

THE ST. GEORGE CHRONICLE

Vol 4 No 2

Newsletter

August 2023



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Welcome

Dear fellow Knights and Dames of our Order,

It is hard to believe but I write to you as the summer begins to wind down. I hope you have been enjoying the summer season and have had time to enjoy it with your families. You will note in this issue of the Chronicle that we have added new Directors to our Board, who bring additional experience and expertise to the work we are continuing to do; we welcome them. We also are refreshing our Strategic Plan to set the vision of our way forward including more good works, clearer relevance in what we do, continued solid governance in how we do it and most importantly, sound leadership in bringing all this together. I invite you to become familiar with our efforts and participate in contributing to our continued success.

We are holding our next Investiture in Calgary, September 15-16, 2023, hosted by our newest Priory under the care of the Prior Prairies, Chevalier Gene Kushnir. There is also an active schedule for good works across the Nation for causes like the Canadian Walk for Veterans, Paws Fur Thought, continued support for the Military Family Resource Centres, and the awarding of our Cadet and Junior Rangers Meritorious Medal at summer training camps. I ask you to pause for a moment and appreciate what we continue to accomplish together. There are so many to thank for their efforts but that is what we do! I am deeply honoured to serve you as your Grand Prior.

Yours in the Spirit of St. George,

Chevalier Charles Hill KGCStG
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 Annual Members Meeting of The Order of St. George, held by videoconference on June 27, 2023, the Board of Directors comprises:

Dame Gillian Federico DStG
Chevalier Bill Griffis KStG (Secretary)
Chevalier Scott Healey KStG
Chevalier Dan Hutt KStG
Dame Nishika Jardine DGCStG
Chevalier Gene Kushnir KStG
Chevalier Art Lamarche KStG
Chevalier Larry McGuin KStG
Chevalier Thomas Morin-Cabana KStG
Chevalier Ian Steingaszner KStG (Treasurer)
Dame Jacquelyn Stevenson DStG
Dame Dagmar Teubner DGCStG (Chair)

Update from the Foundation Chair

The Foundation is presently working with a former Department of Justice lawyer, who has agreed to work "Pro Bono" in the process of transitioning the Order of St. George Foundation to the new Ontario Not-for Profit Corporations Act. (ONCA) The lawyer has successfully completed the Continuance process for the Order of St. John and the Royal Heraldry Society in the past few years. He is presently working on the first stage required before a request can be made for Continuance, that being, a full examination to the Foundation's By-Laws to make certain they are in compliance with ONCA. I have every confidence that we will meet the Continuance deadline of October 2024.

Upcoming Events

Calgary Investiture 15-16 Sep 2023

Meet and Greet - Friday September 15
DoubleTree by Hilton Calgary North – Selkirk Room
Cocktails: 5:30 pm – 9:30 pm

Investiture Ceremony - Saturday September 16
The Cathedral Church of the Redeemer
604 1st Street SE, Calgary
Seating: 1:00 pm
Ceremony: 1:30 pm

Investiture Banquet - Saturday September 16
DoubleTree by Hilton Calgary North
– Rocky Mountain A/B Room
Cocktails: 5:00 pm
Dinner: 6:30 pm

[Calgary Investiture Information & Registration](#)

Atlantic Priory Fall Fundraising Dinner 18 Nov 2023

The Prior Atlantic, Chevalier John Pickford KGCStG, is pleased to invite all members of the Order of St. George and their guests to their Fall Formal Fundraising Dinner in support of Paws Fur Thought on Saturday, November 18, 2023, at The Wardroom of Canadian Forces Base Halifax, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

The Priory is delighted to welcome as their Guest of Honour, Mr. Kevin Vickers, ONB, SC, retired RCMP, former Sergeant-at-Arms for the House of Commons and former Ambassador to Ireland.

Menu: choice of Roast Beef and Yorkshire Pudding or Phyllo-wrapped Haddock Loin, preceded by soup and salad choices and followed by dessert.

