

ORDO SANCTI CONSTANTINI MAGNI



THE
CONSTANTINIAN
NEWS

No. 1 / 2015

IN MEMORIAM

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

KCCM

Harald Jung

Bailiwick of Germany

1937 – 2015

KCM

John Theophanides

Exarchate of Greece

1946 – 2014

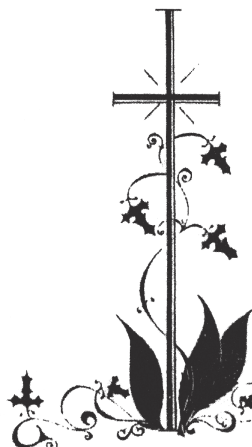
KCM

Demetrious Nezeritis

Exarchate of Greece

1940 - 2014

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





DAME HELGA UHL-LÜTZOW – FIRST FEMALE BAILIE OF OCM

Mrs. Helga Uhl-Lützow was born in Essen, the centre of the Western-German industrial region, where her father was manager of a dairy. However, during the chaos of World War II little Helga spent the early childhood with her grandparents in Pomerania, which today belongs to Poland. After the war she returned via Denmark back to her family in Southern Germany and went to school in Freiburg taking her high school diploma in 1957. Mrs. Uhl-Lützow studied medical technology at the University of Freiburg in 1959-1961. In 1962 Helga got married. Two sons were born in the sixties. From 1979-1986 she worked as medical assistant at the migraine hospital in Königstein/Taunus and from 1986 at the DEUTSCHE BANK CENTER in Frankfurt am Main until she retired in 2002. In 2004 Mrs. Uhl-Lützow entered her second marriage with the famous Czech violinist Dusan Pandula, who unfortunately passed away one year later. After having retired in 2002 Mrs. Helga started studying archaeology at the University of Frankfurt. She is still engaged in projects of this field, which from time to time also offers the possibility to visit research programs on-the-spot.

Coming to Mrs. Uhl-Lützow's relation with the OCM it is useful to know, that her first husband joined the Bailiwick of Germany and was dubbed knight of the Ordo Sancti Constantini Magni in 1993. The next year Mrs. Helga became dame of the Order. Also her second husband was knight of the OCM. From the begin of her membership Dame Helga has worked encouraging for the aims of the OCM. Eventually in 2014 the knights of the Bailiwick of Germany elected unanimously the only dame of the bailiwick first female bailie of the OCM ! Bailie Helga Uhl-Lützow has chosen as one of her particular tasks the approach to the other bailiwicks of Central Europe like in the early years of the OCM. Bailie Helga admits sorrowful the difficulties to find valuable new members, who would be ready to commit on the noble aims of the Christian Ecumenical Order of Saint Constantine the Great.

Jürgen Schumacher

ANNUAL REPORT 2014

The year 2014 was Order's 61st operational year. In June coincide with the Convention of Finnish Exarchate in Åland the Master appointed new Executive Committee. After 18 years as Treasurer Reino Koskinen and after 10 years as Secretary General and 5 years as Chancellor Jürgen Schumacher resigned. The Master appointed chev. Toivo Salmi new Chancellor and chev. Mika Pynnönen new Treasurer.

His Beatitude Theodoros II, Pope and Patriarche of the Greek-Orthodox Church of Alexandria and All Africa visited the Orthodox Church of Finland in June 2014. During the visit the OCM Government had the privilege to offer His Beatitude Theodoros II, the High Patron of the OCM, H.E. Leo, Honorary Grand Officer of the OCM and their entourages a luncheon. The Master came over from Austria to host the luncheon. His Beatitude expressed very warmly his gratitude for the OCM's continuous support of the Patriarchate in Alexandria, which constitutes a significant contribution to the health and welfare of poor children and youth in Africa. Also the Exarchate of Finland honoured H.B. Theodoros II and H.E. Leo and their entourages offering a dinner.

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

The Master appointed Exarch George Haramis, Ambassador of the OCM to the Patriarchate 2014-2019.

The Master appointed H.E. The Most Reverend Makarios, archbishop of Kenya, Honorary Knight Commander, awarded the Grand Cross of the OCM to the Chairman of the Council Rune Ryden, the Cross of Merit 1. cl to Vice Chancellor Leif Syrstad and Secretary General Jorma Ahonen.

The Master promoted seven officers to **Knight Commanders** of the Order.

The Chairman of the **Council of the Order** Rune Ryden was reelected for 5 year's period 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 5 meetings.

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

The Master and the Government were represented by one member at the national meetings and investitures of the Exarchates of Finland, Greece, Sweden and United States.

The Chancellor awarded, with authorization of the Master , 7 **Cross of Merit** and different ranks of the **Medal of Merit** to 11 merited Knights for their remarkable support to the Order.

The structure of the **membership of the Order** shows stability. Yet inside the membership figures one can find different trends between Exarchates and independent Bailiwicks. Only the Exarchate of USA and the Bailiwicks of Austria and Oslo increased their membership number. The Exarchate of Greece has lost membership during several years, evidently due to economical difficulties in Greece.

