Unto the Ansteorran College of Heralds does Alasdair MacEogan, Bordure Herald, send greetings.

Please find herein find the Annotated Internal Collated Commentary for the month of July 2010 containing decisions out of the decision meeting on August 15th held by Alasdair MacEogan, Bordure Herald.

Warmest Regards,
Alasdair

This letter contains commentary from the following people:

Tostig Logiosophia
Magnus
Mari ingen Briain meic Donnchada
Alasdair MacEogan
Ioannes Dalassenos
Eirik Halfdanarson
Emma de Fetherstan
Coblaith Muimnech
Kevin Keary
Jayme Dominguez del Valle
Daniel de Lincoln
Lemoine de Gascoigne
Da'ud ibn Auda
Adela VomBerg
Teceangl Bach

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1. Conn mac Fhlaind ui Bhrian. (Rio Rojo, Incipient ??) New Name.

Comment by Tostig Logiosophia on 2010/06/30 22:15:33 CDT:
Last edited on 2010/07/03 11:38:44 CDT
The dates summarized by Asterisk for <Conn> match
http://www.medievalscotland.org/kmo/AnnalsIndex/Masculine/Conn.shtml The raw data at the bottom cites (d 954) "Conn m. Erudain m. Gairbith, ri Muigi Dumai" and (d 994) "Cond m. Conghal*aig*, ri H. Failgi".
The documentation cited for <Bhrian> states the Middle Irish (ca 900-1200) genitive form of <Brian> is <Briain>. The submitted spelling looks to be a lenited genetive form in use after roughly 1200. Before 1200 the lenited form of <Briain> would still be <Briain> per 'The Spelling of Lenited Consonants in Gaelic' (Formerly Published as "Lenition in Gaelic Orthography") by Sharon L. Krossa
http://www.medievalscotland.org/scotlang/lenition.shtml
Hopefully Mari can find time for this. The closest naming pattern to what was submitted she has for near the 10th century is "A mac B huí C" (1000-1200) where <mac> takes the *nominative* case and <huí> the genetive. The next closest is "A mac B meic C" (900-1200) where <meic> takes the genitive case. (The other two 10th century naming patterns with "at least five with names with this construction" are "A mac B" and "A hua B".) It also notes "900s - family / clan names come into use", so there may be one to four

doumental instances in the 900s of "A mac B huí C" i the authors source data. 'KWHS - Irish Names v.4' by Mari ingen Briain meic Donnchada (Kathleen M. O'Brien) pages 2 and 3 at http://www.medievalscotland.org/kmo/ClassHandouts/
<Conn mac Flann meic Briain> seems the most authentic 10th century form, but <Conn mac Flann huí Briain> also seems authentic if the submitter meant 1000-1100 (and may on further research be documentable between 900 to 1000).

Comment by Magnus on 2010/07/02 02:40:07 CDT:
There is a very big difference between the two name patterns cited. mac Fhlaind ui Bhrian is Early Modern Irish Gaelic.
mac Fhlaind hui Bhrian is Middle Irish Gaelic. Both mean son of Flann male descendent of Brian.

A mac B meic C means A son of B son of C. This is not the same relationship.

Since he wants authenticity for the 10th century and all the citations date from the 900s the name should be Middle Irish. I need to check the genitive and lenited spellings and for conflicts and presumption but the name looks simple to construct.

And don't bother Mari until the Pelican office transition is done.

Comment by Mari ingen Briain meic Donnchada (Rowel) on 2010/07/20 10:49:09 CDT:
Early on, "A mac B huí C" was a literal relationship, so B was the grandson of C.

The grammar issues folks have noted are correct.

For 10th C Irish, he's looking at several options.

First, let's look at: -nd vs. -nn forms.

These are orthographical variations of each other. My understanding is that early on in Old Irish, -nd was more common. By the end of the Old Irish period, -nn had mostly replaced it.

So, for his desired period of 10th C, I would expect the most typical form of his name found in records to be:

Conn mac Flainn huí Briain

As noted above (by Tostig, if I recall correctly - this interface doesn't show me) B does not show lenition in the Old/Middle Irish period. So, we've got a pronunciation change here, but it is not reflected in the spelling.

A more archaic form of his name during his period would be:

Cond mac Flaind huí Briain

or even

Cond macc Flaind huí Briain

There's enough variation in the use of -nd vs. -nn that I would find a documentary form of:

Conn mac Flaind huí Briain

(mixing -nd and -nn usage in the same name) completely unremarkable in his period.

Since accents are registerable either used or omitted (as long as the use or omission is consistent within the name),

Conn mac Flaind hui Briain

is another registerable form.

This form has the least change required to make the name registerable. It fixes the genitive forms and lenitions in the bynames and adds the prepended h- to uí (which is a trait of Middle Irish).

[End brain dump... If any of this was confusing, post a note and I'll follow up and explain it better. Thanks!]

