



The Sovereign Order of St. John of Jerusalem, Knights Hospitaller

Vancouver Commandery



Summer 2007

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Letter from Commander Poul Hansen

Greetings to you all. I hope this edition of our newsletter finds each of you and your families in good health and spirit.

Much has happened since our last update and I encourage you to catch up on the goings on in the Commandery with a thorough read of this edition of the newsletter.



As Commander of the Vancouver Commandery it is my privilege and pleasure to work with many of our Members on the important work of the Order. It would be impossible to thank each of them here, but the results of their considerable efforts can be seen by the progress made in many areas.

While not wanting to steal any of Dame Susan Dickson's thunder later in the newsletter, I feel moved to note that the Palliative Care Volunteer Committee held its inaugural Education Workshop, at which 15 Members and partners participated. The Committee will exceed its goal of have more than 10% of the Members participate in a workshop by the end of the year. This is just great news! I encourage each of you to attend a workshop as soon as convenient.

The highlight of each year is the Investiture and Gala Dinner. Once again, we were blessed with a large number of qualified Aspirants. It is reassuring to see the growth in our membership and commitment on the part of our new Knights and Dames to the Commandery. The future looks quite bright indeed.

Yours in St. John,

Poul Hansen KCSJS
Commander

Election of Lieutenant Grand Master

Dear Brothers and Sisters in St. John,

With great pleasure, we announce the election of H E Conventual Bailiff David R.L. Rolfe, GCSJ, MMSJ as the Lieutenant Grand Master of the Sovereign Order of St. John of Jerusalem, Knights Hospitaller, to serve until the next Sovereign Council Meeting scheduled for Washington DC in September 2008.

Bailiff Rolfe brings extensive involvement and leadership within SOSJ to his new role. He has served as Marshall for Investitures in Vancouver almost since he was invested in June 1989. He has served as Receiver General both for the entire Order and the Grand Priory of the Americas, Grand Prior of the Americas, Grand Hospitaller, and Grand Marshall during this period. He has traveled extensively for SOSJ attending and officiating at many Investment Ceremonies and meetings throughout the world. Bailiff Rolfe and his wife, Dame Margaret Rolfe, have organized and implemented many of the activities surrounding meetings of the Sovereign Council since 1996.

Bailiff Rolfe's impeccable character sensitivity to others is evidenced far beyond SOSJ – he has a strong reputation for service to his community, his Church, various secondary schools and other not-for-profit organizations throughout Canada, serving as a Director on over twenty-five Boards. He founded the Chartered Accountancy firm of Rolfe Benson where he remains a partner today.

SOSJ is most fortunate to have such a strong leader willing and able to devote the time to assume this key position and bring his vast experience and quiet but firm style to the benefit of our Order. Please join us in congratulating H E Bailiff Rolfe on his election and wishing him great success in the conduct of his new responsibilities.

Yours in St. John,

H E Bailiff Owen Brown, GCSJ, MMSJ
Regent Grand Commander for all Officers of the Regency
February, 2007

New SOSJ Website!

Check it out! The URL is www.sosjvancouver.org.

Chev. Mike Klajnert, KGSJ has kindly taken on the role of Webmaster. He can be reached at (mkla@telus.net) for anything that should be posted for the Members.

In addition to Commandery news and resources, the current Membership Directory will shortly be available on the site – keep checking for new postings.



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The 2007 Investiture

On May 26th, the ceremony of Investiture took place in Christ Church Cathedral in downtown Vancouver with H.E. Lt. Grand Master David Rolfe, GCSJ, MMSJ officiating together with two Vancouver Commandery Chaplains, The Very Reverend Peter Elliott, KJSJ and The Reverend Dr. Chevalier Nicholas Parker, KGSJ.

The procession came up from the Crypt at 5:00 pm, lead by the Crucifer, Dame Elizabeth Raines, DCSJ singing "Onward, Christian Soldiers" assisted by the Cathedral Choir. Before the investiture of the Aspirants, several Members were given promotions.

The promotions of the following Members of the Vancouver Commandery were promulgated:

Dame of Grace

- Dame Karen Baker-McGrotty
- Dame Susan Dickson
- Dame Grace Athene Gordon-Collins

Knight of Grace

- Chev. Bernard Fahy
- Chev. Reverend Nicholas Parker
- Chev. Ian Reid
- Chev. Alan Wolrige

Dame Commander of Grace

- Dame Anne Wood

Knight Commander of Grace

- Chev. Kenneth Hallat
- Chev. Michael Kaile

Dame of Justice

- Dame Margaret Ann Rolfe

Knight of Justice

- Chev. The Very Reverend Peter G. Elliott

Knight Commander of Justice

- Chev. Richard (Dick) Richards
- Chev. Dr. Donald Rix
- Chev. Leslie Strike

Escorted by the Marshal, the Aspirants were then brought before the Lt. Grand Master who inducted them individually into the Order assisted by the Sword Bearer, H.E. Bailiff Paul Beckmann, GCSJ.

