



# JEWELS OF THE CROWN



A NEWSLETTER OF THE ORDER OF THE CROWN OF  
CHARLEMAGNE IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

SPRING 2006

ISSUE #1

## Message from the President

General, Richard Harley

### Calendine:

This newsletter that you now hold in your hand is the product of much planning and sense of purpose. The new Editor General, Professor Timothy L. Jacobs, has brought this issue to fruition. We hope you will enjoy it. Prof. Jacobs has given the newsletter its name: JEWELS OF THE CROWN.

As growth continues for our Order, and because proof of descent from the Emperor Charlemagne still remains one of the premiere genealogical achievements, communication is of the utmost importance. JEWELS is another step in addition to the outstanding services provided to us by Mr. Tracy Crocker, Registrar General, through the Web-Site of our Order.

As it is now planned, starting with the current year of 2006, the JEWELS will be published twice yearly. Among other things this and future issues will provide announcements, articles of historical and genealogical interest, actions taken by the Executive Council, new members, articles from the pen of our gifted Genealogist General Mr. Beard, newly qualifying lines, as well as lines which no longer qualify. There will be items of personal interest about members: births, and deaths, and unknown addresses. Editorial policy concerning matters for inclusion will of necessity be developed as time and circumstances dictate.

Professor Jacobs is also hard at work on the updated MEMBERSHIP ROSTER for 2006. He is being ably assisted in this matter by Mr. Sutherland McColley, Corresponding Secretary General, and Mr. Crocker.

## Annual Meeting News

The Annual Meeting will be held Thursday evening, April 13, 2006, at the University Club, 1135 Sixteenth Street, NW, in Washington, D.C. The speaker will be Lloyd D. Bockstruck, a member of the Order who is also a Certified Genealogist. His speech is entitled "Genealogy of the 21st Century: Headaches, Heartaches, and the Truth". He is supervisor of the Genealogy Section at the Dallas Public Library, and writes a column for the "Dallas Morning News". He is an author of books and articles. He is a former Registrar General of the Order of the Founders and Patriots of America.

The official notice and reservation form will be mailed to each member by Mr. McColley. Please use ONLY that reservation form and include the \$80 per person fee. Guests are encouraged. Deadline for returning the reservation form is April 5th. An Executive Council meeting will be at 6:00 p.m. A cash bar reception will be at 7:00 p.m. prior to dinner at 8:00 p.m. The Annual Meeting will conclude with the election of officers for the 2006-2009 term.

The dinner will be The Four Course Signature Dinner, created especially by the Chef: Sauteed Crab Cake, The University Club Salad, Cracked Black Pepper Crusted Tenderloin of Beef, braised shallots, garlic mashed potatoes, roasted petit vegetables, and Glazed Chocolate Decadence Cake. Wine will be served at each table. There will be a vegetable plate option at the same price for those who prefer it. It should be ordered on the reservation form which will be sent to you soon..

## Summary of the Executive Council Meeting on April 14, 2005

These matters will be included in the revisions of the By-Laws in the forthcoming Membership Roster for 2006.

1. Approval of a new elected officer position of Editor General.
2. Adoption of a resolution to indemnify members of the Executive Council.
3. Adoption of a resolution that any check over the amount of \$5,000.00 will hereafter require signatures of two out of three of the following officers: President General, Treasurer General, or Assistant Treasurer General. The Treasurer General is to file a copy of the resolution to this effect with the bank with a notice that it was adopted April 14, 2005.
4. Renewal of the Charter of the Order in Washington, D.C. was led by Mr. Nicholas Ward who is the Registered Agent of the Order in Washington, D.C.
5. The most recent Official Brochure of the Order was approved and its provisions will appear in the forthcoming revision of the By-Laws in the Membership Roster. Future versions of the Official Brochure will be used to inform members of any changes in membership requirements, related application procedures, and fees, following approval of the Executive Council.
6. Hereafter, meetings of the Executive Council may be conducted by mail or E-mail at the direction of the President General. The usual annual meeting in April is still to occur.
7. The duties of each of the officers are to be updated as needed for the forthcoming revision of the By-Laws.
8. The tax-exempt status of the Order as well as the place of incorporation, is to be indicated in all publications of the Order.
9. Past Presidents General shall remain as members of the Executive Council for life.
10. Henceforth no person may serve in the office of President General for more than two terms.
11. The creation of a Distinguished Service Award

was adopted. Each year of his or her term of office the President General may designate a recipient. A Certificate, suitably framed, is to be presented at the Annual Meeting. Present or Past Presidents General are not eligible.

