

ORDO SANCTI CONSTANTINI MAGNI



THE
CONSTANTINIAN
NEWS

No. 1 / 2012

IN MEMORIAM

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

KCM

Göran Hurstén

Exarchate of Sweden

1923– 2011

KCM

Nils Erik Bäckbro

Exarchate of Sweden

1929–2011

KCCM

Bengt Naessén

Exarchate of Sweden

1918–2011

KCM

Mark Karell

Exarchate of Sweden

1923–2012

KCCM

Sergei Vlasov

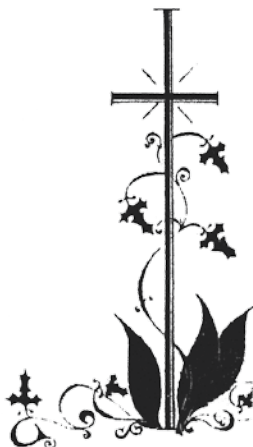
Former Exarch of the Exarchate of Russia

1950– 2012

Do not be afraid;

I am the First and the Last.

I am He who lives.



THE EDITORIAL OF THE CHANCELLOR

Worldwide economic situation and the OCM

The chancellor's editorial in the issue no 4/2011 of The Constantinian News dealt among others with the worldwide economic situation. I must avow that my observations have not been really profound. Basic analyses are, of course, more a subject for specialists in economics and finances.

Therefore, I am not going to continue my remarks on that specific matter. The fact is, however, that there are no reliable indications, that the enormous economical, and obviously in some way also political problems could be solved very soon. Anyway, a serious concern about a better future is pinching me almost every day.

What is the point of contact to the OCM as written in the headline ?

Who would have thought that also some members of our Order are suffering from the financial consequences of the bitter crisis ? And, who could have imagined that members of our Order debate a decrease of the annual fees or even the withdrawal of the annual support to the Patriarchate because of the economical crisis ? Both questions must be discussed carefully and reasoned from a wider aspect.

The government deals, of course, with various kinds of matters, sometimes also with tricky or unpleasant ones. However, the above-named questions are new, and must be handled fairly and according to the rules of the Order.

We surely do not want to lose members of the Order because of hopefully only temporary personal distress. In this respect the government hopes, that the bailiwicks and exarchates will take care of their members as much as possible. We know, that similar specific support of members in need has been successful earlier. The exarchates and autonomous bailiwicks are members of OCM international, which understandably cannot be responsible of every single member.

The worldwide economic situation may be more or less oppressive and in some way even affecting the OCM and its members, but on no account it may change the aims and the targets of the Order.

Those may be rather more important. The OCM is a Christian Ecumenical Order acting mainly as a charitable society. The money for the charitable work, distributed into national and international fees, is paid by our members, what the high officers of the OCM and particularly the beneficiaries appreciate very much. Regarding the annual contribution to the Patriarchate of Alexandria the OCM considers it an honour to support modestly the immense charitable work of the Patriarchate in more than 20 countries in Africa. The Order appreciates greatly the spiritual patronage of His Beatitude Theodoros II, which assures the legal status of the OCM.



KCCM Sergei Vlasov In Memoriam

Knightcommander, archon and former exarch of OCM Russia Sergei Vlasov passed away 25.2.2012 at the age of only 61 years.

Sergei was born in Moscow 13.5.1950. He had a notably professional career in Russia as writer and journalist being member of the Russian Writers Union and Academician of the International Information Academy. In the late eighties Vlasov wrote a book about the famous Russian ophthalmologist professor Svatoslav Fyodorov introducing his then revolutionizing surgical treatment of eye diseases. In 1999 he published the first biography of Constantine the Great in Russian language, excellently edited and illustrated.

In 1997 he heard about the Order of Saint Constantine the Great and Yrjö von Grönghagen, then Deputy Master and the pivotal man of the Order. Vlasov travelled to meet von Grönghagen in Athens in order to get more information about the OCM. In the archives of the OCM we have Vlasov's first interview with von Grönghagen recorded on 5th May 1997. Following that first meeting

Sergei hurried on gathering a group of distinguished and interested individuals and founding the OCM Exarchate of Russia: the inauguration and the first investiture took place already in August 1997.

