

# DREKKAR

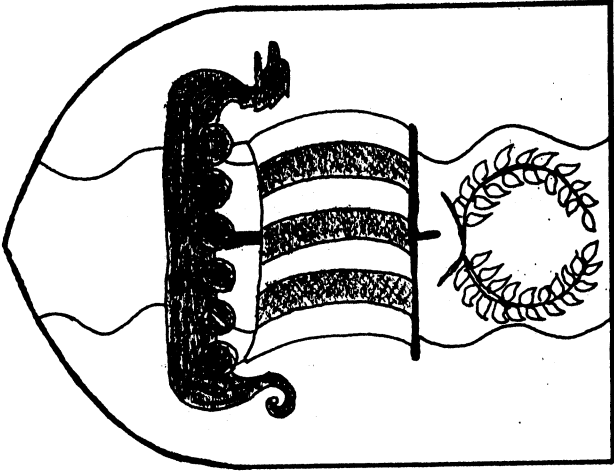


*August, A.S. XXIV*

Jeff Tyeryar  
3603 Oliver Street  
Hyattsville, MD 20782

FORWARDING ADDRESS REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS



## Officers of Storvik

Baron and Baroness Storvik: Kay Delafleur and Elaina de Sinistre  
(Kent Bloom and Mary Morman, 1802 Sanford Road, Silver  
Spring, MD 20902. Tel: 301/593-6247)

Seneschal: Lord Stefan of Cambion (Steve Kiefert, 9704 Beachwood  
Drive, Lanham, MD 20706 Tel: 301/779-5155 [anytime] or  
301/731-0673 [evenings])

Herald: Laird Donal Galbraith (Dan Delaney, 5010 Tecumseh  
Street, College Park, MD Tel: 301/441-9286)

Deputy Herald: Duke Richard Marshal (Jeff Sussman, 3215 Hewitt  
Avenue, #201, Silver Spring, MD 20906 Tel: 301/871-3837)

Acting Marshal: Lord Cosmo of Venice (William C. Morrow, 705 N.  
Wakefield St., Arlington, VA 22203-2025. Tel: 703/527-6816)

Deputy Marshal:

Archer Marshal: Lord Anborn de Montaigne (John van Antwerp,  
14128 Whispering Pines Court, #31, Silver Spring, MD 20906  
Tel: 301/460-6035)

Fencing Marshal: Gregoire de Corteville (Gregory Glewwe, 9400  
Rushmore Ct., Gaithersburg, MD 20879)

Lists: Lady Winifred Corbet de Wynterwood (Marsha Goodell, 7135  
Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22043 Tel: 703/533-8224)

Deputy Lists: Duchess Anne Corwyn (Debbie Sussman, 3215  
Hewitt Ave. #201, silver Spring, MD Tel: 301/871-3837)

Arts & Sciences: Lady Ealasiad Ramsey of Skye (Christie Golden,  
2792 Quebec St. Arlington, VA 22207 Tel: 703/527-0435)

Deputy Arts & Sciences: Lady Therasa du Domremy (Terri Lee  
Bjorkland, Tel: 301/262-5142)

Exchequer: Lady Maura von Blitzbau (Mary Ellen Scharadin, 2952  
Valera Court, Vienna, VA 22180 Tel: 703/ WET LADY)

Deputy Exchequer: Aislynn die Bogenschutzein (Kate Spears, 3909  
North 4th, #2, Arlington, VA 22203)

Chronicler: Lord Beornheard of Wearmouth (Jeff Tyeryar, 3603  
Oliver Street, Hyattsville, MD 20782. Tel: 301/559-7852)

Deputy Chronicler: VACANT

New Members Contact: Duchess Ysabeau Cameron of Lochiel  
(Liz Johnson, 7875 Wintercress Ave., Springfield, VA 22152  
Tel: 703/644-5767, evenings; 961-2060, days)

All Officers and Autocrats are expected to attend Barony Meetings  
or forward a report through another Officer.

## LET MORE OF THE CALANDAR

- Feb. 17 SAINT VALENTINE'S REVEL & FEAST Autocrat:  
Theresa du Domremy
- Mar 17 A FEAST theme to be decided later.
- May 12 STORVIK BARONIAL FAIRE & NEW YEAR'S TOURNEY  
(tentative). Autocrat: Beornheard of Wearmouth  
301/587-1259.

## *A Child is Born*

A child was born to (Lady JoAnna of the Singing Threads, a daughter, Elizabeth Anne, born June 28, A.S. XXIV, weight of 10 lbs.

## Regarding Pennsic

Just a reminder, campers, of the fee schedule for Pennsic:

Adults:	\$3.50/day, plus \$30 for the weekend (\$20 if an SCA member)
Youths (13-17)	Same as adults
Children (6-12)	\$1.75/day plus \$10 for the weekend
Infants (0-5)	\$3 total fee

No personal checks will be accepted by the Troll Booth.  
Gentles must show Kingdom newsletter label or membership card at the Troll Booth to obtain member's discount.

## WHAT

- To Baron Tsunetomi Todamu, on his induction into the Companions of the Pearl
- To Lady Winifred Corbet de Wynterwood, on her induction into the Companions of the Pearl
- To Lord Angus Cameron, on his Award of Arms
- To Lord Michael Limner, on his Award of Arms
- To Lady Dealla, on her Award of Arms
- To Lady Isobel Gildingwater of Ditchingham, on her Award of Arms
- To Lady Siobhan O'Riordain, on her Award of Arms
- To Lord Ian One-Leg, on his Award of Arms
- To Lady Anne of Corbridge, on her Award of Arms
- To Lord Beornheard of Wearmouth, on his Award of Arms

CONTINUED ON PAGE 30

Malcolm MacMalcolm, Gregoire de Corteville, Stefan of Cambion,  
Ysabeau Cameron of Lochiel and Beornheard of Wearmouth.

#### DIRECTIONS TO THE AUGUST BARONY MEETING

The August Barony Meeting will be held on August 6 at Laird Donal's, 5010 Tecumseh Street, College Park, MD 301/441-9286. Take the Beltway to Route 1 (Baltimore Ave) South towards College Park. Follow Route 1 to Route 193 (Greenbelt Road). Take a left onto Greenbelt Road. Take a right at Rhode Island Ave (the second possible right), and then a left on Tecumseh. The house is the green building on the left where the street dead-ends.

#### DIRECTIONS TO THE SEPTEMBER BARONY MEETING:

The September Barony Meeting will be held on September 10 at the home of Kay and Elaina, 1802 Sanford Road, Silver Spring, MD. 301/593-6247. Take the Beltway to Georgia Avenue. Go north on Georgia. Turn right at the first light onto Forest Glen Road. Go to the 1st cross street (Woodland) and turn left. Go 3 blocks, turn right onto Sanford. 1802 the next-to-the-last house on the block, on the right.

This is the Drekkar, published by and for the members of the Barony of Storvik in the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. The Drekkar is not a corporate publication of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., and does not delineate SCA policies. Any opinions expressed herein are entirely those of the authors.

Subscriptions to Drekkar ar \$6.00 a year, and are available or renewable by sending a check, payable to 'Barony of Storvik, SCA, Inc.' to the Chronicler (see officers listing). Please include your mundane and SCA names, your mailing address (and your phone number if you wish it listed in the directory).

*The following gentles expire this month, and will be known no more:*

Michael Jones  
Jeff Rubinoff  
Jeanmaire Perna du Domremy  
Donal Galbraith

Theodord di Lupita  
Domingo  
Stefan of Cambion

Weapons Center). Contact Beornheard of Wearmouth (301/587-1259) for information.

**FIGHTING:** Sir Raim is hosting a Fighting Training Session at his home every Wednesday night (except the 1st Wednesday of the month). For information/directions, call Sir Raim (301/856-5946).

**SCOUTING:** Scout training sessions in conjunction with Sir Raim's fighting practice, at his manor, Wednesdays. Contact Sir Raim (see above) or Lady Elspeth (301/843-7059) for information.

**THE LADIES SEWING CIRCLE AND TERRORIST SOCIETY** assemble for fittings, fashion, fraternizing and fun at the home of Mistress Teleri Talgellawg in Falls Church on Wednesday evenings from 7:30 till 11:00. Meetings are not restricted to ladies only! Contact Teleri (703/560-8825) for directions.

### THURSDAY

**FIGHTING:** Sir Strykar holds a Fighter Practice on Thursdays in Fairfax. Contact Sir Strykar (703/241-1682) for more information.

**FIGHTING:** Highlande Foorde holds a fighting practice at 7 pm at the Potomac Heights School in Hagerstown. For information, call Ian MacPhearson, 301/739-3096

**ARCHERY:** Thursday evenings from 7pm till dark at the archery range on University Blvd (next to University of Maryland) Contact Count Dafydd ap Gwystl for information (301/598-7424).

**ARCHERY:** The Barony of Lochmere holds archery practice at Arundel Archers from 5pm 'till. Arundel Archers is located off Route 3 on the Southbound lanes. For information, contact Baron AElfred at 301/544-5430

**ALL INTERESTED MUSICIANS** are invited to come and work on performance and dance music on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays every month at various people's homes. Contact Sir Stanford (Stan Hunter, 301/262-6264) for information.

**FROM HEAD TO TOE**, an Arts Workshop, meets every Thursday night in Bowie, for all interested in costuming, needlework, and other various medieval arts and sciences. Contact Lady Therasa du Domremy (Terry Lee Bjorkland, 301/262-5142) for directions or more information.

## NOTES FROM THE JULY BARONY MEETING

The July Barony meeting was held on July 9 at the home of Earl Laeghaire and Duchess Ysabeau.

