

# **A Letter from Triton**

nto the hard-working members of the Atlantian College of Heralds, greetings from a thawing Triton.



As we near the end of the first quarter in 2010 and, coincidentally, my first quarter as Triton, I'd like to thank those members of the College who did not miss a single report in 2009: Lady Amye Elizabeth Barrington, Lady Caitríona inghean Ghiolla Phádraig, Catherine of Cyddlain Downs, Cian mac Ceallacháin Uí Dubhlaich, Lady Elena Modarova vnuka, Master Evan da Collaureo, Herrin Gisela vom Kreuzbach, Lady Glynis Gwynedd, Lord Gormr Domarsson, Dame Hróðny Rognvaldsdottir, Lady Isolda de Crosthwaite, Baron Lucien de La Rochelle, Lady Marie Hélène of the New Forest, Lord Mathias von Oldenburg, Baroness Metylda the Cunning, Baroness Rhonwen verch Tuder, Lord Rónán mac an Stalcair, Lady Rosanella Vespucci, Lady Sian verch Gwilim ap Lewelin, Mistress Sunniva Kyrre, Talorgen Hersir nepos Wrguist, Lady Thyra Olafsdottir, and Lady Wynne ferch Rhodri ap Hywell.

I wanted to do something fun to recognize the dedication demonstrated by the heralds above so I put each person's name in a hat and, with the help of Her Royal Majesty, a perfect reporting prize was awarded to the Cyddlain Downs Pursuivant, Cian mac Ceallacháin Uí Dubhlaich at the Tourney of Ymir. Once a month for 2010, an Atlantian event fee will be reimbursed to Cian. Just a small token of gratitude for going that extra mile with his reports, just as so many of you go that extra mile in the pursuit of your own heraldic duties.

While quarterly reports may seem tedious to you, they are very important to me – as I use them for a wide variety of purposes – not the least of which is to track your individual progress as heralds within the Atlantian College. The online reporting form at <a href="http://herald.atlantia.sca.org/quarterly.htm">http://herald.atlantia.sca.org/quarterly.htm</a> has been simplified to allow fast, easy reporting. There really isn't any excuse not to report. And, who knows what this year's perfect reporting prize might be!

Thank you to Kraken and Shark's Tooth for their assistance in tracking not only the reports as a whole, but also the many details contained within those reports. The Master Roster I maintain for the College not only tracks your quarterly reports, but also your required, annual, continuing education credit, your membership information (you all need to be paid members of the Society), your current contact info, and more. So, you can see how important it is to report and keep all of that information up to date.

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The Atlantian College of Heralds has seen its numbers grow this quarter. Welcome to our newest members: Aoife Bain as Black Diamond's new Cornet, Lord Christian Thomas of York as Charlesbury Crossing's new Cornet, Lady Jonet Nycholl as Windmasters' Hill's new Cornet, Maestra Julianna Fiorentini as Misty Marsh-by-the-Sea's new Cornet, Lachlann McQuhollastar as Tir-y-Don's new Cornet, Lady Nuala ingen Magnusa as

Middlegate's new Cornet, Lady Palfi Jozsa as Sudentorre's new Cornet, Rhiannon Morgaine and Lord Seamus the Tinker as a new at-large Cornets, and Sorcha inghean mhic Dhubhghaill as a new Cornet and deputy baronial herald to Hawkwood.

It is very exciting to see so many branches gain new heralds. We still need branch heralds in Baelfire Dunn, Buckston-on-Eno, Caer Gelynniog, Falcon Cree, Iles des Diamants, Rencester, Ritterwald, Rivers Point, Salesberie Glen, Seareach, and Yarnvid. If you're an at-large living in or near one of those branches, please consider volunteering to serve that branch as an officer. Or, if being a branch officer doesn't fit into your personal agenda, try to help groom someone for that position. The College's members and the superb consult tables organized throughout Atlantia certainly help with our overall customer service. But nothing beats a herald "on the ground" serving as a local branch officer. Let's strive for 100% coverage this year!

Of course, Baroness Tegan de Moreton has stepped up as our new Undine Pursuivant, filling the enormous shoes left behind by our former Clerk Signet, Mistress Sunniva Kyrre. Mistress Sunniva will still be serving in the Atlantian College of Heralds as a Pursuivant-at-Large.