The Russians started the work for the aims of the OCM with much expectations, always motivated and pushed forward by the exarch Sergei Vlasov. At the begin of the second millennium the Russian exarchate realized the idea of Sergei and run an excellent wheelchair charity program helping hundreds of war invalids. However, over the years the activity of the Russian knights was flagging for various reasons. Finally, in 2011 all Russian members left the OCM, except Sergei Vlasov, who was the first and the most enthusiastic Constantinian knight in Russia and ad interim also the last one. Unfortunately we had the opportunity to meet Sergei only from time to time at international meetings of the Order, but we will remember him as an inventive and very kind knight.

Jürgen Schumacher

THE GOVERNMENT INFORMS

The government held the first meeting of the current year on 29th March 2012 in Helsinki.

The government noted that the **council has approved the budget for the year 2012.**

The Master awarded the **President of the Republic of Finland Sauli Niinistö**, OCM honorary member, the **grand cross of the Order**. The Master invited the bishop of Tampere/Finland **Dr. Matti Repo** honorary knightcommander of the OCM. The Master promoted bailie **Panagiotis Apostolopoulos** and secretary/treasurer **Michaelis Kandarakis** knightcommanders.

The Master confirmed the **officer elections: chev. Pertti Hartikainen** elected bailie of the Bailiwick of Eastern Finland from 25.2.2012 and **chev. Robert D. Pollock** re-elected bailie of the Bailiwick of St.Olympiada (USA) from 1.6.2012, both for the period of three years.

The Master accepted new members: Exarchate of Finland: 14, Exarchate of Greece: 14, Exarchate of the USA: 4.

The Master decided the next **international convention (60 years anniversary of the OCM) to be arranged on September 6-8, 2013 in Salzburg/Austria**. First announcement is in this issue of The Constantinian News.

New members: The Master approved 32 new members.

Changes in membership: at the end of the year 2011 and the begin of the current year five members passed away and twelve members resigned from membership.

The updated **roster** will be attached to the OCM website in April. We remind the members to check their personal datas and to inform about corrections the secretaries of their bailiwicks.

The secretaries are requested to forward all information to secr.gen. Jorma Ahonen (e-mail: jorma.ahonen@pp4.inet.fi).

Jürgen Schumacher
chancellor



Robert D Pollock is The Bailie of St Olympiada

Rob Pollock was elected as Bailie of the Bailiwick of St Olympiada in 2009. Colonel Knight Bailie Pollock served 32 years in the United States Air Force where he was responsible for development of technologies that have resulted in aircraft designed for humanitarian airlift, wound and burn bandages that fuse with a patient's skin speeding recovery, anti-laser protective goggles, and other more lethal equipage.

He was born in 1959 in Victorville, California to Colonel (Doctor) Clifford Raymond Pollock and Mary Elaine Logan Pollock, RN. Maternally he is the descendant of the English founders of the Colonies of Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Paternally his Scottish ancestry traces 22 generations to Petrus de Polluc of Refrewshire in 1147, and 18 generations to Konrad zu Waldheim of Stetten, Schaffhausen, Switzerland in 1304.

He was raised in Washington DC; Chateroux, France; Wiesbaden, Germany; Fort Worth, Texas; and Saint Paris, Ohio. He has a bachelors degree from Miami University, two Master's degrees from Central Michigan University and The Air University and a Ph. D. in History from the University of Alabama.

Bailie Pollock is married to Catherine Lynn Harris of Springfield, Ohio and has a daughter, Alexandra.

Andrew M. Johnson
Exarch



Erkko Kajander – New Bailie of The Bailiwick of Helsinki

Erkko Kajander was born in June 1949 in Helsinki.

He is a member of OCM since 1990. The reason of joining the Order was the religiousness of the Order and the wish to help those who are in real need.

