

COURANT



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN HERALDRY SOCIETY

MAY/JUNE • VOLUME 5 • ISSUE 1



EDITOR'S NOTE

I welcome you to the newest iteration of *Courant* the newsletter of the American Heraldry Society. This publication has been issued off and on for many years, but we are now determined to keep to a standard bi-monthly schedule for its release with the next issue being sent out around the end of July, followed by a special release in the weeks leading up to the Boston Heraldic Congress in mid-September. We are excited at this opportunity and are very receptive to suggestions for future issues.

Kindly,
Jonathan Clayborn, Director of Publications



A gathering of our DC Area members and friends in December

THE SOCIETY'S BACK! (AGAIN)

BY PRESIDENT ETHAN MACDONALD

It has been a long time coming, but I am proud to say that the Society is in a wonderful state of rebound. Since September we have had a near quadrupling of our active membership numbers, precipitated by a growth in fellowship between members, a renewal of Society educational programming, and the hard work of the many directors and volunteer committee members these past several months. You all have my eternal thanks.

Another massive project, one that I have been working towards since day one of my time...



Photos Clockwise: Soc. President with Dr D'Arcy Boulton and a new member at ICMS; one of our student members in full plate doing his best tomb brass impression at the ICMS Dance; our AHS Table setup.

here, has been the development of a new website. Which I am happy to say has been going quite well. More details on these projects can be found below, along with reports as to board business, membership, and a call for papers for the next issue of *The American Herald*.

I would also like to thank the members of the DC area for hosting myself and friends this past December for dinner, and to the local folks in my home state of Michigan who worked to put on a great display at the International Congress on Medieval Studies this past month. I can't wait to meet more members in my travels this summer and fall! Until then I hope that if there is anything I can do for our members that they feel free to reach out.

ICGHS 36: BOSTON

The 36th International Congress of Genealogical and Heraldic Sciences will be held for the first time in the US from September 24th-28th in Boston, and is sponsored by American Ancestors; especially the NEHGS Committee on Heraldry; the Academie Internationale d'Heraldique; Family Search; and Brady Brim-Deforest of Balvaire.

Society Members Joe McMillan and Nat Taylor have been working hard in anticipation of the event and are involved in the planning and implementation of the Congress. Several AHS Members were selected to present their research, and the Board of Governors recently announced that Michael McCartney and Fr. Guy Selvester were selected to receive travel bursaries to attend.

This historic event, which has been held biannually since 1929 is an opportunity you will not want to miss.

To register or for more information please visit our website.

SOCIETY PROGRAMS 2024

We have a number of great in person and virtual events coming up in the second half of this year, for more information see our calendar below and our website.

International Heraldry Day:
Virtual Symposium ~ 6/8/24

The Carolina Nobility: with
William Done ~ ~ ~ 8/17/24

The 36th International
Congress of Genealogical &
Heraldic Sciences:
Boston, MA ~ ~ ~ ~ 9/24-28

The Annual General Meeting
of the A.H.S. at ICGHS 24'
(Hybrid in person/zoom)
9/26/24

From Ashes to Ashes: A Case
Study of the Phoenix in
Select Scholastic and
Ecclesiastical Arms with Dr.
Chad Krouse ~ ~ ~ Date TBD

Scots Heraldry & American
Clan Societies with Ross
McEwan ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ 12/14/24

We are also already filling
up our calendar for 2025, if
you have topic you would
like to be presented as a
part of our 'E Pluribus
Unum' series or in our mini
symposium please send an
email to:
program@americanheraldry.
org



Join Us in
Celebrating the
American Heraldic
Tradition

Our New Society Website

As you may have seen, we have a new website! It is the result of several months of work both by society members and volunteers, but also by the very talented Jillian "Jill" Anderson, who has been the computer genius behind the amazing features built into this new website.

The board contracted with Jill earlier this year and thanks to the donations of our members we have been able to fund this massive project. With Jill's insight in regards to programming we now have a website that should be running as long as there is an internet. With the capabilities to store the massive amounts of files and resources which we are steadily migrating over. The new site also features a fully integrated membership software system, eliminating the need for manual entry into the rolls, and allowing for you, our society members to have full control over your member account and roll of arms.

The largest project that will appear on the site is the Early American Roll of Arms, which has over two thousand entries thanks to the hard work and research by Society Fellow Joe McMillan. We are hoping that this will go live soon. In the meantime we invite you to log on to your member profile, upload your arms to the Member's Roll, and take a look at this new creation which has brought our society into the modern age.

Membership News

With so many exciting developments underway for the Society, our membership continues to grow at a steady pace. As of the date of publication, we note the following: 88 paid members (all classifications), 17 life members, & 20 unpaid members.

