



Sovereign Order Of
ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM
Knights Hospitaller c.1048



The Vancouver Commandery SPECIAL EDITION

Pro Fide, Pro Utilitate Hominum

For Faith, For Service to Humanity

Fall 2020



With this Special Edition of our newsletter, I would like to welcome our Aspirant Class of 2020 who, because of Covid-19 were unable to attend their Investiture in June 2020. They are now considered New Members with all the rights and privileges of membership except the ability to vote. Their rank and the right to vote will be conferred as soon as they become invested. Many are engaging in various Commandery Activities. Welcome!

– Commander David Hunt

The Sovereign Order of St. John of Jerusalem, Knights Hospitaller (Sovereign Order) is a Christian, chivalric, ecumenical and international community of members, who continue more than 900 years' of tradition helping the sick and the poor of all nationalities, races and creeds.

Our Motto is Pro Fide, Pro Utilitate Hominum. For Faith, For Service to Humanity.

Our modern day Order is divided into 19 Commanderies (chapters) in 8 countries in Europe and North America, consisting of approximately 850 members worldwide. The International office is located in Vancouver, Canada.

The Sovereign Order is Christian. It was founded on chivalric principles of putting others before self. Members of the Sovereign Order serve their communities, just as the original monks and Knights of the Sovereign Order vowed to do 900 years ago. Through goodwill and devotion to a just cause, the Sovereign Order has been in the forefront of some of history's greatest moments.

Meet Our New Aspirants



Hans-Christian Bernhard Wolfgang Behm

Hans-Christian was born on the estate at Gross Thurow, Holstein, Germany, and now lives on Bowen Island.

Hans-Christian lists his profession as Architectural Designer, Artist, Inventor and Homebuilder. In 1963, while studying pre-architecture at UBC he developed “Kinesiscript”, a calligraphy illustrating motion. He holds a diploma in print making from Capilano University and teaches beginners courses. One of his submissions to the International Miniprint Competition 2020 in Bulgaria has earned him an Honourable Mention.

In 1969 he participated in the countrywide exhibit “ Craft Dimensions Canada” at the Royal Ontario Museum which led to an invitation by the National Design Centre to exhibit the world’s first Polyurethane Foam Furniture, the “Vancouver Chair”. Fifty years later he was asked to showcase part of his “Vancouver Suite” at the Vancouver Art Gallery in “Modern in the Making”, a Retrospective of Design and Crafts from 1945 to 1975 which is currently on view. He also built the first “Passiv Haus” in Germany using the Canadian Western Platform Method which became a technical design study subject.

As an inventor he has co-designed and patented the Adjustable Weir Technology. It is a method to generate more power from certain hydro dams without using more water.

Hans-Christian has been a volunteer since 1961 beginning with co-founding St. Markus German Evangelical Lutheran Church in Vancouver, where he is currently Board Vice President. From 2001 he was a member of St. John’s United Church in Vancouver’s West End and its Board Chair until 2008, where he initiated the “Quillow Project” for the homeless. Concurrently he worked as a Palliative Volunteer at Lions Gate Hospital in North Vancouver for nearly a decade after the death of Marianne, his wife of 34 years.

On Bowen Island Hans-Christian was one of the authors of the first officially recognized Bowen Island Motherhood Statement, a co-founder of the Bowen Island Community School Association, a treasurer of the Bowen Island Rod and Gun Club, founder of the Bowen Island Arts Council, co-founder of the Bowen Island Community Foundation and the Bowen Island Conservancy and an Arts Delegate on the Cultural Masterplan Creation Committee. His latest engagement was the B.I. Heritage Preservation Association and the revival of the “Largest Maple Leaf Competition”. Hans-Christian has twice been nominated “Citizen of the Year”.

While devoting much of his life to community service, his greatest joy is watching his four successful children raising his five grand children. His autumnal years are graced with the presence of the artist Kristin Kimmel.



Mary Jordan

Mary's career experience is primarily in the airline industry and transportation with executive roles in operations, human resources, finance, and international operations, with extensive experience in strategy development, customer service, transformational change management and executive compensation.

With an MBA in Finance from the University of Texas and as a Certified Director of the Institute of Corporate Directors, Mary has served on many private and public corporate boards. Currently she serves on two TSX listed companies as well as Mosaic Forest Corp. (Timberwest). She is a past board chair of the Vancouver International Airport and a past director of Coast Capital Savings.

