



The Village Idiot

Newsletter of the Barony of Windhaven

May ASLI

Minutes of the April Business Meeting

April 17, 2016

Waverly Masonic Lodge, Appleton

Next Meetings: Sunday May 22nd 4pm City Park-Appleton, Sunday June 12th 4pm Colburn Park-Green Bay

Seneschal's Report: Lady Marketa reported that things have been quiet for her.

Chatelaine Report: Lady Aesa reported that contact has been made with a UW-Oshkosh student who met Grimmund at the Bayeau Tapestry exhibit there.

Exchequer's Report: Lady Xanthippe reported that we have \$7795.98 in our account. \$634.18 belongs to Bentbridge. We need about \$6.00 to pay off our most recent donation to the Lodge.

Chronicler's Report: Lady Aesa reported that the Village Idiot got out. Thank you to those members that have submitted articles. Articles are always welcome from members.

Herald's Report: Lord Iohannes reported that things have been reasonably quiet with newer members working on names and devices. He also reported that he will continue to write articles for the newsletter and include any members that have names and/or devices approved.

MOAS Report: Lady Marketa reported on behalf of Lady Nimeau that there are lots of

classes in the works. April 30th is a Chain Mailee jewelry class. Leather from Lady Caileen was given to Bentbridge for book binding. Lady Nimeau also met the Kingdom MOAS at Bardic Madness.

Knight's Marshal's Report: Lord Cristoffel reported that outdoor practices will be starting. They will alternate between City Park in Appleton and Colburn Park in Green Bay.

Rapier Captain's Report: HE Grimmund reported that practices continue the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at Waverly Masonic Lodge in Appleton beginning at 6pm. Bentbridge practices have started again.

Youth Combat Marshal: Lady Xanthippe reported that Kingdom is looking for a new marshal. There are also new guidelines for group MITs.

Web Minister's Report: Lord Iohannes reported that the Order of Precedence has been forwarded to Kingdom.

College of Bentbridge: Lady Audrey reported that several students attended and performed at Bardic Madness. Weekly meetings are being held along with rapier practice and other activities. Election of officers will be held April 28th. They are planning on fundraising at Falcon's Keep's event in September.

Baron & Baroness Report: HE Mira reported that she and HE Grimmund attended Coronation and saw a new king and queen crowned. HE Mira was surprised when she was

put on vigil for Order of the Pelican and elevated at evening court at Coronation. They plan on attending Crown Tournament.

Old Business:

- Reminder to bring monetary donations to Monday night rapier practices at the Lodge or any other activities we hold there.

New Business

- Scribal Day with Lady Katerinka- Saturday May 28th at Waverly Masonic Lodge. We plan on starting around 9am.
- Member Directory- Lady Aesa reported that she has been receiving information from the members, but doesn't have everyone yet.
- Master Hamish and Birna reported that Pell practice will be starting at their home on the 2nd & 4th Monday's of the month. Start time will be between 6-7pm. Lady Birna will also be holding woodworking days once school ends.

Guild Reminders:

Project Night- Continues at Their Excellences' home every Wednesday. Doors open at 6pm. There is now a topic for each week.

1st week- Heraldry

2nd week- Sewing

3rd week- Calligraphy/Illumination

4th week-topic to be determined during the month

Letter from the Baroness:

Greetings Windhaven!

Hooray! Hooray! It's the first of May . . . I think that spring may have come to stay.

April has been a busy month for HE Grimmund and me. We started the month by attending the Coronation of Gwenhwyvar and Rhys. The following weekend HE Grimmund attended Bardic Madness and the weekend after that we both attended Road to the Isle in Mistig Waetru.

As most of you know, I was honored by TRM at Coronation when they elevated me to the

peerage and made me a Companion in the Order of the Pelicans. This was a very humbling experience for me, particularly listening to the words of those who spoke on my behalf. I am very grateful for Lord Iohannes and Ladies Aesa & Xanthippe for helping with the food for my vigiling and speaking during my ceremony. A special thanks goes to Xanthippe for speaking on my behalf as a member of the Populous. Many tears were shed.

HE Grimmund and I will be traveling to Crown Tourney the weekend of May 14 in Tomah. Other upcoming events include:

- **Lamb to Loom** Saturday May 21
Shire of Turm an dem See (Random Lake WI)
- **ARRG XV: World's End** Friday May 27-30
Barony of Jararvellir (Montello WI)
- **Castle Fever – At the Castle** Friday June 3-5
Shire of Silfren Mere (Rochester MN)
- **Mermaids XXIII – Asian Invasion** Friday June 3-5
Shire of Turm an dem See (Valders WI)

Windhaven is also hosting a Scribal Workshop on Saturday, May 28 at the Waverly Masonic Lodge. Baroness Katerinka Lvovicha, Northshield Polaris Signet, will be spending the day in our barony to help those who are interested in the scribal arts learn the tricks of the trade. This day starts at 9:00 AM. The plan is to provide sloppy joes for lunch so attendees don't have to leave to eat. **Bringing something to go with those sandwiches is encouraged. There is no cost.**

I hope to see many of you at some of these in the upcoming month. Until then . . .