Comment by Alasdair MacEogan (Bordure) on 2010/08/03 11:31:55 CDT:
Last edited on 2010/08/04 14:29:15 CDT
Alright, my brain is definitely fried. Here is my attempt at consolidating to something for use in the LoI. What is getting me is documenting which name elements should be lenited and which not. As much as I WANT to just put "Mari said so" I can't.

Here is what I have so far:

All name elements are taken from *Index of Names in Irish Annals* by Mari ingen Briain meic Donnchada (Kathleen M. O'Brien) - http://www.medievalscotland.org/kmo/AnnalsIndex/

<Conn> - http://www.medievalscotland.org/kmo/AnnalsIndex/Masculine/Conn.shtml
Middle Irish Gaelic (c900-c1200) nominative form: Conn
Middle Irish Gaelic (c900-c1200) genitive form: Cuinn

<Flann> - http://www.medievalscotland.org/kmo/AnnalsIndex/Masculine/Flann.shtml
Middle Irish Gaelic (c900-c1200) nominative form: Flann
Middle Irish Gaelic (c900-c1200) genitive form: Flainn

<Brian> - http://www.medievalscotland.org/kmo/AnnalsIndex/Masculine/Brian.shtml
Middle Irish Gaelic (c900-c1200) nominative form: Brian
Middle Irish Gaelic (c900-c1200) genitive form: Briain

Irish Names by Mari ingen Briain meic Donnchada - http://www.medievalscotland.org/kmo/ClassHandouts/KWHS-Irish_Names_v4_1.doc
On page 3 under "Patterns seen in Men's Names Among Gaels" shows a name construction pattern of A mac B huí C as Middle Irish Gaelic (c900-c1200) meaning A son of B grandson of C. In that instance elements B and C would take the genitive case.

I did see that according to the info Tostig posted (The Spelling of Lenited Consonants in Gaelic Formerly Published as "Lenition in Gaelic Orthography" by Sharon L. Krossa) that pre 1200 <Briain> even lenited would apparently still be <Briain> but that does not really show if it SHOULD be lenited. So can someone help a brain fried Bordure out?

> **Comment by Tostig Logiosophia on 2010/08/07 12:49:43 CDT:**
> [Name] (Responding to Bordure's request concerning lenition. 'Quick and Easy Gaelic Names'(Formerly Published as "Quick and Easy Gaelic Bynames") 3rd Edition by Sharon L. Krossa http://www.medievalscotland.org/scotnames/quickgaelicbynames/index.shtml is a useful reference. Depending on the form decided upon, the text under 'Irish Simple Patronymic with Clan Affiliation Bynames' "<single given name> mac <father's given name (in genitive case & sometimes lenited)> Uí <eponymous clan ancestor's name (in genitive case & always lenited unless starting with a vowel)> which means <given name> son <of father's given name> (of) male descendant <of eponymous clan ancestor>" and 'Two Generation Patronymic Byname' "<single given name> mac <father's given name (in genitive case & sometimes lenited)> mhic <grandfather's given name (in genitive case & always lenited unless starting with C or a vowel)> which means <given name> son <of father's given name> (of) son <of grandfather's given name>" seem the most useful for this submission.

Comment by Mari ingen Briain meic Donnchada (Rowel) on 2010/07/20 10:37:57 CDT:
Tostig said:

Hopefully Mari can find time for this. The closest naming pattern to what was submitted she has for near the 10th century is "A mac B huí C" (1000-1200) where <mac> takes the nominative case and <huí> the genetive.

I said that? Eep. Got a typo there. Which document please? So I can fix it.

The construction should be:

"A mac B huí C"

where B is in the genitive and C is genitive, lenited.

> **Comment by Tostig Logiosophia on 2010/07/20 11:52:25 CDT:**
> *Last edited on 2010/07/20 11:56:41 CDT*
> Page 3 ofhttp://www.medievalscotland.org/kmo/ClassHandouts/KWHS-Irish_Names_v4_1.doc
> under the table 'Gaelic Particle of Relationship' has
> "Nominative Case Genitive Case Meaning
> "mac meic / mhic son"
> I took this to mean B takes the nominative in "A mac B" and the genitive in "A meic/mhic B".

Comment by Tostig Logiosophia on 2010/08/07 15:56:31 CDT:
[Administrative] Until the Branch is recognizied, the location should be (Crown Lands - Central)

College Action:
Name: Bolstered the documentation and forwarded to laurel as "Conn mac Flainn huí Briain" as this fixes the grammar issues and meets the request for authenticity.

2. Hellsgate, Stronghold of. (Hellsgate, Stronghold of) New Device.
Argent, a portcullis sable within a laurel wreath vert and issuant from base flames gules.

Comment by Tostig Logiosophia on 2010/06/30 21:43:23 CDT:
Seems clear versus "Argent, a torii gate sable and a demi-sun issuant from base gules a bordure purpure." (Kitsu no Taro, Badge, Sep 2001). No other conflicts observed.

Comment by Alasdair MacEogan (Bordure) on 2010/06/30 22:19:53 CDT:
Last edited on 2010/06/30 22:47:03 CDT
[Admin]
The name trasnfer for Hellsgate, Stronghold of appears on the Ansteorran LoI dated 2010-01-27.

