



The Monarchist League

American Member Newsletter

December, AD 2000

THE ROYAL REPORT

Enclosed with this mailing you will find a complementary copy of The Royal Report, a new monthly magazine published in Britain with positive and fair news about the British Royal Family. This would make a wonderful complement to your League journals. Subscription details can be found on page 11 of the sample copy.

CENTRAL STATES NEWS

NEBRASKA BRANCH

The Omaha area commemoration of Saint Charles the Martyr (King Charles I of Great Britain) will be held on Saturday morning, January 27, 2001, 10:00 AM. This will take place at Saint Barnabas Church, 40th and Davenport Streets in Omaha. Music by Adrian Batten and Richard Farrant will be featured. A brunch reception will follow the Mass in the Church Undercroft. This will be provided by members of the League's Nebraska Branch. For more information, please contact Nick Behrens at 402-455-4492.

CLEVELAND, OHIO

Saint James' Anglican Catholic Church in Cleveland will hold a Vespers Service and mass in honour of King Charles the Martyr beginning at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, 30 January 2001. Please consult your local directory for the church address.

EASTERN STATES NEWS

BOSTON, MASS

There will be a special service at the Church of the Advent, Boston, at 6 PM on Tuesday 30 January, 2001. The Mass of Saint Charles will be celebrated by the Rev. Fr. Benjamin King, curate, and will be followed by a reception in the Parish Library at which League member Mark Wuonola, Ph.D., American Representative of the Society of King Charles the Martyr, will speak briefly on the Society and its work. Light refreshments will be served afterwards.

NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

On Saturday 27 January 2001, the American Branch of the Society of King Charles the Martyr will

hold its Annual Mass & Meeting at the Church of Saint John the Evangelist, Newport RI, at the invitation of the Rev. Canon Jonathan J. D. Ostman, SSC, Rector. The Mass will begin at 11 AM. Music of Claudio Monteverdi will be featured. The preacher will be the Rev. Dr. Ralph Walker, Rector of Saint Michael and All Angels, Denver CO. Following the Mass there will be a luncheon. Luncheon reservations (\$15 per person) and driving directions may be obtained from Saint John's Parish office, telephone (401)848-2561.

NEW YORK BRANCH

The French American Friendship Foundation will hold its annual memorial Mass to commemorate the death of King Louis XVI of France on Saturday, January 27. The Mass will be held at St. Ann's Cathedral, 110 East 12th Street in New York City, beginning at 2:00 PM. A lunch reception and lecture will follow at the nearby Café Loup. For more information contact Stephen Stephanou at 212-255-2900 or Comte Claude de Bardin at 212-679-4674.

The New York Chapter of the Society of King Charles the Martyr will commemorate the Canonization of Saint Charles at 11:00 AM on Saturday, 28 April, at the Church of Saint Paul in the City of Brooklyn, Clinton Street at Carroll Street. A luncheon will follow. For more information contact Dr. Bernard Brennan at 718-852-8235.

Mark your calendars now for the Russian Nobility Association's Easter Ball, to be held on Friday, April 27th, at New York's Plaza Hotel. The cost this year is \$210 per person. If you would like to attend please contact Dr. Gunn-Walberg (address and phone in the Delegate's box). Checks should be made payable to the Russian Nobility Association.

For information about future New York Branch events, or if you have suggestions, or would like to help, please contact Stephen Stephanou at 212-255-2900, or write 105 Duane Street, Apt. 52-A New York, NY 10007.

NEWPORT NEWS, VA

A Service to commemorate King Charles the Martyr will take place at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, January 31. This will be held at Saint Matthew's

Anglican Catholic Church, Main Street and Tyler Avenue in Newport News, phone 804-596-4972.

FLORIDA CHAPTER - League members in Florida and Southeast Georgia are encouraged to contact Brad Lawrence, 800 Lincoln Road, Neptune Beach, FL 32266, to find out about future gatherings of the new Branch in that area. Visitors and guests are most welcome.

