

CROWN PRINCE MEETS DIASPORA REPRESENTATIVES

by Milos Rastovic

On April 20th, the Serbian-American Leadership Conference (SALC) sponsored a fireside chat with HRH Crown Prince Alexander Karadjordjevitich of Serbia. The event included representatives of Serbian-American organizations, societies, distinguished individuals, guests from all over the United States, and other participants. It was hosted by Aleksandar Djuricic, the President of SALC, and the Honorable Branko Terzic, Royal Adjutant since 1976, who also served as moderator. Milos Rastovic represented the Serb National Federation.

SALC President Djuricic thanked all participants and wished all a Happy Easter. He added, "This is a moment in Serbian history which has a certain feeling. It is the moment when Serbia was resurrected by itself, along with Serbian people and the Serbian spirit. The same spirit is still inspiring by great Serbian leaders and heroes such as Kara-Djordje. Through his spirit, the SALC is doing its work. Kara-Djordje faced insurmountable circumstances during the First Serbian Uprising against the Ottoman Empire (1804), and his leadership overcame all obstacles in leading the resurrection of the Serbian state."

He continued by saying that the SALC is guided by the same spirit, "and by our great people by the sacrifice of Kara-Djordje and your ancestors of the Karadjordjevitich dynasty. We are optimistic that through the work of Royal Family, the SALC, and Serbs across the world, we will put Serbia in the right place in the community of nations as well as the

Karadjordjevitich Family in the right place in Serbian society and culture." The Honorable Branko Terzic offered a biographical introduction of HRH Crown Prince Alexander, and through the following interview questions, gave a thorough profile of the Crown Prince. Below is a shortened version:

Q - How have you and Princess Katherine been doing in quarantine during this pandemic?

HRH - Thank you so much for this great opportunity to join in with the SALC, and I would like to greet all members of this organization from Belgrade. My wife and I are in the Palace on our own. We have a complete system set up on how to continue daily life. We got supplies of food; help if we need it. The police protect us if we need it. There are two palaces [White Palace and Royal Palace], which are very important. We take twice-daily walks within the compound. We are pretty active, both of us, because the situation is serious, like everywhere else, such as the United States. The Serbian President, the Government imposed the rules, and we follow these rules. We praise the heroes such as doctors, nurses, and all the medical staff at the hospitals. They are doing amazing job-saving lives. My wife was active in supplying specialized equipment and appealing for more help. For example, she got a phone call from the Serbian clinic that they desperately need 30 laptops and 20 printers. This is quite remarkable. We remain in touch with everybody by using this technology WhatsApp, Advantage, and also watching Netflix, Amazon Prime, and Apple. That is our daily life.



Q - The SALC organization is made up of young professionals in the United States. What was your experience in a business career?

HRH - I had a diverse life. After I left the army, my first job was in advertising in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. I spent time in Brazil, London, and New York... Then, we changed our careers and went into

the insurance business in Chicago, Illinois. I spent five years in Chicago. This was the way of using technology for the business-basic program at that time. I worked for the American Medical Association and many other associations designing and maintaining their insurance programs. The technology was really

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useful, but today it would be primitive. When I left Chicago, I went to Washington, D.C., then moved to London to work in financial services and many other areas. These sorts of jobs in Brazil, London, New York, Washington, D.C., and elsewhere, I met the most extraordinary people that you can imagine. Later, I had the pleasure to meet Bill Gates. We were his guests in Seattle, Washington. It was fascinating talking with this gentleman. We greatly admire him and his wife for their charity. I will never forget when my wife was learning how to use computers. She said to Bill Gates: 'Sorry, I do not know what the mouse is.' We maintained our friendship. In Belgrade, we have all sorts of extraordinary people who are coming to see us. There is a list of people. We have two palaces in the compound. We use these places to promote Serbia, have charity events, etc.

Q - Are you sitting in King Alexander's Office?

HRH - Yes, this was King Alexander's Office. He worked downtown, but he wanted to live outside of the city, and he built this Palace. He bought the land on the highest hill. This Palace is quite magnificent. It represents the Serbian and Russian styles. One of the architects was Krasnoff from Russia, who was a famous architect. This office was the King's Office. It has a great collection of books in the library. We had 50,000 books before World War II. Most of them walked out, disappeared or stolen. But, this office still has extraordinary books, amazing dictionaries, encyclopedias, and some incredible art.