[Device]
Ouch. This may be an issue. While we do allow flames issaunt from base (ex. Thomas Peregrine accepted 2010-02 via Ansteorra, http://heraldry.sca.org/loar/2010/03/10-03lar.html#97) we do NOT allow ordinaries of flame, in this case a base of flames (ex. Brand-Eirikr Bjarnarson returned 2008-12 via Ansteorra, http://heraldry.sca.org/loar/2008/12/08-12lar.html#20) See below for the two depictions as they are in OSCAR (Thomas is the phoenix and Brand-Eirikr is the axes in saltire)

So what this brings us to is whether the base as depicted is flames issuant from base or a base of flames. Unfortunately I feel the depictions is likely the latter. Looking at Thomas's device you can see a noticeable break at the sides of the flames before getting to the edge of the shield. That noticeable break is missing from both the emblazon for Brand and the emblazon submitted here for Hellsgate.

1.   2.

Comment by Ioannes Dalassenos on 2010/07/01 11:28:35 CDT:
I'm in contact with the seneschal of Hellsgate (unsurprisingly, since she's my wife) and if this is likely to cause a return for a redraw, she can and will get a redrawn set of forms to you in the next week.

Comment by Alasdair MacEogan (Bordure) on 2010/07/01 12:06:37 CDT:
If it were _solely_ up to me at the moment I would say it would get returned. But, the decision is made at the meeting after weighing the opinions of all commenters and people attending the meeting so I can't say if it will get forwarded or returned at this point.

While it is possible i am the only one to see this as an issue, I am betting it would raise questions

at the Laurel level if it is forwarded. It may well be prudent to redraw now to remove concerns rather than have it returned later.

Comment by Tostig Logiosophia on 2010/07/01 20:37:09 CDT:
[Administrative] Would there need to be a new petition for the redraw?
[Device] IMO Bordure is correct and the emblazon shows a "base of flames".

Comment by Alasdair MacEogan (Bordure) on 2010/07/01 23:13:56 CDT:
Last edited on 2010/07/01 23:16:26 CDT
[Admin] I guess it would depend on how the petition is worded and what it says exactly. Does it have the emblazon on it or simply the blazon?

The standard form letter example in the Admin Handbook has both so if that is the case it would need to be redone. If just the blazon then it likely will be alright. Of course if it just has the blazon I am unsure it will be acceptable by Laurel.

I won't be able to determine for sure till I get the paperwork from Asterisk.

Comment by Magnus on 2010/07/02 02:02:58 CDT:
The petition issue and base of flames issues need further research. I will take a look through the LoARs when I get back from the Angelina conference. At this point it looks like a return to reduce the size of the flames. Laurel is very strict on branch submissions so it is better to be safe and avoid getting burned.

Comment by Eirik Halfdanarson on 2010/07/05 19:02:52 CDT:
Yes the emblazon is on the petition as the Admin Handbook requires.

Comment by Emma de Fetherstan (Star) on 2010/07/06 15:13:37 CDT:
It should be doable to redo the artwork (Ioannes, someone can email me or Bordure a scan of a drawing first before wasting time coloring multiple copies, to make sure it's better) AND do a second petition. I, personally, would go ahead and include the first petition when/if it's sent to Laurel, and not worry overly about getting the exact same people to resign the second, just enough; the overall motif has not changed, simply how 1/3 of it is depicted.

Comment by Coblaith Muimnech (Sable Crane Pursuivant) on 2010/07/07 17:26:37 CDT:
Last edited on 2010/07/07 17:27:04 CDT
I'd just acknowledge the past rulings and send it on up with some examples of period flames issuant from base that stretch all the way across the field. The ones I've uploaded are from http://daten.digitale-sammlungen.de/bsb00001421/image_445 and http://daten.digitale-sammlungen.de/bsb00018706/image_179. Given a bit of time, I'm sure we could find more.

1.   2.

Comment by Kevin Keary on 2010/07/08 14:25:15 CDT:
I agree with Sable Crane. She has period examples that should cause Wreath to revise the precedent about 'ordinaries of flame', at least for bases.

>**Comment by Alasdair MacEogan (Bordure) on 2010/07/08 16:14:40 CDT:**
>And I would be perfectly willing to send it up with that argument, but the question is if the group is willing to risk having their armory returned over this issue.

>**Comment by Jayme Dominguez del Valle on 2010/07/09 11:10:31 CDT:**
>I understand that the group may not be willing to have their armory returned to challenge the precedent, however, is it possible to do a re-draw, and send up the supporting documentation for Laurel's debate /anyway/?
>
>Jayme, trying to get back into the game.

Comment by Daniel de Lincoln on 2010/07/10 22:32:43 CDT:
Coblaith Sable Crane adduced two examples of flames issuant from base. Thing is, the second looks to me like a base rayonny, which is unexceptionable. That has been registered several times in the past few years without comment. The most recent comment was for Friedrich Sybold, 9/06, but only because "This device is returned for redraw of the line of division. The line is more angular then rayonny. Drawn with three rayons, there needs to be at least one more rayon in the rayonny - and doubling the number would be better."

