



IAAH Newsletter

International Association of Amateur Heraldry • Founded 1999

www.amateurheralds.com • www.facebook.com/groups/1530657353895049

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Welcome!

How does one welcome a group of heraldists to a new newsletter; and what for that matter is the collective term for a group of heraldists? Not, I think a “nerd” of heraldists. I like an “achievement” of heraldists. So I welcome the IAAH’s own achievement of heraldists to our first newsletter.

We’ve got a Forum, we have a Facebook group. So why a newsletter?

Well, the fact is that the majority of IAAH members are irregular readers of the Forum, and few have taken up the opportunity of joining us on Facebook. The newsletter will reach you all, unless, heaven forbid, it is sent straight to junk mail.

There are all sorts of reasons for members not keeping up with new material on the Forum, of course. Internet fora are no longer as “in” as they were a decade ago. They seem to lack the immediacy of other social media, which is one of the reasons why we established the Facebook group.

But that has been slow in getting off the ground, partly because it competes with other heraldic FB groups, but mostly because until very recently it was invisible – big mistake. So this newsletter will take the opportunity to let you know how to join the Facebook group and explain its advantages and disadvantages compared with the Forum.

My main message however, is that the IAAH needs active participation. Articles in the Forum or on Facebook don’t write themselves; and our free design assistance service relies on people stepping up as herald designers and as heraldic artists.

We have a constant stream of expressions of interest in the design of arms, but sometimes have to tell potential clients that there will be a delay before we can help.

This is disappointing for them, and at worst can end up with them going to a bucket shop (shock,

horror), or simply losing interest in heraldry – and that would never do.

Enjoy your read!

Chris Green
IAAH President

We will welcome your feedback about this newsletter – preferably on our Forum or the Facebook page.

New emblazonment of IAAH arms



One of our new members, Antonio Lamanna, has very kindly presented us with this drawing of the IAAH's arms.

Thank you very much. We greatly appreciate this, and have added the drawing to the Design Roll on our website.

Who's who

Annual census 2020

Every year, we conduct a census of our membership. The results of the 2020 census were : 47 Fellows, 22 Associate Fellows and 115 Members, making a total membership of 184.

New members

The following members have joined us in recent months :

- Brady Brim-DeForest
- John Ball
- Julio Custodio de Melo
- John Gorto
- Dr Antonio Lamanna
- Ivor Pitt
- Erik Dam
- Charles Veale
- Siu Tik Yuen
- Scott Campbell.

Our new members live in Brazil, Canada, Denmark, England, Hong Kong, Italy and the United States of America.

We welcome them, and look forward to a long and happy association.

Advancement

One of our new members, John Ball, has passed the Basic Heraldic Knowledge exam, and qualified for advancement to Associate Fellow.

Congratulations, John!

IAAH Board

The annual election for the IAAH Board was held in April. All the serving Board members accepted nomination for a further term, and as no other candidates were put forward, the outgoing Board was returned unopposed for the new term of office (1 May 2020 to 30 April 2021). They are :

President	Chris Green
VP Communications	Martin Goldstraw
VP Heraldic Design	Terry Baldwin
VP Heraldic Education	Arthur Radburn
Secretary	Ton de Witte.

Calling designers and artists!

Our design team is looking for additional designers (heralds) and artists to create coats of arms for IAAH's clients.

This is a free service, provided on a voluntary basis. While no payment is involved, heralds and artists are given full credit on the certificates is-

sued to clients, and on the Design Roll on the IAAH website.

If you'd like to get involved, and show off or develop your talents, please contact Terry Baldwin at vphd_amateurheralds.org.

Recent designs for clients

As mentioned in our president's introductory message, our design team, headed by Terry Baldwin, receives a constant stream of requests, from all around the world, to design coats of arms. Most are for personal arms, but from time to time corporate and municipal arms too are requested.

To showcase their work, here are the armorial achievements which they have completed for clients in recent months :



- Vladimira Kristanova – by Terry Baldwin (herald) and Lee Lumbley (artist);
- Gary Humphries – by Geoff Kingman-Sugars (herald) and Lee Lumbley (artist);



- Frederic Ronsyn – by Geoff Kingman-Sugars (herald) and Lee Lumbley (artist); and
- Romar Evans-Pedro – by Geoff Kingman-Sugars (herald) and Lee Lumbley (artist);



- Todd Downing – by Isaac Meir Schneider (herald) and Lee Lumbley (artist).

These newly-minted armigers live in Australia, Thailand and the United States of America.

You'll find full-size images, and further details, on the Design Roll on our website.

Forum and Facebook

Forum

Our online Forum used to be the lifeblood of our Association but, like some other heraldry societies' forums, it is fading. Social media seem to be more popular methods of discussion nowadays.

However, for a special interest group such as ours, Facebook and Twitter have definite shortcomings. They are difficult to search, and discussions cannot be archived as they can on a forum.

Please support our Forum. Current topics include "Funeral Heraldry" and "Lord Lyon's Short Talks".

Any member is welcome to introduce a new topic whenever he or she wishes.

Facebook

Please support our Facebook page too. Despite the shortcomings already mentioned, it's a venue for IAAH members to discuss our favourite topic – heraldry.

Unlike the Forum, which is open to "registered users" as well as IAAH members, the Facebook page is for IAAH members only.

To join the page, simply log in (the address is on the masthead of this newsletter) and click on "join this group".

One of the administrators will process your application and respond.

An heraldic treasure



While not an IAAH matter as such, members will no doubt be interested in a recently-discovered hand-painted armorial by Johannes Siebmacher. The dealer offering it for sale describes it as "the most important source for unadulterated Silesian coats of arms from the 16th century".

If you have 84 500 euros to spare, you might like to buy this book. If not, you can still browse through some of its contents.

Twenty pages from the book are illustrated on the dealer's website. You'll find more about it, and a link to the website, on our Facebook page.

Disclaimer : The IAAH is not associated with the dealer in any way. This item is included here simply as a reference to an interesting heraldic document.

