



The Monarchist League

American Member Newsletter

September 1997

EASTERN STATES NEWS

We have just received regarding the Royal Society of St. George and related organizations. Members on the East Coast may want to contact one of these groups in your area for meeting times and activities to participate in. They are as follows. Mr. C.P. Wagner MBE, St. George's Society, 71 West 23rd Street, New York NY 10010; Mr. D.W. Carroll, St. George's Society of Baltimore, PO Box 146, Riderwood MD 21139-014704101; Col. W.H. Cowper, Society of the Son of St. George of Philadelphia, 23 Buxton Road, Cherry Hill NJ 08003; The St. George's Society of Jacksonville, 4919 Prince Edward Road, Jacksonville, FL 32210.

Grand Council member and League patron The Rt. Rev. Br. John Charles FODC, has been recently elevated as Episcopal Visitor to the Diocese of the Resurrection. This jurisdiction includes the states of New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania. Bishop John Charles also serves as the Dean of Holyrood Seminary in New York State.

His Majesty, King Kigeli V of Rwanda is still available to speak to groups about the future of his country. To make arrangements for a speaking engagement, please contact Mt. Gregory Lloyd at 610-432-2698.

The 1998 Annual Mass and Meeting for the Society of King Charles the Martyr will be on Saturday, January 31st, 1998 at the Church of the Guardian Angels in Lantana, FL. Fr. David C. Kennedy, SSC, a Monarchist League member, is rector of the church. The music will be provided by the choir of St. Luke's Church of Fort Myers, FL.

Members in the Washington DC area who are interested in forming a branch are invited to contact Peter Akerheim at 2251 Pimmit Dr. #334, Falls Church VA 22043. To get information about activities in the New York City area, please contact David Evans at 350 Albany Street #3R, New York, NY 10280 or Mr. Stephen Stephanou, 105 Duane Street #52A New York, NY 10007

CENTRAL STATES NEWS

Nebraska Branch - A small, but faithful group of worshipers attended a service to commemorate the martyrdom of Tsar Nicholas II of Russia and his family on July 8th. This was hosted by St. Vincent of Lerins Orthodox Church in Omaha.

St. Vincent's Church is also scheduled to host a special requiem mass for Diana, Princess of Wales on Thursday, Sept. 18th at 6:00 PM. St. Vincent's is located at 51st and Lake Streets.

LOOKING AHEAD - because of schedule conflicts the meeting for Sept 26h has been canceled. We will instead have a dinner party meeting on the evening of Saturday, Nov. 22nd at 6:30 to celebrate the 50th wedding anniversary of The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh. This will be held at the home of Nick Behrens at 3166 Kansas Avenue in Omaha. Branch members or friends who plan to attend are asked to let Nick know by Friday, Nov. 21st so we can plan accordingly. Please call him at 455-4492.

The Branch will again co-sponsor the annual King Charles the Martyr Service in Omaha. This will be held on Saturday morning, January 31st, 1998. This year the service will be held at St. Barnabas Church, located at 40th & Davenport Streets in Omaha. This represents a change of place for the service. St. Barnabas is keen to host the event, and it is hoped that the more central location may help with attendance.

IN MEMORIAM - The Nebraska Branch lost one of its most faithful members this summer. League Member Bill Holiday died suddenly of a stroke on August 6th. A mainstay of the branch since its beginning, he had been particularly helpful during the visit of H.M. King Kigeli V of Rwanda to Omaha in 1995. He could always be counted on to help with any task and have a positive attitude towards our activities. He is and will be very much missed. May he rest in peace.

INDIANA BRANCH UNDERWAY!

Several members in Indiana recently met to begin the process of forming a Branch for members in

Indiana and neighboring states. For more information please contact Thomas Milton at 1518 Creekside Lane, Greenwood IN 46142 or Shawn Abbott, 924 Greenbriar Road, Muncie, IN 47304.

WESTERN STATES NEWS

Los Angeles Branch News

The Los Angeles Branch held its normal branch meetings in June and again on Sept. 12. Plans were being made to celebrate the 50th wedding anniversary of HM Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip in November at the Mayflower Club. Members will be notified of the particulars, but readers may also contact Megan Evans at 1410 North Sycamore Avenue, Hollywood CA 90028, 213-469-9725 or Charles Coulombe. Plans are also being made for a Grand Ball to celebrate Empire Day in May 1998.

Members are invited to attend the annual Trafalgar Day Dinner and Dance at the Radisson Hotel in San Pedro on October 18th. It is sponsored by the Royal Naval Association. The cost is \$35.

Mr. Charles Coulombe, our western states delegate will be representing the Monarchist League at the International Conference on Monarchy in Toronto, Ontario. This event will be held Oct. 16th-18th and is sponsored by "Monarchy Canada" magazine and The Monarchist League of Canada. Mr. Coulombe will present a talk about the role of monarchy in Spanish America and also participate in a panel discussion about the role and place of Monarchist organizations in North America. Readers wanting information about the conference may call or fax 416-482-4157 in Toronto.