Due to his extensive heraldic knowledge and background, Master Tristan Alexander has joined the CoH as a Pursuivant Extraordinary-at-large in Bright Hills.

This quarter saw several well-deserved promotions within the CoH. Congratulations again to Dame Hróðny Rognvaldsdottir on being named Sable Trident Pursuivant. Joining her as a titled Pursuivant is Lady Wynne ferch Rhodri ap Hywell as the Barony of Bright Hills' Northern March Pursuivant.

In addition, the following *former* Cornets have been promoted to Pursuivant Extraordinary: Bertran de Saint Jean. Donngal mac Ronain, Jean-Claude de Lyon, Metylda the Cunning, Rónán mac an Stalcair. Congratulations and thank you for your continuing efforts on behalf of heraldry within the Society.

After consultation with both Nereid and Sea Stag, as well as input from the entire CoH via the Atlantian Heralds' List and private e-mails, I have decided to postpone the Atlantian Herald's & Scribe's Symposium until the Fall. While the offerings would be far more elaborate than the University of Atlantia schedule would permit, I also want to be certain that we're doing nothing to undermine our efforts at the various Universities. Ibis hit the nail on the head when he reminded me that our goals with an Atlantian Herald's & Scribe's Symposium won't be seen as a conflict with University if it has the right focus. That is, the Symposium would be a unique opportunity for just heralds and scribes to gather to "(1) get to know each other, (2) share procedures and ideas, and (3) go in-depth on things that would make non-heralds hang themselves." To that end, I would like to plan something for the Fall and schedule it half way between the Fall and Winter University sessions.

It has also been suggested that Atlantia bid to host next year's (2011) Known World Heraldic Symposium. This is a great idea and one which I'll pursue in all due course.

In the meantime, continue to learn, grow, and share your knowledge with those around you. Together, we make the College, the Kingdom, and the Society a better place. Thank you for that.

I remain,
BRAN TREFONNEN
Triton

## A Word from the Newsletter Editor

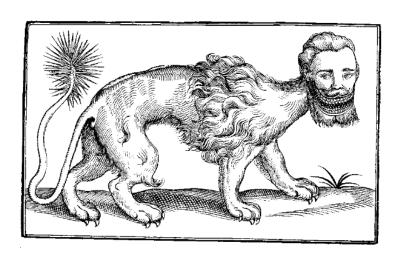
Greetings once again from Lady Patricia of Trakai!

This edition of *your* heraldic newsletter features Master Bran's welcoming letter. It has a lot of important heraldic information in it. Even if you've been a member of the CoH for a while now, you might want to review it – every Triton does things just a wee bit differently.

And speaking of Tritons ... does anyone have a list of all the Triton Principal Heralds going back to the founding of Atlantia? I know who's been Triton since I got interested in heraldry circa A.S. XXXIX, and I know that Mistress Moira was the very first Triton ... but what happened in between? I may start a discussion on the Atlantian Heralds' mailing list, but in the meantime, please feel free to respond.

Finally, I want to remind you that I need contributions. Remember, this is *your* heraldic newsletter. I aim to facilitate learning and communication through this publication, but given the depth of Atlantia's heraldic team, teaching is not a one-person job. And besides, if I don't get more contributions, I'll have to start filling the pages with silly stuff, like a comparison of me to my heraldic title's beast (guess which one is which?). ©





In service,

Lady Patricia

Editor and Manticore Pursuivant

## WELCOME TO THE ATLANTIAN COLLEGE OF HERALDS

Now that you are a member of the Atlantian College of Heralds (CoH), here is some information the Triton office has compiled to help you understand your position, duties and responsibilities.

The Atlantian College of Heralds is the heraldic structure of the Kingdom of Atlantia. This is not the College of Arms, which you sometimes hear about. The College of Arms is the Society heraldic structure consisting of the Laurel Sovereign of Arms, the Principal Heralds for each kingdom and the commenters who help decide if a submission item can be registered within the SCA heraldic registry.

