



ROYAL VISIT TO NEW YORK DECEMBER 9 - 11, 2005

Their Royal Highnesses Prince Emmanuel Philibert and Princess Clotilde of Savoy, the Prince and Princess of Venice, paid a 48 hour whirlwind visit to New York City, arriving Friday afternoon, December 9th and leaving Sunday evening, December 11th. They took time from their busy schedules to participate in events organized by the American Delegation of Savoy Orders and its independent charity, the American Foundation of Savoy Orders.

They were met at JFK International Airport by the Delegate, Cav. di Gr. Cr. Avv. Carl J. Morelli, Gr. Uff. Dott. Robert A. La Rocca and Uff. Joseph Guccione. Greeted at their hotel by Cav. di Gr. Cr. Dott. Sergio Pellecchi, they rested briefly, and then joined him, the Delegate and Gr. Uff. La Rocca in a quick visit to St. Vincent's Hospital in Greenwich Village.

St. Vincent's Hospital

Welcoming them at the Hospital were executives and staff who presented the Princess with a bouquet of flowers. After a brief tour of the new Rudolph W. Giuliani Trauma Center, which will open in January, Prince Emmanuel Philibert presided over the presentation of a check on behalf of the Savoy Foundation which completed its payment for a specially equipped ambulance for the Trauma Center. Photographs were taken next to the new ambulance, which will bear the triple insignia and name of the Foundation.

Patrons' Reception at Grassi Residence

The next event was a 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. cocktail reception in the beautiful Manhattan townhouse residence of Uff. Marco and Dama Cristina Grassi. More than 50 Benefactors, Sponsors and Patrons of the Ballo di Savoia gathered to meet Their Royal Highnesses.

The Prince and Princess, accompanied by the Delegate and Dott. Pellecchi, were warmly greeted by the host and hostess, and Uff. Grassi delivered a brief welcoming speech, in English and Italian, thanking Their Royal Highnesses for enabling so many members of the Savoy Orders and friends to pay their respects to the Royal couple in an informal setting. His Royal Highness responded by saying how happy he and his wife were to be with members of the American Delegation and the donors to the Foundation, and thanked the hosts and the guests for their warm welcome to New York.

Despite their long and tiring transatlantic trip, the Prince and Princess participated with evident pleasure and enthusiasm, cordially greeting the guests. They departed for a private dinner more than an hour after their arrival.

Ground Zero

At 9:00 a.m. on Saturday morning, December 10, the Prince and Princess, accompanied by the Delegate, Dott. Pellecchi and Uff. Richard Torrenzano, made a pilgrimage to Ground Zero at the World Trade Center. They were given a VIP tour of the site. To pay his respects, the Prince placed a memorial wreath at the Victims' Family Center commemorating the tragic loss of life on 9/11 which included the loss of over 90 Italians. It was a very moving experience, arranged through the kind efforts of Uff. Richard Torrenzano.

3 GENNAIO 1889

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