The Vancouver Commandery
NEWSLETTER
Sovereign Order of St. John of Jerusalem, Knights Hospitaller
Pro Fide, Pro Utilitate Hominum
For Faith, For Service to Humanity
Fall 2018

2018 Sovereign Council Meetings and an Investiture Service Tampere, Finland

In This Issue

2018 Investiture & Gala
14 Aspirants invested and numerous Promotions, Honours, Inductions and Elevations were recognized

Sovereign Council Meetings in Finland
Election of new Grand Master Stein

Vancouver Commandery Reports, News and Events
plus news from Victoria, Okanagan Commanderies and around North America

AGM & Townhall
A well-attended evening at Shaughnessy Golf & Country Club

Special Feature
An update from the UBC Division of Palliative Care

In early July many members of our Vancouver Commandery traveled to Tampere Finland to take part in the 2018 Sovereign Council Meetings and an Investiture Service.

At the first Sovereign Council meeting Bailiff William D. Stein, GCSJ, MMSJ was elected Grand Master.

H M E H Grand Master Stein is a member of the San Francisco Commandery. He has been a member of the Sovereign Order since 1993 and has served as Commander of the San Francisco Commandery; Chairman of the Rules Committee; Chief Judge of the Supreme Court for several years; Bailiff since 2006 and Grand Marshal since 2016. Grand Master Stein has committed to attending as many Investitures as possible and is looking forward, with his wife, Dame Suzanne Stein, to meeting as many members as possible.

At the meetings the following Bailiffs were elected to serve on Le Petit Conseil for 2018 to 2020:

Grand Commander: H E Conventual Bailiff Ian Reid, GCSJ, MMSJ and Bar. (Canada)

Grand Marshal: H E Conventual Bailiff and Grand Prior Richard D. Earthy, GCSJ. MMSJ. (Canada)

Grand Hospitaller: H E Conventual Bailiff May Storrie, CBE, GCSJ, MMSJ. (Scotland)

Grand Conservator: H E Conventual Bailiff, Grand Master Emeritus HOSJ, Joe C. Rudé III, GCSJ. (USA)

Grand Counsellor: H E Conventual Bailiff David J. R. Petitpierre, GCSJ, MMSJ. (Canada)

At the Investiture Service, held in the Cathedral of St. John, the Grand Master, nine new Knights, four new Bailiffs, two Priors and two Commanders were inducted or invested.

Sovereign Council Meeting Elections and Investitures

Members of Le Petit Conseil
L to R: David Petitpierre, Ian Reid, Richard Earthy,
May Storrie, Joe Rudé,

Bailiff William D. Stein, GCSJ, MMSJ elected Grand Master

At the Investiture Service, held in the Cathedral of St. John, Tampere, the Grand Master, nine new Knights, four new Bailiffs, two Priors and two Commanders were inducted or invested.

An Unforgetable Time Was Had By All

During the visit to Tampere, Knights and Dames in attendance were treated to a guided tour of the city, a reception at City Hall, receptions, museum and gallery tours along with free time for golf and visits to the sauna. The meetings and social activities associated with the Tampere Conference wound up July 4th with a reception at the conference hotel.

A post-conference Nordic tour was assembled and made optional to attendees. The tour included:

- a Panorama City Tour of Helsinki to discover the architectural delights of Helsinki: its wide streets and great squares; the Lutheran Cathedral completed in 1852 and the Russian-influenced, gold-domed Uspenski Orthodox cathedral; Market Square and the Finnish National Gallery.

- full day Stockholm City Tour including City Hall, the waterfront, and a walking tour of Stockholm's Old Town. The following day was free time to explore the Royal Palace, the Skansen Open Air Museum and, of course, the Nobel Museum.

- the tour continued to Oslo, Norway for a city tour that included the Fram Museum, Kon-Tiki and Vikingship Museum followed by another day of free time.

Participating members are grateful to the more than 100 members of the Grand Priory of St Henrik who organized a most memorable and productive week that yielded many unforgettable memories from their stay in Finland.

