

THE MONARCHIST LEAGUE

AMERICAN MEMBER NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 1996



This is the first edition of a new service to Monarchist League members in the United States. This newsletter is being produced and sent to all League members in the USA. Those of you in the central states are already used to receiving a newsletter from the Nebraska Branch. This newsletter is now being expanded to include news from and for members across the country. We plan to send this at least four times a year, usually to be sent interspersed with your copy of *MONARCHY* magazine from London.

If you have news items or events from your area that would be of interest, we invite you to let us know, so that we can share this with other members. We also invite your suggestions. We are beginning rather humbly and hope to improve this newsletter as time goes on. We hope that you will enjoy this and find it informative. We also hope that you will be spurred to action in areas that members are asked to help with.

For future reference, your delegates are:

Eastern USA - Dr. Kenneth Gunn-Walberg, 126 S. Centre St. Philipsburg PA 16866 814-342-0224

Western USA - Mr. Charles Coulombe, PO Box 771 Arcadia, CA 91066 818-357-7236

Central USA - Mr. Nick Behrens, 3166 Kansas Ave. Omaha, NE 68111 402-455-4492

EASTERN STATES NEWS

Interest has been expressed in forming new League branches in Washington D.C. and Virginia, and revitalizing the Branch in New York. Members interested in conveying information meetings in these or other areas in the Eastern region are urged to contact Dr. Gunn-Walberg. (1-814-342-0224 phone and fax).

League member Alexis Runk was a guest at the July wedding in Madrid of H.R.H. Crown Prince Kardam of Bulgaria and Miriam de Ungria. There he met the Earl of Ulster who hopes soon to be visiting the United States. The Earl represented the British Royal Family at the Bulgarian Royal wedding. Alexis lives in Saxton, PA.

In late July Dr. Gunn-Walberg served as aide-de-camp to H.M. King Kigeli V of Rwanda on a visit to Toronto where His Majesty was hosted by representatives of the government of Ontario. The King attended a reception given by The Monarchist League of Canada and vacationed a few days in Mukoko as a guest of Norman Elder. He later visited Montreal where he spoke to four hundred supporters consisting of Hutus and Tutsi's, united in loyalty to their King.

In mid-August the King held positive talks with the visiting vice-president of Rwanda in Washington.

Late in September, Lord Sudely, vice-Chancellor of the League visited Baltimore, Salt Lake City and Los Angeles.

GALA BENEFIT

Members in the northeast may be interested in attending the Seventh Annual Gala Benefit held by THE FRIENDS OF QUEEN CATHERINE. The Friends of Queen Catherine is a New York based non-profit organization dedicated to promote the fact that Queens County is named for Catherine of Braganza (1638-1705), the Princess of Portugal who became the Queen Consort of Britain's King Charles II in 1662. Proceeds of the Gala are to be used toward construction of a monument honouring Queen Catherine.

The Gala Benefit will be held on Friday, Nov. 15 at The Waldorf Astoria Hotel. Cocktails begin at 7 PM, Dinner at 8 PM. Tickets are \$300 per person. The guests of honour will include Their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of Braganza and Mayor Rudolph Giuliani of New York City.

To purchase tickets or for more information, contact:

Manuel Andrade e Sousa
149 West 85th Street, Suite 1
New York, NY 10005
(212)724-7441 or (508)487-2578
Fax (212)496-7611

WESTERN STATES NEWS

LOS ANGELES BRANCH

The Los Angeles Branch has been especially busy this Fall. A meeting was held on August 24th at which plans were made to officially organize the Branch. After canvassing League members on the West Coast for comments and ideas, a second meeting was held on Sept. 13 at which time new officers were selected. These are: Charles Coulombe - Branch Coordinator (till Dec.31)

John Payne - Branch Coordinator (Jan. 1)

Roy Green - Recording Secretary

Megan Evans - Correspondence Secretary/
Historian/Librarian

Barbara Zampelli - Membership Chairman

Charles Coulombe - Media Spokesman

John Payne - Color Guard/Toastmaster

Bob Dow - Photographer

The next regular meeting of the Branch will be held on Friday, Nov. 8th at The Mayflower Club in Los Angeles.

