

ORDO SANCTI CONSTANTINI MAGNI



THE
CONSTANTINIAN
NEWS

No. 2 / 2022



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IN MEMORIAM

Give rest, O Lord, to the souls of Thy departed servants

GOCM

Andrew Martin Johnson

1935 – 2022

KCCM

Lief Flatow

Exarchate of Sweden

1945 - 2022

KCM

Erik Nilsson

Exarchate of Finland

1944 - 2020



*Do not be afraid;
I am the First and the Last.
I am He who lives.*

Dear Dames and Chevaliers

About two years ago a new virus, coronavirus Covid 19, was found as the reason for a real pandemic. It really changed the world. Several millions of people died.

Almost all countries were isolated, almost closed. Children were not able to go normally to schools, students had their lectures by it technologies. Offices were closed. Now after two years the virus is still with us with all its variations. Fortunately the isolation procedures and, most important of all, vaccinations have been effective. We have some possibilities to return to normal life. But this is not enough. The unusual living circumstances have serious long term negative effects. I am not thinking the economic problems, but I want to stress that many children and youngsters do suffer from psychological symptoms. This makes me to think whether we as a caritative order could make something to help these children and youngsters. For instance give to economical support for organizations which works in this field.

The pandemic has been a terrible problem, but in February this year we meet with the brutal war in Ukraine. Nobody could guess that in these days one has to undergo genocide as seems to happen there. The crudity which has done by the Russian army is unbelievable. Fortunately the civilized world has helped Ukraine. A very good example of excellent work which the bailiwick of Norway has done. They have been in contact to the lord mayor of Kiev and the ambassador of Ukraine in Oslo. The bailiwick knows exactly what is needed to help people there. The bailiwick organized money collection and the transportation from Norway to Ukraine.

These two disasters have really disturbed the normal life in our countries. We have, however, seen that by different activities we can help and hope that we reach finally a better world. We have to be active in our Order and remember the principles of the Ordo Constantini Magni.

I wish a beautiful and peaceful summer to all of our members and their families.

Toivo Salmi
Chancellor of OCM

ORDO SANCTI CONSTANTINI MAGNI

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE PATRIARCHATE OF ALEXANDRIA AND ALL AFRICA
EXARCHATE OF SWEDEN



Leif Flatow has passed away

With great sadness we received the news that Leif Flatow has passed away at the age of 77. A short illness ended his otherwise active and result oriented life. It is inconceivable that he who was such a gentle, balanced and competent friend and Knight is no longer here.

Leif was dubbed as a Constantinian Knight in 2007 and has since played a prominent role in the Exarchate of Sweden as well as in the Bailiwick of Stella Maris Regina. He was also Auditor of the International OCM.

He was supposed to take over as Exarch of Sweden a few days later. There he would by his wisdom and virtue, his experience, his analysis of the world around him as well as his ability to always stay on course towards the good, have been very useful to all of us and OCM. Unfortunately, that will not happen.

In great gratitude to what Leif Flatow has been, wanted and worked for we send our warmest thoughts and condolences to his wife and family for the sad loss of our highly regarded friend and Knight.

May he rest in Peace.

GOCM Andrew Martin Johnson

August 19, 1935 – May 23, 2022

“Andrew M. Johnson of Arlington, Virginia died on the 23rd day of May 2022 and will be buried in Springfield Township Cemetery near Windom, Minnesota near where he was born on 19th of August 1935 to Clayton A and Emma Bennett Johnson.

He was a 1953 graduate of Windom High School and a 1957 graduate of the University of Minnesota. Johnson spent much of the remainder of his life in the Washington, DC area in federal civilian and military service. He was retired from the US Army Materiel Command and from the US Army. Colonel Johnson served two years in the Vietnam War with the US Army and four years with NATO forces in Germany. Following retirement, COL Johnson continued activities in various veterans and hereditary organizations serving in 1999 as Commander in Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, the successor organization to the Civil War Grand Army of the Republic (GAR).

He was an active member of Our Savior Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, since 1962 and of, ---The American Legion, VFW, AUSA, MOFW, MOWW, NRA, Disabled American Veterans, Sons of the American Revolution, Society of the Cincinnati, Sons of Colonial New England and other hereditary societies. In later years, he became active in Christian charitable orders to include the Sovereign Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem, the Order of St Lazarus, Order of St John and the Order of St Constantine.

