as Isabel of Arden-on-Severn and Isabelle of Arden-on-Severn). Please remember when doing court reports that all names need to be as correctly spelled as possible for the Kingdom Clerk of Precedence.
5. Compile the list of names with devices (when applicable) and awards in alphabetical order. Your basic OP listing will be done when this is finished.
6. To put this OP in precedence order, go through and first find all the people in your group who highest rank is that of a royal peer (duke/duchess, count/countess, viscount/viscountess) and make note of each peer and when he or she got raised to that rank. Do the same for all other ranks, making sure that you don't list a person more than twice. Then put each individual rank in date order, making sure the person who has had the award the longest is #1. Keep going for each rank/award and then put the list together. You now have an OP in precedence order.
7. Make sure to maintain your OP list by adding awards as you become aware of people having received them. Also keep an eye on people who have awards but no registered names or armory so that if they do register a name or device you can add that to the list. Again if someone who has an award registers a different name than the one under which he or she an award then you need to inform Kingdom Clerk of Precedence and Clerk Signet.
 1. Dukes & Duchesses
 2. Counts & Countesses

3. Viscounts & Viscountesses
4. Peerage Orders
 - ◆ Chivalry – Knights or Masters of Arms
 - ◆ Laurel
 - ◆ Pelicans
 - ◆ Order of the Rose
5. Territorial Barons & Baronesses
6. Kingdom Orders of High Merit (convey a GoA)
7. Grants of Arms
8. Kingdom Orders of Merit (convey a AoA)
9. Foreign Principality Orders of Merit
10. Foreign Baronial Orders of Merit
11. Supporters
12. Court Barons & Baronesses
13. Royal Mandarin of the Court
14. Awards of Arms
15. Kingdom level awards that do not carry precedence
16. Principality level awards that do not carry precedence
17. Baronial level awards that do not carry precedence

Example of an (fictional) OP listing:

John the Smith.

(Argent, three lions passant gules within a bordure embattled sable)

Companion of the Sea Stag	10/15/97
Award of Arms (East)	8/10/95
Kraken	4/25/96
Companion of Job (Bright Hills)	6/11/98
Service Award (Barony of Whatsit, East)	4/15/95

Please note that the current Kingdom Clerk of Precedence lists Atlantian orders and awards above foreign orders and awards when they rank the same, such as the Job of Bright Hills being listed above the Service Award of Whatsit. This does not affect the ranking of the awards when it comes to precedence or processions.

Order Of March

By Lady Isabella Benalcázar
Sea Urchin Herald
(Mka Anne Dorwart)

The Order of March is the way people line up to march in a procession. In Atlantia the biggest procession is held at Crown Tourney, where all the participants and their consorts march before the King and Queen and are introduced.

The procession is done in reverse Order of Precedence, with Dukes and Duchess marching last before the Monarchs, and those without any rank marching first. A Crown Tourney procession can be rather long as each fighter (and sometimes each consort) is introduced with his/her SCA registered name and device.

In the case of a Crown Tourney, the Kingdom Clerk of Precedence will supply you with index cards with the names and registered armory of each person involved in this procession. The herald begins the introduction by stating the name of the person fighting in the tourney and his/her arms. Then the herald introduces the consort. It should sound “Lord John the Bald bearing Argent three lions passant guardant gules within a bordure sable fighting for Lady Jane the Doe.” Each member of the procession walks in front of the Monarchs, bows and kneels before them. The Monarchs usually exchange some words with them and then those participants walk off the field. The Order of March in this case is determined by the rank of the tourney participant.

In a regular procession, it is the presiding herald's job to place individuals in their order. If there is a married couple or a set of significant others who wish to walk together, then the Order of March is determined usually by the highest ranking person in each couple. The presiding herald needs to list everyone's registered name in the procession; devices and/or awards are optional and are to be used at the group's discretion. For example, in the Barony of the Western Seas in the Kingdom of Caid, a procession lists the awards of each individual but not their devices. However some processions list each person and his or her device instead of the respective alphabet soups of each person.

It is recommended that a group herald who is running a procession have a predetermined time and place for people participating to gather beforehand. The presiding herald should have a precedence list of their group beforehand so this part is easier. I recommend having index cards of each person on your precedence list with each person's name, device, or awards depending on how you are going to announce this procession. This should facilitate matters as you can pair off cards if there is a couple who wishes to process and you can write up a card if you need one. I recommend that you determine who should process - i.e. the entire group or just those who have AoAs and above. One should also have a stated decision regarding significant others who do not meet the required basic criteria (such as Lord John the Smith wanting to march with his new girlfriend who has only been to two events previously). Hint to the presiding herald - have other people help you, especially other heralds.

If you get everyone lined up and ready to go at least fifteen minutes before the procession is to start, you will find that the whole thing will go smoothly. Have a place for each person/couple to stand as they wait their turn to process. Have a place that the next person/couple waits just before marching. Have the manner of the march - where they walk from, walk to, walk after their turn is over - determined and make sure it is communicated to the people in the procession, especially your first three or four couples. (Remember people often follow those in front of them).

It is recommended that this procession be timed so as to coincide with the beginning of a court. If you have a baronial court that day at five, have the procession be at four or four thirty (depending on how many are processing) and that way everyone processes into court, presents themselves to Their Excellencies, and then court begins. Please coordinate this procession with the autocrat, the cooks, the marshal in charge, and the individuals holding court. You do not want to schedule a procession at four if the tournament is not scheduled to end until five nor do you want a procession at five if dinner is to be served at six, which is supposedly "after court." If you want to have a non-stress related procession as a practice, I recommend trying out a small one at a local barony meeting or Christmas party (or wherever) to see about logistics.

Processions can be a neat way of including more pomp and circumstance into the event of your choice. Entering into court or feast halls with a procession can add much to the grandeur of the day.

Just remember to have it organized as much as possible and to expect that Lord Murphy and his Law might be in full effect. In any case, as long as the group is willing and the procession is made to be fun, it will go off well.

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 Mordeym Tremayne!

The newsletter is available electronically at:
<http://www.angelfire.com/ak3/checkylady/HeraldPMar2000.html>

It is also available 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 Heralds 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 June edition, please send them via email to angelanc@lucent.com as a text file or in Word.

In service to Crown and Kingdom,

Mordrea

The Legal Stuff

Herald's Point is the newsletter for the members of the College of Heralds of Atlantia. This is the March 2000 issue. This newsletter is published quarterly (March, July, September, December) and is available from Lady Mordeym 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
