

The Silver Thistle

Official Newsletter of the Shire of Tir Medoin
July Anno Societatis XXXXII

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Seneschal

Greetings all!

Not much to report! Hope everyone is doing well and taking care to stay healthy.

Hope to see you all soon!

Meghann der Krieger

Hospitaler

Activities

Monthly Report for: Shire of Tir Medoin
Report for: June 2008

- Activities
There were no Activities this month

- Newcomers/Inquiries
There were no newcomers or inquiries this month

Lord Alexander of Tir Medoin

Chronicler

Greetings!

I have nothing to report for this office. However, if there's something you would like Coblaith to have in one of his articles, let him know. See you soon!

Mungentuya

Unofficial Calendar of Ansteorra

July 25th-31st

Out of Kingdom: Pennsic XXXVII

August 1st -3rd

Lady of the Lake - Adlersruhe
(Amarillo, TX)

Out of Kingdom: Pennsic XXXVII

August 8th -10th

Lughnasad - Loch Ruadh (Benbrook-
Weatherford, TX)

Out of Kingdom: Pennsic XXXVII

August 15th -17th

Steppes Artisan- Steppes (Dallas, TX)

August 18th- Tir Medoin Populace

August 22nd -24th

**King's Round Table - Mooneschadowe
(Stillwater, OK)**

The Ensign of Ansteorra What It Is and How You Can Use It

Coblaith Mhuimhneach
Orbis Herald

The Kingdom of Ansteorra has no registered populace badge, but there is one official way you can tell the world that you are part of the Stellar Kingdom, at home and abroad: by displaying the kingdom ensign.

In S.C.A. terms, an ensign is a flag that is flown to show allegiance. Such flags were popular in the Middle Ages and Renaissance, and can be seen in many period manuscripts.

Ansteorra's ensign was registered with the College of Arms in A.S. XV and is blazoned Or, a mullet of five greater and five lesser points within a bordure sable. That means it consists of a black Ansteorran Star on a yellow field with a black border around it.

Anyone who wishes to proclaim that (s)he belongs to Ansteorra can fly the ensign. It can be mounted on a lance and carried in processions, hung on a stand in a hall or outside a pavilion, or even attached to the radio antenna on a car, to proudly proclaim your affiliation to everyone you pass on the highway.

You can make an ensign using any technique that works for you, and in whatever size you think best. Flags made in period were embroidered, appliquéd, or painted depending on their purpose and the resources of their owners. The same methods are effective today.

The ensign is complete and entire within itself. You should not add other elements (such as a personal or branch badge) to it. It is also always and only a flag. You should not apply it, as though it were a badge, to clothing or other items.



What is Counterchanging?

Coblaith Mhuimhneach
Orbis Herald

Counterchanging was a very popular practice in medieval heraldry. It consists, simply, of using the same tinctures in two or more parts of a piece of armory, but switching them around so that the tincture of the field in one part is the tincture of the charges in another.

The term “counterchanged” can be applied to: (1) groups of charges (identical except for tincture or not) that are distributed across two or more sections of a divided field so that each charge is entirely in one section, or (2) individual charges or groups of charges (identical or not) that overlap one or more lines of division.

It is possible for a single piece of armory to contain more than one individual charge or group of charges that are counterchanged. It is also possible for a single piece of armory to contain both counterchanged charges and charges that are not counterchanged.



Sources

What is counterchanging? images are from BSB Cod.icon. 291, a 16th-century English armorial in the collection of the Bavarian State Library.

The Ensign of Ansteorra What it is and How You Can Use It-First image came from BSB Cod. Pal. germ. 848 (the Manesse Codex), which was painted in Zürich in the early 14th century. The third image is from BNF MS Français 2695 (one copy of René d'Anjou's tournament book), painted in Provence around 1460.