

ORDO SANCTI CONSTANTINI MAGNI



THE
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NEWS

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IN MEMORIAM

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

KCCM

Eero Kelhä

Exarchate of Finland

1930 – 2015

KCM

Pentti Korhonen

Exarchate of Finland

1932 – 2016

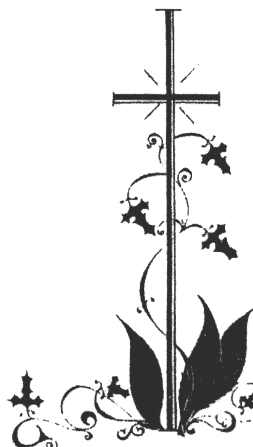
KCM

Kent Webber

Exarchate of USA

1940 – 2016

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



ANNUAL REPORT 2015

The year 2015 was Order's 62st operational year. It was notable that in June the Master with Lady Eleonora attended first time the Convention of the Exarchate of the USA. The visit was very successfull. In September they also attended the Investiture of the Exarchate of Sweden and the Chairman of the Council Rune Ryden was decorated Grand Cross Constantini Magni by the Master.

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

The Master had appointed Exarch George Haramis Ambassador of the OCM to the Patriarchate 2014-2019. In December the Patriarch informed that the Patriarchate would like Haramis, also the Grand Archon and Grand Cross of the Patriarchate, represent Patriarchate at the OCM.

In addition to the donation to the Patriarchate the International Government decided to support the children's hospice in Lahore to obtain a mobile clinic.

The Master promoted Chancellor Toivo Salmi and Exarch Andrew Johnson Grand Officers of the OCM and awarded the Exarch Rune Torstenson with Cross of Merit 1. cl.

The Master promoted four officers to Knight Commanders of the Order.

The Council 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 4 meetings and 2 e-mail meetings.

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

The Master and the Government were represented at the national meetings and investitures of the Exarchates of Finland, Greece and Sweden, and Bailiwicks of Germany, Austria, and Czech Republic.

Coincide with the Investiture of the Exarchate of Sweden the International Government had a meeting chaired by the Master.

The Chancellor awarded, with authorization of the Master, 2 **Cross of Merit** and different ranks of the **Medal of Merit** to 9 merited Knights for their remarkable support to the Order.

The structure of the **membership of the Order** shows stability. The changes in membership figures were minor. The total number increased with 6 members.

Three members passed away and 4 members resigned.

The Master admitted 13 new members to the Order from Finland, Greece, U.S.A, Austria, Oslo and Germany.

Members in the Order as of 31.12.2015: 538

By January 1st, 2016 the number of honorary members of the Ordo Sancti Constantini Magni was 38, and the number of paying members 506.

OCM membership, state 01.01.2016:

	1.12.2014	1.1.2015	1.1.2016
Finland	253	253	250
Greece	74	67	70
U.S.A	61	64	67
Sweden	56	52	57
Austria	19	22	23
Czech R.	9	8	9
Germany	12	12	10
Oslo	14	18	16
Diaspora	3	4	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	501	500	506
Honorary members	39	38	38
	540	538	544

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 most units do not deliver detailed reports.

Two issues of The Constantinian News, were edited, containing topical issues of the Order. The Vice Chancellor sent four circulars, fixed to the OCM website, containing mostly notes and actual information from the Government.

Finances

The year 2015 was financially very satisfactory. The annual Financial Statement of the OCM for the fiscal year 2015 showed a surplus of 6.987,52 e. At the same time it was once again possible to reserve funds to make more donations in the future and to support the coming international events. To ensure the Order's vitality also coming years the continuous assignment to increase the number of valuable members of the Order still remains. Only this way we can strengthen basis of the OCM, which would allow more and diversified charitable work as today.

