

ORDO SANCTI CONSTANTINI MAGNI



THE
CONSTANTINIAN
NEWS



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IN MEMORIAM

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

KCM

Evert Mattson

Exarchate of Sweden

1938-2018

DCM

Rena Manoussaki-Takaki

Hellenic Exarchate

-2018

DCM

Britt-Stin Billung

Exarchate of Sweden

-2018

KCM

Arto Kähkönen

Exarchate of Finland

1939-2019

GOCM, Member of Government

Richard Flahavan

Exarchate of USA

1944-2019

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



DEAR DAMES AND CHEVALIERS

During this year, 2019, there has been very much discussion on the climate change, the increase of the world temperature. We have been able to follow the discussion in newspapers, TV et cetera. Although there are also opinions that these findings are normal changes in climate, we have to be ready to do something in order to limit the rise of temperature. This is especially in the developing countries. This phenomenon has caused there unusual small amounts of rain or unusual storms with excess of rain. Also in minor scale this problem is seen also in Europe.

This is not enough. As I wrote last year there are still several wars going on in many countries. The human disaster in Syria, Afganistan, many African countries etc has caused millions of refugees. Many people try to find better circumstances for living.

As earlier I want to stress the fact that the only solution to these problems is to organize better education in developing countries. In so many developing country it is not all possible for girls to go to the school. Finland had in the 19th century very good system. It was not possible to get marries if you could not read. This law and organized school system had a very good effect.

During this year our Order has continued its caritative work. The economical support to the Alexandrian Patriarchate has been used in Africa. This is a part of the work which has been concerned with organizing hospitals in schools in many places. We have also helped sakai in Lithuania. Youngsters who have not had economical possibility to higher education have been the object of our help. It is important to understand that even quite small support can have very good reasults.

Finally I want to wish to all members of our Order and their families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2020.

Turku 10th of December, 2019

Toivo Salmi
Chancellor of OCM

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE PATRIARCHATE OF ALEXANDRIA AND ALL AFRICA

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"LOVE IS PATIENT, LOVE IS KIND."

1. Corinthians 13:4 (Saint Paul)

The main issues raised in the Agenda of a previous (72nd) United Nations Conference concerned violence against women and poverty.

It is estimated that every 18 minutes a woman falls victim to beating. Also, one out of six women becomes a victim of rape in her life, according to research conducted in Canada, New Zealand, the United States, and the United Kingdom.

And all this while we are in the course of the 21st century. The deepest cause? The man of modern times wanted to build the magnificent structure of civilisation in the denial of spiritual values. He departed Christianity and its teaching.

On the other hand, the media are flooded these festive days with so-called market news about the store sales and offers and the preparation for the Christmas buffet. In other words, the festive focus is on how we will have fun and what clothes we wear to feel more festive.

Unfortunately, we have forgotten that the consolidation of Christianity and the establishment of the Christmas celebration were not made on the grounds that it would be an opportunity to escape our everyday life.

On the contrary, the significant meaning that comes from this Christian feast is to rediscover the lost communication with our soul. And it is through this that we seek the faith towards God, and hence, essentially, to ourselves too.

But what do we actually do? Instead of being interested and knocking on our "next door", looking for the lonely fellow man, we get stuck in the department store every year. This is expected to happen this year too. However, this Christmas, let this not be an opportunity for us to multiply our goods.

You can very simply find whatever you need in the supermarkets, apart from your lost soul.

Panagiotis Chalikias
Master of Ceremonies of the Hellenic Exarchate



THE INVESTITURE OF THE HELLENIC EXARCHATE 29.6.2019 IN ATHENS



Ready for the ceremony

Eminent Emmanouel representative of the Patriarch, giving his blessing

The Candidates, in front of the Holy Gospel, ready to give their Oath





Giving their Oath

The Master consecrates Mr Emmanouel DIAKOVASSILI





The Master, giving his speech



The Secretary of the Exarchate Dionyssios Mouzakis, reading passage from Apostle's Pavlos first letter, to the Corinthians



New Knights of the Order. From left to right: Evgenios CHARDAVELLAS, Panayotis THEOFANAKIS , Michael CHRISOFOFOS, Vassilios POLITIS, Konstantinos PAPAMICHALAKIS



The MASTER, Lady Eleonora and the Exarch



Making a toast for the Master, His Serene Highness Friederich, Duke and Prince of Beaufort – Spontin.