Peace

Mira



Herald's Section Submitted by Lord Iohannes

The Basics of Heraldry: Lesson 5: Charges – Non-Quadrupeds

This article builds on topics from previous articles. You may wish to revisit those topics prior to reading. Special credit for information in this article is given to Eldred Ælfwald, former Gordian Knot Herald, Barony of Nottingham Coill, and Atlantia.

Last month we discussed quadruped charges. These are typically commonly known animals such as lions and deer. You are not limited to these and may include other types of charges both animate (living) and inanimate (not living). Use of these typically involves special naming conventions that differ from those of quadrupeds. These conventions include both special naming practices and descriptions of positioning.

Positioning descriptions are used when a charge, often but not always an inanimate charge, is placed on the field in an atypical manner. The descriptions make reference to Ordinaries (see prior article for further information) that lie in a similar manner. These may include:

- Palewise (vertical and centered between left and right sides)
- Fesswise (horizontal and centered between top and bottom)
- Bendwise (diagonal descending from left to right)
- Bend Sinisterwise (diagonal ascending from left to right)

- In Cross (charges lie on the field in a manner to make a cross)

- In Saltire (charges lie on the field in a manner to make a saltire)

Fish: This includes anything that looks like a fish such as dolphins.

hauriant: positioned vertically with heads rising upwards-- a common posture.

urinant: positioned vertically with heads sinking downwards, belly to sinister-- a rare posture.

naiant: swimming fesswise-- a common posture.

embowed: applies to any fish that has its body arched as if it were leaping. Think of hauriant with the fish curved in an arc with the bend to the right. Sometimes it is emblazoned naiant embowed (period French) where the fish forms an "arch"

erect: applies to any sea monster-- the top half is rampant and the bottom half is coiled into a loop



Insects and Amphibians

tergiant: an overhead view of the beast as it crawls along.

volant-en-arriere (or *volant*): winged insects in flight viewed from above.



glissant ondoyant nowed



erect coiled erect

displayed: the wings are outstretched--used for butterflies, moths, and other insects that are mostly wing.

This category of charges are typically

depicted from above rather than from the side like other charges. Creatures such as crickets and grasshoppers that are better identified from the side might be depicted from the side and blazoned as *statant*. Toads and frogs are often *tergiant*. Spiders are depicted tergiant by default.



tergiant



volant-en-arriere

Non-legged Reptiles: Includes snakes and eels

glissant: slithering along usually either fesswise or to chief. Almost straight.

ondoyant (or *undoyant*): undulating or very wriggly. Again, usually to chief or fesswise.

nowed: knotted. In a loose knot that looks like an untightened overhand knot or a pretzel.

erect: ready to strike. The snake is shown in a reverse S-curve (default) so the entire length of the body is seen. This attitude is one that appears to be post period, but is still acceptable.

coiled erect: bottom portion coiled, head up and ready to strike. An SCA invented posture.

Humanoids: Yes, people are charges too!

The default posture for humans is **statant affronty**. Anything else is almost never met with in Period heraldry. Sometimes if a human being is better described in a different position the posture will be changed accordingly. "An archer statant maintaining and drawing a bow" would naturally be seen in profile, as would "a knight armed cap-a-pie brandishing a sword upon a horse courant caparisoned...".

Angels have their wings displayed and inverted by default. They are usually found statant affronty in both SCA and Period heraldry.

An armored human is **armed**. If the armor covers all of his body he is **armed cap-a-pie** (literally "head to toe"). Clothing is blazoned as **vested**. Hair is described as **crined**.

Beasts of the Air: creatures that are mostly wing

rising: wings are open, as if the bird is taking off. There are a variety of postures and wing positions associated with *rising*. In some cases the bird is seen from the side. In other cases it is seen from the front. The phoenix is always blazoned as **rising** and always seems to be displayed **affronty**. The head could be up or down.

addorsed: both wings are behind the bird's head in a natural posture. See **displayed** for additional modifiers.

displayed: wings outstretched to either side of the avian. When the wings are displayed or addorsed, there are two ways that they may be shown: **elevated**--with the wing tips up (typical of Continental armory); **inverted**--with wing tips down (typical of English armory). Within the SCA, there is no difference given between elevated and inverted wings.

close: wings are closed. A peacock close is blazoned **pavonated**. *Close* is a common attitude for "lesser" birds. **Note:** any raptor close will probably be blazoned as a falcon. A bat close will be depicted **affronty**, and an owl close is usually depicted **guardant**.

striking, rousant, trussing: raptor in flight with head down and talons out stretched to grasp. In period armory, this was blazoned as *rousant* or *trussing*. May be enhanced with another bird (usually lying close fesswise) as "preying upon an X".

affronty: as with land beasts, avians can be shown affronty. Some such as the owl and the bat are much more identifiable this way. However, their heads will typically be seen in profile.

statant: this posture is normally reserved for long-legged avians such as the heron and the crane.

in her piety: reserved for pelicans, the pelican is shown beak to breast with blood dropping to pelican chicks.

