

# Ealdormere Heraldic Quarterly



Spring, A.S. LIII (2018)

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*The views expressed in this publication are those of the authors, and do not necessarily reflect those of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., the Kingdom of Ealdormere, or the Ealdormere College of Heraldry as an institution.*

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## From the Editor

TH Lady Roselyne de l'Estrangere  
Golden Otter Pursuivant

Greetings, lords and ladies all, and welcome to the **Ealdormere Heraldic Quarterly**, (the **Quarterly**) an electronic periodical publication of the *Ealdormere College of Heraldry (ECoH, or "the College")*! At the direction of the **Trillium Herald**, THL Sciath ingen Chaennaig, we at the **Quarterly** are broadcasting a little heraldic education to our Kingdom and beyond.

We have ruminated during the winter, and are bursting into bloom with a fresh new set of offerings! Thank you for joining us in our continued quest after heraldic learning. This issue includes a much-needed article on how to write award recommendations by our own **Trillium Herald**, THL Sciath ingen Chaennaig. We have also been fortunate to secure an interesting piece on Baronial protocol by His Excellency of Ben Dunfirth and Trillium Herald Emeritus, Master Brand (Thorwaldsen). In our continuing series on the reinvented ECoH, Lady Daya Speyerin holds forth on the duties of the Gopher Herald and Bee Herald. Finally, we are delighted to welcome, hopefully as a regular contributor, His Excellency (Master) Percival de la Rocque, who is a known luminary on matters of heraldic display, and is currently serving as Stave Herald.

"But Roselyne, this publication could use some more quality heraldic content!" Well, good my lord or lady,

you can easily help solve this problem yourself, by submitting your original articles, photos, images, and/or heraldic artwork to:

[eald.heraldic.quarterly@gmail.com](mailto:eald.heraldic.quarterly@gmail.com).

We appreciate your contributions and will gladly put your offerings to good use in an upcoming issue when it matches one of our upcoming themes. Also, please feel free to submit your ideas or requests for articles on a particular heraldic topic. If we know what you want, your chances of getting it improve significantly.

We at the **Ealdormere Heraldic Quarterly** wish to acknowledge the invaluable contributions of the following gentles: the following gentles: Baron (Master) Brand Thorwaldsen, Baron (Master) Percival de la Rocque, and Lady Daya Speyerin for writing this month's features; Lord Dietrich von Sachsen for his beautiful heraldic drawings; Lady Gwendolyn of Aldburg for her fun LEGO figures with heraldry, TH Lord Alexander Gladstone for his event photographs, Baron (Master) Brand Thorwaldsen for helping with some key technical details to make this publication possible; and THL Sciath ingen Chaennaig for helping us stay on task. Enjoy the read; we look forward eagerly to your suggestions.

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## Missive from Trillium Principal Herald

Magistra Sciath ingen Chaennaig  
Trillium Principal Herald



Before we head into Pennsic War, I'd like to start off by congratulating our newest Journeymen Heraldry, Lady Daya Speyerin, Lord Willmar Grimsdyke, and Laird Cinàed mec Donnachy. They were each recognized for unique contributions to the *Ealdormere College of Heraldry and Scribes*, and heraldry, in general. I'd also like to thank all who attending the *College's* gathering at War of the Trillium.

I am reviewing the *ECoH* Administrative Manual, and will seek feedback once the revision is completed. In the meantime, several members of the *College* have been involved in reviewing the new *ECO*H website and Order of Precedence (OP) platform. I want to thank each of you for giving your time and effort toward ensuring we have an amazing site that supports heralds and heraldry throughout our wonderful Kingdom.

Thank you for your service to the *College*, your clients, and to Ealdormere, *Sciath Trillium*

## Coronets, Crowns, and Circlets, Oh My!

Baron Brand Thorwaldsen  
Barenwalde Herald



Our kingdom is fairly relaxed with sumptuary customs – our unique customs styling is opt-in rather than opt-out. Let's take a look.

