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**Unto Francois la Flamme, Laurel King of Arms, and other members  
of the College of Arms  
From Reynard des Montaignes, Blue Tyger Herald**

**Greetings, learned lords and ladies, and I hope this finds you well.**

It is the intent of the East Kingdom to register the following names and armory. Submitters allow major and minor changes unless otherwise noted.

There are 8 new names, titles, or changes of name and 19 new badges, devices or changes of device, for a total of 17 new submissions.

1. Carolingia, Barony of () new badge

*Argent, between two beavers combattant a column gules.*

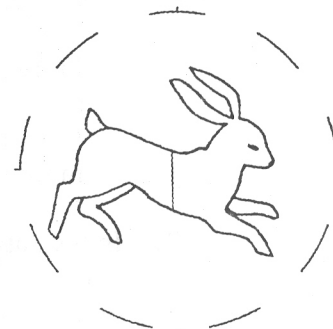
Name registered June 1973. The beaver and the pillar were used in medieval armory, both in canting arms in 1413 (!; Biberach, Germany, and Colonna, Italy; PicDic, #44 and #136). The pursuivant adds "Eager beavers are the pillars of their barony..."



2. Concordia of the Snows, Barony of () new badge

*[Fieldless] A hare courant to sinister per pale azure and argent.*

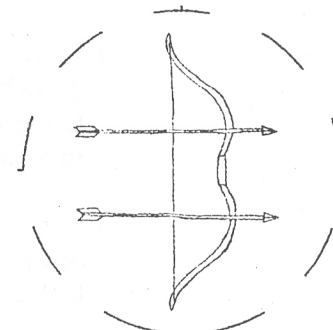
Name registered February 1992, East.



3. Concordia of the Snows, Barony of () new badge

*[Fieldless] A bow reversed, overall in pale two arrows fesswise reversed argent.*

Name registered February 1992, East.



4. East, Kingdom () new heraldic title

*Golden Stag Pursuivant*

Name registered January 1973. Proposed title for herald of the shire of Montevale, incorporating the main charge of the shire's device, *Sable, a stag salient within a laurel wreath Or, a bordure indented ermine* (0183, East), and badge, *[Fieldless] A stag springing Or charged with an ermine spot.*

## 5. Fujiwara no Aoi (f)

### new primary name

[Blue Tyger and Eastern Crown are impressed by the submitter's research and urge that the College consider her arguments, here presented with Blue Tyger's trifling emendations.]

'I have chosen Fujiwara as my surname. According to the Rules For Submissions of the College of Arms of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., Part VI - "Presumptuous Names", Section 1:

Names Claiming Rank - Names containing titles, territorial claims, or allusions to rank are considered presumptuous. Claim to membership in a uniquely royal family is also considered presumptuous, although use of some dynastic surnames do not necessarily claim royal rank. For example, there was a Scottish dynasty named Stewart, but there were also many other Stewart families so use of that surname does not link one unmistakably to the royal house. Hohenstaufen, on the other hand, seems to have only been used by the line of Holy Roman Emperors, so its use makes a clear dynastic claim.

I understand that Fujiwara has been placed in the category of restricted names because it is believed that it implies membership in the Royal Family of Japan. I intend to demonstrate to the College of [Arms] that this is not true and that the restriction should be lifted.

- 1) The mere use of a surname in Japan implied nobility. This "nobility" is not rank, but rather the kind of nobility to which all members of our Society pretend. In other words, surnamed Japanese were of the noble class, but not necessarily titled. Commoners did not have surnames at all<sup>1</sup>. Indeed, many Japanese families only chose surnames at the beginning of [the 20<sup>th</sup>] century in response to Western pressures and the Meiji reforms.
  - a) The popular names Minamoto (Genji) and Taira (Heike) were given to sixth-generation descendants of the Emperor. These names *did* in fact imply that one was related to royalty<sup>2</sup> although that relationship itself bore no rank (see below).
  - b) Fujiwara, on the other hand, was a surname conferred upon Nakatomi Kamako who helped restore the Emperor to power in the seventh century<sup>3</sup>. He was not the Emperor's blood relation. This gift of name was to be passed down to his heirs, but it in no way carried with it rank or title.
- 2) In the Japanese tradition, the fact that one is related to the Emperor does not imply that one is royalty or possesses rank or title. The concept of a "Royal House" (like Windsor or Tudor) was not known in Japan. Even today, the daughters of the Emperor lose their royal status and title when they marry. There is no network of lesser peerages as there is in Europe.
  - a) In the 10<sup>th</sup> century work, *The Tale of Genji*, the title character is the Emperor's son by a lowborn concubine (not the Empress). However, Genji has no rank until he begins to earn it by himself. The fact that we call him "Prince Genji" in English is not indicative of his rank or position in the original Japanese.
  - b) In the same work, Genji's illegitimate son becomes Emperor, but his legitimate son is of the lowest rank possible for a nobleman (sixth rank). This son complains of his lack of prospects because of his low rank, even though his half-brother is Emperor.

