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

Spring 2015

Annual General Meeting Sets the Direction for the Upcoming Year

More than sixty members of the Vancouver Commandery attended the Annual General Meeting held at the Shaughnessy Golf and Country Club. The Directors reported on a very successful year and gave a very optimistic prediction of the year to come. More stories and photos in this issue.

The new Prior of Canada, Chevalier Richard D. Earthy, KCJSJ passes on best wishes to incoming Vancouver Commander Dame Anne Rowland, DCSJ, MMSJ.

Commander Rowland assumed her place at the podium and conducted the AGM of the Vancouver Commandery.

A profile of Commander Rowland is included in this issue.

Dates to Remember

You are encouraged to attend the Social Activities of the Commandery. We have many opportunities for all of our members to become involved in the rewarding work and events of the Vancouver Commandery.

Investiture 2015 - Saturday, June 6,

2015 – Ceremony: St. Andrew's -Wesley

United Church - 5P.M.

Gala Dinner - Sutton Place Hotel

6:30 P.M.

Annual Christmas Lunch

December 9th. 2015

Terminal City Club

Newsletter photos by

Dame Phyllis Grady, DCSJ

Message from The Marshal

REGALIA AND INSIGNIA

The Rules of the Sovereign Order state that a protocol of design is established to differentiate Ranks and Grades of the Sovereign Order on the white collars of the Robes. Depending upon the rank, grade or office held, members will be expected to wear the appropriate band(s) of gold braid and, at higher ranks, a badge of the Sovereign Order (referred to as a 'pip'). Beginning with the office of Prior, a Crown.

Some members have asked where they can purchase insignia when promoted and where to have it added to robes.

The first requirement for members to have this done is on promotion to Dame or Knight of Grace, which is signified by a single gold braid stripe on the white collar of the robe. From the time a member receives a letter of promotion s/he will be referred to by that rank and the robe is to reflect the new rank.

The gold braid stripes for all ranks are available for purchase from Claymore Clothing who will also sew it on if you take the robe to them.

When promoted to a Knight or Dame Commander rank, the badges of the Sovereign Order (pips) that are pinned on the collar are available for purchase from Dame Anne Wood, DCJSJ, MMSJ, the Master of Regalia.

Contact information for Claymore is: 1278 E. Hastings St. Vancouver, B.C. V6A 1S6

Phone: 604-251-6311 Fax: 604-251-9047 E-mail: admin@claymoreclothes.com

Business Hours: Monday to Friday 9am - 4:30pm (note: they close promptly)

If you have any questions you may contact the undersigned or the Master of Regalia.

Yours in St. John,

Chevalier Jack M^{c}Gee KGSJ, Marshal

Commandery Directors

Where can you lend a hand? Any one of your Directors will be glad to have your help and support. Please contact them.

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Meet Commander Anne K. Rowland DCSJ, MMSJ

The following biography is the second in a series of profiles running in the Vancouver Commandery newsletters. These articles are designed to better acquaint you with your fellow Knights and Dames. In this special edition we profile Commander Anne K. Rowland DCSJ, MMSJ .

Meet Anne K. Rowland, Vancouver's newly minted Commander and big-picture visionary. The enthusiastic leader brings a depth of accomplishments, generous gifts to the community and passionate vision for the Order.

"Anne is incredibly persistent," says Ian Reid, former Vancouver Director, "The hospice took huge time and effort and then when it flooded she dropped everything and did it all over again to see that it was finished properly. Her approach is always to understand how she can help—rarely does she talk about herself, her businesses or her non-profits."

With a sunny disposition, pleasant smile and boundless energy, Commander Rowland has big plans for the future of palliative and hospice/end-of-life care in British Columbia.

"I want to inspire the Vancouver members to get more engaged, to get excited – there is so much work to be done and right now we have some real momentum. All of these things—palliative, hospice and end-of-life care are prominent issues and we are so well positioned to be a major player."

"We have some very well-connected and accomplished members," Commander Rowland explains, "It is a really solid group of people. Now if we can generate enthusiasm, mobilize them and get on a roll we can achieve some truly amazing things."

When asked about her plans, Commander Rowland displays genuine enthusiasm.

"Right now, activities related to palliative care in BC are fragmented. While there are a number of independent hospice societies and organizations offering services to their communities, they all act independently. There is little collaboration between them. I see an opportunity to assist in bringing these groups together under one central body. Logically speaking it should be the BC Palliative & Hospice Care Association. While we support the BCPHCA financially, there is more that we can do to assist them raising our profile in the province."