PLANS TO PROMOTE MONARCHIST LEAGUE/CMA

Plans are being made to network with other organizations in the Los Angeles area with similar or overlapping interests to gain support and publicity for the League. Barbara Zampelli and Megan Evans have been selected to be League representatives on the British Advisory Board. It should be known in November whether this Board has approved their membership.

Mrs. Zampelli will be recruiting with the British American Chamber of Commerce, Daughters of the British Empire and other organizations of which she is a member.

Megan Evans will also make contacts with and disseminate information to the British Isles Family History Group, the Welsh Interest Group, the National Welsh American Foundation, the Daughters of the British Empire and numerous other local organizations of which she is a member.

Contact has been or will be made with local Consul Generals of foreign countries which are or have been monarchies. So far contact has been made with the Austrian, South African and British consulates.

Through contacts with the local Armenian community, the Branch was able to arrange for King Kigeli V of Rwanda to be Guest of Honour at a function at the Armenian Embassy in Washington DC on Sept. 27th. Through these same contacts the Branch was able to put League headquarters in contact with the newly formed Monarchist Party inside Armenia.

SERVICES TO BE OFFERED

The Branch has established a library with donations from members. More donations are welcomed. The Branch also has listed items available for sale from League headquarters in London for members (badges, ties, books and other articles). They also have assembled lists of British Royal Patrons and their

Societies, Monthly British Engagement, Birthday and Anniversary lists for member's interest.

FUTURE SOCIAL EVENTS

Oct. 12th, 1996 - The League Branch had a table at the Royal Naval Association's Trafalgar Dinner Dance in Los Angeles.

Nov. 3rd, 1996 - Members are invited to attend one of two performances of the Westminster Abbey Men and Boys Choir at St. James Episcopal Church.

On the same day members may also attend the annual Los Angeles Welsh Church Gymanfa Ganu (singing festival). Interestingly, the church is the only "Welsh" Church in the Western States and the building is a local historical landmark.

Nov. 16, 1996 - The Branch will have tables reserved for the formal ball celebrating the 31st anniversary of the British "The Mayflower Club".

Also in November will be the Viennese Culture Club Dinner Dance at the Los Angeles Country Club.

Plans are being made for early 1997 for a members night out of Dining and Entertainment (perhaps a Houdini seance) at the Magic Castle in Hollywood.

Febr. 15, 1997 - Members may want to plan to attend the Viennese Opera Ball at the Beverly Hills Hotel, sponsored by the Viennese Culture Club.

To make contact with the Branch or for information, please contact Charles Coulombe (address/phone on page 1) or Megan Evans at: 1410 North Sycamore Avenue
Hollywood, CA 90028
(213-469-9725) phone

AND WE HAVE ONLY JUST BEGUN!!!

NEBRASKA BRANCH NEWS

The Nebraska Branch held a meeting on Saturday, Sept. 28th at the home of Nick Behrens in Omaha. 11 members were present for a program about Tsar Simeon of Bulgaria. A film of rare film footage of the Tsar's childhood and his father Boris III's funeral was shown.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, Dec. 14th is set as the date for the Nebraska Branch's Advent/Christmas gathering. Time and place announced later.

Saturday, Febr. 1st, 1997 - The annual commemoration service for King Charles the Martyr 10:30 AM to be held at St. Martin of Tours Anglican Church in Omaha.

July 20, 1996 - (AP)

BUCHAREST, Romania - The wife of Romania's exiled ex-King Michael ended a two-week tour Thursday, leaving the president and his leftist government irritated at the warm reception she received from regional officials.

"Romania, which is a presidential state, has no queen," President Ion Iliescu told reporters Thursday, as the woman known officially as Anne of Bourbon-Parma made her way to Bucharest's airport to return to exile in Switzerland.

"I don't know any Queen Anne," state news agency Rompres quoted Iliescu as saying at his Cotroceni Palace, a former royal residence.

Across the city a small crowd of royalists braved scorching heat for a last glimpse of their queen at Bucharest's airport.

"It's been a wonderful visit, I have seen other parts of the country I had not known before," said Anne, who was booked onto her Swissair flight under the title "Queen of Romania."