**OFFICER'S REPORTS:** The HERALD reported that the Papworth purchasing project is temporarily on hold pending information on acquisitions. The Green velvet is still missing. The MARSHAL reported that fighting is indeed flourishing in Storvik. He will also soon retire from office, and plans to recommend his deputy, Lord Cosmo, as his replacement. The joint woods practice with Lochmere went well. We also have a (new) deputy marshal for fencing - Gregoire de Corteville. The Baronial Council gave a round of applause to Malcolm for all his work as Marshal. The LISTS Officer reported that their had been a tourney Saturday (Novice). She thanked all those who helped at the Lists. There were aprox. 70 fighters (48 unbelted & 20+ in the novice list). Several new fighters authorized. The Lists officer will be attending the Thursday night and Sunday practices until Pennsic to renew expired cards. The EXCHEQUOR was not present - she was sick - but called in a report. The Barony has \$2,108.94. The Drekkar has \$69.34. The A&S officer reported that the quarterly report would go in the week after the meeting, and reported that we have a new Companion of the Pearl in Storvik. As of the 1st of the year, Lady Therasa du Domremy will become the new A&S officer. Lady Ealasaid will be deputy. The CHRONICLER nearly fainted at the mention of 69.34 in the Drekkar account, and promised to contact the Exchequer to inquire into the funds. The Chronicler also introduced a new publication that he is now putting out - the Drekkar Pamphlet Series. He also mentioned that he had been approached by the Editor of the Oak about turning articles over to the Kingdom for publication. A long discussion was then held about this. A report was made on the status of exchanges of newsletters, especially in the north of Atlantia, and that the exchange program with Steirbach and Bright Hills had been re-established. The Council voted a \$100 stipend to cover the cost of the next Drekkar until the state of the finances could be more closely examined. The SENESCHAL reported all quiet. Discussion at Curia: the Kingdom is ordering new crowns - HRH Barry has submitted designs (other designs/proposals are welcome); the Kingdom trailer is up for grabs; Illarion is now Kingdom Chronicler; change to Pennsic info - \$5 deposit no longer required; Atlantia is running a double elim. tourney on Atlantian day at Pennsic; rules for Curia were changed concerning how a Curia might

# Nachtanz

Learn to dance in the good old way!

Pavan, Brante, Galliard, Alman, Ballo, Country Dance, Minuet, Cotillion, Renaissance, Elizabethan, Cavalier, Louis XIV, Baroque, Colonial, Regency. French, Italian, English German, Spanish.

Classes in early dance are held on Monday nights, 7:30 PM, at George Washington University, starting at about 7:30. The first hour or so will cover general dances. We will then cover more complicated dances, experimentation with new dances and practice for Nachtanz performance. No dance experience required.

1989

August	No classes			
September	11	18	25	
October	2	9	16	23 30
November	6	13	20	27
December	4	11	18	

1990

January	8	15	22	29
February	5	12	19	26
March	5	12	19	26
April	9	16	23	30
May	7	14	21	

No practice Labor Day, Christmas, New Years, April 2 and Memorial Day

George Washington University, Marvin Center,  
21st NW between H St & G St

We usually meet in room 403, 405 or 410 on the 4th floor.

Look for "Medieval History Club", "SCA" or "Dance Practice" on the Schedule. Note: If GWU is closed due to adverse weather, we will not meet.

For more information contact Niall (Ken Reed, 2941 Fairmont Street, Falls Church, Va 22042 Tel: 703/560-8825)

tell us. We need your name, your craft or art, your address and your farspeaker number. We will also accept advertisements (up to full-page, Drekkar-size). Contact Thorvald Hrafnsson (Jay Jordon, 3613 Peartree Lane, #44, Silver Spring, MD 20906, Tel: 301/460-6411). Please get in touch with us.

## Directory Corrections

### Address Change:

Siobhan O'Riordain, to 8901 Merrill Lane, #203, Laurel, MD 20708 Tel: 301/604-2494

CAIVS M L AVKLANDVS, to 9513 Blake Lane, Apt T4, Fairfax, VA 22031, Tel: 703/273-5905

### Add:

Sean Michael MacKay (Michael Ford, 3603 Oliver Street, Hyattsville, MD 20782 Tel: 301/559-7852) AOA. Blazon: Gyronny wavy, Or and vert, on a chief per pale Gules and argent 3 roses counterchanged, barbed and seeded proper.

Maria Constanza de Cremona (Mary Ford, 3603 Oliver Street, Hyattsville, MD 20782 Tel: 301/559-7852) AOA.

Elissa di Buoninsegna (Jean West Mueller, 8340 Greenboro Drive, #203, McLean, VA 22102)

Ramarien (Lisa Star McBriety, 8114 MacArthur Blvd, Cabin John, MD 20818)

## From the Chronicler

My apologies to all of those good gentles who wondered where their drafts on their goldsmith's names have gone. During my most recent acquisition of lands, many things were delayed. Among them was the forwarding of checks for the Drekkar from my hand to those of the Exchequer. I hope I did not cause too severe a distress to anyone. Also, I have realized that I am woefully forgetful about telling everyone about new people in the Barony. I just never seem to remember, from one issue to the next, to introduce them within these pages. So, to Elissa di Buoninsegna, Ramarien and all the other gentles who I have forgotten, welcome.

On a similar note, I realize that I have taken a number of new subscriptions without sending those gentles a copy of the Directory. I would ask that all subscribers who do not have a copy of the directory drop me a post card (or call me, if you must - however, you then rely on my memory) and I will send you a copy

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## THE PENNSIC RIDE AND CAMP BOARD

### AVAILABLE RIDES TO PENNSIC:

Paul Kendrick (H: 649-6526 W: 496-6621) may have room for one in the car.

### I NEED A RIDE TO PENNSIC:

Jay Jordan ((460-6411) Needs a ride on Thursday Night.

### I HAVE CAMPSPACE TO SHARE OR WOULD LIKE TO SHARE CAMPSPACE WITH SOMEONE:

Paul Kendrick (H: 649-6526 W: 496-6621) Will have room in camp at Pennsic for a few gentles who have no definite plans. Please call if you need space.

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## LOST AND FOUND AT THE NOVICE AND UNBELTED FIGHTERS TOURNEY

The following items were found at the Novice Tourney held in the Barony of Storvik on July 8, 1989:

tool kit	brass mug
pewter mug	boffer sword
stick of rattan	
child's black patent leather shoes	
lack rattan curved short sword with red edge	

If you would like to claim any of these items, please contact Countess Elizabeth Beaufort (aka Nadine Colbert, 2801 Ashmont Terrace, Silver Spring, MD 20906, 301-598-7424)

As autocrat, there are a number of people to whom I am indebted for their invaluable assistance with the event. I would like to thank Earl Sir Dafydd ap Gwystl, Lady Winifred Corbet de Wynterwood, Duchess Caterina Leonora sForza, Duchess Anne Corwyn, Lady Maria Conzanza de Cremona, Lady Elspeth du Chateau Gaillard, Lady Erin of Isenfir, Lady Tessa the Huntress, Lady Greta Klusenare, Master Owain ap Ioan, Lord Sean Michael MacKay, Baroness Elaina de Sinistre, Lady Ealasaid Ramsey of Skye, Lord Andrew MacGregor, Lady Caroline Forbes of Oxfordshire, Lord Fritz of Caer Mear, Duke Gyrth Oldcastle, and everyone who marshalled, the MOL crew, the surgeons and water bearers, the heralds, the gentles who provided crash space, and everyone else who helped out whose name I may have left out. Thank you one and all.

*Elizabeth*

To Her Excellency Lady Dierdre (Baroness of Lochmere), on her induction into the Order of the Nimrod (for Archery)

To His Excellency Earl Sir Dafydd ap Gwystl, on his induction into the Order of the Nimrod.

To Angus Cameron, who was the victor in the Novice Lists

To Mandon Michael de Chantese, who was acclaimed as the most courteous combatant in the Novice list.

To Cornelius of Steirbach, on his great virtousity in dying in the Novice list, with honorable mention to Mandon Michael de Chantese and Beornheard of Wearmouth

To Timothy of Airendale, who was the victor of the Unbelted list at the Novice Tourney, and for his induction into the Order of the Sea Stag

To Thorbrand Olafsson, who was acclaimed as the most courteous combatant in the Unbelted list

To Max von Halstern, who died most gloriously in the novice list, with honorable mention to Cuan Mac Daig, who died almost as well  
*(Good Gentles - I mis-placed my notes from Court, and thus compiled this list from my memory, and the memory of others. If I have forgotten anyone, my apologies. Please let me know, and I will announce you next month)*

### A MOVING ANNOUNCEMENT

Master CAIVS MARCELLVS LIBRVS AVKLANDVS has moved! His new address and such is:

9513 Blake Lane, Apt T4  
Fairfax, VA 22031  
701/273-5905

## For the Common Weal

**SCOUTS!** Are you out there. Do you know where the enemy is? Can you direct your squad, your army, your KING to find them? Learn how - by attending the Wednesday night Scouts Out practice at Sir Raim's. See the Wednesday nite activities listing for more info.

**FIGHTERS:** Are reminded to check their fighters express card. Don't go to war without it!

**MISSING:** Would the gentle who has 6 yards of Green Velvet (for use in the heraldry project) please surrender said velvet to the Herald or the Baroness. This velvet disappeared in transit some time ago.

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

Please include SCA & mundane name(s), contact address, & phone. If you are reserving for on-board, note whether you would be willing to go off-board if the 150 on-board slots are already taken. If space runs out before your reservation arrives, we will do our best to notify you before the 15th.

Crash Space: Lady Johanna von den Glocken (Janet Trautvetter)  
3901 Ilford Rd.  
Silver Spring, MD 20906  
301/942-5161

Directions: take your best route to the Capitol Beltway, I-495 in Virginia. Take exit 5 West, Braddock Road. [Folk coming off the outer loop: start counting lights from the one at the top of the ramp] Proceed to the 6th traffic light [approximately 1.5 miles from the first light] and bear left onto Burke Lake Road. Proceed to the 7th traffic light [approximately 4.8 miles] and turn left onto Route 123, Ox Road. Continue .5 miles to the park entrance on the left. Pass the information center and bear right. Take the first right and continue to Picnic Area 2A on the right, and parking on the left.