**SPEECH OF THE GRANDMASTER
AT THE
ANNUAL MEETING OF THE EXARCHATE OF GREECE IN PIRAEUS 29.6.2019**

Esteemed dames and knights of the Order,
Ladies and gentlemen,

I am happy to attend again an annual meeting and to address the esteemed knighthood of the OCM Greece.

Unfortunately the Exarchate of Greece has suffered in recent years from a light depression, but I am pleased to notice, that the situation is stabilized, the knightly atmosphere is refastened, new valuable members are recruited, and everybody is in good mood. It all goes to show, that the Hellenic exarchate will prosper again.

Recently I joined the annual meeting of the Exarchate of Finland in Helsinki. The Finnish knights had special reason to celebrate a 60-years anniversary: very 60 years ago, in 1959, the first Finn was accepted member of the Konstantiner-Verein (Association of Constantine) – actually that was the name of our organization in those early years.

The first Finnish member of the OCM was the nobleman Yrjö von Grönhagen, who is well known also to many Greek members of our Order. Very soon von Grönhagen became assistant of the first leader of the Konstaniner-Verein, Risvhard Gruyer-Frey, putting his brains and energy into the sublime aim to develop from the organization an international Christian and Ecumenical chivalric Order.

After almost ten years, and last not least with wise support of his friend the late Metropolitan Eirinaios, he saw his great vision realized:

on May the 12th , 1970 Nicolaos VI, Patriarch of Alexandria and All Africa, took the Ordo Sancti Constantini Magni under his spiritual protection, thus granting the OCM the legal status of an international Christian Ecumenical Order.

Since then the OCM has considered the charitable support of the Greek-Orthodox Patriarchate of Alexandria as the Order's obliging mission.

All patriarchal successors, the Patriarch Partneios III, the Pastriarch Petros VII and last His Beatitude Theodoros II have blessedly acknowledged the OCM's efforts and have renewed the spiritual protection, which I wish to mention with gratefulness.

From my point of view the Exarchate of Greece has its own position inside the OCM: geographically and also religiously the Greeks are closer to the Patriarchate of Alexandria than

any other unit of the Order, so being a natural link the to the Patriarchate. For many years our friend and great Constantinian knight George Haramis had personally taken care of the diplomatic contacts between the Patriarchate and the government of the OCM. We deeply regret his unexpectedly tragic death and we are thankful for his manifold services for the Order.

Now, we open a new page of the books: his Beatitude Theodoros II has nominated Exarch Vassilis Yannakakos his representative to the OCM, and I from my side have appointed Mr. Yannakakos the Order's ambassador to the Patriarchate. I have no doubt, that you will operate this double-job to the satisfaction of both sides, and I wish you much success.

Finally, coming to the festive ceremony of tonight, I should like to welcome warmly the new dames and knights to the Order, and I take the liberty to do it with the vow given by Yrjö von Grönhausen. He gave his vow of admission in written form to the council of the association, as it was the rule in those early years of the OCM:

"be always conscious to support the goals of our Order to the best of your knowledge and belief". This commitment, of course, ties all our members.

Ladies and gentlemen, I like to express my thanks for the invitation and to enjoy together with you this festive event. And i wish all participants a wonderful evening in friendship and chivalrousness.

Piraeus, 29.6.2019

Friedrich, Duke and Prince von Beaufort-Spontin
Master of the OCM

2019 INVESTITURE OF THE EXARCHATE OF SWEDEN AND THE BAILWICK OF NORWAY

The Annual Investiture for the Exarchate of Sweden and the Bailiwick of Norway (Bailiwick St. Hallvard of Oslo) was held in Oslo 20.-22. September 2019. This year was the third time we met in Oslo.



