

THE ST. GEORGE CHRONICLE

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Newsletter

August 2022



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Welcome

Dear fellow Knights and Dames of our Order,

Plans are well underway for our National Investiture on September 30th and October 1st, 2022 in Kingston. The Kingston Priory Investiture team are working diligently to ensure a memorable event that all should try to experience. It will be a time to celebrate and renew friendships. I look forward to seeing you there.

The Order of St George, Grand Priory of Canada and the Americas has this year established an Order Commendation, to be awarded at Grand Prior and Prior level in recognition of extraordinary commitment and service to the Order as a whole or to a particular Priory. Such service could include an outstanding contribution to growing the Order or advancing the work of the International Knightly Order of St George Foundation, the practice of chivalric virtues or other contributions to the development of the Order/Foundation/Priory, or the enhancement of these organizations internally or in the public view. Applications are to be submitted via your Prior for forwarding to the Honours and Awards committee for review and approval. I know that there are many members who have done much for the Order, and we want to recognize your contributions.

In closing, I hope that you all have enjoyed the summer season thus far, and that your families remain healthy and safe.

Yours in the Spirit of St. George,

Chevalier Charles Hill KGCSG
Grand Prior

Announcements

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 AMM held on June 10, 2022, by video conference, the Board of Directors of The Order of St. George comprises:

Dame Gillian Federico
Chevalier Scott Healey
Chevalier Dan Hutt
Dame Nishika Jardine
Chevalier Art Lamarche
Chevalier Tony Moore
Chevalier John Pickford
Chevalier Ian Steingaszner (Treasurer)
Chevalier David Sutton (Secretary)
Dame Dagmar Teubner (Chair)

Kingston Investiture September 30 – October 1, 2022

The Investiture is the signature event in the Order's annual calendar, and for those who didn't already attend in Vancouver earlier this year, please consider attending in Kingston. It's a great occasion to witness the investiture of our newest members, to renew acquaintances and to celebrate together the purpose of the Order of St. George. Members who joined in 2020 and 2021, and underwent the Virtual Ceremony, your investiture is not complete until you have been Dubbed, Cloaked and Spurred and awarded the Insignia by the Grand Prior. If you cannot attend in Kingston, it is extremely important that you contact Vickie Russell, Administration Officer, with your regrets. Vickie can

be reached at vrussell@gmail.com Please use this link to Register for the Investiture events:

<https://orderstgeorge.ca/kingston-investiture-2022/>

Invitation to Membership

As you all know, membership in our Order is by invitation only. With the Kingston Investiture fast approaching, now is the time to extend invitations to those whom you would like to be considered for membership in The Order.

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. What prospective Postulants need to know:

- 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 next step is to send them this link to the Postulant Application and Petition:

<https://orderstgeorge.ca/postulant-petition/>

Fairways for Heroes

Several Knights and Dames participated in the Fairways for Heroes Golf Tournament held at the Glen Eagle Golf Course in Bolton, Ontario on May 26, 2022. During the banquet, the Grand Prior was delighted to present a donation of \$7500.00 from The Order of St. George as the Honorary Patron for the event.

<https://fairwaysforheroes.com/>

Bilingual Website

The Order website is being translated by Chevalier Thomas Morin-Cabana as we speak! We will send out an advisory once it is up and running. Please note, that until the translation is complete, regular updates to the website have been paused.

New: Golf Shirt and Hat For Sale!

The Order is delighted to offer new, crested items for sale through our Member Portal Store:

- Men's and Women's Golf Shirts: \$45 plus shipping and taxes
- Hat: \$15 plus shipping and taxes

These items will be available for online purchase ONLY until August 14, 2022. The bulk order will be passed to the supplier on August 15, and you can expect shipment to begin on September 1, 2022. For those attending the Kingston Investiture, there will be an option to collect your items there and avoid the shipping charge!