It was a colourful ceremony with beautiful singing by the Cathedral Choir, directed by Mr. Rupert Lang.

Poul Hansen KCSJS
Commander



The Crucifer, Dame Elizabeth Raines, leads the Recessional



Knights and Dames after the Investiture



Commander Poul Hansen, H.E. Lt. Grand Master David Rolfe, H.E. Grand Prior Glen McLaughlin and the Aspirants



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Meet Your New Knights and Dames

The 2007 Investiture witnessed the introduction of 13 new Knights and Dames to the Vancouver Commandery. The following is a brief description of each Aspirant. All Members are encouraged to extend a warm welcome to our new Knights and Dames.

Michael Bentley has been active in a wide range of community volunteering activities including coaching Kerrisdale soccer, his church and golf. He has assisted Family Services of Greater Vancouver and the Red Cross. As a master's graduate of Stanford's Business School, he now is President of an independent business consultancy firm.

Dr. Keith Chambers has been a physician involved in clinical care for over 30 years and is a medical researcher in clinical epidemiology (the study of health care delivery) with the Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute and has also been involved in clinical trials involving cancer prevention.

Howie Charters has been on the boards of many professional, community and charitable organizations in Vancouver. Most of his managerial and executive career was spent within the Public Service of Canada in fields relating to improving the urban environment and he is now with a leading international real estate services firm.

Alanna Donahue has been a community volunteer in various fields including palliative care. She worked at major fund-raising roles at UBC, Vancouver Foundation and as the founding Executive Director of the Vancouver Public Schools Foundation. She is now Director of Development at the BC's Children's Hospital Foundation.

Dr. David Hardwick has been an award winning Professor at UBC for over 40 years and was instrumental in founding the BC Children's Hospital for which he received UBC's first ever Faculty Citation Award. He also developed the BC Transplant Society and was the first Chair of its Foundation.

Terry Holland has been active in many local community organizations from coaching minor league baseball and soccer, to chairing the Foundation of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Vancouver. He has served as a board member or chair of several corporate, community and charitable organizations.

John Jennings worked in London's City as an Investment Banker following receipt of a post-graduate degree from the London Business School and then returned to Canada almost 20 years ago. For the past 4 years he has been a senior investment banker with CIBC, and was Chair of St. Paul's Hospital Foundation and active in WPO.

James McGregor has had a lifetime of service to community, church and sports organizations that earned him last years Greater Langley Chamber of Commerce Good Citizen of the Year award. Recently retired as Langley's Fire and Rescue Chief, he now devotes time to his automotive tire service business and the Langley Christmas Bureau.

Anna Maria Nyarady had an extensive background as an Officer and Director of various publicly-traded companies and started her own financial consulting service to advise companies and family trusts in areas such as financial and succession planning. She has served as Chair of the BC Sports Hall of Fame and the Richmond Hospital Foundation.

Lynda-May O'Brien was a high school teacher in Vancouver before serving as a Commissioner on the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada. For the past dozen years she has been the President of her own strategic communications and revenue development company and has assisted with fundraising for many charitable organizations.

Kevin O'Neill has an extensive background of community and charitable involvement while he has been practicing law with a major firm in Vancouver. He was a Director and then President of the Board of Family Services of the North Shore for 10 years and also was a Governor and now is a Patron of Science World.

Richard Prokopanko obtained his second degree from UBC in Forest Management, which led him to work for a few major forestry companies before joining Alcan's corporate affairs division. He has been active in the community through that company's extensive annual corporate giving program and gave a major push to the 2010 Bid Committee.

Daniel Tidball started his career as an Okanagan radio host and then worked for a major company in Japan to learn exporting before joining Mitsui & Co's management for 14 years in Vancouver. Currently he manages his family's holding company and is the principal of a thoroughbred racing stable. He has studied our Order's medieval history.



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The 2007 Gala Dinner

Immediately following the Investiture, Members proceeded to the Vancouver Club for a reception and the annual Gala Dinner. The wine flowed freely during the reception, and the din indicated that the Members and their guests thoroughly enjoyed their conversations and the jazz duo.