Early in her career, Mary was named one of Canada's "Top 40 Under 40" and her career has continued to soar (literally) with executive roles at American Airlines, Wings West (American Eagle), Canadian Regional, Canadian Airlines and Air Canada.

Mary's directorships are too many to name but since 2003 she has been a Director of the Vancouver Opera, the Vancouver Aquarium, and the Vancouver Board of Trade. She has also been a member of the Premiers Council on Seniors and Aging and a member of the UBC Faculty of Graduate Studies Advisory Board.

Mary has faced the challenge of making final stage of life decisions in her family and feels blessed to have the resources and choices that were available to her. It is her belief that every family should have the same resources and choices, not just the privileged, and she welcomes the chance to further this goal with membership in our Order.





Charlie Kiers

By profession, Charlie is a full time Realtor and a partner in his brokerage, Keller Williams Realty Vancentral in Vancouver. Highly accomplished, he has been recognized by the Real Estate Board of Greater Vancouver as a Master Medallion Member, representing the top 10% of Realtors for sales volume. He is a graduate of the Sauder School of Business and Real Estate Trading Services.

Charlie is a husband to Lesley and father to Carter. He strives to continually improve his skills in negotiation, effective communication, conflict resolution, leadership, decision making, time management, and so much more. All are skills that relate equally well to family life as to a professional one.

Charlie is a part-time stand-up comedian who brings humour into many situations when needed.

Charlie lives in gratitude for the blessings he has received and believes strongly in giving back to society both with his time and his money. Charlie enjoys working with people and organizations which help communities not just to survive but to thrive. Along with his people and organizational skills, Charlie is also a fund raiser.

He volunteers with not-for-profit organizations, schools, and community associations. Amongst his many roles he has served as a Board Member for the Burrardview Community Association, a Board Member for the Hastings Sunrise Community Policing Centre (for the last seven years) and as a Fundraising and Communications Chair for the Hastings Sunrise Community Policing Centre. He has also helped to raise money for the BC Children's Hospital Foundation through their annual telethon .

As an active Dad, Charlie has served on the Parent Advisory Council for Hastings Elementary School from 2012-2017. He has also been a mentor to various new small business owners through Futurpreneur Canada, as well as mentoring new Realtors through his Brokerage.

Charlie has empathy for the suffering of families and caregivers. Through his own life lessons, he has endured the death of his father and two siblings, and his mother is currently in a nursing home. He has had various relatives and clients who have benefitted from Hospice care. These experiences have given him a great appreciation for the importance of excellent palliative and hospice care that he believes should be available to all of those in need of it.



Dr. Vladimir Krajina

There is a special place in our Order for those who seek neither financial gain, promotions or awards but instead know their vocation to be service to humanity and spend their entire professional service in caring for their fellow beings.

Vladimir wrote a one sentence but very profound statement in his petition; “As a care giver, physician, my life is firmly dedicated to serve others in every way.” What greater dedication could there be?

Vladimir has a B.Sc. and a M.Sc. and became an M.D. in 1971 graduating from Dalhousie University. He has spent the last 44 years as an Emergency Room Physician at Burnaby General Hospital serving his community in the fast-paced world of emergency medicine. When you are frightened and in pain and find yourself in an Emergency Room, Dr. Krajina, an experienced physician with caring embedded in his soul, must be a comforting and welcoming sight to patients and their families who find themselves there.

Renowned for his professionalism and experience, Vladimir is a valuable resource to other physicians and has served for 10 years as President of Medical Staff and for 4 years as President of the Emergency section of the BC Medical Association.

Vladimir may have written the briefest of Petitions to date but his words and dedication to humanity are shown not in his words but in his deeds. We look forward to welcoming him into our Order, getting to know him and benefitting from his caring and experience.





Miranda Leslie Lam

Miranda is a leading litigator at McCarthy Tetrault. She has a keen interest in resolving complex disputes and is recognized for her strategic thinking and business oriented problem-solving approach. She is the Retail Sector Lead of the national Retail and Consumer Markets Group, and chair of the firm's National Gender Equality Action Group.

She practices in a wide variety of areas including mining litigation, technology, contracts, economic torts, securities, internet and e-commerce issues, defamation, and many more. She also represents clients in various commercial arbitration proceedings, class actions, consumer protection, and advises family businesses, retail businesses, and others with complex issues.