Colonel Johnson was preceded in death by his father, mother, elder brother Robert Clayton Johnson and sister Barbara Lawrence. Remaining family include two nephews, two nieces and a following generation of the Johnson family.”

New Deputy Master



The Grand Master of the Order has appointed Jürgen Schumacher, GCCM, as the new Deputy Master.

Jürgen Schumacher became a member of the Order in 1992. He previously served as Secretary General of the Order from 1999 to 2009 and as Chancellor from 2009 to 2014.

Jürgen Schumacher is a retired doctor of medicine and a specialist in pediatrics. He lives in Espoo.

A picture from Austria

A picture of a € 4.500 donation by Bailiwick of Austria in November 2021 to a regional hunting horn musical group which has been supporting them in earlier years during our annual gatherings. Due to the locality in Upper Austria, Christian Fock, GOCM, handed over the check in a symbolic picture.



Knights' days on a Finnish Exarchate

After two years of waiting, the Knights' Days and the annual meeting of the OCM Finnish Exarchate were held in the city of Kouvola from 14th to 15th May. The arrangements for the two-day event worked flawlessly, the weather was beautiful and the participants enjoyed meeting each other after a long break. Deputy Master of the Order, Jürgen Schumacher honoured the occasion with his presence.

The events of the Knights' Days began with the General Assembly of the OCM Finland. The meeting, which was chaired by Bailie of Eastern Finland, Chev. Pekka Reponen and Chev. Kimmo Sainio, Secretary of the Exarchate, went smoothly. The meeting re-elected Erkko Kajander as Exarch of Finland. The choice and method of selection of the Exarch was discussed – the meeting authorized the Exarchate Council to prepare the matter with a view to future elections.

Under the meeting the grant of Aimo T Nikolainen Foundation was given to Master of Theology Tapio Leinonen, and distributed the Exarchate Crosses. After the meeting, a tasty lunch was served.

After lunch, the program continued with a presentation by Deputy Master Jürgen Schumacher on "From the Constantine Society to the Official Christian Order of St. Constantine the Great. The presentation sparked a lively debate. At the end of the presentation, the participants were given a written presentation so that everyone could go deeper into the topic. The presentation was followed by coffee service and the distribution of lady medals.



Chairman of the meeting Pekka Reponen on the left and secretary Kimmo Sainio on the right.



The grant of Aimo T Nikolainen Foundation is given, recipient on the right, Tapio Leinonen, Master of Theology, on the left Markus Nikolainen.



Exarch of the Finnish Exarchate, Chev Erkko Kajander.



Erkko Kajander thanks the presenter Deputy Master Jürgen Schumacher and give to him a medal of Finnish Exarchate.



Honorary Exarch Raimo Luukomaa enjoyed the atmosphere of the Knights' Day.

After the coffee, it was time for a special Knight Forum, this time with the theme “The Significance and Impact of OCM”. Kimmo Sainio, Secretary of the Exarchate, presented the results of a survey of members as a basis for the discussion. During the forum, the spouses had their own program.

The first day's program was crowned by an investiture in Kouvola Central Church. A total of 14 people were beaten as new knights or dames. Also some promotions and honorings were given. After the investiture, the group photo was taken on the stairs of Kouvola City Hall. Also some of the Bailiwicks took their own memorial photos Then it was a good time to go to the town hall for a gala dinner, where the evening continued with good food, a high-quality program and a lively discussion.

The second day of the Knights' Days began with the laying of wreaths at the hero's grave in Kouvola. A wreath was layed on the monument by Exarch Erkko Kajander accompanied by the Chancellor of Order and the Bailie of Eastern Finland, Chev. Pekka Reponen.

This was followed by a service at Kouvola Central Church. The successful Knights' Days ended with a joint coffee moment at Kouvola Parish Hall.

Text by **Osmo Suominen**

Photos by **Paavo Mikkonen**



The promotion procession arrives at the church. In the foreground on the left the Chancellor, Chev Toivo Salmi, Exarch, Chev Erko Kajander in the right.



Dame Sari Rautio is one of the new members of the Order.



