



Jewels of the Crown



A newsletter of the Order of the Crown of Charlemagne in the United States of America

Fall 2007

issue No 3

Message from the President General

Dear Members,

The 2007 Annual Meeting at the Metropolitan Club is now history. The 2007 Meeting was a great success with 125 members and guests attending. Doug Richardson's program was both entertaining and informative on "The Art of Discovery in Genealogy." Thanks to each of you who attended and brought guests. Special thanks are due Nicholas Donnell Ward, Esq. for hosting our Meeting at this most exclusive Club.

Thank you to those members who have contributed to the "Jewels" publication fund. A newsletter of this type is very expensive to produce and distribute. Every tax-exempt contribution, no matter the amount, is greatly appreciated. This issue of "Jewels" includes important information about the Order, its members, and valuable genealogical information.

I encourage you to visit the Order's website on a regular basis. Registrar General and Webmaster Tracy Ashley Crocker developed and maintains this impressive educational asset of the Order. From the website members and non-members are able to learn more about Charlemagne and the Order, gain information about becoming a member and future events, read the new Bylaws as well as past issues of the newsletter, and much more. Special thanks are due Tracy for his tireless efforts on the Order's behalf.

A summary of the Annual Meeting and the 14 July 2007 called

meeting of the Executive Board appears in this publication. Among the projects completed thus far are the revised Bylaws of the Order, which may be viewed on the Order's website and will be published in the next edition of the Directory; a newly designed membership certificate which may be viewed and ordered on the Order's website; and the purchase of Non-Profit Directors and Officers Insurance. Other important projects are underway.

Membership continues to be a priority. I urge you to invite/propose qualified members and friends. You may do so by visiting the website or by writing to Tracy Ashley Crocker our competent Registrar General. The address of the website is: www.charlemagne.org.

Plans for the 2007 Annual Meeting and Dinner have been finalized. We will be meeting again at the Metropolitan Club on Thursday, April 10, 2008. Do mark your calendar now and plan to attend. We need each of you to make our Order stronger. Formal notices will be sent nearer the event.

I look forward to greeting each of you at our Annual Meeting.

Sincerely,
Hardwick Smith Johnson, Jr., EdD
President General

Doug Richardson Receives Timothy Field Beard Award

In honor of the Order's esteemed Genealogist General and Honorary President General, Timothy Field Beard, the Order's Executive Board created the Timothy Field Beard Award. The Award may be given once each year to recognize an individual's outstanding contribution(s) to the field of medieval royal and noble genealogy. Doug Richardson, professional genealogist, was named the first recipient of this award at the Order's April, 2007 Annual Meeting in recognition of his publications "Plantagenet Ancestry" and "Magna Charta Ancestry." These volumes are considered standard references for individuals wishing to apply for membership in the Order and similar hereditary/lineage societies with stringent requirements regarding documentation of submitted claims of royal ancestry.

Order of the Crown of Charlemagne in the United States of America (OCC)
MINUTES OF THE
2007 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND THE 68TH ANNUAL DINNER MEETING
THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 2007

The 2007 Executive Council meeting of the OCC was held at the Metropolitan Club in Washington, DC, courtesy of Council Member Nicholas D. Ward, Esq. The Council was called to order promptly at 5:40 p.m. by President General Dr. Hardwick Smith Johnson, Jr. A quorum was in attendance including: Dr. Hardwick Smith Johnson, Jr., President General; David A. vonNirschl, 1st Vice President General; Eleanor Niebell, 2nd Vice President General; Barry C. Howard, 3rd Vice President General; Charles Neuhauser, Treasurer General; Danielle Bielenstein, Recording Secretary General; Dr. David Curfman, Surgeon General; John H. Jones, Assistant Treasurer General; Alan Koman, Chancellor General; Robert Carter Arnold, Assistant Registrar General; Nicholas D. Ward, Member of the Advisory Council, Grace F. DeuPree, Member of the Advisory Council; and John Mauk Hilliard, Member of the Advisory Council.

The Meeting of the Executive Council began with the presentation of the Minutes of the 2006 OCC Executive Council Meeting. It was moved by J. Jones, seconded by D. von Nirschl, and unanimously approved that the Minutes be approved as circulated to the Executive Council by PG Johnson.

Reports were given by the Officers.

It was moved by J. Jones, seconded by A. Koman, and unanimously approved that the OCC Bylaws, as approved, pending final corrections "in concept" at the July, 2006 OCC Executive Council, and since circulated to the Executive Council, be officially adopted.