Q - In your business career and as a first citizen of Serbia, you met many world leaders. Can you share a little bit some of the leaders have you met?

HRH - It is important to make friends. You may disagree with something that they say, but making friends is what makes the world go around. Without connection, there is no future. I strongly recommend that people make friends, contacts, and maintain them. When it comes to festivals or birthdays, send them congratulatory cards and keep in touch. I had the privilege of meeting all the secretaries of the United Nations and went to visit them. I had amazing conversations with them. President De Klerk (of South Africa) was a fascinating friend. We were guests on his two birthdays, 70s and 80s. We had the pleasure of meeting Nelson Mandela and had a great conversation with him. I admired him very much. He was a great leader. You learn a lot about people going to these birthdays and discussing what has happened to them. Of course, they would ask what happened to us. It was quite a strange story. I was only two years old when everything collapsed for me. I became an enemy of the state of the communist federation of Yugoslavia. I was "dangerous"...(and) was still removed from citizenship until not long ago. We are still working on restitution

and getting things put in order, which is a big job.

Q - None of your property was returned to you or your family. In the 1930s, the Yugoslav Probate Court order (concerning the estate of King Alexander) had a detailed inventory of what property belongs to the state and what belongs to your family. Based on that, it should be returned to you. Is that correct?

HRH - It should be returned because it is a human right violation. King Alexander bought property thanks to investment in three gold mines and shares in the United States, for example U.S. railroads. Everything that he bought came from his private income. We can prove that. Where I am sitting in the Royal Palace, he paid taxes on it. Normally, you pay taxes if it is private property. This was recognized by a court rule here. The authorities did not implement it in returning the tremendous amount of property not only in Serbia but in other republics of the former Yugoslavia, particularly Montenegro, Slovenia, and a few places in Croatia. The main areas are Serbia, Slovenia, and Montenegro. Nothing has been returned. The only thing that was returned to me is when I was in the army in Germany. I was patrolling on the East German border (when) a border policeman invited me for a cup of coffee. His father came to the coffee house with a bag. He said, 'I must apologize, but I would like to return this to you. This is the book that I found in your father's palace.' This was the only thing that was returned to me.

Q - What is your opinion about Serbia's economy before the pandemic, and would they be able to respond quickly?

HRH - From the Belgrade revolution in 2000 until now, this government has provided the most economic advances that we have seen. We were growing by 3% GDP, which is remarkable. You can look out across Belgrade and you will see construction you have never seen before. Driving around Serbia, you will see amazing roads more than our neighbors. More investments are coming. We are part of more contracts, particularly with the European Union. The United States is a big investor. Germany, France, Italy, and other E.U. members are coming here. I hosted conferences here at the palace with ambassadors. One of them was a famous Italian ambassador who twice brought business people from all over Italy, 18-19 at a time. That was very successful. We are sort of a magnet for this. The Serbian Government recognizes this. By traveling abroad, we do represent Serbia, providing public relations, attracting investors, and trying to answer their questions. We welcome them to the Palace, wining and dining, and steering them in the right direction.

Q - You have several foundations for different purposes. Can you tell us about your educational foundation, scholarships, and resume writings, which you brought into the country?

HRH - My foundation is a very good one. Every year, it brings 600 graduates from high schools in Serbia and the Republic of Srpska. These young men and women are the cream of our students, who come with their parents and guardians in the palace. At one time, we had 1800 people. We recognize their academic works and achievements by giving them diplomas, books, introducing them to further education. Our plan is that they go to universities and continue their work. We are proud to have an American sponsor, NCR Corporation, who are active in Belgrade where they built a new headquarters. NCR was our sponsor for the last three years, and we are hopeful that they will continue. We also help the students manage resumes, how to write a resume, and how to talk with a person who is interviewing you. We offer college scholarships. One of the amazing scholarships is from Nottingham University, United Kingdom. We get 30 scholarships, and all students come back to Serbia. We also have scholarships from the United States, Switzerland, and France.

Q - You extensively have been visiting hospitals in Serbia. When you and Princess Katherine came to Serbia, you discovered the lack of incubators. This is your effort for more than a decade. Is this correct?

