

## AN TIR INTERNAL LETTER FOR MARCH AS XLII / 2008 CE



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### Send submissions to:

Lions Blood Clerk  
An Tir College of Heraldry  
1001 Cooper Pt. Rd. SW #140 PMB-164  
Olympia, WA 98502

Unto Christopher Black Lion and the esteemed members of the An Tir College of Heraldry to whom this missive comes, Caitrina inghean Aindriasa, Lions Blood Herald, sends greetings and felicitations.

### COMMENTARY ON THE ITEMS IN JANUARY'S INTERNAL LETTER IS DUE ON THE 10<sup>TH</sup> OF APRIL, 2008.

The February Lions Blood meeting will be held on March 16<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm at Caitrina Lions Blood's home (3174 Sechelt Dr., Coquitlam, BC).

**Directions:** Make your best way to Vancouver, BC. Get onto the Trans Canada Hwy (Hwy 1) if you're not already on it. Take the Lougheed Hwy exit (Exit 44). You should be going NE. Follow Lougheed Hwy until it turns into Pinetree Way. Follow Pinetree Way to Guildford Way. Turn right. Follow Guildford Way to Ozada Ave (Guildford Way turns into Ozada Ave.). Follow Ozada Ave. to Inlet St (first right). Turn right. Follow Inlet St. to Sechelt Dr. (first left). Turn left. Look for #3174.

Alternatively, follow the directions provided courtesy of Google Maps:  
<http://maps.google.ca/maps?f=q&hl=en&geocode=&q=3174+Sechelt+Dr,+Coquitlam,+BC,+Canada&ll=49.891235,-97.15369&sspn=33.029007,88.769531&ie=UTF8&z=16&iwloc=addr&om=1>

The March Lions Blood meeting will be held on April 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm at Caitrina Lions Blood's home (3174 Sechelt Dr., Coquitlam, BC).

The April Lions Blood meeting will be held on May 11<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm at Caitrina Lions Blood's home (3174 Sechelt Dr., Coquitlam, BC).

The May Lions Blood meeting will be held on June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00pm at Caitrina Lions Blood's home (3174 Sechelt Dr., Coquitlam, BC).

## LETTERS FROM KINGDOM HERALDIC STAFF

### *From Black Lion*

Greetings An Tir,

I am seeking applications for my successor as Black Lion.

The position is almost entirely administrative so you do not need to be An Experienced Herald<tm> to apply. You do need good management skills (including time management) and the ability to encourage people to do their best. The An Tir College of Heraldry is a fairly large organization with anywhere from 40 to 80 active heralds at any given time. Black Lion's role is to encourage, to guide, to advise, and occasionally to say "no" - but hopefully in a polite way.

Black Lion is expected to be able to provide sound advice to Their Majesties and Their Royal Highnesses on matters heraldic. That does not mean Black Lion needs to know everything - just know who does know it.

If you wish to apply for the position please send your modern and SCA resume to Their Majesties ([crown@antir.sca.org](mailto:crown@antir.sca.org)) and to me ([black-lion@antir.sca.org](mailto:black-lion@antir.sca.org)). Include a cover letter saying why you would be a good Black Lion and what your goals for the position are.

Applications are due by 10 May, 2008. Their Majesties hope to name the new Black Lion just after May Crown so they can step up at by July Coronation.

We are still seeking applicants for the position of Lions Blood Clerk.

This is the person who receives all paper submissions and processes them for Lions Blood. They also handle some minor records keeping for Black Lion. If you wish to know more about this position you can contact Gwenlian Lions Blood Clerk at [lbc@antir.sca.org](mailto:lbc@antir.sca.org). To apply send a modern and SCA resume to [lbc@antir.sca.org](mailto:lbc@antir.sca.org), [lions-blood@antir.sca.org](mailto:lions-blood@antir.sca.org), and [black-lion@antir.sca.org](mailto:black-lion@antir.sca.org).

In service to Kingdom and College,  
Lord Christopher Thomas  
Black Lion Principal Herald, An Tir

## From Lions Blood

Greetings unto the An Tir College of Heraldry from Caitrina Lions Blood!

I would like to thank Thegn Uilliam mac Ailene mhic Seamuis and Patrika Theocharista Irene Doukaina for opening their home and hosting the January Lions Blood meeting in the Barony of Seagirt. There was a good turn out and I was able to put some faces to names which is always good and any time I get to visit the City of Gardens is a pleasure.

