

A Message from Our Grand Commander The Chevalier Robert Soderstrom GCStG



The US recently celebrated Thanksgiving Day. With it comes a time of introspection and contemplation. We have a lot to be thankful for. The Order is continuing to grow as we accepted 15 new members this year. Our Investiture ceremony was enjoyed by all those attending.

We had various landmark occurrences too. We were granted our 501c3 status, over \$30,000 of medical supplies were raised and shipped to Iraq, and the merger of the IPV into the Order becoming the St. George Relief Corps. There is much to be thankful for and exciting developments for the future.

For the holidays, if you are making purchases through Amazon, we are participating in their recognized charity donation program. For every purchase you make, Amazon donates a small amount to the Order. Please see the article in here and consider using the indicated link.

Now, I'd like to wish each of our Chevaliers, Dames, Companions, family, and friends a very Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays! May you be filled with the joy of the season and cherish the family moments.
Happy New Year 2017!

"In veritate iustus huic fraternale societate"
(In truth I am just to this fraternal society)

Order of Saint George North American Grand Commandery Sends Medical Supplies to Northern Iraq

Through the efforts of Doc Clinchy KCStG, Commander of the Florida Commandery; the Order of Saint George has raised over \$30,000.00 worth of medical supplies that have been shipped for refugee aid in Northern Iraq. The Order through its work with the IPV has members who are trained and skilled former military medics on the ground currently administering medical care to civilians in refugee camps. Emergency medical supplies will continue to be supplied in the future as part of the Order's ongoing efforts.

Starting next year, the Order plans to send Doctors, EMTs and former military medics on regular quarterly tours to Northern Iraq to treat refugees of the conflict. We continue to expand our contact with refugee camps, Christian and Muslim, in the area. It is anticipated that we will have additional humanitarian aid drives for donations of items needed by the refugees in the coming year.



Doc Clinchy KCStG, Commander of the Florida Commandery



A Message From Our Relief Corps Commander In Iraq – Ben Benny

The Order of St. George Relief Corps has boots on the ground in Iraq with Mr. Nicolas Barrett. Nicolas is in the preliminary stages of talking with the Ministry of Peshmerga and their Ministry of Health to look at the creation of a shock trauma unit within the country. Until the required meetings can take place Nicolas is spending his time in the Christian area known as Ankawa, it is a small suburb within the capital (Erbil).

Numerous Western companies and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) have established themselves in this area due to it being a little more familiar to Western culture. It also hosts a large number of refugee camps which house many religious minorities who have fled the fighting with ISIS/ISIL/Daesh/IS to seek the refuge of the good people of Ankawa. Although these are well run, the camps still remain highly overcrowded. One has a population of around 5600 yet only has suitable accommodations to house half of that number.

In an effort to make things more comfortable, many of the churches have converted their basements into additional housing for vulnerable families to cohabit. The future plans are to continue to assist in as many ways as possible, providing manpower where required to administer medicines, provide education and advice.

The recent donation of medical equipment and supplies provided by the Order has been invaluable and a great number of lives have been saved by the use of them. The equipment was delivered to Erbil International Airport and was immediately picked up and catalogued to ensure its integrity. From there it was disseminated between 4 U.S. medics who were attached to the first line of Peshmerga that moved towards Mosul. They advanced as far as the town

Bashiq to the East of Mosul as this was as far as the Peshmerga would advance. Once the Peshmerga finished their advance, the Iraqi Special Operations Force (I.S.O.F) continued their advance to Daesh territory and the medics were attached to the (I.S.O.F) unit. Their most recent location is 2 Kilometers from the outskirts of Mosul. Inside the city of Mosul's Eastern neighborhoods they have established a secure location to provide treatment and stabilization to the injured before being transported to the main medical facilities scattered around the country. The work being conducted is saving lives and without the equipment which was donated a lot of it would be near impossible.

For now we shall continue to remain in country and look forward to organizing a larger deployment in the New Year. I believe there is a bright future ahead for the Relief Corps, not just in Kurdistan but in many countries involved in conflict where traditional NGO's can't reach.