50/50 draw and silent auction

Cost: \$150 with a \$50 tax receipt

[Purchase Tickets](#)

Halifax Investiture 26-27 Apr 2024

Meet and Greet - Friday April 26
Hotel Halifax – Bluenose Room
Cocktails: 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm

Investiture Ceremony - Saturday April 27
Saint George's Round Church
2222 Brunswick St., Halifax, NS
Seating: 1:00 pm
Ceremony: 1:30 pm

Investiture Banquet - Saturday April 27
Hotel Halifax – Baronet Room
1990 Barington St., Halifax, NS
Cocktails: 6:00 pm – Bluenose Room
Dinner: 7:00 pm – Baronet Room

Halifax Investiture
Information & Registration

Fairways for Heroes Golf Tournament

The 12th Annual Fairways for Heroes Charity Golf Tournament was held on Thursday, May 25, 2023, at the Glen Eagle Golf Club in Bolton, ON.

On behalf of The Order of St. George and the Order of St. George Foundation, Chevalier John Nolan KStG, Prior Toronto, was pleased to present a cheque of \$3750 to each of the two supported charities: [Support Our Troops](#) and [Soldier On](#).



Donation Impact - Soldier On

Thanks to Fairways for Heroes' generous gift, serving and retired members of the Canadian Armed Forces can access programs, events, and sports equipment as they adapt, overcome, and Soldier On.

Examples of Equipment Grants funded in FY 22/23 include:

Paddleboard (\$719.98)
Ice Fishing Equipment (\$639.99)
Archery Equipment (\$738.95)
Scuba Diving Equipment (\$744.96)
Rock Climbing Equipment (\$750)
Golf Membership (\$750)
Jiu Jitsu Membership (582.52)
Yoga Membership (\$750)

Donation Impact - Support Our Troops Special Needs Grants Program

Thanks to generous donors like you, military families with dependents with special needs were able to apply for a Special Needs Grant year-round to assist with assessments and reassessments as well as to offset some of the extraordinary costs associated with things like specialized devices, respite care, vision and other therapy, tutoring and medical travel. Your gift helped forty-four military families.

Building a Relationship with the Crown Society of Canada / Établir des liens avec la Société de la Couronne du Canada

Le français suit

Dear Chevalier Thomas Morin-Cabana KStG,
As the Grand Prior of The Order of St. George, I
am writing to you in your capacity as the National

President for the Crown Society of Canada, and a fellow Knight in the Order of St. George.

As we have discussed, a collaboration between the Order of St. George and the Crown Society of Canada will benefit both organizations, which share a common vision and values, while supporting the Crown in Canada.

Your active engagement, Thomas, in the Order of St. George and the Crown Society of Canada gives you a unique ability to build a bridge between both organizations and will support the work you and the Order are trying to achieve in the province of Quebec. Through your leadership and commitment, the Order can aspire to reach its strategic objective of becoming a truly national and bilingual organization.

As Grand Prior, I will work with my team to forge a relationship with the Crown Society of Canada that will advance the goals and objectives of both organizations. For members of The Order, information about the Crown Society of Canada is provided [here](#).

I look forward to expanding the dialogue between our two respective organizations.
Yours in the spirit of St. George,

Cher Chevalier Thomas Morin-Cabana KStG,

En tant que Grand Prieur de l'Ordre de Saint-Georges, je vous écris en votre qualité de Président national de la Société de la Couronne du Canada et Chevalier de l'Ordre de Saint-Georges.

Comme nous en avons discuté, les avantages d'une collaboration pour l'Ordre de Saint-Georges et la Société de la Couronne du Canada sont évidents. Les deux organisations partagent une vision et un ensemble de valeurs communes, tout en soutenant notre Couronne canadienne.

Votre engagement actif dans l'Ordre de Saint-Georges et la Société de la Couronne du Canada vous offre une capacité unique à combler les points communs entre les deux organisations et soutiendra le travail que vous et l'Ordre essayez d'accomplir dans la province de Québec. Grâce à votre leadership et à votre engagement, l'Ordre peut aspirer à atteindre son objectif stratégique de devenir une véritable organisation nationale et bilingue, et peut-être un jour atteindre un statut de patronage vice-royal.