Some problems were discussed at the meeting. Some I have commented on in previous letters. But one that was very noticeable this time is there have been a lot of submissions coming in using Wikipedia as the sole source for documentation. The following was published in the Letter of Acceptances and Returns for December 2005 from Pelican;

“Submitters are turning to Wikipedia as a source for name documentation. In recent commentary, Nebuly summarized what is good and bad about this approach:

The content of Wikipedia is in a constant state of flux, and there are many articles written by people who have no business writing an article. I say this as someone who has recently begun contributing to Wikipedia (mostly in botany thus far). Though there are some very fine articles by very knowledgeable people, often it is not possible to distinguish the reliable information from a pile of dingo's kidneys.

We wish to remind heralds that, while Wikipedia is a fine starting point for name documentation, it should not be an ending point for any name element. Recent publicity has shown that Wikipedia is about equal to other standard reference works for scientific articles. However, there has not been an evaluation of articles about history or onomastics. Because of the nature of collaboration that goes into this source, its accuracy runs from excellent to atrocious. Unfortunately, in most cases it is often impossible to tell what is accurate and what is not without recourse to other more scholarly sources. Furthermore, as with many general reference works, most articles give present-day normalized forms of names which is not useful for the purposes of name documentation. Therefore, articles from Wikipedia are not sufficient as sole documentation for any name element.”

It's my hope that Heraldry everywhere will ensure to pass this info on to clients, friends, anyone they know working on getting a submission ready.

Until next time I remain,  
Caitrina Lions Blood

## LAUREL ACTIONS

The following is an excerpt from the cover letter of the October 2007 LoAR:

### From Wreath: Reblazoning Defaults

In processing submissions every month, Wreath and her staff frequently review past SCA registrations, to insure that our assumptions regarding the College's defaults are true. This can lead to our discovering gaps in our policies over the years, which we then try

to correct by reblazoning. There are a number of such reblazons in this month's LoAR; the topics they address may be summarized as follows:

- **Bobbins.** There were several types of bobbin in period; none have been ruled the Society default. We hereby rule that there is no default form of bobbin in society armory. If *lace* bobbins are intended, they must be specified.
- **Brushes.** In medieval heraldry, the default brush was a large handheld bundle of straws, as in the canting arms of von Börstel, 1605 (Siebmacher, plate 174). We accept this as the default brush in society heraldry, as well. The most common type of brush in Society armory, the artist's (paint)brush, wasn't known in period armory, and is not the Society default; if this type is intended, it must be blazoned as such.
- **Human figures.** Unless a specific type of human is stated, whose definition includes the style, or lack, of clothing (e.g., *monk*, *savage*, etc.), the type of clothing on a human figure is usually left to the artist. However, *some* clothing is assumed. Nude human figures must have the fact expressly blazoned.
- **Lizards.** Lizards, or natural salamanders, are statant by default, as are heraldic (enflamed) salamanders. This is true in period heraldry as well, as in the canting arms of Lagartos, c.1540 (*Livro da Nobreza*, fo. xxxviii). Lizards tergiant must be blazoned as such.
- **Pipes.** There are several types of pipe found in SCA heraldry: bagpipes, panpipes, smoking pipes (or clay pipes), and organ pipes. Given this profusion, no one type of pipe will be considered default. The unmodified term *pipe* should not be used: the type of pipe must be specified in the blazon.
- **Pomegranates.** The unmodified term *pomegranate* refers to the fruit alone. If a pomegranate is slipped and leaved - which we admit is more often found than the unslipped fruit - the fact must be blazoned.

### From Wreath: Color Emblazons

In the past, when LoIs were primarily available only on paper, a mismatch in tincture between an emblazon and a blazon was cause for the submission to be pended; commenters generally had no way to determine the correct tinctures. With the advent of OSCAR, LoIs (for the most part) include color emblazons. If a color emblazon is present, and there is a mismatch in tinctures, the presumption is that commenters used the correct tinctures - those from the emblazon - in conflict checking. However, commenters are asked to note such cases in their commentary so that Wreath is aware that they really did note the correct tinctures. (This can be done simply by suggesting a corrected blazon in the commentary.) In general, submissions will not be pended for tincture mismatches when color emblazons are included in OSCAR. Exceptions may be made when there is reason to believe that commenters could not determine the correct tincture (e.g., azure/purple mismatches that may have been unclear in the scan, or the scanned emblazon not matching the submitted paper emblazon).

### From Wreath: Charged Sails

Please note the following discussion which appears under Æthelmearc for the registration of Marianna Molin di Salerno's device, *Azure goutty d'Or, six lymphads sailing to sinister Or, each sail charged with a martlet volant to sinister gules, a base Or*.