Miranda has appeared before the Supreme Court of Canada and the Superior and Appeal Courts of British Columbia and Ontario, and the Yukon Supreme Court.

Her skills have earned her many accolades from both the legal profession and other bodies. Just to name a few, Miranda is recognized as a Leading Lawyer in the area of General Commercial Litigation in independent publications such as Chambers Canada, and The Best Lawyers in Canada. In 2018, she was named to Vancouver Magazine's Power 50 List of the City's Most Influential People, and has previously been recognized as one of Business in Vancouver's "Forty Under 40", but she hopes she shines brightest of all in the eyes of her family and her son, Nathan.

Miranda believes that we all have a duty to our communities to work in whatever capacity we have to strengthen the fabric that binds us together. To that end, Miranda has used her legal and business to good effect. Miranda became an elementary school volunteer and as her skills have grown so has her impact on our community.

Miranda is currently the past chair of the Vancouver Foundation, the largest community foundation in Canada. She has previously served on a number of community boards, including the United Way of the Lower Mainland, as well as chaired the boards of directors of the UBC Alumni Association and Vantage Point.



Dr. Marian Elizabeth Suzanne Lewis

Dr. Lewis is a pediatrician and a specialist in medical genetics with a focus on autism. Suzanne has been awarded many prestigious prizes and grants which permit her to continue her research into genetics. Her own scholarship is so well respected that her awards have largely funded her research for the last seventeen years. For example, in 2016 Suzanne won the Investigator Grant Award for Research into Genetics from the BC Child and Family Research Institute which provided renewable salary support for five years. Prior to that she was the Career Scholar Research Award recipient by the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research with further funding by BC Children's Hospital.

Suzanne's achievements in science have also been recognized by non-professional bodies. In 2019 Suzanne was named by the YWCA as a Woman of Distinction in Sciences and Technology. The YWCA Women of Distinction Awards honour individuals and organizations whose outstanding activities and achievements contribute to the well-being and future of our community.

Our community is also served not just by her scientific knowledge but also by her many years of continued community involvement. Much of her volunteer time has been spent on steering committees, advisory panels, children's foundations, committees developing policy and procedures, and boards dedicated to furthering understanding and bettering the lives of children and adults with autism.

The philosophy by which Suzanne lives and finds fulfillment is best described in her own words.

"My career as a physician is dedicated to helping others through medicine and its practice, and oath; to prioritize the needs of others before my own, whether in illness or health. As a mother, as a wife, daughter, sister and person I have also lived by this same principle and have never regretted doing so."

Suzanne has a sense of profound gratitude for her life and her career and enjoys sharing experiences with others and working to achieve a common goal.

Suzanne welcomes the opportunity to learn more about hospice care and with her career long interest in autism, is enthusiastic to learn about the special care and support needed for autistic patients and of life autism care.



David MacGrotty

David, his wife Karen, and their two children, Alysia and Matthew, live their life guided by their family motto, “Non ut sibi ministretur sed ut ministret” or “Not to be served but to serve”. The mission and vision of the family is guided by this and forms the foundation of their daily lives.

Professionally, David is a commercial insurance broker for the past 30 years and currently acts as a senior advisor and Vice President, Environmental Sector for Allego Global Corp.

In-between his busy career, raising a family, and travelling the world, David has blended into his life and that of his family, a lifetime of volunteerism, serving on numerous boards and associations in leadership roles. These include the Hyack Festival Association, New Westminster Salmonbellies, the Philippine Canada Trade Council just to mention a few. The MacGrotty family have created family bursaries and scholarships at the Justice Institute of BC, Douglas College and the Hyack Festival Association. Other favourite charities include local hospital foundations, youth orchestras and St. John Ambulance Cadets.

David is also a committed fan and supporter of the Olympics, working for NBC for three months in each of the last three Winter Olympics. David was Matt Lauer’s driver/aide during Vancouver 2010, assigned to NHL.com executives during Sochi 2014 and various NBC executives in Pyeongchang South Korea in 2018. NBC always gives him his birthday off as an added enticement to lure him back for the next Games.