Mr. Coulombe will also journey on to Ottawa to present a 5 volume set of the Angeles Press' *Puritan's Progress* a history of the United States to a local university.

WEBSITE IN MEMORY OF PRINCESS OF WALES

League member Ann Brunning of Lake Elsinore, CA has set up a website in memory of Diana, Princess of Wales. This contains tributes and prayers for the late Princess in honor of her vast humanitarian work from people all over the world. If you would like to visit the website the address is: <http://members.aol.com/annannb/princessdiana/>.

The Monarchist League

STATUE OF QUEEN CATHERINE UNVEILED

On Monday, June 23rd a "monumental" statue of Catherine of Braganza was unveiled in New York City. About 200 guests attended the event at the Tallix Art Foundry at which the top half of what will be a 35 foot tall statue of the Queen was unveiled by Portuguese Prime Minister Antonio Guterres.

Catherine of Braganza was an Infanta of Portugal, who became the Queen Consort of King Charles II of Great Britain. The New York Borough of Queens is named in her honour. The Prime Minister noted that the cities of Tangier and Bombay were a part of her dowry, forming the basis of the British Empire in India. He also pointed out that Queen Catherine introduced tea to Britain, changing the British way of life.

The first part of the statue has been molded in clay, but when finished will be recast in bronze and will sit on the waterfront of the East River, at Hunters Point in Queens. The project is sponsored by the Friends of Queen Catherine Inc., a non-profit group founded in 1989. Completion of the project is expected early in 1998. The artist is Audrev Flack.

For more information you may contact the Friends of Queen Catherine, Box 600, Planetarium Station New York, NY 10024.

YOU CAN HELP REBUILD RUSSIA'S IMPERIAL PAST

A reception to officially launch the Imperial Russian Historical and Restoration Fund will be held in Chicago on November 8, 1997 to which all are invited! This would be a good opportunity for members in the Chicago area to meet each other. Perhaps some brave soul might consider taking the lead to talk about forming a branch there!

The reception will be held at the Lenox Suites Hotel under the auspices of Pavlovsk Press and IRHRF with a \$10 donation requested. Registration is required by Oct. 31 and may be made to:

Imperial Russian Historical Society/Pavlovsk Press
103 Bristol Road East, Unit 202
Mississauga, Ontario
The Dominion of Canada L4Z 3P4
Tel: 905-568-3522
Fax: 905-568-3540

The 20th century in Russia has been a cataclysm of rare proportions, as war, famine, and massive

political terror tested the limits of human endurance. The results of this assault on Russian culture are particularly evident in the decaying or ruined architectural jewels not just in St. Petersburg and Moscow, but throughout Russia as a whole.

The devastation left by the Nazi's after their hasty retreat from St. Petersburg is among the most horrifying of all. The magnificent palaces of the Imperial Russian Family at Tsarskoe Selo, Peterhof and Pavlovsk stood in ruins. Many other palaces had been looted and such treasures as the amber panels from the famed Amber Room in the Catherine Palace at Tsarskoe Selo where carted up and shipped back to Germany.

The goal of the IRHRF is to provide much needed funding from the West to assist Russia in the restoration and preservation of palaces, churches, buildings, documents, photographs, letters and diaries from pre-revolutionary Russia and the Romanov dynasty. It is felt that this is integral to the rebirth of Russia and the desire of many Russians to understand the years of Russian Monarchy which were denied them by the Soviets.

A portion of the sale of every Pavlovsk Press book or video now goes to the Imperial Russian Historical and Restoration Fund. You may request a catalog from the address at the beginning of this article.

Even though not "officially" launched, the Fund has already made a contribution to assist HH Princess Vera of Russia with living expenses. The Princess is the last living Romanov born in Russia and is a total invalid living in New York. A second contribution has been made to the Church of St. Mary Magdalene in Jerusalem where the Royal Martyr (Grand Duchess) Elizabeth is buried. (The Duke of Edinburgh's mother, Princess Alice, is also buried there). The church is in need of repairs to the roof and other areas. The next priority will be to help restore the Alexander Palace, where Nicholas II and his family lived and which is no longer receiving government funds.

HUNT FOR ROYAL CROWN LEADS TO MASSACHUSETTS

The New York Times reported on July 13, 1997, that the ancient royal crown of the Japanese island of Okinawa may be hidden in the Boston suburb of Scituate. The crown - a silk, helmet-shaped headdress studded with gold, jade, pearls and precious stones - disappeared from the island during the American invasion of Okinawa in 1945. It is

The Monarchist League

speculated that the crown was spirited away from the island by an American intelligence officer who settled in Scituate.

