Dear Fellow S.K.C.M. members: The Rev’d David C. Kennedy, SSC, D.D., a Society member for over 40 years, agreed to inaugurate our new publication. —MAW He writes:

I was blessed to attend Nashotah House 1959-1963 during one of her great periods of service to the Church. It was there that I first learned about the Society of King Charles the Martyr. Since I am a first generation American, my mother having been born in England and my father in Scotland, I always had an interest in history and in things English and Scottish.

There was a small group of seminarians who belonged to S.K.C.M., and I felt good to be part of it. We went out to dinner on 30 January, usually to the Seven Seas on Lake Nagawicka, and had a loyal toast of his late Majesty. I remember when the Presiding Bishop of that time, the Rt. Rev’d Arthur Lichtenberger, visited the House and celebrated the Mass using the propers of King Charles the Martyr. I have often wondered what it would have been like if he had been spared from Parkinson’s Disease, which caused his early retirement, and the Church would have been spared from Bishop Hines and what has followed.

Devotion to King Charles is something that has grown in me. It has enriched my faith and devotion, not only to our Blessed Lord, but also to His One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church of which Anglicans have always claimed to be part. It is not easy to be an Anglican!!!, especially in days through such as which we are now passing. Saint Charles knew what he believed in and was steadfast in his devotion to that faith. It didn’t matter to him what happened to him, as his faith and belief sustained him in his trial and martyrdom. He went from an earthly crown to an heavenly one. Within a generation the Church and the Crown were both restored. Perhaps in our own day we need a similar faith and devotion. [Our late New York Chapter Secretary, Dr. Bernard Brennan, used to plead, “Charles, send us a Charles!” —Ed.] Truth is more important than winning ecclesiastical battles! We know that we, like Charles, shall win in the end.

“We are more than conquerors, through Him that loved us.” (Rom. 8: 37)

—Fr. David C. Kennedy, SSC

Father Kennedy, now retired, was long-time rector of the Church of the Guardian Angels, Lantana, FL, has served on the Boards of Nashotah House, the Prayer Book Society, & the Fellowship of Concerned Churchmen, and as Master of SSC’s North American Region. He has hosted three S.K.C.M. Annual Masses.

Why this Communiqué? We are starting this publication to maintain better contact with you than is possible with SKCM News and Church & King, both semiannual. Over half of you, our U.S. and Canadian members, have given us your email addresses. You and other supporters will initially receive this supplemental, email publication. Please forward it to others who are likely to be interested; they may then inform us if they wish to be added. We’ll delete your name from the distribution list if you wish.

Each issue will have a few short news items and a feature article on our Patron or our Cause. It will be historical, educational, artistic, or devotional in nature, and usually by a Society member. What we mean by ‘educational’ is that, since there are many misperceptions and prejudices about King Charles, we should each be able to explain his importance and to counter commonly-held objections. The publication will be succinct—one to 1½ pages in all. Send the Editor your comments and suggestions for improvement.

— R. I. P. —

* The Rev’d Dr. Charles Everett Whipple of New York City, an ardent client of the Royal Martyr, pilgrim to his U.K. sites, and Benefactor of the American Region, entered his repose on 20 February, aged 95.

* The Rev’d Canon James Pernette DeWolfe, Jr., D.Min., of Fort Worth, a Society stalwart, died on 28 January at the age of 90. Every year without fail he wrote to tell us the details of his commemoration.

**They both witnessed to S. Charles’s faithfulness unto death, which saved Ecclesia Anglicana.**
Tax-exempt status. We recently received the I.R.S. letter informing us that S.K.C.M., Inc.’s application for tax-exempt status under §501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code was successful. It’s effective from 9 April 2008, when we were incorporated. Donations and bequests are fully tax-deductible, but dues are not.

Canadian Branch: Dr Alex Roman, elected to the Board of Trustees and as Canadian Representative, takes responsibility for building our presence and profile in Canada. The new Branch within the American Branch (the term ‘American’ is used in the same sense as in ‘Organization of American States’), will share our existing infrastructure (membership and goods) and SKCM News. Thus, rather than ‘going it alone’ as in previous attempts, focus on growth can be maintained.

The Annual Mass at S. Stephen’s, Providence, RI, on 31 January was superb in every way. There were 115 present, our best attendance yet in New England. The beautiful and historic church, the liturgy, music by Charpentier, sermon by Fr. Jarvis, and luncheon arrangements all contributed to the day’s success, when combined with careful planning by Fr. Alexander, the work and donations of many, and the parish’s warm hospitality.

Life Memberships are now available for $360; if you’re 65 or older, $250.

Dues Reminders were sent earlier this month to those who are behind. Those who were paid through 2008 received a notice stating that they were one year in arrears. Notices of 2009 dues accompanied the Dec., 2008, SKCM News. Payable by 30 Jan., dues were 5 weeks overdue when the reminder was sent. I apologize for the overstatement. We now send reminders earlier than before to save money: we can’t afford to continue mailings to non-payers for as long as in the past. For those like me, to whom the years seem to come ‘round more quickly, I suggest (1) paying your dues several years ahead or (2) availing yourself of the re-instituted Life Membership option, vile supra.

The June, 2009, SKCM News will contain more on the above topics. It will now be mailed during May so it arrives well before Memorial Day, the de facto beginning of Summer. Lighter weight paper and cover stock will reduce postage costs, yet preserve appearance.

Send editorial correspondence & suggestions to Dr. Wionola.

email Communiqué Editorial Board: Mark A. Wionola, J. Douglass Ruff, Esq., & Lee Hopkins

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