David’s hobbies include fishing and golfing (when he has time) and world travel. He is also an avid sports fan including lacrosse, boxing, football and sumo, and enjoys a variety of arts and culture including symphony, rock, opera, ballet, Kabuki live theatre, and visiting museums, churches, temples and historic buildings around the world.



Reverend Christine Magrega

Chris is a Deacon of the Anglican Church, serving at St. Augustine's, Marpole, without stipend but fulfilled by her love of God and her service to her parishioners. Committed to serving God's sick and poor, she spends much of her time with her parishioners giving pastoral care and, prior to the global pandemic, she engaged with those in need at the Church's community meals, a local Thrift Shop, Food Bank and the church's outreach programs.

During the pandemic, Chris' ministry continues with modifications. Chris is also a talented speaker and when she is giving a sermon there is no snoozing in the pews as she is known for her ability to bring Biblical scripture to life by making it seem fresh and relevant to modern daily life.

Chris heard the call to religious life at an early age. Following her graduation from High School, she entered the Order of the Sisters of St. Joseph, a Roman Catholic Order, in St. Augustine, Florida. After a period of discernment, she decided to go to Florida State University where she obtained a master's degree in Speech Pathology. Over the next 42 years of her career until she retired, Chris worked in both the provision and supervision of services to a wide range of the population but her first and enduring love was working with children who had a variety of speech and language delays or disorders.

Along the way, Chris worked at Auburn University in Alabama where she met Dennis. Dennis was a doctoral student and Chris was a clinical supervisor in the AU Communication Disorders Department. They fell in love and eventually moved to Vancouver. When Chris left Auburn, many of her patients and families were devastated. They knew they would never receive the unique kind of caring and skill with which Chris treated her patients. Chris was so treasured there is now a well-established graduate fellowship at AU in Chris's name which is given annually to a student in the Department who shows the same passion and potential for success in clinical work with young children.

After retirement, Chris heard the call from the Church and after considerable study was ordained a Deacon in the Anglican Church in 2010. She loves what she does and the things she can do for others, still serving the children and adults in her community.



Stacy Frank Robertson

Stacy is a lawyer, currently working as a Senior Enforcement Lawyer with the Investment Industry Regulatory Organization of Canada which oversees all investment dealers and trading activity on debt and equity marketplaces in Canada.

In addition to securities work, Stacy has also served as a Board member on the Hastings Park Conservancy board, as a panel member of Employment and Assistance Appeal Tribunal, hearing appeals of B.C.'s social assistance legislation, and various professional legal organizations. He is currently the Vice Chair of the Hospital Appeals Board in B.C. With an interest in politics, Stacy has served as a volunteer on Federal, Provincial, and Municipal election campaigns and as a Returning Officer with several political organizations.

Parenting, mentoring, and supporting children is Stacy's passion. Involving children in sports, including underprivileged and marginalized children, has been a powerful tool to instilling self confidence and dedication in them. Stacy makes this happen by hands on involvement as a coach and in governance of bodies committed to children's welfare. He is a coach and Board member of the Hastings Little League, a coach in the Minor Lacrosse Association, and safety person in the Vancouver Minor Hockey League. Stacy is also a School Trustee, and a PAC member at Hastings Community Elementary School and served as a British Columbia School Sport Board Member and Member of its Eligibility Appeals Committee.

Our Mission Statement which speaks to our obligation to help our fellow man particularly the Lord's sick and poor, resonates strongly with Stacy. Living in East Vancouver and by serving its children he sees the devastation of poverty daily. Through his commitment to education, sport, and mentorship, to children he not only changes their lives but finds increased fulfillment in his own.





Marvin Ross Vincent Storrow, LLB, Q.C.

Marvin is a lawyer, called to the Bar in 1963 and is currently a Partner Emeritus at Blake, Cassels, and Graydon. He has worked as both a prosecutor and a defence counsel. During the 57 years of his career, he has practiced in many levels of court in the North West Territories and in every province except Prince Edward Island. The penultimate court for any litigator is the Supreme Court of Canada and Marvin has appeared there several times. Throughout his career he has taught, donated, organized, and lead the legal profession. He is a Life Bencher with the Law Society of British Columbia, is recognized as a national expert, and has hundreds of his cases reported in legal journals and data bases. In addition to litigating cases, Marvin is also a Charter Arbitrator practising Alternate Dispute Resolution wherein the parties avoid going to court and instead place their evidence and arguments before an experienced practitioner with an Arbitration designation and agree to abide by the Arbitrator's decision.