We would like to share some photos taken by Vancouver Commendary members.

A sampling of the many highlights of the Sovereign Council Meeting and Nordic Tour

UBC Division of Palliative Care is Expanding

The UBC Division of Palliative Care have been expanding, and very pleased to welcome Niki Ward to our small team, and an additional assistant with the program.

The residency programs are now plural, with the 2-year Royal College Subspecialty Palliative Medicine Program now running alongside the 1-year CFPC Year of Added Competence Program (YAC). This program has also been allocated an additional position so now we are able to take 4 YAC residents each year. We are also fortunate that a number of Royal College specialist trainees doing 2-year subspecialty fellowships, such as General Internal Medicine, Pediatrics or Emergency Medicine, have chosen to spend a year of their fellowships as additional Palliative Care trainees. We have also been able to offer a training place to a self-funded physician each year, providing we have sufficient training site capacity.

The administrative work required to get all these different trainees screened, interviewed, appointed, scheduled, orientated, supervised, evaluated, accredited and supported is very substantial, and help has been desperately needed to make sure all the other Division activities did not suffer as a result of the expansion. The Division's other activities have also seen significant expansion, at both the undergraduate, postgraduate and continuing medical education levels.

The first recipients of the new medical school curriculum are approaching graduation, and there has been a very significant increase in palliative care content in the first two years of training. The final year's content is still being developed, but will fill some knowledge gaps that needed to be left until after the students have had some clinical exposure in their two clerkship years. A review before graduation will also reinforce learning that they may have forgotten from their first two years. We are carrying out a research project to assess how the students perform in their palliative care rotations during residency, and hope to see that the curricular changes have had a positive impact on the new doctors' competence and confidence when caring for patients and families with palliative care needs.

Our "Legacy Project" for first and second years has had students visiting patients in hospices and long term care facilities throughout three of the four distributed sites of the medical school (Vancouver, Kelowna and Prince George), and hoping to add Victoria next year. This project has been extremely popular amongst students, with 10 students participating in the 2017-18 academic year. Students work with patients to create a legacy of the patient's choice that they can give to loved ones to help maintain their memories and perhaps pass on some sage advice. The project has been mutually tremendously rewarding, and some of the past students' reflective essays have even been published in medical journals.

The number of residents doing palliative care electives and mandatory rotations has continued to increase, and new training sites have opened to accommodate all the requests. We have enhanced the resources available to trainees and their teachers to ensure that they make the most of their experience, and we continue to work with the Department of Family Practice's Residency Program to make sure that all Family Medicine trainees have access to adequate palliative care education, irrespective of whether their training site has a unit that can offer a full rotation. We also continue to provide teaching to trainees from many other programs, such as Emergency Medicine, Psychiatry, Anesthesia, Intensive Care, Gynaecology and Oncology.

We have expanded our annual half-day "master class" to a full day, and have over 30 sites all around the province participating, with requests now coming in from outside BC. We also are continuing to provide events such as our annual international speaker program, sponsored by the Hsu-Hsieh Foundation, alternating between speakers from developed and developing countries. We are increasingly partnering with other groups to ensure wide access to these events.

The office in the lower level of the St John Hospice has been instrumental in allowing unto do all this work, and the imminent addition of a sink and some counter space will make it even more accommodating looking to the future.

Article prepared by Kathryn Inman, Administrative Assistant, Division of Palliative Care, Department of Medicine, UBC

Letter from Past Commander Anne Rowland, DCJSJ, MMSJ

Greetings to all. It is now mid-summer and I am looking back on my three years as Commander of the Vancouver Commandery. It was a tremendous honour to serve as your Commander and I am proud of what our team accomplished.

The activities of the Commandery Council have been expansive. Organizational goals we achieved include addressing succession planning at the Commandery Council level, updating and presenting to members the strategic plan, increasing member engagement, membership and reviewing the potential aspirant vetting process, addressing asset management of our St. John Hospice, addressing Governance of the Commandery and improving due diligence and process in evaluating and addressing new projects. Establishing a Fundraising Committee, with its Chair on the Commandery Council, is still in the works and will likely come to pass at the latter half of this year. Increasing communications within our Commandery is also a goal for the future.