The Government of the OCM

Toivo Salmi
Chancellor

Jorma Ahonen
Secretary General

Richard Flahaven
Member

Leif Syrstad
Vice Chancellor

Mika Pynnönen
Treasurer

Eleftherios Fonazakis
Member



**Chevalier Orfeo Trombetta, Jr, KCCM, PhD. and
Dame Elizabeth Trombetta, DCM**

Exarch of the Exarchate of the United States of America

Chevalier Dr. Orfeo “Chuck” Trombetta Jr was born in Brooklyn, New York, United States of America. He is the oldest son of Orfeo and Joanne Trombetta. During his formative years, he traveled extensively throughout the United States and Europe accompanying his father who was a U.S. Air Force Officer. During the Occupation of Europe, Chev. Trombetta lived in Germany and travelled throughout Germany, France, Spain, Switzerland, Austria, England, and Italy. During this period of time, he was able to see firsthand the ravages of WWII.

Chev. Trombetta’s formal education includes an Associate of Arts Degree in Liberal Arts, a Baccalaureate Degree in the Administration of

Justice, a Masters Degree in National Security Strategy and later a Doctorate in Strategic Studies.

He began a formal career in the U.S. Army as an Enlisted man in 1967 and was meritoriously selected to attend the Infantry Officer’s Candidate School where he was commissioned in 1968 as an Officer. He subsequently served tours of duty in Southeast Asia (Okinawa, Japan, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, and Thailand). In 1975 he voluntarily transitioned to the U.S. Army Reserve retiring in 1996 with a total of 29 ½ years of military service including an additional combat tour of duty in 1990-1991 in Southwest Asia (Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and Kuwait).

Concurrent with his US Army



assignments from 1975-1987, Dr. Trombetta served as a senior security professional in the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Security with duties as a Special Security Assistant to the Attorneys General of the United States; Security Officer to the Vice-Presidents Organized Crime Task Forces, Security Officer to the Organized Drug Enforcement Task Force, and Security Officer to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court. In 1989 he was appointed by the White House as a Presidential Appointee to the U.S. Department of Labor. Additionally, Dr. Trombetta was appointed as an Army Reserve Ambassador in 1999-2016 (serving at the equivalent rank of Major General) for a number of terms of duty totaling 16 years.

Chev. Trombetta became a Knight of Ordo Sancti Constantini Magni in November 2008. In May 2013 he was elected as Bailie of the Bailiwick of St. Mark the Apostle.

Concurrent with this position, he was appointed as Director of Special Projects assisting the former Exarch by providing research/information regarding the heraldic design and production of a formal OSCM banner for the Exarchate. The new banner was first displayed when HSH Friedrich, Duke and Prince of Beaufort-Spontin formerly inducted Chev. Trombetta as the Exarch of the Exarchate of the USA in July 2015.

Chev. Trombetta also designed and authored a comprehensive informational booklet for the OCM in the USA that was adopted by the Exarchate and is used as a formal invitation for proposed Knights and Dames of the Order. He assisted in the design and procurement of a new medal for the Exarchate to recognize the outstanding contributions of its members and others who contribute to this Exarchate. The highest order of this medal, the Distinguished Service Medal, was presented to HSH

Friedrich during his 2015 visit to the United States for his “continued support and guidance to the Exarchate of the USA”.

In August 2014, Chev. Trombetta was advanced to Knight Commander and in June 2015, he was unanimously elected by the Council of the Exarchate as the new Exarch of the Exarchate of the USA. Upon approval by the Prince, he was elevated to Exarch in July 2015.

Exarch Chev. Trombetta has focused his and the attention of the Council of the Exarchate on the following important issues:

- Established/filled the position of Vice-Exarch with Chev. Wulf Lindenau to ensure continuity of leadership. Also reappointed Chev. Lindenau to his former position as Director of Admissions for the Exarchate to specifically assist me in recruiting;
- Identification/selection of new personnel to fill critical positions of leadership including a new member who shall become the Exarchate’s Chaplain as soon as he is invested into the Order. This is soon to be Chev. Howell Sasser.
- Realigned/reorganized the U.S Corporation that provides the legal basis of support to the OCM in the USA per US law to ensure the Corporation by-laws are consistent with the Constitution of the Order;