Under new business it was moved by J. Jones, seconded by C. Neuhauser, and unanimously approved that the OCC purchase Non Profit Directors and Officers Insurance and that any previous resolution regarding indemnifying the Executive Council be hereby rescinded.

It was moved by J. Jones, seconded by C. Neuhauser, and unanimously approved to increase payment to the Registrar General for each application processed from fifty dollars (\$50.00) to seventy-five (\$75.00), and make it retroactive to the time at which the Executive Council increased the payment to the Genealogist General.

It was moved by R.C. Arnold, seconded by D von Nirschl, and unanimously approved that Douglas Richardson be named an Honorary Member of the Order.

It was moved by A. Koman, seconded by C. Neuhauser, and unanimously approved that Douglas Richardson be the first recipient of the newly created "Timothy Field Beard Award."

It was moved by D. von Nirschl, seconded by N. Ward, and unanimously approved that the OCC adopt a new Certificate of Membership (prototype done by Thomas Curtis). Such Certificate to be made available to OCC members for an additional charge, to be set by the Executive Council, with the proceeds benefiting projects of the Order.

It was moved by J. Jones, seconded by C. Neuhauser, and unanimously approved that the OCC Life Membership fee be waived, in lieu of payment, on behalf of Thomas Curtis in recognition of his work on the new Certificate of Membership.

It was moved by J. Jones, seconded by C. Neuhauser, and unanimously approved that the OCC donate two hundred dollars (\$200.00) per year to the Hereditary Society Community of the United States of America (HSC) to help the HSC defray the cost of the maintaining the HSC website.

The Executive Council was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

OCC 68TH ANNUAL DINNER MEETING

The 68th Annual Dinner Meeting of the OCC was called to Order at 8:00 p.m. following an open bar. The Meeting began with Rev. Dr. Christopher Agnew giving an invocation.

President General Johnson welcomed the 125 members and guests, and introduced the OCC Officers.

President General Johnson then introduced Mrs. John Wood Bolton, Sr., President General of the Order of the Crown in America; Nicholas Donnell Ward, Esq., President General of the National Society of Americans of Royal Descent; Mrs. D. Grace Roth, President General of the Order of Three Crusades 1096-1192; James Marvin, Marshal of the Baronial Order of Magna Charta; and Dr. Charles C. Lucas, 2nd Vice President General of the Order of the Merovingian Dynasty. PG Johnson also introduced Miss Caroline Bowen, new member, and granddaughter of Mrs. Harry Clark Boden, IV who was one of only two women to have held the Office of PG of OCC.

Dinner was served.

During courses the PG presented a summary of the Executive Council Meeting. Following the main course the PG presented the OCC Distinguished Service Award to Tracy A. Crocker. He presented a Certificate of Appreciation of Eleanor Niebell.

Following dessert the PG introduced the guest speaker, Mr. Douglas Richardson, professional genealogist and author of Salt Lake City, UT.

Following Mr. Richardson's program the PG presented Mr. Richardson with the Timothy Field Beard Award and a Certificate in recognition of his being named an Honorary Member of the Order.

PG Johnson announced that Mr. Richardson would answer questions and sign books for those desiring them following the benediction.

The Meeting concluded with the Benediction given by Rev. Dr. Christopher Agnew.

Respectfully submitted,
Danielle Bielenstein
Recording Secretary

Tracy Crocker Receives Order's Distinguished Service Award

Tracy Ashley Crocker, the Order's Registrar General, was the 2007 recipient of the Order's Distinguished Service Award.

Tracy is a native of the Finger Lakes region of New York State. A proud father of a son Tracy Jr, a daughter Carolynn, granddaughter Nicole, and is lucky to have a loving wife Joyce. After graduation from college, he pursued a fruitful career in the retail Department Store arena. Now retired after 35 years as retail executive and past Vice President of Liberty House a major specialty department store in Hawai'i he is pursuing many interests. Throughout his career he traveled extensively to Europe, Asia and the American markets where he was responsible for the fashion merchandise for several major department stores.

Since retirement, Tracy has been eminently involved in several of the major genealogical Societies and Orders in the United States.

He is a Past President of the Thomas Rogers Society, is currently the Genealogist and has developed a major database for that Society. Tracy is Registrar General for the Order of the Crown of Charlemagne (proven 5 lines), Order of the Merovingian Dynasty (Founding Member), Baronial Order of the Magna Charta (proven lines to 9 Barons), and The Military Order of the Crusades. Tracy is the assistant genealogist for the Son's of the Revolution in NY as well as Website Master for all of the above groups.