GREATER WASHINGTON DC - There are at present 25 to 30 members in the Washington DC, Maryland, and eastern Virginia area. This is more than enough members to start a League Branch in the area. We encourage members in the area to contact our Eastern States Delegate, Dr. Kenneth Gunn-Walberg, to discuss organizing a new branch.

US EASTERN STATES DELEGATE VISITS IRAQ, RUSSIA AND CANADA

The Rev. Canon Kenneth Gunn-Walberg, Ph.D., USA Eastern States Delegate to the International Council of the League, participated in a conference about the sanctions against Iraq in Moscow in late October 2000. He was accompanied by League member Thomas R. Hutson, former U.S. Consul General in Moscow. While there they visited with officials of the Monarchist Club of Moscow which is in the process of restoring a large building in which to exhibit artifacts relating to Imperial Russian military history and the history of Czarist Russia.

On November 11th Dr. Gunn-Walberg was a member of a 95 person delegation to visit Iraq to protest international sanctions against that country. Prior to his departure for Iraq he had conversations with the office of Sharif Ali bin-Hussein, claimant to the throne of Iraq, and also with Dr. Shafeq Ghabora, head of the Kuwait Information Office in Washington DC. The Olympic airlines flight from Athens was organized by Madame Margarita Papandreou, former first lady of Greece, and was the first flight of a national air carrier from Western Europe to Baghdad since the 1991 Gulf War.

On Sunday, December 10, Dr. Gunn-Walberg addressed the Senate of the Serbian National Shield Society of Canada, meeting in Toronto, as its principal speaker. The theme was the future of monarchy in Serbia and drew on his earlier addresses to the Secretary of State's Open Forum at the State Department in June 1999, and in Belgrade in March, 2000. The meeting received a written greeting from Crown Prince Alexander. In an earlier conversation between Prince Alexander and Fr. Gunn-Walberg, the Prince emphasized the need for investment in Serbia and the dire circumstances being faced by many Serbians as Winter arrives. He

The Monarchist League

also voiced sympathy with the suffering of the Iraqi people, especially the children.

WESTERN STATES NEWS

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BRANCH

Branch coordinator Roy Green has provided the following report.

Revised preparations are going ahead for the visit of His Majesty King Kigeli V of Rwanda to Southern California. Unfortunately the visit has had to be rescheduled from December and hopefully will take place later in January. In the meantime, contact Roy Green or Charles Coulombe for details.

Local League member Steve Clark attended the Russian Nobility Ball in New York City this Fall. He was featured in a *New York Times* article and photo in which he was pictured with Prince and Princess Galitzine.

Christmas festivities and preparations for the British community have limited Branch meetings at the Mayflower Club, but the Branch did help provide assistance at a Club fundraiser in gratitude for the free use the Branch receives of the Club's spacious facilities.

For information about future Branch events, call Roy Green at 818-244-2359, or Charles Coulombe, 626-357-7236, ccoulomb@thinline.com You may also contact Megan Evans, 23 Deerborn Drive, Alisa Viejo, CA 92656, 949-643-8367.

ROMANIAN ROYALTY IN CALIFORNIA

From October 14 to 24, Their Majesties King Michael I and Queen Anne, accompanied by Her Royal Highness Princess Margarita and His Royal Highness Prince Radu, paid a visit to northern California at the invitation of the Romanian community of California. The Royal Family attended a fund-raising reception for the Princess Margaret of Romania Foundation organized at a local Yacht Club by the Honorary Consul of Romania in San Francisco, Dana Baldiman Stanculescu. King Michael delivered speeches to the World Affairs Council and the Hoover Institute. The King and the Royal Family met George Schultz, Secretary of State during the Reagan Administration. The Royal Family was welcomed at City Hall by the Mayor of San Francisco, Willie J. Brown, Jr.

An interview with King Michael was published in the pages of the *San Francisco Chronicle*. Crown Princess Margarita held a discussion on Romania and its future at the Third Annual Royalty Conference organized by the *European Royal History Journal*. The Royal Family attended a dinner hosted by the Romanians of Silicon Valley,

met Romanian students at the University of Berkeley and Stanford University, and took part in a church service at the Bay Area's Romanian Orthodox Church.