I have assumed that rayonny was a heraldic attempt to depict flames, but given that we don't allow ordinaries of flame but *do* allow ordinaries rayonny, I think that they're now seen as distinct.
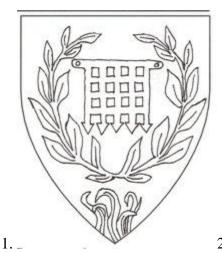
Had I gotten off my butt and read this before they reconsidered on the 7th, I might have suggested that they go with a base rayonny instead to (1) get a motif that would still look rather appropriate for "Hellsgate" and (2) remove (almost) all chance of their submission going down in flames.
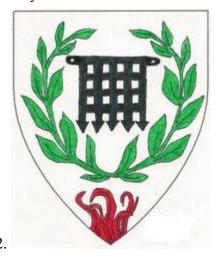
Comment by Eirik Halfdanarson on 2010/07/06 18:43:20 CDT:
A redraw has been done and will be presented at populace on the 7th to ensure that folks are still happy with it. I will be posting pictures here so everyone can look at it and comment. Not a big change, just a change to the base. Forms and a petition will show up before the decision meeting at Round Table.

Comment by Eirik Halfdanarson on 2010/07/16 19:36:40 CDT:
Here's the redrawn device.

1.   2.

Comment by Lemoine de Gascoigne on 2010/07/18 23:25:05 CDT:
No conflicts found. The closest thing I found was Or, a portcullis sable within a laurel wreath vert within an orle gules for The Shire of Valley Wold in the The Principality of Avacal in An Tir.

College Action:
Device: Forwarded to Laurel.

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3. Renault du Mont Saint-Michel. (Northkeep, Barony of) Resubmitted Device.
Azure, a dolphin urinant and on a chief wavy Or three escarbuncles of five points azure.
Comment by Tostig Logiosophia on 2010/06/30 21:29:51 CDT:
The dolphin is urinant contourney.

Consider identifiability. Parker says under 'Escaboucle'
http://www.heraldsnet.org/saitou/parker/Jpglosse.htm#Escaboucle ".... Having become a regular device, and borne by several families, it came to have varied nomenclature, and the number of rays was reduced to six and extended to twelve, so that the number came to be mentioned ...." Further, all the numbers for the staves given were even (6,8 and 12) Papworth (p 684 'Escarbunle') notes "of eight rays and pierced in the centre [sic], unless otherwise described" and only has variants of 6 and 12 staves.

> **Comment by Alasdair MacEogan (Bordure) on 2010/06/30 22:25:21 CDT:**
> *Last edited on 2010/06/30 22:25:44 CDT*
> [Device]
> I agree with the contourney.
>
> I am also a little concerned about the identifiabiltiy of the escarbuncles of five. There has only been one person I can find (ok two, but one item was a joint badge with the first person) that had a registration (ok, three) of an escarbuncle of five.
> Gwynaeth ferch Llewellyn von Westfalen
>
> - The following device associated with this name was registered in August of 1981 (via the West):
>   Azure, on a bend vert, fimbriated, three escarbuncles of five points palewise argent.
>
> - The following badge associated with this name was registered in July of 1983 (via An Tir):
>   (Tinctureless) A mullet inverted voided surmounted by an escarbuncle of five points.

Wilhelm von Westfalen

- The following badge associated with this name was registered in December of 1982 (via An Tir):
  Azure, a mullet of seven points Or within six swords conjoined in annulo proper, a bordure argent, mulletty of seven points azure, impaled with Vert, on a bend azure fimbriated three escarbuncles of five argent.
  registered jointly with Gwynaeth ferch Llewellyn von Westfalen

Comment by Kevin Keary on 2010/07/08 14:32:48 CDT:
So... with the latter two covered and allowd by the Grandfather clause, the earliest one is the only one that really counts as a precedent, right? and that was 29 years ago.

   Comment by Alasdair MacEogan (Bordure) on 2010/07/08 15:55:39 CDT:
   As I do not access to the commentary from so long ago I can't say what was said before on the issue, but I suspect not much considering the date.

   The problem arises that there have been no recent, or relatively recent, registrations of this charge and i am also not aware of any period examples for an escarbuncle of five. BUT it is a registered charge and there is also no evidence of precedents disallowing them.

   At one point the policy would have been to allow it through and then if it was deemed non-registrable then any future instances would be disallowed. I do not believe that is the current policy though.

   What I think it may boil down to is it being a decision that Wreath will need to make.