This letter is acknowledgment of your warrant as a herald. Triton issues written confirmation of warrant cards to individual members. It also maintains a roster of warranted heralds which is mailed to the CoH at least annually. The roster is also available online at the Herald's website: http://herald.atlantia.sca.org/

#### 1. WHAT THOSE WORDS ON THE ROSTER MEAN:

In order to track individual progress as heralds, the Atlantian College of Heralds employs a *System of Ranks* similar to that of other Colleges throughout the Society. Ranks are a relative indicator of the breadth of knowledge a herald may possess or their experience in a specific field of endeavor. The ranks employed in Atlantia are:

#### **CORNET**

This is the beginning rank of any herald. A herald holds this rank for the first year of their training. They work to gain the necessary skill set to better serve the populace in their chosen area of focus.

#### **PURSUIVANT EXTRAORDINARY**

This intermediate rank of herald possesses the basic skills of each area of heraldry. However, they are now concentrating study in more specific areas to gain a level of expertise that will better serve the populace.

#### **PURSUIVANT**

This rank represents special achievement in a herald's chosen area(s) of study. While they are competent in all areas of heraldic endeavor, they have gained significant expertise in one or more areas and *actively* pursue using that knowledge to serve the populace. In cases of exceptional knowledge or service, Triton may grant a title. Titled Pursuivants have specific duties within the CoH and retain that title only while serving in that position.

#### **HERALD**

This rank indicates expertise in all areas of heraldic endeavor and a commanding need to use that knowledge to serve the populace. Certain titles are bestowed upon Heralds only so long as a they serve a specific function within the CoH. Others may be bestowed permanently for extraordinary service.

#### 2. BEING A GROUP HERALD:

All Atlantian heralds MUST be paid members of the SCA. If you have not already done so, you should provide Triton with your membership number and expiration date. As a group herald, you report directly to Triton. You are also expected to provide courtesy copies of your reports to your group seneschal, baronial herald and Baron/ess (if applicable). It is recommended that you read Atlantian Red Tape (Kingdom law) and familiarize yourself with the structure and laws of our kingdom.

Each baronial level or higher group MUST have a warranted herald in order to be recognized and exist within the SCA. Therefore, the responsibilities and duties of Atlantian heralds in general are emphasized even more for group heralds. These duties include reporting, submission processing, serving as herald-in-charge at events, and handling courts as required.

#### 3. REPORTING:

ALL warranted heralds are required to file timely quarterly reports in order to maintain their warrants. With baronial level or higher group heralds, this requirement is imperative; failure to file can result in the suspension of your group, which (among other things) means it cannot host events.

The reporting periods are:

<u>Quarter:</u>	Covers Period:	Ends:	Report due by:		
1st	Jan 1st - Mar 31st	Mar 31	Apr 30		
2nd	Apr 1st - Jun 30th	Jun 30	Jul 31		
3rd	Jul 1st - Sep 30th	Sep 30	Oct 31		
4th	Oct 1st - Dec 31st	Dec 31	Jan 31		

A report should include anything you have done in your official capacity as a herald during the reporting period. You may submit reports via printed form, as an e-mail, or as (recommended) a brief, easily filled out online form found on the Atlantian Herald's website (http://herald.atlantia.sca.org/).

Considering the 30-day grace period between the end of a quarter and the due date of the report, and the ease of reporting in general, there is very little which excuses failure to report. Failure to report two (2) consecutive quarters can result in the suspension of your warrant, your removal as the herald for the group in question (if a group herald), and suspension of the group's status within the kingdom (if a baronial or higher group herald). Copies of your reports should be submitted to your Baronial superior (if applicable).

#### 4. SUBMISSION PROCESSING:

Until you are familiar with the submission and consultation process, you may wish to call in a more experienced herald to assist you with submissions. Minimum reference requirements for a training herald are the *Rules for Submission*. The Rules for Submission are maintained and updated by the Laurel Sovereign of Arms on an ongoing basis. They can be obtained from the SCA website (www.sca.org) through the heraldry link.

When consulting with a submitter, please try not to be overly critical or discouraging. If you see a direct violation of the Rules for Submission (say, color on color), advise the submitter of the potential problem and suggest they may wish to correct this prior to submitting it in order to save time. Offer viable alternatives which will correct the problem and maintain the original intent of their device. People are very protective of their ideas. If they are truly insistent about submitting the device, even though you think it will be returned, submit it anyway. If you were correct, the Golden Dolphin Herald (kingdom submissions herald) will validate your opinion by returning the item.

