

# THE ST. GEORGE CHRONICLE

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Newsletter

July 2021



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## Welcome

Fellow Knights and Dames of our Order:

I hope you are well, and staying safe and vigilant as the pandemic that has dominated our lives for the past year and a half begins to ease and we look to better times ahead. Much has happened over the last couple of months, and I am very enthusiastic about our new Board of Directors, who have the experience and expertise to improve the administration of the Order and develop plans to keep moving us forward. The Priors are well positioned to engage your ideas and many talents.

We have also established two Board Committees: Governance; and Program. The Governance Committee is charged primarily with the development and preparation of a new Board Policy Manual, and the Program Committee will oversee the Good Works of the Order, both charitable and non-charitable, to ensure that all of our fundraising efforts are carried out in alignment with our Purpose and in accordance with the charitable guidelines. We need volunteers to participate on these committees, so if you are interested, please let your Prior or Board Directors know. Our membership is blessed with accomplished people from all walks of life who are committed to our Purpose, and we look forward to hearing from you.

We will conduct another virtual Investiture this October—more information to follow. If you have worthy Postulants in mind, please review the postulant nomination process and invite them to receive the recognition they deserve. We are also planning two in-person Investitures in 2022: one in April in the West (Vancouver); and one in October in the East (Kingston).

Thank you all for your ongoing support and for living the Chivalric virtues that distinguish us as Knights and Dames of the Order of St. George. It is an honour to be associated with such amazing people.

Yours in the Spirit of St. George,

Chevalier Charles Hill KGCStG  
Grand Prior

# Order & Foundation Updates

The Order and the Foundation are pleased to make the following announcements and, on behalf of the entire membership, offer their sincere appreciation to the Knights and Dames noted here who have given so greatly of their time and effort.

Following the Annual Meeting of the Members of the Corporation of the Order of St. George and the first Directors-only Meeting of June 25th, 2021, the Board of Directors will comprise 13 elected Directors and includes, as Ex-officio members, the Grand Prior and the Chair of the Foundation Board of Directors. The Directors and their respective terms are set out here:

Directors		Term Ending		
		2022	2023	2024
John Pickford	Elected AGM 2019	X		
Robert Hamilton	Elected AGM 2020	X		
David Sutton	Elected AGM 2020	X		
William Foote	Appointed 25 Jun 2021	X		
Paul Henry	Elected AGM 2020		X	
Gil Taylor	Elected AGM 2020		X	
Thomas Burnie	Appointed 25 Jun 2021		X	
Dan Hutt	Elected AGM 2021		X	
Nishika Jardine	Elected AGM 2021			X
Allan Plett	Elected AGM 2021			X
Ian Steingaszner	Elected AGM 2021			X
Dagmar Teubner	Elected AGM 2021			X
vacant	TBC			

The Officers of the Corporation of the Order of St. George and the Board Committee Chairs are as follows:

Board Chair: Dame Dagmar Teubner DGCStG  
 Vice-Chair (Operations): Dame Nishika Jardine DGCStG  
 Secretary: Chevalier David Sutton KCStG  
 Treasurer: Chevalier Ian Steingaszner KStG  
 Chair Governance Committee: Chevalier Thomas Burnie KCStG  
 Chair Program Committee: Dame Linda Colwell DCStG

Chevalier Cameron Diggon KStG has resigned from the position of Chair of the Foundation Board effective May 31st, 2021, and is expected to be replaced following the Foundation AMM scheduled for July 21st, 2021.

Chevaliers Allan Plett KCStG and Terence Cottrell KCStG have stepped down from the Foundation Board after several years of service.

Chevalier Cameron Diggon KStG has stepped down as Prior for both Prairies and Cascadia, and Chevalier Allan Plett KCStG was appointed in his place on April 21st, 2021. At the same time, Chevalier John Wojcik KStG was appointed as Deputy Prior Prairies.

## Promotions

The Grand Prior, in consultation with the Priors, is pleased to announce the following promotions:

March 17th, 2021:

Chevalier Steven Mohns to Knight Grand Cross  
 Chevalier Ian Poulter to Knight Commander

April 21st, 2021:

Dame Colleen Calvert to Dame Commander  
 Chevalier Bryan Elson to Knight Commander  
 Chevalier Tony Goode to Knight Commander

May 26th, 2021:

Chevalier Earle Eastman to Knight Commander

June 16th, 2021:

Chevalier Tom Burnie to Knight Commander  
 Dame Linda Colwell to Dame Commander  
 Dame Nishika Jardine to Dame Grand Cross  
 Chevalier John Pickford to Knight Grand Cross  
 Dame Dagmar Teubner to Dame Grand Cross

## Inviting New Members

There is still enough time before the next planned Investiture to submit an Application and Postulant Petition for membership in our Order, and every Knight and Dame is encouraged to consider to whom they might wish to extend such an invitation.

