



The Monarchist League

American Member Newsletter

April 1999

CENTRAL STATES NEWS

NEBRASKA BRANCH

About 35 people attended the annual King Charles the Martyr Service on Saturday morning, February 6th at St. Barnabas Church. This event was partly sponsored by our local branch which hosted the reception afterwards.

The next event for the Branch is a special English Tea and Festival Choral Evensong Service to celebrate the Queen's Birthday and St. George's Day. (Saint George is the Patron Saint of England). This will be held on Sunday afternoon, April 18th at St. Barnabas Church, 40th and Davenport Streets in Omaha. The High Tea will begin at 4:30 PM and the Service will begin at 5:30. The service will include works by Vaughan-Williams, Byrd and Batten, as well as several English patriotic hymns. Members of our branch are asked to help serve at the Tea. We will also provide flowers in memory of William Holiday, who was a faithful member of the League. For more information, please call Nick Behrens at 455-4492.

SERVICE FOR TSAR NICHOLAS II OF RUSSIA -

This annual event will be held on Wednesday, July 14th at 7:00 PM at Saint Vincent of Lerins Orthodox Church, at 51st and Lake Streets in Omaha. Fr. Stephen Walinski, the priest of St. Vincent's, will officiate at Sung Vespers in honor of Tsar Nicholas II and the New Martyrs of Russia. The service will also honor St. Generosa, Virgin and Martyr, 202 AD whose relic is contained in St. Vincent's High Altar.

PRINCESS DIANA'S DRESSES COMING TO

OMAHA - An exhibit of 20 gowns worn by the late Diana, Princess of Wales will be on display from April 11 through May 16 at the Durham Western Heritage Museum, 801 South 10th Street, in Omaha. The "Dresses for Humanity" exhibit is a benefit for the Nebraska Health System's breast-cancer research and the Nebraska AIDS Project. The collection features designs by Catherine Walker, Victor Edelstein, Zandra Rhodes, and Bruce Oldfield. Admission will be by timed-tickets only.

Reservations may be made by calling (402)-444-5096. Admission is \$12 for adults, and \$10 for museum members, children under 12, and senior citizens. After leaving Omaha the exhibit will go on to Seattle, Tampa, and Washington DC.

WESTERN STATES NEWS

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BRANCH

On Friday, February 12 The Branch held a meeting at which the featured speaker was Mr. Philip Benwell MBE, the Delegate of The Monarchist League in Australia. Mr. Benwell spoke at the Mayflower in front of an enthusiastic crowd. The gist of his talk was that the Crown in Australia serves as the ultimate safeguard of the people's liberty. At present most of the major politicians, including the Prime Minister, are either neutral or republican; the major media favour a republic; and the big money is also that way. Hence, Rupert Murdoch (now an American citizen) opposes the Crown. Malcolm Turnbull, head of the Australian Republican Movement, is the Australian representative of Goldman-Sachs, and uses their facilities in his republican work (our West Coast Delegate, Mr. Charles Coulombe, points out that this would be a crime in the United States). Nevertheless, Mr. Benwell is confident that the "No" vote will prevail—this time. But Monarchist League members in the USA can do much by telling all Australian expatriates they know to vote "No" to the republic. The matter will only be settled if the vote is overwhelming. Otherwise they will have to do this again in a few years. While he was in the United States Mr. Benwell also met civic leaders and a Los Angeles Times columnist.

For information about future Branch events contact Charles Coulombe at (626)357-7236 or ccoulomb@thinline.com or you may also contact Megan Evans, 23 Deerborn Drive, Alisa Viejo, CA 92656, 949-643-8367.

EASTERN STATES NEWS

NEW YORK BRANCH -

The French American Friendship Foundation held its annual memorial Mass to commemorate the death of King Louis XVI of France on Saturday, January 16, 1999. The mass was held at St. Ann's Cathedral, 110 East 12th Street in New York City at 2:00 PM. The Mass was celebrated in Latin. Our New York City Branch coordinator Mr. Stephen Stephanou assisted with the arrangements. About 120 people attended the Mass.

Roughly 35 people attended the buffet reception which followed the Mass at the Café Loup. Entertainment at the reception featured musicians performing music of the late 18th century. For more information about the Foundation, please contact the French American Friendship Foundation, Comte Claude de Bardin or Mr. Nicolas Zart, 300 East 34th Street #33C, New York, NY 10016 or call 212-679-4674.

FUTURE NEW YORK CITY EVENTS-

The New York Chapter of the Society of King Charles the Martyr will commemorate the Canonization of Saint Charles, King of Great Britain, at 11:00 AM on Saturday, April 24, 1999. The Mass will be celebrated at the Church of Saint Paul in Brooklyn, Clinton Street at Carroll Street. There will be a luncheon following the service. For more information, you may contact Dr. Bernard Brennan at 718-852-8235.

The Annual Russian Nobility Association Easter Ball will be celebrated on Friday evening, April 30th in New York City at the Plaza Hotel. All members of the League should be receiving personal invitations to this special yearly event. It had been hoped earlier that King Simeon of the Bulgarians would be the guest of honor, but he will be unable to attend because he will be visiting Bulgaria during this time.