I welcome the participation of anyone who wishes to contribute some small time and effort to the event. Already I have had most generous offers of help, from households large and small and individuals frail and mighty. If you would like to help, please contact me. I am particularly interested in finding:

- folk who can work for an hour or two at the troll table or information table, as gofers or heralds, and suchlike small but vital tasks; and
- folk who would be interested in hosting post-revels. Since the event will end when the site closes at dusk, and since I personally believe that the loss of the post-revel is a great blow to Atlantia, I would like to liven the evening with a choice of "theme" post-revels. Perhaps one person could host a bardic circle, another a fighter's revel, a third a party for families with small children . . . let your imagination guide you.

But any other help that you care to offer will be most welcome.

Finally, if you have any artifacts, mementoes, souvenirs, or other items from the days of Storvik's foundation [or even the times before] -- look them out, furbish them up, and bring them along! We shall have an exhibit to amaze all eyes.

music stands or their table. Do not make them cringe along the side of the processional aisle, hoping that the traffic won't stomp on their instruments. Yes, this will mean you won't be able to seat as many revellers. This is part of the price you pay for live music. Plan accordingly. "Making room" for people is a kind of recognition too. If you value the contribution of your musicians, give them the space in which to contribute.

Performers face a similar problem, compounded by "Problem: Attention" which we have seen already. Musicians who play softly, and musicians whose performances are completely aural, will probably not be noticed by many revellers. Some musicians are able to provide visual elements in their shows; these musicians stand a better chance of getting peoples' attention.

Your musicians will fall into two groups: those who can be heard with some reasonable effort, and those who can only be heard with unreasonable effort. Singers, and musicians playing "loud" instruments, fall into the first category. Musicians playing "soft" instruments fall into the second.

"Reasonable effort" on your part means placement. If a singer stands at Hight Table and sings to the mucky-mucks, no one else in the hall will be able to hear him. If he stands at H.T. but faces the revellers, he has to put his back to the mucky-mucks (which don't feel right). He also may not remember to project his voice loudly enough to be heard at the far corners of the hall. Some singers stand at the end of H.T. and sing at an angle both to the Table and to the hall. They may or may not project enough, for fear of blasting-out the nearby people at H.T.

There are at least two ways to use placement in order to encourage singers to project. One is to require all singers to stand at the far end of the hall. This forces them to project, in order to be heard at H.T. If a singer cannot sing that loudly, let him sing to the Queen in the afternoon. Another way is to have the occupants of H.T. sit at chairs placed one-third of the way down from H.T., and to have the singer stand at H.T. and sing to everyone. I am sure that you will think of other solutions, now that you see the problem.

"Unreasonable effort" means silence. Not "quiet". Silence. As would be appropriate in a concert-hall. This can only be done once or twice during a revel, and if you demand it of your revellers you had better follow through with something that deserves it, or you will not be able to get silence the next time you ask for it. Acts which deserve silence are those acts which keep an audience silent (for fear of missing something), once they have their attention.

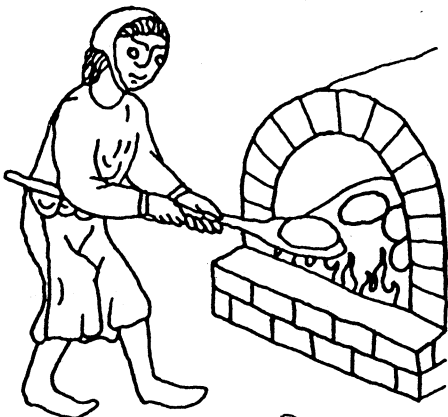
## Storvik Collegium

he first session of the Strovik Collegium will be held Saturday, September 23rd. Anyone wishing to teach anything but music and dance should contact Jaelle of Armida (Judy Gerjouy, 1210 4th St. NW, #101, Washington DC 20001 Tel 202/737-4609). Anyone wishing to teach in the subject of music or dance should contact Lady Keilyn Fartraveller (12425 Seabury Lane, Bowie, MD 20715 Tel: 301/464-5666). The cost of the event is \$4.00, which includes a light lunch. The evening feast is an additional \$7.00. Make checks payable to "Barony of Storvik/SCA, Inc. "

## PRINCIPALITY MEETING

On Sunday, July 30, 1989, Sir Raim y Hynnddyl will host a meeting at his manor (9507 Juliette Drive, Clinton MD 301/856-5946) to discuss the viability, pro's and con's of a principality in northern Atlantia. All interested gentles are encouraged to attend. **THIS IS NOT AN ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING** - it's purpose is to discuss the issue. All those in favor of the creation of such a principality are encouraged to think of at least one good reason why a principality is a bad idea. Those who oppose the idea should think of at least one good reason why it's a good idea. Animosities and pets should be left at home. The meeting will begin at noon, and dinner (evening meal) will be provided. Bring your own beverages.

Directions: From the Beltway (I-95), take Route 5 (Branch Ave, Exit 7) South (? - away from the City & out into the Boonies). Turn right on Rt 223 (Woodyard Road). Woodyard Road will become Piscataway Road - continue on Piscataway. Turn left onto Gwynndale Drive. Follow Gwynndale to Juliette Drive. The house is 9507 Juliette Dr.



order to encourage one's subjects. Everybody likes recognition, and the simple presence of a dignitary in the audience is the sort of recognition which entertainers understand.

2. Feast-period. This will be more complicated. Let us look at several things.

a. Sequence: Make a schedule in a shape that you can hand out to all the people involved in the event: both musicians and cooks, both performers and servers. Note on it when you want background music and when and which performers will perform. Leave a "free period" for people who want to stagger up to High Table and improvise some fun. Be pessimistic -- assume that the feast will start late, and get later and schedule accordingly. Leave the room at the end you'll need to recover from slippage without dragging on into midnight. If a performer needs to leave early, schedule him well before his deadline. When your schedule slips, tell all the musicians/performers early, so they can adjust.

Sometimes people wish to do things at High Table while the background musicians are playing. I have been "turned off" (as if with a knob) by such people as they are rushing en route to H.T., and it takes only a few such instances to turn the musicians off for the rest of the evening. I suggest that you, the Autocrat, take charge of your background musicians. Make them answerable to you not the herald, not some selfimportant reveller for their musicking and their silences. Post signs near them, saying that in these or similar words: "These musicians work for the Autocrat and play by her authority and on her schedule. See the Autocrat if you wish to change her schedule. (Musical requests cheerfully entertained)". I would then propose to you that changes you approve be couched in these or similar words: "The Autocrat presents her compliments to the consort of musicians, and requests that they pause for a few minutes upon the completion of the current piece of music." In my experience, "Couldja stop forra while" gets disheartening after the first time. Finally, if you do have them stop, know when you want them to start again and tell them as promptly as is physically possible. "Forra while" can easily become "for the rest of the evening", if the musicians seem to have been forgotten.

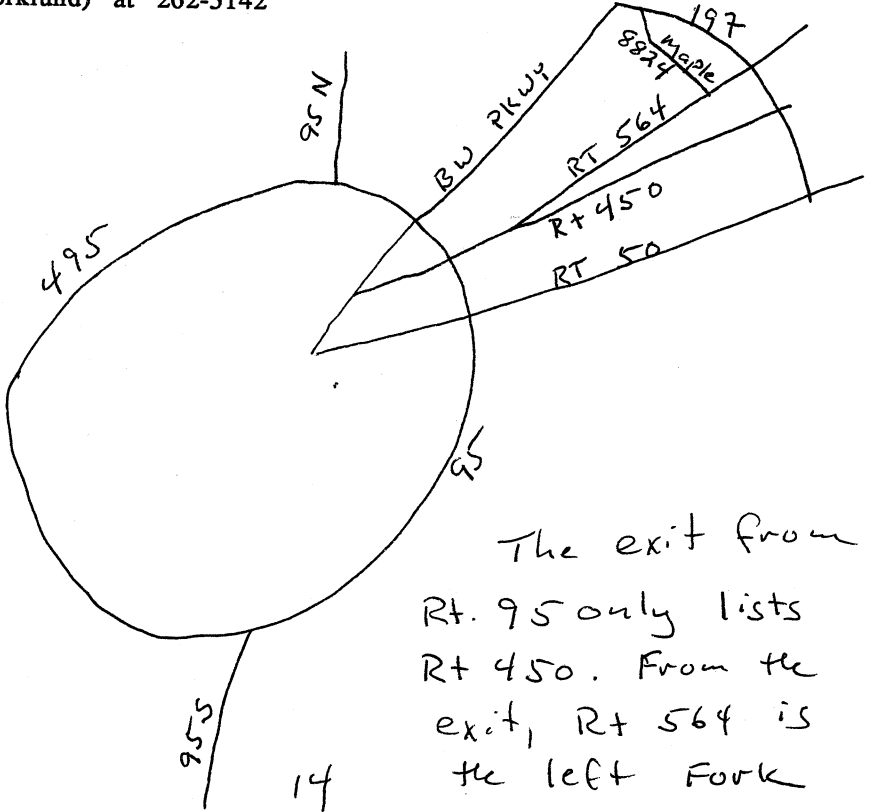
b. Light: The background musicians, and some performers, will need light to read their music. Some halls have enough discreet lighting to let the musicians sit wherever they wish. Most halls do not, and so the musicians will usually either have to sit near the available light or find their own light. Candles are not the brightest light there is, but they are the most readily

street. If you go straight to the second traffic light, there is a parking garage on your left. From the South: from the beltway, take Rt. 50 West. Stay in the right lane. Follow the rest of the direction from the North. At the metro, take the orange line to the Smithsonian station.

## TOURNEY OF THE TOWER COMMITTEE MEETING

Since several people have expressed interest in helping with Tourney of the Tower, it was suggested that I put an announcement into the Drekkar when our meeting will be (and where) so other noble gentles could volunteer their time to help with the event. Being an experienced autocrat, I know a good thing when I hear one. therefore, for all of you enthusiastic people, the meeting will be held Thursday, August 3rd, at 7:00 p.m. and will hopefully end by 9 p.m. Most of the staff for the Tower event will be there, so you can volunteer directly to the committee of your choice, unless they already have all the help they need (ha ha ha!!!). Thank you all for your interest. Hope to see lots of you there!