He holds membership in these additional genealogical

Societies and Orders:

National Society of Americans of Royal Descent, Order of Americans of Armorial Ancestry (13 lines), Order of Founders and Patriots, Hereditary Order of Descendants of Colonial Governors, Jamestowne Society (2 lines), General Society of Mayflower Descendants (9 lines), Mayflower Society of Hawai'i, Mayflower Society of Minnesota, John Howland Society, General Society of Colonial Wars, Order Colonial Lords of Manors in America (2 lines), The National Gavel Society, Sons of the American Revolution (and Minnesota) (14 lines), General Society of Colonial Wars (and Wisconsin), Sons and Daughters of the Colonial and Antebellum bench bar, and Flagon & Trencher.

Tracy is a qualified genealogist who has done extensive documented research for many individuals throughout the US. He has been instrumental in developing genealogical computer application forms for over 35 different organizations. He maintains several websites: www.thomasrogers.org, www.charlemagne.org, www.merovingiandyndynasty.com, www.magnacharta.com, www.sonsoftherevolution.org, and www.tracycrocker.com. His pet project is: <http://www.thomasrogerssociety.com/trs-project-p/index.htm> a major data base for the descendants of Thomas Rogers of the Mayflower.

In his spare time from genealogy Tracy is an active member of Rotary, attempts to play golf six times a week until the snow flies in Minnesota, is a serious sports fan and an avid bridge player.

Welcome New Members

Donald Bailey, Sr.	Edward Greif	Virginia Rouse
Michael Turner, Jr.	William Schrader	James Hancock
Virginia Cooper	Martha Simpson	Nancy Shrader
Donald Lampson, Esq.	William P. Carrell, II	William Fitts
Stacey Panai	Gloria Belair	Henry Lindh
Cornelia Smithwick	Jack Bess, Jr.	Dixie Judge
Robert McQuillan, Sr.	Sandra Kennerson	Mary Marshall
Robert Lawrence, IV	John Harman, Jr.	Aline Roberts
Cecelia Hale	John Brown	Kristine Bauske
Kenneth Whittemore, Jr.	Jack Carter	Kenneth Harrington
Nancy Talieur	Ann Mayhew Carrell	Robert Burton
Peter Leo	Marcia Wolfe	W. Harrison Shroeder, Esq.
Wesley Sage	Colette McCarthy	Walter John
Brian Owens	Caroline Fish	Barbara Lynn Smith
Monte McQuillen	Randolph Fish	Barbara Jean Bohn
Patricia Reeser	Kenneth Paulan	Danna Cheryl Koelling

Summary of the Minutes of the 14 July 2007 Called Meeting of the Executive Council

A Called Meeting of the Executive Council of OCC was held on Saturday, 14 July 2007, at the Arlington Home of First Vice President General David A. von Nirschl. The following Officers comprised a quorum: Dr. Hardwick Smith Johnson, Jr.; David A. von Nirschl; Nicholas Donnell Ward, Esq.; James W. Farr; Robert Carter Arnold; and Rev. Dr. Christopher Agnew. In the absence of Miss Danielle Bielenstein, Recording Secretary, who could not attend, David A. von Nirschl was appointed to act as recording secretary for the meeting. A summary of the Business conducted follows.

President General Johnson presented to the Executive Council the prototypes for the embellished membership certificate featuring a depiction of the Emperor Charlemagne. The Executive Council accepted these prototypes with thanks to the President General, Thomas Curtis and Tracy Crocker for their work.

Following an extensive discussion regarding the lineages to be published in the Order's forthcoming Lineage Book IV, the Executive Council decided that certain information regarding the first three generations that immediately precede any member would be excluded from all of the Order's future publications. This would be consistent with recent decisions of various other genealogical and lineage organizations. Accordingly, the following motion was moved, seconded and unanimously adopted:

Be it resolved that the Order of the Crown of Charlemagne in the United States of America shall not publish or publicly disseminate in any media (including, but not limited to, newspapers, newsletters, magazines, books, radio, television or the internet) either: (1) the names, birth dates, birth places, marriage dates, death dates, death places of the children, parents, grandparents, or great-grandparents or any member of the Order; or (2) the birth date, birth place, or marriage date,

of any member of the Order or of the spouse of any member of the Order. All such information shall be omitted from any member's lineage published by the Order.

The Executive Council concurred with President General Johnson's recommendation to investigate the possibility of enlisting editorial services as needed, with input from the Genealogist General, the Registrar General, and the Corresponding Secretary General, in order to expedite the publication of this long-awaited volume.

