



The Monarchist League

American Member Newsletter

March, AD 2001

CENTRAL STATES NEWS

NEBRASKA BRANCH

The Omaha area commemoration of Saint Charles the Martyr (King Charles I of Great Britain) was held on Saturday morning, January 27, 2001, at Saint Barnabas Church. About 50 people were present. Music by Adrian Batten and Richard Farrant was featured. A brunch reception followed the Mass in the Church Undercroft.

THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY and St. George's Day will be celebrated on Sunday, May 20th at St. Barnabas Church, 40th and Dodge Streets in Omaha. There will be a High Tea beginning at 4:30 PM followed by Solemn Choral Evensong at 5:30. The music will feature favorite British national hymns, including "God Save the Queen". For more information, please contact Nick Behrens at 402-455-4492.

EASTERN STATES NEWS

BOSTON, MASS

On Tuesday night, Jan. 30 about 24 persons attended a Mass at the Church of the Advent in Boston. Following the Mass, League member Dr. Mark Wuonola gave a talk at a reception in the Parish Library about the Society of King Charles the Martyr.

NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

About 70 persons attended the Annual Mass and meeting of the Society of King Charles the Martyr on Jan. 27 at the Church of St. John the Evangelist in Newport, Rhode Island. Among those attending were people from Washington DC, Boston, Connecticut and League member Fr. David Kennedy SSC of Lantana, Florida who served as the deacon of the Mass.

A luncheon featuring roast beef, shrimp, cheese & fruit starter, lobster bisque and cheesecake followed the Mass.

Saint John's Church has also recently installed a new shrine to King Charles by artist Davis D'Ambly, in the style of Tudor-Stuart paneling, featuring a relief carving of the Martyr King.

NEW YORK BRANCH

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.

The annual **Russian Nobility Association's Easter Ball**, will be held on Friday, April 27th, at New York's Plaza Hotel. The cost this year is \$210 per person. The entertainment at this year's ball will feature the Serbian Cultural Association's dance troupe 'Oplenac' coming from Ontario and arranged by our Eastern States Delegate Dr. Gunn-Walberg. (As a point of interest, the city of Oplenac is where the Karageorgevitch estate and Royal Mausoleum are situated.) HRH Prince Michael of Greece will be the principal royal guest present at this year's Ball.

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.

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.

WESTERN STATES NEWS SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BRANCH

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

SAN FRANCISCO ROYALTY CONFERENCE

Mark your calendars now for the annual Royalty Conference sponsored by the European Royal History Journal to be from October 13-14, 2001 in San Francisco. Prince Andreas of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, head of the Ducal House, has been invited as the royal guest of honor to this Fall's conference. We will have more details in the next newsletter. In the meantime you may visit www.eurohistory.com or e-mail erhj@eurohistory.com

BULGARIAN UPDATE

Those who read the current issue of Monarchy will be able to read of the hopes of monarchists in Bulgaria for King Simeon to possibly run for president of Bulgaria in the Fall, the subsequent ruling against this by the Bulgarian Supreme Court, and the King's pledge to take action to be more active in playing a part in the life of Bulgaria.

Since that article was written, reports have been received via the Bulgarian press that King Simeon had luncheon with the United States and Russian Ambassadors in early February. This was a highly significant meeting as opposition from either country could cause problems as he tries to become more involved in Bulgarian affairs (and perhaps even be restored). Long-time League members will recall that efforts to restore King Simeon to the throne were discouraged by the then US Ambassador in the early 1990's. We urge our members to take the opportunity presented to write to the White House, Sec. of State, and congressmen in support of King Simeon playing a role in Bulgaria's future, and perhaps even returning as King if the people wish it. At the very least we must demand that the United States do nothing to oppose the holding of a referendum or similar efforts.

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

ORTHODOX ROYAL NEWS SOURCE

The Sentinel is a fine religious publication "Calling to mind current events affecting the Orthodox World." Besides broad news coverage regarding Orthodox churches and nations, the monthly newsletter carries regular news regarding Orthodox Royal Families, such as the Serbian, Greek and Bulgarian Royal Families. A year's subscription costs \$17. To inquire write: The Sarov Press, PO Box 13 Stratford, CT 06615.

DEATH OF PRINCESS VERA OF RUSSIA

Princess Vera Konstantinovna of Russia, the last surviving member of the Russian Imperial Family born in Russia before the Revolution, died in New York on Thursday, January 11, 2001 at the age of 94. Princess Vera had lived at the Tolstoy Foundation in New York City for several years.

