

# Beyond Banners and Shields

or

“My device and/or badge just passed, what can I do with it?”

by Lady Beatrice Shirwod

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- *What is a device?*
  - Device is what most people think of as “coat of arms”
  - Typically displayed on an escutcheon, or “shield” shape, but other shapes are used, too, like lozenges, circles, and even heart shapes.
  - A device says “This is me.”
  - Groups can have devices, but they are only worn by the head of the group (Crown, Baron/Baroness) or their herald when acting on official business as the “voice” of that person.
  
- *What can I do with my device?*
  - Paint a shield or banner.
  - Wear it.
  - Dress your herald in it. \*\*
  - Dress your horse in it. \*\*
  - Make a list shield/sign to show where you are.
  - Put it on your feast gear.
  - Include it on your business/calling cards, if you have them for SCA purposes.

\*\*REMEMBER: A device represents you directly, so typically should only be put on someone who is speaking FOR you (herald, for things like court or tournament), or carrying you (horse)

- *What is a badge?*

- A badge can be any piece of armory that is not your primary device.
- Can be either fielded (has a specific background) or fieldless (like a cutout sticker).
- Fielded badges are sometimes used as alternate devices, especially by people who have more than one persona. You can only register one device, but can have multiple badges.
- Badges can belong to individuals or groups, either official groups or households.
- A personal badge says “this is mine.”
- A group or populace badge says “I belong to this group.”
- Award medallions are another form of badge—they show who belongs to a particular Order, or has received a specific award.
- Badges of office show who does a particular job, and can indicate when someone is on duty.

- *What can I do with my badge?*

- Put it on EVERYTHING.
  - Clothing (Fighting households often do this to show cohesion as a group)
  - Partner
  - Children
  - Pets
  - Favors and tokens
  - Furniture
  - Containers (quivers, bags, boxes, trunks)
  - Feast gear
  - Tools
  - Weapons
  - Jewelry
  - Baldric
  - Belt hardware

If it's yours and it holds still long enough, you can put your badge on it. If it's yours and doesn't hold still long enough, put your badge on something else and then put THAT on it.

- *What are some ways to apply a device or badge to things?*
  - Paint
  - Embroidery
  - Block printing/stamping
  - Decoupage
  - Carving
  - Make custom stickers on the computer
  - Applique
  - Stencil
  - Etching or engraving
  - Pyrography/wood burning
  - Enamel
  - Casting
  - Drawing
  - Weaving
  - Trim (some badges of office, populace badges, etc are available as commercial trim)
  - Tattoo (do NOT do this before you know your stuff has passed. PLEASE!!!)

Note: Some of these techniques are more period than others. This is by no means an exhaustive list.

*The following pages are a virtual gallery showing some examples of heraldic display in the SCA. All images shared with permission of the people whose belongings and heraldry are shown.*



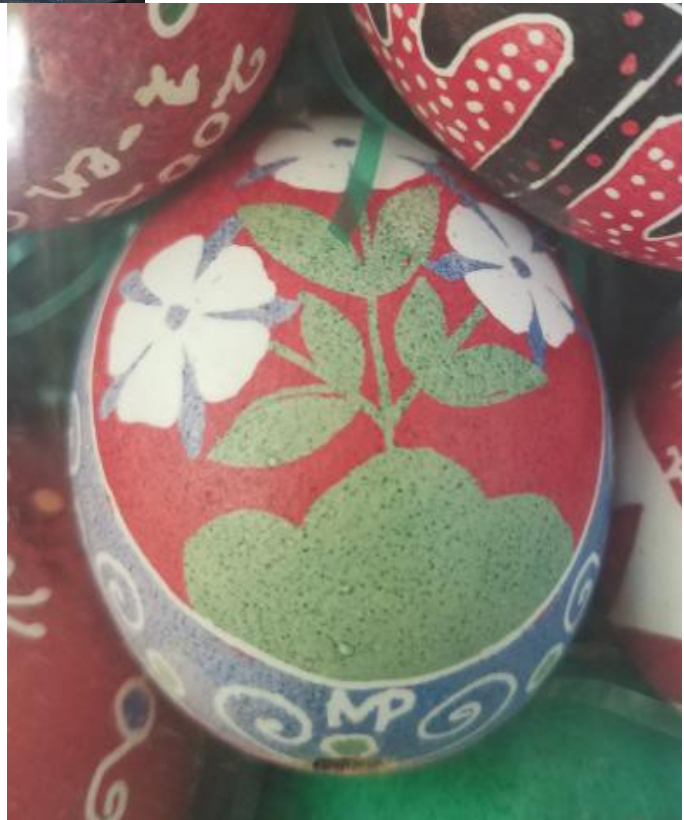
Silk fans showing the badges of Lillia de Vaux and Elizabeth Phoenix



Silk fans painted by Beatrice Domenici della Campana



Left: Drawstring pouch based on the device of Iago ab Adam, knit by Ursula Georges



Right: Heraldic psanky by Palotzi Marta



Above: Glass mug etched with the device (side) and badge (bottom) of Groza Novgorodskaia



Left: Feast gear plate showing the device of Lillia de Vaux, painted by Brunissende Dragonette



Left: Silk pouch embroidered with the badge of Beatrice Domenici della Campana



Right: Fieldless badge painted on canvas bucket by Beatrice Shirwod



Left: Feast gear basket painted with the badge to Beatrice Domenici della Campana

Right: enameled pewter and stamped clay tokens showing the badge of Beatrice Domenici della Campana

Below: a badge need not be an image; these bells represent the registered badge "*(Fieldless) A hawk's bell argent.*" (Beatrice Domenici della Campana)







Left: Sideless surcoat displaying the arms of Caid, worn in lieu of a herald's tabard



Right: Tabard displaying the device of Jeanne Marie Lacroix on an escutcheon



Left: Coronet box painted with the badge of Konstantia Kaloethina



Right: Spinning wheel decoupage with the device of Scholastica la souriete



Above: Stained glass badge of Groza Novgorodskaia



Right: Pelican medallion within a brooch depicting the badge of Lillia de Vaux



Left: Cheesecake rendering of the device of Iago ab Adam

Right: Parasol painted with the device of Iago ab Adam





Above: Bag, baldric, and favors displaying the Chirurgeon badge, provided by Od Þorgestsson Skallagrímssonar

Right: Tablet-woven belt favor displaying the badge of Herveus d'Ormonde





Left: Wooden plaque with paint and decoupage, displaying the device of Elvira Pedrosa



Right: Wooden escutcheon displaying the device of Groza Novgorodskaja



Left: Wooden plaque painted with the device of Molda ókristna Starradóttir

Right: Linen favor embroidered with the badge of Beatrice Shirwod