12. The creation of a Past President General Insignia was adopted. Mr. Beard is to be the first recipient.

13. At the conclusion of the meeting the Rev. Dr. Frank M. Spindler submitted his resignation as Chaplain General which was to be effective at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting. Expressions of appreciation and gratitude were extended by the Council for his years of service. The Rev. Dr. Christopher Mack Agnew who has been serving as Assistant Chaplain General was named to replace Dr. Spindler. (Continued on page 4 Exec Council)

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### OFFICERS

April 2003-April 2006

Mr. Richard Harley Calendine, President General  
Mr. Timothy Field Beard, Honorary President General and Genealogist General  
Dr. Hardwick Smith Johnson, Jr., 1st Vice President General  
Mrs. Paul Milton Niebell, Sr., 2nd Vice President General  
Mr. David Allen von Nieschl, Esq., 3rd Vice President General  
The Rev. Dr. Christopher Mack Agnew, Chaplain General  
Mr. Sutherland McColley, Corresponding Secretary General  
Miss Georgiana Mae Swanson, Recording Secretary General  
Mr. Charles William Neubauser, Treasurer General  
Mr. John Hallberg Jones, Assistant Treasurer General  
Mr. Tracy Ashley Crocker, Registrar General/Webmaster  
Mr. Robert Carter Arnold, Assistant Registrar General  
Miss Danielle Erika Mary Bielenstein, Archivist General  
Mr. John Farrar Grissom, Curator General  
Mr. Robert Murel Clark, Jr., Esq., Chancellor General  
Dr. David Ralph Curfman, Surgeon General  
Mr. James Dewey O'Brien, Esq., Auditor General  
Prof. Timothy Lester Jacobs, Editor General  
Mr. Nicholas Donnell Ward, Esq., Registered Agent in Wash. D.C.

### The Advisory Council Members

Mrs. John Martin Birmingham, Mr. Daniel Heath DeButts  
Mrs. Charles Lamar DeuPree, Mrs. Nelson Vance Harper, Jr.  
Mr. Philip Robert Livingston, Jr., Mrs. Richard Campbell Silman  
Mrs. Sten Gustaf Svensson

## The Age of Charlemagne's Crown Proved

The Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organization, ANSTO, has used advanced nuclear analysis to definitively date one of Europe's great symbols of power, the Iron Crown of the first Holy Roman Emperor, Charlemagne.

The Iron Crown, made of gold and iron and set with precious stones, is held in the Cathedral at Monza, near Milan, in Italy. Cathedral authorities, working with scientists from the Universities of Milan and Genoa, had wished to accurately establish the age of the crown as part of forthcoming celebrations of the cathedral's 14th centennial.

Historical records had placed the age of the crown, "between the late Roman and Middle Ages," a spread of some hundreds of years. Carbon dating is the most accurate means of dating ancient artefacts, but the materials used in the crown - gold, a strip of iron, reputedly a nail from the True Cross, and precious stones - are non-biological and cannot be dated using the technique.

However, during a recent refurbishment of the crown it was discovered that its precious stones were held in place by a mixture of beeswax and clay, a common adhesive of the times. The necessary biological material was available, but not enough for dating with conventional, non-nuclear, analysis.

Minute samples, of less than a milligram each, were sent to ANSTO for analysis in the \$5 million tandem accelerator that has established it as a world leader in areas such as ultrasensitive analysis for environmental studies, nuclear safeguards and archaeology.

ANSTO's accelerator mass spectrometry team, led by Dr Claudio Tuniz, prepared the samples chemically and combusted them. The carbon atoms of the product were literally counted after being accelerated to 10 per cent of the speed of light using a six million volts electrical field.

All living things absorb carbon atoms during their lives, but cease doing so at death. As the rate at which carbon atoms decay is known, if the number

of carbon atoms in a sample can be counted, it is possible to calculate its age. Ages up to 50,000 years can be established with the method.

The high precision analysis performed at ANSTO dated the age of the Iron Crown at between 700 and 780 AD, making it older than most historical records had indicated. The dating is close to the time in which Charlemagne lived.

Charlemagne was crowned the first Holy Roman Emperor, reputedly with the Iron Crown, by Pope Leo III in Rome on Christmas Night, 800 AD. He lived from 782-814 and, as King of the Franks, established and ruled over a kingdom that spanned virtually all the Christian States of western Europe, including what is now France, Switzerland, Belgium, The Netherlands, half of Italy and Germany, part of Austria and a small part of Spain. His role in uniting much of Europe is regarded as having an impact that remains until today.

ANSTO's tandem accelerator team is regularly asked to accurately date artifacts for researchers and museums and galleries from around the world. It recently had a lead role in the dating of Aboriginal art galleries from sites throughout Australia.

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## Hereditary Society Website

Recently, an extraordinary computer website, HereditaryUS, was created under the aegis of the Rev. Barry Christopher Howard and an Advisory Council comprised of notables from the hereditary society community, under the name "The Hereditary Society Community of the United States of America."