HRH - Yes, my wife has been involved for 27 years. Her first program was helping the children with equipment in the hospital in Tirsova in the 1990s. Lifeline Humanitarian organizations are in Chicago, New York, Toronto, London, and Athens. When we came to live in Serbia in 2001, she opened the office of the Princess Katherine Foundation which coordinates with all other offices abroad. We are proud of our Diaspora being significant donors. They supported us. We are also proud of foreign friends who come to love and visit Serbia, and stay with us. We have been extremely active in raising funds at events every year in Chicago, Toronto, London, and Athens. The events are quite spectacular. We always have fun memories by meeting everybody. When we go to these events, we also make friends with people of each city such as mayors, members of Congress, Senators, and so on. It is amazing making friends and then invite them to come to Serbia. They always enjoy their visits here. We are great hosts in Serbia. We are proud to take care of everybody who comes here regardless of ethnic origins or religious beliefs.

Q - You said that the members of SALC should reach out to people even with different political or religious views. You have practiced that. You hold an ecumenical lunch for your patron saint's day (Slava). Can you tell us something about that?

HRH - Yes, it is important because Serbia is a multiethnic, multi-religious; there is no ethnic cleansing in Serbia compared to neighboring areas. We respect all citizens regardless of their religious beliefs or political affiliations. We



come together in the sense of promoting Serbia. We are not here to fight or kill. We are here to make friends and make friends of our neighbors. We need neighbors to sell goods. Without neighbors, you will not be able to sell anything. You will be an island in the middle of the Pacific. Serbia is a part of Europe. Serbia intends to be a member of the European Union. We need friends abroad. Without friends abroad, we will never be able to market our goods. These friends are very important for the progress of Serbia. They are investors and creators of jobs in Serbia. We are here to entertain the world.

Q - How is your relationship with the press at this time?

HRH - We have a very good relationship. Some tabloids are taking too much liberty. Certainly, we will have stronger laws on suing such tabloids who are doing themselves and our country a disservice. In general, our relationship with the media has been good, including state media. There have been some fascinating interviews. We also promote history. Every few months, we have exhibitions at both palaces promoting history, art, and culture in general.

Q - You live in a large compound, which was closed during Tito's regime. You were the first one who opened it to the public. How can people come to this compound?

HRH - It was completely closed. It was Forbidden City. It has 300 acres. There are two palaces, garages, a ministry building, and a building to the right of the entrance. Thanks to the agreement with Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), I came to live here and opened the Palace for the first time for tourism. We worked hard to make the palace available and look good for tourists. We have over 100,000 tourists per year. Students and pensioners are free visitors. We interact with boats that go up and down the Danube. It is amazing how many cruises there are. We also have a large number of tourists from abroad who come here by bus or aircraft. This compound is a great attraction for Serbia. The Serbian Government helps us through two organizations: The Tourist Organization of Belgrade and the Tourist Organization of Serbia. We have brochures, etc., and it works well.

Q - The facilities of the compound are also used for televisions and movies. Is that more a regular thing now?

HRH - We are open for movies and series. We also are working on a series about King Alexander or King Peter I. We are open to cinema people, and they love it. We take care of them, and they come back. We will do some more filming now. Because of the coronavirus, we had to postpone it. When this pandemic is over, it will start again. This also helps our budget, which is important to do repairs. This is a big compound, and there is constant maintenance. It supplements the state budget.



Q - There is another facility related to your family, and that is the Royal Mausoleum in Oplenac. Can you tell us more about that site?

HRH - I am proud of Oplenac. It is a foundation established by King Peter I. The main idea was to build the church there and a mausoleum for the family. King Alexander continued this project, but during the dictatorship, the facility was not used until the October revolution in 2000. We had a state funeral for my father. I was proud of the government, which I worked closely with, President Nikolic, Prime Minister Dacic, and other members of the administration at that time, to bring back the remains of my family. They provided every possible help and helped with a state funeral. Oplenac is rather like Arlington cemetery. My father was happy to be buried in Libertyville (Illinois). But, (we brought him back and had) a state funeral in Oplenac. Many dignitaries came from abroad, and the whole Serbian Government attended.