Princess Vera escaped the revolution along with her mother, Grand Duchess Elisabeth Mavrikiyevna of Russia (born a Princess of Saxe-Altenburg) and three of her siblings. She lost her father, Grand Duke Konstantin Konstantinovich (1858-1915) during World War I to illness. He was the last Romanov buried at the St. Peter and Paul Cathedral before the Revolution. Her brother Prince Oleg was killed at the front in 1914. Her three other brothers, Princes Ivan, Konstantin and Igor were killed at Alapaievsk along with other Romanovs on July 18, 1918, one of them being Grand Duchess Elisabeth Feodrovna.

After her mother's death in 1927 in Altenburg, Princess Vera eventually moved to the United States. She never took American, or any other, citizenship. Officially she remained stateless to the end of her life. She never married and leaves no direct descendants. Her two brothers and sister who escaped Russia all predeceased her. Prince Gabriel died in 1955, leaving no heirs, as did her brother Prince George, the victim of an early death at the age of 33 in 1936. Her sister Princess Tatiana took holy orders and became an Orthodox Nun in the Holy Land. She died in Jerusalem in 1970.

Princess Vera was buried on January 15th in the Novo De Veevo Russian Orthodox Cemetery after a service at the Russian Orthodox Church in Spring Valley, New York.

RUSSIAN NEW YEAR'S BALL

Some three hundred guests attended the annual Russian Nobility New Year's Ball on Friday evening, January 11. This, the 31st annual Ball, was held in the Grand Ballroom of the Washington DC Mayflower Hotel.

The event as usual was hosted by Prince and Princess Alexis Obolensky and the Russian Nobility Association. The Princess and several other guests wore a period headpiece: a traditional kokoshnik, a tall, white, bejeweled headdress with loops of pearls hanging below the chin and from ear to ear. This was a replica of the kokoshnik worn by the Prince's grandmother at an imperial ball in 1903.

Prince Obolensky was reported to have worn a traditional Russian falconer's costume and amused guests by joking that he was a "Byzantine mummy, exhumed once every year" for the party.

The guests included Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, Russian Ambassador Yuri Ushakov and his wife Svetlana, and former Missouri Rep. James W. Symington and his wife, Sylvia. Also in attendance were Vladimir and Suzanne Tolstoy. Mr. Tolstoy is writer Count Leo Tolstoy's grandnephew.

Proceeds from the evening's ticket sales and the auction of a painting and a tea set went to the Boarding School for Special Children at the Obolensky family's former estate in Kozelsk, Russia, and to the Tolstoy Foundation and American-Russian Aid Association, both of which assist the elderly.

Entertainment included Russian-American girls performing folk dances, a balalaika troupe, traditional dancers from the country of Georgia and a big band orchestra that played Western-style dance music - including a tongue-in-cheek version of "Georgia on My Mind").

ROYAL SPANISH EXHIBIT IN MISSISSIPPI

"The Majesty of Spain: Royal Collections from Museo del Prado & Patrimonio Nacional" opened its doors on March 1 at the Jackson, Mississippi, Arts Pavilion. The exhibit features 14 galleries with 600 pieces of art including paintings, sculptures, tapestries, palace room re-creations and furnishings. The items come from the two famous Madrid museums named in the title. The exhibit includes a 55-foot-long gilded royal gondola of Fernando VII. The crowning jewel of "Majesty" is a re-creation of the Porcelain Room from the Palace of Aranjuez. The room is composed entirely of porcelain panels decorated with fanciful, raised-relief figures.

The exhibit continues until September 3. Exhibit hours are 9:00 AM to 10:00 PM daily, with the last tour beginning at 8:00 PM. The cost is \$15 for adults, \$5 for youth under 18. For tickets or information call (800)960-9900 or visit www.majestyofspain.com

YOUNG SHAH SPEAKS IN WASHINGTON DC

The young exiled Shah Reza Pahlavi II of Iran recently offered advice and insight regarding USA foreign policy in Iran. Speaking at a January 24 meeting of the National Press Club in Washington DC, the young Shah, the son of late Shah Reza Pahlavi I, called for a national referendum to determine "the nature and fate of a future system of government."

"The issue is not which faction of the Islamic Republic can address the nation's problems, but what system besides an Islamic Republic can save Iran." He said Iranians are pushing for change because they are unhappy with the three-year rule of President Mohammad Khatami, whose "periodic, token and partial reforms have had remarkable success in charming the West."

But "the train of reform has left the station and the honeymoon Mr. Khatami enjoyed is over. My countrymen have spoken. They are tired and leery of a theocracy that has been feeding them empty promises. The majority who voted for Mr. Khatami in 1997 did not vote for a continuation of the status quo. They voted for change."