Directions: The map below is not to scale. If you have any questions, please call me (Therasa du Domremy/Terry Lee Bjorklund) at 262-5142



are speaking forsoothly to the assembled revellers. As you look at your tentative schedule, no doubt you will see more places where you will want the musicians silent.

Next, performances: When will you want entertainment? Most Autocrats schedule entertainment after the feast, or else "between courses" (whatever that means - usually after the servers are finished). When the feast runs into overtime, and when courses are delayed (they are always going to be ready "any minute now", so you always fear to insert anything to fill the dead time), then your entertainment-time gets very, very tight. Often this means cancelled performances, and offended performers.

Remember that you have an afternoon as well, and a lot of bored non-fighters who would appreciate something to look at, or listen to, or be aware of. Remember also that thunderbolts will not descend from Mount Olympus if you book an act while a course is being served. The only constraint on such a booking is the purely practical one: will the audience be able to enjoy it?

Visual acts, such as dancers, jugglers, and acrobats, are especially good when there is a lot of background noise. People can see farther than they can hear, under such conditions. Because of this, visual acts should be scheduled at such times as a matter of routine, except for special cases such as professional or semi-professional entertainers. However this is a music-guide, not an entertainment-guide, so I will leave further discussion on this subject to dancers and others in these fields.

Regardless of the kind of entertainment, the principle remains: the louder and flashier acts will do better during the evening's feast.

3. What do they need from me? You must know your musicians' needs, just as you must know your guests' needs. You can start with the list of "Special Problems", but be sure to ask each musician or consort about their own problems. Someone might be confined to a wheel-chair and need help with stairs. You can never tell.

#### B. The Plan

By now you have the basic sequence of events. It is time to make something which will work.

1. Fighting-period. We have already noticed that loud, flashy, and/or visual acts should be put in the evening. We have also learned that much (indeed most of the serious) Early Music is neither loud, flashy, nor visual. This implies a Great Truth: Early Music is seldom suitable for evening performances at SCA revels. Autocrats' efforts to ram them down revellers' throats have failed,



Scottish-made Celtic harps are hard to come by and cost several times what a comparable American-made instrument does. Avoid particularly instruments made in countries in the near and far east, with the exception of Japan. (The Japanese have managed to produce some decent if expensive harps; this hardly comes as a surprise.) Think about it -- when your little harp breaks, and it probably will, who ya gonna call? Some little guy in a loincloth, or someone in California or South Carolina with a listed phone number? A competent American harpmaker will use designs and materials suitable for the American climate, and will offer some sort of guarantee on workmanship and materials. He or she will be able to do repairs or to refer you to someone who can. Buy American.

3. Check out the workmanship. You don't need to be an expert instrument maker or woodworker to do this. There are some basic tests that every harp, however inexpensive, should pass, and anyone can make them.

(a) Finish. This is easy to do right, so any harp that flunks should be avoided -- after all, if the maker couldn't spend the time and effort to get this right, what else is wrong? Look for a smooth, even finish, with no drips of varnish or stain, no sawdust under the varnish (yes, I've seen it -- and how expensive is it to buy a tack cloth ?), no gaps. Finish can be matte or shiny -- your option -- but it should be dry. (This too would seem obvious, but you'd be amazed...)

(b) Woodworking. The woodworking on a harp is not that complicated -- cutting wood, drilling holes, gluing, doweling, nailing, etc. Design -- where to cut, drill, glue, etc. -- is the hard part. Cuts should be clean and even -- no wobbles, splinters. Holes should be clean and even, too -- no splinters, cracks, splits. Joints should be well-fitted and secure -- the soundboard should fit snugly in the soundbox, the neck should not be separating from the soundbox or the pillar. (We'll get to descriptions of these parts later.) Worse than ill-fitting joints are ill-fitting joints filled in with wood-putty, which deadens the sound. Sloppy joints will still vibrate -- sometimes well -- but wood putty just sits there.

(c) Hardware. Harp "hardware" includes: tuning pegs, bridge pins, sharpening mechanisms, and "shoes" or grommets.

Tuning pegs should be metal -- wood is ridiculous, but I've seen it -- and they should fit tight enough in their holes so as not to slip, but loose enough to permit tuning. They may extend all the way through the neck, with the hole for the string on one side and the end for tuning on the other, or they may go only partway through the neck, with everything on the same side. I prefer pegs

about ways in which you may remember musicians as you make up your schedule. Several weeks before the event, at the same time that you are making up your feast menu and starting your shopping-list for groceries, you should be making up your musical menu and starting your shopping-list for entertainers. Here are some questions for you to ask yourself:

1. Who do I have? This is the first question to ask, because it will be the most limiting question. Musicians are scarce. Do you have local musicians? Do you know of out-of-town musicians who would be willing to come and play? What kind of musicians are they? (Background? Performers?) How good are they? Are they exciting to the general SCA audience, or just to Early Music specialists? How reliable are they? Can you depend on them to come and play whole-heartedly?

Some people you may already know, and might want to invite especially. If they had already intended to come and play, then you would find that out and you would be able to include them in your planning.

If they had not intended to play, or had not intended to come, then before you ask you should ponder a few points. Sometimes an Autocrat knows that a seriously accomplished musician will be attending his event, and wants to ask him to play at it. Now, a seriously accomplished musician, who has paid for lessons and devotes hours of practice to his craft, can be considered at least semi-pro by SCA standards. He may be good enough to hold non-SCA concerts and charge admission. If he is, he is good enough to be paid at least something for playin9 at your event. Make your request appropriately. "Can you come and play?" may be appropriate for the usual SCA amateur (but see below). For this player, it is more appropriate to offer some sort of reimbursement. If you are going to ask for a free performance, make it clear that you understand that you are asking him to do you a favor. If he turns you down, at least he knows that you understand your position. If you take his services for granted, he may start to resent it, and he may start to avoid SCA contacts.

If he does choose to accept, then you will want to make sure your audience is as courteous as you have been. See the discussion below, under "Audibility", about the silent audience. If you don't think they can stay silent, then don't book his act! Better not to ask, than to ask and then offend him.

People who had not intended to come at all are yet another question. Some might have other things scheduled during your event. The out-of-towners who didn't have conflicts but didn't plan to come might well have felt they didn't want to spend the time

Check the string hole -- the hole through which the string enters the soundboard, either directly through the board or through a reinforcing spine. There should be some sort of device to prevent the string from digging into the wood and to protect the string from the edge of the wood. They can be as elaborate as hand-cast decorated "shoes," in the shape of little horseshoes, to plain old grommets from the fabric store. Sometimes they will be plastic grommets, insets or buttons -- these all work fine. They should never be a plain piece of metal tubing inserted into the hole so that it extends beyond the spine, cutting into the string, or below the surface of the spine, protecting nothing. And guess what? Yes, I've seen both those features, on the same \$500 harp. Again, a harpmaker who did not understand the function of the item -- and those little grommets are so cheap!

(d) Construction. The string tension on a harp is tremendous, especially on a metal strung harp, and normal string tension alone can warp, bend or even pull apart a poorly constructed harp. Particularly vulnerable are the pillar, the soundboard and all joints.

The pillar, or forepillar, needs to be at least an inch thick on even the smaller Celtic harps; on small lightweight medieval harps you can get away with a slightly thinner pillar, but not much. For a metal strung or larger nylon/gut string harp, the pillar must be thicker, or it must think it is thicker. For this reason, some pillars are constructed in a "t-section," either carved or laminated. This is the same principle as an I-beam. What does not work are a couple of flanged glued onto the sides to imitate a t-section. One of my harps has these flanges, glued on neatly; luckily, it does not need them.

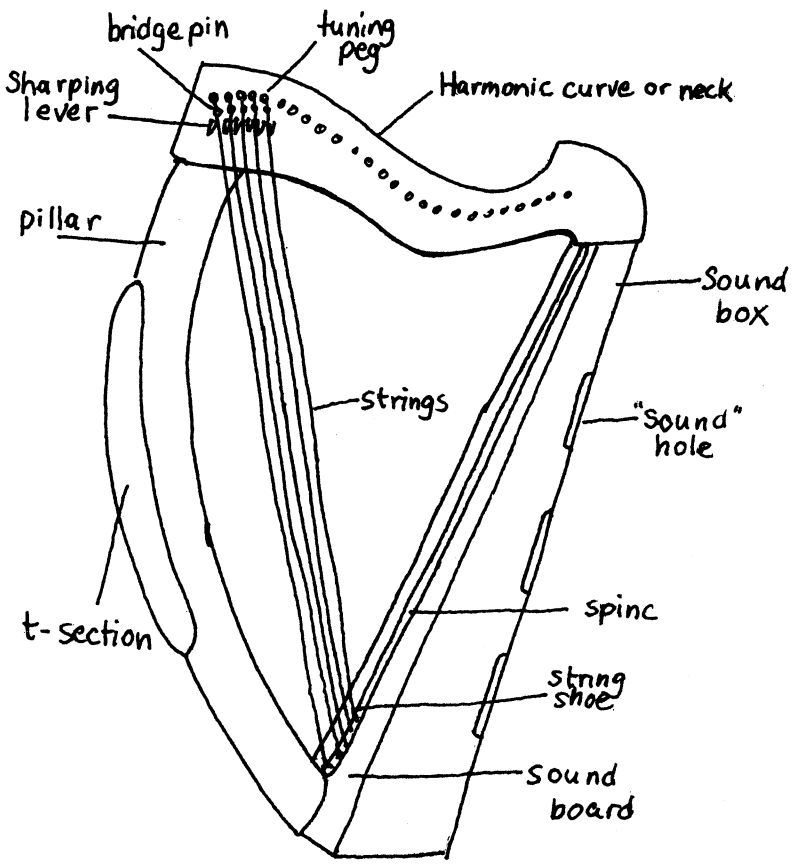
The pillar may be offset from the soundbox to stave off distortion, but on a new instrument it should not already have started torquing toward the strings. Even my oldest and most abused harp has less than an inch of torque. If a new harp's pillar has started noticeable torquing in relation to the soundbox, look somewhere else.

