

# DREKKAR

Newsletter of the  
Barony of Storvik



AUGUST  
A.S. XXXV

Iris D. Williams  
6620 24th Avenue  
Hyattsville, MD 20782

TIME VALUE MATERIAL

DO NOT DELAY

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*Unto the Populace of Storvik do Corun and Brenna, Baron and Baroness of Storvik send greetings.*

Pennsic is nigh upon us. With everyone in the throes of last minute sewing and building frenzy, this letter will be short.

The Barony meeting will be held at Pennsic in the Clan Cambion camp. We can't tell you where it is since they don't yet know themselves. Our best suggestion is to look for it when you get there. The Baron will be camped with his household, the Dark Horde Moritu, in it's usual place on Horde Hill (the benefits of running Pennsic Motor Pool out of one's camp), in among the yurts surrounded by the sheet walls. The Baroness will be with her household, the Wyrd Sisters, but no one is yet sure where that will be. Probably somewhere out on the Serengeti. If you are truly confused, your best bet is to look for Baron Corun. As always, both of us invite one and all to visit us in our respective camps.

We encourage all Storvik fighters, both heavy and rapier, and all our archers to join in the fun. There will be many more battles this year than in previous years. There will also be a Helm Shau prior to the Pas d'Armes that is being hosted by the Company of St. Mark. Last year's was truly spectacular, and it is an event that is highly recommended.

Lastly, don't forget the Post Pennsic Dessert Revel, the 24th of August. Bring your desserts and your stories and join us for the festivities.

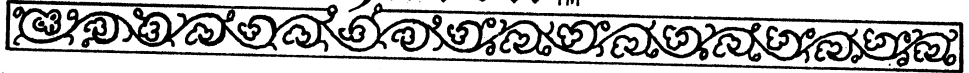
Hoping to see you all at Pennsic, we remain,

In service,  
Corun and Brenna

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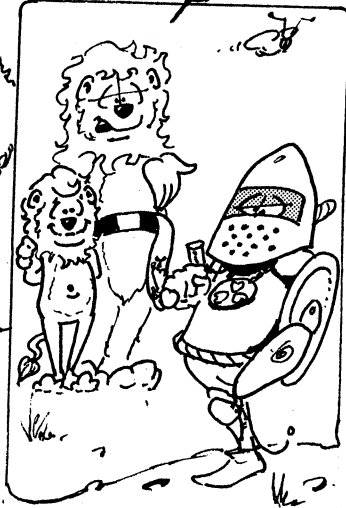


WHAZZAT ON YOU BELT, MILORD?

IT'S THE FAVOR OF ME LADY TRUE LOVE.

SOME LADIES GIVE NECKLACES RINGS SASHES HANKIES AN' OTHER STUFF AS FAVORS.

DEN DERE'S SOME WHO PREFERS THA PERSONAL TOUCH...



© MARK WALLACE

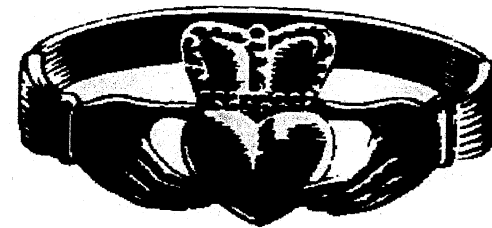
*To the populace of Storvik, from Chabi of Burkhan Khaldun,  
Greetings!*

I wish to convey my deepest gratitude to all the kind gentles who helped to make "The Many Realms of King Arthur" demo a rousing success!

Library patrons and staff had only positive comments on the variety and quality of the demonstrations. Our program was a wonderful way to call attention to the opening of the exhibit, and the gentles of Storvik and Ponte Alto, with their generosity and enthusiasm, made it all possible. My thanks to all of them, especially those who gave demonstrations on short notice, filling in the gaps that came about from my own inexperience. I am indebted to them for propping me up in my leaning places.

A special acknowledgment is due to Lord Stephan Heraldson, who should be credited as Executive Co-Autocrat. He knows everyone and their areas of expertise, and make all the initial calls. I learned a great deal from him.

To one and all, I can only say, VIVAT! VIVAT!! VIVAT!!!