Four members passed away and 23 members resigned.

The Master admitted 25 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, 2015 the number of honorary members of the Ordo Sancti Constantini Magni was 38, and the number of paying members 500.

OCM membership, state 01.01.2015:

	1.12.2014	1.1.2015
Finland	253	253
Greece	74	67
U.S.A	61	64
Sweden	56	52
Austria	19	22
Czech R.	9	8
Germany	12	12
Oslo	14	18
Diaspora	3	4
	501	500
Honorary members	39	38
	540	538

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 2014 was financially satisfactory. The annual Financial Statement of the OCM for 2014 showed a surplus of 5.688,04 . At the same time it was possible to reserve funds to make in the future a significant donation and to support the coming international events. The continuous assignment to increase the number of valuable members in order still remains. Only this way we can strengthen and stabilize the financial basis of the OCM, which would allow more and diversified charitable work as today.

Helsinki 23th April 2015.

The Government of the OCM

Toivo Salmi
Chancellor

Jorma Ahonen
Secretary General

Richard Flahaven
Member

Leif Syrstadt
Vice Chancellor

Mika Pynnönen
Treasurer

Eleftherios Fonazakis
Member

Meeting and Investiture of the Exarchate of Finland

The annual meeting and the Investiture of the Exarchate of Finland took place in Lahti 23.-24.5., in Sibelius house and Ristinkirkko. 82 knights and spouses attended. The Chancellor Salmi dubbed 5 new knights.

In the meeting ThD Sankamo and Dean Veikko Lisitsin gave presentations. Sankamo's topic was "Jesus and the sign-prophets" and Lisitsin's "Ecunimism challenging our Order".

Juha Toivonen



Exarch Kajander is delivering KCCM insignia to Bailie Hartikainen.



Chancellor Salmi is congratulating chev Leppänen for KCCM insignia.



Participants of the Investiture, photos by Jani Wallenius.

Jesus and the sign-prophets

Jesus is well known for his prophetic acts. He gathered 12 disciples around him, he ate with sinners and publicans, he entered into Jerusalem on a donkey and he overturned the tables in the temple. These acts demand explanations and further clarifications. At the same time they are very clear. Actions speak louder than words. I am quite sure for example that Jesus' dinings with sinners were prophetic acts that expressed God's forgiveness stronger than thousands of words. I also think the gathering of the 12 disciples recalled the eschatological hopes of regathering of the twelve tribes and the restoration of Zion. The humble entrance on an ass into Jerusalem brought into mind some royal associations. (Zech 9:9; 1 Kgs 1.)

During the 20th century scholars have paid attention on Jesus' verbal parables, which deal mostly with the kingdom of God. During the last decades scholars have more and more approved that several of Jesus' acts are to be understood as parables. Some of the classical prophets of the Old testament are known for their prophetic acts. Jeremiah broke the pot as symbolizing the destruction of the temple (Jer 19:1–13). He

carried a yoke around his neck (Jer 27–28). Ezekiel lay on the ground for hundreds of days (Ezek 4–5). He also cut his hair, burned it and threw it in the wind (Ezek 5:1–4). It is clear that these signs of the classical prophets were quite bizarre and doomfilled. Jesus' prophetic acts were on the other hand concentrated, not on the damnation, but on the salvation. In general his acts recalled restoration and forgiveness.

Some recent scholars have argued that Jesus' prophetic acts are more close to the acts of the so called “sign-prophets” of the 40s and 50s. Josephus – the most important Jewish historian of the first century – writes that during that time many “impostors and deceivers persuaded the multitude to follow them into the wilderness, and pretended that they would exhibit manifest wonders and signs, that should be performed by the providence of God.” (Josephus, Jewish History, 20:167–168.) Josephus even mentions sign-prophets such as Theudas, “the Egyptian” and “the Samaritan”. It is interesting that these sign-prophets actually promised prophetic acts of national restoration and deliverance. Apparently, in the end, they could not deliver these promises.

From Josephus' descriptions it is obvious that Theudas and "the Egyptian" attempted to repeat the great miracles of Moses and Joshua, the heroes of the exodus-story. "The Egyptian" promised that as a miracle of God the walls of Jerusalem would come thrumbling down. This certainly brought into mind Jericho and the exodus. Theudas promised that God would once again split the Jordan river in two – just as Moses and Joshua had done.

One thing is certain, these sign prophets shared great eschatological

and restorative expectations, and quite a lot of Jews followed them. Despite some differences, I think that Jesus has more in common with the failed first century sign prophets than with the classical prophets of the Old testament. Jesus did not claim to be one more doom-predicting prophet but, more likely, he seems to have regarded himself as the new Moses, the new prophet, who preached in words and deeds the Gospel of the kingdom of God, restoration and salvation.

Juho Sankamo, D. Th.