Chevalier Peter Hebb, KGSJ acted as Toast Master for the evening. Commander Poul Hansen, KCJSJ, H.E. Grand Prior Bailiff Glen McLaughlin, GCSJ, MMSJ and H.E. Lt. Grand Master, David Rolfe, GCSJ, MMSJ each offered their welcome to the gathering of more than 100 Members and guests. H.E. Prior John Dustan, KCJSJ said Grace.

Officers of the Order were recognized including the guests from other Commanderies, which, in addition to Grand Prior McLaughlin included the Commander of Victoria B.C., John Walton, KGSJ.

Commander Poul Hansen offered a toast to the President of the United States and Grand Prior McLaughlin responded with a toast to the Queen of Canada.

A live auction raised funds for Vancouver Commandery's charitable objective to support and advocate for hospice palliative care services in British Columbia.

Live dance music and vocals concluded the Gala evening.

It was truly a successful afternoon and evening, not only for the newly inducted Members, but also for the Members, guests and visitors from other Commanderies

Our sincere thanks go to Dame Drinda Scott, DCSJ for organizing another highly successful Gala Dinner.

Poul Hansen KCSJS
Commander



*Dame Drinda Scott, DCSJ &
Chev. Barry Scott, DSJ*



*H.E. Grand Prior Glen McLaughlin,
GCSJ, MMJJ*



*David MacGrotty, Dame Karen Baker-MacGrotty, DGSJ
& H.E. Prior Emeritus Patrick Oswald, KCJSJ*



Dancing the night away!



The 2007 Gala Dinner – (continued)



Anne Earthy & Chen. Dick Earthy, KSJ



Dame Susan Dickson, DGSJ & Dr. Robert Dickson



Joan Walton, Marjorie Knight & Dame Ellen McLaughlin, DJSJ



Dame Anne Wood, DCSJ, H.E. Bailiff Christine Dryvynsyde, GCSJ, MMSJ & Dame Hilary Oswald, DGSJ



Chen. John Norton, KGSJ & Chen. Robin Elliott, KGSJ



Viviane Reid



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Palliative Care Education Workshops

On February 16th & 17th the Palliative Care Volunteer Committee held its first Palliative Care Education Workshop in which 15 enthusiastic Members and partners participated. The primary purpose of the workshop was to educate participants on being a volunteer in the hospice/palliative care setting. Such education will become increasingly important as we encourage Members and others in the community to participate in the building of a freestanding hospice, our philanthropic project with our partner, the Vancouver Hospice Society.

The 14-hour workshop contained a mixture of lecture, small group work and individuals sharing their wisdom and experiences. A key component of the two days was communication and how to listen with intention and care.

The 15 participants benefited from learning together as well as enjoying social time. At the end of the course work, many commented that it is interesting how quickly a group becomes “community” when working together towards a common goal. After the final session, participants willingly critiqued the workshop through a written survey. This tool gives the Palliative Care Volunteer Committee valuable information and suggestions as to how to proceed with further hospice/palliative care education.

I’m particularly pleased to note that the Commandery will beat its stated objective of having 10% of the Members completing a palliative care education workshop by the end of 2007. Upon completing the workshop, every participant will determine when, where or if they “fit” according to their own interests and abilities.

Dame Susan Dickson, DGSJ
Chair, Palliative Care Volunteer Committee

Vancouver Hospice Society

On May 6th, Vancouver Hospice Society held its 3rd Annual Hike for Hospice. Several of our Members were among the 150 hikers who raised a record \$27,000.

On July 18th, VHS held a small function at which The Bridge of Hope Foundation presented VHS with a cheque for \$500,000 to be used for unfunded operational expenses once a hospice has been built.

VHS is planning a fundraising dinner on November 9th. Our Members are kindly invited and encouraged to attend with friends and family to support the important work of VHS. The cost is \$60 per ticket.

Poul Hansen KCSJS
Commander

Hospice Project

The Hospice Project is progressing well and the majority of our committee members are in place. However, there is room for any volunteers interested in fundraising, building design and construction management – please contact any of Ian Reid, KGSJ, Commander Poul Hansen or me if this is of interest to you.