The crown, parts of which may be 1000 years old, has deep meaning in Okinawa. It was worn by the Ryukyu dynasty that reigned over the kingdom for many centuries until 1879 when Okinawa was annexed by the Japanese Empire.

Although the Ryukyu king moved to Japan and was created a Marquis, most members of the Royal family remained on the island and retained the bulk of their heirlooms, including the crown.

When the American invasion of the island began, on Easter Sunday, 1945, the eight royal stewards employed by the royal family were assigned to safeguard the family treasures. Quickly they hid the objects in a drainage ditch and several pits near the Shuri castle. The ditch was not filled with dirt, but only covered with a mat and branches because they were told that the Americans would soon be driven away.

The castle was demolished in the war and only two of the stewards survived. More than 120,000 Japanese troops and 150,000 Okinawan civilians died in the Fierce battle. 12,500 Americans died. When the two stewards revisited the castle ruins, they found the treasures had disappeared. Only the boxes that had held them remained.

In 1953 a number of these treasures were returned to the government of Okinawa by the United States State Department as a good-will gesture toward the people of Okinawa. The people of Okinawa were beginning to demonstrate against American occupation. (This occupation eventually ended in 1972.) The objects returned had been turned over to the American government by the American officer from Scituate who had secretly removed them from Okinawa during the invasion. These items included a gold-encrusted headdress, beads from a 1000 year-old necklace, 60 black and red lacquered tablets with the names of the ancient Ryukyu kings inscribed in gold, and the 0-moro soshi, a 22 volume set of ancient sacred books which described the origins of human life on the island. The crown, however, was not one of the objects returned. The officer in question died in 1976, long before the present search by the Okinawan government began.

An organization called the Ryukyu-American Historical Research Society is presently following up on leads in Federal archives and the Boston area in the hopes of finding the lost crown and returning it to Okinawa.

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. 818-357-7236

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

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

THE ROYAL VISIT TO CANADA ON DOMINION DAY, JULY 1, 1997

We thank Mr. Arthur LaSalle of Springfield Plantation, Fayette, MS for the following account of his visit to Ottawa, Canada for the Queen's visit.

July 1st is celebrated as Canada's birthday, and July 1st 1997 was Canada's 150th birthday. So on this grand day, Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of Canada, was invited to join with her Canadian people, and friends from all over the world for this splendid event.

It had been my lifelong desire to visit Ottawa, Canada's Royal Capital, and when I read that The Queen was coming, I told myself that "this was the time!" So I invited my student Chris Barron, to "Go and see the Queen with me."

It was a first class rail trip, from Brookhaven, MS. to Chicago on the City of New Orleans; all day in Chicago, and then the Lake Shore Limited; to Schenectady, NY, and there transfer to the Adirondack to Montreal. This route is on the Delaware & Hudson historic line (Saratoga Trunk) along the blue and sparkling waters of Lake Champlain. There was a 45 minute stop at the border for customs officers to clear the train's passengers; then, to Montreal. This beautiful city is the cleanest that I have ever seen. We stayed over night at the grand Queen Elizabeth Hotel. The next afternoon, after touring the city's historic district, we boarded a Rail Canada train to Ottawa. In four hours we were in Ottawa's new (1967) Central Station.

We arrived on the evening of June 27th, in order to be ready for the Governor-General's annual garden party at Rideau Hall. This great 150 year old stone mansion is the royal residence in Canada, seat of the Governor-General, the Queen's representative in her Dominion of Canada.

I had written to the Governor-General, His Excellency, The Rt. Hon. Romeo LeBlanc, about

The Monarchist League

plans for this trip, and had sent him some historic material about Florida & West Florida, the two "forgotten" American colonies, the 14th & 15th, which remained loyal to the Crown during the War of Independence, material which I had sent to The Queen in September of 1993. His Excellency answered most graciously, and sent information to help me plan my visit.

The annual garden party was on June 28th, and the public was invited. Rideau Hall stands on 88 beautifully landscaped acres behind great gates of which the Royal Guard changes each hour. The gates were opened at 1:30 P.M. and about 6,000 people from all over Canada, and indeed, the world, were made honored guests of the Crown. Pavillions provided refreshments. At 2 P.M. the Governor-General was presented with the first bars of "God Save The Queen," as any member of the Royal Family, because during his term of office, which is "at Her Majesty's pleasure," the Governor-General is royal. He is appointed by the Queen upon recommendation of the Prime Minister. His Excellency proceeded along the reception line, meeting every one of the six thousand guests that wanted to meet him. I identified myself and thanked him for his gracious reply to my letter and historical material that I had sent, and for his help in planning my visit. It was truly a wonderful day.