- Elected a Bailie for the Bailiwick of St. Mark the Apostle to fill Chev. Trombetta’s former position vacated by his selection as Exarch. (Unfortunately, the new Bailie, Chev. Kent Webber recently suffered a major medical emergency resulting in his most untimely demise.);
- Elected a Bailie for the Bailiwick of St. Michael the Archangel to fill Chev. Lindenau’s former position when he was selected to be Vice-Exarch. Chev. Max Lederer was elected by the Bailiwick to fill this position.
- Reelected Chev. Robert Pollock, KCCM, as Bailie of the Bailiwick of St. Olympiada; and,
- Established/prioritized internal guidelines facilitating continual recruitment of new persons as Knights and Dames of the Order (This is evidenced by the recent approval by the Government of the Order of 8 new Knights and Dames).

It is the earnest intent of the current administration of the OCM in the USA to work strenuously to continuously grow the Order in the USA in order to ensure our continued support to the International Order.

Chev. Trombetta is currently married to Dame Elizabeth Trombetta, DCM and has one son, Orfeo III.

Memorial Service for the 30 Years of the Emigration to the Lord of the Late Patriarch Nikolaos The IV

10th of July H.B. the Patriarch Theodoros performed the memorial service for the 30 years of the emigration to the Lord of the late Patriarch Nikolaos the VI.

The commemoration took place in the Patriarchal women Monastery at St.Nectarios, located in the village Gerakas, at about 30km North/East of Athens.

Patriarch Nikolaos the VI was the first Patron of the OCM. Also he was the founder of this Monastery. The OCM was represented in the commemoration by George Haramis, V.Yannakakos, Th.Pittaras and M.Kandarakis. In the reception, after the commemoration H.B. once again expressed His thanks and His gratitude to the OCM.



From left to right are the Confreres Th. Pittaras Secretary of the Hellenic Exarchate, V.Yannakakos and G.Haramis.



H.B. the Pope and Patriarch of Alexandria and all Africa Theodoros the II, and Confrere George Haramis OCM Ambassador to the Patriarchate and Representative of H.B. the Patriarch to OCM.



From right to left are the Confreres G.Haramis and V.Yannakakos Exarch of the Hellenic Exarchate.



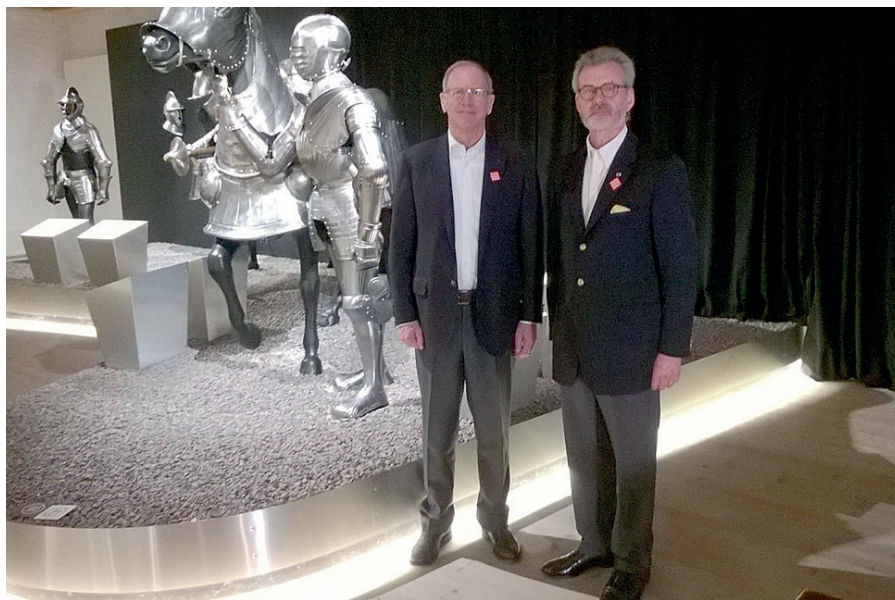
Groupphoto in front of the church.