We shall be that light and hope for those in need, wherever and whatever the need for life is. Life is precious, a gift from God, and we would all do well to remember it. Whether we save just one life or a thousand, each life saved makes a difference!

Amazon.com Shoppers Can Donate To The Order of St. George Through AmazonSmile At No Cost!

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a small portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. You can choose from nearly one million organizations to support. Here is the Order of St. George AmazonSmile link:

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/81-3814825>

If you want to make a contribution to the Order's ongoing efforts, please make your check payable to Order of St. George and on the memo line please indicate towards which project to apply the funds, whether it be Belize, Jamaica or our Relief Corps efforts in Iraq and send by postal mail to:
Order of St. George Grand Commandery of North America
8601 Dunwoody Place, Suite 336
Atlanta, Georgia 30350

2016 Atlanta Investiture Service



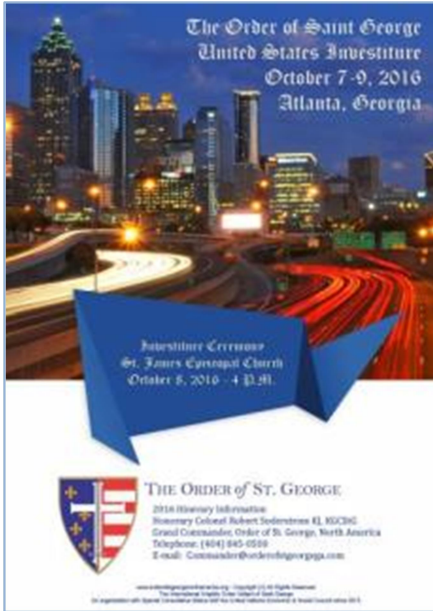
The annual Investiture Service for new members was held on Saturday October 8, 2016, at Saint James Episcopal Church in Atlanta, Georgia. The Order's Grand Prior Simon McIlwaine, Grand Chancellor Mark Haley and Grand Scrivener Stuart Notholt from Great Britain conducted the Service for new members. Unfortunately, Hurricane Matthew kept our South Florida and Caribbean contingent grounded and unable to travel. The event took place over a 3 day weekend.

Friday, the group enjoyed a morning at a local Atlanta shooting range getting to fire a variety of pistols and rifles. After a BBQ lunch, everyone headed back to the hotel to get ready for the dinner at the Georgian Club later that evening. Cocktails and dinner were enjoyed in the penthouse suite of the Club. It was a convivial setting to meet and greet new and returning members of the Order.

Saturday morning the group toured the MLK Jr National Historic Site and the Jimmy Carter Presidential library and Museum. Then it was back to the hotel to get ready for the Investiture ceremony. Fr. Allen was gracious enough to host us again at the historic St. James' Church; the ceremony being accompanied on the organ by our Director of Music Peter Waggoner. Administering the Oath and dubbing our newest members, promotions and the next slate of Executive Officers were appointed by our Grand Prior, Grand Chancellor, Grand Scrivener and N. American Grand Commander. Chevalier Herb Rivera modeled the new uniform for the Order. Following the ceremony; the group retired to a black tie dinner at Villa Christina. No one went home hungry that night. I understand that Mark Haley's mango ice cream was voted the best dessert.

Sunday, the group had champagne brunch at the WW2 themed restaurant 57th Fighter Squadron as its final event before departure. The bountiful buffet next to a small airfield provides the right ambiance for travelers before their departure for home.

We are already looking forward to next year's event!