To order yours, please visit the Store located in the Member Portal:

<https://orderstgeorge.member365.ca/>



The Order of St. George Cadet Medal of Merit



The Cadet Medal of Merit was established by The Order of St. George with the approval of the Canadian Armed Forces Director of Cadets in February 2016 and is awarded annually to Canadian Cadets and Junior Canadian Rangers who have distinguished themselves as exemplary “top” Staff Cadets at their respective training centres. It is customary for a Knight or Dame of The Order of St. George to present the Cadet Medal of Merit to the selected recipients during the Graduation Parade.

The medal is silver in colour, engraved with the symbol of St. George slaying the dragon and the Latin words, Pro Merito. On the reverse are the badges of the three Cadet Organizations and the Junior Canadian Ranger Program.



Dame Nishika Jardine DGCStG was delighted to present two medals to deserving cadets at the CTC Blackdown Graduation Parade on July 29th, 2022.

Prory News

Atlantic Prory:



September 21 2022 - Glen Arbour Golf Course

Cascadia Prory:

There has been no official Cascadia Prory report submitted since the start of the OStG newsletter,

beyond multiple emails and shared links we've sent back east. It's been a busy year for us. We have been in print, radio, and local television news across the country. None of this information has made it to the newsletter so I will include our activities starting from Aug 2021 in this Newsletter Report.

On Aug 18, 2021, Cascadia held its first Field Knight/Dame ceremony, at All Saints Parish Church in Burnaby, BC. We welcomed 18 new Field Knights and Dames. There were two aspects to this ceremony that set it apart. First, we recognized 14 Silver Cross family members, in the first formal recognition of this deserving group. Second, the event was well covered by media, and was shown all over BC and Alberta, another first.

The 2021 Sept 24th Canadian Walk for Veterans had a solid Cascadia presence. It was primarily a virtual event with limited outside supporting activities.

On Nov 18 Cascadia held a very special Field Knight event, again at the All Saints Parish Church in Burnaby. This time we honoured (Major retired) Stephen Peddle, CD, for his amazing contribution to the efforts to get Afghan interpreters out of Afghanistan. Over eight years, this veteran managed to relocate an entire family of 13 to Canada, on his own time and dime. The family is doing very well adjusting to their new home. This event was picked up by local print, radio and television media and was broadcast locally, regionally, and nationally, giving more positive exposure of the Order of St George.

Covid played havoc with our ability to get out and do more. Our "No Stone Left Alone" event had to be cancelled due to a Covid outbreak in the participating local school. The Prior still managed to get to a local ceremony that had more than 350 young students participating. We look forward to holding the event again for 2022.

The first quarter of 2022 was spent completing preparations for the first-ever investiture in

Western Canada. The event itself was almost three years in the planning, but due to COVID had to be postponed three times. It went well, and at this time I welcome all the new members to the Order of St George and thank those that attended. A big thank you also goes out to the hard-working volunteers who helped make our first investiture such a success. Feedback so far suggests everyone had a good time, too!

On July the 9th our Prior presented an Honorary Field Knight plaque (posthumously) to the daughter of one of our local veterans and a very involved community volunteer. The celebration of life for Larry Bekett, CD was held at the Royal Westminster Regimental Armoury Officers mess. The Cascadia members attending had plenty of opportunity to socialize and answer questions about who and what the Order is.

Cascadia continues to plan more events this year. We have the Canadian Walk for Veterans on Sept 24/25. Cascadia members are organizing their own local walks in the cities of White Rock, Kamloops and Williams Lake, BC.

Cascadia still hopes to hold a "No Stone Left Alone" event in Nov. Planning is still in the works with details coming out soon.

Finally, our Unsung Hero's Gala dinner had to be cancelled this year due to post-COVID event hesitation. We have rescheduled the gala for 01 April of 2023. More info, as well as a link to ticket sales can be found at <https://cascadiapriory-ostg.org/second-annual-unsung-heroes-gala/>. We look forward to this becoming a signature annual event and are happy to help other Priorities interested in celebrating their own Unsung Heroes with an annual gala. If we work together, perhaps we could even take it forward to build towards an Annual Canadian Military Film Festival. Hope you join us!

