ORDO SANCTI CONSTANTINI MAGNI



THE CONSTANTINIAN NEWS

No. 2 / 2012

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Your Exellence

Your gracious and precious wishes on the occasion of the Feast of the Glorious Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ are an explicit token that the hope, sprung up from the redemptive Incarnation of Our Savior, still exists in our hearts.

If we all become conscious of the fact that Our Lord Jesus Christ suffered, was crucified and rose again for us all, as people who are made in the image and likeness of God regardless of our origins and beliefs, then His sanctifying love will find a place in our hearts and in all humanity. This is more than ever needed for our African brethren, reminding us that the evangelization of the nations should be most of all aiming at the infusion of love for our neighbor in the souls of all people living in Africa, this mosaic of peoples and religions.

Wholeheartedly bestowing in return our Paternal and Patriarchal blessing, we wish Our Risen Lord's sacrifice, like a far-illuming lighthouse, inspire your zealous effort, and assiduous disposition, as well as entrust you with health and strength.

Fervently praying to God

Co

†THEODOROS II

Pope and Patriarch of Alexandria and all Africa

In the Great City of Alexandria Easter 2012

CHANCELLOR'S ADDRESS AT THE INVESTITURE OF THE GREEK EXARCHATE

Αξιότιμες κυρίες και αξιότιμοι κύριοι ! (Honourables Ladies and Gentlemen!)

Παραθέτω από το Συμπόσιο του Πλάτωνα: (I quote from the Symposium of Platon)



Τὸν οὖν Ἀγάθωνα—τυγχάνειν γὰϱ ἔσχατον κατακείμενον μόνον—Δεῦϱο, ἔφη φάναι, Σώκϱατες, παϱ' ἐμὲ κατάκεισο, ἵνα καὶ τοῦ σοφοῦ ἁπτόμενός σου ἀπολαύσω, ὅ σοι πϱοσέστη ἐν τοῖς πϱοθύϱοις. Δῆλον γὰϱ ὅτι ηὖϱες αὐτὸ καὶ ἔχεις· οὐ γὰϱ ἂν πϱοαπέστης.

Καὶ τὸν Σωκǫάτῃ καθίζεσθαι καὶ εἰπεῖν ὅτι Εὖ ἀν ἔχοι, φάναι, ὡ Ἀγάθων, εἰ τοιοῦτον εἰῃ ἡ σοφία ὥστε ἐκ τοῦ πληǫεστέǫου εἰς τὸ κενώτεǫον ἱεῖν ἡμῶν, ἐὰν ἁπτώμεθα ἀλλήλων, ὥσπεǫ τὸ ἐν ταῖς κύλιξιν ὕδωǫ τὸ διὰ τοῦ ἐǫίου ἱέον ἐκ τῆς πληǫεστέǫας εἰς τὴν κενωτέǫαν.

Agathon, who was reclining alone at the end of the table, begged that he would take the place next to him; that "I may touch you," he said, "and have the benefit of that wise thought which came into your mind in the portico, and is now in your possession; for I am certain that you would not have come away until you had found what you sought."

How I wish, said Socrates, taking his place as he was desired, that wisdom could be infused by touch, out of the fuller the emptier man, as water runs through wool out of a fuller cup into an emptier one; Ladies and Gentlemen !

In these serious times, I think, every responsible politician would be grateful to own some of the wisdom of Socrates in order to solve the huge economical and also political problems we are facing at the moment in Greece and in the European Union.

But, I think, not even Socrates really believed that wisdom could be infused by touch. I think, his discussion with Agathon contains a more philosophical and human message of sympathy and of humanity and of strong commitment among human beings, which are well appreciated qualities also of our Order.

As we all know, the Ordo Sancti Constantini Magni is a Christian, ecumenical Order. The OCM has a the rather unique position, because as an ecumenical Order it enjoys the spiritual protection of an orthodox Patriarch.

The Order is proud that His Beatitude Theodoros II, the Pope and Patriarch of Alexandria and All Africa is the High Patron of the OCM, which gives our Order a legal status.