Projects, the essence of fulfilling our mission, have been plentiful over the past three years. We continue to support the BC Hospice and Palliative Care Association though our awards and have also begun sponsorship of their annual conference which brings together hospice societies and palliative care workers from all over the province. We continue to support our own St. John Hospice and are currently funding the addition of a generator for the facility. We supported the newly-built Holmberg House, in Abbotsford, by negotiating a contract with the Fraser Health Authority to operate this hospice. We funded the refurbishment of four patient “comfort” rooms at Purdy Pavilion, Cottage Hospice refurbishments, and we participated in funding the reception area of the new Because We Care Outpatient Clinic at the North Shore Hospice. Most recently we are working on an agreement to partner in the construction of a new hospice as part of a social housing and out patient clinic development in the downtown east side.

In addition to our annual Investiture Service and Gala dinner, Christmas luncheon, AGM and Town Hall Meeting, new social and educational events included the Bucket List Festival, guest speaker evenings and quarterly dinner socials at local restaurants with the goal of adding to the enjoyment of membership and building comradery within our Commandery.

A heartfelt thank you to all of the Members of the Commandery Council for your hard work and dedication. What an amazing team!. A special thank you to Grand Prior of Canada, Conventual Bailiff Grand Marshall Richard D. Earthy, GCSJ, MMSJ for his mentorship of me in my role as Commander and for his support of the Commandery Council. Thank you also to all Members who have supported the Commandery by attending events and supporting our initiatives.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new Commander, Dame Judith Trowbridge, DGSJ, who I am confident will continue to lead our Commandery forward and guide its growth into the future.

Yours in St. John
Prior Anne Rowland DCJSJ, MMSJ

Letter from Commander Judith Trowbridge DGSJ

Greetings to all. What a glorious summer we are having. Hope you are all enjoying it.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Prior Anne Rowland for all of her tireless and meaningful work as Commander of the Vancouver Commandery over the last three years. As a result we are well organized and have an exciting and very meaningful project on the horizon with which many members have already volunteered to help.

I am honoured to be the new Commander of the Vancouver Commandery and look forward to continued success and our good work for the Lord’s sick and poor .

Additionally, as Past Commander, Anne Rowland has indicated in her report the pursuit of improved communications on behalf of the order is a goal going forward. To this end I am pleased to present a new format to our newsletter as part of our long-term communications objectives.

I hope you enjoy reading our fall edition and look forward to your input as we expand our communications presence through our ongoing work on the Vancouver Commandery and international websites.

Yours in St. John
Commander Judith Trowbridge DGSJ

Vancouver Investiture 2018

The Investiture was held at Christ Church Cathedral, followed by a Gala dinner reception at the Hotel Vancouver

The Vancouver Commandery Investiture weekend kicked off Friday night with a cocktail reception for new Aspirants, officers of the Order and spouses at the Gerald McGavin Rugby Center on the University of B.C. campus. Set on the expansive green sport fields, the venue was a perfect one for guests to mix and mingle.

On Saturday morning an early breakfast was held followed by a rehearsal for new Aspirants. The main event began at 5PM at Christ Church Cathedral. The Processional entered the church with the cathedral choir singing All Things Bright and Beautiful. The ceremony was officiated by H.E. Conventual Bailiff William Douglas Stein GCSJ, now our Grand Master, and HE Bailiff Grand Prior Richard D. Earthy, GCSJ, Grand Prior of Canada, Prior Anne Rowland DCJSJ, MMSJ, Prior of Mainland British Columbia and Commander Judith L. Trowbridge, DGSJ, Vancouver Commander.

A total of 14 Aspirants were invested, 9 from Vancouver, 2 from the Okanagan, 1 from Ontario and 2 from the Sierras. Numerous Promotions, Honours, Inductions and Elevations were also recognized. The ceremony ended with the Seaforth Highlanders of Canada Pipe Band accompanied by Rupert Lang, Cathedral organist playing Highland Cathedral.