The website, available at [www.hereditary.us](http://www.hereditary.us), features the particulars and contact information on most of the hereditary societies and orders in the country. This is a beautifully executed site, and is exceptionally easy to use. For anyone who has had difficulty finding a particular society, the site is of great relief. The centerpiece of the site is the Society Lists, but there are also displays of insignia, information on how to wear insignia, information on heraldry, along with biographies of council members and much more.

## Executive Council continued

14. Mr. Crocker, our very able Registrar General/ Webmaster, reported in that 2004 there were 8,287 hits on the website with 1200 hits in November alone. This averages out to be 690 hits per month. There are 15-18 people each week who register on the website to pursue matters further. So, assuming an overall average of 16 per week who register this becomes  $16 \times 52 = 832$  persons who register per year. Most of the 832 who register are eliminated because the proposed immigrant ancestor does not qualify. To those who have a qualifying ancestor, a questionnaire is sent, which is evaluated by the Membership Committee. Those invited to join pay the current \$375.00 membership fee and then receive, by e-mail, the computerized work sheet that is totally completed and transmitted by computer keyboard. By action of the Board in 2003, Mr. Crocker receives \$50.00 for each hit on the website that results in a new member.

15. Report of our competent Treasurer General, Charles Neuhauser, was presented as follows:

A. The investment account began the year with a total value of \$82,859.68. There were no additions of withdrawals. The value as of March 31, 2005, was \$89,236.58 due to interest of 7.7%

B. The bank checking account began the year with \$15,388.71 and ended the year with \$9,986.87.

C. The total assets of the Order as of March 31, 2005, were \$99,223.45, having begun the year with \$98,248.39.

D Conclusion: The increase of 7.7% in our investment fund essentially allowed us to "break even" for the year. He reported that it is unlikely to expect such gains every year in our investment account.

This summary of the Executive Council Meeting for 2005 was prepared by Richard H. Calendine, President General.

## MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

The By-Laws direct that every four years a roster of the current membership of the Order is to be printed. 2006 is the year for the Roster to be printed, and it will be out in the next few months. It will be mailed to the current membership which is at the date of this printing 1,423 persons.

## PUBLICATIONS, EVENTS, SERVICES, AND DOLLARS

The report of our competent Treasurer General, Charles Neuhauser indicates an enviable balance--true enough. However, the year 2006, will present expenses that could prove, at times problematic for our treasury as follows:

The purpose in writing this item for the JEWELS is to encourage you to make DONATIONS so we do not have to dip into the investment account in an extensive way to cover the expenses above. If you are so inclined to make a donation, please remember that no amount is too small and obviously no amount is too big. Each donation will be spread proportionately among the above items.

The Order of the Crown of Charlemagne in the U.S.A. is a private, non-profit, 501(c)3 organization. Donations to the Order are fully tax deductible as provided in 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Please make checks payable to The Order of the Crown of Charlemagne in the U.S.A. and mail your check to:

Charles W. Neuhauser  
Treasurer General, OCCUSA  
4 Stable Road  
Tuxedo Park, New York 10987-4025

## Editor General's Corner

As is mentioned earlier in this newsletter, my name is Timothy Lester Jacobs and I am the Editor General for the Order. By way of Introduction, I am a professor of Sociology and Anthropology at Naugatuck Valley College in Waterbury, CT. I am also a professional genealogist, and the Registrar General of the Order of the Founders & Patriots of America, the Genealogist for the Society of Descendants of the Founders of Hartford, CT, and the President and Registrar for the Order of Descendants of Pirates & Privateers, among other registrar and genealogist positions for other hereditary societies.

I invite you to send me articles for Jewels, along with your comments, questions, and so forth. Anything pertinent to Charlemagne and the Order and this newsletter is welcome.

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**ORDER OF THE CROWN OF  
CHARLEMAGNE IN THE U.S.A.**  
**Annual Meeting**

The Annual Meeting of the Order was held at 8:00 p.m., Thursday, April 14, 2005 at the University Club of Washington, D.C. A quorum was established.

President General Richard Harley Calendine presided. The Invocation of the Order was given by Chaplain General Spindler. The Pledge of Allegiance was given. The Head Table introduced, Richard Harley Calendine, President General; Mrs. Georgeann Calendine, wife of the President General; Dr. Hardwick Smith Johnson, Jr, First Vice President General; Mrs. Paul Milton Niebell, Sr, Second Vice President General; David Allen von Nirschl, Third Vice President General; The Rev. Dr. Frank McDonald Spindler, Chaplain General; and the speaker, Timothy Field Beard.

While dessert was being served all present introduced themselves and their guests.