The Chancellor speaks at the gala dinner.



Glory to the heroes. From left Chev Toivo Salmi, Chev Erkkö Kajander and Chev Pekka Reponen.



Participants of the Knights' Day in a joint photo in front of Kouvola City Hall.

Annual Report 2021

The year 2021 was the 68th year of operation of the Ordo Sancti Constantini Magni and was responsible for maintaining good and effective relations with the Patriarchate of Alexandria.

The activities of the Order in 2021 continued to be significantly hampered by the Covid-19 virus, which had spread into a global pandemic. Almost all events had to be postponed. All but one of the board meetings have been held as Teams meetings.

OCM provided an annual charitable grant to the Patriarchate of Alexandria. In addition, the Government has continued to support the Saka Orphanage in Lithuania. The Government has also considered new and good charities for the coming years.

The Chariman of the Council of the Order is Rune Ryden. The Council took responsibility for approving the Government's draft budget and ordering the approval of the accounts.

Board of Directors, Chancellor Toivo Salmi, Vice-Chancellor Leif Syrstad, members Elefherios Fonazakis, Secretary General Osmo Suominen and Treasurer Mika Pynnönen. The Executive Committee consists of the Chancellor, the Vice-Chancellor, the Secretary-General and the Treasurer.

The government directed the international work of the knighthood with the support of the Master. The Government held 5 Teams meetings during the year. The fifth Government meeting of the year was held as a normal meeting in Helsinki. This last meeting was also attended by Master and Lady Eleonora and the Chairman of the Council of the Order.

The Master invited two honorary member. During 2021 one honorary member passed away.

The Master promoted one Knight Commander to Grand Officer Constantini Magni and four Knight to Knight Commander Constantini Magni.

The Master admitted new members to the Order from Austria, Finland and Sveden. The net reduction of the members was 63 members

The membership state as of January 1st 2022:

By January 1st 2022 the numbers of all the members was 511, of which 38 were honorary members and 473 paying members.

	1.1.2019	1.1.2020	1.1.2021	1.1.2022
Honorary members	38	38	38	38
Exarchate of Finland	232	229	243	225
Exarchate of USA	79	79	76	76
Exarchate of Sweden	63	65	64	64
Hellenic Exarchate	36	42	42	40
Bailiwick of Austria	33	32	32	32
Bailiwick of St. Hallvard of Oslo	14	15	15	15
Bailiwick of Germany	11	10	10	9
Bailiwick of Czech Republic	9	9	9	9
Diaspora	4	2	3	3

Unfortunately, the Government has often had to grant a member resignation at its meetings. The International Government emphasizes that membership is lifelong and that, upon becoming a member, a person must be aware of the responsibilities of the Order. An essential part of the membership is in the annual fee.

Annual reports of the Exarchates and Bailiwicks of the Order were received almost everyone. Unfortunately most units do not deliver detailed reports, although it is their duty to do so. As always, the numbers of meetings, activities and events differs considerable in the different national units. Charitable projects are running.

Financially, the year 2021 was reasonable. In OCM's financial statements The result for 2021 was € 3,530.50. The reason for the good positive result was still the prevailing covid19 pandemic, which is why the majority of government meetings were held as Teams meetings. During the financial year 2021, the order continued with an annual donation of EUR 20,000 to the Patriarchate of Alexandria and an annual donation of EUR 20,000 for charitable work. The main focus of the charitable work was Sakiai project in Lithuania.

Two issues of The Constantinian News were edited, containing topical issues of the Order.

Strengthen efforts with the goals of promoting ecumenical thinking, spreading tolerance, building spiritual bridges between people with activities in the Bailiwicks and Exarchates to get Dames and Knights back on a regular base are crucial by now. Every member of the Order has the constant task and challenge of gaining new members who are committed to our activities based on ecumenical spirit and work for a more humane society. Only in this way can we carry out our mission as a functioning organization. It will continue to be the basis for more and more diverse charitable work today and in the future.