Allan Plett KCStG
Prior Cascadia

Kingston Priory:

The OStG Investiture in Kingston
30 September - 1 October 2022:

Planning for the investiture is currently the top priority for the Kingston Priory. In late June, I wrote to each Postulant, who records indicated had not yet booked for the investiture, to urge their participation. For Postulants not yet invested and those invested virtually in 2020 and 2021, engagement in the ceremonial robing and spurring of the investiture process is a fundamental element in becoming a member of the Order.

I also extend this call for maximum participation to the Order at large. As the primary and most potent manifestation of our fellowship in and commitment to the Order the investiture is critically important, and its success depends entirely upon the fullest possible support of Postulants, Directors, Priors, and all Members of The Order.

Now that the Investiture is only a few weeks away, I am happy to report that the efforts of the entire planning team have been successful. The Meet & Greet, the Breakfast, the Investiture and the Gala Dinner all promise to be well-subscribed and will honour the Postulants and afford a memorable and enjoyable experience. Further registration is encouraged and the Sheraton Four Points Hotel, the St. George's Cathedral, the Kingston Priory and the historic city of Kingston extend a warm welcome to you all. Registration is at this link:

<https://orderstgeorge.ca/kingston-investiture-2022/>



The St. George's Cathedral - Kingston Ontario

Kingston Military Family Resource Centre
Canadian Walk for Veterans:



This event is supported by both the True Patriot Love Foundation and the Royal Canadian Legion, as well as the Order. It offers a fundraising opportunity as well as broad exposure for the Order and our Priory. I am grateful to my colleague the Cascadia Prior who seeded the suggestion.

With plenty on our plate in September, our Priory was not able to take the lead in planning the walk; but referencing our special donor relationship with the Kingston Military Family Resource Centre (KMFRC), I approached its leadership and, after facilitating their contact with the organizers of the event, the KMFRC has agreed to host a Kingston event. Information about the Kingston walk can be found on [Facebook](#).

This Kingston Priory initiative will be a rare opportunity for all parties to benefit:

- Increase Priory and Order visibility as a strong supporter of veterans.
- Increase visibility of and raise funds, via registration fees, for the KMFRC, our primary donee.
- Offer the entire Kingston community an opportunity to participate in a worthy and healthy event in support of veterans.

Robert Hamilton KGCStG
Prior Kingston

Letters to the Grand Prior

Dear Grand Prior:

Thank you for sharing the invitation extended by Chevalier Bill Steedman to join him in Peterborough on Canada Day for the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the unveiling of the Peacekeeping Monument in the memory and honor of 132 members and 2 diplomats who gave the ultimate sacrifice in the Services of Peace, and to attend the formal July 2nd Dinner organized by the Canadian Association of Veterans in United Nations Peacekeeping (CAVUNP). I was joined by my wife Jenny, Chevalier John Wong and his wife Cordy, Chevalier John Zhu and his son Jason as well as my friend Mr. Felix Cheung.

In addition to the warmth of being with and making many new friends during the two events, it was more valuable for me to understand the importance of the Canadian Peacekeeping. To me having the opportunity to meet and speak with Major-General (Retired) Lewis Mackenzie was a wonderful moment. I was impressed to learn that he became an international celebrity based on his heroic achievement in the Bosnian Civil War as a Peacekeeping Commander leading troops of 31 nations and famously managed to open the Sarajevo airport for the delivery of humanitarian aid. He was then awarded not one but two Meritorious Service Crosses. From the bottom of my heart, I do respect and raise salute to all Canadian Peacekeeping soldiers after a research to their missions and duties.

I was also pleased to learn about the CAVUNP and how they represent not only the Canadian Armed Forces, but also the Federal, Provincial and Municipal Police units and Civilians who have served Canada and the International Community on Peacekeeping missions all around the world.