Postulants for the Service of Investiture on October 8, 2016 as Knights of the Order were:

Lieutenant Commander, The Honorable Colonel Richard A. Clinchy, II, Ph.D KStG
 Bruce Forester KStG
 Dr. Timothy Coakley M.D. KStG
 Professor Lawrence Lewis, Ph.D, FRSA KJ, KStG
 Peter Nolan KStG
 Curtis Cantrell KStG

Postulants for the Service of Investiture on October 8, 2016 as Companions of the Order were:

Chris Thompson CStG
 John M. Powell CStG
 Mark French CStG

Promotions

To Deputy Grand Prior of the Order:

H.E. Honorary Colonel The Chevalier Robert Soderstrom GCStG

To The Knight Commander of the Order:

The Chevalier Ted Daywalt KCStG
 The Chevalier Adam Such KCStG
 The Hon. Colonel Chevalier Richard A. Clinchy II, Ph.D KCStG

Commandery Leaders:

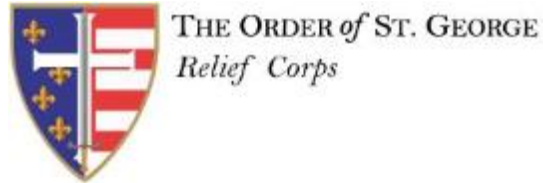
The Hon. Colonel Chevalier Richard A. Clinchy II, Ph.D KCStG (Florida)
 Col. The Chevalier Adam Such KCStG (Arizona)
 Captain The Chevalier Ted Daywalt KCStG (Georgia)

Encampment Leaders of the Grand Commandery:

The Chevalier Captain Steven Dieter KStG (Ontario)
 The Chevalier Herberto Rivera KStG (Maryland)
 The Chevalier Robert Christopher Scott KStG (Jamaica)
 The Chevalier Peter Nolan KStG (Belize)

Grand Commandery Officers:

Secretary: Companion John M. Powell CStG
Chaplain: The Chevalier The Reverend Roger D, Allen KStG ABJ JD MDiv
Treasurer: The Dame Sandra Vincent DStG
Avocat: The Chevalier William Vincent KStG
Scrivener: Companion Mark French CStG
Director of Music: The Chevalier Peter Waggoner KStG
Herald: Companion Chris Thompson CStG



IPV Announces Merger with the Order of Saint George

It is with great pleasure that we can announce the merger between the International Peshmerga Volunteers (IPV) and the Order of St. George.

International Peshmerga Volunteers will now be known as the ***Order of St. George – Relief Corps*** and will provide direct aid of humanitarian items and medical assistance to the wounded in the ISIS struggle, persecuted Christians and other refugees of the Iraqi crisis. Senior members of the Order's North American Grand Commandery will direct this effort and provide the logistical support for its operation. Senior former IPV leaders will coordinate and be in charge of the "in country" efforts; the all-important delivery of medical aid and assistance.

The first contribution to this effort made by the Order is \$30,000 worth of medical equipment which was received in Kurdistan 2 days ago. It is currently being distributed to volunteer former medics from the USA and units working from Telskuf in the North. Further to the west 1st Special Forces Unit, these supplies are tailored specifically for battlefield trauma and during this time of war. We are extremely happy we are able to assist those wounded from the fight on the world's behalf against a great evil.

We thank you all for this continued support. Now we must continue to grow our community, spread the word and continue helping those around the world in need of our assistance. If you can donate supplies or financial aid please contact us. Please visit the following Facebook Page and we shall announce more in the coming days and weeks.
Visit:

<https://www.facebook.com/OSTGReliefCorps/>

Heraldry Arts

By Chevalier Prof. Lawrence Lewis Ph.d KStG

The ancient heraldic arts have long provided a means through which individuals and groups can express their personal and collective identities.

In 1127, Henry I of England knighted his son-in-law Geoffrey V, Count of Anjou. As he did so, the king hung around Geoffrey's neck a shield painted with golden lions. Geoffrey's 1151 enamel funeral effigy shows a shield decorated with those lions. This design is often described as the first recorded coat of arms in history and was the predecessor of the royal arms of England still born today by the sovereign of the United Kingdom. Nearly 900 years later, heraldry or the practice of designing, displaying, describing, and recording coats of arms is still very much in use around the world.

The origins of personal heraldry are rooted in the need to distinguish knights in combat when their faces were hidden by helmets during battles or tournaments. Over time, non-noble classes began using their own family arms and a formal system of rules developed into ever more complex forms of heraldry.