St. Hallvard and the woman that he tried to rescue, mosaic in Oslo Town Hall.



St. Hallvard in the Coat of Arms of Oslo.

We were more than thirty participants. Knights and dames with spouses and guests that was meeting for this year's investiture. And we were very fortunate that Our Master, his Serene Highness Friedrich, Duke and Prince of Beaufort-Spontin together with his wife Lady Eleonora was present, together with the Vice Chancellor his Excellency Leif Syrstad and guests from Sweden and Åland.

Friday evening, we gathered in the house of the Druids (neighbour to the Prime Ministers official residence and right behind the Royal palace in Oslo) for our social gathering and the traditional Norwegian stew, this year with the cook's special twist.

On Saturday morning we left in very nice autumn weather for the Norwegian museum of Cultural history at Bygdøy in Oslo, where we had an interesting guided tour and nice luncheon.



Gol Stave Church at the Norwegian Museum of Cultural History. Photo: Norsk Folkemuseum / Haakon Harriss.

Saturday afternoon we gathered in the beautiful Uranienborg Church where we celebrated service and investiture.



Uranienborg Church.

The investiture ceremony started with the new Bailie of the Bailiwick of Åland, Nils-Gustaf Eriksson and the new Bailie of the Bailiwick of Norway, Nils Jorgen Sorli swore the oath and both installed as Bailies by the Master of the Order, several knights received honours before we celebrated and invested one Dame and one Knight from the Exarchate of Sweden and two Knights from the Bailiwick of Norway, all four were dubbed by the Master of the Order, His Serene Highness Friedrich.





The Master together with the new Dame and Knights.

A special thanks to army chaplain major Stian Heggedal that helped us for the service, and also a big thanks to Ingemar Apelstig and Ove Larsson that always helps out and again made the ceremony in the church so special.

After the very nice ceremony in the church we all gathered again in the House of the Druids, to get to know each other better and for the gala dinner.



Chr. Mikkel Dobloug steady leading us through the dinner, and we had speeches from the new bailie of Norway Nils Jorgen Sorli, the new Bailie of Åland Nils-Gustaf Eriksson and the Master of the Order, and of course good food and very good company.



The Vice Chancellor and His Serene Highness and Lady Eleonora on top of Oslo, in the Holmenkollen ski jump.

The day after the investiture it was time to head home, our new Bailie Nils Jorgen Sorli took His Serene Highness, Lady Eleonora and the Vice Chancellor on a guided tour in and around Oslo, and ended the weekend in Oslo with luncheon at Ekeberg restaurant.

We thank all our guests, travelling from far and long, for a very nice weekend together in Oslo!

Text: Kjetil Ambrosius Johansen

Photo: Kjetil Amrosius johansen/nils Jorgen Sorli

**OCM
BAILWICK OF GERMANY
REPORT OF NATIONAL MEETING IN HEIMBUCHENTHAL FROM 11.-13.10.2019**

After arriving on Friday at our hotel "Heimathenhof" (region of "Spessart", we enjoyed spending time together as well like our dinner at the Hotel's restaurant.

Saturday morning we drove to the wonderful place with great overview about Spessart-area where we enjoyed having lunch after in a typical "Spessart-restaurant".

In the afternoon, annual meeting of our charity organization took place as well as re-electing Confrère André Lienhard KCCM as Komtur for another 3-years period.

We finished Saturday with dinner by beautiful weather and view (again at Hotel's restaurant).

And Sunday morning, unfortunately, it was already time to say goodbye to our brothers, sisters and friends of the OCM-Germany.

We are looking forward to meet again soon (15th to 17th of May 2020 again at Heimathenhof in Heimbuchenthal (BW).

Members of other countries / Bailiwicks of OCM are welcome!

André Lienhard

Bailie



From right: Archont Mertens, Bailie Lienhard and Confrère Dahle in front of holy cross, next to overview-tower (see picture above/before).



Picture in front of tower with nice overview of Spessart-Area.