We all know Canada is a multi-cultural country. Canada accepts new immigrants and refugees from all over the world and helps them to adapt in working and living in this country in a harmonious environment and eventually to go from being landed residents to citizens. I believe we need to continue to educate and encourage our young boys and girls, generation by generation, to have a loving heart, care for others in need, and to take up the responsibility of hard work, be brave to overcome endeavour obstacles and willing to take on disciplined leadership training - like in the various Cadets activities such as the Air Cadet, Sea Cadet, Army Cadet, Police Cadet, St. John Cadet, Red Cross Cadet, Salvation Army Cadets, Boy Scouts, Girl Guides and etc. Then, we will be able to ensure sufficient patriotic successors to protect Canada and to join Peacekeeping.

That is what we are doing and continue doing. Youth are the future pillars of Canada.

Let us share our experiences to help them grow up.

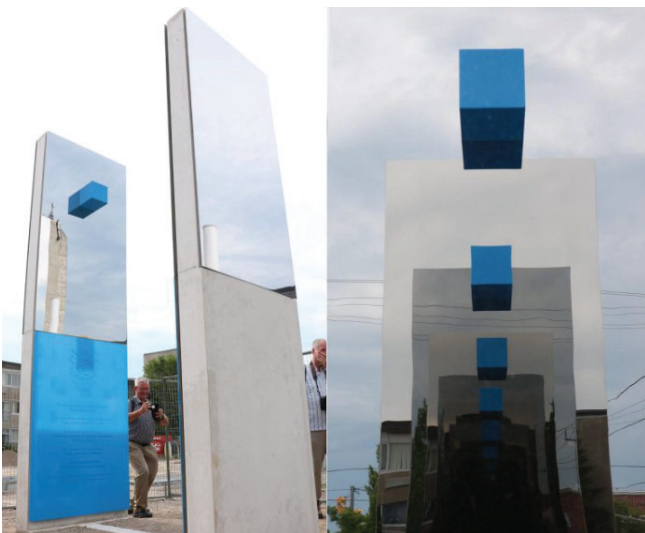
Sincerely,
Chevalier Kenny Tsui



Chevalier Kenny Tsui, Bill Steedman, Chevalier John Wong at the Peacekeeping Monument Dinner in Peterborough



Ribbon-cutting by MGen (Ret'd) Lew Mackenzie of the new Peacekeeping Monument in Peterborough on July 1, 2022



Bill Steedman speaking at the new Peacekeeping Monument in Peterborough on July 1, 2022

Dear Grand Prior:

What an enjoyable evening we had in Peterborough on July 2! It was an excellent opportunity to meet wonderful people and hear about their military experiences. I was so touched watching the recipients being awarded their companionship of the insignia on stage -- the recognition they deserved. This will motivate more people to contribute selflessly to our country, Canada.

This dinner also reminded me of the sacrifices our great Canadian soldiers had made to defend Hong Kong against the Japanese invasion. During my school picnic when I was in Form 1 (Grade 7), I passed through the Sai Wan War Cemetery where the Canadian soldiers were buried. I want to take this opportunity to say to these guardian angels: Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

https://www.dva.gov.au/sites/default/files/files/commems-memorials/cwgc_hongkong.pdf

I'd also like to thank Chevalier Bill Steedman - thank you for your great efforts to create such a wonderful opportunity to learn, enjoy and connect. My wife and I, Chevalier Kenny Tsui and his wife, and our friend, Felix Cheung, were all very impressed by your organization.

Sincerely,
Chevalier John Wong

Dear Grand Prior:

We attended the XXVII North Wall Riders Association "Run to the Wall" on the weekend in Windsor. It was a great event with a large veteran turnout. Although it is a North Wall event, we placed a wreath to show remembrance and support from the Order of St. George. The Windsor Chapter of the NWRA recognizes the Order of St. George through our combined work at the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum and the LAV III Afghanistan War Memorial. It was also rewarding

that a couple of veterans recognized my neck insignia of the Order, and The Commander breast star. I would encourage anyone travelling to or passing through Windsor to take the short detour under the Ambassador Bridge to see the monument.

Chevalier George Seehaver