Check the joints for signs that the joint is coming loose. Sometimes reinforcement has already been added to the joint between the pillar and the neck. Flip the harp up and look at where the pillar joins the soundbox -- can you see air? Is that joint held with a nice sturdy bolt, or with a wood screw? How about the joint between the neck and the soundbox -- sturdy? Or disguised with a hunk of wood that may be falling off already?

The soundboard is what resonates to produce the sound. It can be either a solid piece of wood or several planks. It should fit

you? Will your singing drown out the accompaniment? Will your solos be swallowed up in a room larger than your bedroom? Is the harp staying in tune?

If you can already play, even a little, play a tune or two. Or find someone who can demonstrate for you. Often the harpmaker will play at least well enough to demonstrate the instrument, and some are quite expert. Almost any harp sounds "lice" if you plucking out a tune one-fingered or running up and down the strings in glissandos. If you plan to sing, sing along.



neatly into the soundbox, should not be cracked, and should be firmly and evenly attached to the soundbox. If it is glued only, that glue had better be good and evenly applied; otherwise that soundboard will come apart in pieces, perhaps on the way home. Most soundboards are nailed or screwed into the soundbox. The nails or screws should not extend into the soundbox cavity where they could rip up your knuckles as you try to change a string. Nail and screw heads ought to be disguised somehow -- exposed aluminum screws look so tacky.

The soundbox should have the same tight joints mentioned so often already. Some soundboxes are square-backed, some are rounded. The holes in the back are for access to the strings. Check to make sure the holes are cut evenly and smoothly -- it is so easy to do this right that wobbly cuts and splinters are a sure sign of quality compromises elsewhere. Then, after checking for those exposed nails (which shouldn't be there anyway), stick your hand in and make sure you can reach the ends of all the strings, if only with your fingers. Otherwise, how will you change the strings.

Be on the lookout for anomalies. The most common is elaborate decoration -- usually carving, inlay or soundboard decoration -- on an inexpensive harp. When that much time has been spent on an instrument selling for under \$600 or so, time has not been spent on the basics -- sound construction, proper materials, good design.

(e) Tone. If your harp doesn't sound good, you won't be happy, no matter how well constructed it is. Your harp could be a masterpiece of carpentry, and still sound so dull that you are bored and give it up. Likewise, you could have a beautiful sweet tone, and an instrument so ill-conceived that it falls apart in a few years, never to sing again.

Is the harp in tune? A reliable harpmaker or dealer will want to show the instrument to its best advantage, and will keep it in tune for display. Weather conditions at outdoor events such as Pennsic make this a challenge, but it should not be impossible to tune the harp and keep it in tune for some time (hours, not minutes). Even a new harp in high humidity should not go out of tune as it is being tuned. The pegs may be slipping (this is not normal, regardless of what the salesperson may say) or this strings may be improperly wound. If the person selling you the harp does not know how to tune it, go somewhere else. This person is not interested in selling to a knowledgeable and careful customer.

Now that the harp is tuned up, play each string individually, checking for even tone, even string spacing, listening carefully for buzzes, clicks, dead notes. Engage the sharpening for

3. Metal strung or nylon? Gut or nylon? The choice is yours. Generally, nylon is preferred, especially for your first harp. Metal strung harps require complicated and obscure damping techniques to advance beyond simple tunes and arrangements, and you need to be able to grow your nails. While metal strung harps can be played with the fingerpads, the sound is not quite the same. Nylon holds up much better than gut in American climates (indoors or out), and is easier to replace. I recommend nylon strung harps to most beginners because of the relatively wide availability of good instruments compared to metal strung, the ease of playing and the ease of care. Do remember, however, that harps cannot be strung interchangeably with metal or nylon without consequence. String spacing requirements are different, with metal strung harps requiring closer spacing to accommodate the playing style, while gut/nylon can use spacing as wide as on a concert harp, though usually it is closer than concert spacing. Different woods are appropriate in the soundboards, too, so that a soundboard suitable for a nylon strung harp may produce such sustained ringing with metal strings as to sound like mush. Similarly, a soundboard just fine for a metal strung harp may muffle nylon strings. Or the harp may be so poorly constructed that the type of strings makes no appreciable difference.

You now know enough to engage enthusiastically in the harpers' second favorite activity -- talking about harps. I hope you do. Please take the time to carefully select your harp. Try lots of harps. Talk to other harpers. Come to the Harp Gathering at Pennsic. Then buy the very best harp you can afford, and start playing.

## THE AUTOCRAT'S GUIDE TO EARLY MUSIC

Continued from July, A.S. XXIV Issue

### 3. Planning Your Event

Several of these special problems have already suggested their solutions. "Proper Prior Planning Prevents Poor Performance", in more ways than one. Let us take your planning apart and look at it.

#### A. The Schedule --

Your schedule is probably built around your meal, which will probably receive much of your attention. You may place a Court, if any, between certain courses (and pull hairs if Court runs over-time). If you are lucky, you may have room to insert performers and general dancing.

Since we are talking about music in this Guide, let's think

that go all the way through, as they are more stable, but there are some good harps with pegs that go only partway through the neck. Tuning pegs can be harp pegs, zither pegs or dulcimer pegs, but not piano pegs, which are too big and represent an unnecessary expense.

Bridge pins are smaller pins located below the tuning pegs. They perform the dual function of allowing more even string spacing and providing a smaller surface where the string is "stopped" than provided by the tuning peg. This creates a cleaner brighter tone. Metal-strung harps (more about them later) do not require bridge pins, although you sometimes see them. **WARNING:** under no circumstances should you purchase a harp with a bridge -- a continuous piece of metal, wood or plastic running under the strings beneath the tuning pegs. A bridge is fine on a fiddle, a guitar or a banjo, but on a harp it does exactly the opposite of what bridge pins do: on a harp, a bridge provides a bigger stopping surface and dulls and distorts the tone. Anyone who puts a bridge on a harp is ignorant of the most basic principles of musical instrument construction.

Since the 17th century harpmakers have experimented with various devices to temporarily raise the pitch of harpstrings by shortening the length. They are still trying to get it right. There are a number of different mechanisms to do this, but the most common are blades and levers. Blades are metal "flippers" screwed into the neck just below the bridge pins. They should be secure enough to stay out when they are raised and they should not wobble or fall out. Levers can be metal, plastic, wood or any combination thereof. They should also be securely fastened to the neck, and should stay in place when engaged. Some flip up, some flip down. Whether you choose blades or levers, check each one to make sure the string is not pulled too far out of position, that there are no unpleasant effects on the tone -- buzzing, muffling, twanging, etc. - - and that the pitch remains true. All of these things are hard to do, and none of them have been perfected. Nevertheless, I recommend buying a harp with good sharpening mechanisms on some if not all strings, as they will save you no end of trouble re-tuning. If you are buying levers for only some of the strings, I recommend as a minimum F and C, with B if available. This allows you to play most Celtic and medieval music in appropriate keys. **NOTE:** Sharpening levers and blades do not work particularly well on metal-strung harps. Check them carefully for tone and string distortion.

Some medieval harps have devices known as "bray pins," which when engaged give the strings a quaint buzzing or braying quality. Harps should "bray" only when bray pins are in use.

and money in travel.

This is a point to remember as you make your phone calls. Distances are generally great enough in Atlantia that the agreement to come and play means that the weekend is pretty well shot for anything else. What to you may be a quick invitation for a minor hole in your revel is, for this person, a major commitment of his weekend for your benefit. If he comes and then feels ignored or insignificant, he has wasted a weekend. Ask yourself how this would make you feel. This is not an argument for fawning upon musicians. (Though I enjoy a good fawning as much as the next guy.) But there must be a balance. There must be some sort of recognition.

For that matter, the money is significant for a distant event. An eight-hour round-trip at 30 mpg could cost nearly \$20 in gas. Add to that the usual feast fee, which is rarely seen below \$5 nowadays and has been known to top \$10, and the musician is down \$25 to \$30. If he is only coming because you invited him, then once again he is presenting you with a gift of \$25 to \$30 and your invitation should show that you appreciate that fact. If you really want him that badly, it is not inappropriate to offer to waive his feast and site fees, and to pay for his gas. (Some autocrats routinely waive fees for all musicians. This costs them little for, after all, there are not very many of us at a feast.) Of course if you feel someone is abusing your offer by playing coy, you have the right to act as may be appropriate. But I don't feel that that's likely amongst the musicians I know.

Other musicians may well be new to you. You are well within your rights to ask for an advance sample of your performer's wares, at your mutual convenience. Perhaps a tape would do. Perhaps you should get together early in the day of the event. As you listen to them, ask yourself if you feel they are going to hold people's attention in the middle of a party. Will they be heard by anyone in the feast-hall? Will people want to hear them? You'll use this information shortly. Also leaf through the "Special Problems" portion of this Guide while you listen. Ask them whether they prefer to perform, prefer to play "atmosphere" or "mood" (background) music, or are willing to do either. No point in forcing a round peg into a square hole.

2. What do I want? Now that you know what you can ask for, you can decide which ones you want and when. First, background music:

When will you want background music? Not during Court, I trust. Not while fancy courses are being presented at High Table (unless you want a fanfare). Not while people at High Table



## How to Buy a Harp:

### Auntie Signy's Guide to Celtic and Historical Harps

.So you've got \$500 (\$150, \$1000) burning a hole in your pouch, you're at Pennsic (a folk festival, a science fiction convention), and you want to buy a harp. You wander over to a display of musical instruments and there it is -- a little harp (or maybe several), just waiting for you to run your fingers over its strings, to take it in your arms and imagine warbling ballads to a silvery accompaniment... STOP! Put that harp down! Do you have any idea whether you are looking at a quality instrument, or are you just about to throw away your hard-earned dollars on an expensive dust catcher?

A harp is one of the most expensive purchases you can make at Pennsic, and one likely to be entered into with little or no information on how to do it. There are over 250 individuals in North America alone who describe themselves as "harpmakers," and some of them will say just about anything to part you from your money. Fortunately, there are also many knowledgeable, reputable makers and dealers of quality instruments. Here are some guidelines I have developed in my years of harping and harp shopping, so that you can join the harp-buying fray better armed.