WE CONGRATULATE 2019

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

50		70		85	
Petri Hautala	20.01.	Adamantia Karmiri-Simatou	22.01.	Bert Ingemar Löverdal	22.01.
Christopher E. Chapman	10.02.	Anastasios Kavalis	31.05.	Tapio Peltonen	10.04.
Thomas Alsaker	19.02.	Kaj Lindqvist	02.09.	Jürgen Schumacher	10.05.
Richard Parker	07.04.	Henry Canciglia	03.09.	Andrew Johnson	19.08.
Vassileia Katsani	02.10.	Pauli Lindström	09.09.	Leif Christoffersen	16.09.
Werner F. Scheffknecht	13.11.	Heidrun Christine Saeger	24.09.	Göran Hansen	03.10.
		Arto Lahti	21.11.	Olavi Leimuvirta	26.11.
		Ahola Antti	22.11.	Richard H. Keagy	30.11.
60		75		90	
Lasse Saarinen	11.02.	Hannu Melvas	06.01.	Zhores Alferov	15.03.
Lori Meyer	12.02.	Toivo Salmi	07.01.	James Parker	22.10.
Franz Gerhard Pietsch	24.02.	Niilo Hallman	30.01.		
Jouni Silvennoinen	14.03.	Aleksi Perola	01.03.	91	
Wolfgang Krug	16.05.	Leif Flatow	11.05.	Pystynen Erkki	02.11.
Claes Ove Gustafsson	07.06.	Juhani Vehmas	22.05.	Dahl Matti	14.09.
Max Lederer	21.06.	Reijo Räisänen	07.06.	Harri Heikkilä	29.12.
Lauri Salminen	06.07.	Raimo Kurki	18.07.		
Erik Eriksson	26.07.	His Eminence Ambrosius	10.08.	92	
Osmo Suominen	25.08.	Esa Eerola	26.08.	Raimo Ilaskivi	26.05.
Jukka Pietilä	02.09.	Keijo Virtanen	28.08.	Kyösti Jäppinen	11.08.
Carlos Alberto Pichardo	06.10.	Jorma Kalajoki	01.09.		
Tatiana Gfoeller-Volkoff	09.10.	Ilari Rantakari	05.09.	93	
Andreas Karlsböck	11.11.	Orfeo Trombetta jr.	06.09.	Strömmer Aarno	06.09.
Sarah Catherine Pichardo	18.12.	Markus Nikolainen	17.09.		
65		John Hilliard	19.09.	94	
Divyaraj Singh of Barvani	01.01.	Esko Elo	25.09.	Kurt Larpes	24.02.
Vassilis Skronias	15.05.	Reinhart Waneck	16.10.		
Jocelyn Tchakounte Nana	27.05.	Mikko Keisu	25.10.	99	
Vesa Loponen	29.06.			Imre Thökölly De	
Markku Suokas	15.07.			Udvarhelyszek-Szentlelek	25.08.
Wojtek de Rzewuski	30.07.	80			
Kimmo Sainio	02.08.	Ailo Uhinki	14.02.		
Kallio Hannu	31.08.	Juha Pietikäinen	26.02.		
Arto Veräjänkorva	07.09.	Mauri Montin	24.03.		
Terri Ann Smith	17.09.	Ingar Dobloug	04.06.		
Kosti Hietala	10.11.	Esko Lehtomaa	26.07.		
Jarmo Aho	30.11.	Emmanouel Diakovassilis	10.11.		
		Markku Niku	16.12.		



COMING OCM EVENTS

11.1.2020	MEETING AND INVESTITURE OF THE EXARCHATE OF USA
15.-17.5.2020	MEETING AND INVESTITURE OF THE HELLENIC EXARCHATE
12.09.2020	MEETING AND INVESTITURE OF THE BAILIWICK OF AUSTRIA IN REICHERSBERG
14.-16.8.2020	INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION, EXARCHATE OF USA
2023	INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION (70 YEAR'S JUBILEE

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Note:

The editorial office regrets the fact that the publication is a bit late due to technical reasons, because the new editor of the publication had to be found during the Christmas waiting period.