**Minutes from Baronial Meeting on 7/14/96**

**Members in Attendance:** Corun, Caitlin, Chabi, Beornherd, Jaelle, Insha, Trident

#### **OFFICER REPORTS**

**Chronicler** - Subscriptions are down to just under 60. The last Drekkar was last due to mundane complications. Authorization has been made, at the Baronial troublemakers request, for 3 months of stamps.

# DREKKAR

## Subscription Form

**Mundane Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**SCA Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**City, State, Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Telephone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Length of Subscription:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: All subscriptions expired in December of each year.**

Please make your check or money order payable to the 'Barony of Storvik, SCA/Inc.'

Your expiration date can be found on your mailing label. The month listed is the last month you will receive an issue. To renew or pay for the rest of the year, the price list is as follows:

July	\$4.04
August	\$3.38
September	\$2.72
October	\$2.06
November	\$1.40
December	\$ .74

(ex. If your expiration date is 4/1/96, find the month of May and pay the amount listed.)

Post Pennsic Dessert Revel  
Storvik  
24 August 1996

The Baron and Baroness of Storvik cordially invite one and all to their fair Barony for a Dessert Revel in celebration of the return from the 25th Pennsic Wars. All Storviki are invited to St. Andrews Episcopal Church from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. Join their Excellencies in the sampling of many fine sweets, hear the bards recant the glorious tales of the war, and dance the night away to the accompaniment of Lady Felecia's Ad Hoc Orchestra of Greater Storvik.

There will be a bardic competition with prizes offered for the best "No s\*\*\*, there I was at the war..." story. There will also be an artistic/culinary competition for the desserts in the following categories: most artistic representation of the war, best attempt at a period dessert, and the dessert most in need of a surgeon general's warning due to chocolate content. Baron Igor and Countess Alison of Islay will be judging the dessert competition. Baron Igor will also be judging the bardic competition.

Musicians, if you wish to participate in the Ad Hoc Orchestra, please contact Lady Felicia at (301) 587-3711, NLT 10pm, or [fmel@fclark.net](mailto:fmel@fclark.net).

Please keep in mind that the site, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church is **NOT AIR CONDITIONED**. Please wear clothing appropriate to the climate (light field garb would be ideal). If any gentles have large fans that could be placed in front of one or more of the windows, please contact the autocrat at the number below as soon as possible.

This is a "sort of wet" site--the site allows WINE ONLY. Please remember that the legal drinking age in the state of Maryland is 21.

Parents, please be advised that no child care will be provided.

**FEES:** \$7 per adult, \$4 per child (5-12), smalls under the age of 5 are guests of the Barony. There is a discount of \$1 if you bring a dessert to serve 6 or more. If you wish to pay by check, please make it out to, Barony of Storvik/SCA, Inc.

**AUTOCRAT:** Lady Catriona Beansheinn (mka: Cindy Stanford),  
9300 Edmonston Road, #201, Greenbelt, MD 20770, (h) 301-474-4659 (NLT 10pm), (w)202-728-0300 (weekdays 8:30am-4:30pm), [catriona@juno.com](mailto:catriona@juno.com).

offer the following outline as a possible adaption for use in the SCA.

1. The King and Queen summon the Order of the Laurel.
2. The Order enters from the back of the hall two-by-two, perhaps carrying symbols of their respective arts.
3. A representative of the order announces that in keeping with tradition, after due thought and examination, they wish to name one as worthy to join their ranks.
4. Their majesties agree, and summon the candidate.
5. The candidate enters, perhaps escorted by a sponsor and/or with examples of his/her art displayed in procession. He/she kneels before Their Majesties.
6. The Queen (patroness of the arts and sciences in Atlantia) drapes her cloak around the shoulders of the candidate. She instructs him/her that this is a symbol of the countenance conveyed by the Crown and bids him/her remember the weight of the responsibilities of a peer, especially in upholding the arts and sciences, even as he/she feels the weight of the cloak. the cloak is then removed.
7. The King then askss for a token of the Order. The sponsor or another appropriate person presents a medallion or wreath. The King explains the Laurel is a symbol , our connection with both the classical and medieval past and our triumph over ignorance through diligent study and effort, as well as being the symbol of our society. The token is then placed on the candidate and he/she is instructed in accepting the token to be mindful to always maintain their struggle against ignorance and conduct themselves in a manner worthy of a peer.
8. The scroll is then read and the candidate swears fealty, if he/she chooses.
9. The King and Queen dismiss the order to celebrate the elevation of a new member. The order exits, again two-by-two, escorting the new laurel from court. They greet him/her at the back of the hall. The populace cheers and the children wave colorful banners.