The OCM is also a chivalric Order, which should constantly remind us of the real virtues of knighthood.

Also the ceremony of the investiture and dubbing ceremony is part of the traditions of the old Christian Orders. I know that for outsiders those ceremonies appear a little unmodern, at least oldfashioned, but for us those are combined with the vow and the commitment dames and knights are giving in order to serve the Order and our fellow-men

On occasion of the today's festive meeting and investiture of the Exarchate of Greece the Grandmaster of the Order, Duke and Prince Friedrich von Beaufort-Spontin, the Deputy Master Raimo Ilaskivi and the government send cordial regards to all of you.

I wish to end this address with a poem written by the Greek poet and member of our Order Mrs. Rena Manoussaki-Takaki: The Cross. The poem may remind us to believe in God and also in the aims of the Order of St.Constantine.

Σταυρός

Σχηματίζω σταυρό η Χριστιανή Ακουμπώντας ενωμένα τρια δάκτυλα Στο μέτωπο, στον ώμο, στον άλλο ώμο Στον ομφαλό Αλλά θα ήμουν Αληθινή Χριστιανή αν άγγιζα Το μέτωπο άλλου ανθρώπου να μάθω τι σκέπτεται Τον δεξιό του ώμο να μάθω τις ευθύνες Τον άλλο να μάθω τα αισθήματα Τον ομφαλό να μάθω τις ανάγκες του.

Cross

I, the Christian, make the sign of cross Touching my forehead My navel My right and left shoulder Holding together my first three fingers; But I would be real Christian If I touched together the forehead of my fellow man To find out what he is thinking His right shoulder to get to know His responsibilities The other one to hear his feelings, And finally his navel To share his needs.

Ευχαριστώ πολύ!

Piraeus 27th May 2012

Jürgen Schumacher, chancellor

THE GOVERNMENT INFORMS

The spring meeting of the government was held on 11th May 2012 in Helsinki.

Change of the exarch of the Exarchate of Finland: after eight years of successful leadership of **Risto Junttila** the exarchate elected 19th May 2012 unanimously **Erkko Kajander**, bailie of the Bailiwick of Helsinki, the new exarch for the period of five years.

Change of the bailie of the autonomous Bailiwick of the Czech Republic: after the period of five years of Miroslav Majer the bailiwick elected 23rd March 2012 unanimously **Karel Kucera**, long-standing secretary of the bailiwick, the new bailie for the period of five years.

The Master approved both elections.

The Master admitted new members to the Order:

Exarchate of Finland: Kalevi Kiviniemi, b. 30.6.1958, concert organist, Antti Lahtinen, b.19.9.1955, vicar, Mika Lehto, b. 1.4.1966, chairman, Pauli Lindström, b. 9.9.1950, architect.

Exarchate of Greece: Georgios Kastamonitis, b. 4.8.1976, tradesman, Exarchate of Sweden: Olof Wilhelm Svederberg, b. 30.8.1941, landlord, Exarchate of the USA: Martin Philip Adams, b. 31.5.1948, chief of political intelligence, David Lee Richardson jr., b. 10.9.1973, naval officer.

Honourings: the chancellor awarded one cross of merit 1. cl. and four medals of merit of various ranks to knights of the Exarchate of Finland.

Changes in membership: by decision of 11th May 2012 two members resigned from membership; one member was expelled due to unpaid annual fees.

Roster: the updated roster was attached to the OCM website in April 2012. Secr.gen. Jorma Ahonen got less than expected updated dates of the members. The secretaries are kindly requested to check the personal dates of the members of their unit and to forward those to **secr.gen.Jorma Ahonen** (e-mail: j.ahonen@ pp4.inet.fi). The next roster will be attached to the OCM website in autumn 2012.

OCM international convention (60 years anniversary of the OCM) 6-8 Sept 2013 in Salzburg/Austria. The announcement is in this of issue The Constantinian News.

