



Partners in Friendship

P. O. Box 5702 • Aiken SC 29804
803.642.5015/custodi@bellsouth.net

July 17, 2006

For Immediate Release

Information Contacts:

Anna Dangerfield: (648-4331); (adanger23@aol.com)

Rich Viviano: (641-1873); (rrviviano@aol.com)

Partners in Friendship (PIF) to Hold Medieval Banquets

Partners in Friendship (PIF) announced today plans for two Medieval Banquets to be held at Newberry Hall in downtown Aiken on October 12th (Columbus Day), and October 14th.

To faithfully recreate the atmosphere and food from the 11th to the 13th Centuries, two experienced cooks from Aiken's Partner City, Orvieto (In Umbria, Italy) will be flown to Aiken to supervise the food preparation from recipes that were researched and recovered from the archives of medieval monasteries in Orvieto and the surrounding region.

George Custodi, President of PIF said, "We got the idea from our Orvieto partners who hold medieval banquets yearly to celebrate the food and atmosphere during the Crusades, long before Columbus discovered America. Absent from the recipes are potatoes, tomatoes, corn and many other produce that had not yet been brought to Europe from the New World".

Period costumes are encouraged but not required. "It has been rumored that royalty will be attending" Custodi said, "but for now that is a closely guarded secret. But I can say that if His and Her Excellencies do attend, they will help us celebrate PIF's 10th anniversary."

The previous banquets were held in January 2000.

For additional information, contact George or Sandi Custodi at 642-5015.