## Not Enough Saxon Violence

October 26/27, 1996

The year is 948. The place is Viking Kingdom of York, Northumberland, England. The Anglo Saxon Chronicle records that:

This year king Edred overran all Northumberland; because they had taken Eric for their king; and in the pursuit of plunder was that large minster at Rippon set on fire, which St. Wilferth built. As the king returned homeward, he overtook the enemy at York; but his main army was behind at Chesterford. There was great slaughter made; and the king was so wroth, that he would fain return with his force, and lay waste the land withal; but when the council of the Northumberians understood that, they then abandoned Eric, and compromised the deed with king Edred.

The Barony of Storvik invites you to come and join us in a recreation of Edred's campaign against Eric Bloodaxe. On October 26, 1996, at Patuxtant River Park (Croom), one of the battles of Edred and Eric will be fought. On one side, Norse and Danes. On the other, the English and Danes. Weapons and shield forms are limited to those known in 10th century England, Ireland, and Scandanavia (i.e., round or kite shields, and single-handed swords or axes, spears, Viking two-handed [long] axes. No great swords, two swords or pole-arms other than spear or Viking long axe). Non combatants may watch the battles, or participate in the recreation as a Camp Follower or Refugee.

Following the battles, there will be a feast, drawn from A Handbook of Anglo-Saxon Food & Drink, prepared by the Camp Followers in period fashion. Weather permitting, the feast will be eaten around the fire. The mead-horn will be passed, and each warrior encouraged to boast his tale of battle. The following day, Sunday October 27, a Kingdom War Practice will be held.

The site will open Friday Evening, October 25th, for early arrivals. Onboard space at the feast is limited to 75 people; offboard space is unlimited. We have reserved camping space for at least 100 persons. The fee structure and directions will be posted in the September Acorn. The Autocrat is Lord Beornheard of Wearmouth, 301-559-7852, tyeryar@aol.net. The Head Cook is Lady Elise Clairmont, enolan@aol.net. Questions and comments are encouraged!



## PUBLIC NOTICES

(These activities are only for public interest. They are not legal SCA events.)

*Barony meetings to be held at Brenna's new home, starting in June. Directions: From 495 N take exit 28 New Hampshire Avenue South. Vier right onto Piney Branch Road. You will be driving through Takoma Park. Make a left on Cedar Street (There will be a school at the intersection.) It is the only house on your right.*

*Dancing will be taught by Genevieve and Anjuli every Wednesday at 7 pm at Baroness Brenna's home. This will continue until Pennsic. Contact Anjuli for further details at (301) 595-3098.*

*Lords! Ladies!  
All Interested Nobles!*

*An avid practitioner of knife and tomahawk throwing wishes to introduce the art of 'airborne steel' to the Barony.*

*For those baronial residents with more enthusiasm than experience, one-on-one and small-group sessions will be scheduled.*

*Already have experience but you want more, you say? Excellent! You can assist with getting those with less up to speed.*

*Where will this all lead? To a good time, I hope.*

*Sound like fun? Interested?*

*Want more information?*

*Contact:*

*Lawrence Czokaj*

*(301) 864-6588*

## *A Period Laurel Ceremony*

*by Deirdre O'Siodhachain*

*"There are, of course, ambitions that are wholly selfish, but no one would contend that the poet's desire for fame is necessarily of this nature. The laurel is a world-old symbol of victory, and, while it was awarded to kings and conquerors, it was no small thing that the conquerors of the kingdom of the soul should have been distinguished in like manner, it is the art, not the man, that is crowned, and in that lies the real triumph" - Jerrold Francesco Petrarca, p. 64*

Of the three Peerage orders in the SCA, only that of knighthood is generally initiate and confirm a candidate into its peerage, the brotherhood of chivalry.

While I fear I have never found a model on which the Order of the Pelican might base their rite of passage, there are in fact a few isolated instances in period of a notable person being publicly honored by bestowing a laurel wreath to mark distinguished scholarship and excellence in the art of poetry.