The Exarchate of Finland held it's Annual Meeting and Investiture in the City of Hämeenlinna

The city of Hämeenlinna was the venue for the Annual Meeting and the Investiture of the Exarchate of Finland in May 21st and 22nd. The knightly days were organised with the goal to meet briefly and efficiently, concentrate on OCM's main tasks and keep the costs down. The Annual Meeting and Investiture are organised in turn in the ten Bailiwicks of the Exarchate

of Finland. The Bailiwick of Häme was in charge this year.

The Days started with the registration and Annual Meeting in the Town Hall of the City of Hämeenlinna. Statutory matters were discussed and decided in the meeting. The new Bailie of the Bailiwick of Häme, Keijo Suominen acted as chairman of the meeting and the Bailie of Turku Kimmo Sainio acted



Chairman of the Council Rune Ryden and Exarch Erkkö Kajander.

as secretary.

In the beginning of the meeting the Mayor of the City of Hämeenlinna, Mr. Timo Kenakkala, welcomed the OCM knights and ladies to the City and wished good discussions and decisions.

The meeting ended with the distribution of the new Crosses of the Exarchate of Finland. The Cross of the Exarchate of Finland can be granted to a knight who has acted effectively for the benefit of the Exarchate of Finland.

After a tasty lunch it was time for a theme occasion which is part of the series "back to basics" of the Exarchate of Finland. In the theme occasion basic matters to our Order are

discussed. Matters like ecumenism, caring and caritative work should be paid attention always.

The afternoon started, however, with the handing over of the Aimo. T. Nikolainen - post graduate scholarship to Ms. Laura Kajala, Master of Theology. The title of her interesting doctoral thesis is: A just peace in the Holy Land? A study about the World Council of Churches' statements and actions regarding the State of Israel, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and efforts for peace between 1948 and 2014. The Exarchate of Finland works closely with the Foundation of the Finnish Institute in the Middle East in choosing the receiver of the scholarship.



New Knights arriving for dubbing.

The title of the panel discussion was "Values of the OCM, solemn knightly vow and the future of Finland". Three knights of the Order gave an introduction to the theme; Jouni Elomaa, catholic, Secretary of the Council of the Order, Teo Merras, orthodox, Member of the Bailiwick of Helsinki and Ari Karttunen, Lutheran, Bailie of the Bailiwick of Northern Finland and Vice Exarch. A lseparate report on this topic will be published in the next Constantinian News. The Exarchate of Finland wishes and proposes that a similar theme discussion would be organised in the next Internantional Convention in Lund in 2017.

The Investiture was organised in the church of the City of Hämeenlinna with usual festive ceremonies. As Dubber acted the Chairman of the Council of the Order, Rune Ryden. He had travelled from Sweden to take part in the Investiture. His presence in Hämeenlinna was highly appreciated.

Nine new OCM knights were dubbed in Hämeenlinna.

As usual a common picture was taken in front of the church.

The festive dinner was organised in the assembly hall of the Town Hall. The menu was, as expected, delicious. The various greetings gave a good picture of the OCM



*Master of Theology Laura Kajala,
receiver of the Aimo T Nikolainen scholarship.*



Dubbing Ceremony, Chairman of the Council Rune Ryden.



Exarch Erkko Kajander, Major Timo Kenakkala and Bailie Keijo Suominen.

and the Chairman of the Council of the Order, Rune Ryden, summoned the situation perfectly in his closing words.

It is always a pleasure to thank and reward for good and succesful work. During the dinner the former Bailie of the Häme Bailiwick, Tapani Kohonen and the present Bailie Keijo Suominen were presented the new Medal of the Exarchate of Finland.

On Sunday morning it was time for the divine ecumenical service. The knightly days ended with "church coffees" in the central congregation hall.

The next Annual Meeting and Investiture of the Exarchate of Fin-

land will be organised in the City of Kotka in May 27th and 28th. The organiser will be the Bailiwick of the Baltic Sea.