Throughout his career, Marvin has dedicated much of his time and skill to defending the poor, most notably those that gather around Main and Hastings Streets in Vancouver. Marvin has great sympathy for them and an appreciation for their circumstances which may bring them into conflict with police and society. He has defended many of them before all levels of courts while charging no fees for his services.

Another of Marvin's interests is encouraging and supporting Indigenous peoples in their pursuit of higher education. He and his wife, Colette, are the founders of an annual scholarship in law given to a student in the First Nations Program at the University of British Columbia. He is a member of the Aboriginal Law Students Scholarship Trust at the University of British Columbia Faculty of Law and at the Justice Institute of British Columbia.

Marvin has also served the community through sport, starting out as the stick boy and mascot for the very first Vancouver Canuck hockey team in the 1945-1946 season. Later he became legal counsel to the National Hockey League in Western Canada. He is also a football fan and a member of the Bobby Ackles' B.C. Lions Waterboys Club. He has a keen interest in tennis and is a Director of Tennis British Columbia. Marvin was involved in the Vancouver Olympics and Para-Olympics and worked extensively to promote the Vancouver Bid. He is an arbitration counsel for the Olympics and a volunteer and director of the Olympic Bid corporation. He is eligible to act as an Arbitrator at the World Court of Arbitration for Sports at Lausanne Switzerland. He is proud to have been chosen to carry the 2010 Winter Olympics Torch on February 11th, 2010 at the University of British Columbia. He serves on the Board of Directors of the British Columbia Sports Hall of Fame and Museum.

Marvin has had and is still having a wonderful and varied career. Although having won accolades and awards that fill pages, Marvin is still committed to sharing the benefit of his experiences and blessings with his community.



THE JOURNEY FROM ASPIRANT TO INVESTITURE

Membership in the Sovereign Order appeals particularly to those who:

- Are highly accomplished individuals of great integrity
- Believe in charity and enjoy the traditions of chivalry
- Wish to serve in a group of like-minded individuals
- Are Christian and believe in an ecumenical focus
- Support charity based on the recipient's need and not religion
- Consider membership to be an honour.

Membership is by invitation. To qualify for an invitation, interested people must have the following qualifications:

- Excellent reputation
- Christian
- Record of philanthropy in terms of time, talent or treasure
- 23 years of age or older. Commanderies may require greater age. There are occasionally used provisions for younger members as Squires or Demoiselles. The sponsoring member should check Section VIII of the Rules.

Process:

- A prospective member must have two members willing to sponsor them who have known the potential member for at least two years in normal circumstances. Usually, one of the potential sponsors invites the individual to join.
- There are formalities thereafter as the sponsor seeks the approval of the Commandery for the application. These include an application form (Petition for Admission) and so forth. It is the responsibility of the sponsors to see that the needed process is followed.
- Once accepted for Membership, the applicant becomes an Aspirant and is usually invested as a Dame or Knight of Honour at the next Investiture for that Commandery.

Vancouver Commandery Council

Commander

Commander David Hunt, KJSJ

Almoner

Dame Susan Scott Gabe, DCSJ
Chevalier John Jennings, KCSJ

Events & Social

Dame Heather Hamilton, DCSJ

Foundation

Chevalier Howard Charters, KCJSJ, MMSJ

Herald

Chevalier Stephen Simpson, KGSJ
Aspirant Hans-Christian Behm

Hospitaller

Vacant

Marshal

Chevalier John Cave-Browne-Cave, Bt., KJSJ

Membership

Vacant

Receiver General

Chevalier Terry Holland, KGSJ

Solicitor General/ Governance

Chevalier John Norton, KCJSJ, MMSJ

Secretary

Chevalier Glen Mitchell, KSJ



Sovereign Order Of
ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM
Knights Hospitaller c1048



published by:

Sovereign Order of St. John of Jerusalem
Knights Hospitaller
Vancouver Commandery
6389 Stadium Road, Vancouver, British Columbia
Canada, V6T 1Z4
sosjvancouver.org 604-682-2938

Herald - Chevalier Stephen Simpson KGSJ
and Hans-Christian Behm

*(Please send contributions, articles of interest
and story ideas to hcbehm@gmail.com)*