As a reminder, an invitation for membership is not based on an individual's personal or financial

success; rather Members of The Order are distinguished by a lifetime of accomplishment and service to others. Prospective members should be informed of the following basic requirements:

There is an initial Fee of Passage of \$750 which covers the cost of the Investiture Ceremony as well as the new member's personal regalia, scroll and vestments.

Annual membership dues of \$150 are required to maintain membership and the right to wear the Insignia and use the post-nominals.

There is an expectation that members will support the Order's charitable and good works with their actions, efforts and resources according to their means.

Once you have extended an invitation and the prospective member accepts, they become a Postulant. The Application and Postulant Petition is now completed online through this link: [Application and Petition](#)

## Priority News

### Atlantic Priory:

For the past 3 years, except for 2020, Atlantic Priory has held a Fall Black Tie fundraising dinner for Paws Fur Thought (PFT) ([www.pawsfurthought.ca](http://www.pawsfurthought.ca)), a volunteer organization that provides service dogs to veterans and first responders suffering from post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). PFT is the recognized service dog provider by Wounded Warriors Canada ([www.woundedwarriors.ca](http://www.woundedwarriors.ca)) for Atlantic Canada and is a CRA registered charity under the umbrella of the Nova Scotia/Nunavut Command Headquarters of the Royal Canadian Legion ([www.ns.legion.ca](http://www.ns.legion.ca)). However, as there was no guarantee that restrictions would be eased to accommodate an indoor large gathering this fall, the Priory decided to embark on another approach to fundraising for PFT.

To that end, Atlantic Priory is focussing efforts on hosting a golf tournament to be held at Glen Arbour Golf Course ([www.glenarbour.com](http://www.glenarbour.com)) in Hammonds Plains, NS (a Halifax suburb) on Wednesday 6 October 2021. This promises to be a high-end and high visibility tournament with many local, provincial and national corporations in attendance and in support.

Atlantic Priory is using the event feature in our new Member365 membership portal for registration, payment and donations. This is a user friendly page that also allows for an opportunity to list those who will form a foursome and to make lunch choices. All donations done online receive a 100% tax receipt immediately. Sponsors' logos will receive prominent display on the website. It needs to be mentioned that the website was built by Field Dame Vickie Russell, the Order's Administration Officer, and the success of the platform would not be possible without her first-class support. Member365 is an excellent platform to conduct any type of fundraising event.

Atlantic Priory is excited to be conducting this event and to raise funds for this most worthwhile cause.

Chevalier John Pickford KGCStG  
Prior Atlantic

## In Memoriam

Like all associations, our Order experiences the cycle of life and mourns the loss of our brothers and sisters. We honour them and are grateful for their dedication to the Order and their service to others. On behalf of all the Knights and Dames of the Order of St. George, I wish them and their families our blessings. They are remembered.

Chevalier Charles Hill KGCStG  
Grand Prior

## Chevalier Larry Arkell KStG

Chevalier Larry Arkell, Veteran and Knight of the Order of St George, passed from this world the evening of May 12 2021 at 7:30 pm. His last days were spent in the palliative care unit at Laurel Place in Surrey, BC. Larry's life was one of service. He served in the Canadian Armed Forces as an anti-submarine weapons officer. He also served as a volunteer ski patroller in Comox at Mt Washington. A philosopher (BA UVic), Larry also served as a line social worker for 13 years, and self-identified as Métis, becoming a respected voice of the Métis community in Surrey (Living Historian). His loss is lamented by his friends, family and community, including Suzanne, Joy, Brian, Louis, Richard, Steve, Carolyn, Chelsea, Shelly, Allan and many more too numerous to mention here. Larry loved his Yamaha Maxim Motorcycle and in a last act of service to others, donated it to Cascadia Priory to fund raise for two PTSD Service dogs. He was a warrior, a man steadfast in his beliefs and a tireless champion of the needy. Rest in Peace my fine friend.

It was my Privilege and Honor to recommend Larry's Postulant Petition to the Order of St George. He embodied the attributes of chivalry that are the foundation of the Order. A man of many talents, history, understanding and culture beyond his own, he brought blessings to all he met.

I will always remember our conversation the day he passed, the both of us deep in the history of the Plains Archaic People, the origins of Canada and the North West Mounted Police in the West. Travel well, be guided by the ancestors and the Great Maker's Love.