There were 170 guests in attendance, 40 from out of town. Congratulations to all who were invested into the Sovereign Order and to those Knights and Dames who received Promotions and Honours today. Thank you to all who attended. It was a memorable event for all.

Commander Judith Trowbridge, DGSJ
Chevalier Mark Ballard, KCSJ, Events & Social Chair

2018 Annual General Meeting & Townhall

The 2018 Annual General Meeting and Town Hall of the Vancouver Commandery, chaired by then Prior Anne Rowland, was well attended

The AGM was held on April 26, 2018 at the Shaughnessy Golf & Country Club chaired by Prior Anne Rowland.

The Financial Report, presented by Chevalier Terry Holland, was carried as was the appointment of Wolridge Mahon LLP as Review Engagement Accounts for the Commandery.

Commander Judith Trowbridge, Chev. Mark Ballard, Chev. John Cave-Browne-Cave, Chev. Harold Charters, Dame Heather Hamilton, Chev. Terence Holland, Chev. David Hunt, Chev. Dann Konkin, Dame Annie Li, Chev. John Norton, Dame Anna Nyarady, Chev. Stephen Simpson, and Dame Nancy Van Laeken were proposed and elected as directors of the Society for the coming year. As always the Town Hall portion of the evening was both informative and enlightening.

Our Almoner, Chevalier David Hunt, gave an excellent PowerPoint presentation which reinforced the extremely important work we are doing in our community and that there is much more to be done.

Dame Judith Trowbridge had been acclaimed to the position of Commander of the Commandery a few weeks before the AGM. To complete the process, Commander Trowbridge was elected as Chair of the Vancouver Commandery Society to serve a two-year term ending at the AGM in 2020.

As part of the meeting the AGM for the Order of St. John Palliative Care Foundation was also held, chaired by Chevalier Harold Charters, who serves as Chairman of the Foundation.

After approval of the Financial Report and appointment of the Auditors, election of Foundation Trustees and Directors was conducted. Chev. Charters was elected Chairman of the Society and Chev. Holland as Treasurer.

Other business included HE Bailiff David Petitpierre who spoke on behalf of International. Topics included the Investiture in San Francisco, matters concerning some European Commanderies, the restructure of the Priories in North America and Europe and the upcoming Sovereign Council meetings in Finland in July.

WELCOME

SEEKING
HUMAN
KINDNESS

Meet Vancouver's New Knights and Dames

Congratulations to all who were invested into the Sovereign Order of St. John - Vancouver Commandery

PAUL STEWART OWEN BARBEAU

Paul is a lawyer and partner at Barbeau Evans practicing in the areas of business law, estate planning and real estate law with an emphasis on international transactions.

He was a founding member and director of The Michael Smith Science Fair Endowment which helps foster science and technology based educational opportunities for young people.

He served on the board of the Fraser Academy School, is a founding member and for many years served as a director of Ascenta Foundation for Health and Education Outreach to communities with limited access to healthcare in underdeveloped nations. He also served as the president of the Parent Support Group for Our Lady of Perpetual Help School, and as president and director of the International Dyslexia Association.

Paul has been active in federal, provincial and civic politics, and was involved in Andrew Wilkinson's BC Liberal Leadership Nomination Campaign as Legal and Fundraising Chair, and member of his policy team.

ALLAN DE GENOVA

A realtor by profession, Allan's commitment to giving back to the community has involved too many groups to mention and only a small portion can be included here.

Allan is the president of Vancouver Resource Society, a non-profit committed to providing housing for people with disabilities. His commitment to caring extends to serving as president and founding board member of Honour House Society. The society's mandate is to establish programs and facilities designed as a refuge and home away from home for Canadian Forces personnel, emergency services personnel and their families during times of need. At Honour Ranch, a 25-acre property near Kamloops, Canadian Forces members, veterans and first responders will receive treatment for post-traumatic stress disorder.