Jürgen Schumacher chancellor

ANNUAL REPORT 2011

The most important event of the OCM in the year 2011 was the **international convention of the Order** at Haikko Manor in Porvoo/Finland, 1.-3.7. Under the leadership of the **Master H.S.H. Friedrich von Beaufort-Spontin** more than 120 official guests, dames, knights and spouses gathered, becoming engrossed in several topics of actuality and in the field of ecumenism and additionally deepening the knightly friendship. The High Patron of the OCM, H.B. Theodoros II Pope and Patriarch of Alexadria and All Africa, was represented by H.E. George Haramis, Exarch of the Exarchate of Greece.

The OCM stood for its responsibility of keeping good contacts and fulfilling the annual charitable support to the **Patriarchate of Alexandria**.

The Master headed one meeting of the Executive Committee in Porvoo 1.7. Beyond that, he kept close contact to the Government discussing main topics of the meeting agendas over the phone.

The Master promoted two persons to **grand officers** and three officers to **knightcommanders** of the Order.

The **Council of the Order** took responsibility in approving the budget proposal of the Government and accepting the accounting of the Order.

The **Government** steered the international work of the Order with the support of the Master. The Government held 5 meetings; one of those, in Porvoo, was headed by the Master.

The **Executive Committee**, seated in Finland/Sweden, undertook most of the daily work.

The Master attended the OCM-meeting in Nürnberg Germany. The Master and the Government were represented by one member at the national meetings and investitures of the Exarchates of the U.S.A, Greece and Sweden and the bailiwick of St. Halvard of Oslo.

The Chancellor awarded, with authorization of the Master, three **cross of merit** and different ranks of the **medal of merit** to 34 merited knights.

The structure of the **membership of the Order** shows several changes. The most dramatic change was that the Master closed the Russian Exarchate (29 members) due to unpaid fees. Only the exarch stayed as the member of Diaspora. Eleven members passed away and 9 members resigned.

The Master admitted 35 new members to the Order from Finland, Greece, Sweden, the U.S.A, Austria and Norway.

Members in the Order as of 1.1.2012: 475

By January 1st, 2012 the number of honorary members of the Ordo Sancti Constantini Magni was 41, and the number of paying members 475.

Honorary members	41			
Exarchate of Finland	(10 Bailiwicks)	224	Bailiwick of Austria	20
Exarchate of Greece	(7 Bailiwicks)	76	Bailiwick of the Czech Republ	ic 7
Exarchate of Sweden	(4 Bailiwicks)	66	Bailiwick of Germany	14
Exarchate of the USA	(4 Bailiwicks)	48	Bailiwick of Oslo	17
Diaspora		4		

As far as reports of the **exarchates and bailiwicks of the Order** were received, they enable the Government to survey the activities of the different organizations. The number of meetings and subject matter of the gatherings differs considerable in the different national units. Many of them run charitable projects. Unfortunately from some units there are no detailed reports available.

At the end of the year **The Roster** was attached to the website of the OCM (members only).

Four issues of **The Constantinian News** were edited, one of them in colours and in larger shape introducing international convention in Porvoo. The vice chancellor sent four circulars, fixed to the OCM website, containing mostly notes and actual information from the Government.

Finances.

Ordo Sancti Constantini Magni is a tiny order and is diminishing year after year. This, of course, is raising hinders and difficulties against keeping the high standard of good administration which already for years has been one of the main principles of the Government. At the same time the Order is approaching the great celebration of the 60th anniversary in 2013. Closing one of the Exarchates and the loss in membership figures is not the easiest formula! It cannot be pressed too much that the chivalry oath demands a lifelong commitment!

High figures in the circulation of membership multiply the purchase costs of membership insignia because only a little minority of the local administrators make sure that those who leave the Order against their chivalry oath will return all their membership insignia! For the time being the Order has succeeded to keep the wheels running but if the course described above cannot be changed towards growing membership figures and higher income of insignia sales all payments will face high increase in prices!

Helsinki 29th March, 2012.