En tant que Grand Prieur, je m'engage à travailler avec mon équipe pour forger une relation avec vous et la Société de la Couronne du Canada afin de faire progresser les buts et les objectifs des nos deux organisations. Pour les membres de l'Ordre, des informations sur la Société de la Couronne du Canada sont fournies via [Le lien](#).

Je suis impatient d'élargir le dialogue entre nos deux organisations respectives.

Vôtre dans l'esprit de Saint-Georges,



Chevalier Charles Hill KGCStG
Grand Prior of Canada and the Americas / Grand Prieur du Canada et des Amériques

Invitation to Membership

As you all know, membership in our Order is by invitation only. With the Halifax Investiture only a few months away (April 2024) it is not too early 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:

[Postulant Petition](#)

Awarding of 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.

The Commanding Officers of the training centres are responsible for selecting the recipients of the Cadet Medal of Merit (read more on our website). 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.

Medals were awarded as follows (note that we do not publish cadets' names):

Blackdown Cadet Training Centre: Chevalier Joel David Cameron KStG made three presentations.



Camp Argonaut: Dame Donna Beek DStG assisted by Chevalier Paul (Trapper) Cane KCStG presented four medals.



Greenwood Cadet Training Centre: Chevalier John Underhill KStG, presented a medal.



Cold Lake Cadet Training Centre: Chevalier John Wojcik KStG made two presentations.



Connaught Cadet Training Centre: Chevalier Allan Bird KStG, Chair of the Foundation and Honorary Colonel The Brockville Rifles, made one presentation.



Vernon Cadet Training Centre: Chevalier Allan Plett KCStG presented three cadet medals.



Digital OJT: On behalf of The Order, Brigadier-General Dave Yarker, Director General Information Management Operations, made one presentation.





HMCS Quadra Cadet Training Centre: Chevalier Ben Douglas KStG presented one cadet medal.

Brandon Cadet Training Centre:
Presented by Chevalier Ron Donison KStG



HMCS Catarqui Cadet Training Centre: Chevalier Robert Hamilton KGCStG presented one medal.



Southern Alberta Cadet Activities Program:
Presented by Chevalier Ty Kushner KStG



Mountainview Cadet Flying Centre: Chevalier Robert Hamilton KGCStG presented one medal.



Priory News

Atlantic Priory:

Since the last February's newsletter, members of the Priory have been organizing two large events: a November 2023 gala fundraising dinner and the April 2024 Halifax Investiture. The former will take place on 18 November at the Wardroom, CFB Halifax. Our guest of honour is Mr. Kevin Vickers, retired RCMP, former ambassador to Ireland and former Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Commons. This plans to be a splendid event with a 50/50 draw and silent auction to add to the fabulous menu selection. This is the first formal dinner the Priory has hosted since 2019 due to COVID-19.

[Purchase Tickets](#)

[Donate](#)

Planning is well underway for the April 2024 investiture. The hotel is booked www.hotelhalifax.ca as well as the church www.roundchurch.ca. The hotel is situated in the heart of downtown Halifax and only a stone's throw from the vibrant Halifax waterfront. Members are eager to display that well-known Atlantic hospitality and culture.

[Halifax Investiture
Information & Registration](#)

Chevalier Dusty Miller, of Halifax, received the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Medal from His Honour Arthur LeBlanc Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, in a ceremony in Spring 2022.

Thirty Members and guests attended an afternoon reception at the Dartmouth Yacht Club in early June where Dame Barb Corbett was promoted to Dame Commander and Chevalier Steinar Engeset was presented with the Grand Prior's Commendation – the first one for Atlantic Priory. As well, Chevalier Larry Bergeron presented his paintings of pets to a few members – this was completely unexpected, emotional, and well-received. Along this theme, Thai,

Chevalier Medric Cousineau's beloved service dog passed earlier this month. Thai was the impetus for Medric and his wife, Dame Jocelyn Cousineau, to found Paws Fur Thought (Atlantic Priory's charity). Thai, in eleven years with Medric, has now allowed him, after decades of suffering from PTSD, to carry on without the support of a service dog. What better example of how service dogs can save lives?