Comment by Adela VomBerg on 2010/07/12 14:59:14 CDT:
After visiting with the submitter today, I now have an understanding of what he's wanting in chief. His concept is "some sort of 5 pointed star with fleur-de-lis on the tips of the star points". The closest he's been able to find with all the heralds he's worked with is the escarbuncle. If there is something else that could be managed to achieve the look he's after, he's not hooked on the term escarbuncle.
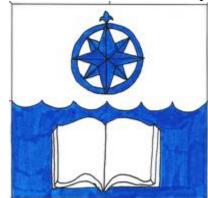
   Comment by Tostig Logiosophia on 2010/07/12 21:47:15 CDT:
   Last edited on 2010/07/17 05:57:16 CDT
   (Resspsonding to Adela VomBerg) Unfortunately, the concept of "some sort of 5 pointed star with fleurs-de-lis on the tips of the star points" does not seem to match any period heraldic charge. Variations of a mullet seem limited to piercing or changing the number of points. The points themselves are *always* either straight lines (mullets) or wavy lines (estoilles).
   The only period charges with mullets and fleurs-de-lys in combination I've found are the escarbuncle (with fluery points at the end of each stave) and the compass rose (with a single fleur-de-lys at the end of the point to chief). To date Commentary research indicates period escarbuncles were depicted with only six, eight or twelve points. A similar count seems true with Compass Roses. The West Kingdom Template quotes the PicDic "Compass Rose -- A compass rose is a symbol on a map that marks the cardinal points of direction. It consists of a multi-pointed mullet within an annulet, with the point in chief marking north; this point should be

accentuated. Medieval depictions most often have 12-pointed mullets; sometimes fewer (8 or 4 points), but never more. The north-mark was usually a fleur-de-lys." A depiction of a Compass Rose submitted by the Kingdom of An Tir is below.
Did the submitter find the concept in a period source we don't know about?

1.

Comment by Tostig Logiosophia on 2010/07/17 06:03:22 CDT:
(2nd response to Adela VomBerg) Corpora urges us to register historical armory, but there *may* be a way to register *mullets fleury at the points*.
Several ordinaries and subordinaries can be treated fleury. Of help are those among them with complex lines blazoned "indented fleury at the points". There is also at least one period geometric charge cited by Parker with all the points fleury
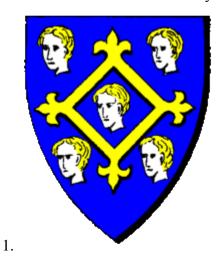http://www.heraldsnet.org/saitou/parker/Jpglossm.htm#Masculyn
"Masculyn: there is a curious figure composed of a single mascle with the ends terminating in fleurs-de-lis, to which the name seems to have been given in one instance of masculyn fleur-de-lisé(i.q. fleury).
"Azure, a masculyn fleur-de-lysé or, within and without five young men's heads couped argent crined or--Henry MAN, Bp. of Sodor and Man, 1546-56[Harl. MS. 5846]." (Figure below)
Although we've found no historical examples to date, the SCA has registered one device with mullets treated at the points "Sable, a mullet of eight points, each point terminating in a shamrock, in chief a crown fleury Or, all within a bordure potenty quarterly argent and vert." (Arrowyn of Emerald Moor, Device, August 1984). The registration is old, but like the "escarbuncles of five points fleury" in the submission, I've not found a Precedent overturning it. With the period evidence of *one* point of a mullet treated fleury in the charge "compass rose", doing so to all of them may be registerable as a SFPP (Step From Period Practice)considering the Precedent:
"Oshaya de Carcassonne. Name and device. Purpure, a saltire within and conjoined to a delf voided fleury at the points Or, a chief rayonny argent.
....
"Ferrule found in Parker, A Glossary of Terms used in Heraldry, a 16th century citation of a charge called a "masculyn fleur-de lisé," which consists of a mascle with the ends terminating in fleur-d-lys. The depiction showed this charge (without the saltire) rotated 90 degrees. Therefore this arrangement is only one remove from period practice and is registerable." (LoAR, June 2000)

1.

Comment by Da'ud ibn Auda (al-Jamal Herald) on 2010/07/01 12:12:13 CDT:
Last edited on 2010/07/01 12:24:48 CDT
Alas, despite several comments already that include, there is no "e" in "contourny".

I, too, have serious concerns about the identifiability of the modified escarbuncles. RfS VIII.3. requires that "Elements must be used in a design so as to preserve their individual identifiability."

> **Comment by Alasdair MacEogan (Bordure) on 2010/07/01 15:07:49 CDT:**
> How about we split the difference and go with contourné? :-D

> > **Comment by Da'ud ibn Auda (al-Jamal Herald) on 2010/07/01 20:27:32 CDT:**
> > Only if we're going to change the rest of the blazon to French: d'azur, a un dauphin retournée contourné, au chef undée d'or chargé de trois escarboucles de cinq bras d'azur.
> >
> > Thank you, no.

> **Comment by Tostig Logiosophia on 2010/07/01 20:31:03 CDT:**
> *Last edited on 2010/07/01 20:32:19 CDT*
> (Responding to al-Jamal) The tertiary charges look only minutely different from the original submission in ILoI 02/06 #10 where one commenter suggested they might be blazoned "escarbuncles of five patonce"

1.