Allan's community projects range from raising $8 miilion for windstorm cleanup of Stanley Park, refurbishing the Victory Square Cenotaph, the Il Giardino Italian Gardens at Hastings Park, the renewal of the Sunset Society Community Centre through to having helped establish the first Ronald McDonald House in Vancouver.

He has received numerous awards, including Volunteer of the Year Award from the City of Vancouver, Community Service Medal from the BC Ambulance and Paramedics, Queens Diamond Jubilee Medal, the Senate 150th Anniversary medal and many more and serves as Honorary Colonel of the 15th Field Artillery, 39 Brigade Group.

GEORGE W. HIGGINS

George Higgins is a communications specialist with a focus on professional, community, government, stakeholder and media relations, and management. As president of Identity Management Inc., George provides strategic advice to clients in a variety of business areas, including navigating government processes, start-up company development, developing and improving business processes, best practices in media and government relations, and proactive strategic planning.

George also serves as Director of the BC Safety Charter and Coordinator of the Coalition of BC Businesses. Previous roles include Director of Operations for then Vancouver Mayor Sam Sullivan, Executive Director of the Vancouver AM Tourism Association, and Regional Organizer for the Conservative Party of Canada.

An active community volunteer, he gives much of his time to Scouts Canada serving as a member of the Management Committee for Pacific Coast Council since 2010. He has advised the Council on best practices and engagement and has overseen major fundraising efforts at the corporate level. George was fundraising director for the Michael Lee Leadership Campaign, is a member of 100 Good Men, and a volunteer/organizer/campaign manager on various political campaigns over the past 30 years.

George was awarded the Centennial Medal and the Medal for Good Service from Scouts Canada, the Difference Maker Medal from the Rick Hansen Foundation, and the Val Anderson Humanitarian Award from the BC Liberal Party.

THE REVEREND CANON JONATHAN LLOYD

The Reverend Canon LLoyd was ordained as an Anglican priest in 1991 and currently is the rector at St. Stephen's Anglican Church in West Vancouver. He is also qualified as a social worker. His work as a priest has taken him all over Europe working in a number of leadership roles in England, Germany, the Nordics and Baltic nations, Belgium, Denmark, and now Canada. He is a Canon Emeritus of the Diocese in Europe (the Anglican Church of England across Europe).

Jonathan has considerable experience in hospice care. For five years he was the principal social worker at St. Christopher's Hospice in London – the first modern teaching hospice in the world. At St. Christopher's he worked directly with families and children as well as doing research and teaching. He also has extensive experience in working with families engaged in child protection and mental health issues.

For his work he has been awarded the International Social Work Fellowship by Help the Hospices enabling him to work in New York at Sloan Kettering Memorial Hospital working with patients with HIV/AIDS. There he worked on an interdisciplinary clinical team, and experienced and studied the family support offered by voluntary organizations and churches.

Jonathan is widely travelled including trips to both Malta and Jerusalem, places so rich with the history of our Order.

TED HAWTHORNE

Ted is a partner in the law firm of Hawthorne, Piggott and Company practising in business and corporate matters. For over 50 years Ted has been actively involved in community service focusing on long term care for the elderly and the military.

Ted is Chairman Emeritus of Columbus Long Term Care Society for whom he has served for over thirty years and serves as a director, officer or trustee of many other non-profit charitable organizations, including the Veterans Care Facility, George Derby Care Society, President of Chacko and Lize Simon Scholarship Trust, Chairman of The BC

Regiment (DCO) Association Charitable Trust, Honorary Solicitor and past director of the Army Cadet League of Canada (BC Branch), and past chairman of 2290 BCR Cadet Corps Executive.

He has been actively involved in the BC Regiment since 1961 and participated in all facets of the Regimental Family. He is also counsel Emeritus of Honour House Society, a past Trustee of the Burnaby Art Gallery and has volunteered with the Royal City Youth Ballet Company Society.