1. Be realistic about price. A \$200 "harp" is a \$200 harp-shaped dustcatcher. A competently made (new) instrument from a reputable maker/dealer will run you about as much as a (new) refrigerator. It is highly unlikely that you will find a worthwhile instrument for under \$500, though there are a few out there; you're looking at a \$600-700 purchase. If you have only \$400 to spend, delay your gratification and save up another \$200 or so. This will also give you time to try out different harps to find one that suits you best.

Keep in mind that price does not always indicate quality. In the \$500-900 range there are many inferior instruments, so you will need to know more technical information about harps to make an informed purchase.

Remember that just because you are a beginner does not mean that you do not need a good instrument. Buy the very best you can afford. Many aspiring harpers have become discouraged and given up their dream because their instrument was so poor as to be unsatisfying or even unplayable. This happened to me: my first harp's tone was so unsatisfying that I let it lay around gathering dust for 12 years while I pursued other instruments and interests.

2. Buy American. The very best Celtic harps are made in the good old USA, and in considerable numbers. Good Irish and

and there are musicians serious about Early Music whose memories of SCA events are bitter ones for that reason.

But there is an alternative. There is the afternoon. This has several major advantages over the evening. First, the audience at this time will consist of non-fighters (eager to have an alternative to the omnipresent fighting) and beaten fighters (eager to forget their failures in the day's lists). The audience will be smaller, and it will be quieter, than it will be in the evening. Such an audience is ideally suited to the chambermusic-like style of Early Music. Second, daylight is available, by which to read music. Third, an outdoor setting is available, in fair weather, which is both most pleasant and also most authentic. Away from the crowded and echoing halls, the sound of the "soft" instruments can carry a right nice distance.

The afternoon is also the best time at which to present novice performers. This gives them a chance to get experience, without inflicting themselves on an eventually resentful captive audience. It gives people yet something else to attend during the fighting. And it lends the proceedings something of an air of a "Medieval Fair".

With entertainments and diversions occurring out of doors, during the fighting, the possibility exists that the entertainers might start to distract the fighters. Indeed some fighters feel that any noise or activity on the sidelines is an Unfair and Dishonorable Distraction, and these fighters may object to any music which is audible in the lists. Surely you may reason together with the Mistress of the Lists concerning this. Let the entertainers be close enough to the lists to let the bystanders have the chance to go and see (or hear) them, but not so close as to be a reasonable distraction. If something audible or visible remains, this is not necessarily cause for panic. At Crown Tourney, or some other tourney where victory brings more than the moment's satisfaction, it may well be reasonable to ban distractions. But there are many tourneys at which such a ban is not reasonable. (I speak as a musician, who has known plenty of noise and activity from fighters while I have worked at my craft.) Negotiate as necessary, and don't let the fighters intimidate you.

It is appropriate to ask the Arts dignitary at the event (the Queen, if present, or else some other figure) to devote time to listening and responding to these musicians and other performers (in lieu of a High Table) during the fighting. Whilst the King (or some other lord) may wish her to watch his fighting, it is an acknowledged duty of royalty to accept personal inconveniences in

## † TOURNEY OF THE WHITE TOWER

The Barony of Storvik invites all gentle Lords and Ladies of to a day of entertainment, fun and fighting at the base of the White Tower (the Washington Monument). On the weekend of October 7th, we will again inspire the natives of the area to a more chivalrous ways of life. Mistress Alyson Will be directing fashion shows, Lord Bjorn is in charge of dancing demo's, Mistress Signey will be directing general entertainment (singers, musicians, jugglers, etc.), Syr Striker will be supervising fighting (both the fighting chess game and the tourney), and Lady Ursela will be maintaining the List.

All pavilions, sun shades, and canopies must be of period design to be staked on the field. Please make sure all mundane items are totally out of sight (either well covered or back in your vehicle)! There will be an unloading area for people with large quantities of gear, but there is very limit parking space near the field. Your best plan of action will be to unload your things, set up, then take your vehicle to an outlining metro station and ride the metro to the Smithsonian stop. The field is located to the west of the Smithsonian metro stop. The best place to park is south parking at the Pentagon (it is FREE). Also the New Carrollton Metro station in Maryland is convenient, but you have to pay for your parking there.

Merchants are welcome BUT NO money may or can be exchanged on the premises. You may take/make contracts only. We do ask that you limit your wares to only period style items. We are also planning an Arts and Science display. Please prepare an index card (either# 3 x 5 or 4 x 6) explaining your piece and listing your documentation to accompany the display.

Look for more information about TOURNEY OF THE TOWER in your next issue of Drekkar. If you have any questions in the mean time, please cell (before 9:30 p.m.) or write to the autocrat: Therasa du Domremy, (Terry Lee Bjorklund), 8828 Maple Avenue, Bowie, Maryland 20715, 301-262-5142.

Directions to Pentagon Metro: Take your best route to Rt. 395. Take the exit to Pentagon South parking and park. The Metro is clearly marked. Take the blue line to the Smithsonian station. Walk west toward the White Tower, the field will be on your right.

Directions to the New Carrollton Metro: From the North: from the beltway, Rt. 95, take Rt. 50 West. The exit "Y's", take the left lane. Once on Rt. 50, stay in the right lane. You will take the first exit to New Carrollton Metro. There will be parking on both sides of the

available. The problem is primarily one of figuring out how to get the candles close enough to the music to do any good. One solution is to provide the musicians with their own table, where they can spread out their music and put their candle-sticks. This seems to be consistent with contemporary performance practice, by the way. If they must sit at music stands, then something stable enough to hold the candles next to all of the stands must be found. Waist-high candlesticks would be ideal, or else small night-tables.

c. Audibility: Assuming by this point that the musicians can see well enough to play, you will want them to be audible. You will know which performers are loud enough to be heard throughout the hall, because you have heard their acts. ("Who Do I Have?") These people can play anywhere and anywhen they like.

However because of the noise of the servers, the clatter of dishes, and the conversations at tables, most musicians cannot be heard everywhere in the hall. Background musicians face this problem most frequently.

If you are lucky enough to have a dozen or more background musicians, then you will be able to sprinkle the hall with duos, trios, and quartets: putting them at roughly every third table on both sides of the centerline (or other major open space in the hall), and then adjusting as necessary for the volumes of those particular consorts. However, if you are like most Autocrats, you won't have that many musicians. You will be lucky to have three or four. As we have already seen ("Problems: Numbers and Loneliness"), three or four soloists don't make for good background music for any of the usual instruments. At best you can ask for two duos. More likely, expect a single trio or a quartet.

You can expect your trio/quartet to need help, if they are to be heard over the usual clatter. You can help them through wise placement. Musicians' galleries, seen in contemporary paintings, were used so that music would carry throughout a hall instead of being muffled at floor level. If you have galleries, or balconies, consider putting your background musicians on them. If not, then put your little backing-group one-third or one-half of the way down from High Table, amongst the tables so that others can hear them too.

While we are talking Placement: Do clear room for the musicians, by reserving or removing a table or a part of a table if necessary. Do not stick them back in a corner. Do give them room to spread their instrumentcases around them and set up their

## POST PENNSIC REVEL

On Saturday, August 26, the Barony of Storvik will hold it's annual Post Pennsic Revel, an evening given over to the less martial activities of the Society. There will be dancing and a contest for the best story about the War (Truth Optional). The site is the Great Falls Grange in Great Falls VA. The hall will open at 6 PM and will close for cleanup at 11 PM. Gentles are encouraged to bring dessert for the dessert table, as we will only be supplying non-alcoholic drinkables. The site is Damp. As encouragement for bringing a dessert, the Event Fee will be \$5.00, \$3.00 for those gentles who bring a dessert for eight or more people. Questions should be directed to the Autocrat:

Donal Galbraith  
c/o Dan Delaney  
5010 Tecumseh Street  
College Park, MD 20740  
301/441-9286  
No calls after 11:45 PM, please

Directions: Take your best route to the Capitol Beltway (I-495). Take Exit 13 (Georgetown Pike, 2 exits west of the American Legion Bridge) onto Route 193 West. Take 193 approx. 7 miles. The Grange will be on your right. If you reach the light for Walker Road, you have gone too far.

## HEAD TO TOE

From August until September 20th, there will not be any Head to Toe evenings due to Pennsic. With pre-Pennsic preparations, Pennsic itself, and then post-Pennsic recuperation, I felt it best to "close for the summer." On September 21st, Head to Toe will start up again and there will be something special planned. Watch your Drekar for upcoming announcements, including any scheduled classes that will be offered. If you have any questions, please still fell free to call Therasa du Domremy, c/o Terry Lee Bjorklund (before 9:30 p.m.), 262-5142. Have a safe and enjoyable Pennsic!



What sort of musicians do I mean? A recorder consort. A singer, or singing ensemble, who cannot increase his volume. (Madrigal singers sometimes cannot.) Most especially, a lutenist. (I once played in a consort which included a lute. There were times in our music when not even the lutenist himself could hear the lute. It is a very quiet instrument.)

If such a musician cannot perform during the fighting, and if you feel -- you really feel -- that your revellers have got to hear this musician, well then. You must make your Unreasonable Effort. Schedule the performer first in the evening's entertainments (before the people are bored or used to louder intertainment). Announce him thoroughly, ordering strict silence by order of the Autocrat through the services of a herald who has a loud and clear voice. (Heraldic shrieks won't make it.) And enforce your silence, by your own favorite means.

But make this your most rare entertainer. People are there to party, after all. If there are several people who "must" perform in the evening under such conditions, then tell them that one or more simply will not be heard at your event because your audience will not stay silent for him. If he cannot be heard because of noise, then he has wasted his time practicing for it and he has wasted your time in the feast by taking one of your slots. Don't let this be discovered at the last minute, or you will cause bad feelings by your poor planning. If a performance is not appropriate to your audience, then don't schedule it in the first place. Don't let your eyes get bigger than your audience's ears!

#### 4. Questions & Summary

This Guide does not answer your every question. It may have raised new questions. If it did, and I hope it did, then please ask your local musician about them. He will be delighted to discover your interest. If he cannot answer your questions, and cannot direct you to someone who can, try your Master/Mistress of Arts: first local, then kingdom. If all else fails, you can write me. I hope I will be able to help.