"Since (the 1979 revolution), my country has fallen into the abyss due to the misguided policies of the Islamic regime. International isolation, enmity with ideals of tolerance, export of hate and terror, inflation, unemployment, corruption, drug addiction, human rights abuses are all legacies of the Islamic Republic."

The Shah said he welcomed signs by the Bush administration of implementing a policy toward Iran that would "invest in reform."

"The United States cannot afford to invest its diplomatic and political energies on finding moderates in the (current) clerical regime. I urge the new administration to invest in the people of Iran and their rightful struggle for a nonviolent transition to democracy and secularism."

Asked whether Iranians would ever consider restoring its monarchy - and him on the throne - the young Shah said it would be up to the people's will. "I would definitely be ready to serve and honored to do that." He said, however, that his main priority is to push the message of peace "I just happen to be an ambassador to that message."

In related developments on Friday, February 9, it was reported that dozens of Iranian protesters were arrested following a clash with Tehran police on the eve of the anniversary of the 1979 Islamic Revolution. Anti-riot police and Basij volunteer

militiamen used tear gas and batons to disperse a reported 1000 anti-government demonstrators, most supporters of a return to the monarchy. A number of the demonstrators were injured in the violent clashes at Mellat(People) Park, Tehran's largest and a popular family gathering spot on Fridays.

Broadcasts from a Los Angeles, California-based opposition radio called for silent demonstrations to protest what they said as repression of freedom under the watch of supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. The protesters chanted for "freedom of thought forever." The clash with security forces began when the demonstrators tried to march from the park to a nearby square.

The state-run Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) did not mention arrests or injuries in its report, but said that "some opposition groups outside the country had previously called on their supporters to stage demonstrations against the Islamic Republic of Iran."

The Shah presently lives in the United States. His web site is: www.rezapahlavi.org

YOUR DELEGATES

Eastern States--Dr. Kenneth Gunn-Walberg, 126 Centre St., Philipsburg, PA 16866. 814-342-0224
email: canonken@mymailstation.com

Western States-- Charles Coulombe, PO Box 771, Arcadia, CA 91066. 626-357-7236
email: ccoulomb@thinline.com

Central States-- Nick Behrens, 3166 Kansas Avenue, Omaha, NE 68111. 402-455-4492
email: nbehrens@metropo.mccneb.edu

The Monarchist League: American Member Newsletter is a quarterly publication edited by Nick Behrens.

LEAGUE ITEMS IN US DOLLARS

Items advertised in the League journal *MONARCHY* should be ordered directly from League headquarters in London. Payment may be made by personal checks or money orders. For your convenience, we list these items and their cost in US dollars, 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.

PRINCE OF WALES TO VISIT USA

It has been recently reported that the Prince of Wales is making plans for an official visit to the United States later this Autumn, probably October. Prince Charles has not visited America since 1994.

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In the wake of the 1997 death of the Princess of Wales, his aides had been reluctant for him to venture into this country where the late Princess was so widely revered and where the press was so vehement in blaming the Prince for their marriage woes. He is expected to meet President Bush in Washington DC and visit New York City and at least one other city in America. Details of the visit are still being finalized between the British Foreign Office, St James's Palace and US government officials.

APPEAL FOR CANADIAN CHAPEL ROYAL

The following plea has been made by HRH The Prince of Wales.

"The small church of Christ Church, Her Majesty's Royal Chapel of the Mohawks, in the Tyendinaga Mohawk Territory in Ontario, Canada, is one of only six Royal Chapels outside the British Isles. A Gothic structure built by the Mohawks in 1843, Christ Church is a symbol not only of the faith of the Mohawk people but, as a Royal Chapel, it is also a physical symbol of the unique and enduring loyalty of the Mohawk people to the Crown. The Royal gifts displayed in the Royal Chapel include a triptych in the Mohawk language and a bell given to the Mohawks by King George III, a Royal coat of arms given by King George V and a bible given by Queen Victoria. A communion chalice was given by The Queen in 1984 to commemorate the coming of the United Empire Loyalists to Ontario. The communion silver, which was given to the Four Kings by Queen Anne in 1710, is still used on special occasions today.

Sadly, the Royal Chapel, which is such an important part of Canada's cultural heritage, is today in need of urgent repair. A major restoration project is underway. It is an important cause which I am delighted to support. The help of all those who care about special buildings like the Royal Chapel will, I hope, ensure that this important national heritage landmark, which commemorates and celebrates the contribution of the Mohawk people to the historical evolution of Canada, will be preserved for future generations."