Progress on the various parts of the project is as follows:

Land Acquisition – We have been asked by UBC to look at three specific sites on campus that could be suitable for the hospice. Our objective is to secure free land on a long term lease basis. The next steps with UBC are site selection, lease negotiation and approval by the Board of Governors. Everyone at UBC is supportive so far, including the President, the Chancellor, and the President of UBC Real Estate Trust. We are targeting September or October 2007 for Board of Governor approval. Thanks go to Ron Dumouchelle, KSJ, Dr. David Hardwick, KSJ, Dr. Donald Rix, CJSJ, Commander Poul Hansen, Barry Scott, KSJ, Drinda Scott, DCSJ, Barbara Brink, CM, DCSJ, Jane Hungerford, DGSJ, George Hungerford, OC, KCSJ, and Peter Hebb, KGSJ, for helping to move this initiative along.

Governance – We are partnering with Vancouver Hospice Society on this project with the Vancouver Commandery arranging for the land, constructing the building and doing the fundraising for building construction, and VHS operating the facility and doing fundraising for ongoing operating reserves and special programs. Foundation Chairman John Norton, KGSJ, and Chev. Reid are working with the VHS executive and their lawyer to draft a suitable agreement.

Operation Funding – Vancouver Coastal Health Authority will be providing operating funding and Chev. Reid and Chev. Dumouchelle along with the VHS people are working on obtaining a commitment for this funding. We have stated that we will not commence construction until there is a firm commitment for operating funding.

Fundraising – We have decided not to start the formal fundraising campaign until a suitable site is secured; however, a number of Members have stepped forward and committed for \$705,000 of our \$3,000,000 objective already. Thanks to Michael Shields, KCJSJ, Dame Drinda Scott and Buz Knott, KJSJ, for agreeing to take on leadership roles in fundraising.

Ken Mahon, KJSJ
Chairman – Fundraising Committee



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Hospitaller's Report

The last few months have seen several funding developments.

1: **Vancouver Hospice "Caregiver Program"**: We have agreed to fund our share of this program for people taking care of loved ones needing palliative care. This funding will continue for four programs through the end of 2008 for \$900 each run.

2: **BC Hospice and Palliative Care Association (BCHPCA)**: We are continuing our support of the Association for \$35,000 annually for the next two years.

3: **2006 Awards**: We gave five awards of up to \$2000 to hospice associations on an award basis. Three have given us an update on the results:

Campbell River Hospice Society: They produced 100 copies of a booklet titled, "One Day at a Time" to help the palliative care person and their caregiver understand the process they are going through and a list of available resources. The booklet has been received so well that the Hospice Society is reprinting another 100 without our help.

Pacific Rim Hospice Society: Aimed at the native communities near Ucluelet, the award supported their Grief Support Program made up of seven sessions and resulting in very good ratings by the participants.

Nanaimo Community Hospice Society: A Spiritual Care Program ran for nine months. This included new library resources, a meditation group and 28 counselling sessions. The program will be continued without further support from us.

4: **2007 Awards**: The Committee decided, in consultation with BCHPCA, to approve two \$5000 awards instead of five \$2000 awards. However, the requests were of sufficient quality that three awards of \$4000 each went to:

Langley Hospice Society: To replace support previously provided by the Vancouver Foundation and a bridge to full support by the community through one time funding for "Camp Waterbugs, Dragonflies and Memories", a camp for Bereaved Children, focussing on 7-15 year olds who have lost a loved one.

Squamish Hospice Society: To fund a Bereavement Support Program in an area badly underserved by government programs/support. The purpose is to encourage volunteer efforts by some part time paid assistance.

Campbell River Hospice Society: To fund the start up costs of a "nearly new" store in Campbell River so the Society can get a continuing source of funds.

Chev. Ian Reid, KGSJ
Hospitaller

Events for Your Calendar

Vancouver Commandery

SEPTEMBER 15, 2007 at 5:00 p.m.

Fall Event with artists from Vancouver Opera performing Chev. Bob Trowbridge's Foxglove Farm, Langley

DECEMBER 6, 2007 at noon

Vancouver Commandery's Christmas Lunch
Royal Vancouver Yacht Club, Vancouver

APRIL 24, 2008 at 5:30 p.m.

AGM's of the Commandery & the Foundation
Shaughnessy Golf & Country Club, Vancouver

JUNE 14, 2008 at 5:00 p.m.

Investiture of 2008 Aspirants and Promotions
Christ Church Cathedral, Vancouver

JUNE 14, 2008 at 6:30 p.m.

Reception and Gala Dinner
Vancouver Club, Vancouver

Other Events

SEPTEMBER 8, 2007

St. Joseph Commandery - Summer Garden Party
San Jose

OCTOBER 6, 2007

Grand Prior of Europe – The Investiture Service
Finnart St. Paul's Church, Glasgow, United Kingdom

OCTOBER 26, 2007

Commandery of Washington, D.C. – The Investiture Service
Washington D.C.