Treat the submitter as you yourself would want to be treated. Remember, we are here to serve and assist the populace in registering armory which pleases them. No one will be pleased with a herald who constantly tells submitters, "I don't like it. It's ugly. You can't register that." Remember our primary concern is good customer service. If you truly feel a device is unregisterable, you'd better have valid reasons for your opinion, such as direct violations of the Rules for Submission and in sensitive cases, call in a more experienced herald to assist with the consultation.

Procedures for how to handle submissions can be found on the Atlantian Herald's website (http://herald.atlantia.sca.org/). Please review these to ensure your submissions are not returned for improper paperwork. In addition, the only forms acceptable may also be found there online or from Triton.

NO older form versions or variances in size are permitted, per Laurel, so please be sure you are using the right edition of the forms. Submission prices are \$10.00 per element (as of 1/1/98), an element being either a device, name or badge. A person must submit a primary name in order to submit anything else; in addition to the primary name, each individual may register up to 3 other names and 4 pieces of armory. Recommended markers are the Crayola Classic Markers, due to their ability to hold their color over time.

Submissions are sent to the Golden Dolphin Herald, who handles all submission processing for Atlantia. His/her address can be located in the regnum of the Acorn or on the web site. It's a really good idea to keep a file copy of all submissions you process (including a copy of the check) in your own files, should the submission disappear in the mail. It's also a good way to keep track of your own activity and development in submissions processing, as you can go back and make notes of any changes that were made at kingdom or Laurel level.

#### 5. BEING A HERALD-IN-CHARGE (HiC) AT EVENTS:

As a herald-in-charge, you are expected to fulfill any heraldic duties required at the event or have them covered by additional heralds. A group herald generally serves as HiC at that group's events, with Triton acting as HiC at kingdom level events. The position of HiC may be delegated after consulting with the autocrat (and Crown, if applicable).

As herald-in-charge, you will be responsible for providing a tourney herald and announcement heralds and overseeing their heraldic performance. You can fulfill some of these duties yourself, but it is always advisable to have a spare herald available for announcements when you may be heralding the tourney and unavailable to go to the parking lot or where ever it is they need the announcement heralded.

As HiC, all announcements should go through you to be assigned to the announcement heralds. You must screen announcements for their suitability and timeliness. If an announcement is inappropriate or improperly timed, you may either refuse to announce it or defer to the autocrat for his/her ruling. If you aren't sure what might be appropriate, ask the nearest senior herald...

#### 6. DOING COURTS AND RELATIONS WITH THE CROWN:

If a court is scheduled, usually the Crown or the Baron/Baroness will have someone they wish to handle court. You may offer, if you wish, but if they have someone else in mind, don't take it personally. If you are selected to herald court, please remember that the tone of court can be set by your actions and behave responsibly. There is nothing worse than having a herald making inappropriate remarks during a serious moment. This brings us to another point. As a herald of the Kingdom of Atlantia, you are the representative of the Crown, or "The Voice of the Crown." This means that when dressed in your heraldic regalia or acting in your official capacity, people interpret your pronouncements as official. Please take care to refrain from making personal policy statements when acting in your official capacity or acknowledging the honors of a fighter in a tourney. To do so, is to convey the acquiescence or approval (favor) of the Crown. This is a power you may not have been granted.

If you have heralded a court, within two weeks, you must make up a court report (summarize what happened and in exactly what order) and forward same to the Crown or Baron/ess for whom you heralded court, with copies to the Clerk of Precedence and Triton. While it is the duty of the Crown or Baron/ess to report awards to the Clerk of Precedence, records are frequently lost and your report may be the only record remaining of that court. (And don't forget to list doing court on your quarterly report!)

The format required for a court report may be found at the Clerk of Precedence's page (<a href="http://op.atlantia.sca.org/">http://op.atlantia.sca.org/</a>).

#### 7. ATLANTIAN E-SOURCES

The Atlantian Herald's webpage is a plethora of information, to include policies, links to heraldic sources and a variety of articles. Be sure to visit it often to see if perhaps we've added something cool!