Helsinki 17.3.2022

The Government of the OCM

Toivo Salmi
Chancellor

Leif Syrstad
Vice Chancellor

Osmo Suominen
Secretary General

Mika Pynnönen
Treasurer

Ordo Sancti Constantini Magni



Fiscal year 1.1.2021 - 31.12.2021

Statement of Operations	1.1.2020 - 31.12.2020	1.1.2021 - 31.12.2021
Revenues		
Annual fees	48 110,00 €	48 510,00 €
Entrance fees	0,00 €	1 800,00 €
Sales of decorations	1 080,00 €	1 450,00 €
Sales of other insignias	0,00 €	90,00 €
Sales of publications	0,00 €	0,00 €
Donations	0,00 €	0,00 €
Interest and other	0,00 €	0,00 €
Total Revenues	49 190,00 €	51 850,00 €
Expenditures		
Funds and Donations		
Contribution to Patriarchate	-20 000,00 €	-20 000,00 €
Transfer to Charity Fund	-20 000,00 €	-20 000,00 €
Transfer to International Convention Fund	0,00 €	0,00 €
Funds and Donations total	-40 000,00 €	-40 000,00 €
Functional expenses		
Government meetings	-307,30 €	-1 329,51 €
Travelling costs to the meetings	0,00 €	-4 204,71 €
Travelling costs to the investitures	0,00 €	0,00 €
Communications (web, News, ect)	0,00 €	-300,00 €
Office expenses	-64,00 €	-100,00 €
Financial costs	-136,58 €	-165,64 €
Functional expenses total	-507,88 €	-6 099,86 €
Other expences		
Other	0,00 €	-156,50 €
Change of inventory	-618,40 €	-2 063,14 €
Other expences total	-618,40 €	-2 219,64 €
Total Expenditures	-41 126,28 €	-48 319,50 €
Excess of Revenues over Expenditures	8 063,72 €	3 530,50 €

Ordo Sancti Constantini Magni



Balance sheet

Assets	31.12.2020	31.12.2021
Inventory		
Medals and Decorations	25 397,72 €	23 393,62 €
Insignias	3 162,08 €	3 103,04 €
Literature and other articles	210,64 €	210,64 €
Inventory total	28 770,44 €	26 707,30 €
Accounts receivable		
Annual fees	12 800,00 €	14 500,00 €
Other receivables	2 600,00 €	0,00 €
Accounts receivable total	15 400,00 €	14 500,00 €
Cash and Equivalents		
Bank Account	189 476,91 €	205 970,55 €
Cash and Equivalents total	189 476,91 €	205 970,55 €
Assets total	233 647,35 €	247 177,85 €

Ordo Sancti Constantini Magni

Balance sheet



Liabilities and Fund Balances	31.12.2020	31.12.2021
Fund Balances		
Charity Fund (CF)	51 960,00 €	61 960,00 €
<i>Transfer to CF</i>	20 000,00 €	20 000,00 €
<i>Donation to Sakaia</i>	-10 000,00 €	-10 000,00 €
Charity Fund total	61 960,00 €	71 960,00 €
International Convention fund (ICF)	40 000,00 €	40 000,00 €
<i>Transfer to ICF</i>	0,00 €	0,00 €
<i>Donation</i>	0,00 €	0,00 €
International Convention fund total	40 000,00 €	40 000,00 €
Fund Balances total	101 960,00 €	111 960,00 €
Excesses		
Excess from previous years	123 623,63 €	131 687,35 €
Excess/Loss of the year	8 063,72 €	3 530,50 €
Excesses total	131 687,35 €	135 217,85 €
Fund Balances and Excesses total	233 647,35 €	247 177,85 €
Liabilities		
Accounts payable	0,00 €	0,00 €
Liabilities total	0,00 €	0,00 €
Liabilities and Fund Balances total	233 647,35 €	247 177,85 €

In The city of Helsinki
20.3.2022

Mika Pynnönen
Treasurer

The signing of the annual report for the

ORDO SANCTI CONSTANTINI MAGNI
UNDER THE AUSPICE OF THE PATRIARCHATE OF ALEXANDRIA AND ALL AFRICA

Ordo Sancti Constantini Magni



Fiscal year 1.1.2021 - 31.12.2021

The Government of the Order
30.3.2022 In the city of Helsinki

Toivo Salmi

Leif Syrstad

Osmo Suominen

Mika Pynnönen

Eleftherios Fonazakis

We Congratulate

Many members of our Order will, in the near future, celebrate their birthday. We congratulate them and wish them many happy years to come.