"First of all, we need to distinguish between palliative and hospice/end-of-life care." She explains, "They are all important concepts but they all refer to different things."

Commander Rowland explains that palliative care while referring to a terminal illness may not necessarily refer to something that is imminent. Often patients in palliative care can live for many years whereas hospice/end-of-life care refers to the final days or weeks of a person's life. The requirements for each are therefore much different.

"A very small percent of patients actually die in hospices and a much larger percent die in long term care facilities. While the need for more hospices in our community is great, the need for more specialized beds and care in long-term facilities is also great. I would like to focus on that need and explore the opportunity to improve that issue."

After two years on the social committee,

Commander Rowland moved directly into work on the St. John Hospice—something she describes as a great honour and an ideal match with her career experience. Soon after graduating from UBC with a degree in education, Commander Rowland met her husband Craig and for more than 20 years they have run a small family development business. When it came time to work on the hospice her connections with trades and suppliers meant she could negotiate sharper pricing while maintaining high standards of quality.

"We did not want an institutional look. Furnishings and finishes were more residential looking. Fabrics used were highly durable but were rich and textured to look like home. The exterior of the building was clad in granite to give a high quality look and to blend in with other buildings and walls at UBC."

Commander Rowland's dedication to hospice and palliative care was cultivated after learning about the medical system and dealing with care professionals during the final months of her parent's lives.

"I was raised by incredible parents. Both my mother and my father had a strong influence on me growing up, but I have now come to realize that I possess some of my father's qualities. My father was very entrepreneurial. He also believed strongly in giving back to the community."

Her father, Chevalier Alan F. Wolrige KGSJ was a partner in Wolrige Mahon a chartered accounting firm and the founder of the Wolrige Foundation.

Giving back has been a recurring theme in Commander Rowland's life. She now carries on the work of the Wolrige Foundation and some years ago founded "Horsepower" a therapeutic riding program for disadvantaged children. Back when her own sons were in school she started the Kids Helping Kids Foundation and over the years she has held positions on a number of non-profit boards. With all of the time she devotes to the community through her various volunteer and charitable efforts it is truly impressive that she still has time for her own businesses. More recently, Anne has branched into the equestrian world and now runs her own horse boarding stable and shop.

It is this incredible clarity of vision, focus and capacity to multitask that makes Commander Rowland a very special leader.

"What a lucky group of Knights and Dames in the Vancouver Commandery to have the privilege of being led by an intelligent, competent and charming woman in the person of Commander Anne K. Rowland DCSJ, MMSJ," says Prior of Canada Richard D. Earthy, KCJSJ, "As most will already know, Dame Rowland was responsible for the interior furnishings and decor for the St. John Hospice, not once, but twice in the wake of the unfortunate flood. For her exceptional efforts, Dame Rowland was awarded the prestigious Medal of Merit. I am confident she will make a marvelous leader of the Vancouver Commandery."

Commander Rowland, DCSJ, MMSJ

Story submitted by Chevalier Les Jickling, KSJ

Annual General Meeting and Dinner

The Annual General Meeting of the Vancouver Commandery of the Sovereign Order of St. John of Jerusalem was held On Thursday April 23rd, 2015 at the Shaughnessy Golf and Country Club,4300 S.W. Marine Drive in Vancouver B.C.

Elections for Office were conducted and the Commander and Directors were appointed for the upcoming year. Reports from the Directors were presented to the members and the Financial report indicated that the Commandery is well situated to complete its obligations throughout the coming year.

Events and Social Director Dann Konkin, KCSJ, hosted the AGM Banquet and the Commandery members in attendance enjoyed a wonderful buffet dinner and an evening of fellowship.

Member News

Order Of British Columbia

Dame Wendy Lisogar– Cocchia, DSJ,

Dame Wendy Lisogar– Cocchia, DSJ, will receive the Order of B.C on June 15th at Government House in Victoria.

This recognizes her achievements as a community leader and philanthropist who inspires British Columbians to be more involved in their communities.

Wendy's business success is exceptional but her commitment to helping others is what makes her an exceptional leader.

Canadian Medical Hall of Fame

Dame Judith Hall, OC, DGSJ

An exemplary clinical investigator and passionate international thought leader in her field, **Judith G. Hall** is a pediatrician and geneticist, specializing in the genetic factors that affect children's growth. With more than 325 publications, Dr. Hall has been at the international forefront of genetics and pediatrics for more than four decades.

