

LETTER OF REGISTRATION AND
RETURN
JANUARY 2014

Unto Their Imperial Majesties, and to all unto these letters come do I, Baron Sebastian Javier de la Cruz, Imperial Sovereign of Arms, send greetings.

This is the Official Letter of Registration and Return for the month of January, 2014.

Reports were received from the following chapters:

Albion, Altland, Bisqaia, Brunico, Cashel, Esperance, Lancaster, Malta, Mann Abhainn, Monaco, Somerset, Stirling, Terre Neuve, Tyr-Lynn, Wolfendorf, York

The following chapters did not send in reports:

Alhambra, Auroch's Fjord, Brandenburg, Caer Leon, Chesapeake, Connacht, Constantinople, Cyprus, Drachetor, Gloucester, Isle of Crete, Murrisk, Pembroke, Raven's Fjord, Roanoke, Thinaria, Umbria

Before we get to the submissions for the month, I want to take a moment to address the publications of the College of Arms.

The two primary documents used to govern the policies and practices of the College of Arms are the Heraldry Manual and Imperial Estates Writ #18. The Manual covers the "how to" of design, registration, return, and appeal. It is the document that lays out our policies regarding what can and cannot be registered and by whom.

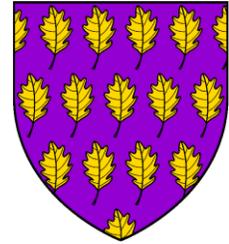
Recently, the Imperial Chancellor requested a review of all documents and publications by each ministry. As such, the College of Arms will be reviewing the Manual and making corrections as needed. These corrections may be as simple as correcting typographical errors or it may be clarification of policy. No substantial changes to policy or practice are being planned at this time. Please keep an eye out for an updated manual to be coming soon.

The second guiding document is IEW #18. This document covers armigerous rights as well as awards and orders granted by the Imperial Crowns. The College of Arms is currently reviewing the list of awards to ensure that the document is kept up-to-date and reflects any changes to that list which have occurred. Once this review is done, an updated list will be submitted to the Imperial Chancellery for approval by the Imperial Estates.

Finally, there is a third document which will be coming out soon to help guide the members of the Empire on heraldic practice and design. This document will not replace or supersede the Manual or IEW #18 in any way. As well, it will not carry

the weight of an official bylaw or policy. Rather, this document will be a “heraldry for beginners” guide designed to help those who do not have experience with heraldry better understand how to design and submit their own devices and badges. I have heard from many non-heralds in the Empire that heraldry is often seen as everything from “complicated” to “archaic.” It is my hope that this new guide will help beginners understand heraldic practices better and encourage more registration and display of heraldry in the Empire.

Finally, this LoRR has submissions in it which brought about a bit of discussion among some of the heralds in the Empire. An individual submitted devices which are one degree of difference from the flag of the Historical Shire of Lowenburg (“Purpure, semy of oak leaves Or”). This brought up the question of whether or not Lowenburg’s flag, since that chapter was a Shire, is truly considered protected armory.



Currently, the policy of the College of Arms is to protect only the primary flag of Duchies, Archduchies, and Kingdoms should a chapter ceases to exist. Since Lowenburg maintained its status as a Shire throughout its existence, current policy would dictate that their flag would be released as opposed to protected. The question this raises is this: Should Shires’ flags be protected alongside the flags of Duchies, Archduchies, and Kingdoms?

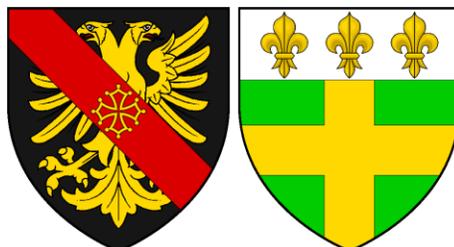
Given that the purpose of the College of Arms’ policy to protect the flags of former chapters is to protect the history of the Empire, and given that Shires are just as much a part of the Empire as any other chapter, it stands to reason that a Shire’s flag is just as worthy of protection. Therefore, as of the publication of this LoRR, the primary flag of all chartered chapters will be protected as historical arms in perpetuity.

As well, please take a look at the article which follows the registrations for the Beltazure Queen of Arms’ wonderful information on Marshaling within the Adrian Empire

In Service to the Empire,

BARON SEBASTIAN JAVIER DE LA CRUZ

**BARON IMPERIAL & ROYAL
IMPERIAL SOVEREIGN OF ARMS**



RELEASED:

Esperance



Embattled Hope King of Arms

Badge

01-01

Purpure, two lions combattant maintaining a crown, all within a border embattled Or.