Thousands of curious well-wishers greeted Anne and her eldest daughter, Princess Margareta, during their tour of central and western Romania, local media reported.

State-run Romanian Television did not report the visit.

Michael was deposed from the throne by Moscow-backed Communists who seized power in Romania after World War II, and was forced into exile in 1947.

Romania's leftist government, apparently fearing Michael's enormous popularity, has not allowed him to return since 1992, when he drew hundreds of thousands of well-wishers on an emotional Orthodox Easter homecoming.

Anne and Margareta have been allowed to visit "as tourists" or for charitable work. Michael still claims he is the country's legitimate ruler.

The government, stung by losses at elections for city mayors last month, has slammed newly-elected local officials for the reception extended to the visiting royals.

A government statement issued Wednesday said the behavior of local officials during the visit by "Anne of Bourbon-Parma and her daughter," was "in contradiction of the country's constitutional norms."

The government said it reserved "the right to sanction, in keeping with the law, these attitudes which run counter to the status of public officers." But it has yet to take action.

Romania, a presidential republic under a post-Communist constitution adopted in 1991, faces general elections this November.

FABERGÉ IN AMERICA 25 MAY, 1996 — 11 MAY, 1997

Fabergé in America is the first national exhibition tour of the greatest American collections of the works of legendary jeweler and goldsmith Peter Carl Fabergé (1846-1920). Featuring more than 400 precious objects — including 15 of the 44 extant Imperial Easter Eggs specially commissioned by Czar Alexander III and Nicholas II — the exhibition focuses for the first time on the social history of American collecting of Fabergé during a span of almost 100 years, a period that witnessed a growing fascination with Imperial Russia. The exhibition coincides with the 150th anniversary of the birth of Peter Carl Fabergé. The exhibition is made possible by Fabergé Company. It has been organized by the Fine Arts Museum of San Francisco. The objects in the exhibition come primarily from the collections assembled by five Americans who, beginning as early as the 1930s, formed major holdings of Fabergé and have since put their collections on public view at various institutions across the country: Matilda Geddings Gray (New Orleans Museum of Art), India Early Minshall (Cleveland Museum of Art), Lillian Thomas Pratt (Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond), Marjorie Merryweather Post (Hillwood Museum, Washington, D.C.), and Malcolm S. Forbes (The Forbes Galleries, New York). The exhibition also features significant Fabergé works collected by many other prominent Americans whose collections were later dispersed. Following *Fabergé in America's* debut at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City, the exhibition will tour the United States.

UPCOMING ROYAL EXHIBITIONS IN BRITAIN.

The Queen's Gallery - Buckingham Palace

Until 16 Febr. 1997 - Da Vinci Drawings

14 March - 27 April - Padshahnama

9 May - 13 July - Sandby

23 July - 5 Oct - Miniatures

The Gallery - Windsor Castle

14 Sept. 1996 - 2 Febr. 1997

Guercino Drawings

15 Febr. - 14 Sept. 1997

Insignia

20 Sept. March 1998

Poussin

The Palace of Holyroodhouse - Edinburgh

1 Oct. 1996 - 31 March 1997

Flowers

1 Oct. 1997 - 31 March 1998

Insignia

KING KIGELI'S CHILDREN

Some members will already be familiar with "King Kigeli's Children" the charity of King Kigeli of Rwanda to assist orphans in Rwanda. The charity is in need of some additional administrative and financial support to expand its important work. We are asking if there may be members in the Washington DC area who might be able to provide administrative support or act as a volunteer fund-raiser. All Members are also asked to consider sponsoring a fund raising event in their area. It might even be possible for the King to attend, particularly if there are several events in the same area. If you would be willing to help, please contact Dr. Gunn-Walberg.

Fabergé in America Exhibition Dates

San Francisco (CA) DeYoung Museum

25 May-28 July, 1996

Richmond (VA) Virginia Museum of Fine Arts

28 August-9 November, 1996

New Orleans (LA) New Orleans Museum of Fine Arts

7 December, 1996-8 February, 1997

Cleveland (OH) Cleveland Museum of Art

12 March-11 May, 1997

The Economist, Sep 7th, 1996

Bucharest

TWO serious men of German descent and no fixed abode, one middle-aged, the other in the twilight of life, have been eyeing events in the Balkans with unusual interest. Both are quite popular in places where they have not lived for half a century. Both have been urged by their supporters to seize their chance and go "home". Both are decent men, reasonably qualified to become constitutional monarchs.