Readers will also be interested to know that Princess Margarita and Prince Radu made a visit to London from November 16 to 24. The Romanian Embassy there organized a gala for the Princess Margarita of Romania Foundation on November 21. During her stay in London, the Princess was received at Buckingham Palace for a private visit.

Finally, the King and the Royal Family was to spend Christmas in Bucharest. Among his activities, the King was to meet with directors of the Romanian mass media to deliver his annual message to the nation. The King was also to meet with members of the diplomatic corps in Bucharest, visit projects of the Princess Margarita of Romania Foundation, take part in a Christmas service in Bucharest, and lay wreaths in memory of the heroes of the Revolution of December 1989 at University Square and at Heroes of the Revolution Cemetery in Bucharest.

At the end of the year the Queen's biography, entitled *One War, One Exile, One Life* and published by *Humanitas*, is to appear in Bucharest.

IMPERIAL KREMLIN GEM EXHIBITION

"Kremlin Gold: 1000 Years of Russian Gems and Jewels" is an exhibition showing now until March 30, 2001, at the Field Museum of Chicago. Drawn from the vast collections in the Moscow Kremlin museums, the exhibition showcases 140 masterpieces of gems and jewelry spanning one thousand years of Russian History. Included are thousand-year-old icons excavated on the Kremlin grounds, diamond and sapphire encrusted crowns of the Tsars, two Imperial Faberge eggs, and numerous other precious art objects. For information, call 713-639-4629.

FABERGE EXHIBITION IN WILMINGTON

An exhibit of some 1000 masterpieces from the famous Imperial Russian jeweler Peter Carl Faberge opened on Sept 9 in Wilmington, Delaware. The items on display are on loan from a number of museums and private collections. These include the Forbes Magazine Collection, the State Hermitage Museum of St. Petersburg and the Moscow Kremlin Museums, HM King Carl XVI Gustav of Sweden, The Duke and Duchess of Westminster, The Castle Howard Collection, items from several German princely collections, and items once in the collection of King Ferdinand of Bulgaria.

The Monarchist League

HIRH Archduke Geza von Habsburg, a noted author and leading international expert of Faberge, serves as Guest Exhibition Curator. The items in the exhibit range from the intricate and lavish Imperial Easter Eggs to the delicate simplicity of decorative boxes in gold and enamels. One of the Easter Eggs on display is the "Cross of St. George", given to Dowager Empress Marie Feodorovna in 1916, which she carried out of Russia in 1919.

The exhibition runs until February 19, 2001 at the Riverfront Arts Center, 800 South Madison Street, Wilmington, DE 19801-5122. For tickets and information call 1-888-395-0005. The adult ticket price is \$14.50 per person. Exhibit hours are from 9 AM to 7 PM Tuesday through Sunday. You may also visit www.faberge-exhibition.com

CENTRAL STATES DELEGATE'S UK VISIT

During the second half of October, your Central States Delegate had the good fortune to vacation in England. While the visit was mostly personal, I did manage to time the trip so I could attend the October meeting of the League's International Council. This was my first such meeting in person. I felt very honoured to be there, and was very warmly received by the other members. At that meeting I was asked to write down some of my experiences related to royal places I might visit. While I will not recite all of them, I will mention some of the more interesting highlights.

The first place I visited off the plane was the Tower of London. The royal associations there are obvious. The high point was the new display of the Crown Jewels. While people waited in lines to view the jewels, they were treated to a really "slick" wall-sized video presentation of the jewels and their function. The narration, music, and film footage involved with this was quite stirring, and could fail to move only the most hardened republican.

A visit to Kensington Palace is a must. Besides the historic considerations going back to William and Mary, the Palace is still lived in by several members of the Royal Family. The State Apartments have undergone lovely restoration and are sometimes used for receptions. There is also a display of gowns worn by Queen Elizabeth II. Most of these would be familiar to any Royal watcher from photographs of the Queen.