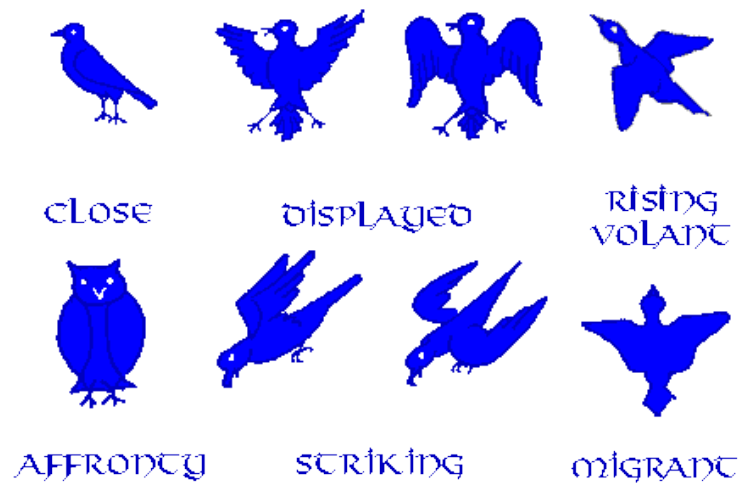
in its vigilance: reserved for cranes, it is shown with head up and one leg raised grasping a rock.

in his pride: reserved for peacocks, it is shown statant affronty with the tail feathers spread.

volant: as if the bird were in flight. There are a variety of ways to position the wings. The normally accepted practice is to show the bird as if it were banking or circling. When depicted as shown, this matches standard period heraldic practice. Brooke-Little notes that this was once a synonym for *rising* but in modern heraldry volant is distinguished from *rising* by the bird's feet not being visible.

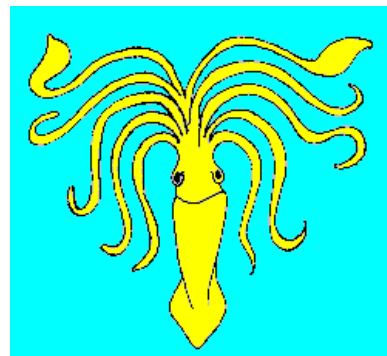
naiant: this is used in the SCA to describe waterfowl that are "swimming"

migrant: a bird in flight palewise, viewed from the top (similar to *tergiant*). This appears to be an SCA invention--and it is virtually indistinguishable from *displayed*.



Uncategorized: Anything that does not fit in an above category

Creatures that do not show a lot of movement or which don't really have a logical posture don't have their posture blazoned. For example, a snail or an octopus is just going to be blazoned as such but without a posture. There is no "logical" view of a snail except the side view. There is no logical view for an octopus or kraken (squid) except for head in the middle with the tentacles sort of fanning out from the center.



So what about heraldic monsters? Since many heraldic monsters are combinations of heraldic beasts, and combine two or more different types of beasts, how are they drawn? The answer is "Use your own judgement." A sea-monster is normally blazoned *erect*--the forepaws are as if the beast is rampant and the tail is looped. If the monster has legs, it can be blazoned using some if not all of the land attitudes. A dragon

may be blazoned using any land or air beast attitudes, yet a wyvern cannot as it only has two legs.

Some of the more unusual animals in the heraldic zoo have multiple heads or bodies. The hydra is a "standard" multi-headed monster, but since it is defined as having multiple heads, there is not a special term for it. However, for those animals, that would not normally have more than one head (or body) special terms exist.

bicorporate: having two bodies and one head
tricorporate, etc.: having three, or more bodies as indicated by prefix

bicapitated, etc two-headed, likewise, **tricapitated** means three-headed
winged: if the beast in question does not normally have wings, they can be added to create a new chimera-like monster.

sea-<fill in the animal of choice>: For the most part, animals can become sea-monsters by replacing the hind portion of their bodies with a fish tail (like a mermaid's). See the sea-urchin below for an example.