Erkko is an industry leader from the chemical industry in Finland. He was brought up in the French School of Helsinki and studied then economics and politics. He graduated in the University of Lausanne, Switzerland. He is a Doctor of Philosophy h.c. from the University of Eastern Finland.

As a business leader Erkko has not had enough time for OCM until lately. His responsibilities in international companies as well as in security and defence matters in Finland have taken his time. But since two years Erkko is a member of the board of OCM Helsinki and Bailie since March last year.

Erkko wish to sharpen the activities of the Bailiwick so that they activate more the present members and bring new members to the Bailiwick and to the Order. In this respect the Bailiwick of Helsinki has opened their web site in the address: www.ocmritarikuntahelsinki.fi. The pages are in Finnish, of course, but one can see how informative and living they are.

The slogan of the Bailiwick of Helsinki is: *Kanssaihmistien hyväksi – tässä ajassa*, (free translation) For the benefit of others – here and now. Probably it is a suitable slogan for the whole OCM.

Jorma Ahonen sc.

Aaron Homjak – a Constantinian Knight in San Antonio

Shortly after Christmas 2011 I had the pleasure to meet a member of our Order, who is living in San Antonio, Texas, indeed, far away from the focal points of the OCM. Major Aaron Homjak is officer of the US Air-force serving currently at the big air-base in San Antonio. He is member of the Order since 1999, when he joined originally the Central Bailiwick of Canada. However, after the Canadian OCM Exarchate was closed in the year 2003, Aaron continued as a member of the diaspora. At the end of 2000 he was stationed at a NATO base in the Netherlands for three years. From there he took contact to the Bailiwick of Germany, joined several meetings and made good acquaintances with the German members.

I came over from Austin, Texas, to San Antonio, which in 1836 was the central place of the revolution of Texas. In the 1720ies Franciscan missionaries had founded the Mission San Antonio and the Alamo, which in the ups and downs of the revolution in March 1836 was captured by the Mexican troops under the President General Antonio López. That was the Battle of the Alamo, very famous in the history of Texas. In April 1836 the Texians defeated the Mexican Army at the Battle of San Jacinto, finally ending the revolution. Now the Alamo is the most popular tourist site in Texas and for me, of course, a good reason to meet there the only member of our Order in that region of the world: Aaron Homjak. We did not talk so much about the Battle of the Alamo we both knew a lot about it. But we discussed about the OCM, it's targets and

how to make our mission stronger. Altogether we enjoyed our recent knightly friendship drinking a bevy of Texian wine.

Yes, believe me, they make rather good wines in Texas: only a few days later I visited the Becker Vineyards in the Texas Hill Country and had a wine tasting of excellent wines reminding nearly of classic French Bordeaux and Saint-Emilion.

Jürgen Schumacher



The Alamo in San Antonio, Texas.



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

First announcement / Ensimmäinen ilmoitus /
Första anmälandet / Erste Ankündigung

**INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
AND
60th ANNIVERSARY OF THE ORDER**

in Salzburg, Austria, September 6 – 8, 2013

The Autonomous Bailiwick of Austria has started preparations.
Further information in The Constantinian News no. 3 /2012
on the OCM website.



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.

85 years

Aarno Mikael Strömmer 6.9.

80 years

Alpo Arvi Lehtonen 19.5.
Pentti Antero Korhonen 23.7.
William B. Sellen 11.8.
Aarne Olavi Mikael
Nupponen 29.9.
Dimitris Smokovitis 6.10.

75 years

Matti Porkka 1.5.
Leonidas Varagis 21.10.