On Monday afternoon we took the bus to the airport to see the Queen's arrival. Ten year old Mykal Johncox, had written The Queen, expressing how badly it made him feel for French and British Canadians to still be at odds with each other after 150 years of nationhood. And how, instead, they should work together for the good of the country, and how valuable the Monarchy is to the country and should always be there. He had already received a most gracious royal reply. But the Queen also advised her Canadian officials that when in Ottawa she would like to meet this young man. So Mykal met and was presented to the Queen upon her arrival. I had the honor and pleasure to meet both Mykal and his parents. I congratulated him and urged him to always work to keep Canada for the Crown.

Tuesday, July 1st was Canada or Dominion Day. I arrived at Parliament Square at 10 AM and found many people already several deep against the ropes for the Queen's arrival between noon and 12:15. The Queen and Prince Philip were driven by car from Rideau Hall to within two blocks of Parliament Square, where they transferred to a state landau for their formal arrival. As they neared the Square, I

Much of the media in Britain is now saying that they will back off the young Princes. We shall see. As I write this article, however, it seems that the media is already up to its old tricks by building up as fact certain rumors of conflict between members of the Royal Family and the Spencer family about the arrangements of the late Princess's funeral. It seems to matter nothing that everyone involved has vehemently denied these tales.

I personally was physically sickened by the media attacks on the Queen and the Prince of Wales, regarding their supposed lack of care and concern. For her entire 71 years the Queen has always been universally praised for her sense of duty and control in any situation. And suddenly that seemed to count for nothing! The most vile things were said about her and the Monarchy by so-called reporters on both sides of the Atlantic. The good works performed by members of the Royal Family, particularly the Princess Royal, the Duchess of Kent, The Queen Mother, and the Prince of Wales treated as if they were nothing!

I urge each and every reader to come to the defense of the Queen, the Prince of Wales and the Monarchy. Be it by writing to your local newspaper to counter unjust editorials or by contacting television networks and stations to protest and correct inaccurate reporting, or just in your daily conversations to correct these recent calumnies. As Monarchists we can do no less. For those of us who especially admired the Princess of Wales, we owe it to her memory to defend the institution of which her beloved sons are the inheritors.

Below you will find the text of the League's Press Release on this subject. If you need a model for letter writing, you may certainly use this:

PRESS RELEASE - 4 Sept. 1997

The Monarchist League deeply deprecates the callous and unjustified media criticism which is being directed at the Queen and the Prince of Wales during a time when they need compassion and privacy as they come to terms with the tragic death of Diana, Princess of Wales.

Journalists and reporters who claim to be sympathetic to the grief of Prince William and Prince Harry can only be causing them greater pain by making insulting and heartless comments about their father and grandmother and taking every opportunity to fault the Princess of Wales' funeral arrangements. The Princess of Wales always had great affection for the Queen as a person and held her in the highest regard as her sovereign and would, we believe, be

The Monarchist League

horrified at the use that is being made of her death against the Monarch.

It would appear that certain sections of the media, whose only interest in Princess Diana during her life was to make money for their publications, are now exploiting her death to destroy the Royal Family of which she was part, even after her divorce.

We appeal to all concerned to demonstrate the greatest possible understanding in these days of mourning and in the weeks which lie ahead.

AMERICAN AIR MUSEUM OPENED BY THE QUEEN

On August 1st, the Queen --accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, the Duke of York, the Duke of Kent (patron of the museum) and more than 4000 American veterans of service in Britain-- opened the new \$18 million American Air Museum at Duxford, the Imperial War Museum airfield near Cambridge.

Aircraft old and new, led by a B17 bomber, flew overhead in a salute to the 30,000 American airmen who died flying from British bases during World War II.

A position of honor had been reserved for former Air Force colonel Jimmy Stewart, who sadly had died a month before. The famous American actor had been the chief fundraiser in the USA. His place was taken by fellow actor Charlton Heston. Other guests included Sir Denis and Lady Thatcher, Field Marshall Lord Bramall (who is also a Monarchist League patron), and US Secretary of the Air Force Sheila Widnall. Several Monarchist League members took part in the celebrations as well.

The Queen and the royal party spent an hour touring the 70,000 sq. ft. museum, the largest collection of American combat aircraft outside the USA. Funding came from the Lottery Heritage Fund, the Saudi Arabian Royal Family, and from thousands of American veterans who served on British bases. The collection includes 21 aircraft, some of which are suspended from the ceiling.

Opening the museum, the Queen said: "I have personal memories and experience of how the close relationship between our two countries over the years has been enhanced by the presence of the United States Air Force in the United Kingdom and especially in this part of England."

Among the veterans who met the Queen was Bob Morgan, pilot of the US plane Memphis Belle, which inspired the movie of the same name.

AMERICAN MONARCHIST ARCHIVE



Office of the Eastern States Delegate to the Grand Council
of the International Monarchist League, 2017.

Proper crediting of the original publication for quotations
and other reproductions is required.