Annual Meeting, Investiture and Official Banquet of the Hellenic Exarchate



H.E., the Metropolitan Geron of Axum

The annual meeting, the investiture of three new knights and the official banquet took place on the 17th of May in “Yacht Club of Greece” in Piraeus. His Excellency the Chancellor of the Order, Confrere Toivo Salmi was present together with his wife. The members of the Council of the Exarchate had the opportunity and the pleasure to get together with the Chancellor in two different meetings.

The Bailie of Laconia Dr Spyridon Fountoukis lectured on “The Four Platonic Virtues from which the Knights of the Ordo Sancti Constantini Magni should be inspired”.



The guards of of the bailies.



The dubbing ceremony, Chancellor Salmi. Photos Theodore Pittaras.

The investiture in presence of the General Patriarchal Vicar, His Eminence Petros Metropolitan of Axum, was chaired by the Exarch, conducted by the Master of Ceremonies Panayotis Chalikias. The Chancellor dubbed

3 new Greek Knights. The banquet was conducted by Cosmetor Theodosios Anagnostopoulos.

*Theodore Pittaras
Secretary of the Exarchate*

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

Veikko Tiainen 19.10.

85

Eero Kelhä 30.7.

The Reverend James Parker 22.10

80

Perolow Jonsson-Falck 26.6.

Andrew Johnson 19.8.

Leif E. Christoffersen 16.9

Göran Hansen 3.10.

Olavi Leimuvirta 26.11.

Richard Keagy 30.11.

75

Kalle Juntunen 28.6.

Antti Paatonen 9.7.

Demetrious Nezeritis 13.7.

Esko Lehtomaa 26.7.

Kyriazis Kyriazis 19.8.

Markku Niku 16.12.

Sven Wahlquist 18.12.

70

Tuomo Malmi 17.7.

Raimo Kurki 18.7.

His Eminence Ambrosius 10.8.

Esa Eerola 26.8.

Keijo Virtanen 28.8.

Jorma Kalajoki 1.9.

Ilari Rantakari 5.9.

Orfeo Trombetta jr. 6.9.

Markus Nikolainen 17.9.

John Hilliard 19.9.

Esko Elo 25.9.

Reinhart Waneck 16.10.

Mikko Keisu 25.10

Risto Kauppinen 16.11.

Seppo Ikävalko 1.12.

65

Georgios Giakouminakis 20.7.

Pauli Lindström 9.9.

Arto Lahti 21.11.

Antti Ahola 22.11.

Werner Scheffknecht 13.11.

Reino Koskinen 9.12.

60

Markku Suokas 15.7.

Wojtek De Rzewuski 30.7.

Kimmo Sainio 2.8.

Hannu Kallio 31.8.

Arto Veräjänkorpä 7.9.

Jarmo Aho 30.11.

50

Tilemachos Patrikios 10.7.

Heinz Zeman 1.8.

Benjamin Morril 13.11.

Harald Wiik 22.12.

COMING OCM EVENTS

The Bailiwick of the Czech Republic meeting and investiture 20.6.2015
The Exarchate of the USA: meeting and investiture 17.7.2015
The Bailiwick of Austria: meeting and investiture 5.9.2015
The Exarchate of Sweden: meeting and investiture 25.-27.9.2015
The Bailiwick of Germany, meeting 9.-11.10.2015

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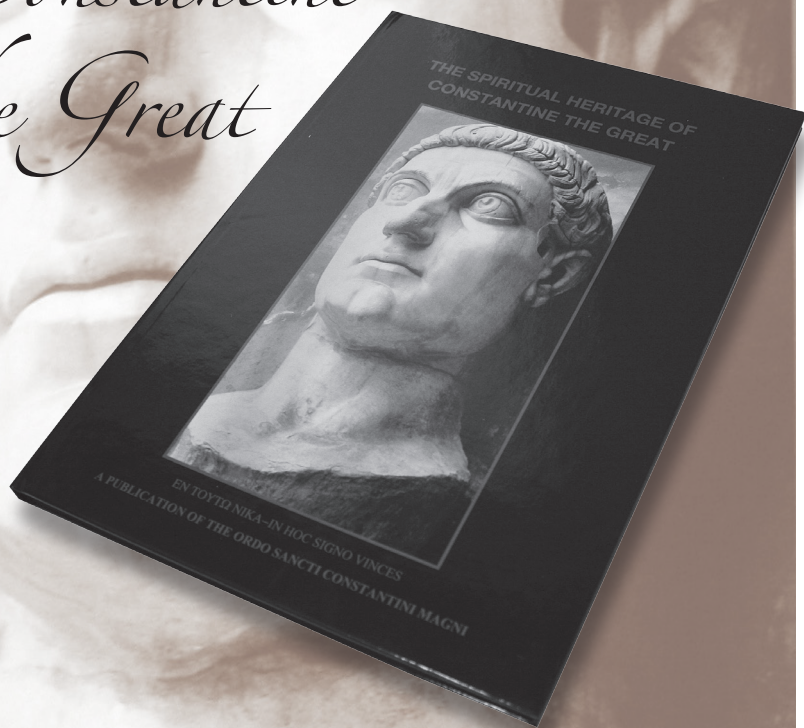
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