Ted has been highly decorated and awarded He holds the Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Medal, an appointment as Honorary Colonel of The B.C. Regiment (Duke of Connaught's Own), the Commanding Officer's Commendation, the Army Cadet League of Canada Volunteer Service Medal for "continuous and meritorious service" and the Caring Canadian Award by the Governor-General, and the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers.

GLEN MITCHELL

Glen's life's work has been founded on these four pillars: social justice, human rights, faith, and volunteer work. He was the Director of Stewardship and Gift Development for the Diocese of New Westminster from 2004 to 2017. Glen chaired the Governance Committee of Cristosal and has been a member of the board since 2013. He is currently the leader of the Cristosal Team which raises funds, tells the Central American story in the Diocese of New Westminster, and holds events to educate and inform people of the struggles that others endure.

He has worked with Cristosal since 2009 visiting El Salvador many times; three times as an election observer for the presidential and legislative/municipal elections.

Glen currently serves on the Coordinating Committee of the Resources for Mission of the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada, Associate Bishop's Warden of St. Mary's Anglican Church (Kerrisdale), an elected member of the Resources for Mission Committee of the Anglican Church and Seniors Representative for Vancouver South Electoral District Association. He continues to consult with the Diocese of New Westminster and various parishes in the Anglican Church of Canada.

In addition to skills in governance and diplomacy, Glen is a Certified Fundraising Executive and in 2010 obtained a Master of Arts in Theological Studies from Vancouver School of Theology.

DERRAL MORIYAMA

Derral is the Senior Vice-President, Business Development, Western Canada, Bank of Montreal. With 39 years of experience in the banking industry he has held a number of executive positions in Commercial and Corporate Banking, Natural Resource Account Management, Risk Management and Retail Banking. Derral has an M.B.A. from the University of Toronto and completed the Executive Development Programs at the Banff School of Management and the Kellogg School of Business in Chicago.

Derral has used his vast experience in finance to give back to the community by assisting many not-for-profits organizations concerned with a wide variety of interests, including amongst others, those dedicated to the military, sports, fish, and the theatre.

He is Chair of Canadian Forces Liaison Council Pacific Region, Finance Chair and board member of the B.C. Arts Council and has served on the R.C.M.P. Commanding Officer's Diversity Council. He is also the founding member and treasurer of the B.C. Football Hall of Fame, Past Chair of the Vancouver Aquarium and Co-Chair of First West Theatre Capital Campaign for the Arts Club Theatre and Bard on the Beach.

JOHN ORMISTON

John is Tax Partner at Smythe LLP and has 30 years of experience in both public and private practice across a wide variety of industries including real estate, food processing, forestry, yacht building, manufacturing, legal, professional corporations and technology. His focus has been on owner-management enterprises, specifically corporate reorganizations, mergers, acquisitions, dispositions and succession planning.

He has a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of British Columbia, a Magister Scientia degree from the University of Wales, and is a Chartered Accountant, a Chartered Professional Accountant and a Trust and Estate Practitioner.

John has been an arbitrating member with the Vancouver Marine Arbitrators Association, a subject John knows well as he is also a licensed Ship's Master.

Throughout his professional career he has volunteered on many boards, usually in a finance or treasurer capacity. These boards have included the North Shore Winter Club, Seymour Golf and Country Club, The British Columbia Sports Hall of Fame and Museum and, most recently, the British Columbia Sports Hall of Fame Foundation.

TAMARA VROOMAN

Tamara is the CEO of VanCity, Canada's largest credit union. She has vast experience as an executive leader in the financial industry and in government service. Tamara was the Deputy Minister of Finance, Secretary to Treasury Board and CEO of the Employers' Council. She was also Deputy Minister and Executive Financial Officer for the Ministry of Health, Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate Services and Financial Accountability, Executive Director, Funding Planning and Evaluation, and Manager of the Treasury Board Staff. It was during her work with the Ministry of Health that she became interested in the need for palliative and hospice care.

Her board experience, requiring her financial expertise, include the Sauder School of Business, the YVR Airport Authority Board of Directors, the Minister's Council on Employment and Accessibility, and the Rick Hansen Foundation.

