



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



Sovereign Order of St. John of Jerusalem, Knights Hospitaller

The Knightly News  
February 2007

**Hospitaller**

*Vancouver Hospice Society*  
Special General Meeting

On Thursday, January 25, a Special General Meeting was held in the Presidents Rooms in the Vancouver Club to discuss and vote upon a commitment by the Commandery in cooperation with the Order of St. John Palliative Care Foundation to raise \$3 million from Members and Third Parties for the naming rights to a proposed hospice satisfactory to the Commandery.

Dame Drinda Scott was appointed Scrutineer of the Meeting. She reported that 38 Members were present in person.

The Commander, Poul Hansen acted as Chairman of the Meeting. He thanked the Members for turning out for an important decision affecting the Commandery's charitable objective to support hospice palliative care services in British Columbia. The building of a hospice on the west side of Vancouver will be a partnership with the Vancouver Hospice Society.

The Chairman then introduced Chev. Ian Reid, Hospitaller, who presented the history of the Commandery's 2-year relationship with the Vancouver Hospice Society ("VHS"), which was established a few years earlier. VHS has a core of volunteers trained in hospice care who currently conduct day programs and it is operating a successful thrift shop, HOB.

He referred to the sketch of the proposed hospice building as created by Dame Grace Gordon-Collins and explained that it provided for 12 beds and a non-institutional design.

There are two major developments that need to fall into place before construction can commence.

First, a one acre property at no cost must be found. The Commandery has identified several locations, two of which are the most suitable. One would be on University of B.C. ("UBC") land and the other on provincial land at Jericho; the former is more likely.

Secondly, and to start the process of obtaining the land, a comfort letter is required from the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority ("VCH") stating that VHS and the Commandery may reasonably expect to receive operational funding. The nature of this comfort letter is now being discussed with VCH. And such a letter of will have to be upgraded to a commitment before construction commences.

The Commandery is proposing to raise \$3 million for the construction and the amenities of the 10,000 sq.ft. hospice. Based on current residential building costs at UBC, Chev. Kenneth Mahon estimates the construction costs to be \$2 million. Chev. Mahon's company is a developer on UBC lands. Costs in excess of \$3 million, which would include landscaping, will be the responsibility of VHS.

In return for the \$3 million, the Commandery will have naming rights to the building and the rooms in the hospice. The name of "St. John's Hospice" is being considered.

VHS would be responsible for the operation of the hospice, a function that will be indicated on the signage.

The Commandery and VHS are now engaged in working out governance issues in which Chev. John Norton will participate. Chev. Norton is a practicing lawyer.

The Chairman introduced Chev. Kenneth Mahon, Chairman of the Order of St. John Palliative Care Foundation ("the Foundation").

Chev. Mahon advised the Members that the Commandery had agreed that the Foundation will undertake the fundraising of the \$3 million. The Foundation's Directors and Trustees are all Members of the Commandery.

He explained the research done already and the fundraising plans, all of which made him comfortable that the \$3 million could be reached. Other Members will assist him and he would welcome other Members to come forward.

The Foundation is well on its way to have a capital at the end of 2007 of \$1 million. At this time, it is not contemplating depleting its capital for the purpose of the hospice project.

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*Special General meeting Continued from page 1*

The Chairman invited questions from the Members, which were answered by Chev. Reid and Chev. Mahon. Legal questions were handled by Chev. Norton.

The Chairman called for the vote, which was unanimous in favour of a commitment by the Commandery in cooperation with the Order of St. John Palliative Care Foundation to raise \$3 million from Members and Third Parties for the naming rights to a proposed hospice satisfactory to the Commandery and the Foundation to be operated by Vancouver Hospice Society on the west side of Vancouver.

The Meeting closed and Members and guests gathered for hors d'oeuvre and refreshments.

Chev. Ian Reid, KSJ  
Hosnitaller

## The Amendments to Constitution

Two amendments to the Constitution were proposed and brought to the meeting of the Sovereign Council in Dunblane, Scotland in September 2006. Both proposals were approved by the Sovereign Council. The amending procedure requires such resolutions to be confirmed by a vote of the Chapter General of the Sovereign Order and a separate vote of the Bailiffs.

Accordingly ballots were sent to all Members of the Chapter General and also to the Bailiffs to be returned to SOSJ International Office by December 28, 2006. Of the votes returned by Members of the Chapter General, all were in favour of both amendments. Of the votes returned on their separate vote by the Bailiffs, all were in favour of both amendments.