### The Law

From Ealdormere's sumptuary laws (XII-204):  
*Only Territorial Barons and Baronesses may wear a gold coronet adorned with six pearls (spheroids).*

This is significantly different than our predecessor kingdom (Midrealm), which had customs stating, '...territorial barons shall wear...' They are not restricted to a gold circlet with six pearls. Unlike other kingdoms, we have no coronet height or materials restrictions. Therefore, nothing in our kingdom's laws and customs prohibits territorial barons from wearing a red coronet with both pearls and a secondary protrusion of maple leaves, fleur-de-lys, or iron crosses. This allows artisans to craft unique, period, or stylized coronets.

We also have no laws surrounding circlets for armigerous gentles (who have received an Award of Arms). Unlike the more restrictive rules in other kingdoms, Ealdormerians of any rank can wear a metallic circlet or fillet (hair band).

### The Custom

Our sumptuary laws allow mass chaos, but our customs cleave fairly closely to the allowed segment. Ideally, conversations about our laws and customs should happen before commissioning a coronet.

If a simple lord or lady started wearing a three inch high metallic circlet ornamented with swan heads, it would appear to be a coronet of significant rank, which might warrant a cocked eyebrow or two. Because we are a small kingdom, our custom is to have recognizable and distinctive coronets that are passed on. For example, the Ben Dunfirth baronial

coronets are predominantly black; they are recognizable because they are passed down at every investiture.

Ealdormere nobility are often inconsistent about wearing their coronets; if you don't know a person, it can be hard to identify them by sight. This is an incredibly medieval practice, as nobles and royalty did not done their coronets to stroll in the park (they couldn't easily access their coronets, which were often in the hands of a merchant in exchange for a monetary loan).

If an Ealdormerian duke is not wearing his coronet, he will not be offended if you don't refer to him as 'Your Grace.' More astute observers might see a symbolic pin on a tunic, trim on a surcoat, or some other smaller token of rank. Friendly conversation will often solve any confusion.

As you would not think to sit in the kingdom's royal thrones, you should not wear someone else's coronet (notwithstanding theatrical productions, rank-reversing Twelfth Nights, and other special circumstances).

While we are all friends, pomp and circumstance is an important part of our game, so avoid the terms like 'lid', 'tin hat', or other cynical slang to make the game more magical for newer members of the Society. It's helpful to explain the meaning of all those funny coronets and crowns to newer folks in our kingdom.

### If Problems Arise

If a foreign visitor is wearing a coronet that causes confusion, or a member of the kingdom wears a coronet that culturally stretches beyond their rank, common sense and reasonable conversations should occur. If you're in doubt, reach out to the [Trillium Herald](#) to clarify inter-kingdom diversity and our sumptuary customs.

## LEGO fun!

We are grateful to Lady Gwendolyn of Aldburg for permitting us to include her photos of the fun LEGO figures she made, each with the person's registered heraldry.

### Our reigning King and Queen.



*Their Royal Majesties, King Baldric and Queen Breyla*

*Photo by TH Lord Alexander Gladstone*



*LEGO version of HRM Baldric*

### Our current Prince and Princess.



*Their Royal Highnesses, Prince Evander and Princess Marioun*

*Photo by TH Lord Alexander Gladstone*



*LEGO version of HRH Evander*

## DID YOU KNOW?

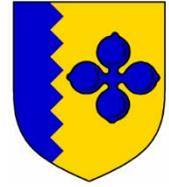
Duke (Sir) Finvarr de Taahe once served as **Trillium Principal Herald!**

Also...