The most famous of these ceremonies occurred on Easter Day, April 8, 1341. The recipient was the Italian poet and scholar, Francesco Petrarca, better known to English speakers as Petrarch.

Petrarch was one of the foremost scholars of his day, as well as poet of great renown. By his early thirties he had established an international reputation as an innovative poet and as a classical scholar in both Latin and Greek. He was among the first of the humanists, possibly the best educated man of his time, and certainly one of the major figures of the Italian Renaissance.

Having established himself as the correspondent and confidant of many influential men as well as being generally acknowledged the foremost scholar of his time, Petrarch felt a need for some more concrete recognition than mere reputation. It is not clear whether Petrarch or one of his friends first came up with the suggestion for a public coronation with the laurel as was done for a few other poets in the 1310's, but the poet certainly approved the notion and let it be known discreetly that he would favorably entertain a invitation from a suitable source.

Apparently when word got out more than one place wished the honor of bestowing the laurel wreath. Petrarch received invitations from both the University of Paris and Senate of Rome on the same day. (September 1, 1340) at his isolated residence at Vaucluse outside Avignon in France. He decided, not surprisingly for an Italian and classicist, in favor of the Roman invitation.

To lend legitimacy to the process, Petrarch first went to the court of King

Robert the Wise of Naples who was justly famed for his learning and patronage of the arts for an "examination" to determine the poet's worthiness. Petrarch sailed in February 1341 from Marseilles to Naples and arrived in late in the month. During March, he and King Robert spent three days in public discussion and dissertations. At the end, Robert pronounced the poet worthy and offered to present the laurel wreath himself. Petrarch declined on the basis of his prior commitment to the Senate in Rome and desire to receive the laurel in the city of the great poets of classical Rome.

King Robert acquiesced to this preference and only regretted his age prevented him going with the poet to Rome. However, Robert gave Petrarch his own royal purple robe of honor to wear at the ceremony as a mark of sponsorship.

The coronation of Petrarch as Poet Laureate took place within days of his arrival in Rome. The ceremony was held in the Senatorial Palace on the Capitoline hill. It began with a procession of twelve 15-year-old boys (the sons of gentlemen and citizens) dressed in scarlet and followed by six noble gentlemen dressed in green, each carrying a garland of flowers. The Roman Senator Orso then entered wearing the laurel wreath and took his place on a throne. Petrarch was summoned with trumpets and fifes and presented himself to the Senator, crying out three times for the long life and liberty of the Romans and their Senators. He then knelt and the Senator said "The crown is the reward of merit," and placed the wreath upon Petrarch's head. Petrarch recited a sonnet (now lost) on the valor of ancient Rome to mark the occasion. It was followed by an oration. The giving of the laurel was then confirmed by the reading of a declaration of eight points, chief among them confirming Petrarch a master of the arts and history and a citizen of Rome. Petrarch was then acclaimed by the crowd.

It is interesting to note the entirely secular nature of the ceremony as opposed to the deeply religious associations of the knighting ceremony of the time. However, after the laurel coronation was over, Petrarch retired to St. Peter's where he left the wreath as a devotional offering on the altar.

Petrarch was initially very proud of receiving the laurel to public acclaim, although he later came to regret it. In later years he would be the subject of much criticism for it and he grew to feel it had aroused only jealousy and condemnation of his vanity and pride. Nonetheless, it was done in a spirit linking the great poets of ancient Rome to those were their students and successors in a different age.

Based on what is known of the crowning of Petrarch with the laurel wreath, I

**DIRECTIONS:** From I-495, take exit 25, Route 1 South into College Park. College Avenue is at the same light as the Maryland Book Exchange after the main campus area of the University of Maryland. Turn left onto College Avenue. Go 1 1/2 blocks, the church will be on your left. Park in the church lots. Enter the parking lots using the entrance to the right hand side of the church at the back. The troll will be at the church entrance closest to the first parking lot you pass through.

\*\*\*Please contact the autocrat if you can help with any of the following:  
troll, set-up, kitchen, clean-up.