I therefore report that the KP II Constitution Article 3 paragraphs 2) and 3) now read as follows:

2) The Arms of the Order depict a regular white cross on a red background placed on a Cross of Amalfi (a cross with eight points) in silver, all of which is topped by a closed crown of the Order and sits on a double-headed black eagle.

3) The flag of the Order displays the white Cross of Amalfi on a red background. The colours of the OSJ are red and white. Its motto is, true to tradition: PRO FIDE, PRO UTILITATE HOMINUM. The day of commemoration is June 24, St. John's Day.

I also report that Article 8 5) now reads:

8 5) Le Petit Conseil decides among itself by majority vote who will preside over its meetings, to set the date, time and place as well as co-ordinate Agenda items through consultation with all members. A proposal to change the Presiding Officer, from its current designation of the Grand Commander in The Rules of the Order, may be initiated by a member of Le Petit Conseil and will be decided by a majority vote.

Yours in St. John,  
Bailiff A. Christine Dryvynsyde GCSJ, MMSJ  
Registrar General

## Important Dates Vancouver Commandery

### Annual General Meeting,

Shaughnessy Golf Club at 5:30pm April 26, 2007  
followed by **Dinner** at the club. Aspirants and Guests are welcome.

### Hike for Hospice,

Organized by Vancouver Hospice Society  
Details to follow May 6, 2007

### Vancouver Investiture,

Christ Church Cathedral at 5:00pm May 26, 2007  
followed by **Gala Dinner** at the Vancouver Club.

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## Dates of Events elsewhere

### Priory of Western USA,

San Francisco March 10, 2007

### Victoria Commandery,

Victoria April 28, 2007

### Priory of Eastern USA,

Washington D.C. May 5, 2007

### Priory of Europe,

Hungary May 12, 2007

### Priory of Western USA,

Reno, Nevada June 23, 2007

### Grand Priory of Europe,

United Kingdom September 8, 2007



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**Christmas Lunch 2006**

On Thursday, December 7, 66 members and guests attended the Vancouver Commandery's traditional Christmas lunch at the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club. Once again, the Chair of the Events & Social Committee, Dame Drinda Scott had created a lovely occasion for the Vancouver Commandery members to get together.



**Commander Poul Hansen & HE Bailiff Robert Brodie**

Before lunch, Commander Poul Hansen introduced the senior officers of the Order. He gave a particular welcome to H.E. Bailiff Robert Brodie who will be returning to live in Vancouver.



**Judith Hansen, Dame Drinda Scott, Dame Lorna Phillips, Dame Margaret Rolfe & Dame Hilary Oswald**

The Venerable Dr. Popple said a moving Grace and the participants lined up for the buffet that was as delicious as has been the case in prior years.

Following lunch, the Hospitaller, Chev. Ian Reid gave a detailed and informative presentation on the palliative care hospice that the Commandery proposed to build on the west side of Vancouver in partnership with Vancouver Hospice Society. He explained the architectural sketch had been prepared by Dame Grace Gordon-Collins



**Viviane & Chev. Ian Reid, Dame Grace Gordon-Collins**



**Chev. Robert & Judith Trowbridge, Barbara & Chev. Alan Wolrige**



**Chev. Ken Mahon, Chev. Dr. Donald Rix, Chev. David Esworthy**

A fond farewell was given to Tammy Steneker who would be resigning later in December from her position as the Administrative Assistant in the downtown office of the Order.



**HE Conv. Bailiff Grand Marshal David & Dame Margaret Rolfe, Tammy Steneker, Chev. Les Strike**



**INVESTITURE 2007  
Priory of Victoria**

The Victoria Commandery hopes that you will favour us by planning to attend our Investiture Ceremony in late April, 2007, when our City is abloom with its famous Spring flowers. We have the honour of welcoming eight Aspirants.

Friday, April 27 2007

Reception at the home of Chevalier Eric Charman KGSJ.

Saturday, April 28 2007

Aspirants' Breakfast at the Fairmont Empress Hotel.  
Investiture Ceremony at Christ Church Cathedral.  
Gala at the Union Club of British Columbia.

This is apparently a very busy week-end in Victoria for hotels, but we have been fortunate to hold a block of rooms at the Union Club at the special rate of C\$89.00 double/day (plus taxes). Please mention The Order of St. John, and reserve as soon as possible.