Q - The Oplenac facility includes not only the church and vineyard, but also the ancestral home of Karadjordje. It would be similar to Mount Vernon, where George Washington was buried.

HRH - It is very similar. It was Kara-Djordje's home. It's a konak, a very small house. It is maintained as a beautiful museum with a lot of art of Karadjordje. There is (also) a house that King Peter used for his residence. That became a fascinating museum with many important artifacts. It is extremely popular. Whenever we go, we find many visitors, and we mingle with them.

Q - When your father (King Peter) died, Yugoslavia was a communist country. It was not allowed for your father to be buried in Oplenac. The only choices were to be buried in Chicago or England. I believe that he did not want to be buried in England, specifically.

HRH - When I was about 19 or 20 years old, he was talking to me about Oplenac and how much he loved it. He said, 'If anything happens to me, I would like to go to Oplenac.' I will never forget that. That was his desire, Serbia. I visited him in Los Angeles in 1970, and he was in a coma. I was horrified about what happened thereafter. I went to visit the Queen (Elizabeth) thinking the best that I can do is to bury my father next to his mother, Queen Maria, whom he loved. Queen Maria was buried right in front of the mausoleum of Queen Victoria, a great grandmother of Europe. The Queen said of course you can do that, but I think that you will have some trouble. Those days in 1970 were very complex for the Serbian Diaspora. Trag-

ically, there was a split in the church, and you had families desperately separated or fighting each other. This was a great tragedy. A lot of times, the money was spent defending each side, and even went to the Supreme Court of the United States. I hope that these days will never repeat. I think that we are very lucky today that we all recognize our Patriarch as the Head of our Church. When this terrible situation was finished between the Diaspora church and Mother church, Patriarch PAVLE became a unifying factor of the church, and this is continued by Patriarch IRINEJ. Those days are over. The church is free here, and the state supports the church very much.

Q - When we first time met, we were both teenagers. At that time, you were sixth or seventh in the British line of succession. What is your relationship with Queen Elizabeth, as your Godmother, over the last half of the century?

HRH - I do not think that I was sixth or seven because they were many children who were born. I am further down away. I always maintained my relationship with my Godmother [Queen Elizabeth]. She is very good to me. When we are in London, we do try to see her. We have meals with her. We were attending all Royal events such as jubilees, funerals, and weddings. She is a great state's person, and we learned a lot from her. It was a difficult time, particularly during the criminal bombing of Serbia. Unfortunately, the United Kingdom was a member of this act...but, the friendship has always been there, and it will be forever.

Q - Queen Elizabeth attended your 50th birthday, which was held in the hotel in London where you were born. What was the particular role of Winston Churchill at your birth?

HRH - It was oddly enough to be born in the hotel. That was a plan. My father approached Winston Churchill. Winston Churchill told the Secretary of Interior of the United Kingdom that at the time of my birth, it [the room] should be turned into the Yugoslav territory. I was born on that small patch of Yugoslav territory. Many years later, in February 2001, the Minister of Interior of Yugoslavia came to London, and gave us citizenship back in that actual hotel, which was a very moving ceremony. So we came full circle.

Q - The hotel room became the equivalent of the Embassy's property. The Embassy's property belongs to the country which they represent. It became an extension in that way.

HRH - It is an act for the birth. That is all. There is a plaque there and in the bio of the hotel. Every time we go there, they take good care of us. The only thing is that they give us a bill now.

Q - In regard to the British Royal Family, you are a contemporary of HRH Prince Charles, Prince of Wales, and you attended some of the same schools, and you are related on the Greek side.

HRH - Prince Charles is three years younger than me, but we were in the Gordonstoun School at the same time. I attended both his weddings. We maintain a close friendship. He came to see us in Belgrade, which he enjoyed very much. We knew Princess Diana very well, and we know the Duchess of Corn-

wall, and we are very close. We maintain contact with each other when we are in London, and make an effort to see each other. He has been a very good friend, and he helps my wife's charity, and that is very kind and generous of him.

Q - Can you tell me something more about your first days in the Palace in Belgrade?

