

Subject: INVITATION TO THE MEETING OF THE MAGISTERIUM IN BAD ISCHL (April 26 - 29, 2001)
Date: Tue, 20 February 2001

Dear Magistral Officers, Priors, Members and Friends of the Ordo Supremus Militaris Templi Hierosolymitani (OSMTH),

As announced by the International Grand Commander Admiral Carey, the Annual Meeting of the Magisterium will take place on Thursday April 26 in the afternoon from 2 p.m. till 6 p.m. and on Friday from 9 a.m. till about 2 p.m. in the Conference room of the Hotel "Goldenes Schiff" in Bad Ischl near Salzburg, Austria. Coffee and sandwiches will be served during the morning meeting, which means no breaks during the meeting. Elected and appointed Magistral Officers, Grand Priors and international Priors of the OSMTH are invited to attend the working sessions of the Magisterium.

Magistral Officers and Priors please arrive in Bad Ischl in the Hotel Goldenes Schiff on Thursday before 2 pm, if possible. Further information will be waiting on arrival at the reception desk.

Bad Ischl is a small town, about 50 minutes / 70 kilometers drive from Salzburg Airport. It became popular in the middle of the 19th century, when Emperor Franz Joseph made it his private, unofficial summer residence, trying to take leave from his official duties for a few weeks. He was a passionate hunter and owned a half million acres of woods there. But soon it became a summer resort and the fashionable society began to build villas there. Nowadays it is a quiet little town.

There will also be a social program and a symposium for officers and their ladies as well as for members and invited guests, which begins on Friday at 4 pm with a visit to the "Kaiservilla", the Hunting Lodge of Emperor Franz Joseph, where the Emperor first met Sisi, who then became his wife Empress Elisabeth.

All members and guests, who are not Magistral Officers or Priors, are invited to arrive in Bad Ischl in the Hotel Goldenes Schiff on Friday before 3 p.m.

The Kaiservilla belongs to Archduke Markus Habsburg, a great grandson of Franz Joseph, who will give us a guided tour in English. After the tour photographs will be taken of our group, together with the Archduke in front of the Villa by Howard Sartori, so please bring your capes!!! Walking time from the hotel to the villa is about 8 to 10 minutes. Please meet in the lobby of the hotel at 3.45 p.m. to be guided to the villa. After visit and photograph we return to the hotel at about 5 p.m.

Later on Friday at 7 pm we will then have cocktails and dinner in the Kaiservilla. During the dinner, Archduke Markus will be presented with the International Companionate of the OSMTH. As the dinner is on a Friday, there will be the choice between venison and trout. The dress code for the dinner is uniform or white tie (Frack) or black tie (Smoking) with decorations. Evening dress with decorations for the ladies. No capes this time! Please meet in the lobby of the hotel at 6.45 p.m. to be guided to the villa.

On Saturday we meet in the lobby at 9.45 a.m. to walk to the train station and go by train to Lake Hallstatt where we will be picked up by a boat for a trip on the lake. If weather permits, we will also have a picnic on the boat, which has a closed cabin as well as an open deck. On the western shore of the lake is the picturesque village of Hallstatt with a 5000-year salt mining history. The prehistoric "Hallstatt Culture" is named after this place. We will visit the village and the ossuary but will not go to the mines, as it would be too time consuming. Archduke Markus will be kind enough to be our guide again. Please bring warm clothing as the lake is surrounded by mountains and it can be cool in April. We should be back in the hotel between 2 and 3 p.m.

At 4.45 p.m. we will leave the hotel for the Kaiservilla to attend a Templar-round-table-Symposium on "The European Human Rights Convention and the Human Rights Charter". The speaker will be the Co-author of the European Convention and former president of the Austrian Parliament, Professor Dr Heinrich

Neisser. He will speak in English. I hope that General Mangum, Judge O'Rourke, Dr. Galli and others will join in the discussion. Professor Neisser agreed that the speech - plus photographs made by Howard Sartori - might be posted on our web site. He promised to give us a copy of the manuscript. I expect this to be the first in a series of current affairs symposiums, held during future international Templar meetings. Shall we call it "state of the world" symposiums?

This will end the official program, but I hope that some of our guests will join us for dinner in one of Bad Ischl's homely restaurants.

On Sunday everyone please feel free to attend mass either in the (catholic) church of Bad Ischl or go to Salzburg for mass in the cathedral - or any other of the many churches There - and perhaps do some sight-seeing before returning home.

The members of the GP Austria shall gather in the lobby at 12.00 noon for an internal meeting, before going home.

LOGISTICS:

The nearest international airport to Bad Ischl is SALZBURG. There is a Lufthansa flight LH 2816 dep Frankfurt at 08.15, arr Salzburg at 09.20 (and a flight LH 2815 on Sunday dep Salzburg at 14.35, arr Frankfurt at 15.40). The easiest way to go to Bad Ischl is, to rent a car at the airport. Reserve the car together with your flight. In Salzburg ask for a road map. Turn left from the airport to the Autobahn, which is not far away. On the Autobahn follow the signs >Linz>Wien. After 30 kilometers take the exit >Mondsee and follow the signs to >St Gilgen. From St Gilgen follow the signs to >Bad Ischl, then to >Zentrum. In Bad Ischl cross the first bridge, turn right, then left. Before the next bridge turn left again and follow the sign >Hotel Goldenes Schiff<. That is our hotel. There is parking space for guests in the courtyard of the hotel.

The Hotel GOLDENES SCHIFF is a small but convenient four star hotel in the center of town. There is a homepage >www.goldenes-schiff.at<. The e-mail address is >office@goldenes-schiff.at<. Telephone (+43-6132-)24241. Fax (+43-6132-)2424158. The rooms are ATS 600 to 800 (ca USD 55) for the Single, ATS 1000 to 1300 (ca USD 90) for the Double and ATS 1400 (USD 100) for the junior suite. Some of the rooms do have "jacks" for your computer. The room rates include buffet-breakfast, service and taxes. All major credit cards are accepted. Please make your reservation before the 24th of March! The event package - per person - costs ATS 3300 (USD 240) and includes registration, the tour to the Kaiservilla, cocktail and dinner, the boat-trip and visit to Hallstatt, the picnic and the symposium. All other costs are to be paid directly. Please send your check for the package not later than April 6 by priority mail to OSMTH Austria, Sebastianplatz 2 Suite 7, A 1030 Vienna, Austria, made out to > Wolfgang Odelga for OSMTH<. The exchange rate is approx. 14 Austrian Schillings to the US Dollar.

As this is a smaller event than the Vienna convent last year and all guests have been personally invited, registration and room reservation can be made on a single sheet. Please fill in the attached form and return by mail or fax to the hotel and to OSMTH Austria.

I hope this gives you the necessary information. Ask via e-mail, if you have further questions. And please let us have your answer and check as soon as possible. If you can not come, please let us know also.

I am looking forward to a successful meeting and symposium under the auspices of Grand Commander Admiral Carey.

Non nobis Domine, non nobis, sed Nomini Tuo da gloriam.
Wolfgang Odelga, Grand Prior, OSMTH Austria.
20 February 2001