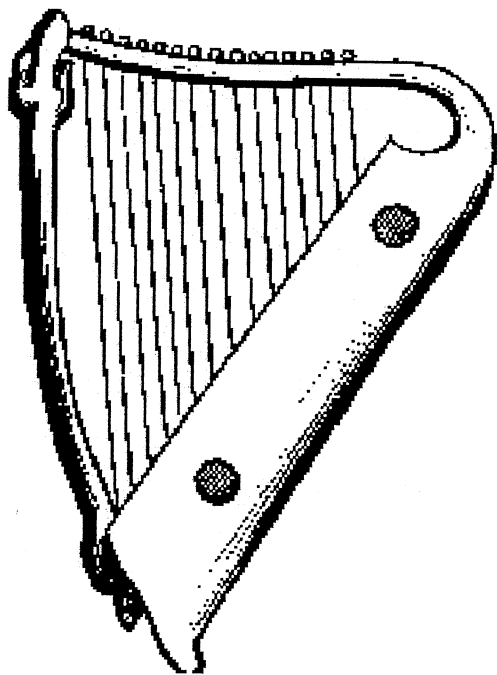


Foster, Kennelm, *Petrarch: Poet and Humanist* (Edinburgh University Press, Edinburgh), 1984.

Hollway-Caltrop, H.C., *Petrarch: His Life and Times* (Copper Square Publishers, Inc., New York)

Jerrold, Maud F., *Francesco Petrarca: Poet and Humanist* (Kennikat Press, Port Washington, London) 1970.

Wilkins, Ernest Hatch, *Life of Petrarch* (University of Chicago Press) 1961.



**Exchequer** - The insurance papers are being processed for the Post-Pennsic Revel. Reimburesment are due to several autocrats and officers. This will be attended to.

**Chatelaine** - Inclement weather caused lack of attendance at the last newcomers meeting. A new listing of topics will be submitted to the Drekkar. Chatelaine is looking to step down in six months.

**Baron** - Timothy Kirkwood has submitted paperwork to take over the Archery Marshal position.

### EVENT REPORTS

**BARON'S CHAMPIONSHIP** - Autocrat was able to cut the budget by \$300 in anticipation of conflicts with other events in the area. \$659.14 was spent in expenses and \$715.50 in actual income. The event made a profit of 56.36. Everyone had a good time. Feast was ready before the storm hit and the Barony meeting was held in the barn.

**NOVICE TOURNEY** - Event was cancelled due to lack of site.

**DEMO** - The demo at the Schweinhaut Center was successful. A knighting of a squire was demonstrated followed by an Arts & Sciences demo. The Schweinhaut Center has asked the Barony to use the site for future events.

### UPCOMING EVENT REPORTS

**POST PENNSIC REVEL** - Insurance forms are being processed for the site. Autocrat: Catriona Beansheinn.

**SAXON VIOLENCE** - Rescheduled to October 27, 1996. A new event announcement will be posted as soon as pricing for food and the site are received. Looking for help with marshalling, troll and other areas. Feast will be limited to 75.

**UNEVENT** - The Barony has been asked by the Kingdom Senechal to host this event. Contacts will be made to purcure a site.

## NEWCOMER WELCOMING MEETINGS

Newcomer meetings are held monthly starting promptly at 7:30 p.m. and lasting to approximately 9:30 p.m. They provide Newcomers to the Society and Newcomers to the area with an opportunity to meet established members, to learn more about the Society, the kingdom and the local area.

Newcomer Meetings in Storvik (Washington, DC and Prince George's County) will be held the fourth Monday (except December) of each month and be held at the home of the Baronial Chatelaine Caitilin Cheannlaidir (Risa Sheridan-Peters) 7002 Sycamore Ave., Takoma Park, MD (301) 270-1207 (NLT 9 PM).

**DIRECTIONS:** From 495 N take exit 28 New Hampshire Avenue South. Make a right onto Ethan Allen. Make a left onto Sycamore. 7002 is the yellow house on the right. By Metro: Take the redline to Takoma Park. When you leave the station walk straight up Carroll Avenue. Turn left at Park Pharmacy. Follow Carroll to Columbia. Make a right onto Columbia and make another right on Sycamore at the top of the hill. This is a fairly pet-free environment. If you have severe allergies call ahead.

Newcomer Meetings in Ponte Alto (Northern Virginia) are held the second Friday of each month at 7:30 pm. Ponte Alto Newcomer Meetings are held at various locations throughout the Barony. Contact Chatelaine, Lady Annys Reynard (Pat Sheets) at (703) 391-5681 for more information.