HRH - It was extremely emotional. My wife keeps telling me that I was in tears. I sat on the chair knowing that my father and grandfather sat on that chair. She said, 'In which palace will we be living?' My father said that the one which is most important is the Royal Palace. We came here, and they gave us a key and said goodbye. We could not find things. We did not have people to help us. The phone system was atrocious. We were using cell phones. The cell phones did not work because the walls are very thick. Eventually, we got everything going. We discovered the art, history books, library, porcelains, dishes, knives, and forks. We made amazing discoveries. We are much more organized now and open to the public to see.

Q - I remember that you told me that you could not find the kitchen.

HRH - Yes, we could not find a proper kitchen. We found a place with an oven, but it was very strange and small. We discovered a tunnel between the Royal Palace that ended up in a building one hundred yards away. In the building was a real kitchen with stoves, refrigerators, a bakery, and everything that you can imagine. We realized that was the kitchen supplying the Royal Palace. The King did not like the smell of cooking and that is why he built there. Above that kitchen are bedrooms, which we turned to an office. It is still our office "B" today. We have office "A" in the Palace. We upgraded the kitchen in the Palace on the first floor.

Q - You attended a Halyard Mission event last year. Can you tell us more about it?

HRH - The Halyard Mission was a [World War II] rescue mission. It was done with the United States and allies to rescue aviators...who came down in Serbia. They were rescued by General Draza Mihailovic, and his people and were taking care of them. These people were heroes. That was not recognized. The United States and the West were spending more time making friends with the communist dictatorships than recognizing the efforts of the old allies. My father became an ally, and he was a guest of President Roosevelt during World War II. The President was very good to him. Unfortunately, Winston Churchill decided to abandon my father. President Roosevelt disagreed, but then he went along. There was an officer who was military attaché at the U.S. Embassy's Office and brought attention to what happened with the rescue mission. We both [Prince Alexander and his adjutant The Honorable Branko Terzic] went to commemorate this event. I am glad to say that the United States Government took part in that. The Serbian Government took part in it, the U.S. Ambassador came. I am proud that both sides now recognize this historic mission.

Q - You traveled extensively around the world. What are your favorite places outside of your hometown Belgrade?

HRH - Serbia is my favorite. Montenegro is also a favorite. We had the pleasure to go to Slovenia. The late President of Slovenia took care of us. He was extremely sad that the properties there have not been returned [to us], and said he would try with his party to overturn that act. We spent a week in Slovenia, and that is a beautiful country. We also met President Mesic of Croatia who organized for us to see Croatia. We visited the famous Dalmatian coast. We met friends on yachts there. We have not been in Macedonia yet, for which I am sad. We were often to Kosovo to see our people there. We go there for Vidovdan every year. Everybody was good to us. My wife helped people there. We helped enclaves, which is a big tragedy. We have a special spot in our hearts for Greece, which is only one hour and a half by airplane. We go there for vacation. The islands are gorgeous. We also go to Europe to visit relatives of the Royal families to many events in Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Belgium, and Spain. We maintain friendships and connections.

Q - Can you talk about the importance of maintaining relationships with the U.S. Congress, Senate, and Administration for the members of the young organization SALC?

HRH - SALC is a great organization. I think that they will do very well with the Hill making friends. It is important to make friends on all sides for the benefit not only of the SALC but also of Serbia. The National Prayer Breakfast is a great event at which to make friends not only for members of the United States but also for foreign members. Eighty or 90 countries take part in the event. They include presidents, prime ministers, parliamentarians, and so on. We have learned a lot because my wife and I attend every year. Friendship is strong, and they came to visit us in Serbia. Maintaining contacts by putting aside political differences is vital, bi-partisan approach. The National Prayer Breakfast is run by both parties, Democrats, and Republicans. They go very well together. The friendship is very strong.

Q - You visited some of the sharpest critics of Serbia to explain the situation of Serbia.

HRH - It is important to maintain the friendship of both parties. When an election comes up like in November 2020, you do not back one horse, you back many horses. If you back one horse, you may end up with no horses at all. It is very important that Serbian organizations become friendly and back several horses.

Q - After the pandemic, do you plan to change your approach or possibly focus more on businesses or healthcare? How do you see your move forward after this crisis?

