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

Spring 2011

CHANGE OF COMMAND

At the Annual General Meeting of the Vancouver Commandery on April 21st 2011, Commander Robert Trowbridge, KCJSJ transferred command to Chevalier Richard D. Earthy, KCSJ. They will be invested into their new positions at the Vancouver Investiture Ceremony on June 18th. 2011 at Christ Church Cathedral.

From Commander Robert Trowbridge

The "state of the union" of the Vancouver Commandery is robust, harmonious and growing as we move boldly ahead into the new year. Our Commandery, long the flagship in our Sovereign Order, is now financially solid and again able to continue and increase our focus on caring selflessly for the Lord's sick and less fortunate. The June 18th. Investiture is shaping up to be a memorable induction of worthy aspirants, each one highly recommended by our membership. This will be a year of transition where we see our current Marshall and Adjutant Chevalier Richard D. Earthy assume my responsibilities as Commander. Chev. Earthy has always performed his diverse duties in exemplary fashion and will be a talented and capable leader. My sincere thanks are again extended to Richard for his steadfast efforts and constant loyal support. Our hospice dream moves inexorably toward reality. Challenges to our project have turned into blessings through our continued faith and unified, reasonable reaction to opposition. Here's wishing all Dames and Knights a magnificent Summer. Judy and I look forward to seeing each of you at our Investiture on June 18th.

Yours in St. John.

Commander Robert Trowbridge, KCJSJ

From Commander Richard Earthy

I am pleased and honoured to serve as your Commander for the Vancouver Commandery. I look forward to the challenges of the year ahead of us and to meeting them head on with all of your support again. I will be promoting member engagement with the intent to get as many of our Members involved in all of our very busy committees. I know all of you bring diversified talents and many areas of expertise that can be utilized to the benefit of those in our Commandery and ultimately to those we serve. There will be on doubt be many areas to get involved. We are very pleased with the quality of all our new aspirants and I look forward to meeting every one of you on a personal basis. I wish to thank Commander Robert Trowbridge for his mentorship and confidence and I look forward to carrying on the programs started under his leadership.

Yours in St. John.

Commander Richard Earthy, KCSJ

The Reunification - Budapest - September 2010

The Oath of Reunification was a significant achievement for the Order. Many of our Commandery were in attendance at this momentous occasion in Budapest on September 24th. 2010.

The Reunification Budapest - September 2010

The Reunification Ceremony in Budapest came about after 12—14 years of diligent work by many members of the Order across the globe.

Thanks to the Hungarian Commandery we have two excellent DVDs recording segments of all the events held at the Order's 2010 Reunification Sovereign Council meeting, Investiture and social events.

These DVDs have been transcribed into an international format and are now available for sal

We have a limited supply of the package of both DVDs available to you at a cost of US$25.00 for those living in Europe and the USA and CDN$25.00 for those living in Canada. Postage included.

Please place your order with Carole Cameron at the International Office osjregistrar@telus.net

and the address you wish them to be sent. The invoice will accompany the DVDs.

With warm regards and best wishes for 2011.

David Petitpierre, KCSJ

Registrar General

Budapest Reunification Ceremony September 2010

THE GRAND BALLROOM

Signatories to the Act of Reunification

We were well represented in Budapest

The Budapest Trip wasn't all work!

Following the 2010 Sovereign Council Meeting In Budapest, sixty Knights and Dames enjoyed 8 days cruising down the Danube River From Budapest to Passau. The busy itinerary included stops in Vienna Durnstein, the Wachau Valley, Melk, Linz, Salzbeurg and Passau.

The group consisted of members from six Commanderies, Cleveland, San Francisco, St. Joseph, Sierras, Vancouver and Victoria. Skits and wine combined for some varied artistic performances and the week went by too quickly. A good time was had by all and plans are underway for the 2012 post SCM tour in California.

Christmas Lunch—2010

The Vancouver Commandery 2010 Christmas lunch was held on Thursday, December 9th at the Point Grey Golf & Country Club. The event was well attended and the decorations and the meal were well received.

We were pleased to have Dr. Grady Meneilly speak at the luncheon. Dr. Meneilly's work in Geriatric Medicine complements the Commandery's Mission and Vision to play a leadership role in the development of hospice and palliative care programs. He gave a very candid presentation on the topic of respite and hospice care.

Since 1994 Dr. Meneilly has been a Medical Director at the Vancouver Hospital. Dr. Meneilly was Head of the Division of Geriatric Medicine at UBC from 1998 to 2004. On July 1, 2002 he was appointed Eric W. Hamber Professor and Head of the UBC Department of Medicine. His clinical and research interests for the last 25 years have been in the area of diabetes in the elderly.