NOVEMBER 9, 2007

Vancouver Hospice Society's 1st fundraising dinner
Hellenic Centre, 4500 Arbutus Street, Vancouver BC

NOVEMBER 17, 2007

Commandery of The Palm Beaches – The Investiture Service
The Palm Beaches, FL

DECEMBER 1, 2007

San Francisco Commandery - The Christmas Ball
Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco



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2007 Annual General Meetings

The Vancouver Commandery

The AGM for the Vancouver Commandery was held on April 26th and attended by about 40 Members and 5 Aspirants at Shaughnessy Golf & Country Club. Commander Poul Hansen, acting as Chair of the Meeting, thanked the Committee Chairs and Officers for outstanding work over a most successful year.

The Minutes of the AGM held on April 27, 2006, were approved. The Treasurer, Chev. Robin Elliott, KGSJ then gave a report on the reviewed financial statements as of December 31, 2006. In summary, revenues amounted to \$106,000 and expenditures to \$49,000, resulting in net surplus of \$57,000 for the year. Charitable distributions totaled \$46,000 as compared with \$56,000 in the prior year. As of the end of 2006, the Members' equity stood at \$91,000. The report was accepted.

The Members approved the re-appointment of Wolrige Mahon LLP as Review Accountants for the ensuing year.

A slate of eleven Directors were elected, who will act as the Executive Committee:

Dame Susan Dickson, DGSJ
Chev. Ron Dumouchelle, KSJ
Chev. Robin Elliott, KGSJ
Commander Poul Hansen, KCJSJ
Chev. Peter Hebb, KGSJ
Chev. John Norton, KGSJ
Chev. Ian Reid, KGSJ
Chev. R.K. (Dick) Richards, CJSJ
Dame Drinda Scott, DCSJ
Chev. Robert Trowbridge, KGSJ
Chev. Richard Turner, KSJ

The Members elected Commander Poul Hansen as President.

The Foundation

Chaired by Chev. Ken Mahon, KJSJ, an Annual General Meeting for the Order of St. John Palliative Care Foundation followed.

The Minutes of last year's AGM held on April 27, 2006, was approved. The Treasurer, Chev. Robin Elliott, KGSJ reported that the Foundation had an excess of revenue over expenses for the year ended December 31, 2006 of \$250,000, compared to \$133,000 the previous year. The Capital has grown from \$613,000 to \$863,000.

The Foundation has adopted a policy of donating 3.5% of capital to the Vancouver Commandery on an annual basis. The donation for 2006 was \$21,500 and for 2007 it will be \$30,000.

The Foundation will be responsible for the fundraising required to build the proposed hospice on the Westside of Vancouver.

The re-appointment of Wolrige Mahon LLP as Review Accountants for the ensuing year was approved.

The following Trustees were appointed:

Chev. William Clarke, KCSJ
Chev. Ian Davidson, KCSJ
H.E. Prior John Dustan, KCJSJ
Chev. Iain Harris, KGSJ
Chev. Peter Kains, KGSJ
Chev. John Kerr, CM, OBC, KSJ
Chev. Iain Mackay, KGSJ
Chev. Dwight Peretz, KJSJ
Dame Elizabeth Raines, DCSJ
Chev. Ian Reid, KGSJ
Chev. Dr. Donald Rix, CJSJ
Dame Patricia Shaw, DGSJ
Chev. Michael Shields, KCJSJ
Chev. Leslie Strike, CJCJ
Chev. Richard Turner, KSJ
Chev. Alan Wolrige, KGSJ

And the following Officers were elected:

Chev. Robin Elliott, KGSJ
Chev. Poul Hansen, KCJSJ
Chev. Ken Mahon, KJSJ
Chev. John Norton, KGSJ

Chev. Mahon stepped down as Chair of the Foundation, and Chev. John Norton, KGSJ was elected for the position.

Kudos & Other News

On June 29th, Her Excellency the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, Governor General of Canada, announced that Chev. Dr. Donald Rix, CJSJ, had been appointed a Member of the Order of Canada (C.M.), recognizing his lifetime of distinguished service in industry, commerce and business.

Chev. Dr. Rix also became an Honorary Fellow on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of UBC Commerce, now the Sauder School of Business.

Chev. Michael Shields, KCJSJ, was appointed as The Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel of The Seaforth Highlanders of Canada on June 21st.

The Editor is pleased to include your "Kudos & Other News". Please send submissions to John Jennings (john.jennings@cibc.com or john@jennings.ca).