For information about future Branch events, or if you have suggestions, or would like to help, please contact Mr. Stephen Stephanou at 212-554-1683, or write 105 Duane Street, Apt. 52-A New York, NY 10007.

PHILADELPHIA -

Some 300 people attended the official Annual Mass and meeting of the Society of King Charles the Martyr on Saturday, January 30, 1999 at St. Clement's Church, Philadelphia. This year marked the 350th anniversary of the martyrdom of King Charles I of Great Britain. The music included the "Heiligmesse" by Joseph Haydn with choir and orchestra, and the anthem "O Lord, Grant the King a

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Long Life" by Thomas Weelkes. For more information about the Society and next year's Mass (to be held at Ascension/St. Agnes Church in Washinton DC), please contact Mr. William Gardner, Jr., 3 Bent Water Circle, Lantana, FL 33462 or Dr. Mark Wuonola, 291 Bacon Street, Waltham MA 02154.

FLORIDA CHAPTER -

League members in Florida, (or Southeast Georgia) particularly those in Northeast Florida, including Jacksonville, and St. Augustine, who would be interested in being part of a League chapter are asked to contact Mr. Brad Lawrence, 800 Lincoln Road, Neptune Beach, FL 32266. Mr. Lawrence has offered to help start a chapter, if there is sufficient interest.

YOUR DELEGATES

Eastern States--Dr. Kenneth Gunn-Walberg, 126 Centre St., Philipsburg, PA 16866. 814-342-0224
Western States--Mr. Charles Coulombe, PO Box 771, Arcadia, CA 91066. 626-357-7236
 email: ccoulomb@thinline.com
Central States--Mr. Nick Behrens, 3166 Kansas Avenue, Omaha, NE 68111. 402-455-4492
 email: nbehrens@metropo.mccneb.edu

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EDITOR'S COMMENTS

I can truthfully say that I have never been so moved at any religious service I have ever attended as I was at the King Charles the Martyr service which I attended in January at St. Clement's Church. My feeble words cannot begin to convey the impressiveness of the day. I would heartily recommend this event to all our members.

In addition to the service itself, I was so pleased to be able to meet quite a number of League members and friends who were present at the luncheon afterwards. Thank you again to those who came to say hello to me.

I was able to spend a good deal of time visiting with Mr. Daniel Morrison, a League member who also heads up the North American Araucanian Society. He took me to visit the grave of the Empress Ana Maria Iturbide of Mexico in the churchyard of St. John the Evangelist. (This was the subject of an article in the October, 1998 newsletter). There I was able to pay my respects and leave a few flowers.

When one walks through mid-town Philadelphia, one is constantly reminded of the historic events that took place there and the famous men who led these events. These famous men, Jefferson, Franklin, Madison, Washington, and others, have been much discussed in the media recently in terms of what they, as the framers of the Constitution, did or did not intend to be grounds for the impeachment of a president. One often heard talk show commentators discussing what these "Founding Fathers" really had in mind, and wondering what they would have to say about our recent presidential scandals. To me this sort of wonderment sometimes seemed to border on near worship for these "framers". A divine aura seems to have been created for these gentlemen which no European monarch I know of has claimed for a good many centuries (or which has been claimed for them). As both a monarchist and a Christian, the divination of the American revolutionaries has bothered me for a long time, but recent events have made this clearer to me. I cannot imagine present day monarchs or their governments trying to guess the imaginary intentions of Queen Victoria, or Franz Joseph, or Louis XIV to solve present day problems. Without wanting to offend too many patriotic sensibilities, to let the thoughts of a few 18th century gentlemen be the primary guide for our government seems just more than a little silly. And it is said that monarchy is archaic?

MEXICAN MONARCHISTS

We want to remind our readers about the new website of the Iturbide Circle. This is dedicated to the memory of the Mexican Empire of Don Agustin and Dona Ana Maria Iturbide at www.geocities.com/Athens/Agora/9015/index.html. It is presently up and running and is becoming a repository of English-language information about the Iturbides. It is also become a meeting place of Mexican researchers, who can now post inquiries they have regarding the Iturbides. We invite members to sign up!

Those interested in the Iturbide family or the Second Empire of Maximilian may contact Daniel Morrison, P.O. Box 131, Horsham, PA 18901.

ALMANACH DE GOTHA UPDATE

League Member Dr. Robert von Dassanowsky of Colorado Springs and Vienna, Austria, has been appointed to the Research Committee for the reborn ALMANACH de GOTHA. Since its inception in 1763, the GOTHA has been the most important

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and continuous compendium of royal genealogy. The first new issue since 1944 was published in London in 1998 with HM King Juan Carlos I of Spain and HM King Michael of Romania heading the Royal Committee of Patronage. More information on this renowned annual can be found on the GOTHA website at: <http://www.AlmanachDeGotha.com> This informative site which features links to various royal and royalist pages also includes the review of the new GOTHA edition by Dr. von Dassanowsky originally published in the June 1998 issue of *MONARCHY*.