President General Calendine presented Timothy Field Beard with the first past president general's pin. The Speaker of the evening was Timothy Field Beard, who served 4 terms as the 10th President General, from 1991-2003 and who continues as Genealogist General of the Order. He presented a most interesting program on "The Long Road to Charlemagne". (*This speech in its entirety is available for reading on the Order's website by entering [www.charlemagne.org/RoadtoK.doc](http://www.charlemagne.org/RoadtoK.doc) -Ed.*)

President General announced that Dr. Spindler had resigned as Chaplain General effective at the end of the Annual Meeting. The Rev. Christopher Mack Agnew was appointed Chaplain General.

The Benediction of The Order was given by the Chaplain General. The meeting stood adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Georgiana Swanson  
Recording Secretary General

**In Memory of**

DR. ROBERT ROY WHITE (Age 89) died on January 22, 2006. At the age of 30 he became the youngest full professor in the history of the University of Michigan, where he was a popular teacher for many years. He was featured in "Life Magazine" in the January 1, 1951 issue as a "Hope for the Future", where his career at the University of Michigan was highlighted as well as his favorite hobby of playing several games of chess at one time, while blindfolded.

Dr. White had a distinguished career as a consulting engineer and researcher for major compa-

nies including, Champion Paper, Standard Oil Company, Uni-versal Oil Products, Ferris Enterprise, Dow Chemical and B.F. Goorich. In later years, he served as Executive Director of the Forum for the National Academy of Science and was responsible for the Academy's policy and positions on nuclear safety and waste disposal, recombinant DNA research, energy crisis supply and conservation.

Dr. White was awarded multiple PhD's and degrees in Philosophy and Chemical Engineering from the University of Michigan. He also attended DePaul University Law School and the Senior Executive Program at MIT. He held numerous patents in the engineering field and had published articles on subjects ranging from Higher Education in Japan, Financial Survival, Policies on the Safety of Food and Drug Additives and the Risk of Future Alternatives in Energy. He was awarded special recognition by the Army for serving as a Scientific Consultant and recognized in the Who's Who in the Midwest, Engineering and Finance in Industry. He was the initial Dean of Management for Case Western Reserve University, as well as a member of the American Chemical Society, Founders and Patriots Society, Order of the Crown of Charlemagne, St. Andrews Society, Barons of the Magna Carta, Cosmos Club, IOTA Alpha, Tau Beta Pi, Phi Kappa Phi, Phi Lamda Upsilon, Alpha Chi, Sigma and Sigma Xi.

DONALD ELBRIDGE DYE, JR., Lt. Col., (Ret), of Roanoke, VA died December 28, 2005. He was born in Kansas City, MO on October 3, 1926, the son of Donald E Dye and Eunice K. McCarthy. An Army veteran of World War II, He retired from the Army Reserve. A CPA, he retired in 1986 as a Director and Chief Financial Officer of Rowe Furniture Corp. He was a past President of the Virginia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, a former Trustee of the National society of the SAR, and had proven descent from 20 heroes of the American Revolution. He was a Past Commander of the Roanoke Chapter of the Military Order of the World Wars. He was a member of the Order of the Founders & Patriots of America, the Society of the War of 1812, the Military Order of the Stars & Bars, the Baronial Order of the Magna Charta, the Order of the Three Crusades, and the Order of the Crown of Charlemagne in the United States of America. He was a 32nd degree Mason and Shriner, and a member of the Holland Society of New York, and the Jamestowne Society.

### Distinguished Service Award

The reader will see from reading the summary of the minutes of the Executive Council that a Distinguished Service Award has been created.

It is with great pleasure indeed that the President General announces the recipient for the year 2006. He is John Hallberg Jones, who has served the Order faithfully for well over ten years, first as Treasurer General and more recently as Assistant Treasurer General, and in countless ways both formally and informally has served in various advisory roles and committee responsibilities.

The first recipient of the award was named in 2005 when Mr. Sutherland McColley was so honored. Mr. McColley has been the Corresponding Secretary General for over seventeen years and has been assisting Mr. Beard with the preparation of Volume IV of PEDIGREES.

When you next see these two distinguished, hardworking members of the Order please extend your congratulations and accolades.

### Visit Our Website

Members should take some time to visit our website at [www.charlemagne.org](http://www.charlemagne.org). This site, mastered by our most capable Registrar General, Tracy Ashley Crocker, features the Order's objectives, membership and application information, insignia and jewelry information, lineages, treasures of Charlemagne, the speech given at our 2005 annual meeting by Timothy Field Beard, and much more. Mr. Crocker is to be congratulated for the construction and maintenance of such a fine site.

### VOLUME IV OF PEDIGREES

Tim Beard, our most excellent Genealogist General, reports that the writing of Volume IV of PEDIGREES is essentially done. Now comes the difficult period of proof reading, final editing, preparation for printing and making arrangements with the publisher. These steps will, of course, require more time and Tim will make a report at the Annual Meeting updating his progress. Please note that the availability of the book will be announced and made public when the time comes and there is no way to reserve a copy now.