HRH - Learning the lesson of Covid-19, we have to revive the economy here, which is the case everywhere. It is quite dramatic, but lives are important. It is important that those of delicate age are being protected. Bringing more investors here. The President of Serbia, the Prime Minister, and the Serbian Government have specialized advice from doctors,

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and they are taking this very seriously. Many lives have been saved. I praised them very much. There are many who criticize this measure, but I take my hat off to the President for being gutsy and saving the public. The great majority recognizes this. There are some people totally irresponsible. For example, those who go to the beach in Florida or people here who go to the park without any masks. We have to save lives. We are very grateful to people who helped us, for example, the United States, the European Union, and also China and Russia. All these countries helped us and sent equipment. Air Serbia, by the command of the President of Serbia, was repatriating people.

Biography of HRH Crown Prince Alexander Karadjordjevitich of Serbia

In 1944, HM King Peter II in London married Princess Alexandra of Greece and Denmark, the daughter of His Majesty King Alexander of the Hellenes and Aspasia Manos.

On July 17, 1945, while living in Claridge's Hotel, Queen Alexandra gave birth to a son – HRH Crown Prince Alexander of Yugoslavia. Crown Prince Alexander, the heir to the throne, was born on Yugoslav territory as the British Government under the orders of Prime Minister Sir Winston Churchill declared Suite 212 in Claridge's Hotel Yugoslav territory. His Holiness Patriarch Gavril of Serbia baptized the newborn Crown Prince in Westminster Abbey with Godparents King George VI and Her Royal Highness Princess Elizabeth, now Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. After the war, King Peter II was illegally prevented from returning to his country by the communist regime that had seized power in Belgrade. HM King Peter never abdicated. The King and Queen lived in exile in many countries (United States, France, Italy, and England).

HRH Crown Prince Alexander was educated at Trinity School (New York City, United States), Marie-José (Switzerland), Le Rosey (Switzerland), Culver Military Academy (Indiana, United States), Gordonstoun School (Scotland) and Millfield (England). He subsequently went to the British Royal Military Academy at Sandhurst and in 1966 was commissioned an officer in the British Army. Crown Prince Alexander served in the 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers rising to the rank of captain. His tours of duty included West Germany, Italy, the Middle East, and Northern Ireland. After leaving the army in 1972, Crown Prince Alexander, who speaks several languages, pursued a career in international business.

Although King Peter II died in 1970, the Crown Prince, as heir to the throne, decided at the time not to use the title of King – which he felt would have had little meaning in exile. He made it very clear at that time that he was not renouncing his title or the dynastic right to the throne.

In 1991 Crown Prince Alexander accompanied by Their Royal Highnesses Crown Princess Katherine, and sons Hereditary Prince Peter, Prince Philip, Prince Alexander traveled to Belgrade where they were very enthusiastically received by hundreds of thousands of people who see the Crown Prince as the embodiment of all that is best for democracy and Constitutional Parliamentary Monarchy.

Before the October 5, 2000, revolution in Serbia, the Crown Prince visited Serbia in

1992, 1995, and 2000. The Crown Prince traveled to Montenegro and Kosovo in 1999 and Bosnia and Montenegro in 2000. The Crown Prince and his family have been living in The Royal Palace in Belgrade since July 17, 2001.

HRH Crown Prince Alexander has always been a very ardent defender of democracy and human rights. In 1989, he took a very active role in helping his people shake off the legacy of decades of dictatorship and the regime. During the next decade, Crown Prince Alexander conducted numerous meetings and maintained constant contact with the democratic opposition and democrats throughout the former Yugoslavia. In November 1999, Crown Prince Alexander convened a large conference in Budapest for the representatives of the Democratic Opposition in Serbia.

Another symposium followed in Bosnia in January 2000, and in April 2000, the Crown Prince convened a large conference of key opposition leaders in Athens. Following the Athens conference, the Crown Prince and leaders of the opposition went to a symposium at Harvard Kennedy School of Government. These meetings led to the successful election victory of Serbia's democratic opposition in September of that year. Crown Prince Alexander has been a tireless contributor in the process of co-operation and unity amongst the democratic political parties to make his homeland a great democracy for all citizens regardless of political belief, religion, or ethnic origin.

During the previous decade, Crown Prince traveled extensively, met with numerous world leaders, politicians, parliamentarians, world bodies, and had many interviews with the media.