For her considerable achievements Tamara has won many awards. In 2016 she was awarded both the Peter Lougheed Award for Public Policy and a Simon Fraser Honorary Doctorate. Tamara also holds an Honorary Doctorate from BCIT. In 2015 she was named CEO of the year for a Major Private Company. She also been awarded the Women of Distinction Award. Tamara has also been named (several times) amongst the Top 100 Most Powerful Women Award, Women's Executive Network.

Upcoming Events, Vancouver

October 3, 2018
Vancouver Commandery Council Meeting

October, 2018
Social Event - date and place yet to be determined

November 28, 2018
Christmas Lunch - Hycroft Manor

June 7/8, 2019
Vancouver Commandery Investiture

Upcoming Events, Worldwide

September 15, 2018
St. Joseph Commandery Summer Garden Party

September 29, 2018
Ontario Commandery 2018 Fun Run/Walk for Palliative Care

October 6, 2018
Western Military Commandery "Under The Angels"

October 13, 2018
Victoria Commandery Investiture

October 20, 2018
Western Military Commandery Crusade V

November 3, 2018
Okanagan Commandery "Art Because You Care" Fundraiser

November 11, 2018
Western Military Commandery Veterans' Day Observance and Brunch

November 16 - 17, 2018
London Commandery Investiture

November 24, 2018
Commandery of Hungary Investiture

December 1, 2018
San Francisco Commandery White Cross Ball

December 13, 2018
St. Joseph Commandery Christmas Party

April 27-28, 2019
Priories of Western United States and San Francisco Area Investiture

June 22, 2019
Commandery of the Sierras Investiture

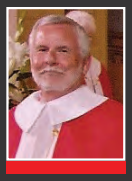
November 8 - 9, 2019
Commandery of the Palm Beaches Investiture

September 14 – 20, 2020
Sovereign Council Meeting - Vancouver 2020

Dame Dr. Elaine Katte, GCSJ of the Brisbane Australia Commandery visited Vancouver recently. Dame Katte is a member of the Queensland Priory Council and is the most senior Dame in the Grand Priory of Australasia. Commander Judith Trowbridge, Prior Anne Rowland, HE Conventual Bailiff Grand Commander Ian Reid and HE Conventual Bailiff Grand Marshal Richard Earthy spent a morning meeting with Dame Katte, touring St. John Hospice and concluding with lunch at Shaughnessy Golf & Country Club. By way of background, SOSJ has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Grand Priory of Australasia with a view to possible reunification at the next Sovereign Council Meeting in Vancouver in 2020.

(l to r) HE Conventual Bailiff Grand Commander Ian Reid, Commander Judith Trowbridge, Prior Anne Rowland, Dame Dr. Elaine Katte, HE Conventual Bailiff Grand Marshal Richard Earthy

Welcome to the Fall 2018 newsletter



I am honoured to be the Herald of the Vancouver Commandery, taking over from Jim McGregor who has been wonderful in guiding me through the steps of this role. On the subject of steps, he left some very large boots to be filled.

Many exciting changes are upon us, starting with the leadership of our new Commander, Judith Trowbridge DGSJ. As part of her goals going forward we will be working with the Vancouver Commandery Officers to develop a communications plan that will help us focus on ways to constantly improve our membership communications and outreach with the message of our mission and projects to help the Lord's sick and poor.

We hope you enjoy the new format of the Vancouver Commandery newsletter.

We welcome any input and sugestions as we go forward. As always we welcome story ideas and in particular, if you are attending an event we would be grateful to have photography and/or a write up of the activity so we can share with the members.

Contact information is shown below.

Yours in St. John
Chevalier Stephen (Steve) Simpson KSJ, Herald

Newsletter published by:

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

Newsletter Editor
Stephen Simpson KSJ, Herald
(Please send contributions, articles of interest and story ideas to steve@beachgrove.ca)

Acknowledgements
Special thank you to Noriko Tidball, Phylis Grady, Anne Rowland and Kirk Hamilton for photography,