On their way home Rune Ryden, Erkko Kajander and the Bailie of the Bailiwick of Vaasa, Pekka Räisänen who is also the Master of Ceremonies of the Exarchate of Finland paid a visit to the Arms and Armours Exhibition in Häme Castle. In the picture on the left Rune Ryden, Chairman of the Council of the Order and on the right Erkko Kajander, Exarch of Finland.

*Erkko Kajander
photos Heikki Löflund*

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

Ilmari Lindberg	1.8.
John Wickström	1.10

80

Raimo Järnilä	3.8.
Matti Sillanpää	4.8.
David Brookes	20.8.
Arno Leino	13.12

75

Christer Nottberg	1.8.
Kari Soininen	16.8.
Erkki Marttinen	17.8.
Erkki Pääkkönen	26.8.
Olof Svedeberg	30.8.
Sven Modin	13.10
Hans-Olof Kvist	27.10
Matti Ehrnrooth	.11.
Elias Warren	16.12.

70

Heikki Vaiste	13.8.
Tapio Mikkola	20.9.
Mats Domert	8.11.
Mats Johanson	16.11.
Jarl Rosenholm	20.11.
Peter Davenport	26.11.
Jorma Ahonen	30.11.

65

Charles Meade	15.9.
Antti Sarho	19.9.
Rauli Junttila	25.9.
Johannes Mertens	7.10.
Markku Aroma	13.12.
Tiit Salumäe	25.12.

60

Keijo Gärdström	9.8.
Charles Nalls	20.8.
Wolfgang Knogler	20.10
Pauli Heikkinen	3.12.
Christian Fock	24.12.

50

Evangelos Manoudakis	19.8.
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Coming events

23.-25.9.2016	the Exarchate of Sweden, meeting and Investiture in Stockholm
08.10.2016	the Exarchate of USA, meeting and Investiture
September 2017	International Convention, Lund, Sweden
May 2018	the Exarchate of Finland, 40 years Jubilee
2020	International Convention
2023	International Convention (70 years Jubilee)



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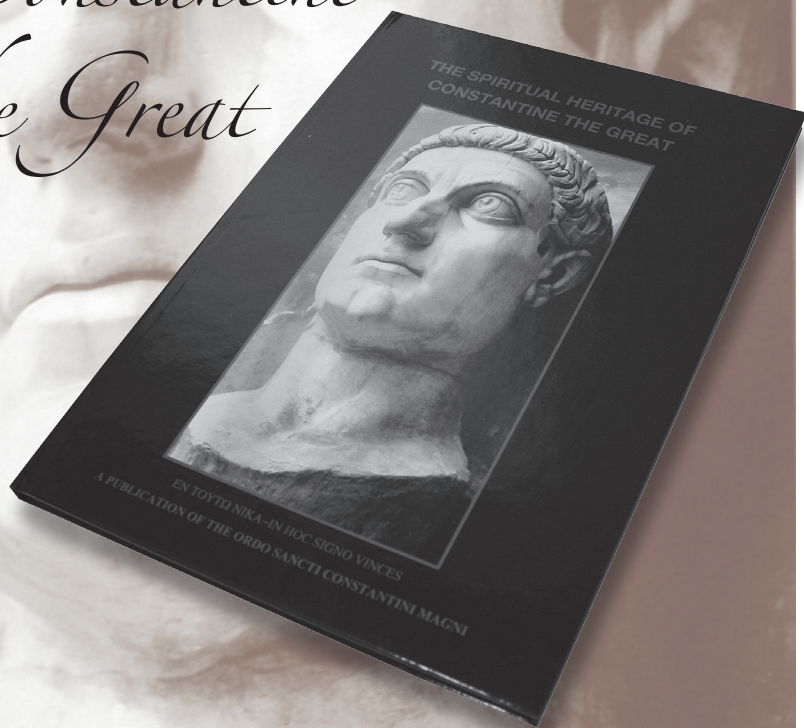
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The Spiritual Heritage of Constantine The Great



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.

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