The Kingdom **Signet** (office who gives award scroll assignments and ensures scrolls are delivered for reading at Court) holds a position in the *Ealdormere College of Heraldry!*

## Writing Award Recommendations

Magistra Sciath ingen Chaennaig  
Trillium Principal Herald



One of the highest honours in the SCA is having the opportunity to recognize the good works of others. The Kingdom of Ealdormere has a system in place to recognize the achievements and contributions that individuals make to their various local groups and to the Kingdom. There are a wide range of awards in the SCA, which vary from Kingdom to Kingdom, and Barony to Barony. These awards are granted by the Crown or Their local representatives (Baron and Baronesses) to recognize excellence in arts and sciences, martial pursuits, and services to the various groups and Kingdoms. The populace has the opportunity to draw the attention of Their Majesties to worthy individuals.

More often than not, awards submitted to the Crown stem from recommendations from members of the populace who are best placed to see the contributions of the individual in question – the Crown cannot be everywhere, and will not likely know of the individual's works and achievements in any depth. That is why it is so important for all members of the populace to write recommendations for people they deem worthy of recognition.

Writing a recommendation is simple; anyone in Ealdormere can do it, from the newest of newcomers, to the longest standing peers of the Realm. Try to make your letters personal and detailed as possible. The key is to look around you and observe who you believe contributes to the Society in ways that make it a better, prettier, stronger place for everyone. Remember that making people feel appreciated for their efforts is a big part of what makes the Society such a wonderful place to be.

You might consider checking out whether the person has already been recognized. We are truly gifted to have so many worthy nobles in Ealdormere! Your first stop is the [Order of Precedence](#) (OP). You can search the OP in a few ways: by award, by name, and by local group. If

you're unsure which group the person comes from, the OP will let you know. This online tool is maintained by the Calygreyhound Herald. Each time a new court report is submitted, Calygreyhound updates the OP with the most recent awards.

A second option is to check out the [Ealdormere Wiki](#). While not everyone has a profile page in the wiki, there are more every day. In fact, you can create one for yourself! This can help with award recommendations, as well as other projects (including Trillium Exchange). Scribes will also be interested in viewing individual profile pages in order to better customize award scrolls.

**Please submit your award recommendations using the online [Awards Submission Form](#).**

The form includes a few required fields, including: SCA/mundane name, award, group, and reason for your recommendation. If you're not sure which award to nominate the person for, you can find descriptions of awards in Ealdormere here: <http://www.ealdormere.ca/awards.html>.

The content you provide in the form also provides information that can be useful to scribes writing an appropriate scroll for your recommendation. A recommendation may even include a recent event at which the royalty or members of a polling order may have had cause to meet this person.

Anyone can recommend anyone else for any type of award. The Crown is just as pleased to receive recommendations for the Peerage Orders as they are for an AoA, Crucible, Wain or Thorbjorn's Hammer. You do not need to be a member of an order to recommend someone for that order. It is ill-advised however to recommend yourself, and it is usually considered bad form for a husband to recommend a wife, or a girlfriend to recommend her boyfriend and vice versa. Remember to sign your recommendation, as the Crown does not accept anonymous recommendations.

Do not expect the Crown to reply to your recommendation, even if it is sent via online form or e-mail. Do not expect the award to be given at the very next event that the person is at, or even during the current reign. The Crown can track recommendations digitally from one reign to the next, so in some cases, you'll need to be patient.

Granting awards is entirely the prerogative of The Crown. However, by making the recommendation, you've done your duty. If the person you are recommending is truly worthy, their labour will be recognized sooner or later. As will your own service someday.

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## Sample Award Letters

TH Lady Roselyne de l'Estrangere  
Golden Otter Pursuivant

### Suggested template: Award of Arms (AoA)

*Unto Their Royal Majesties, greetings from your loyal and loving subject [your SCA name, with or without titles, as you prefer],*

*I wish to draw Your Majesties' attention to the enthusiastic participation and honest labour of John Barleycorn. He has been attending Canton meetings in Vest Yorvik for over a year, taking part in group projects and learning various crafts. He has taught workshops about medieval agricultural practices, which he has been interested in researching for some time.*