Comment by Magnus on 2010/07/02 02:17:09 CDT:

Escarbuncles of five are a recognized and registered charge in the SCA and have never been disallowed. However, the last registration was 27 years ago and there is no telling how Laurel will view it. What variations do period escarbuncles show? We also want to avoid the banned snowflake.

Comment by Tostig Logiosophia on 2010/07/02 19:16:42 CDT:

Papworth has eight, six and one instance of twleve rays. (Ruthfio, Cornwall, Withie's additions to Glover's Ordinary in Harl.MS.1459), so no help from English Heraldry.
Also of note are the Precedents
".... Some commenters asked about the registerability of escarbuncles with six arms. Per the LoAR of February 2001, 'Escarbuncles of six arms are found in period arms according to *A Pictorial Dictionary of Heraldry*.'" (LoAR Jan 2004, Returns-East: Kis Mária. Device. Argent, an escarbuncle of six arms per fess sable and gules in chief a gerbil sable.)
and "... More importantly, even if there was no a conflict this would have to be returned for violating RfS VII.7.a., which requires that "Elements must be recognizable solely from their appearance." The college could not tell what this charge was; guesses ranged from *nine dragon's jambes Or issuant from a torteau*, to *a sun Or eclipsed gules*." (LoAR May 1997, Returns-Atenveldt: Ieuan ab y Ddraig goch. Device. Per bend sinister sable and gules, in dexter chief an escarbuncle of nine points Or charged with a torteau.)

Comment by Adela VomBerg on 2010/07/01 15:53:47 CDT:

Perhaps I'm being too picky, but I thought urinant was straight up and down, head down. Is the dolphin not embowed-counter embowed urinant?

Comment by Tostig Logiosophia on 2010/07/01 20:22:14 CDT:

Last edited on 2010/07/01 20:44:00 CDT

(Repsonding to Adela) No, you're not being too picky about the posture of the dolphin. Parker notes ".... Although the fish is in reality straight it is always represented embowed, i.e. curved, and this term is often added in the blazon; in more recent drawing it is represented with a double curve, i.e. bowed embowed, though the terms are not used. It is blazoned either hauriant(i.e. upright), or naiant ...." http://www.heraldsnet.org/saitou/parker/Jpglossd.htm#dolphin Blazoning this as "uri(n)ant embowed counter-embowed contourny" is not unreasonable.
Being too picky may be noting that the piercings of the escarbuncles of five staves *fleury* (indentifiable in the enlarged graphic and presumably on the Submission Form at the Decision Meeting) are erroneously tinctured azure, since a "kind-hearted Asterisk or Bordure" could remedy this with drops of whiteout and a yellow crayola marker on them.

Comment by Daniel de Lincoln on 2010/07/10 22:45:01 CDT:

The commentary meeting in Bryn Gwlad was Dreda Halberd and me.

Both of us believe that the charges on the chief didn't look like escarbuncles, especially on the color emblazon. Also, we found persuasive the argument that the number of arms is even. Furthermore, To me, seeing a five-armed thing on armory makes me think of a cinquefoil or some other sort of flower first, or a mullet-like thing.

I also notice that the dolphin shows the right side of its body near the head and near the tail, but the left side of its body in the middle. The other depictions I saw (Neubecker's *Heraldry : Sources, Symbols, and Meaning* p. 48, the Pic Dic, Brooke-Little's *An Heraldic Alphabet* p. 85) showed only one side of the thing. They showed it naiant, but two of those were double-embowed too. (*The Heraldic*

Imagination by Rodney Dennys didn't have any dolphins!)

Dreda doesn't see a problem with this. Further, his first attempt had the same sort of depiction (albeit with scales), but the collated commentary at http://herald.ansteorra.org/gazette/200605AG.pdf doesn't show anyone raising this question. Also also, I saw it as a dolphin immediately and only noticed the aspect of its depiction later. Still, thought I should mention it.

> **Comment by Tostig Logiosophia on 2010/07/11 10:45:38 CDT:**
> I missed the trian aspect, yet now that it's been pointed out I can't see anyting but. Add Parker (which doesn't depict double-embowed), Franklin, Pennsic Traceable Art and even Heraldic Clip Art to the list of only showing one side of the dolphin. (Tried the West Kingdom templates but the link was down.)

> > **Comment by Daniel de Lincoln on 2010/07/11 15:18:39 CDT:**
> > The West Kingdom Templates page on Fish, http://heralds.westkingdom.org/Templates/Fish/index.htm , says "Note: These are not done yet -- the links are here to make it easier for Golem, rather than having to keep adding them". So it's not that the link was down, as that it has apparently never been up.
> >
> > A Google Images search on "urinant" went about like you'd expect.
> >
> > urinant (fish OR dolphin)
> >
> > worked somewhat better. I found various depictions, all of a dolphin one-sided.
> >
> > On the other hand, I searched in OSCAR as well for urinant. Two were one-sided fishies: Myhell Ruadh, Outlands - 2009-10-31, and Roibeard Mac Oscair, Atlantia - 2007-01-28.
> >
> > Caid - 2007-10-31, item 1, Ailill mac Duib Dara, http://oscar.sca.org/index.php?action=145&id=5110 , may be subtly twisted: two fins are visible in the middle. Also, Ealdormere - 2010-03-3, item 10, Penda of Glyndmere, http://oscar.sca.org/index.php?action=145&id=13205 : the fish is so stylized that it's hard to tell, but it may be twisted as well. In neither case did anyone carp about the depiction.
> >
> > Maybe I'm too picky on this. If this goes up, I'm inclined to think that, at most, it's worth mentioning on the LoI but noting the two possible recent similar cases at Laurel. If this is to be returned because of the escarbcinqflakes, the submitter might be told that, as long as he's redrawing it, he can avoid all possible questions by using a more standard depiction?

