



A Message from the President

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Canon Theologian of the Diocese of Quincy

Email Communiqué

**Society of King Charles the Martyr
American Region**

29 May 2015

Restoration Day (1660)/Oak Apple Day

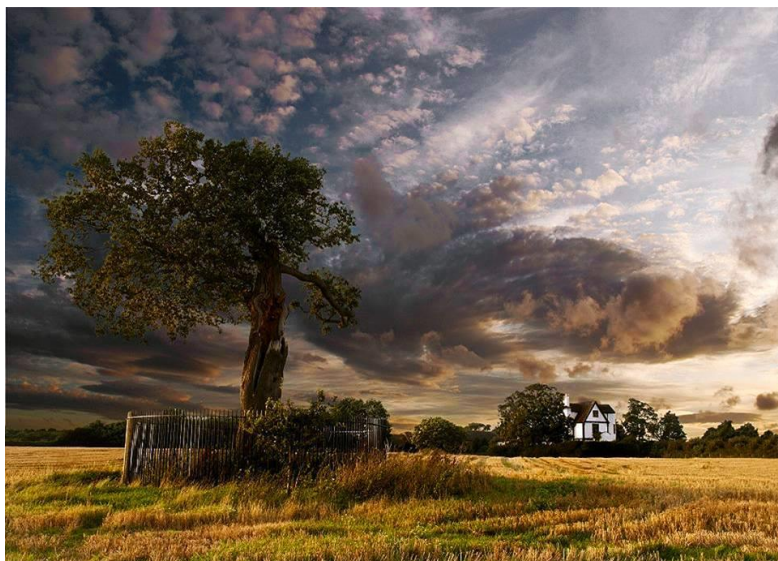
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Dear Friends in the Cause of King Charles the Martyr:

Today is one of the three days specially commemorated by our brethren in the mother Society of King Charles the Martyr across the pond, the other two days being of course Royal Martyr Day (30 January) and the Nativity of S. Charles (7 December). Restoration Day (or Oak Apple Day) commemorates the restoration of the monarchy in 1660 when King Charles II returned to England from exile. The day is kept as their annual festival with a Solemn Mass or Matins and Sermon on the nearest Saturday to 29th May. Their annual general meeting follows the service to which members of the Society are encouraged to attend. The location of this service changes most years to give the Society an opportunity to celebrate S. Charles in new places.

This occasion is called 'Oak Apple Day' in memory of the time when the king hid in an oak tree following the Battle of Worcester. Thanks to the protection of this tree, 'the Boscobel Oak' in the grounds of Boscobel Hall, Staffordshire, Charles II was crowned king of Great Britain and Ireland on 29 May 1660; his supporters celebrated in a manner that would surely have been condemned by Oliver Cromwell's Puritans. Also, it is traditional for monarchists to decorate their houses with oak branches or wear a sprig of oak on 29 May.



As I did last year at this time, I'd asked the Secretary-Treasurer to prepare information for me to share with the membership on our numbers and who we are. So here we go ...

- We have added or reclaimed 54 members this year – 4 more than last year at this point. This excellent membership gain continues to come primarily from our adding the PayPal option for paying dues and contributions and purchasing goods. On the other hand, we have lost 21 members – actually, 4 fewer than last year - with 4 from death, 2 from resignation, 2 from disappearing from the street address and email radar, and 12 from nonpayment of dues. Today we have 375 current members, an 11% net increase thus far over last year. Given our age demographics, we need to keep growing at this pace. It is always membership recruitment time.
- Nearly three-quarters of our number are laity, with 26% clergy including 9 bishops from various jurisdictions.

- Our median age is 64; the median age of those joining thus far this year is 11 years younger (53). The age of our members varies from well into the 90s to around 20.
- With information on hand from 94% of our ranks, we have an increasingly diverse membership united in devotion to the Royal Martyr as well as to the Christian faith:

JURISDICTION	ALL MEMBERS	JOINED 2009-TD
TEC/Anglican Church of Canada, C of E, et al	63%	57%
ACNA and other Anglican bodies	23%	22%
Catholic	9%	14%
Orthodox	3%	3%
Others	2%	4%

- Today we have 37 Life Members, constituting 10% of our membership; in 2012 we had 10. One can become a Life Member by making a one-time payment of \$360; for persons 65 or older, the amount is instead \$250. No further dues are required. If this category interests you, please go to our website and then to PayPal or send an inquiry or check to the Secretary-Treasurer. FYI, one may join the Society as a Life Member. We also have 13 Honorary Members, most of whom are members who joined 50 or more years ago or are age 90 or above and joined 15 or more years ago, in either case having no further dues obligation.

In other news:

- ✓ **Board liaisons to new members.** We are on the verge of implementing a plan whereby each new member will have one of the trustees as his or her personal liaison for their first two years of membership. This plan was adopted by the Board a few months ago, at the recommendation of our Development Project Team. Given our geographically diverse membership, with only a quarter of our members being in local churches where there are two or more members, the idea is to better “personalize” the Society. So, if you are a new member, watch for further information soon.
- ✓ **Thus far, we have sold nearly two dozen copies of the DVD from the 2015 Annual Mass at Resurrection New York City.** This, too, is good news. If you have not yet ordered your copy, just go to the Society website, www.skcm-usa.org, select Item 66 (and any other goods desired), and pay directly using our PayPal account – or you print out the order form and send it along with your check.
- ✓ Finally, our **SKCM News** Editors have advised us that barring any unforeseen snags the June edition will be sent to the printer in early June.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at skcm@skcm-usa.org should you have any questions, ideas or concerns.

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SOCIETY WEBSITE: WWW.SKCM-USA.ORG

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