*John has attended several events in the last year or so (Althing, Fall Coronation, Spring Crown Tourney, Wassail, Step Spritely, and 12th Night), where I often see him taking a gate shift, toting thrones and other furniture, or cheerfully plying a dish towel. He has been attending fight practices in Ard Chreag, and is talking about getting his fighting kit together. John is truly a participant in the life of this Canton, and the Kingdom.*

*I think he'll be attending some of the spring and summer camping events, such as FOOL, Pikeman's Pleasure and the War of the Trillium. John's persona seems to be that of an 11th-c. English peasant living near the Welsh border. He enjoys archery, dancing, craft beer, working with wood and leather, and may be taking up fighting soon. I think he has more than earned an Award of Arms, and possibly an Orion for his research on agriculture.*

*If you have any more questions, I can be reached at [e-mail address, Facebook handle, phone--whatever is best for getting hold of you].*

*Sincerely, [SCA name], mundanely known as [legal name]*

### Suggested template: Order of the Wain

*Unto Their Royal Majesties, greetings from your loyal and loving subject [your SCA name, with or without titles, as you prefer],*

*Your Majesties may not be aware of the earnest and tireless service of Lady Brunhilda of Wessex, a Septentrian at large, as she has trouble getting to regular Canton meetings.*

*Brunhilda is a kind lady who gives much of her time to her Barony, such as organizing attendance for Their Excellencies, helping canton officers maintain their websites, and offering suggestions for making them more appealing. When she can get a ride, she is always helping out at demos. She gladly displays her tablet weaving in process, as well as finished pieces. She has been active in helping run the list tables at events, and has also helped with youth combat. Brunhilda's enthusiasm and outgoing nature have really helped a lot of local groups attract new members. In addition, when she can get to an event, I often see her working gate (Wassail, 12th Night, Step Spritely, to name a few just this year). I recommend she be inducted into the Order of the Wain. Her persona is 11th-century Saxon. She enjoys weaving, cooking, brewing, embroidery, axe-throwing, and gardening. She will definitely be at FOOL, and possibly at Trillium War and Feast of the Bear.*

*If you have any more questions, I can be reached at [e-mail address, Facebook handle, phone--whatever is best for getting hold of you].*

*Sincerely, [SCA name], mundanely known as [legal name]*

## Getting to Know Us: Gopher Herald & Bee Herald

Lady Daya Speyerin  
Gopher Herald and Bee Herald



In our continued effort to help the College and the kingdom's populace to understand our heraldic offices, we present the two offices I currently hold. While the responsibilities are different, the two areas are related.

The Kingdom's Heraldic offices page describes the **Gopher Herald's** role as:

*The administrative assistant to the Trillium Herald and/or Green Mantle.*

This simplified description allows for a great deal of latitude in the responsibilities of the role, in accordance with the desires of the two most senior heraldic offices.

In general, my role is to do what's needed of me at any given time. So far, the requirements have not been onerous. For example, I wrote the minutes of the recent College meeting at War of the Trillium.

The Kingdom's Heraldic offices page describes the **Bee Herald's** role as:

*The senior Pursuivant responsible for the Ealdormere College of Heralds website.*

This office also works with the Lord Clerk-Registrar (Kingdom's web administrator) and Calygreyhound (who maintains the Kingdom's Order of Precedence) to coordinate information and continuity between websites. As a newly minted capital-H Herald, the title is currently styled as Bee Herald, instead of Pursuivant.

If you have feedback or corrections to the web site, please get in touch at [daya@danashaw.ca](mailto:daya@danashaw.ca).

### DID YOU KNOW?

As we progress with the use of digital reproductions, artisans are creating digital or printed items with heraldry. These standardized colours should be applied.

Here is a suggested tincture colour palate.

**Hexadecimal (hex)** colour codes are most often used on web sites  
**RGB** colour codes are used for digital art work that can be uploaded to OSCAR.  
Print items use **CMYK** colour codes.