As noted on the LoI, a charged sail is not an inescutcheon of pretense under RfS XI.4; but as a display of armory, it must still be checked for conflict. In this case, *Or, a martlet volant to sinister gules* is clear of conflict. An anomaly of our rules is that, under these circumstances, conflict is not reciprocal. Thus the registration of *Azure goutty d'Or, six lymphads sailing to sinister Or, each sail charged with a martlet volant*

*to sinister gules, a base Or* does not protect *Or, a marlet volant to sinister gules*. A charged sail must be clear of conflict at the time it is registered, but a different person could later register armory that conflicts with that sail.

#### From Wreath: An Errant Reblazon

In the acceptance of Marsha of Ealdormere's badge (March 2007) it was stated:

This badge does not conflict with the device for Ismay Ponde, *Argent, a peacock contourny azure, pavonated to base vert, atop a claymore fesswise sable*, reblazoned elsewhere in this letter. There is a CD for fieldlessness. An examination of the emblazon shows that the claymore is a sustained charge, not a maintained charge. Thus there is another CD for changing the number of primary charges.

That reblazon did not appear on the March 2007 LoAR. We apologize for the confusion; Ismay's reblazon (which was needed for the peacock's posture, not the claymore) may be found in this month's LoAR. The text of the acceptance should have read:

This badge does not conflict with the device for Ismay Ponde, reblazoned as *Argent, a peacock contourny azure, tailed vert, atop a claymore fesswise sable*. There is a CD for fieldlessness. As expected from the blazon, an examination of the emblazon shows that the claymore is a sustained charge, not a maintained charge. Thus there is another CD for adding the sustained charge.

#### ***The following items have been registered by Laurel***

**Æðelred Willelmes sunu.** Name and device. Per pale argent and vert, a hand between in fess two compass stars elongated to base counterchanged.

**Angeline d'Avallon.** Device. Or, a wolf rampant purpure, on a chief wavy gules a rapier proper.

**Ceara inghean uí Mhadadháin.** Device. Per pale azure and argent, two hares salient respectant counterchanged argent and sable, on a chief per pale argent and azure three cinquefoils counterchanged sable and argent.

**Elspeith Dubh inghean Dubhghaill.** Name.

This name mixes Scots and Gaelic; this is one step from period practice.

**False Isle, Shire of.** Badge. (Fieldless) A mermaid with her arms upraised maintaining in her dexter hand an axe all within and conjoined to an annulet engrailed on the outer edge argent.

**Gorandookht Mamigonian.** Reblazon of device. Gules, two peacocks respectant and a pomegranate slipped and leaved Or.

Registered in April 1999, this was reblazoned in April 2007 as *Gules, two peacocks pavonated to base respectant and a pomegranate Or*. In both cases, the slipping and leaving was omitted from the blazon. While pomegranates are frequently found slipped and leaved, that is not their default.

**Gorandookht Mamigonian.** Reblazon of badge. (Fieldless) On a pomegranate slipped and leaved gules a natural seahorse Or.

Registered in May 1995 with the blazon (*Fieldless*) *On a pomegranate gules a natural seahorse Or*, the slipping and leaving was omitted from the blazon. While pomegranates are frequently found slipped and leaved, that is not their default.

**Kaeso Petronius Gallus.** Name.

**Magdalena Suarez.** Name and device. Per pale indented purpure and Or, six suns in splendor two, two, and two counterchanged.

Nice 15th C Spanish name and matching Spanish device.

**Magdalena Suarez.** Badge. (Fieldless) A sun in splendor per pale purpure and Or.

Nice badge.

**Regina O'Duncan.** Name.

The byname *O'Duncan* is grandfathered to her; it is the registered byname of her husband, *Shannan O'Duncan* (registered August 2006).

**Serena Alvarez.** Name and device. Per pale gules and azure, a crossbow and in chief three frogs Or.

Nice 15th C Spanish name!

Please advise the submitter to draw the crossbow larger.

#### ***The following items have been returned for further work***

None.

### LIONS BLOOD ACTIONS

#### ***These items will be forwarded to Laurel, and are tentatively scheduled to be decided on in July 2008.***

- **Andrew Crowe.** Name, New.
- **Constantia in der lachun.** Name, Resubmission to Kingdom. (See RETURNS for device.)  
Submitted as Constantia of the Lake, the name was changed at Kingdom in consultation with the submitter.
- **Heinrich Wilhelm von Ansbach.** Name, Resubmission to Kingdom. (See RETURNS for device.)
- **Heinrich Wilhelm von Ansbach.** Badge, Resubmission to Kingdom. *Azure, a dexter wing within a bordure argent.*
- **Jorgen Von Stein.** Name, Resubmission to Kingdom.
- **Mairghread inghean Uilleim.** Name, New. (See RETURNS for device.)  
Submitter's desire is to maintain the Gaelic of her name.
- **Nicolette Thomas.** Blanket Permission to Conflict, New.
- **Onnwuen Aethelhelmsdottr.** Name & Device, Resubmission to Kingdom. *Azure, a harp and on a chief embattled Or three crescents gules.*
- **Sina di Andreas Valori.** Name, New. (See RETURNS for device.)