- c) When a lady was married to the Emperor, she did not automatically receive the rank of Empress. Matter of fact, few did. The rank of Imperial Consort (a lesser title) was also not automatic.
  - d) If a lady *did* achieve the title of Empress, her family did not become “The Royal Family”. Her siblings and father might be favoured for ranking positions. But it was also not automatic.
    - i) For example, Fujiwara no Michinaga, the head of the most powerful branch of the Fujiwara clan, was the father of two Empresses and the grandfather of a number of Emperors. However, he was not styled the male equivalent of “Queen Mother” as he would have been in the West. Although undoubtedly the most powerful man in the country and the force behind the throne, his actual title was Minister of the Left, an earned rank that could not be passed on to his heirs. Technically, he was a commoner.
  - e) Unlike European royalty, the Japanese Imperial family does not have a surname. The Emperor's name is suffixed with the word “tenno” meaning Lord of Heaven.
  - f) The Japanese ranking system was based on the Chinese ideal of commoners being able to achieve greatness through hard work and dedication. The Japanese model became corrupt, however, and rank and title were never given to true common people but rather an intimate circle of those close to the Emperor. Although the titles were supposed to be “earned”, by the 10<sup>th</sup> century the process was nothing more than a popularity contest.
- 3) The name Fujiwara is [analogous] to the above example of “Stewart.” There were many branches of the Fujiwara family. And although all people bearing this surname were descended from a common ancestor, many Fujiwara were so distantly related that they were not recognized by their more noble cousins.
- a) Murasaki Shikibu, author of *The Tale of Genji*, was of the Fujiwara clan, but of a small branch far removed from the intrigues of court. She had no rank at all and her father was only a minor counselor. It is true that her position as a lady in waiting to the Empress Soshi was attained because of her family connections, but that position did not increase her rank. Her father's insignificant rank was in fact the reason she could not marry well (she married a man of the same rank as him). Many members of this vast clan were little more than commoners with a “good name”.

- 4) In her work, *Name Construction in Medieval Japan*, Barbara Nostrand says:

The College of Arms has in the past discouraged the use of historically significant surnames such as Fujiwara, Minamoto, Taira, Hojo, Ashikaga, and Tokugawa. These names were used by many people and probably should be admissible for use in the Society for Creative Anachronism... Only Yamato and Toyotomi should be reserved surnames. The first is a name born by legendary members of the Imperial family and the last name was granted to Toyotomi Hideyoshi by the Emperor at the close of the sixteenth century.

I do not claim to have the breadth of knowledge that Dr. Nostrand possesses. However, everything I have studied about Heian Japanese culture and history [794-1185 CE] leads me to agree with her statement.

[Persona story elided<sup>6, 7</sup>]

'As my given name, I have chosen "Aoi" meaning "hollyhock". Aoi is the name by which Genji's principal wife is known in the *Tale of Genji*. In the Heian period, Japanese women's names were not usually recorded unless the lady in question was an empress. Ladies were instead known by the name or title of a male relative<sup>8</sup>. Sobriquets such as Aoi and Murasaki (wisteria) are mentioned often. Technically, this would not be my real name, but not knowing any "real" female names of this period (except for those of Empresses which tend to follow the "flower and tree" naming convention anyway) I feel this is a reasonable choice. In reality, I would never be called by my given name in any case, but instead by my job title or rank, a male relative's name or title, the name of the house in which I reside, or some other nickname.

'The "no" in my name is a possessive article corresponding to <'s> in English. This article makes my name translate as "hollyhock of the wisteria field, or "Aoi" of the Fujiwara family. This article was not written in Japanese, but it was always spoken.