As head of paediatrics at UBC and BC Children's Hospital, Dr. Hall worked with physicians to develop guidelines for care of common disorders, and with lay groups to explain genetic disease that helped parents choose among the available care options.

Nominated for West Vancouver Business Person of the Year

Chevalier Mark Ballard, KGSJ

Mark believes in public service and giving back to one's community. He has been actively involved as a coach and manager of several youth sports teams including swimming, hockey and baseball. Now Mark spends time volunteering to help kids less fortunate and give to Covenant House for Homeless youth. Mark continues his charitable work as the Rector's Warden for St. Francis in the Woods located in the beautiful Olde Caulfield.

He is active in the local North Shore business community and participates as a member of both the West and North Vancouver Chamber of Commerce. I am proud to serve as a Board Member of the West Vancouver Foundation.

Mark and his wife Jan support many local charities and community organizations.

Campbell J. Coady Medal of Distinction

Chevalier David Hardwick , KCJSJ

Dr. Hardwick will be receiving the Campbell J. Coady Medal of Distinction at the Doctors of B.C. Annual General Meeting on June 6th 2015.

Professor Emeritus David F. Hardwick has been involved with UBC for the best part of six decades, and during this time has been party and witness to much change. He remains an energetic presence on campus and influential leader in the affairs of Pathology organization and of the university, especially those concerning the faculty of Medicine.
Dr. Hardwick has been a major influence behind the faculty's decision-making. Over his long career, he was Head of Pathology, the Associate Dean of Research and Planning and continues to act as the Special Advisor on Planning.

Commandery of Victoria Investiture—2015

Victoria Commandery Investiture May 2, 2015

Our special weekend began Friday night with a cocktail party at the Beach Drive home of Nick Gudewill and Waan Bunsri. Joined by Members of the Vancouver Commandery, it was an opportunity to meet our then Aspirants, Steven McKerrill, Angus Izard, and Penny Johnston.

At our well-attended breakfast on the Saturday morning, the Aspirants stood and gave a short history of their past contributions to charities, positions on various boards, and current projects in Victoria. This is a very remarkable class, indeed.

The evening event began with a procession into the gorgeous Christ Church Cathedral. The organ is magnificent, and it is as if one is swimming through the sound.

This year there were 5 Promotions: Dame Maria Dominelli to Dame of Grace, Chev. Stewart Johnston to Knight of Grace, Chev. Brian Smith to Knight of Grace, and Chev. Dan Parker to Knight of Grace. Dame Mary Collins, who is transferring from Vancouver to the Victoria Commandery was promoted to Dame Commander of Grace.

The ceremony was in the capable hands of our clergy, Chev. The Reverend Ian Powell, and our Grand Master, HMEH Grand Master Bailliff David Rolfe, GCSJ,CMSJ,MMSJ. The elegant choir's voices ended the ceremony with the Hallelujah chorus, and the Victoria Police Pipe Band piped us out.

We made our way to the historical Union Club for dinner, where Commander David Moore welcomed the Members. Following the dinner, a lively auction was held with Chev. Eric Charman as the auctioneer.

The Victoria Conservatory of Music provided us with a quartet of young musicians who played swing music and we danced the night away.

We would like to thank the Investiture Committee, most especially Dame Deedrie Ballard, Chev. Stewart Johnston and Chev. Terry Farmer, Dame Leslee Farrell, and Dame Maria Dominelli.

And many thanks, too, to our wonderful friends in St. John from the Vancouver Commandery: Prior Richard Earthy, KCJSJ and Mrs. Earthy, HE Bailiff David Petitpierre, GCSJ and Mrs. Petitpierre, Chev. Allan Finnie, and Dame Joan Finnie, Dame Lynda - May O'Brien, Chev. Paul Beckman and Mrs. Beckman, and, of course, HMEH Grand Master Bailliff David Rolfe, GCSJ,CMSJ, MMSJ and Dame Margaret Rolfe, DCJSJ,MMSJ, for always being there for us.

Yours in St. John,

Dame Gail Mackay, DJSJ

From the Editor

I hope you enjoy this edition of our newsletter. Once again, I thank all those members who contributed articles or photos. Please remember, if you have a Commandery event or a personal special occasion, we would like to record it on these pages.

Please send any information to: Chevalier Jim McGregor - nine-1@telus.net or

Gail Dunn - Administrator - admin@sosjvancouver.org - (604) 682– 2938

Please visit our website: www.sosjvancouver.org