Heads of Creatures



cabossed



couped close



couped



erased

How does one deal with just the head of an animal? There are four basic positions for an animal's head:

cabossed/caboshed: simply a frontal view of the animal's face. The neck is not shown in this depiction. **Note:** for foxes, this is referred to a **fox's mask**, and for lions and leopards, it is referred to as a **lion's (or leopard's) face**.

couped close: a side view of the head only without neck.

couped: a side view of the head with the neck shown. The neck ends in a simple horizontal line. *Coupé* means "cut" in French, so this depiction of an animal's head with smooth "cut" at the neck makes logical sense.

erased: Similar to **couped**, but the neck ends in a ragged edge. To put it grossly, the head was ripped off.

jessant-de-lys: with a fleur-de-lys issuing from the mouth and head--as if the head were speared through.

Minor Adjustments

Minor changes to a beast include the position of the head or the tail, tinctures of minor details such as eyes, claws. Also, any aspect of a beast can have a tincture different from the remainder of its body.

Changes to Postures

regardant: applied to any beast--looking over its shoulder. Common.

guardant: applied to any beast--looking out towards viewer (*at gaze* for stags that are statant) Common.

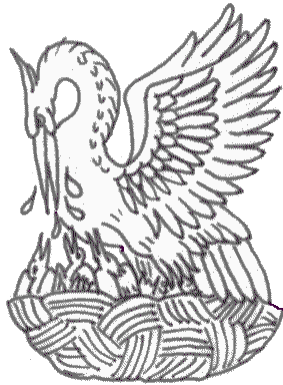
coward: with tail between legs (for tailed beasts and monsters).

maintaining a <object>: a beast may hold a small object in a single paw/mouth/beak/talon/etc. Very common.

brandishing an <object>: applies primarily to humanoids. The beast is holding the object in a threatening way. Very similar to *maintaining*.

nowed(or *knowned*): in a loop or knot--used to describe tails and serpents

vulning: any animal wounding itself (Pelicans are the classic example)



Changes or Additions to Attributes

Beware! By detailing every aspect of a beast, one begins to move away from period practice and good heraldic style. Remember, the fewer tinctures the eyes must distinguish between, the better the armorial style! By attempting too much detail, one ends up with "pictorial heraldry"! None of these changes will count as a difference between two beasts in SCA armory. Such details are usually too small to be noticed at a distance. What follows is not a comprehensive list, but covers a fair number of small changes that can be made to enhance an emblazon. Often, such details that are a standard part of the beast are regarded as artistic license. Additions to a beast, such as *gorged* and *vorant* are explicitly blazoned when the armory is being registered.

alerion: without legs or beak. Rare.

armed: refers to the tincture of the claws, teeth and horns (and beak of a bird or monster)

attired: refers to the tincture of the horns of a deer or other beast with antlers

barbed: although commonly used to reference arrowheads, barbed also refers to a tail that ends in a spearhead-like point. Typical of dragons and wyverns.

combed/crested: refers to the tincture of a bird with a crest

crined: refers to the tincture of the hair of humanoids

dented: refers to the tincture of the teeth

disarmed: a creature without its offensive weapons

double-queued: a creature that has two tails

finned: refers to the tincture of a fish's or sea monster's fins

flammant/enflamed: for traditionally fire-breathing beasts, flames issue from the mouth

gorged of <item>: refers to a collar or other object encircling the neck of a beast. Quite often period armory will depict an animal *engorged* of a coronet.

habited/vested: refers to the clothing on humanoids

hooded: refers to the tincture of a hood on a hawk

horned: refers to the tincture of the horns of an animal

incensed: spouting flames from the mouth and ears (typical of panthers from the 16th century onwards). Earlier examples of the panther lack this type of detail and the flames issue only from the mouth.

jelloped: refers to the tincture of a bird's wattles

langued: refers to the tincture of the tongue.

maned: refers to the tincture of an animal's mane

orbed: refers to the tincture of the eyes

queued: refers to the tincture of the tail

queue-forché: used to describe a tail that is split in two

sexed/pizzled/coded: refers to the tincture of the sexual organs of a beast. Rare

tufted: refers to the tincture of the tufts of hair on animal's limbs and tails. Rare.

unguled/hoofed: refers to the tincture of the hooves. Rare.

vorant: any animal devouring another creature or object

vulned: wounded and disgorging blood



Heraldic Registrations

On March 26, 2016, the SCA College of Heraldry published its January 2016 Letter of Acceptances and Returns. The following members of the Barony had elements registered:

Names Registered:

- Ceolwyn of Tissebiri. Name change from Nicolaa of Lub Shiochail. The submitter's previous name is released.

Devices Registered:

- Ceolwyn of Tissebiri. Vert, a crescent Or and in chief three estoiles argent.



SCA/Northshield/Windhaven Facebook Links

SCA

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/scadiscussiongroup/>

Northshield

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/kingdomofnorthshield>

Windhaven

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Windhaven>

Army of Northshield

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/656097414404272/>

Northshield Barter and Trade SCA

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/469057956444539/>

Armor for Sale

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/394380073955553/>

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