Mihai I, a Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen, will have happily noticed that Romania's main opposition coalition, which includes a pro-monarchy party, did rather well this summer in mayoral and municipal elections, raising hopes that it might for the first time win power at national level in November's general election. That might, at least, enable Mihai to come and live in Bucharest. But even a government formed from the present opposition is unlikely to bring him back as king -- something the present ex-communist rulers frequently accuse the opposition of plotting to do.

Bulgaria's Simeon II has got closer, physically, to the throne he wants back. He spent several weeks this summer testing the water for a permanent return: Crowds of Bulgarians gave him a warm welcome wherever he ventured. Bulgarian monarchists were understandably chuffed.

Both men have a good curriculum vitae. In historical terms, Mihai's is more distinguished, but his age (74) [actually 75 -- n.g.] is against him, he has no male heir, and Romania's current rulers seem even twitchier about him than their Bulgarian counterparts are about Simeon. When Mihai was briefly let into Romania for Easter in 1992, hundreds of thousands of his countrymen cheered him along. That panicked the country's leaders into vowing never to let him in again. But Romania's president, Ion Iliescu, even if reelected, might find it hard to keep Mihai out, at least as a mere citizen.

Perhaps Romania's nervous ex-communists remember the important and heroic role Mihai played in his country's miserable wartime history. In 1944, as a dashing young king, he organised a coup against Romania's pro-Nazi dictator, Marshal Antonescu, only to be double-crossed by Stalin and betrayed by the Allies, who ceded his country to the Russians at Yalta in 1945. He hung on gamely for nearly three more years, when, with the Russians threatening to kill hundreds of students if he did not abdicate, he was the last Balkan king to flee.

Simeon, a 59-year-old businessman, is more suited to the rough and tumble of modern life (though Mihai has been a market-gardener in England and a test pilot in Switzerland). Simeon ruled Bulgaria for three years through regents after his father, Boris III, died in mysterious circumstances in 1943. Simeon escaped in 1946 and he has lived mainly in Spain. But his departure from Bulgaria aged only nine means that, unlike Mihai, he has no real record within his domain. Still, though President Zhelyu Zhelev did meet him on his recent visit, others in Bulgaria's Socialist government were edgy enough to refuse to acknowledge him: the state-run media, if they bothered to mention him or a royal visit at all, called him "Mr Simeon Saxe-Coburgotski".

Simeon says he would consider coming back to reclaim his throne only "if that's what the people want". But, though he is consistently ranked one of the country's two or three most popular figures, opinion polls suggest that only a minority of Bulgarians actually want a monarchy. Sadly for Mihai, his chances of recovering a throne are no less slim than Simeon's.

HELP NEEDED

Members are asked to consider writing on behalf of several areas of monarchist concerns. Please consider writing to your local newspaper, your congressmen, the State Department in Washington or even the White House.

We continue to be concerned about human rights abuses against monarchists in Romania and about the continuing refusal of the current Romanian regime to allow King Michael to enter the country.

We also urge members to point out the monarchial option as a solution to the problems in the Middle East, particularly in Iran, Iraq and Libya. Had the USA been a bit more supportive of the late Shah of Iran, we likely would not be dealing today with the wave of international terrorism and other problems. We should also remember that in both Iraq and Libya, monarchies were replaced by the current repressive republican regimes. In recent years, the monarchist option in these countries has gained more and more support. But it is vitally important that the United States government be "educated" about the benefits of monarchy in these countries. Your pen can help with this effort to bring stability.

SUPPORT THE MONARCHIST CAUSE IN ROMANIA!

Despite continued official opposition and roadblocks, the monarchist movement is alive and well in Romania, and a number of organizations are working for the restoration of constitutional monarchy, in the person of H.M. King Michael I.

