

Unto Your Highnesses Christoph and Adelhait, and the populace of the Barony of Ponte Alto come warmest greetings from Lord Grimkirk ap Greymoor and Lady Agnete Köslin.

As time marches on from the youthful virtues of spring to the bold wars of summer, into the victory celebrations of autumn and the cloistering before winter's icy mantle falls, so too do these winds of change bring us before You now. We have weighed carefully the burdens of *noblesse oblige*, and acknowledge that to stand as landed nobility conveys considerable responsibility. Cloaked in the long shadows cast by Their Excellencies, Drogo and Adina, and the many successful reigns that have gone before, we humbly submit our names in consideration as successor candidates for the honor of serving as Baron and Baroness of our home, Ponte Alto.

In our 50 plus years of combined membership across six (6) vastly different kingdoms, we have come to understand that to hold lands in fief from the Crown is to carry the burden of Obligation. Obligations to serve and nurture those citizens and lands bestowed into one's trust. An obligation to gently cultivate acts of selfless service — both in the defense of our Kingdom, and in ways large and small that beautify and enrich the Realm and our Society. But ultimately, an obligation to acknowledge, recognize and advocate for those who also serve beyond the sight of the Crown.

To those ends, we would consider it our greatest privilege as Ponte Alto's Baron and Baroness to sustain and perpetuate the close-knit sense of 'family' that we found when first we came to Atlantia; that strength of community across our barony which made us feel instantly welcome. We believe it is through this feeling of belonging that Ponte Alto has thrived and grown, as we continue to attract and retain new citizens of all ages.

Currently, we serve the barony, kingdom and society in various roles. Grimkirk, as Knight's Marshal and at corporate as the Society's information and technology officer, and also served as event steward at four of Ponte Alto's last six events as of this writing; most recently, Spring Crown. Agnete serves both as Baronial Herald and at Kingdom as Sea Stag Herald (education). She is also routinely found greeting our guests from the entrance of every event. Supporting both the arts martial and the arts refined, Grimkirk is an accomplished combatant and acquits himself in both Armored and Rapier combat, while also pursuing many gentler arts. Agnete prefers pursuits in various fiber arts, heraldic research, and has an (as yet) unfulfilled interest in archery. Collectively, we believe our own experiences in these areas will help to inform our responsibilities as advocates of the arts and artisans of Ponte Alto.

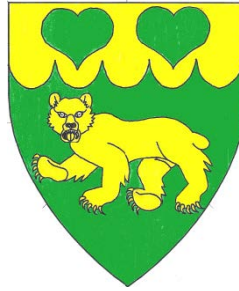
Still, though our barony is landlocked, we seek new ways to grow our numbers. As Knight's Marshal, Grimkirk has been actively planning to take the barony's local fighter practices 'on the road', across the expansive county lands chartered to Ponte Alto in search of new communities of gentles who are not yet familiar with our Society. As we both believe this is a 'Good Plan', we would encourage continued pursuit of it from the vantage of the Baronage. We would also continue to promote an increase in the pageantry and circumstance that befits our noble kingdom, such as was presented at this Spring's Crown Tournament.

In keeping with Ponte Alto's 'High Bridge', we look forward to the opportunity to serve our barony and its people as its 'bridge' with the Kingdom of Atlantia.

In service to the Society,



Lord Grimkirk ap Greymoor, OPF, OCK, OO  
mka John Michael Schneider



Lady Agnete Köslin, OO  
mka Sue Schneider

Lord Grimkirk is a 13c Welshman, who began his days in the Barony of the Flame (Middle), and campaigned abroad as a young man to the lands of the Orient (West), Principality of Calontir (Middle), Principality of Outlands (Atenveldt), and Kingdom of the Outlands, before returning and settling in the Province of Tre-Girt-Sea (First Province of the Known World). From there, he then scoured the Middle Kingdom for 25 years to find his one true love, Lady Agnete (a 13c German), impatiently waiting for him. Together, they set out to Atlantia and made Ponte Alto their new home.

Active since A.S. VIII (1974) and A.S. XXXIX (2005) respectively, Grimkirk has received the Order of the Purple Fret (MK equivalent to ATL Opal), is a principal of the Middle Kingdom's Order of the Cavendish Knot (MK equivalent to ATL Sea Dragon), and Ponte Alto's Ponte d'Oro (Baronial service). Both he and Lady Agnete have received the Order of the Opal since arriving in Atlantia.