The Executive Council concurred with President General Johnson's recommendation that the 2008 Annual Meeting of the Order be held at the Metropolitan Club of Washington on Thursday, 10 April 2008, with the same format as the 2007 Annual Meeting. Mr. Ward suggested that the Order have a receiving line at this meeting and President General Johnson concurred. Mr. Ward agreed to be the courtesy host for this meeting.

The Executive Council concurred with President General Johnson's recommendation that the Order invite Mr. Anthony Hoskins of California, President General of the Descendants of the Illegitimate Sons and Daughters of the Kings of Britain, to be the speaker at the 2008 Annual Meeting. Further, the Executive Council agreed that the Order should reimburse Mr. Hoskins for the cost of travel and lodging he incurs to speak at the Annual Meeting.

The Executive Council concurred with the recommendation of Chaplain General Agnew that the Order seek consensus of the other hereditary/lineage societies that routinely meet in April in Washington to adjust the meetings to an alternate week in April in those years in which the meetings would otherwise conflict with Holy Week and Easter. Chaplain General Agnew noted that the possibility of such a conflict exists for the year 2009.

In Memorium DR. DAVID RALPH CURFMAN

Dr. David Ralph Curfman, neurosurgeon, musician, civic leader, and Surgeon General of the Order, died at his home in Washington, DC on Tuesday, July 24, 2007.

Dr. Curfman, born in Bucyrus, graduated from George Washington University with his PhD in Neuroanatomy. He earned his M.D. degree from The George Washington University School of Medicine in 1973. Dr. Curfman was, among other professional designations, Chief of Neurosurgery at Providence Hospital in the Washington, DC area.

An active, enthusiastic member and officer in multiple civic and hereditary organizations, Dr. Curfman was Surgeon General of the Order of the Crown of Charlemagne in the

United States of America at the time of his death.

In addition, Dr. Curfman was an accomplished musician and had been involved in instruction at the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Columbus. He was an accomplished organist and had once served as assistant organist and choirmaster at Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church in Washington, DC.

Father Daniel P. Coughlin, Chaplain of the U.S. House of Representatives, was among those participating in Dr. Curfman's Funeral.

Dr. Curfman is survived by his wife of 37 years, Blanche L. Curfman.

Anthony Hoskins to speak at April, 2008 Annual Meeting

Anthony "Tony" Hoskins is a librarian, historian, lecturer, author, and professional genealogist residing in Sonoma County, California. He has been actively involved in genealogy both as vocation and avocation for most of his life. Tony was "born into a family of long-lived and long-remembered people, and grew up listening to tales of family history" from a paternal great grandmother with New England and Upstate New York ancestry as well as a maternal grandmother who was born in England.

Tony holds an M.A. in library science and history from the University of Chicago and was Genealogical Reference Librarian and Instructor for eleven years at Chicago's famed Newberry Library. After a four year stint in South Florida, Tony moved to California in 2001 to assume his current position as head of the Sonoma County History and Genealogy Library, a branch of the Sonoma County Public Library. He also serves as Sonoma County Archivist. In addition to his usual work responsibilities Tony serves as Instructor for Online Genealogical Research.

Tony's creative works have included articles as well as book chapters and whole books. Among his credits are: *The Ancestry of Prince Hans George of Ysenburg and Hudinggen* (1994), *The English Origin of John Umfreville of New Haven, Connecticut* (1997), *The Washburns of Middletown, Connecticut and the children of Joseph and Hanna (Johnson?) Washburn* (2000), *Revolutionary War Father-Civil War Son: John and Van Rensselaer Darling of Chautauqua County* (2001), *1880-1 Censuses-A Snapshot in Time: conducting a "Total Ancestors Census."* He has also co-authored other articles and is a regular contributor to the Medieval Genealogy group on Yahoo.

Tony focuses much of his genealogical research efforts on medieval royal and noble genealogy and is considered an expert in this field having authored such works as "Mary Boleyn's Carey Children: Offspring of King Henry III?" which was published in London in 1997. Following publication of this work he and his work were featured in an article in the London *Daily Telegraph*, and he was interviewed on BBC. His work on this subject has been cited in books by Tudor historians and academics as well as popular historical fiction such as Philippa Gregory's bestselling book "The Other Boleyn Girl." Tony was featured in a 90-minute documentary produced by Granada Television (Manchester, UK) on royal lineage and genealogy which aired on British television this past Summer.