Membership in these organizations includes people from all walks of life - students, teachers, engineers, laborers, and ordinary Romanians - who see the restoration of constitutional monarchy as a return to order, civil liberty, democracy, and development which Romania has not known since the end of World War Two.

There is a real chance of monarchist progress in Romania; the King has wide support, and the government is widely unpopular. But Romanian monarchists are struggling with lack of funds, inflation, lack of access to materials and printing facilities, lack of access to television, radio, and other media. They need support from outside Romania, and they need hard currency. The Monarchist League urges you to support the cause of constitutional monarchy in Romania by making a donation to the:

American Council for the Support of Romanian Monarchy c/o Mr. Paul Todoran

P.O. Box 864020
Ridgewood, NJ 11386

This hardworking organization has several items for sale including a handsome, full-color poster of King Michael, and a T-shirt with the Royal Coat of Arms. Both items are \$10 each, plus \$5 for postage. Proceeds go to supporting the monarchist cause in Romania.

VISIT THE LEAGUE'S NEW WEB-SITE

<[HTTP://WWW.GEOCITIES.COM/ATHENS/7993](http://www.geocities.com/athens/7993)>

TSAR SIMEON II OF BULGARIA SPEAKS OUT - July 12, 1996

SOFIA, Bulgaria (Reuter) - Bulgaria's former King Simeon II, bolstered by a recent visit to his homeland after 50 years of exile, has hinted that he might try to reclaim his throne.

In a carefully worded statement to the Bulgarian people carried in Friday's newspapers, Simeon appealed for national unity at this time of economic crisis and said his three-week trip was a landmark that could not be brushed aside.

Simeon, who lives in Madrid, fled Bulgaria as a child in 1946 after the Communists seized power. He and his Spanish wife Margarita received a rapturous welcome when they arrived in Sofia on May 25.

"I believe that all of you, dear compatriots, are aware that my unprecedented visit was not an accident or the product solely of curiosity and nostalgic feelings," Simeon said.

"The hope and trust which I felt everywhere, especially from our wonderful young people, cannot be lightly swept aside and needs also to be evaluated by those in power."

The socialist government refused to meet Simeon during his visit and state media referred to him as Simeon Coburgotski, his Bulgarian passport name.

However President Zhelyu Zhelev and anti-Communist opposition parties met Simeon publicly and hailed him as an important part of Bulgarian history.

"It is possible to talk of the time before my return and the time after it. We Bulgarians proved the necessity of mutual tolerance and dialogue," Simeon said in his statement.

He stopped short of saying what he planned to do next, although he told reporters when he was in Bulgaria that he would visit again. The media have speculated that he will return to live in Sofia.

Simeon has previously made clear he wants to play an active role in Bulgarian life and says he remains technically king because he never abdicated. He has also said a constitutional monarchy could provide Bulgaria with much-needed stability.

Bulgarian royalists argue that a 1946 referendum that abolished the monarchy was rigged by the Communists, who had the backing of the Soviet Red Army.

Surveys showed an overwhelming majority of Bulgarians approved of Simeon's visit and like and respect him as a man, though less than 20 percent want the monarchy restored.

In his statement, Simeon said Bulgaria would recover from its economic malaise if people stayed united.

"There is only one Bulgaria and we must all work for it, not dividing it with our ideological passions," he said.

HEIR TO THRONE OF LIBYA ON FARRAKHAN - Aug. 31, 1996

CAIRO, Aug 31 (Reuter) - The pretender to the Libyan throne attacked U.S. black leader Louis Farrakhan and the Egyptian government on Saturday for financial dealings with the government of Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi.

Farrakhan, leader of the Nation of Islam, is in Libya for celebrations of the anniversary military coup in which Gaddafi overthrew the Libyan monarchy in 1969.

He has accepted a \$250,000 human rights prize from Gaddafi but the U.S. Treasury has turned down his application to receive \$1 billion in Libyan subsidies.

Prince Muhammed al-Hassan al-Senoussi, nephew of the last king of Libya, said in a statement: "Farrakhan has now earned the hate of four million Libyans who will never forget what he or others like him are doing. In the long term Farrakhan has betrayed all those who trustingly followed him."