Chevalier Steven Mohns KGCSStG

As Prior of Cascadia Priory and on behalf of our members I lament that our numbers are sadly reduced by the loss of a most honorable soul, Chevalier Larry Arkell. This true Knight has departed the world to "Rest in Peace" in the beyond. Larry was a Gentleman's Gentleman. I was absolutely overjoyed when he accepted my invitation to become a Knight of the Order

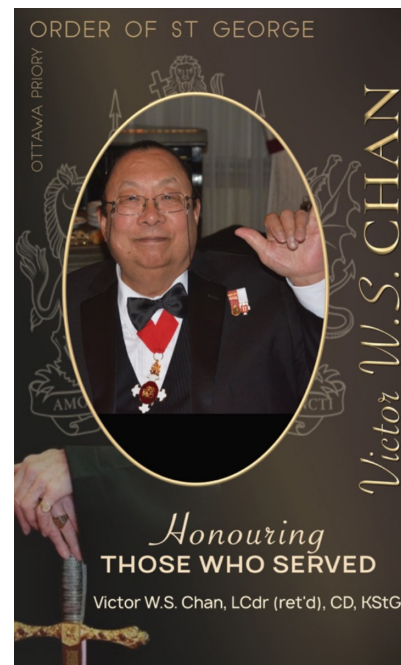
of St George and he quickly proved resolute in his dedication to the mission of the Order. As a member of Cascadia Priory and indeed the Order he will never be forgotten.

In the Spirit of St George,

Chevalier Allan Plett CD KCStG  
Prior Cascadia

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## Chevalier LCdr (Ret'd) Victor W.S. Chan CD KStG



On 18 March 2021, Chevalier Victor W.S. Chan passed from this world into the next. He was a proud member of the Order of St. George, member of the Royal Canadian Legion, and a sailor retired from the Royal Canadian Navy who felt honoured to have worn the uniform and serve his country. Victor Chan was invested into the Order in October 2013 at a ceremony in Toronto. As a member in the Ottawa Priory, Victor supported the priory's efforts for Equestrian Therapy programs, the training of service dogs for veterans and first responders, as well as veterans' programs through the Royal Ottawa Hospital for those living with post-traumatic stress. He assisted with local ceremonies to initiate veterans as Field Knights and Field Dames, often being bestowed with a kiss on the

cheek from the ladies, and hug or handshake from the gentlemen as they received their medals. He could be seen at Gala fundraisers conversing with guests, welcoming them through his interest for their concerns. His sense of humour and infectious smile kept people close and helped them feel at ease when they needed support. When entering or leaving a room, Victor would usually sign in with a “hang-loose” hand wave, the Hawaiian shaka greeting for “Aloha,” friendship and gratitude, that he freely gave to all. Victor was a strong advocate for veterans and those in service, both military and RCMP. He served as Veterans’ Service Officer at the RCL Branch he belonged to as well as at the Zone level. One of his concerns was that we are slowly losing our Living Memory of events such as WW2, Korea, and Canada’s early peacekeeping efforts with the passing and loss of our elder veterans. He felt veterans’ stories needed to be heard from those who lived the events and to be honoured by those given the privilege to hear them out. On visits to local seniors’ homes or to hospitals, Victor would take extra time to listen and interact with veterans, leaving them knowing someone had heard what they had to say. Above all, Victor Chan was and will always be a proud Canadian sailor commissioned from the ranks serving 35 years in the Canadian Armed Forces / Royal Canadian Navy, a veteran of a forgotten Cold War era, a staunch advocate for veterans and their families through the RCL and the Order of St George, someone who loved the outdoors, fishing and animals, someone who lived his life with as much dignity, humility, integrity, and grace as he could under good circumstances as well as trying ones. Victor tried to treat all of God’s beings with kindness and with respect. Victor did not want to burden anyone with his problems - he wanted to maintain his privacy during his time in hospital, first in the Cardiac Ward and then in ICU. His concern in ICU was for the doctors and nursing staff who took care of him until the end, often asking, during his last two days, how they were holding up. Victor died with his wife by his side, holding his hand and continuing to talk to him until well after he had drawn his last breath.

With his passing, Victor would want those who cared about him, not to mourn his death, but to celebrate his life and what he and the uniform he so proudly wore stood for, and to remember the strength, sacrifice, and honour of those who served and currently serve in Canada’s Armed Forces and in the RCMP on our behalf. Victor W.S. Chan will be remembered in the hearts and souls of those he held dear.