Tony has served as President of the Sonoma County Historical Society, Sonoma County Genealogical Society, Governor of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Florida and Illinois, and is currently President of Descendants of the Illegitimate Sons and Daughters of the Kings of Britain. He is a member of American Mensa, Triple Nine Society, and the International Society for Philosophical Enquiry. His biography is included in *Who's Who in genealogy* and *Who's Who in America* (2008).

You will not want to miss hearing Tony Hoskins at our 2008 Annual Meeting and Dinner. Plan now to attend.

Jeff Sypeck to Attend 2008 Annual Dinner Meeting

Jeff Sypeck, author of *Becoming Charlemagne: Europe, Baghdad, and the Empires of A.D. 800*, published by HarperCollins in 2006 will attend our April, 2008 Meeting. Jeff is also the author of a biography of Charlemagne for middle-school children, and his articles about books, history, and travel have appeared in *The Washington Post*, *Salon.com*, and other publications. He teaches medieval literature at the University of Maryland University College. He also works as a writer and historical researcher for the U.S. Postal Service's commemorative stamp program.

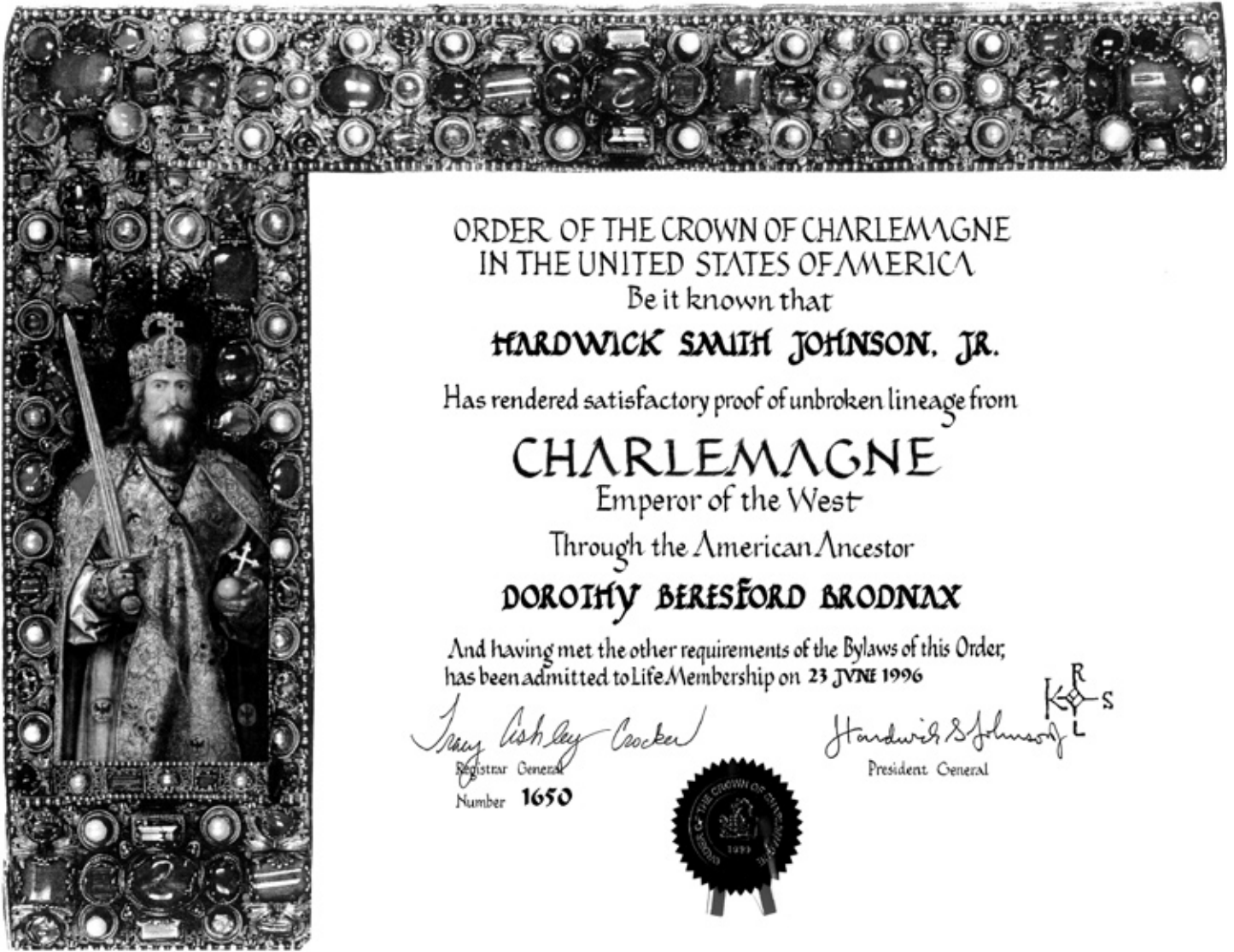
Jeff holds a B.A. with Distinction in English from the University of Delaware, an M.A. in Literature from the University of New Hampshire, and an M.A. in Medieval and Byzantine Studies from the Catholic University of America. Jeff will introduce his book and sign copies for those desiring him to do so at the conclusion of our Meeting.