The prince, who is based in London, repeated allegations that senior Egyptian officials including President Hosni Mubarak and his sons benefit from Egypt's close relations with Libya.

"At least \$2 billion a year of Libyan money finds its way to Egypt alone without the knowledge or consent of Libyans...How can there be any confusion as to why Mr Mubarak remains an ardent supporter of Gaddafi and champions Gaddafi's cause as he meets politicians around the world?" he said.

Egypt has supported Libya's attempts to solve its dispute with Britain and the United States over a Pan Am plane blown up over the Scottish town of Lockerbie in 1988.

The United Nations has imposed an air embargo and other sanctions on Libya for refusing to hand over for trial in Britain two Libyan men accused of planting a bomb on the plane.

But Mubarak has denied that Egypt has in any way helped Libya circumvent the sanctions.

The prince added: "Not all those who work in Gaddafi's inner circle are sympathetic to him...Many are far from happy. I have received messages that several from this inner circle, both inside and outside Libya, are planning action."

"With or without help Libyans will remove this wicked tyrant and establish constitutional government," he concluded.

HEAD OF BAVARIAN ROYAL HOUSE LAID TO REST 14 July 1996

By Jan Dams

MUNICH, Germany (Reuter) - Royalty from across Europe gathered in the baroque splendor of Munich's Theatiner Church Saturday to pay their last respects to Duke Albrecht of Bavaria, the head of one of the continent's oldest dynasties.

Mourners including King Juan Carlos of Spain bid farewell to the duke, who died Monday aged 91 having never renounced his claim to the throne of his beloved Bavaria.

Mourners filed past Albrecht's coffin, draped in a Bavarian blue and white chequered flag, in the church near the Residenz city center palace built by his Wittelsbach dynasty.

The family ruled Bavaria almost without interruption from 1180 to 1918, when it was toppled by a short-lived "Soviet republic."

Munich Archbishop Friedrich Wetter, leading the funeral mass, praised the duke as a man of integrity who faced up to persecution by both communists and Nazis during his lifetime.

"Despite all the twists of fate he knew, Duke Albrecht maintained his discreet dignity and nobility," Wetter said.

He also read out a message from Pope John Paul, expressing his condolences to the duke's son Franz, who inherits his father's title and becomes head of the dynasty.

Bavarian state premier Edmund Stoiber, Grand Duchess Josephine-Charlotte of Luxembourg and Belgium's Princess Astrid and Archduke Lorenz were among the mourners in the church.

Thousands gathered in the square outside, where the service was relayed on large video screens, to pay their last respects.

The Wittelsbachs are descendants of the Stuarts, the last Scottish monarchs, and some blue-bloods contend Albrecht's title should have been not simply Duke of Bavaria but King of England, Scotland, France, Ireland and Bavaria.

The family decreed the 1516 purity law for German beer, founded vast art collections, launched the Munich Oktoberfest and built many of Bavaria's fairy tale castles.

The world's most famous beer hall, the Hofbraeuhaus in the heart of Munich, was their court brewery.

Albrecht, who in later years sported a snow-white handlebar mustache, spent much of his life shunning publicity. His grandfather, Ludwig III, was the last king of Bavaria.

"The fact that the Wittelsbach dynasty lost the throne and that he could no longer become king of Bavaria did not wound him too deeply," Wetter said. "He had peace in his heart."

After the funeral service, the family was due to hold a reception for around 600 guests at the Wittelsbach's Nymphenburg palace on the outskirts of the city.

The duke was then due to be laid to rest in the early evening at the family plot at Kloster Andechs, a monastery in the lake country south of Munich whose famous beer has made it a favorite tourist site.

Albrecht was born in 1905 and became a Royal Bavarian Army lieutenant during World War I when he was only 10.

Three years later he had to flee with his family to Austria. They later returned and he studied forestry but could not graduate because he refused to join Nazi organizations.

Under pressure from the Nazis, his family moved to Hungary in 1937. They were arrested by the Gestapo in 1944 and kept in concentration camps, including Dachau near Munich.

Bavarians are proud of their identity and many fondly remember the Wittelsbachs.

AMERICAN MONARCHIST ARCHIVE



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