[Footnotes by the submitter]

- <sup>1</sup> Actually, commoners did have surnames, but they were distinctly different from noble surnames. The kinds of names we chose in the Society are noble-type surnames (*myoji*). Please see Kitahama, page 26 [Nostrand, PCA] for a further discussion.
- <sup>2</sup> This is not to imply that the use of the names Minamoto and Taira should be restricted. The sixth generation descendants of the Emperor were given these surnames upon their descent into commoner status. The [assignment] of these two names meant that they were no longer living on the Imperial pocketbook, although they could return to that life if they rose in rank of their own accord.
- <sup>3</sup> Sansom, George. *A History of Japan to 1334*. [PCA]
- <sup>4</sup> Imperial Princes (sons and brothers of the Emperor), however, were automatically conferred rank because of this close blood tie. However, if a brother or son of the Emperor did not have a mother of equally high rank, he would not be styled a prince though his half-brothers would be. It is true that in the Heian period, many of these princes bore the surname Fujiwara. This is not to say that all Fujiwaras were imperial Princes.
- <sup>5</sup> Kitahama Mikyuki (Barbara Nostrand). *Name Construction in Medieval Japan*, page 68 [PCA].
- <sup>6,7</sup> Citations of Morris, Ivan, *World of the Shining Prince* [PCA].
- <sup>8</sup> Sei Shonagon is named after the Chinese pronunciation of her family name (Kiyowara) plus her father's title; the author of *The Gossamer Years* is known only as "Michitsuna's mother".

'It is on these grounds that I request to register the name Fujiwara no Aoi.

[Submitter allows no changes]

## 6. Fujiwara no Aoi (f)

### new alternate name

*Cais{i'}n ingen Annaidh*

Irish. Cais{i'}n -- {O'} Corrain and Maguire, *\_Irish Names\_*, under *\_Cais{i'}n\_* (page ??). Occurs as a female name in the 12th century.

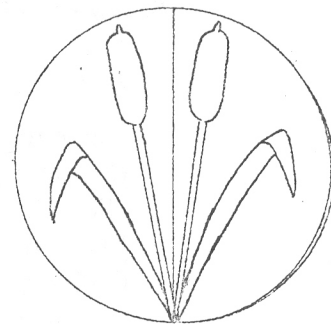
Mac Annaidh -- MacLysaught, *\_Irish Families\_*, Mac Annaidh (son of Annadh) is listed under *\_MacCANN\_* as a "cognate name", known in Co. Clare and Limerick. No date listed for that form, but Mac Canna is listed in 12th and 13th centuries. Submitted as "Mac Annaidh", we have changed the byname to "ingen Annaidh" in accordance with our understanding of Irish as used in the SCA. Submitter will accept no other changes.

7. Iron Bog, Shire of ()

new badge

*Per pale sable and argent, two cattail reeds conjoined at base, slipped and leaved counterchanged.*

Name registered March 1989 (East).

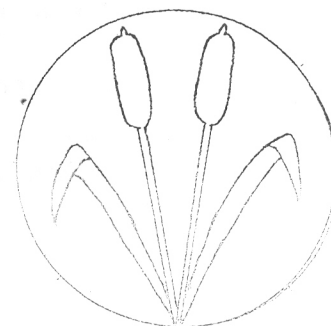


8. Iron Bog, Shire of ()

new badge

*[Fieldless] Two cattail reeds conjoined at base, slipped and leaved argent.*

Name registered March 1989 (East). Clear of Sean of Bergental (B 4/94, East): *(Fieldless) A tuft of three cattails slipped and leaved argent*, and Llywelyn Gruffydd of Elfsea (9/94 Ansteorra) *Vert, three cattails slipped and leaved conjoined at the base argent*. For each, we count one CD for fieldless (X.4.a.i), and one for the number of cattails (X.4.f). However, there may be a visual conflict.

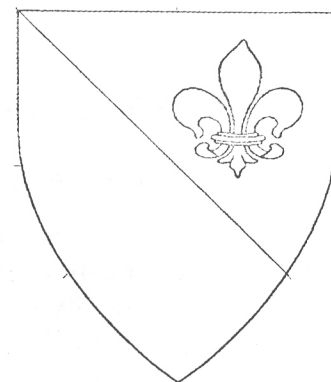


9. Rosalind Bennett ()

new device change

*Per bend argent and sable, in sinister chief a fleur-de-lys vert.*

Name change registered June 2000 (East); previous registered name was "Rosalinde de Witte", June 1986 (East). Her present device, *Ermine, a griffin segreant vert, on a chief sable a pair of scissors fesswise Or*, will be released.



10. Sandmork, Canton of ()

new to Laurel branch name

11th century Norse -- Sandm{o}rk, meaning "Sandy Forest", from Sandr : masc, "sand" and m{o}rk: fem, "forest". References:

- E. V. Gordon, An Introduction to Old Norse, 2nd ed, 1957
- K. G. Chapman, Graded Readings and Exercises in Old Icelandic
- GeirriBassi Haraldsson, The Old Norse Name, Studia MarkLadica I, 1977
- Finnur Jonsson, ed., Lexicon Poeticum
- Alexander Johannesson, Islandisches Etymologisches Worterbuch
- Cleasby / Vigfusson, An Icelandic--English Dictionary, 2nd ed

This is the branch name for a canton of the barony of An Dubhaigeainn (name registered March 1993, East). Evidence of support for the branch name is provided by copies of individual ballots for the branch populace, and by signed petition of the officers. The signed ballots list the name supported, and are therefore valid for the name only. The petition of the officers does not list the branch name supported, and is therefore invalid. However, the Seneschal confirms by telephone (1/14/2002) that "Sandmork" won a plurality of the poll, and he feels it represents the wishes of the people of the Canton. We find this satisfactory.

