



# The Monarchist League

## American Member Newsletter

January 1999

### CENTRAL STATES

#### NEBRASKA BRANCH -

The branch will co-sponsor and participate in the annual King Charles the Martyr Service in Omaha. Because several branch members will be in Philadelphia for the national Annual Mass on January 30th, the service in Omaha will be held a week later on **Saturday, February 6, 1999** at St. Barnabas Church, 40<sup>th</sup> and Davenport Streets in Omaha. The service will begin at 10:00 AM. We invite Branch members to bring something to share for the reception planned afterwards. Please contact Nick Behrens at 402-455-4492 if you can help or need more information.

### WESTERN STATES NEWS

#### SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BRANCH -

The Southern California Branch will have a meeting on Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM. The event will be held at the Mayflower Club, 11110 Victory Blvd in North Hollywood. The meeting will be a very special one because the guest speaker will be Mr. Philip Benwell, M.B.E., the Delegate of The Monarchist League in Australia. His topic will be "Monarchy vs. Republic: The Referendum in Australia". Mr. Benwell will reveal the issues and personalities behind the vote, and possible consequences for Australia and the Commonwealth. For more information, contact Charles Coulombe at (626)357-7236 or [ccoulomb.@thinline.com](mailto:ccoulomb.@thinline.com). For other branch news, you may also contact Megan Evans, 23 Deerborn Drive, Alisa Viejo, CA 92656, 949-643-8367.

Charles Coulombe reports that he recently met with Mr. Daniel Hamiche of the *Bourbons* publication in France. Mr. Coulombe is also working on a new book called *A Guide to Royal America* for the publishers of the *Almanach de Gotha*. The new book has a projected release date of October 1999.

The annual commemoration service for King Charles the Martyr will take place at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Oakland, CA the weekend of

January 30. Please call St. Peter's Church at 510-655-4951 for specific details or time and date.

### EASTERN STATES NEWS

#### NEW YORK BRANCH -

The French American Friendship Foundation will hold its annual memorial Mass to commemorate the death King Louis XVI of France on Saturday, January 16, 1999. The mass will be held at St. Ann's Cathedral, 110 East 12<sup>th</sup> Street in New York City beginning at 2:00 PM. The Mass will be celebrated in Latin. Our New York City Branch coordinator Mr. Stephen Stephanou is also assisting with the arrangements.

A buffet reception will follow the Mass from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM at the Café Loup, 105 West 13th Street, between 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Avenues. Entertainment at the reception will feature musicians performing music of the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. The cost of the reception is \$45. For more information, 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.

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 30<sup>th</sup> in New York City. We will have more details in the next newsletter. The Ball committee hopes to have HM King Simeon of the Bulgarians as their guest of honor.

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 -

The official Annual mass and meeting of the Society of King Charles the Martyr will be held on Saturday, January 30, 1999 at St. Clement's Church, 2013 Appletree Street, in downtown Philadelphia. This year will mark the 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the martyrdom of King Charles I of Great Britain. The mass will begin at 11:00 AM. The music will include the "Heiligmesse" by Joseph Haydn with choir and orchestra, and the anthem "O Lord, Grant the King a Long Life" by Thomas Weelkes. The preacher for the occasion will be the Reverend Father Norman Catir, recently retired rector of the Church of the Transfiguration ("The Little Church around the Corner") in New York City.

## 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.

## WASHINGTON DC -

The 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Russian New Year's Eve Ball, sponsored by the Russian Nobility Association will be held on Saturday evening, January 16, 1999 at 7:30. The event will be held in the Grand Ballroom of the Mayflower Hotel in Washington DC. The Ball is a fundraiser for the benefit of The American-Russian Aid Association, The Obolensky-Saltykoff Foundation, the Boarding School for Special Children in Russia, and the Tolstoy Foundation Old People's Home. (Readers may be interested to know that HH Princess Vera of Russia is a resident of the Tolstoy Foundation). The cost of the Dinner-Dance is \$130 per person, or \$30 a person - \$50 per couple, for the dance only. To make reservations, please call 301-530-9830 or 202-244-4728.

### PETERHOF EXHIBIT IN LAS VEGAS

From now until April 15, 1999, the Rio All-Suite Casino Resort in Las Vegas Nevada will be the site of "The Treasures of Russia." This is being billed as "the largest exhibit of historic Russian art objects ever shown in the United States." Some 1000 historic and art items from the Peterhof Palace

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complex near St. Petersburg will be on display. Admission price will be \$12 per person. For information call 702-474-4000 or visit [www.peterhof.com](http://www.peterhof.com).