> > > **Comment by Alasdair MacEogan (Bordure) on 2010/07/28 11:48:09 CDT:**
> > > I did initially notice the potential issue with the dolphin depiction but I am still on the fence if this should be a cause of return or not.
> > >
> > > I did not mention it initially because I wanted time to try and dig through registered depictions and precedents. Alas my digging has been in vain and I have not found anything remotely helpful as yet.

Comment by Lemoine de Gascoigne on 2010/07/19 00:24:44 CDT:
After reading all the comments on the escarbuncles of five and the whole snow flake issue. I drew a

escarbuncles of five that took up the better part of an 8 ½ by 11 sheet of typing paper stuck it to the wall and slowly walked back from it. To me at no time did it look like a snow flake, but in fact it looked like a starfish when I was almost across the room from it(about 12 feet). I do not see a problem with the escarbuncles of five, other then the looking like a starfish.

College Action:
Device: Reblazoned as "Azure, a dolphin urinant contourny and on a chief wavy Or three escarbuncles of five points azure." and forwarded to Laurel. There have been previous registrations of escarbuncles of five and while they were quite old, there has been no ruling stating they are no longer registerable. As for the dolphin, no actual precedent or rule was pointed to to indicate that this particular depiction is disallowed so the submitter is getting the benefit of the doubt and it is being sent to Laurel for commentary and decision.

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4. Wulfgar von Regensburg. (Tir Medoin, Shire of) New Badge.
(Fieldless) On a Maltese cross sable, a wolf's head erased argent.

Comment by Tostig Logiosophia on 2010/06/30 21:05:40 CDT:
Consider the reblazon "(Fieldless) A Maltese cross sable and overall a wolf's head erased argent." The head is not entirely "on" the cross but overlaps it onto the (non-existent but it needs to be gyronny color and metal) field. No conflicts observed.

Comment by Da'ud ibn Auda (al-Jamal Herald) on 2010/07/01 12:18:10 CDT:
Last edited on 2010/07/01 12:22:03 CDT
Because the wolf's head overlaps the edges of the underlying cross, it is not "on" the cross, but is rather "overall". Overall charges are allowed in fieldless badges only in limited circumstances.

[A comet purpure overall a crescent azure] "The crescent has too high a proportion of overlap with the comet to be acceptable. This must be returned as per the cover letter with the November 1992 LoAR, which permitted overall charges in fieldless badges only if the area of overlap is small and all charges identifiable." (LoAR September 2001, p. 14)

[(Fieldless) A peacock feather bendwise sinister proper surmounted and sustained by a Cornish chough proper.] "This badge violates our policy regarding overall charges on fieldless badges and must be returned. Precedent states:

Fieldless badges may no longer use overall charges, except in cases where the overlap area is small; this is usually restricted to long, skinny charges such as a sword (LoAR cover letter of 15 Jan 93). As drawn..., the feather in this badge doesn't meet that standard" (Order of the Golden Feather (Principality of Artemisia), May, 1993, pg. 14)." [Tegan of Liskeard, LoAR 01/2005, Atenveldt-R]

The area of overlap in the submitted badge can hardly be considered to be "small".

> **Comment by Magnus on 2010/07/02 02:04:26 CDT:**
> The only remedy to this would be to add a field.

> **Comment by Daniel de Lincoln on 2010/07/10 23:31:54 CDT:**
> *Last edited on 2010/07/10 23:33:48 CDT*
> The precedent on fieldless overall has been modified. (I am indebted to Jeanne Marie Lacroix, Noir Licorne Herald from Caid, for pointing this out.) 9/06 LoAR,

http://heraldry.sca.org/loar/2006/09/06-09lar.html#246 :

Sondra van Schiedam. Badge. (Fieldless) An open book argent, overall two recorders in saltire azure.
Several commenters recommended returning this badge for using an
overall charge on a fieldless badge. We routinely allow overall
charges on fieldless badges where the area of intersection is small,
which is not the case in this submission. However, [in] the November 1992
Cover Letter, where the current standard for acceptability of such
overall charges was set, Laurel stated
I've therefore decided not to implement a
comprehensive ban on fieldless badges with overall charges. I
will be returning cases where the underlying charge is
rendered unidentifiable, per Rule VIII.3; this will include the most
egregious cases of overall charges (e.g. *A pheon surmounted*
by a hawk's head). But this can be done as an interpretation
of the current Rules, and needn't involve a new policy. In cases
where identifiability is maintained -- where one of the charges is a
long, slender object, and the area of intersection small -- overall
charges will still be permitted in fieldless badges.