### DATES & SCHEDULE OF TOPICS

#### August

Storvik: NO MEETING!!!!

#### September

Storvik: Monday, September, 23, 1996 - Getting Involved/Service

#### October

Storvik: Monday, October, 28, 1996 - Garb

#### November

Storvik: Monday, November, 25, 1996 - Names and Persona

#### December

Storvik: Monday, December, 23, 1996 - Winter Amusement (A&S/ Learning New Skills/in the SCA)

***Unto the good gentles of Storvik Insha Fernandez de Cordoba send greetings,***

To all who will be part of the great battle I wish you a safe journey and a speedy return. I hope this issue reaches you before you leave on your long quest. There are several issues I wish to address. Several subscribers need to check their mailing labels for expiration dates and renew your subscription. The Trivia page has been discontinued due to new duties taken on by our Baronial Troublemaker. The Trivia page will be replaced by some articles that I feel everyone will enjoy.

I wish to send a sincere apology to Chabi who was autocrat for the "Meet the Middle Ages 'The Many Realms of King Arthur' Demo". Due to mundane interference her thank you letter was not included in either of the past two issues. Again my apologies to Chabi and all who helped with the demo. The letter has been included in this issue.

I thank you all for allowing me to get my feet wet in this office. Despite the minor problems of getting adjusted I think things are looking up. Thanks to everyone who has submitted articles and suggestions. Keep sending them.

***Good Gentles of Storvik - Greetings from Frau Johanna von Sudeborn, Seneschal of Storvik-***

Clan Cambion has graciously consented to host the August Barony meeting at Pennsic. It will start at 7:00p on Sunday, Aug 11. I urge all of you who will be at Pennsic to attend. If you have any questions, I will be camping with Wyrd Sisters, and should be on site by Aug 9.

## THE SUBSCRIBER'S LIST

**DREKKAR**, the newsletter of the Barony of Storvik. Subscriptions to the Drekkar are \$8 per year (12 issues), and are available or renewable by sending a check, payable to "Barony of Storvik/SCA, Inc." to the Chronicler (see Officer's Listings inside the front cover). Please include your mundane and SCA names, your mailing address, and phone number. All subscriptions end in December of each year.

**II TEMPO**, the newsletter of Barony of Ponte Alto, is available for \$10 per year. Make checks payable to "The Barony of Ponte Alto/SCA, Inc." and mail or give to Barbara Bilodeau, 13456 Cobra Dr., Herndon, VA 22071.

**DREDGLING**, the newsletter of the Barony of Lochmere is available for \$8 per year.

**THE INSIDE LINE**, the connection for Duello in Atlantia. A newsletter published on a bi-weekly basis, a monthly calendar of activities throughout the kingdom, and notices on special events such as Queen's Rapier Champion. Subscriptions are \$6 per year payable to Greg Glewwe at the Inside Line, c/o Greg Glewwe, 18034 Cottage Garden Dr., #103, Germantown, MD 20874. Call Gregoire at (301) 540-8538 for more information.

The **CUSP**, newsletter for the "Borderlands" of the East Kingdom and the Kingdom of Atlantia, carrying event announcements and information for the following groups: The Baronies of Bhakail, Lochmere, Ponte Alto, Storvik, and Dun Carraig. The Baronies of the Bright Hills, Highland Foorde, Stierbach, Inglenook, Black Rose, Dawnfire, Montevale, Silver Rylle, and the Bailwick of Ivyeinrust. The CUSP is available from Lord Cahan Kyle (William Kyle), Rd #1, Box 426, Blairs Mills, PA 17213. The subscription rate is \$8 per year.

The **BLUE FEATHER**, the newsletter for the member of Clan Blue Feather and is a forum for publication to period sources, poetry and other items related to gay/lesbian/bisexual studies or individuals in the time period covered by the SCA. The Blue Feather is available from Tristan Alexander, at 103-J N. Rock Glen Rd., Baltimore, MD 21229, for \$10 per year.

The **CHANTER AND STICK**, the newsletter of the Atlantian Piping and Drum Guild. It offers informative articles on beginning bagpipes, equipment reviews, and a source list for related accouterments. It is available from Niall Duncan Mac Farlane (Neal Towley) Rt. 3 Box 467, Boone, NC 28607.

## NEIGHBORING BARONIES AND SHIRES

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