(Image is in OSCAR friendly colors)

COLOR	HEX	RGB	CMYK
ARGENT	#FFFFFF	255,255,255	0,0,0,0
OR	#FFFF00	255,255,0	0,0,100,0
GULES	#D60000	214,0,0	0,100,100,16
AZURE	#0000D6	0,0,214	100,100,0,16
SABLE	#000000	0,0,0	0,0,0,100
VERT	#00A400	0,164,0	100,0,100,36
PURPURE	#8811DD	136,17,221	38,92,0,13
BROWN	#AA6600	170,102,0	0,40,100,33
ORANGE	#EE8800	238,136,0	0,43,100,7

### OSCAR Friendly Heraldic Tinctures

## Introduction to Heraldic Display

His Excellency (Master) Percival de la Rocque  
Stave Pursuivant and Purple Mantle Herald Extraordinary



Within the **Heraldic College of Ealdormere**, the topic of heraldic display is handled by the Stave Pursuivant, who can be contacted by event stewards or other event organizers wishing to add a little more pizzazz to their events through heraldic display.

### Definitions

#### Coat of Arms/Device/Arms/Armoury

Often, these interchangeable terms are used in reference to a unique piece of art that is usually displayed in the shape of a shield. Each device identifies one individual or group. The arms of our Kingdom, Baronies, most of our local groups, and some of our larger households have well-known heraldry.

A device is used to say, "This is Me," "I am here," or, "I am the Leader/Ruler of ...," when displayed or worn by an individual.

#### Badge

A badge is also a heraldic drawing, though it's very often not related to what is on the same person or group's device. They are used by individuals and groups to identify something that belongs to them.

A badge is used to say "This is Mine," or "I belong to ...."

#### Banner/Standard/Flag

These terms are used interchangeably, though there are many differences. Banners, standards, and flags use cloth or other materials that are hung or flown to display the heraldic arms or badges of a person or group.

#### Livery/Livery Colours

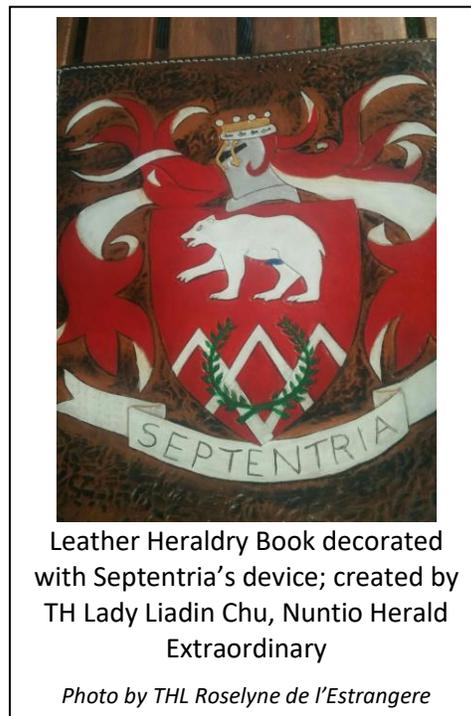
During historic times, important people would mark their followers or servants by the use of a uniform set of colours or livery. These were the forerunners of our modern Arms for the modern military, police, other paramilitary groups, and sporting organizations.

#### Individual Heraldry

In the SCA, we all have the right to design and register heraldic devices and badges for our personal use. Individuals who have been granted an Award of Arms (or higher award) may call their device their "Arms" or "Coat of Arms."

#### Group Heraldry

We use a variety of heraldry to represent official places (Kingdoms, Principalities, Baronies, Cantons, Shires) and offices, and unofficial groups (households, etc.), and also represent our groups' awards and Orders.