Windsor Castle was another high point. The restored and renovated State Apartments (damaged by the fire of 1992) were absolutely breathtaking! This was truly a great tribute to British craftsmanship! I was surprised that we were all

York Chamber of Commerce telegraphed the London Chamber of Commerce to express its sorrow "on the loss of your illustrious Queen."

NEW ROYAL WEBSITE

League member Mr. Theodore Harvey has recently become the latest member to develop a web site for those with an interest in things royal and monarchical. To visit this interesting site go to: www.angelfire.com/in3/theodore

NEW ROYAL SPANISH ARRIVAL

Spain's Infanta Cristina has given birth to her second son, Pablo Nicolas, who will be seventh in line to the throne, her husband Inaki Urdangarin said on Thursday Dec. 7. The Princess and Urdangarin, former captain of Spain's national handball team, already have a son, Juan, aged 18 months. Urdangarin told journalists he had toyed with the idea of calling the new baby Constitution because he was born late on Wednesday's Constitution day holiday in Spain. "It would have marked him out a bit," he said. Cristina is the second child of Spanish King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia. Her younger brother Crown Prince Felipe is first in line to succeed Juan Carlos to head the monarchy followed by older sister Elena and her two children.

WHY AMERICA IS BENDING THE KNEE TO A NEW KING GEORGE

By Robert Hardman (*Daily Telegraph, London*)

It is unfortunate for the republican movement that its latest crusade against the monarchy (now quietly grinding to a halt somewhere in the bowels of the Guardian) should have coincided with the American election. Not only was this a poor advert for a presidential head of state, but it was also a battle between two hereditary political thrones.

Now, to make things worse, it turns out that the victor is really rather royal anyway. According to the Almanach de Gotha, the studbook of European royalty, George W Bush is related to every single monarch in Europe. "His father is pretty royal by American standards, but George W is even more royal because of his mother's blue blood," explains John Kennedy, publisher of the Almanach.

Down in the heraldic engine room, they are still trying to work it all out. But, put simply, Dubya is the 17 x great grandson of Robert II, King of Scots, on his father's side, and goes back to Charlemagne on his mother's. Not being of direct royal line, though, the new President Bush does not warrant a mention in the Almanach.

The Monarchist League EDITOR'S COMMENTS

MONARCHY AND THE 2000 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

The recent controversy and turmoil in the USA presidential elections has prompted many comments on both sides of the Atlantic about the benefits of hereditary monarchy. Even comments made "tongue in cheek" make favorable points about monarchy in light of the recent divisive and almost vicious election.

Many British newspapers have published letters to the editors saying, in effect, "who wants a republic after all, given what just happened in the USA, the mother of all republics?" "The British are lucky to have the monarchy."

In a major editorial column in London's *The Spectator* (Dec.2, 2000) titled "What America Needs is a Queen" Toby Young made a well thought out case for the monarchy's stabilizing and impartial nonpolitical role which prevents Britain and other monarchies from being subjected to the same turmoil recently experienced in the USA. (And of course the record of most present day republics is far, far worse.)

The column concludes in this way: "according to Jonathan Freedland, the republican author of *Bring Home the Revolution*, one of the chief advantages of a system in which the only source of authority is the popular will is that nearly all public officials are elected, 'Education authority, health trusts, magistrates – they should all be directly elected by those people they hope to serve' he writes. 'Those who disagree need a strong case.' Fortunately, we don't have to make a strong case. It's currently being made for us in the United States of America."

The lesson is apparently being slowly learned on this side of the pond too. A letter appearing in the Omaha World Herald, by a person not known to this Editor, opined that "maybe we should consider a monarchy. The selection is about as fair and public-minded as our American elections, and we would not have to go through the ridiculous political campaigns every few years."

This last point is, of course, one that we monarchists have been making for some time. Besides the obvious political divisiveness inherent in presidential elections (and the office itself), their frequency and cost (the 2000 election cost between \$4 to \$8 billion, depending on whose estimates you use) really does show hereditary monarchy to be the stabilizing factor and bargain that it is.

I urge you all to take advantage of the current situation to point this out to your own local media and anyone else who will listen.

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