Chevalier John Pickford KCStG
Prior Atlantic





Walks will be in Kamloops, Surrey (out of LVV) ,
Abbotsford, Whiterock, and Comox.

In August Cascadia handed out Order Cadet Medals and a special recognition award for 3 locations. Chevalier Allan Plett went to the CTC in Vernon; Chevalier Ben Douglas went to HMCS Quadra and Chevalier Allan Plett did a special cadet award of recognition at a local Cadet base for a special Cadet in the Engineering program who graduated this year.

Cascadia will be participating in the annual 911 Ceremony (at Peace Arch Border Crossing) that we have had for over 20 years. Chevalier Barry Drews is on the organizing Committee. The 911 event is a cooperative event with veterans and first responders coming from both sides of the border.

The annual Unsung Hero Gala dinner has had some post-COVID issues, but I am happy to say that on 14 Oct, we will be holding this fundraiser at the LVV Legion Branch. Look for it to be a good success.

Purchase Tickets

On Nov 8 this year Cascadia will organize and run the first-ever Aboriginal Veterans Day service. It will be held at the LVV location and should be an interesting time of remembrance.

Allan Plett KCStG
Prior Cascadia

Cascadia Priory:

On Feb 8, 2023, Allan Plett and other members of the Cascadia Priory attended the opening of the Legion Veteran Village (LVV) in Surrey BC. We are working with the Legion to help where we can with the Veteran assistance mission of the LVV Foundation.

In March we began the process of organizing with the Local Rotary Clubs a Mental Health project in Ukraine. Rotary will do the fundraising and Chevalier Allan Plett will go to Ukraine as part of an initial Recce group. The Mental Health component comes from the University of British Columbia Veterans Transition Network program. There will be more reports as they become available.

The Canadian Walk for Veterans is progressing well. BC will have 5 locations with all of them either having members organizing or participating. The

Kingston Priory:

Members of the Kingston Priory meet regularly on Zoom and occasionally gather at the Fort Frontenac Officers' Mess to discuss Priory and Order business. The Priory considers FFOM our home.

Cheque Presentation to KMFRC. In March, members of the Priory presented a cheque to the Kingston Military Family Resource Centre, funded by donations from members of the Kingston Priory and proceeds from the 2022 Walk for Veterans. This event brought the KMFRC staff, CFB Kingston Commanding Officer, Base Sergeant Major, and

members of the Priority together in a social event which provided an opportunity for information sharing and a further commitment to support.



Honouring Naval Cadets. Chevalier Robert Hamilton initiated and then presented OStG citations to three members of the naval cadet summer training program who assisted the CFB Kingston military police by recovering a sloop which had slipped its moorings and was grounded off Point Frederick on 11 Jul.



Medal of Merit Presentations to Cadets. Chevalier Robert Hamilton represented the Priory at the cadet graduation parade on Friday 11 August at HMCS Catarauqui. He will also present the medals at the graduation parade to be held on Friday 25 August at Mountainview Cadet Flying Centre near Trenton.

Walk for Veterans. The Walk for Veterans, planned for Sunday 24 September, will commence at the KMFRC building and cover a route past Fort Henry and through Royal Military College. In addition to the walk, there will be face painting for the kids, live music, Barrack the Bear from the Kingston Frontenacs, Kona Ice Truck, free BBQ and more! The event will be kicked off with opening remarks by our Base Commander, Base Chief, and Deputy Mayor of Kingston followed by a piper and the Legion Color party. Chevalier Robert Hamilton was interviewed on the local TV channel to publicize the event.

**Register for
Canadian Walk For Veteran
- Kingston, ON**

OStG/KMFRC Social Gathering. A plan is coming together to have a social event at KMFRC to share information and explore opportunities. While this is not a fundraiser, it is anticipated that donations will be forthcoming from Priory members. The Grand Prior has indicated that he plans to attend.