York



Rhiannon MacGregor

Device

2894

Gules, three feathers in fess Or.



Rhiannon MacGregor

Device

2894

Per pale Gules and Sable, semy of oak leaves Or.

(ISOA Note: The College of Arms was informed by the White Rose Queen of Arms of the Kingdom of York that this member has not been active for more than three years. This has been confirmed and, thus, the above arms are released).

REGISTERED:

Albion



Gerrath MacRae

Device

5843

Azure, a chevron couched from sinister Or.

Altland



Shire of Altland

Flag

66-00

Vert, an owl Argent, wings addorsed, and on a border Sable fimbriated three lozenges Or.

Brunico



Liam

Device

2858

Per chevron Sable and Gules, a wolf's head caboshed Argent.



Shamus

Badge

6755

[Fieldless] On a lozenge Argent, a shamrock Vert.

Church of Adria



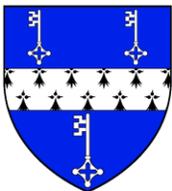
Sanctuary of Westminster

Device

11-02

Purpure, a paschal lamb Or, maintaining a standard Argent crossed Or, and in chief three fleur-de-lis Argent.

Esperance



Chao Zhao

Device

8795

Azure, a fess Ermine between three keys inverted, wards to dexter, Argent.



Chao Zhao

Badge

8795

[Fieldless] A mill rind Or.



Darren

Device

3721

Vert, a phoenix and on a chief embattled Or, a sword fesswise Sable.



Robert ap Pryderi

Device

4215

Sable, a coney rampant contourné Or and on a chief Argent, a length of chain Vert.

Terre Neuve



House Ull

Device

02-02

Per pale Sable and Argent, a bow armed and drawn Counterchanged.

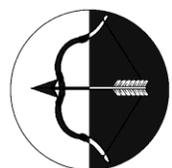


House Ull

Badge

02-02

Per pale Sable and Argent, a bow armed and drawn Counterchanged.



House Ull

Badge

02-02

Per pale Argent and Sable, a bow armed and drawn Counterchanged.



Fay O'Draig

Device

Sable, a peacock close Argent.

8242



Guillermo

Device

Per fess Argent and Azure, an escallop Or and in chief three talbots sejant Sable.

8281

Wolfendorf



Royal Lion of Wolfendorf

Badge

Sable, a chevron Gules fimbriated Or, and overall a lion rampant Argent.

64-07



Royal Star of Wolfendorf

Badge

Sable, a chevron Gules fimbriated Or, and overall a mullet Argent.

64-07

York



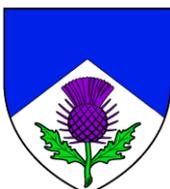
Royal Order of the Silver Sword & Shield

Badge

Sable, in base a wyvern and in chief two swords in saltire Argent.

04-07

(ISOA Note: Because of the equal weight of the swords and the wyvern, this provides a significant visual difference from the badge of the Marshalat of the Adrian Empire "Sable, two swords in saltire Argent.")



Caedmon Sargthin

Device

Per chevron Azure and Argent, in base a thistle Proper.

2678

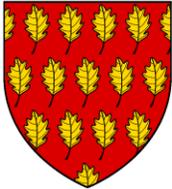


Killian Oakesblood

Badge

[Fieldless] An oak leaf Or.

3750



Killian Oakesblood

Device

Gules, semy of oak leaves Or.

3750

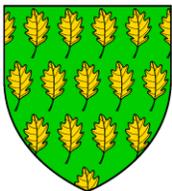


Killian Oakesblood

Device

Sable, semy of oak leaves Or.

3750



Killian Oakesblood

Device

Vert, semy of oak leaves Or.

3750

(ISOA Note: The above three devices were the submissions referenced earlier as being 1 CD from the Historical Shire of Lowenburg. Though 2 CD is usually required, with only one charge and one field tincture, a significant visual difference exists by altering the field tincture.)

RETURNED:

Terre Neuve

Esme Jinx

Device

4031

Sable, two swords in saltire Argent surmounted at the hilts by a rose Proper.