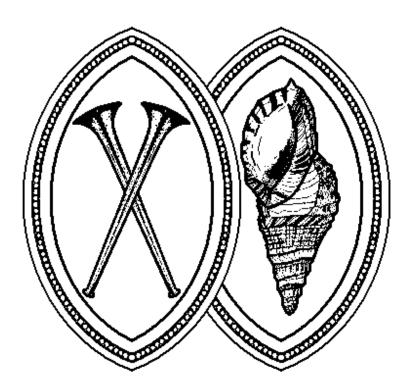
All heralds are recommended to subscribe to the Atlantian Heralds e-group (AtlantianHeralds) at <a href="https://www.yahoogroups.com">www.yahoogroups.com</a>. A lot of information is disseminated through this website and changes to policy/procedures will be announced here first. In addition, it's a wonderful place to get help with submissions you are working on and to learn about heraldry, as just about everything to do with heraldry will eventually get discussed here!

#### 8. MISCELLANEOUS AND VALEDICTORY:

Heralds-at-large are pretty much available on as "as-needed" basis. Some specialize in book heraldry, while others specialize in court and/or field heraldry. If you are an "at-large" herald, please be sure and advise the autocrat or herald-in-charge if you are available to serve at an event.

Remember, the CoH is like a great reference source. When you have questions, you may go to anyone in the CoH and request assistance. If the person you ask cannot answer your question, then they should (and with luck, can) refer you to someone who can. Triton and Triton's staff are *always* available to help you with any issues you may have.

## **WELCOME ABOARD!**



### **Word Puzzle: Heraldic Beasts**

By Lord Sovány Barcsi János, Black Raven Herald

н	s	1	F	L	1	0	В	U	L	L	С	
С	Α	т	D	0	G	M	0	Α	1	s	S	
J	R	M	Α	R	т	L	E	т	0	R	0	
R	A	В	С	Y	1	0	Α	т	N	L	Α	
0	v	н	T	N	U	0	M	A	T	Α	C	
s	E	R	Р	E	N	T	J	U	s	т	N	
R	N	R	S	T	s	G	A	T	N	T	A	
E	G	A	1	В	E	Α	н	0	R	s	E	
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E	D	D	E	Α	Y	Α	Т	L	K	N	1	
н	Ε	Α	L	N	E	L	G	Α	Ε	G	Н	
Y	U	R	L	В	D	M	Y	Т	М	×	T	

WORDS TO SEARCH FOR:

Bear Bull
Catamount Eagle
Fish Goat
Horse Lion
Martlet Raven
Serpent Talbot

## Laurel Letter of Acceptances and Returns, December 2009

Unto the populace of Atlantia, greetings from Alisoun MacCoul of Elphane, Golden Dolphin Herald!

The Laurel Office has notified us of the results of its considerations at the meetings in December, 2009. The results for these meetings were contained in a letter from the Laurel Office received in Atlantia on 15 February, 2010.

#### **ACCEPTANCES:**

The following items were REGISTERED by the Laurel Office:

### Broccán mac Rónáin uí Lochlainn. Name.

#### Edekyn inghean Shuibhne. Name.

**Genevieve l'Escrivainne.** Name. The name was submitted as Geneviève l'Escrivainne with the name documented from "An Index to the Given Names in the 1292 Census of Paris" on the Laurel web page. The Laurel staff modified the given name to drop the accent as they ruled that "Accents found in this work reflect modern editorial additions in the 1837 compilation from which these names were taken" and do not appear in the original document.

Johann von Zurich, Name.

#### **RETURNS**

No submissions from Atlantia were returned in December, 2009.

Your servant, Alisoun

## **Point of Fact**

We all know the rule of tincture ... but where did it come from? The first to state "metal should not be put on metal, nor colour on colour" appears to have been Humphrey Llwyd (1527-1568), a Welsh cartographer, author, and member of Parliament. An Oxford-educated man, he collaborated with the Dutch geographer Abraham Ortelius on the first printed map of Wales, which was published in Antwerp in 1573. His motto was "Hwy pery klod na golyd," or "Fame lasts longer than wealth."

Heraldry is an art as old as Henry II and Eleanor of Aquitaine, and as young as the newest submission. I welcome you to join in exploring it with your colleagues, the heralds of Atlantia -- this is *your* journal. If you have always wanted to write an article that would be read by every Atlantian herald, or if you have a question you would like to ask of all the heralds of Atlantia, send me a message at <u>Patoodle AT aol DOT com!</u> I prefer that any articles or other messages come as plain text (ASCII), as opposed to HTML or some other format. Thank you!

In Service, Patricia of Trakai

#### LEGAL NOTICE AND DISCLAIMER

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