Leather Heraldry Book decorated with Septentria's device; created by TH Lady Liadin Chu, Nuntio Herald Extraordinary

Photo by THL Roselyne de l'Etrangere

#### Sumptuary Laws/Customs

These regulations govern how heraldry and certain other marks of distinction can be displayed to represent a person or group. The Society has universal rules (the Corpora). In Ealdormere, we have very few sumptuary laws and customs that are unique to our lands. In historic times, these laws and customs were quite varied, but basically stated that the more important the person being represented, the bigger and grander the heraldic display.

## Historical Use of Heraldic Displays

Originally, heraldry was used primarily to identify individuals of importance at battles and tournaments so one's followers could find and rally with their leaders. Heralds also used these images to identify the dead and cull the field of battle. At our time in history, war was very much a spectator sport; groups of liveried soldiers followed their leaders' banners and standards around the field, which helped observers to follow the ebb and flow of battle.

As time passed and peace became more the norm, heraldry continued its function and developed into much of our current mundane pomp and ceremony. In historic times, the head of the household would mark their buildings and property (including family members identified by the badges or colours they wore), servants, and even livestock.



## Why Use Heraldic Displays?

So how do we in the SCA use heraldry, and how can we use it better to make our game appear more real, and help to dissolve the line between modern event sites and the foggy vision of the past we are trying to recreate? What effort can we make to add that special zip to our events and spaces?

## Personal Heraldry

In the SCA, as in real life, no two people may have exactly the same device or badge because registered name and devices are protected; no one

else is allowed to register the same one. Just like those historic people we choose to emulate, we use our heraldry as identification.

At SCA events, the most obvious place we see devices is on the shields and clothing of our heavy weapons fighters. During a tournament, even if a fighter is wearing armour nearly identical to their opponent's, you can identify an individual by checking out their heraldry. As was done in the distant past, this is how we identify a fully-armoured fighter when we cannot see their face or anything else. For those who have witnessed Pennsic's massive battles, it is usually very easy to spot Ealdormere on the field as many of our troops wear scarlet and trilliums on their shields, weapons, and uniforms.

Here is a small sampling of ideas for using your device to help the rest of us identify you.

- Transfer your device to a tabard, surcoat, or other clothing that can be identified from farther away. There are a great many patterns and ideas for heraldic clothing that can be used create the colourful pageantry we attempt to emulate.
- Use your device or badge on your accessories to identify them as yours. When you're wearing them, they will mark you as the person they represent.
- You can paint, engrave or otherwise affix your device to your belt, pouches, purses, hats, knife sheaths, drinking vessels, dishes, and eating utensils.
- Archers can add their device or badge to a quiver full of arrows or the bag they carry their bow in; throwers can put it on their weapons cases or other items they carry on to the range.
- Belt favours (pieces of material dangling from one's belt adorned with symbols) are widespread in the SCA. They can be marked with the wearer's device or badge, though they're not overly period in use.
- If your main heraldic colours are well known, and you choose to wear garb of these colours, people will soon associate those colours with you. Livery colours can be used to identify a person. Of course, with a limited number of heraldic colours

to choose from, it won't be long before several other people use the same colours. At that point, the usefulness of livery colours breaks down as a precise system for identifying individuals.

### Group Heraldry

Within the SCA, much as in the real world, we divide ourselves into a variety of localized groups ranging from large (Kingdoms and Principalities), medium-sized (Baronies), to smaller local branches (Cantons, Shires, Strongholds, etc.). All of these groups have their own unique heraldry to identify them, and (in some cases), their chosen leaders (Kings, Queens, Barons, and Baronesses).

Group heraldry is similar to personal heraldry, but its use is more restricted. Most groups have some form of badge that can be used to indicate group membership or affiliation. Many groups also use a system of badges for the group's awards and or rank structures.

Look for future articles that expand upon these basics, and help you add a more period look at our events. My next article will cover sumptuary customs and rules governing their uses, and how badges are used as a means to identify personal property.



Master Piero diPaxiti dVincenzo's device  
embroidered by Widow Kate

*Photo by TH Lady Roselyne de l'Etrangere*