The Government of the OCM

Jürgen Schumacher chancellor

Jorma Ahonen secretary general Richard Flahavan member

Leif Syrstad vice chancellor

Reino Koskinen treasurer Eleftherios Fonazakis member



Stylianos Kandarakis

KCCM, Treasurer of The Greek Exarchate, "Veteran Knight" Stylianos Kandarakis joined the OCM in 1984. The reason was that the OCM is a Christian Order following noble chivalry values. It was of most importance to him that in our societies which turned more and more materialistic over time, some people devoted time and effort to assist the weak and less fortunate. It was the spirit of our Order that inspired a team of people, to join the OCM at that time and try to remind long-standing, yet forgotten, values to the people around us. Looking back, he says that the Order changed his life. He met a lot of people with whom they set goals and tried to fulfill them one by one, step by step, trying to have even a small impact in our communities.

Stylianos Kandarakis has been the Treasurer of the Greek Exarchate for the last 16 years.

In his opinion the role of the OCM to our communities is very important, and very important has to be in the future. Our Order should continue the social activities that aim to provide assistance to the weak. This could be done locally or internationally. For that, solidarity is very important. We should try to meet as often as we can. Through the International Conventions or National Meetings, the common activities, the common goals. The Patriarchate of Alexandria should also continue to be one of our points of reference. The work of the Patriarchate is of most significance for the African people and for the whole world and it is in full accordance with our values. The support of this work was, is and should continue to be an important pillar of our goals.

Our internet site also brings us together. All our knights should try to use it and contribute to it. If we know each other better and our ideas circulate faster among us, we can surely achieve more. The Order is an active organization in a moving world. Therefore, solidarity is the basis of our Order and thus it is a continuing process using modern means as well as the old successful classical methods.

Stylianos has worked as a jeweler, operating a handmade gold jewelry workshop and a jewelry wholesale office in Athens and two jewelry retail stores, one in Athens and one other in North America. He is now retired and the company is continuing their operations under the direction of his two sons. He has been active in professional associations. His hobby is to travel and meet people of different background and culture.

He has two sons and three granddaughters.

Jorma Ahonen secretary general



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

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

AND

60th ANNIVERSARY OF THE ORDER

in Salzburg, Austria, September 6 - 8, 2013

Preparations of the Autonomous Bailiwick of Austria are in full progress Information about program and costs in The Constantinian News no. 3 /2012 on the OCM website



Annual Meeting of The Exarchate of Greece

On 27th May about 50 members of the Greek exarchate, most of them accompanied by their spouses, go together for the annual meeting of the exarchate. The morning session contained the economical statement of the exarchate given by secretary/treasurer Michael Kandarakis followed by excellent lectures about the 'History of the Cross' (Vice Exarch Vassilios Yannakakos), 'Knighthood Today' (Bailie Panagiotis Apostolopoulos) and 'Cruisades and Byzantium' (Chev. Theodosios Anagnostopoulos). The chancellor held a meeting with the exarch, vice exarch and bailies concerning administrative matters of the Order. The meeting culminated in a festive investiture in presence of the representative of the Patriarch Theodoros II H.E. Petros, the Metropolitan Geron of Axum. The investiture was chaired by the Exarch George Haramis and conducted by the Master of ceremonies Panayotis Chalikias. The chancellor admitted to the Order 15 new Greek members.

Jürgen Schumacher chancellor





H.E. Petros, the Metropolitan Geron



The guards of the bailies.



The dubbing ceremony.

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

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

75 years

Leonidas Varagis 21.10.

70 years

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

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

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

2123.09.2012	Exarchate of Sweden, meeting and investiture in Gothenburg
01.09.2012	Exarchate of the USA, meeting and investiture.
0608.09.2013	60-Years Anniversary Convention of the OCM in Salzburg Austria

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Publisher: Editor-in-chief and Executive office: Secr.Gen. Jorma Ahonen Utunmäentie 10 A, FIN-45160 Kouvola, FINLAND e-mail: jorma.ahonen@pp4.inet.fi

Official photographe of the Order and	r
treasurer's office:	Reino Koskinen P.O. Box 558, FIN-20101 Turku, FINLAND e-mail: racecar@pp.inet.fi

www.ocmonline.org

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 Reino Koskinen: racecar@pp.inet.fi