Order of the Merovingian Dynasty

In September 2004, the beginning of a new royal lineage society was initiated after initial discussions held by Richard A. Gregory, Charles Lucas, MD, Sutherland McColley, and Timothy Field Beard. The intent was to create a new lineage society that extended the earliest known documentable lineage to the earliest ancestor that could be proved by reasonably verifiable references. It was determined that the Merovingian Dynasty (began ca. 451) was the earliest point that such lineage could be extended. Soon after the September meeting, 23 founding members who were significant leaders in the genealogical community came together to incorporate the society which was entitled the Order of the Merovingian Dynasty. At present there are over 110 members. Among the purposes of the Order are: Associating the living descendants of these "Merovingian Kings" as members of the Corporation and bringing them into closer association through activities revolving around matters of common historical and genealogical interests. The web site of the Order may be found at: <http://www.merovingiandynasty.com/>. For further information regarding membership, please contact: Tracy Ashley Crocker, Registrar General, 14115 41st Ave. North, Plymouth, MN 55446 or via email: registrar@merovingiandynasty.com. Many, if not all, of the founding members were also members of the Order of the Crown of Charlemagne in the United States of America.

New Membership Certificate Available

A new membership certificate, designed by Thomas Pelham Curtis, Esq., is now available for purchase by members of the Order. The certificates are in full color, available in "Pure White" or "Antique Beige" stock, scribed in Carolingian Miniscule, measure approximately 12 x 15 inches, and may be viewed by visiting the Order's website: www.charlemagne.org. The cost, per certificate, is \$50.00 which includes shipping.



To order one or more of the new membership certificates, complete the following form. You should use one form for each certificate ordered. For ordering purposes, you may copy the form.

Member name as it should appear on the certificate: _____

Name of the American (Gateway) Ancestor: _____

Date admitted to the Order: _____

Membership number: _____

Mail the completed form, along with your check, payable to the Order, to the Registrar General, Tracy A. Crocker, 14115 41st Ave., Plymouth, MN 55446-3624.



Order of the Crown of Charlemagne In the United States of America

PROPOSAL FOR MEMBERSHIP

Date:

To the Committee on Admissions:

The undersigned propose for membership in the Order:

(Full Name).....

(Maiden Name).....

(Address).....

Tel. #:.....Email:.....

(Occupation).....

who is personally known and request that a formal invitation be sent to our friend. It is understood that upon acceptance of the invitation that lineage blanks will be sent to the prospective member on which can be recorded the requisite genealogical data relating to lineal descent from the Emperor Charlemagne.

Other Personal Recommendations (as Genealogical Societies, Commissions, Honors)

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Name of Colonial Ancestor:

Proposed by:

Proposed by:.....

Mail to: Tracy Ashley Crocker-14115 41st Ave. N., Plymouth, MN 55446

PRSRRT STD
US Postage
PAID
Permit #46
LaGrange, GA
30240

5 West Mountain Road
Sharon, CT 06069-2257



Jewels of the Crown
*Newsletter of the Order of the Crown of
Charlemagne in the USA*

Contributions to the Order

The Order of the Crown of Charlemagne in the United States of America is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation and all gifts are fully tax deductible. Members are encouraged to make contributions to the Order to aid the Order in defraying its operating costs and further the Order's purposes. Contributions in any amount are welcomed and will assist with projects such as publication of the Membership Directory and Jewels of the Crown, which constitute considerable expenses to the Order.

If you would like to make a cash contribution, please make your check payable to OCC and send it to: Mr. Charles William Neuhauser, Treasurer General, 8 Stable Road, Tuxedo Park, NY 10987-4025.

Address and Email Update Requested

The Order attempts to keep current the addresses of members of the Order. We would also like to add the email addresses for those who have them. We ask that members send their current email address to the Registrar General at:
Registrar@charlemagne.org.