70 years

Kari Myllyniemi 1.4.
Vassilios Yannakakos 6.4.
Kaj Jansson 18.4.
Tapio Lampinen 4.5.
Ingemar Egon Apelstig 9.5.
Matts Bernhard Eriksson
20.5.
Ketonen Keijo Arvo Kalevi
9.6.
Reijo Iisakki Sallinen 15.6.
Sven Tommy Arrefalk 28.6.
Reijo Kalevi Paukku 15.7.
Ioannis Scouloudis 10.8.
Nils Harry Nordkvist 14.8.
Kari Alanko 6.9.
Arvo Kalervo Hovi 13.9.
Erkki Eino Haikola 23.9.
Hermann Lohr 14.10.
Lars Julin 3.11.
Antti Jukka Paarma 1.12.
Alfred Werner Bayerke 3.12.
Thomas Custer Milton 25.12.

60 years

Leo Johannes Huurinainen
8.5.
Timo Unto Korhonen 16.4.
Karel Kucera 13.4.
Gary Hoitsma 13.6.
Juhani Kannelmaa 27.7.
Mikko August Lauren 30.9.
Robert Lundberg 30.9.
Mats Johansson 24.10.
Åke Widholm 9.11.
Heikki Pylkkänen 27.11.
Matti Johannes Pörhö 19.12.

50 years

Juha Matti Kallioinen 19.6.
Christer Emil Martin
Martin-Löf 24.7.
Stefan Lagraeus 3.8.
Gregory Chonrocoukis 17.9.
Mats Ingemar Björk 16.10.
Nils Johan Christer Svärd
30.10.

Coming OCM Events

11.-13.05.2012	Bailiwick of Germany, meeting in Mainz
11.-13.05.2012	Bailiwick of St. Halvard of Oslo, meeting and investiture in Fredrikstad
19.-20.05.2012	Exarchate of Finland, annual meeting and investiture in Tampere
27.05.2012	Exarchate of Greece, meeting and investiture in Athens
13.-15.07.2012	Bailiwick of Austria, meeting in Kainach
21.-23.09.2012	Exarchate of Sweden, meeting and investiture in Gothenburg
06.-08.09.2013	60-Years Anniversary Convention of the OCM in Salzburg Austria

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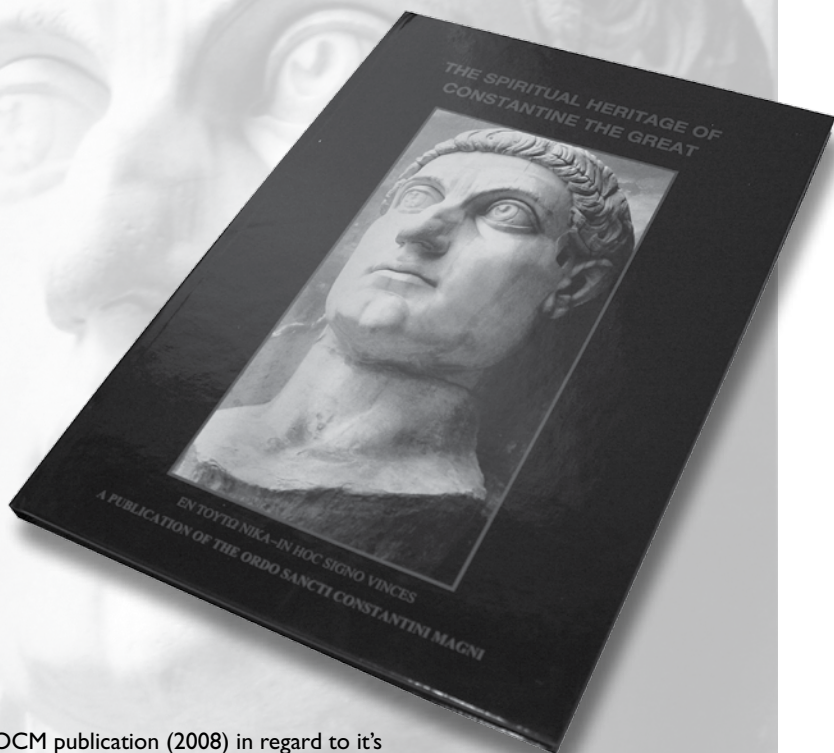
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THE SPIRITUAL HERITAGE OF CONSTANTINE THE GREAT



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