Orders of chivalry are the premier examples of the collective use of heraldic devices to represent group membership. Various heraldic forms of the cross are associated with the Knights Templar (footed cross patty or formy), the Teutonic Knights (black cross) and the knights hospitalier (eight pointed Maltese or Amalfi cross) as insignia representing the orders at large. Over time and contingent on rank, individual members began to augment their own personal arms to express their association through such additions as medals suspended from or collars encircling the shield, chiefs of religion, and the personal shield mounted on a representation of the designated heraldic cross device of the order.

As later chivalric orders emerged under the patronage of secular, rather than ecclesiastical authority, chivalric heraldry continued to evolve, sometimes maintaining the use of a traditional cross as an heraldic device as did the The Most Noble Order of the Garter, founded by King Edward III in 1348, whose collective arms comprise a silver shield bearing the red cross of Saint George circumscribed by the blue garter bearing the order's motto, *Honi soit qui mal y pense* (Middle French: "shame on him who thinks evil of it"). Like the Order of the Garter, The Fraternal Society of Knighthood of St George, the first secular chivalric order in the world established by King Charles I of Hungary circa 1326, emphasized the importance of motto. In fact, members of the Society wore a black mantle, bearing not an heraldic device but the motto:

"In veritate iustus huic fraternale societate"

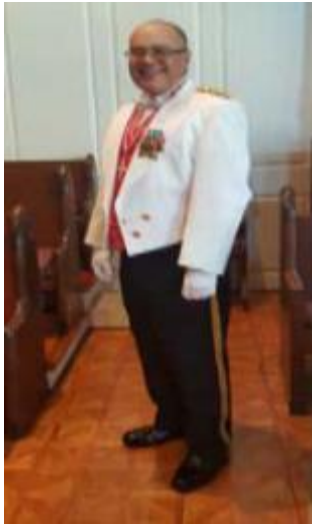
(In truth I am just to this fraternal society).

The great seal of the Society bore the classic iconic representation of St George mounted on a horse slaying the dragon under the horse's hooves.



New Uniforms for The Order of St. George Commandery of North America

By **Herberto Rivera KStG**



Throughout my 24 years of military service consisting of serving both Navy and Army, I had the privilege of seeing many gallant dress uniforms throughout my global travels. When I volunteered to research a potential uniform for our order, I was delighted to get to work.

Using the colors of our order, I had to start there.

After contacting several vendors by trial and error, and numerous email communications with the leadership, I came up with a basic uniform that would allow changes and improvements from our leadership as time would pass or as they would see fit.

Basically the male uniform consists of a white military style dinner dress jacket, gold epaulettes, a white shirt, a white bowtie, a scarlet vest for knights, a red cummerbund for Knight Commanders and Officers select, navy blue trousers with red pant stripe, and low quarter shoes or George boots with optional spurs.

Finally the uniform will be complete with the jewel and mantle of our order. At present a female uniform committee has been developed and is being researched. A small catalog has been created to include vendor contacts and prices for uniform continuity's sake.

Visit: <http://tinyurl.com/zcdgo35>
to download the catalog.

Sickness and Distress

Prayers are requested for the following people:

Ted Daywalt, Lisa Antram's son, William Vincent

Public Charity Status in the USA

Our Order received confirmation from the I.R.S. of our 501(C) 3 non-profit status. We had been a non-profit organization in the U.S., but thanks to the hard work of our Avocat William Vincent KStG, we now have the official 501(C) 3 non-profit designation and the Order is now recognized as a Public Charity in the USA.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Fundraiser Camo Patches per \$25.00 Donation



The North American Grand Commandery is conducting a fundraiser by offering a Velcro backed Camo Shield patch per \$25 donation.

To order a patch
look for more information soon!

"The Order of St George promotes and pursues the timeless traditions of chivalry by compassion and supporting works of charity. The Order focuses on supporting charities which work with current and former service personnel, and with Christian communities suffering religious persecution."