11. Sarra Fina Mac Donald (f)

new alternate name

*Isabetta Seraphina di Petrillo*

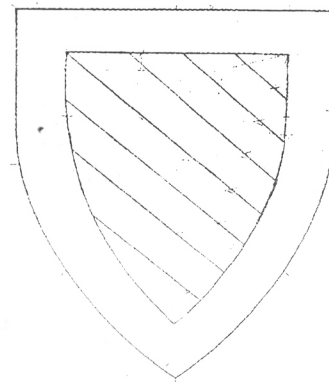
Name registered 10/99 (East). Italian. "Isabetta" a more common given name (Mittleman, Feminine given Names from the Online Catasto of Florence of 1427) "Seraphina", from Blessed Seraphina Sforza, of Urbino, 1434 – 1478 (online Catholic Encyclopedia, PCA); also the nickname of St. Fina, of San Geminiano, 1253 (Catholic Online Saints, PCA). "Petrillo", the submitter's modern maiden name (20<sup>th</sup>-century birth certificate, PCA).

12. Stephan le fiz Ricard (m)

new primary name & device

*Bendy of eight argent and gules, a bordure azure.*

Norman, 12<sup>th</sup>-century. "Stephen" in that spelling from Robert Stephen, 1260. (Reaney & Wislon) "Ricard" from "Richard" the name of a king of England, 1189-1199; in the 12<sup>th</sup> century, the "h" could have been omitted (Nicolas de Bracton, "A Statistical Survey of Given Names in Essex County, England, 1182-1272, KWH Proceedings 1995). The form "X le fiz Y" a predecessor to "X fitz Y", for example Walter le fiz Simon (temp Henry II) or Osbertus le fiz Fulco (12<sup>th</sup> century; Reaney & Wilson). See Academy of St. Gabriel report for Client 1940, dated 12 Feb 2000 (PCA).

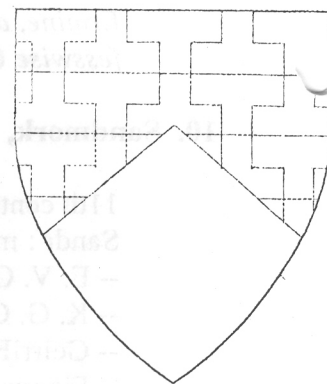


13. Tanczos Istvan (m)

new primary name & device

*Per chevron potent and gules.*

Hungarian. Both elements are common, with dozens of variant citations in period, and seem to be used both as given names and as family names. (Kàzmèr Miklòs, *Règi Magyar Csalàdnevek Szòtàrà; XIV-XVII. Szàzad*, Budapest, 1993. PCA.) "Istvan" -- R. Francisci Istvan, 1549, under Istvàn, p 500. "Tanczos" -- Christophorus Tanczos, 1563, under Tàncos, p 1043. The default tinctures of potent are azure and argent (PicDic #772, "Vair")

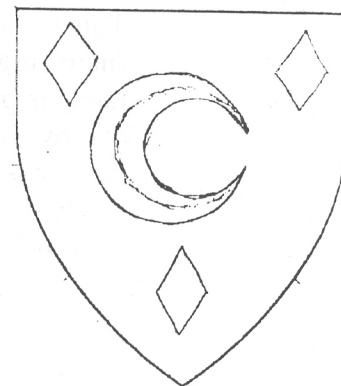


14. Wolfgang der Sucher (m)

new primary name & device

*Vert, a decrescent between 3 lozenges Or.*

Submitter wishes a German/Alsatian name meaning "Wolfgang the Seeker". "Wolfgang", three instances in Silesia (2 in 1491, 1 in 1597), and one of the more common names in Plauen in the early 16th century. Earlier forms of the name were found in Switzerland in the 9th and 11th centuries (Morlet vol 1). "Sucher" a German surname meaning "seeker" in 1287. It was an occupational term for a tracker or huntsman's assistant (Brechenmacher). We do not know whether "der Sucher" or simply "Sucher" is more appropriate. See also Academy of St. Gabriel report #1232 (PCA).



In service to Crown and College, *REYNARD*