(ISOA Note: Only 1 CD from the badge of the Marshalat of the Adrian Empire, "Sable, two swords in saltire Argent." No significant visual difference exists by adding the rose to the hilts, since it is of much smaller visual weight than the swords.)

York

Royal Order of the Harp

Badge 04-07

Gules, a harp and a border embattled Or.

Royal Order of the Lion

Badge 04-07

Gules, a lion rampant and a border embattled Or.

Royal Order of the Quill

Badge 04-07

Gules, a quill and a border embattled Or.

(ISOA Note: Each of the three above is only 1 CD from currently registered badges. The Order of the Harp and Order of the Quill are only 1 CD from the corresponding Imperial Orders ["Gules, a harp Or" and "Gules, a quill Or" respectively] and the Order of the Lion is only 1 CD from both the Imperial Order of the same name ["Gules, a lion sejant Or"] and the Lion of Hope Deputy Herald of Esperance ["Purpure, a lion rampant and a border embattled Or."] Altering the tincture of the charges from Or to Argent would, on each, clear the conflicts.)

HELD OVER:

York

Royal Order of the Hatchling

Badge 04-07

Gules, a wyvern's head erased and a border embattled Or.

(ISOA Note: Though this submission is clear of all conflicts, it is apparent by comparing this submission to the three that are returned above that the Kingdom of York desires to have the badges of all four coordinate with one another. Out of respect to their goal, and in light of the previous three being returned, I am holding this one over so that the White Rose Queen of Arms may speak to the Crowns of York about alternate submissions.)



The following information is presented by Dame Constance Rosewall, Beltazure Queen of Arms, on behalf of the College of Arms of the Adrian Empire.

Marshalling

The first thing to emphasize is that this is a guide to marshalling for purposes of **heraldic display**. No matter how many titles you are personally allowed to hold, you are not allowed to register marshaled armory. **Repeat: you are not allowed to register marshaled armory!**

Marshalling in period was invented to show relationships – relationships between spouses, between parent and child, and between different properties owned by an individual. In Adria, the parent-child relationship would be shown only rarely, particularly if a chapter chooses to have more time pass between their Crown War and coronation.

The earliest form of marshalling was very, very simple – one displayed one's own device on a shield next to the spouse's. This isn't very pleasing to the eye, however, and doesn't lend itself to banners and other heraldic display.

After this, impalement was invented, the displaying of two spouses arms on either side of a shield. There are two ways this can be done. In standard impalement, the arms are squished, while in dimidiation they are cut in half, with the left half of one being displayed with the right half of the other. Most often, the man's arms are displayed on the left. You can either go with this custom, or choose to display the higher ranking spouse's arms on the left. Sometimes arms were flipped left to right to make a more aesthetically pleasing combination, or displayed on the non-standard sides. They were also occasionally altered slightly, such as removing borders and tressures.

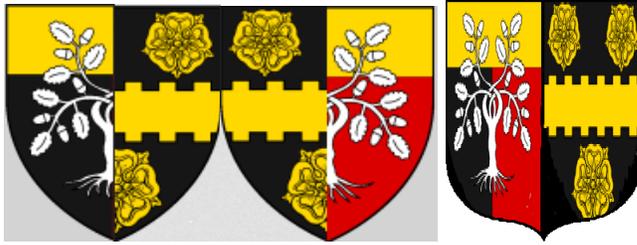
I will use my own arms and those of my husband as an example.



Ansel de Gace



Constance Rosewall



Automatically, you can see one of the issues with dimidiation in the first two examples – Ansel’s arms are not very well represented no matter which half you use. This is one of the possible reasons it fell out of favor. The plain impalement doesn’t have that issue, though some arms take to stretching better than others.

Eventually, a form of marshalling called Quartering was invented. Given the name, we mainly think of this as in four parts, as in a shield divided Quarterly, but the sections are called quarters regardless of how many there are.



Quartering produces arms that display both devices fully and without distortion. Again, minor modifications were sometimes made to make things look better.

In the above cases, what would have been used in period would have actually been my father’s arms most of the time. Generally, if I had an actual title in my own right, my arms would be shown on an “escutcheon of pretense” on my husband’s arms:



In period, something called a Cadency Mark was sometimes used to distinguish the child of an armiger. He would use his father, or the marshaled arms of his parents, with a mark to show that they were used by a son rather than the original owner. An extensive system of English cadency marks was created around 1500 (<http://www.rarebooks.nd.edu/digital/heraldry/cadency.html>), though some of the 19th century heraldry experts are of the opinion that it wasn't used very often.