In summary, Early Music is a specialized and little-known kind of music, even in SCA. Musicians put a lot of work into their craft and deserve to be included in your planning. When you plan, start a month or so before your event and ask yourself the following three questions: 1. Who do I have?; 2. What do I want?; 3. What do they need from me? Then plan your event, leaving time and space for your musicians and giving them a chance to be heard. If you get your musicians involved in your event, they will feel involved. And that will add to the fun at your party.

# Announcing the celebration of Storvik's 13th-and-10th birthday!

Date: 16 September, 1989/XXIV  
Time: 10 am to sunset  
Place: Burke Lake Park, Fairfax, VA

## Activities will include

- Fighting!** including a tag-team melee, fighting over the barrier, a Champions Round [all Baronial Champions invited], and lots of time for informal bouts; run by House Oldcastle
- Entertainment!** Games, music, and dance, organized by House Wayward
- A Masque!** "The Founding of Storvik" by the Masquers Guild
- Nostalgia!** tales and artifacts from the Old Days
- Eating!** a choice collation, courtesy of Clan Cambion
- Post-Revels!** We hope to hold several "theme" post-revels [bardic, fighting, etc] on Saturday evening

As this is a county park, we are subject to the following constraints:

**ABSOLUTE DRYNESS** -- no exceptions.

A **MAXIMUM** of 150 on-board and 50 off-board -- first come, first [re]served, so get you reservations in early.

For non-county residents, a per-vehicle charge of \$4.00 -- so pack folk into your car, or come with a Fairfax County Resident

**Cost:** For reservations **RECEIVED** by August 31:

on-board	\$8.00	[6 and under, \$4.00]
off-board	4.00	

For reservations received on or after September 1:

on-board	\$10.00	[6 and under, \$6.00]
off-board	4.00	

No reservations will be accepted after September 10.

Reservations (in writing only!) to:

Duchess Ysabeau Cameron of Lochiel (Liz Johnson)  
7875 Wintercress Lane  
Springfield, VA 22152  
703/644-5767

**MISSING BOOKS:** Baroness Elaina wishes her dear friends who have borrowed books (specifically hardcover Elizabeth Peters/Barbara Michaels books) to know that she really wants said books returned. On examining her library, Her Excellency has found she is missing half a dozen first-edition hardback novels.

**LOAN CLOSET:** Would all good gentles who have unwanted or unused garb please contact Duchess Ysabeau, who is collecting garb for a loan closet.

**DEPUTY SENESCHAL:** The Seneschal is still searching for a Deputy.

**HELMS:** Sir Raim will be making helms at cost for individuals, provided such individuals help in the making of their helm. For every 10 helms done, Sir Raim will donate 1 to the Storvik Armor Loan Closet. He can do helms in most any style. For more information, call sir Raim at 301/856-6946

**WANTED:** Old bits of armor for a Storvik & Lochmere loan closet  
Call Lord Karl von Quirnbach Tel: 301/937-3079.

Fletch and Point subscriptions are available Sir Dafydd ap Gwystl (David Kuijt, 2801 Ashmont Terrace, Silver Spring, MD 20906) for \$4.00 for six issues (one year). Make checks payable to David Kuijt.

**Cultural Opportunity!** After Wednesday night fighting practice (or any other Wednesday night activity), drop by Bosco's, on Piney Branch road in Takoma Park, for live Irish traditional music, featuring many of Washington's finest Celtic musicians (including our own Mistress Signy). Good music, good company, excellent beer.

**JAPANESE EMBROIDERY.** A class on traditional Japanese embroidery is being offered at the Smithsonian Institute (phase I class) by Sarah Smith. The cost is aprox. \$150-200. Classes are Sept. 12-15, 9 am to 3 pm (this is a vacation affair, folks). All supplies included in fee. For information or registration, contact 45 Sequoia Lane, Deerfield, Ill 60015. (312/945-8129). Local information can be had from Lady Janina Krakowska (301/423-5673)

**STORVIK YELLOW PAGES** The Chronicler is seeking to start a Storvik Yellow Pages, in which those gentles in Storvik and its environs who have a talent or craft could, if they wish, market for fun, trade, barter or pay. If you are willing to make garb for consideration, if you will construct feast chests for a price or a favor, if you make armor for out of the good of your heart or for the price of the metal plus a few pounds of the stuff for yourself, please

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE



# Newcomers

to Storvik and to the SCA are cordially invited to the

## SUMPOSITION OIKOMENIKON

(or, as the Greeks say, "Y'all come to the Party")

on the first Friday of each month, from 7 to 11 PM. Here is a chance to meet people and get your bearings, in a smaller and more personal setting than a big event. Wear casual clothes (costume **NOT** required), ask and answer questions, bring your current project, or just hang out. Each month features:

A TALK, DEMO, OR WORKSHOP on a topic of interest.

TIME to talk and visit with other Storviki.

PIZZA! A chef, by name of Domino, visits with dinner for those who cannot eat before they come. Please call to get in on the order.

August 4 "To Fight - Perchance to Dream"

Sept 1 "Red Tape Issues" Rules, Regulations & SCA Administration

For more information, call

Call Kyrios ioannes (Dana Netherton, 703/841-7021 days, 703/931-4794 evenings) or Duchess Ysabeau (Liz Johnson, 301/961-2060 days, 703/644-5767 evenings)

Location: at the home of Kyrios ioannes nikaios, 4617A 36th Street, Alexandria.

FROM CENTRAL ALEXANDRIA: Make your way to Va. Route 7 (King Street) heading west (toward I-395 & Bailey's Crossroads). The second light after Quaker Lane is Wakefield St.; turn right. Follow FROM WAKEFIELD, below. (If you reach I-395, you have gone too far; turn around & follow FROM ANYWHERE ELSE, below.)

FROM ANYWHERE ELSE: Make your way to the intersection of I-395 & Va. Route 7 (in Fairfax, Rte 7 is Leesburg Pike; in Alexandria & on the I-395 exit sign, it's King Street). Go east (toward Old Town) on Rte 7, getting quickly into the left lane. The second light east of I-395 is Wakefield St; turn left and follow From Wakefield, below. (If you reach Bradlee Center, you have gone too far; turn around and follow FROM CENTRAL ALEXANDRIA, above.)

FROM WAKEFIELD: Drive past the traffic island with its assorted pathways for turning drivers. At the far end of the traffic island, turn left onto the first actual street, 36th Street South. 4617A is in Court 14, the second Court on the right. Kyrios ioannes's is the Court's second door on the right.

Court's parking is restricted to residents, and towing is enforced. Street parking tends to be tight. So begin looking for street parking as soon as you turn onto 36th.

6/24

post haste. My apologies for any inconvenience I may have caused you.

As a convenience to all concerned, I will start listing the northern regnum in the Drekkar. This is to help all those autocrats coordinate events, and to aid any gentle who is looking for information concerning weekly workshops, fighting practices or events in other groups.

Oh, by-the-bye, the chronicler has roommates! They are SCA folk from Highland Foorde who are migrating into Storvik. They are Sean and Maria (or Mike and Mary). If you call me, you may get them.

Until next time, have a fun (and safe) time at the War!. Hope to see you there.

*Beornheard*

### The Chronicle of Storvik

This Chapter Recounting the Occurrences in the Month of June

The month of June did fall upon Storvik with suddenness, for many gentles felt upon their face the heat of the sun and thought upon the days to come, and the days in August when they would once again brave the heat of the Debatable Lands to aid their ally in the Great War of Pennsic. Thus it was that most of this month was spent in industry, planning and preparing for the trek to the north and the west, in the making of lists and the finding of other gentles with which to share the burdens of such a venture. But some gentles did take time from their endeavors to meet, and sup upon a Sunday afternoon, and there they did find merriment. And there were games, and foods hot and cold. And the picnic was found to be good. And the Barony of Lochmere, or near neighbor and good ally, did host a tourney to find a champion. And there was a crusade in the south, hosted by the Shire of Steirvach. And in Storvik, Duke Richard held a Tournament, called a Tournament of Armies. The remainder of the month passed in quiet, with work, and all manner of busy-ness.

## FRIDAY

**SUMPOSITION OIKOMENIKON:** Duchess Ysabeau, Earl Laeghaire and Kyrios Ioannes Nikaios invite all newcomers (and any other interested "old-timers") to an informal get-together on various aspects of life in the Society, on the First Friday of every month. See notice on page 8.

**FIGHTING:** Bright Hills holds a fighting practice from 7-10 pm at the Franklyn Middle School in Reisterstown. For information, call Heinrich or Barbara, 301/833-6194

## MISCELLANEOUS

**CALLIGRAPHY:** The Calligraphy Workshops of Mistress Johanna von Griffenhurst are on hold for a short period of time. For more information, call Mistress Johanna. (Jo Anne Dowd, 703/491-8867).

**THE BARONIAL ARTS AND SCIENCES POTLUCK:** Will not be held this spring due to schedule conflicts of the Baron and Baroness.

## THE COLLEGIUM COMMUTATIUM:

The Collegium Commutatum meets for lunch on several "campuses" around the area. Come join us for conversations medieval and mundane.

**CRYSTAL CITY/PENTAGON,** on the **THIRD WEDNESDAY** of every month. Contact Mistress Signy (Tracie Brown, 202/692-0531) or Morgana (Barbara Jackson, 202/692-8465) for exact time and location.

**DOWNTOWN WASHINGTON,** at 1:00 on the **THIRD MONDAY** of every month, at International Square (above the Farragut West Metro Station, 18th and I Streets, near the escalators), also within walking **FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST ONLY,** the Collegium will meet on the Second Monday of the Month.

distance of Farragut North. Contact Lady Johanna (Janet Trautvetter, 202/778-6613) or Mistress Jaelle (Judy Gerjuoy, 202/638-0252). Collegiums which fall on Federal Holidays will be held the following Tuesday.

**RESTON, VA.,** on the **THIRD WEDNESDAY** of every month. Contact Baroness Elaina (Mary Mormon, 703/689-6688) for exact time and location.