Yours in St. John, Dame Anne Rowland, DSJ

Dame Anne Rowland and Dr. Grady Meneilly

2011 BC Hospice and Palliative Care Association Awards Dinner

I am pleased to announce that this year three $5000.00 Order of St. John Awards were presented at the annual BC Hospice and Palliative Care Association Dinner. Each year, we are pleased to review the many applications that we receive and this year our awards went to The Kamloops Hospice Assn., The Chilliwack Hospice Society and the Comox Valley Hospice Society .

Yours in St. John

Chevalier Ron Dumouchelle, KCSJ, Chair

L to R: Jenny Qunince-Kamloops Hospice Assn., Coletta Hollins-Chilliwack Hospice Society, Mary Collins –OSJ Christy Linder– Comox Valley Hospice Society, Charmaine Crooks MC for the evening.

Grand Master Emeritus Robert G. Brodie Passes

It is with deep regret that I learned that my good friend Grand Master Emeritus Bob Brodie has passed away on May 6, 2011. He was a very special man and leader to the Order of St. John. He has provided endless leadership and tireless commitment providing inspiration to us all in the early days of rebuilding the Order. Bob Brodie, Bob Phillips, Grand Master David Rolfe, and myself, worked tirelessly to rebuild the Order. Bob Brodie protected our faith in Christ our Lord. He has always been concerned and supported those less fortunate and always inspired us to have fun doing it. Grand Master Emeritus Bob Brodie, we will miss you. Bob, I will miss you, and your inspiration shall give us strength to make our Order what it stands for.

H E Bailiff Al R. Wagner GCSJ, MMSJ

An 8 Bells Service and Celebration of Grand Master Emeritus Brodie's life will be held at the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club on June 3, 2011. His ashes will be scattered at sea from the committal boat *Tradition 1* (skippered by H.M.E.H. Grand Master Bailiff David Rolfe). Our deepest sympathy is extended to his wife Suzanne, their daughters Taryn, Dallas, Fiona and their families.

Commander Richard D. Earthy KCSJ

Up Coming Events

Vancouver Commandery 2011 Investiture and Gala Dinner—Saturday June 18th, 2011

Ceremony of Investiture - Christ Church Cathedral—690 Burrard St. 5:00 P.M.

Gala Dinner - The Terminal City Club—873 West Hastings St. 6:30 P.M.

Priory of Scotland Ceremony of Investiture and Gala Dinner—Saturday October 8th 2011 in lovely Orchardhill Parish Church, Giffnock, Scotland—More details to follow

Newsletter and Website

We are presently reviewing and rebuilding our website. The intention of the Herald's Committee to update and maintain our OSJ site with current, information.

We encourage all of you to submit any items of interest whether they are related to the Order or perhaps a personal achievement for you or your family, and of course, pictures.

We are also soliciting members with newsletter and /or website experience. We values your ideas and expertise and we would be most happy to have you join the Herald's committee.

Please contact me directly at nine-1@shaw.ca

Or contact Gail Dunn at the Administration Office at admin@sosjvancouver.org.

Web site - www.sosjvancouver.org

Yours in St. John

Chevalier Jim McGregor KGSJ

Herald

International Website launched

I am pleased to advise you that the website of the International Order has been launched. It can be found at www.sosjinternational.org.

We must recognize the extensive work done by Bailiff Prior Emeritus Bill Peacock and Chevalier Bob Leonard during the past few years for their research, for writing much of the material, and for developing the layout of the site. This has been the genesis of the website and they deserve our grateful thanks.

The site is not yet complete as there is more material to be added (such as newsletters and links to newsletters) and there will be ongoing updating as changes take place. We will be seeking comments and suggestions from our membership and plan to conduct a complete review of the website in October 2011 largely based on useful input from members of the Order.

I would encourage those Priories and Commanderies which have websites to a) add links in their sites to the International site and, b) to review their own websites for current information.

In today's world every self-respecting organization needs to have a website to publicize its purpose and activities and, in our case, to assist in recruitment.

In the meantime please publicize the International website among your members and invite comments and suggestions to me at pbeckmann@davis.ca and with a copy to Chevalier David Petitpierre KJSJ at dpetitp@telus.net. David is the Registrar General, and he is the person who has taken on the responsibility and spent the time during the last several months to get the website launched.

Yours in St. John
R. Paul Beckmann, GCSJ
Conventual Bailiff Grand Counsellor