In 1972, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Alexander married Her Imperial and Royal Highness Princess Maria da Gloria of Orleans and Bragança of the Imperial Family of Brazil in Villamanrique de la Condesa, Spain. They had three children. The eldest son and heir HRH Prince Peter was born in 1980 in Chicago, Illinois, and fraternal twin sons HRH Prince Philip and HRH Prince Alexander were born in 1982 in Fairfax, Virginia. The marriage ended in 1983.

In 1985, Crown Prince Alexander married Katherine Batis of Athens. HM King Constantine of the Hellenes was the best man, and HRH Prince Tomislav, the uncle of Crown Prince Aleksandar, was the witness. The wedding took place in the Serbian Orthodox Cathedral in London.

On May 15, 2015, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Alexander received the highest French order, Legion d'Honneur Commander Rank, by a Decree of the President of the Republic of France.

HRH Crown Prince Alexander enjoys skiing, sailing, water skiing, scuba diving, and tennis. He was British Army Ski Champion in 1972. His other interests include music, theatre, information technology, and current affairs

Biography Source: www.royalfamily.org, official website of The Royal Family of Serbia

INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

Krajina Scholarship Information
for the Fall Semester 2020

ELIGIBILITY FOR THE AWARDS:

International Christian Ministries (ICM) in cooperation with the Serb National Federation (SNF) plan to award up to 15 Scholarships to applicants who are undergraduate students at community colleges or universities. Applicant or at least one of his/her parents must be a refugee or descendent from the Republic of Croatia (Krajina region), from one of the following municipalities: Benkovac, Vojnic, Vrginmost, Glina, Gracac, Dvor, Donji Lapac, Drnis, Knin, Korenica, Kostajnica, Krnjak, Obrovac, Petrinja, Plaski, Slunj, Zadar, Caprag, Grubisno Polje, Daruvar, Okucani, Pakrac, Slatina, Beli Manastir, Vukovar, Dalj, Mirkovci, or Tenja. Applicants who became refugees during Operation Storm (Oluja) will be given preference.

Each Scholarship recipient will receive an award of \$500 and a Membership in the Serb National Federation with an Annuity of \$500. If an applicant is not a current member of the Serb National Federation, as a recipient of this Scholarship, he/she will automatically become a member of the SNF.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL APPLICANTS:

1. A completed and signed 2020 Scholarship Application
2. Applicant must be currently enrolled at an accredited college or university in the United States.
3. Proof that you are a refugee or descendent from the Republic of Croatia (Krajina region) (e.g., a Birth Certificate or copy of Passport)
4. Minimum GPA 2.5
5. College Transcript and Fall Semester 2020 Proof of Registration
6. Applicant must present a letter of recommendation from a priest describing church involvement (Sunday School, Altar Boy, Church Choir, etc.) or from a person qualified to verify the applicant's interest and commitment to the Serbian community and interest in giving back to the Krajina region.
7. A recent passport-sized or wallet-sized photograph.
8. Submit essay about Krajina heritage (see application).

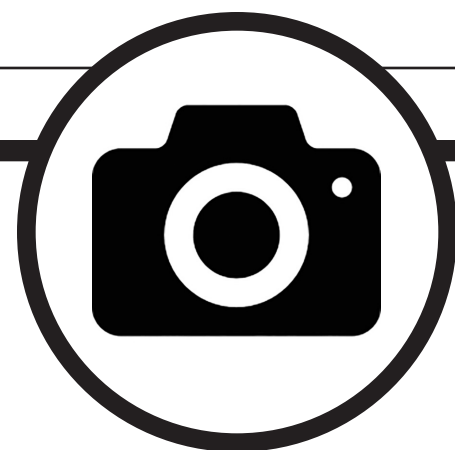
DEADLINE:

All application materials must be postmarked by
TUESDAY, June 30th, 2020.

No faxed or e-mailed documents accepted.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received: _____



SEND YOUR QUARANTINE PICTURES!

If you and/or your family are in quarantine, we would love to see how you are spending time during your 14 days. Take some pictures and tell us how you passed the time, what songs you sang, which dishes you prepared, or games you played.

There's probably a Serbian slant to all of this!

As our graphic layout artist Tracy Weir said,

"We all definitely have the time now."

How creative are you and your gang?

Share pictures and stories by sending to

sradoja@snflife.org