- **Tymothy of Dover.** Name, New. (See RETURNS for device.)
- **Wilhelmin Weissenheimerin.** Household Name, New. *Companye of Seint Audre*

### **These items are being returned for further work**

- **Constantia in der lachun.** Device, Resubmission to Kingdom. *Azure, a dove volant and on a chief dovetailed Or three doves volant azure..*

This device is being returned for the following: The birds are depicted as swallows and not doves. The submitter was contacted and it was confirmed she wants doves and not swallows. She was advised that if this device was reblazoned as "bird" and not "dove" to be forwarded, there's a good chance Laurel might change it to "swallow".

- **Diego Ramirez de Salamanca.** Device Change, New. *Quarterly azure and argent, a dragon displayed Or and on a chief sable three roundels argent.*

This device is returned for redrawing:

The chief should be roughly one-fifth to one-third the height of the shield and the area below does not look to be divided quarterly (four equal sections)

- **Gregor von Habsburg.** Name Change, New.

This submission was withdrawn by the submitter.

- **Heinrich Wilhelm von Ansbach.** Device, Resubmission to Kingdom. *Per bend azure and argent between two eagles five lozenges bendwise sinister in bend counterchanged.*

The lozenges are the same size as the eagles and therefore not the sole primary charge group. A suggestion would be a bend of lozenges (conjoined) or make the lozenges bigger as presently it is difficult to blazon this and correctly reflect the relative size uniformity of the charges.

- **Mairghread inghean Uilleim.** Device, New. *Azure, a base argent, overall a seahorse (Or?) crined and finned gules maintaining in the dexter forepaw a roundel argent.*

This device is returned for the following:

The base is a peripheral ordinary like a chief, and may not have a charge overlie it. As well the use of pencil crayons has made the tincture of the seahorse unidentifiable. It looks to be peach or tan. Metallics are problematic in submissions as they do not reflect the correct heraldic tincture and shift over time. Pencil also wears off with friction against other forms and so the already wan color becomes even worse. In accordance with the Admin Handbook section IV.C.1. "The preferred medium for colored armory sets is watercolor markers such as Crayola Classic Markers. Pastel or neon colors are inappropriate for colored armory forms. However the forms are colored, the submission may be returned if the

tinctures are not recognizably heraldic tinctures." Additionally, heraldically maintained charges should be held in profile so as to neither obscure the holding member nor be obscured by same.

- **Phelan Talasmiðr.** Name, New.

This name looks to be a combination of Anglicized Irish and Old Norse, which is not registerable. <Phelan> would need to be changed to a Gaelic form. <Fáelán> is found in '100 Most Popular Men's Names in Early Medieval Ireland' by Tangwystyl verch Morgant Glasvryn in the no-copy zone at <http://www.sca.org/heraldry/laurel/names/irish100.html>. As for the byname, Aryanhwy merch Catmael's article "Viking Bynames found in the Landnámabók" (<http://www.ellipsis.cx/~liana/names/norse/vikbynames.html>) has <orðlokarr>, glossed as 'word-plane, one who shapes his words carefully'. This appears to have the meaning that the submitter wants. Another suggestion would be <Skáld> 'skald, poet' or one of its variations.

Unfortunately, both suggestions are considered a major change and the submitter doesn't allow major changes.

- **Sina di Andreas Valori.** Device, New. *Vert a sun Or within an orle argent.*

This device is returned for the following:

Conflict with Carlo dalla Casa - January of 2007 (via the Middle): Vert, on a sun Or within an orle argent a fleur-de-lys sable. One CD for removing the tertiary via Rules of Submission X.4.i.

Conflict with Constanza de Mendoza - January of 1994 (via the West): Vert, a sun within an orle Or. One CD for changing the tincture of the secondary via rules of submission X.4.h.

As per Teceangl Bach:

This is a nice design and can be cleared from all current conflicts by making the orle a double tressure, but it must remain argent. Teceangl assures she checked this suggestion thoroughly.

- **Tymothy of Dover.** Badge, New. *Azure, a ram rampant holding a flaming Staff of Asclepius argent.*

The flame should be touching the top of the rod and the ram should be in the middle of the field, though the rod need not be moved in order to accommodate a flaming top.

### **The following submissions received for the March Internal Letter are being returned for administrative reasons.**

- None.



Prepared by LÍ Ban ingen Echtigeim.