Union Club of BC ( [www.unionclub.com](http://www.unionclub.com) )  
Tel.: toll free 1-800-808-2218 or 1-250-384-1151

This early welcome is to facilitate room reservations for our out-of-town guests. Formal Invitations and detailed information will be e-mailed in March. For your further information, the social costs involved will be :

Reception	C\$50.pp
Gala	C\$150.pp
Aspirants' Breakfast ( by invitation)	C\$35.pp

Current US Exchange is approx. 0.85US / 1.00C.

Yours in St. John,

John Walton  
KGSJ, Commander.

**INAUGURAL INVESTITURE  
of the Commandery of the  
Sierras in Reno, Nevada**

Proposed bus trip June 19 – June 28  
for the purpose of attending

**LAST CALL TO SIGN UP to join us on the fun  
adventure ☺**

Day 1 Tuesday	Portland, staying overnight in Lake Oswego
Day 2 & 3	Ashland, Oregon, For those interested we will arrange tickets for the Shakespeare Theatre
Day 4,5 & 6	Reno, Sienna Hotel & Casino which is situated on the banks of the Truckee River and close to all events associated with the Investiture
Day 7 & 8	Bend, Oregon
Day 9 Wednesday	Overnight in Olympia, Washington

Thursday, June 28

Thursday we plan on visiting the Boeing Museum of Flight in the morning and have lunch following the tour and then drive home planning on being in Vancouver around 4:30 – 5:00 p.m.

For those of you who have joined us on previous post conference tours, you will know that we have a lot of fun, so **PLEASE** check your calendars and set aside the nine days to join us. Oh yes – You will likely be interested in the COST. Estimated at this time is \$2,000 per two people sharing a hotel room. This is to cover the coach and hotel bed and breakfast.

**DEADLINE** to register is this Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup>.

Yours in St. John

Dame Margaret Rolfe  
(Committee members:  
David Rolfe, Alex & Anne Wood, Christine Dryvynsyde)



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**INVESTITURE 2007**  
**Priory of the Western USA**

The following is the schedule of events for Friday, March 9th and Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup> 2007:

**Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup>:**

6:00 – 8:00 pm	Cocktail Party Honoring Investiture 2007 Aspirants	Marines Memorial Hotel Regimental Room, 10 <sup>th</sup> Floor 609 Sutter Street San Francisco
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**Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup>:**

9:45am <u>SHARP</u>	Brunch honoring Aspirants (Aspirants & Invited Sponsors Only)	The Huntington Hotel Toban Room, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor 1075 California Street San Francisco
12:15 – 1:45pm	Rehearsal	Grace Cathedral 1100 California Street San Francisco
4:15pm	Assembly of Aspirants & All Knights & Dames	Grace Cathedral Room "C" Conference Center Lower Level
4:30pm	Assembly of Family & Friends	Grace Cathedral The Narthex (Main Entrance)
4:45	All Family & Friends to be seated in reserved seating	
5:00	Investiture Ceremony Commences	Grace Cathedral
6:30	Reception Dinner & Dancing	The Fountain Room Crown Room The Fairmont Hotel

For those Members planning to attend Investiture 2007 who wish to spend the night at the Fairmont Hotel, the rate is \$239 a night, and it is imperative that you ask for rooms under “Sovereign Order of St. John”. No other name will suffice. They are now accepting reservations for us at this special rate, and to take advantage of it you are encouraged to make your res early as the hotel has a limited number of rooms. The number to call is 1-800-441-1414. These rooms are first-come-first-served and can be cancelled.

For those looking for alternative accommodations, the AAA rate for booking ahead at the Marriott Stanford Court Hotel, (which is one block away), is \$152. They also have a Seniors rate of \$144. You can book this on-line at <http://www.marriott.com>. The Intercontinental Mark Hopkins Hotel, which is across the street from Fairmont, has an Internet Rate of \$179 per night. Check at the Intercontinental website.

Please RSVP to each event to Chevalier Donald Bradley, KGSJ, by phone to 650-592-0915 or via email to [dr\\_donbradley@comcast.net](mailto:dr_donbradley@comcast.net).

Yours in St. John,

Chevalier H. Christian L’Orange, KGSJ,  
Commander-Elect, Western Military Commandery  
Marshal, Priory of the Western United States

*Pro Fide, Pro Utilitate Hominum For Faith, For Service to Humanity*