Our new website has a membership management program and each member should have received by now either an email with new account login information or a reminder for annual dues. Dues can now be paid through the new website. As a reminder, membership dues are as follows:

- \$25/year Individual membership
- \$15/year Individual student membership
- \$35/year Family membership (all members residing in same household)
- \$300/one time for Individual lifetime membership

We are developing new membership packets that will be mailed to each member, including such items as a lapel pin of the Society's arms and membership certificate.

We are pleased to share some great news about our members:

- Nat Taylor and Joe McMillan are working assiduously to deliver high quality programming for ICGHS in Boston. We are proud of their leadership and contributions to make all of us shine as we welcome the world to Boston in September.
- Michael McCartney and Chad Krouse were selected to present their research at the upcoming Congress.
- Fr. Guy Selvester and Michael McCartney received the Society's bursaries to help offset costs for attending the Congress.
- Brenton Simmons was recently invested as an Officer of the Order of the British Empire.
- Brady Brim-DeForest was promoted as an Officer in the Order of St. John and Chad Krouse was admitted as serving Member.
- Micheal Quigley was made an Honorary Fellow of the Heraldic Institute and Ethan MacDonald was selected to receive their Brim-DeForest Early Career Fellowship.

For AHS,

Dr. Chad Krouse, Director of Membership

International Heraldry Day 2024



The event was recorded and will be available on youtube and our website in the coming weeks.

We hope to continue to host events to mark the occasion in future years, so if you have an idea on formats or topics you would like to see, please let us know! Until then we hope that you have a wonderful day, and that you are able to celebrate in whichever way you may.

International Heraldry Day started in 2013 and has become a major unifying event for the whole of the heraldry community throughout the world. It is a day for celebration of a subject we hold dear and to showcase the work of heraldists and artists the world over.

Its date of ten June harkens back to the year 1128 when Geoffrey Plantagenet was presented with a shield upon his knighthood, which bore the arms (at least according to tradition) *Azure six lions rampant Or*. This for many is now the symbolic date for the beginning of the heraldic age.

The Society marked the day this year on Saturday the 8th, with our first ever International Heraldry Day Mini Symposium, a part of our *E Pluribus Unum* lecture series. We had the pleasure of two wonderful talks, one an intro to Germanic Heraldry, the other on Malmuke Heraldry, given by Society members Dr. John F. Muller of the Heraldic Institute, and Hassan Kamel of our Potomac Branch.



Call for Papers: 'The American Herald' Vol 1 Issue 2 - 2025

The publications committee and editorial staff of the American Heraldry Society are pleased to issue a standing call for papers, inviting authors to contribute to The American Herald, the academic journal of the Society, which is published annually on or about International Heraldry Day (June 10th). This is a peer-reviewed journal that has been published intermittently since 2007.

We encourage submissions from AHS members and the general public, and we welcome new scholars to the field and students conducting research. While articles should focus on heraldry and its auxiliary sciences (coats of arms, seals, heraldic badges, heraldic paleography, vexillology, as well as genealogy where it intersects with heraldry), article topics are NOT restricted to American heraldry.

Article submissions should average between 3000 to 7000 words including citations, charts, and tables, though longer submissions are welcome. All citations must be in full Chicago Manual of Style format footnote citations with a bibliography. Submissions may be submitted at any time, however, the cut-off for possible inclusion in the 2025 Edition will be January 31, 2025. More detailed information about submissions can be found on the Society's webpage.

We encourage contributions from all walks of researchers and heraldic scholars - by sharing your expertise and scholarly findings, you can help contribute to expanding the academic knowledge of heraldry in America.

For questions or to submit an article to the journal, please contact the editorial staff at journal@americanheraldry.org.

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

Seeing as I already had my article in the front I am going to keep this fairly simple. In the future we will have a featured article submitted by a committee or the membership, and I will simply keep to my short column here. In future editions this is where you will find news as to the goings on of the Board, however there are a couple of updates to share with apart from our membership and website reports.

Firstly, I want to thank Dave Bowen for his time as an officer of the AHS. He has recently stepped down from his post as treasurer and we are currently interviewing replacements. We hope to announce an interim posting at our next meeting on the 17th of this month.

We are also ramping up for the Boston Congress where we will have an official presence. If you are able to attend we would love to have you! We are planning a dinner in conjunction with the event (more details in the coming weeks) and are also looking for a few more people who are able to volunteer at our table. If you are intertested in this let me know.

As always I am happy to see the progress we are making as a group, and I am eternally grateful to our members for all thier support and hard work. If there is ever anything I can do to assisit you please feel free to email or call!

**AHS BOARD OF
GOVERNORS &
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