### PRINCESS ELIZABETH OF YUGOSLAVIA FOUNDATION

*We recently received the following information about the work of Princess Elizabeth of Yugoslavia, the daughter of the late Prince Regent Paul and Princess Olga of Yugoslavia.*

A citizen of the world returns to her homeland, the former Yugoslavia, to provide crucially needed assistance in a region ravaged by civil and socioeconomic strife. A non-profit, non-political, organization established under New York State laws, the Princess Elizabeth of Yugoslavia Foundation has a threefold mission: 1) To bring health care, humanitarian assistance and medical expertise and aid to victims, regardless of their ethnic or religious backgrounds. 2) To offer U.S. grants and scholarships fostering the artistic, musical, scientific, and athletic skill of youths from the former Yugoslavia. 3) To promote the culture and its heritage of the former Yugoslavia and its people.

On-going work includes the Helping Hearts Programme - a programme of the Foundation in co-operation with the International Children's Heart Foundation to provide open-heart surgery to the 300 plus children born every year in Yugoslavia with congenital heart disease.

Donations may be made to or information obtained from the Foundation at: 331 West 57<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 262, New York, NY 10019, Tel: 202-262-5066, Fax: 212-265-2153.

#### 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](mailto:ccoulomb@thinline.com)

**Central States**--Mr. Nick Behrens, 3166 Kansas Avenue, Omaha, NE 68111. 402-455-4492

email: [nbehrens@metropo.mccneb.edu](mailto:nbehrens@metropo.mccneb.edu)

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## BULGARIAN PRINCESS ADDRESSES NEW YORK BANQUET IN HER FATHER'S MEMORY.

In the Spring of 1943, Bulgaria, an (unwilling) ally of the Germany, was ordered to assemble its 48,000 Jews for deportations to Poland. At the last minute, to the chagrin of the Nazis, the deportation order was halted and not one Jew was deported from Bulgaria proper during World War II. The rescue of the Jewish Community of Bulgaria was primarily due to the heroism of one man - King Boris III. Although having to deal with the all powerful Nazi government and army, he managed to follow a correct path on behalf of all his subjects, putting humanity above politics. The King paid a heavy price for his valor - in early fall of 1943, he suddenly and mysteriously died after a trip to Berlin. But his legacy of freedom lives on through the generations of Bulgarian Jews whose parents and grandparents he saved.

On Tuesday evening, August 11<sup>th</sup> the heroic deeds of King Boris III were recognized at a special dinner at the Plaza Hotel in New York City, in the presence of the King's daughter HRH Princess Maria Luisa. The reception was sponsored by the American Friends of Migdal Ohr, and a garden named "The Heights of Heroism" in memory of King Boris III will be dedicated at Migdal-Ohr in Israel in the Spring of 1999.

Migdal Ohr is an educational and social service institution established 25 years ago to address the needs of Israel's less fortunate children. Today, Migdal Ohr has over 4000 students on a sprawling campus. The organization runs daycare centers, kindergartens, recreations programs, adult education, and a prisoner rehabilitation program.

The reception at the Plaza Hotel was addressed by the Princess in very moving speech. Other speakers included the Bulgarian Ambassador to the USA and the Consul General of Bulgaria, and Rabbi Yitzchok Grossman, the founder of Migdal Ohr.

The following is the address given by Princess Maria Luisa.

"Rabbi Grossman, Ladies and Gentlemen, Friends of Migdal Ohr,

We are gathered here to honour my father King Boris of the Bulgarians! Note that our Kings are of the people rather than the land! Thus the Jews of Bulgaria were his people and he saw it as his honour bound duty to protect them from the Nazis. Under his leadership distinguished citizens of Bulgaria's Church, Government, Parliament and intelligentsia saved the country's entire Jewish community. Yes, our Jews wore the Star of David and went off to live in the countryside, but as Ben Gurion's biographer,

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Professor Bar Zohar once told me, 'if that was the price of survival, six million others would have gladly worn it!'

"Why is it then, that the World has waited so long to honour my father and the Bulgarian nation for their bravery in facing down the butchers of the Holocaust? Perhaps it is because the horror of this dark chapter is so black that it effaces even those who stood to face it. We are reminded almost daily of this horror in which millions of innocents perished, including I might add, my mother's sister Princess Mafalda in the concentration camp called Buchenwald.

"I choose to believe that there is another reason for the long silence regarding the saving of the Bulgarian Jews! It is simply this! The Soviets, themselves no strangers to the perpetration of atrocities, imposed a totalitarian Communist regime on Bulgaria in 1944, even before the war ended. For the following forty-five years the Communists attempted to eradicate every single historical memory of the time of the Monarchy and all those who were the nations' leaders throughout that time! With the propaganda and mis-information this shining example of courage and love was buried! Until now!

"Rabbi Grossman! My brother King Simeon and our mother Queen Joanna join me in profoundly thanking you for honoring the memory of my father King Boris. Rabbi, you are world renowned for your work. Long may your efforts prosper. God Bless you!"