If anyone working in some other area wants to start a chapter of the COLLEGIUM, has changes any announcement or wishes to submit an announcement, please let the Chronicler know!

be called; landed Barons who step down will no longer automatically be granted Court Baronies.

**BARONY MEETINGS:** The August meeting will be held on August 6 (the 1st Sunday in August, not the 2nd) at Laird Donal's in College Park. The September meeting will be held September 10 at the Baron & Baroness' manor in Silver Spring. The October meeting will be at Ealasiad's (new) home in Reston.

**EVENTS:** The Tournament of Armies made \$40. Report is not yet in. An autocrat's report for Novice was submitted - Success! There were 225 gentles in attendance, with 70 fighters. \$197.34 was made in profit. The Garb Swap and the A&S exhibit was a failure. The Paperwork will be submitted in two weeks. The POST-PENNSIC REVEL should be listed for Aug. 26, not 23. The site is Damp. People should bring deserts. The Site is the Great Falls Grange. [The 1st Thursday after the war (Aug 24) there will be a Liar's Practice at Strykar's (i.e., "No shit, there we were") ]. The RENNAISSANCE FESTIVAL will run every weekend from Aug 26 to Oct. 7. The BARONIAL BIRTHDAY is going just swimmingly (hopefully, we won't). Duchess Ysabeau is looking for people to serve as gofers, etc. The event is absolutely restricted to 200 persons by the parks authority. Still looking for official post-revels. Dinosaurs are particularly welcome at the event (what about an old-fart revel). No report was submitted for the COLLEGIUM. All is o.k. with the TOURNEY OF THE TOWER. BJ is in charge of Dance. The Drekkar is looking for an announcement for the Hastings Faire & War. A discussion was held concerning a NOVICE TOURNEY in NOVEMBER. There was no report on the YULE feast. There is no site yet for the CHRISTMAS BALL. The ST. VAL's revel is searching for a site. Mistress Signey want's to stage a 10 min. opera. She will be putting out a casting call.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Copies of the Connection newspaper with the article about the SCA were introduced into the record. Duchess put out a further call for Courts and Kings - she is out. Please dredge up copies and surrender them.

**NEW BUSINESS:** We are looking for persons to serve as "Ambassadors" to the surrounding groups. Master CAIVS volunteered to serve as ambassador to Steirbach. The Fencing Marshal is looking for persons interested in Fencing. He wants to start practices. He also wants to submit an equipment order. Please get in contact with him if interested.

**ATTENDING THE MEETING WERE:** Caterina de Forza d'Agro, Signy Dimmridaela, Elspeth nic Cormac mac Comyn, Anne of Corbridge, Johanna van den Glocken, Voung Manh, Therasa du Domremy, Bjorn Bjorklundr, Donal Galbraith, CAIVS M. L. AVKLANDVS, Ealasaad Ramsey of Skye, Cosimo of Venice, Winifred Corbet de Wynterwood,

## LOCAL ACTIVITIES

### SUNDAY

**FIGHTING:** Practice is held each Sunday afternoon at the Pimmit Library in Falls Church. Contact Sir Strykar (703/241-1682) or Lord Malcolm MacMalcolm (301/656-6050) for more information.

**FIGHTING:** A practice is held at 12 noon in Buddy Attick Park in Greenbelt. For more information, cocontact Timothy of Arindale at 301/441-9536 (before 10pm).

### MONDAY

**DANCE PRACTICES** in Storvik, on Monday evenings. See notice on page 7.

**ARMORING WORKSHOPS** are held each Monday evening at the home of Sir Baschamp-Paul (703/435-6750).

**DANCE:** 2nd monday of each month, Lochmere. Contact Siobhan (301/464-2852) for information.

### TUESDAY

**FIGHTING:** The Barony of Lochmere holds Fighter Practice at Arundel High School (south side of Rt. 175, west of Rt. 3) on Tuesday evenings beginning at 7:00 pm. Contact Lord Illarion (Jim Sams, 301/266-3673) for information.

**THE LADIES SEWING CIRCLE AND TERRORIST SOCIETY OF LOWER HIGHLANDE FOORDE**, at 7pm in Frederick, MD. for information, call Gordon or Peregrin at 301/695-4095

**MUSIC:** Renaissance chamber music in the chambers of ioannes nikaias. If you play an instrument, you are welcome. 3rd Tuesday of the month, 8pm. (FOR AUGUST ONLY, THE 2ND TUESDAY) For directions and phone numbers, see "SUMPOSIUM" announcement.

### WEDNESDAY

**DANCE:** The First Wednesday of the month (for the next three months on a trial basis) there will be a dance practice at the home of Lady Katerina Sumerfeld Quenstedt. Master CAIVS will be dancemaster. Call for information or directions (703/494-3023)

**FIGHTING:** The Barony of Storvik northern fighting practice has lost it's indoor site (but retains use of the fields). Beornheard is currently seeking a new site (possible on Monday nights). Practice is currently 7-9:30 pm every Wednesday, and is located at Montgomery Knolls Elementary School, (located in the old Francis Scott Key Middle School) on Schindler Road off of New Hampshire Ave. between I-495 and Route 29 (across from the Naval Surface

It has become apparent that there needs to be some greater effort to co-ordinate events between the five groups in northern Atlantia (that is to say, between Highlande Foorde, Bright Hills, Lochmere, Storvik & Stierbach). To that end, I will begin to publish monthly the names and telephone numbers of the seneschals and chroniclers of all the local groups.

### Northern Atlantian Regnum

#### Bright Hills:

Seneschal: Barbara Guimaria di Roberto (Barbara J.M. Kriner, 121 Glyndon Dr., Apt T2, Reisterstown, MD 21135 Tel: 301/833-6194)

Chronicler: Tristan Alexander (103-J North Rock Glen Road, Baltimore, MD 21229)

#### Highlande Foorde

Seneschal: Ariadne Flaxenhair of Dragon's End (Anne Legowik, 814 Knoxville Road, Knoxville, MD 21758. Tel: 301/698-0751)

Chronicler: Ian MacPherson (John MacPherson 248 E. Irvin Ave. Hagerstown, MD 21740 Tel: 301/739-3096)

#### Lochmere

Baron and Baroness Lochmere: Sir Aelfred and Lady Deidre (Tony and Deb Toich, 485 Eleanor Lane, Arnold, MD 21012 Tel: 301/544-5430)

Seneschal: Lady Marena of Rathlin (Tamma McDonough, 9235 Redbridge Road, Laurel, MD 20707 Tel: 301/461-3553)

Chronicler: Lady Siobhan O'Riordain (Debra Appel, 8901 Merrill Lane #203, Laurel, MD Tel: 301/604-2494)

#### Stierbach

Seneschal: Lady Katherine von Recknor (Katherine Hayes, Route 1, Box 74, Catlett, VA 22019 Tel: 703/788-4050)

Chronicler: Lady Jirel ni Cahil (Cynthia Hart, 14432 Turin Lane, Centreville, Va 22020 Tel: 703/266-3021)

#### Storvik:

Baron and Baroness Storvik: Master Kay Delafleur and Mistress Elaina de Sinistre (Kent Bloom and Mary Morman, 1802 Sanford Road, Silver Spring, MD 20902. Tel: 301/593-6247)

Seneschal: Lord Stefan of Cambion (Steve Kiefert, 9704 Beachwood Drive, Lanham, MD 20706 Tel: 301/779-5155 [anytime] or 301/731-0673 [evenings])

Chronicler: Lord Beornheard of Wearmouth (Jeff Tyeryar, 3603 Oliver Street, Hyattsville, MD 20782. Tel: 301/559-7852)

## Storvik Calendar

- July 30 Discussion Group, concerning a northern principality, at Sir Raim's. See announcement on page 12.
- Aug. 6 BARONY MEETING - at Laird Donal's, 301/441-9286
- Aug. 7 Baroness' Birthday - No event, just send presents. For address, see Officers Listing.
- Aug. 12-20 PENNSIC Week.
- Aug. 26 POST-PENNSIC REVEL - Autocrat: Laird Donal Galbraith
- Aug 26 Renaissance Faire Begins. Runs every weekend
- Sept. 9 CORONATION OF BARRY & SIMONE, at Hidden Mountain (SC), Autocrat: Eldon Ungal, 803/552-8923
- Sept. 10 BARONY MEETING - at the Kay & Elaina's, 301/593-6247
- Sept. 16 STORVIK BARONIAL BIRTHDAY - Autocrat: Duchess Ysabeau Cameron of Lochiel 703/644-5767
- Sept. 23 STORVIK COLLEGIUM - Autocrat: Mistress Jaelle of Armida, 202/737-4609
- Sept. 23 EAGLES TOURNEY - Lochmere, Autocrat Aryanna Vavarre Hawkyns, 301/461-3553
- Sept 23 Markland Pre-Hastings Feast. For info, call 301/WAR-LORD
- Oct. 7 TOURNEY OF THE TOWER - Autocrat: Therasa du Domremy, 301/262-5142
- Oct 7 Last weekend of Renaissance Faire
- OCT. 8 BARONY MEETING at Ealasiad's new home in Reston
- Oct. 14 FULL MOON FEAST AND MASK BALL - Autocrat: Lady Serafina Aquilar y Aragonne. 703/533-8224
- Oct 20-22 Markland Hastings Faire - Berrywine Vinyards. For info about participating, call Withread at 301/725-0681
- Oct 28 TRANSYLVANIA TRAVESTY - Bright Hills. Autocrat: Tristan Alexander 301/644-1721
- Nov 4 CROWN TOURNAMENT
- Dec 2 INTERSHIRE COLLEGIUM, Stierbach-HIGHLANDe Foorde. Autocrat: Dagmar Gandalfdottir, 703/788-4050.
- Dec. 9 YULE RE-ENACTMENT FEAST (tentative). Autocrat: Lann Lerben O Cambion, 301/464-1103
- Dec 16 LOCHMERE CHRISTMAS YULE REVEL
- Dec. 30 STORVIK CHRISTMAS BALL Autocrat: Mistress Signy
- Feb 3 PERFORMERS REVEL