Both HM The Queen and the Prince of Wales have made donations to this unique piece of North American Royal heritage. If you would like to add your assistance to theirs, donations may be sent to: Christ Church Royal Chapel Capital Fund, Mohawk Admin. Office, Tyendinaga Mohawk Territory, R.R. 1, Desoreonto, Ontario KOK 1X0. Telephone 613-396-3424.

USED BOOK SHOP

Every so often we receive donations of used Royalty books. We are offering these for purchase to our members. The prices suggested are to help generate some additional funds to help us with regular day-to-day League expenses. We are not trying to be in competition with book sellers. If there is something you are interested in, please send a note or call before sending payment, to make sure we still have the item. The prices include postage costs within the USA. All books are hardback, unless stated otherwise. Please contact Nick Behrens, at the address in the delegate box on page four.

At Home With the Royal Family (1986) 246 pages, Paul James and Peter Russell, \$10

Elizabeth and Philip (1991) 516 pages, Charles Higham and Roy Moseley \$12

The Prince of Wales (1994) 620 pages, Jonathan Dimbleby, new \$20

Famous Scots (1988) 229 pages, Ian Fellowes Gordon, new, \$5 (paperback)

Little Book of Scottish Clans (1995) 60 pages, Alexander Fulton \$8

A Scots Sampler – Anthology of Prose and Verse (1993) 160 pages \$10

King George VI (1938) 257 pages, Hector Bolitho \$20

Debretts Book of the Royal Wedding (Duke and Duchess of York) (1986) 160 pages, \$12

Aristocrats (1983) 248 pages, Robert Lacey, \$15

The Last Empress (Alexandra of Russia) (1994) Greg King, \$20

The Canadian Monarchy in Saskatchewan (1990) 52 pages \$5

Hirohito, Emperor of Japan (1966) 371 pages Leonard Mosley \$15

Window for the Crown Prince (Akihito of Japan) (1952) 320 pages, Elizabeth Vining \$15

Lonely, But Not Alone – Autobiography of Wilhelmina of the Netherlands (1959) 248 pages, \$15

Portrait of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (1990) 192 pages, Photographs by Michael Reagan, \$20

HRH The Prince of Wales Watercolours (1994) new, still in wrapper \$20

Royal Family – Years of Transition (1983), Theo Aronson \$10

Edward VII – Prince and King (1979) Giles St. Aubyn \$15

Royal Heritage – The Reign of Elizabeth II (1977) J.H. Plumb & Huw Wheldon, \$12

Prince Philip – A Family Portrait (1959) by Alexandra, Queen of Yugoslavia, \$15

The Man Who Will Be King HRH (bio of Prince Charles) (1979) Tim Heald & Mayo Mohs, \$10

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The Windsor Story (Duke and Duchess of Windsor) (1979) J. Bryan III & Charles J.V. Murphy \$15

The Woman He Loved (Duke and Duchess of Windsor) (1973) Ralph Martin, \$15

Duchess, The Story of Wallis Warfield Windsor (1981) Stephen Birmingham, \$15

Queen Victoria's Scotland (1992) Michael J. Stead, Theo Aronson, \$20

A Portrait of Tsarist Russia – Unknown Photographs from the Soviet Archives (1989) \$20

ROMANIAN DAY ON WALL STREET

Plans are underway for a street fair followed by a gala banquet to celebrate Romanian culture to be held on Wall Street on May 4, 2001. Organized by the Romanian language newspaper ZIUA USA (DAILY USA) this would be the second year for this event. It is hoped that once again King Michael and Queen Anne of Romania will be able to attend. Approaches will also be made to Romanian Prime Minister Adrian Nastase to attend and hopefully have a reconciliatory meeting with King Michael.

In addition, plans are being made for a street march to be held on May 12 to show support for restoring the Monarchy in Romania and respect for human rights in that country.

PRINCESS MARGARITA OF ROMANIA FOUNDATION

Members are asked to consider supporting the work of this charitable foundation which works for the rebuilding of Romanian society and medical institutions. Now in its 10th year, the work is run by HRH Princess Margarita of Romania. Here in the USA, the Foundation's address is 866 United Nations Plaza, Suite 568, New York, NY 10017, 212-223-4496, pklecanda@compuserve.com

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

I would once again like to thank Mr. Walter Moore of Ellicott City, Maryland for keeping me abreast and informed with many news articles from which I can draw to compile this newsletter. His vigilant eye is much appreciated!

As in previous newsletters, I continue to urge members to keep writing to their representatives and news media in support of the restoration of the Monarchy in Serbia/Yugoslavia. Events continue to move forward step by step. On February 27, the Yugoslavian Parliament formally restored the citizenship of the entire Royal Family. The return of their property is to follow soon. For more updates visit www.royalfamily.org

AMERICAN MONARCHIST ARCHIVE



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