90 v

Smokovitis Dimtris 6.10

80 v

Paukku Reijo 15.7
Alanko Kari 6.9
Haikola Erkki 23.9
Lohr Herman 14.10
Julin Lars 3.11
Paarma Jukka 1.12
Bayerke Alfred 3.12

75 v

Hongisto John 8.7
Reponen Pekka 19.7
Oinonen Lauri 10.8
Kritikiou Panagiota E 16.8
Zedler Donald H 16.8
Häme Juhana 8.9
Hrabcik Hubert 1.10
Viinikainen Sakari 21.11

70 v

Koskimäki Antti 16.7
Kannelmaa Juhani 27.7
Theofanakis Panagiotis 4.8
Laurén Mikko 30.9
Johansson Mats 24.10
Bailey Paul 17.11
Pylkkänen Heikki 27.11
Pörhö Matti 19.12

65 v

Dahlin Ulf 21.7
Isosuo Juha 22.7
Palola Erkki 5.8
Thorn Fredrik 4.9
Hopponen Timo 9.9
Gouvitsas George 2.10
Gfoeller Michael 24.10
Charvalos Ekaterina 28.10
Chelmis Leonidas 7.11
Bonnier Åke 11.12

60 v

Wasama Kim 6.7
Martin-Löf Christer 24.7
Suomilammi Ari 11.10
Shank Bruce 13.11

50 v

Lienhard André 18.9
Lambris Fotis 29.9
Välimäki Tomi 15.11
Butler Keith 16.12



COMING OCM EVENTS

19-21.8.2022	International Convention, Exarchate of USA
3.9.2022	Investiture, Bailiwick of St Hallvard, Norge
9.9.2022	Investiture at Spessart-Region, Bailiwick of Germany
23-25.9.2022	Scandinavian Investiture, city of Nyköping, Exarchate of Sweden
8-9.10.2022	Annual Meeting, city of Baden (near Vienna), Bailiwick of Austria



THE
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NEWS**

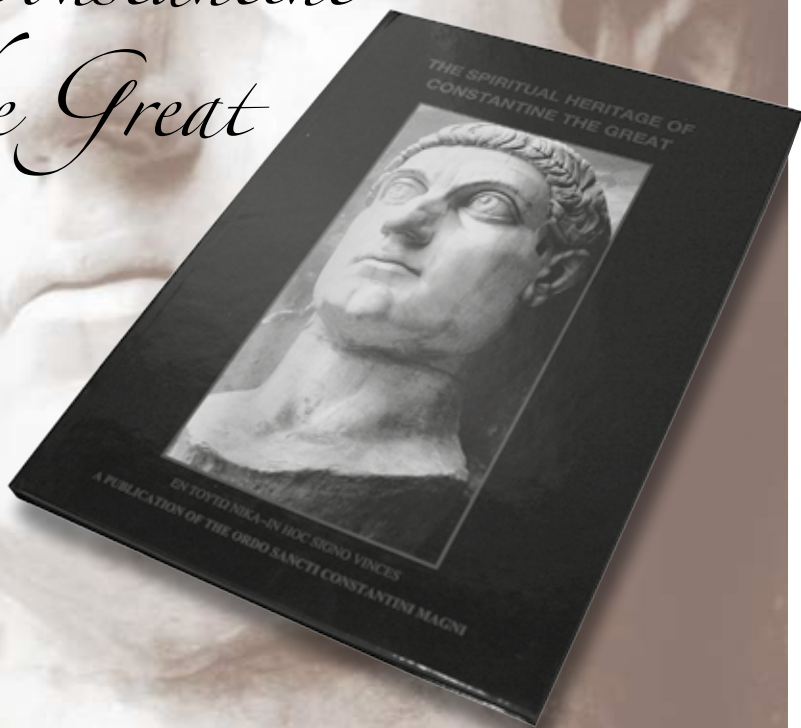
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The Spiritual Heritage of Constantine The Great



is an OCM publication (2008) in regard to it's editorial content well estimated by several experts.

Every OCM member should read the book, which is also worth to be presented to many of your friends.

Price now: 10 Euro.

Available by treasurer Mika Pynnönen: treasurer@ocmonline.org