*The arms of the eldest son of Constance & Ansel
In the formal English cadency system*

Different countries have their own systems, some as formal as the English, like the French, others to the point of non-existence, like Germany, where an entire family would just use the same arms. In some cases, even in England, pieces of the mother's arms were used for this purpose as well.

Daughters in period usually used their father's arms on a non-shield shape like a lozenge while unmarried and then his arms marshaled with her husband's rather than using any kind of marks. For those wishing to be more egalitarian, if less medieval, Canada has a system of cadency defined for daughters if you don't wish to make up a mark of your own or use the one for sons.

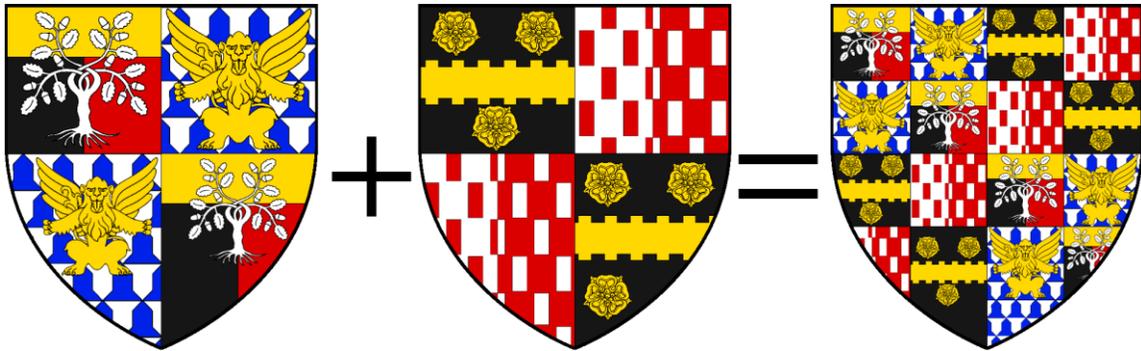
The French cadency system also uses labels, along with bend/bendlets, and borders with various line styles, for the most part.

Modern version of Scottish system:

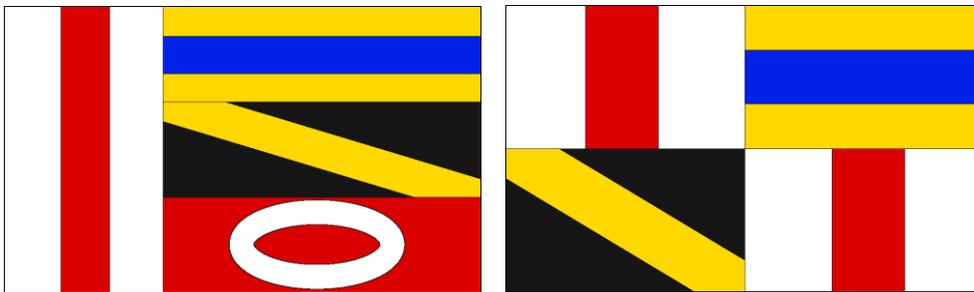
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Differencing-en.png>

Finally, marshalling was used to display the arms associated with one's various titles. This is entirely possible in Adria; we are allowed to register up to six devices and badges. In addition to the roses above, I also have another device. I am both a knight and a baroness of the court of Somerset. I might choose to display my personal arms with two devices to show both of these.

When we step down, my husband may also be granted a retirement title of baron, and if we really wished, we could marshal these marshaled arms, to everyone's horror:



An appropriately fancy form of display might also be to combine the arms of an estate with the estates within it, such as a barony and the houses within it. Give the higher estate prominence:



Three houses

Two houses

Should I marshal my office's arms with my own?

One is a title, whether a knighthood or a noble one, while the other is a job, no matter how elevated. In general, no.

Should I marshal the college of arms with my chapter's arms for a tabard?

Period practice suggests that a herald should wear only the arms of the crown they serve.

I'm a crown, should I marshal my personal heraldry with my chapter's?

While you are allowed to, it's most usually suggested that you don't. It's considered better taste to display the highest and most important of your heraldry, and even the highest knighthood or non-landed title is lower than the lowest chapter crown. The Kings of England may have also had French titles early on, but you only see them display the heraldry of the kingdoms that they (theoretically) ruled.