Dame Laura Ozimek DStG

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### **Chevalier Michael Duggan KStG**

On February 9th, 2020, we lost our beloved father, CW5 (Ret.) Michael P. Duggan, aged 84 years. He was a steadfast pillar of strength and faith to our family and community. He was a loving husband to our mother for 60 years, a father to 5 and grandfather to 7. Our father enlisted in the United States Army at the age of 18 serving in the Korean War and was later mobilized to serve in Operation Desert Storm. He served a lengthy admirable career in the Active Army, Army Reserve and New York National Guard. His life was dedicated to the principles that he learned as an enlisted soldier and continued as an Army Officer. For many years, Mike was also the Commander of the American Legion Post #63, Lackawanna, New York. Mike was an American Patriot who loved his country, upheld the Constitution of the United States in his service and as a private civilian. He was the epitome of a dedicated servant to his country, a role model to his family and a dear and loyal friend to many. When asked by Bill Foot to join the Knights of St. George after the 9/11 attack, our father was so honored and thrilled to be part of this distinguished body of men and women. On a gorgeous Autumn evening, my mother and I accompanied him to the induction ceremony held at Christ Church, where he was sworn in. My father accepted this honor humbly.

In our youth and now adulthood, Canada in so many ways had served as a second home to our

family. Our father's parents owned the old pumping station at the point in Fort Erie that they converted into a summer home. We vacationed in Canada every summer in our youth at a cottage rented in Thunder Bay. My mother, a member at the Fort Erie Tennis club, played tennis every Tuesday night with her Canadian friends. As an International Figure Skating Judge, my mother gathered many wonderful lifelong friends and acquaintances throughout Ontario. For 26 years, I have been a member at the Buffalo Canoe Club at Point Abino and have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the Canadian sailors, tennis and pickle ball players! My father was a son to America and a brother to Canada. On behalf of my siblings, I want to thank Bill Foote and The Knights of St. George for honoring our father as a member in The Knights of St. George.

Sincerely,  
Mary Grace Duggan and the Duggan Family

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### **Chevalier Dave Sopha KStG**

Chevalier Dave Sopha of Cambridge Ontario, Toronto Priory of the Order of St George passed at 11:11 pm on Sunday May 16 of pancreatic cancer. The son of a WW2 Dispatch Rider veteran and a lifelong airbrush artist, Dave began the Portraits of Honour painting, capturing the spirit of every Afghanistan combat fallen soldier's image on a 42 x 10 ft oil-on-canvas to recognize each sacrifice, forever.

Whether touring the Portraits across Canada, in France at Normandy's Juno Beach Center or in communities nationwide one-on-one, the Portraits of Honour gathered the Silver Cross families and the comrades of our fallen alongside tens of thousands of fellow citizens giving all Canadians the opportunity to heal and understand the true cost of valour and service.

Chevalier Dave Sopha was incredibly proud of his membership in the Order of St George, and his greatest pride was adding his energy to Canada in

the Spirit of St George alongside his fellow Knights and Dames.

We Will NEVER Forget the sacrifices of our Nation's Heroes, or those who serve at their sides.

Chevalier Paul 'Trapper' Cane MSM CD KCStG

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### **Dame Beryl Tidd DGCStG**

DGCStG and SEAN (State Enrolled Asst. Nurse). Born February 27, 1927 in Ashford, Kent UK. Married to Derek Austin Tidd August 9, 1948. Emigrated to Canada in April 1957. Mother to Pamela Milroy BSc., ND(Ret'd) (Peter), Phillip Tidd (deceased), Adrian Tidd (the late Sharon), Steven Tidd (Karen). Grandmother to Jason Tidd (Tara), Holly Nourang (Charlie), Kathleen Milroy, James Milroy (Lisa), Sarah Tidd. Great-grandmother (Grammie) to Austin, Kaitlyn, Abigail, Ethan, Alex, Oliver, Grace, Marcus and Scarlett. Beryl loved crafts, painting, writing poems and stories and playing cards. She accompanied her husband Derek on his Town Crier events dressed to complement his uniform with dresses made by herself. She overcame shyness in public in 1995 and became an amateur comedienne writing her own material. To her delight she had a cameo role in the movie starring her husband about Alzheimers called "Black Noise". She was interested in politics and was on the Board of Directors for the Reform Party from 1992 up to the present Conservative Party until she retired in 2006. She was a proud Dame Grand Cross in The Order of St. George. Beryl supported numerous charities close to her heart. Cremation has occurred. A small family service took place in Hagersville at R.H.B. Anderson Funeral Home on January 23, 2021. A celebration of life will occur in the future when it becomes allowable due to Covid-19. In lieu of flowers please donate to the charity of your choice or Mission to Seafarers or The Order of St. George. Arrangements by Hyde & Mott Chapel Hagersville. [www.rhbanderson.com](http://www.rhbanderson.com)

Dame Pamela Milroy DStG