Chevalier Don Haisell KStG
Prior Kingston

Honourable Mentions

Homes for Heroes supported by Kingston Priory Members

Several members of the Kingston Priory have been involved with the Homes for Heroes Foundation, which is working towards building a Home for Heroes Village in Kingston. Chevalier Mark

Hutchins has been a key fundraiser and Chevaliers John Cowan, Robert Hamilton and David Sutton contributed financially.

<https://homesforheroesfoundation.ca/kingston/>

Kingston Priory Members provide urgent assistance to a military family through the Kingston Military Family Resource Centre

In the spring some members of the Kingston Priory became aware of the tragic near-drowning of young Briar McLaughlan, daughter of Sgt Andrew and Mrs Jennifer McLaughlan. There was an acute and pressing need for support, one element of which was the renovation of a van to permit the family to travel to Briar's many medical appointments in Toronto. Jennifer and family had engaged in fundraising and secured family donations but there was a shortfall. A number of the Kingston Priory members wished to contribute. With the specific approval of the KMFRC BOD and Executive Director, donations could be flowed through the KMFRC to the McLaughlan family. The need was great and urgent and it was felt that there was not enough time to establish a formal Order fundraising campaign. Therefore, individual donors identifying themselves as members of The Order collectively contributed \$7K, which permitted the van renovation to be completed in a timely manner. Both the KMFRC and the McLaughlan family were extremely grateful to the members of the Kingston Priory who stepped up to help a military family in need.



In Memoria

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 KGCSStG Grand Prior

Chevalier BGen (Ret'd) William Brewer OMM CD KStG

It's with great sadness that the family of Bill Brewer announces Bill's sudden passing on Monday, February 13th, 2023, at the age of 74. Bill was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather whose greatest passion was spending time with his family. He leaves behind his loving wife of 51 years, Barbara (nee Phillips) as well as his children Sheri (Jeff) and Kevin (Gina) and his five grandchildren; Kayleigh, Brooke, Brayden, Cali, and Alyssa.

[William Brewer Obituray](#)

Chevalier Gilbert Taylor KStG

Gil Taylor, a pioneering Canadian filmmaker, devoted supporter of the Canadian military, and lover of the great outdoors, passed away at home after a year-long battle with cancer.

[Gilbert Taylor Obituray](#)

Chevalier Reverend Donald R. Chisholm KStG

Passed away suddenly on Tuesday, March 28, 2023, at Kingston Health Sciences Centre at the age of 87. He leaves behind his beloved wife of 53 years; Helen (nee Greenwood) and his children Brian (Myra) Wells, late Brian Chisholm, Bill (Carol) Wells, Dale (Linda) Chisholm, Mike Chisholm, Doug (Lesley) Chisholm, Steve (Joanne) Wells and Cheryl (Dana) Chisholm. Don cherished his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

[Donald Chisholm Obituray](#)

General (Ret) Paul David Manson, OC, CMM, CD

Canada and the Order of St. George honours the passing of a true gentleman and an outstanding officer.

General (Retired) Paul David Manson was a passionate Canadian who dedicated his life to service with dignity and grace.

He held many leadership roles, but the one that meant so much to him was his spearheading of the fundraising campaign for the construction of the new Canadian War Museum in Ottawa.

A member of the Order for many years, General (Retired) Manson exemplified the chivalric values of the Order: Faith, Service, and Honour.

[Paul Manson Obituray](#)

Chevalier Derek Austin Tidd KGCSStG

Died Aug. 2, 2023, in Townsend, ON Canada. Married for 72 years to the late Beryl Jean Tidd (nee Masters). Survived by daughter Pamela Ann Milroy (Peter), son Adrian Paul (late Sharon), and son Steven James (Karen).

[Derek Tidd Obituray](#)

Chevalier Clarence (Gus) Este KCStG

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Clarence "Gus" Este on August 7, 2023, at the age of 91 years. Much loved and devoted husband of Olive (Pinder) for 70 years. Notably, the City of Ottawa earlier this summer named the park located at 26 Brookstone Street in Barrhaven the 'Gus Este Park' to commemorate the Year of the Korean War Veteran and to honour Gus, who was one of Barrhaven's most active and well-known community members and veterans - a local hero.

[Clarence Este Obituray](#)