The primary concern is identifiability. The charges in this badge
maintain their identifiability, though the area of overlap is larger
than we normally allow, and thus the badge is registerable. We note
that if the charges had been reversed, that is *(Fieldless)*
Two recorders in saltire azure overall an open book argent,
the badge would not have been registerable as the recorders would
have been unidentifiable.

Does this appear identifiable? Dreda and I think it is.

But I should point out that the original 11/92 precedent includes an imprecation against "the most
egregious cases of overall charges (e.g. *A pheon surmounted by a hawk's head*". The instant
submission is also something pointy and overall a head.

I should also point out that, in fieldless overall registrations since then, one of the sets of charges
were long and skinny, except in one case: Maximillian Johann von Kleve. Badge. (Fieldless) A cross
formy sable, overall an escarbuncle argent (6/07). The next closest was 7/08: Aureliana Avita.
Badge. (Fieldless) A vol argent, overall a rose gules slipped and leaved proper. In this case, the
garden rose head was on the field(less), so only the thickish stem overlaid the small junction of the
wings.

I also see later returns for violating the older precedent:
- Viviana Rowe. Badge. (Fieldless) A fleur-de-lys per pale sable and argent surmounted by a
  rose proper. 4/09

- Raphael Delchambre and Thomas der Kreuzfahrer. Joint badge. (Fieldless) On an anvil reversed sable a chevron argent, overall a cross of Santiago enhanced Or. 11/08. (Other reasons too.)

- Fernando Miguel de Valencia. Badge. (Fieldless) Four swords in saltire points to center argent, overall a fountain. 9/06, the same month as the ruling quoted above.

(By the way: anyone wanting to make a call to return for "barely overall" should see the acceptance for Brunissende Dragonette de Broc{e'}liande and Alys Mackyntoich, 12/08 LoAR. It slightly modifies things. I ran across it when looking for overall.)

Comment by Tostig Logiosophia on 2010/07/11 08:13:08 CDT:
IMO the overall charge does not obscure any of the identfying features of a "properly" drawn Maltese cross:

"From Wreath - Concerning Maltese Crosses
"We've recently had submissions containing Maltese crosses, where the crosses haven't been easily identifiable. Properly drawn, a Maltese cross should have four deeply notched arms, converging to a central point (or very nearly); and each arm should take up an angle as wide as the space between the arms. This doesn't need mathematical precision: the arms can be a bit narrower, or a bit wider, but they should be roughly the same as the space between the arms. The illustration below is taken from Parker, p.166; Neubecker's Heraldry: Sources, Symbols and Meaning, p.217, has some examples as well.
"By contrast, our problem submissions have had crosses whose arms didn't converge to a point, and which were considerably less wide than the space between the arms: one-third to a quarter of the width, in some cases. They were more reminiscent of the Society's cross swallowtailed, but weren't that, either: the arms of a cross swallowtailed have parallel sides, not converging. Even if no heraldic difference is granted between a Maltese cross and a cross swallowtailed (and there's yet been no firm ruling on that point), we must still be able to distinguish the two - as well as the cross fourchy and the cross double-fitched. Unidentifiability of charges has always been grounds for return..." (Cover Letter, LoAR May 2007)

In fact, the non-overlap within the mouth of the wolf's head shows the arms do <u>not</u> converge to a point.

    Comment by Kevin Keary on 2010/08/02 13:32:11 CDT:
    Yes, the lines of the cross should have been extended inside the wolf's mouth, but I hadn't noticed that until you pointed it out. I'd say treat it as a minor emblazoning mistake, advise the submittor, and pass it, with or without what someone called "a correction by a kind Bordure or Asterisk". Both charges retain full identifiability.

Comment by Teceangl Bach (Ounce) on 2010/07/17 02:51:06 CDT:
Last edited on 2010/07/17 02:51:43 CDT
The Sondra van Schiedam ruling was reaffirmed on the LoAR of January 2008 in the registration of a badge for Basil Dragonstrike: *(Fieldless) A cutlass and overall a skull argent.*
Basil's emblazon is on OSCAR:
http://oscar.sca.org/index.php?action=145&id=4618

Viviana's definitely had identifiability issues:
http://oscar.sca.org/index.php?action=145&id=8981

Raphael's badge wasn't comparable to this submission:
http://oscar.sca.org/index.php?action=145&id=7282

I think this badge retains identifiability of both charges.

Comment by Lemoine de Gascoigne on 2010/07/19 00:39:56 CDT:
I did not find any conflicts. The Maltese cross and the wolf's head are clear I think that this submission falls well with in the modified "overall" rule and the blazon should read (Fieldless) A Maltese sable overall a wolf's head erased argent.

College Action:
Badge: Reblazoned as "(Fieldless) A Maltese cross sable and overall a wolf's head erased argent" and forwarded to Laurel.