Two days after the reception, *The New York Times* included a brief article about the event and the Princess. The Princess was quoted as saying that she leads a very quiet life and wants to keep it that way. She lives in the New York area but declined to specify where. She said she had her reasons for avoiding publicity. "I'm not fond of publicity, it's very difficult at times. America is a republic, no? So the only queen you talk about in your press is the Queen of England, and the only other ones you see sometimes are in children's cartoons!"

## PORTRAIT OFFER

League member Mr. David Schwalm, an accomplished artist, is available to create a portrait of your favorite royal person (or anyone else for that matter). Special rates will be made available to League members. Please contact Mr. Schwalm at: 4807 Bluffview Blvd, Dallas, TX 75209.

## EDITOR'S COMMENTS

As I write these thoughts, it is December 28<sup>th</sup>, The Feast of the Holy Innocents. Having just finished typing the article about Princess Maria Luisa of Bulgaria, I reflected upon the millions of innocents who have died at the hands of the forces of republicanism, particularly in this century. One would think that intelligent people could see that, in this century, it is the monarchies that have done the best job of protecting their people from tyranny. In those countries in which monarchies have been swept away, the innocent people have suffered immeasurably.

Also as this is written, King Simeon of the Bulgarians has just begun a two-week Christmas visit accompanied by Queen Margarita and their daughter Princess Kalina. I've not read any specific news, but let's all hope and pray that all goes well, and that this may be another positive step towards restoration of the monarchy there.

For several reasons, the main reason being lack of time due to the hectic nature of the past month for me, this newsletter is shorter than normal. Since the October issue was longer than normal, I hope readers will forgive me for this.

I plan to be in Philadelphia later in January to attend the King Charles the Martyr Service. I am looking forward to meeting several other League members at this event. If any readers are there, please do seek me out and introduce yourself.

## LAOTIAN ROYAL FAMILY AND THE UNITED STATES SENATE

After much lobbying by members of the Laotian community in the United States, and members of the Royal Family of Laos, the United States Senate recently passed a resolution condemning the overthrow of the Laotian Monarchy and calling on the present government of Laos to allow free elections and to guarantee basic human rights and freedoms as the future course of the country is determined.

In Senate resolution 240 dated July 29, 1998 the Senate acknowledged that "in 1975 the Pathet Lao party supplanted the existing Lao government and the Lao Royal Family, and established a 'People's Republic', in violation of the 1962 Declaration on the Neutrality of Laos and its Protocol, as well as the 1973 Vientiane Agreement on Laos."

Members are urged to contact their Senators to urge them to support the restoration of the Monarchy in Laos. Members may also lend their support to this effort by writing to: The South East

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Asia Imperial and Royal League, 1100 Barneswood Drive, Downers Grove, IL 60515.

## RWANDAN ORPHAN RELIEF PROGRAM

Under the patronage of King Kigeli V and Archbishop Kolini of Rwanda, the Soroptimist International chapter of Zane Grey Country in Arizona is sponsoring a project to help children left as orphans by the Rwandan Genocide of 1994. Many of these children live in small groups, or "families," without any adult supervision, help or assistance. The luckiest children are often those living at city dumps because they can sometimes find things they need in trash heaps.

As a way to meet some minimal needs, this project is asking that individuals and groups send relief boxes to the orphans. The very best box would have a group of four small children in mind, with 4 metal spoons, four tin (or heavy-duty plastic) cups, one small pot, four tee shirts (or four small scarves) and a simple school reader or other book in English. A box with these contents would weigh approximately one to three pounds.

The relief boxes should be sent airmail to Rwanda. The postage would be up to \$21.28 for a 3 pound box. All boxes should have "NO COMMERCIAL VALUE" written on the customs sheet, and the word "DONATION" written prominently on the box, as well as the customs sheet. Boxes are sent to: GRACE FOUNDATION, P.O. Box 61, Kigali, Rwanda. It is very important that boxes are not addressed to an individual, as these are then subject to steep customs fees.

The Grace Foundation is managed by Sonja Hoeskstra-Foss, assistant to Archbishop Kolini. The small boxes are good because they are light in weight for both her and the children to handle. In addition, if the boxes have a "family" in mind the contents do not have to be sorted. Sonja has worked closely with King Kigeli to plan relief efforts.

## NEW WEB SITES

League member Mike McFall of Burton, Michigan has set up a new web-site called "The Royalist Society". It is very well done and has numerous useful links. The address is as follows: <http://www.geocities.com/CapitolHill/3115>.

We have also learned about a new site about the Imperial Family of Japan. The address is: [http://www.geocities.com/~watanabe\\_ken/koshitsu.html](http://www.geocities.com/~watanabe_ken/koshitsu.html).

Having visited the sites himself, the editor highly recommends that members visit both sites.

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