DEATH OF PROMINENT US MONARCHIST

As this newsletter was being finished we were saddened to learn of the death of Mr. Randall Dicks, Governor of The Constantian Society, of which a number League members are also subscribers. Mr. Dicks died of a sudden heart attack on Wednesday, March 17. He had been ill for some time. We hope to have more details in our next newsletter about this and the future of The Constantian Society.

A MATTER FOR YOUR PEN

One of the ways members can help further League efforts is by writing letters regarding current matters of concern to monarchist efforts. One such area is Portugal. The December 1998 issue of *MONARCHY* carried an article about the growing monarchist movement in Portugal, particularly among the young. One of our prominent League members, a retired member of the United States diplomatic corps, feels that possibility of a restoration of the monarchy is more possible in Portugal than in any other country in Europe today. Important factors in this are the nearby example of Spain, the support of the Roman Catholic Church, and the Braganza family.

The largest stumbling block at the moment is Article 288 of the Portuguese Constitution. This article forbids any discussion of, or challenge to the republican form of government. This effectively deprives monarchists of freedom of speech and for working for any type of free vote or referendum to restore the monarchy. This article needs to be repealed before any successful campaign for the monarchy can take place. (A similar article was repealed over 10 years ago in Brazil). We urge you all to take a moment to write to the Portuguese Embassy (2125 Kalorama Road NW, Washington DC 20008) to voice support for repealing Article

288. When writing on this or similar matters, please remember that it is best NOT to mention that you are a member of The Monarchist League.

UNITED STATES SUPPORT FOR IRAQI MONARCHISTS.

It was reported on January 19 that the Administration will include the main Iraqi monarchist group as one of seven Iraqi opposition groups eligible for \$97 million in U.S. aid. In a report to Congress, the Administration certified that the seven groups were committed to democratic values, human rights, Iraq's territorial integrity and peaceful relations with Iraq's neighbors. The Constitutional Monarchy Movement was included in the list after the visit to Washington DC in December by Sharif Ali bin Al Hussein, a cousin of the late King Faisal II of Iraq, and next in line to the throne. Sharif Ali (age 42) met with several US leaders. These included Congressmen Ben Gilman (NY), Dan Burton (IN), Sam Gajdenson (CT), Steve Rothman (NJ), Buck McLeon (CA) as well as officials at the State Department and the Pentagon. The designation is the first step toward disbursing the assistance, but government officials say it may be some time before they decide the time is right to start paying out.

The other groups eligible for these funds are the Iraqi National Congress (INC), the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) and the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) – and the Tehran-based Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq (SCIRI), the Iraqi National Accord (INA), the Islamic Movement of Iraqi Kurdistan. As of this writing, the Iraqi Monarchist movement is the only group which has welcomed United States support. The other groups have, so far, been lukewarm to the American offer or rejected it outright.

Obviously, the League believes that the Monarchist option would be the best and most moderate solution to the Iraqi situation. The recognition of monarchy as one possible option is an important (and pleasantly surprising) step by the US government. We urge members in the USA to write to their congressmen and to the State Department to support the inclusion of the Constitutional Monarchy Movement of Iraq on this list and to urge greater support for them over the other groups. The recent death of King Hussein of Jordan and the accession of King Abdullah II there has demonstrated once more the stabilizing and important value of monarchy, especially in that region. We should be reminded that those

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governments in the Middle East which are the most friendly to the United States are those that are monarchies. To contact the State Department write or call: Madeline Albright, Secretary of State, 2201 C Street NW, Washington DC 20520, 202-647-4000, web address: <http://www.state.gov/> For more information about the Iraqi Constitutional Monarchy Movement, visit their web-site at <http://www.iraqcmmm.org/>

LEAGUE ITEMS IN US DOLLARS

We often receive requests for information about how members in the United States can buy items advertised in League journal *MONARCHY* and how much they cost in US dollars. These items should be ordered directly from League headquarters in London. Payment may be made by personal checks or money orders with no problem. We list these items below and their cost, postage from Britain included. League Neck Ties - \$21, League Blazer Badges - \$21, League Lapel Pins - \$7.50, Back issues of *MONARCHY* are \$2.50 per issue. Old back issues of *"THE MONARCHIST"* (our previous publication) are \$4.00 per issue.

MEMBERS' SUGGESTIONS NEEDED

We are asking members to help us identify friendship or cultural societies with countries which are presently monarchies or which were once monarchies and now have restoration organizations. One example would be the French-American Friendship Foundation mentioned earlier in these pages. These may be large national organizations or small local groups in your city. We would appreciate information about how to contact these groups to send them information about the League, or about specific monarchist groups in their area of interest. If you are aware of these kinds of groups, please send pertinent details either to Nick Behrens, US Central Delegate, or to Secretary General Don Foreman, at League Headquarters, BM "Monarchist", London WC1N 3XX The United Kingdom. Thank you for your help.

On a similar quest, if there are members who may have information about the appropriate way to approach "think-tank" organizations such as the Rand Corporation, National Defense University, or the American Enterprise Institute. with the message of monarchy, we would be most appreciative of such information.

AMERICAN MONARCHIST ARCHIVE



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