



# The Quill

The American Commanderies Newsletter of the Order of St. Joachim

Dear Confreres and Consours,

I trust your New Years' celebrations were pleasant and happy ones wherever you may have had them. We at the American Commandery of the Order of Saint Joachim have rung in the New Year with great anticipation and hope for continued progression and service to our members.

At the very end of the year 2016, we saw the establishment of the Non-Profit status of our Commandery with the steady guidance of Archbishop William Myers, KCJ. The leadership convened at the end of this month and has well positioned the Commandery structurally for the conduct of additional venues and events. We are planning the first of the seasonal "Meet and Greet" occasions which will be announced when the venue has been confirmed. Going forward, I anticipate at least three to four "Meet and Greet" occasions annually, to be conducted at differing geographic locations. We plan to conduct at least one larger event on an annual basis as well.

The membership in our Commandery continues to grow and there is increased interest and excitement in our events and of the Order of Saint Joachim in general. We look forward to any questions, suggestions and other inquiries in that regard. In order for our Commandery to provide the minimal essential administrative support to its membership we had announced a Commandery oblation of \$50.00 USD on an annual basis. We ask that these oblations be provided by June 20<sup>th</sup> of each year; an esteemed date in our Order's calendar.

The Herald, the Chevalier Peter Bruemmer, KJ, will detail a coming special award. It is my pleasure to announce the production of, and I believe the first of its kind within the Order of Saint Joachim, the American Commandery Medal. This miniature medal will be available soon to members of our Commandery and for others at the discretion of the Commander. Additionally, the Herald will be reaching out to our membership to develop a roll of armigers who have either been registered or granted by their authorities.

Please contact the Commandery's Registrar, the Chevalier Herb Rivera, KJ to ensure we have your updated contact information and should you have any questions on procedures in membership or promotion within the Order you can contact any of the Commandery's leadership. We are streamlining and creating efficiencies in the practices of old and are transitioning to a modern, capable Commandery within this illustrious Order. My best to you and your families for this New Year!

Truly Love hath United Friends; **JUNXIT AMICUS AMOR**

*Martin von Grossmann*

H.E. Martin von Grossmann, GCJ

Lt.Col. (ret.), USAFR, MSC

Commander, American Commandery, Order of St. Joachim

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Here is a picture of the Leadership of the American Commandery of the Order of Saint Joachim



The First Investiture of the American Commandery, November 12, 2016, Philadelphia



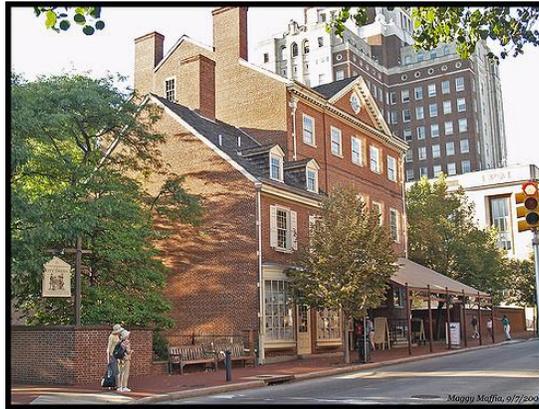


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After the ceremony, we had the Grand Master's Investiture cocktail reception and gala dinner at the City Tavern, 138 South 2<sup>nd</sup> St at Walnut St., Philadelphia, PA.



When City Tavern first opened its doors in 1773, Philadelphia was the largest, most cosmopolitan city in British North America. The American colonies were about to throw off the yoke of British rule in what became the most important revolution the world had ever seen.

As the storm clouds of revolution gathered on the horizon, City Tavern soon became an important meeting place, and the center of the economic, social and political life of the city. In 1774, members of the First Continental Congress used it as a gathering place and the Constitutional Convention held its closing banquet here.

We had a wonderful meal: corn chowder, tavern country salad and for the entrée a choice of medallions of beef tenderloin, burgundy mushroom, demi-glace; crab cake-Chesapeake style; chicken breast madeira, Pennsylvania mushrooms and for desert: seasonal fruit cobbler and streusel.



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We gathered in the Cincinnatus Room on the second floor.





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## Dinner Program

Welcome by H.E. The Chevalier Martin von Grossmann, GCJ, Commander of the United States.

Introduction of The Head Table

Grace is made by H.E. His Grace Archbishop William Myers, KCJ, prior to the United States.

Toast to the Commander-in Chief and President and President Elect of the United States (von Grossmann)

Toast to HM The Queen (Douglass)

Toast to the Order (von Grossmann)

Toast to our Guests (Wendland)

Toast to new members of the Order (von Grossmann)

Commandery Toasts:

Toast to Austria and Germany (Myers)

Toast to Canada (Rivera)

Toast to United Kingdom (Bruemmer)

Toast to the United States (Wendland)

Dinner Served

Introduction and Toast to the Grand Master

The Grand Master-H.E. The Chevalier Stephen Lautens, GCJ

Presentations

Close and Thank You.



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Here the party is welcome by H.E. The Chevalier Martin von Grossmann, GCJ, Commander of the United States.





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Toasts were made





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The Grand Master-H.E. The Chevalier Stephen Lautens, GCJ, presented the Order's Benefactor Medal to several worthy recipients. The Benefactor Medal is awarded at the discretion of Grand Chapter to those persons who have made a significant financial contribution to our Order or our charitable work.

Benefactor Medal in Silver:

Chevalier Peter Bruemmer KJ

Chevalier The Most Rev. William Myers KCJ

Chevalier Dr. Mark Smyczynski KJ

Chevalier Herb Rivera KJ

Chevalier Antonio Wendland KCJ

Benefactor Medal in Gold:

HE The Chevalier Martin von Grossmann GCJ





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While at the American Commandery's Investiture, The Grand Master-H.E. The Chevalier Stephen Lautens, GCJ also had the pleasure of unveiling the new American Commandery Medal, to be awarded to such persons and on such criteria as determined by the USA Commander.

On January 14, 2017, we received word from the Grand Master of the arrival of the American Commandery Medal.

The two-tone gold medal, available as a miniature only, is a likeness of President George Washington in profile with a small enamel Order of Saint Joachim cross superimposed and "American Commandery - The Order of Saint Joachim" on the edge. The ribbon is dark blue with white stars.



The Washington Medal is available to our members at \$60.00. You can mail a check to the American Commandery-Order of St. Joachim to the following address: Martin von Grossmann, Order of St. Joachim, P.O. Box 789, Oakhurst, NJ 07755



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The American Commandery presented a plaque to The Grand Master-H.E. The Chevalier Stephen Lautens to commemorate the First Investiture of the American Commandery.





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**American Commandery oblation of \$50.00 USD on an annual basis is due June 20<sup>th</sup>.**

You can mail a check to the American Commandery-Order of St. Joachim to the following address: Martin von Grossmann, Order of St. Joachim, P.O. Box 789, Oakhurst, NJ 07755

We are planning on having “Meet and Greets” every quarter in certain locations across the United States.

We are working on an event to be held at Mount Vernon, more about this in future newsletters.

*God Bless Everyone*