

THE KEYSTONE



Publication of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of British Columbia and Yukon

Grand First Principal's Message and a Thanksgiving Message

Volume 10, Issue 2
September 2010

Companions,

The fall of the year has been a time to give thanks to our Creator for the many blessings which we receive. This is not only a Christian tradition, but one which many cultures embrace, including the many aboriginal peoples with whom European Canadians and Americans share this continent.

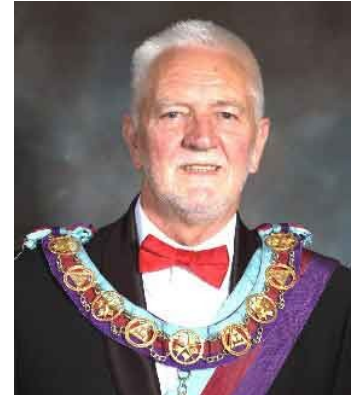
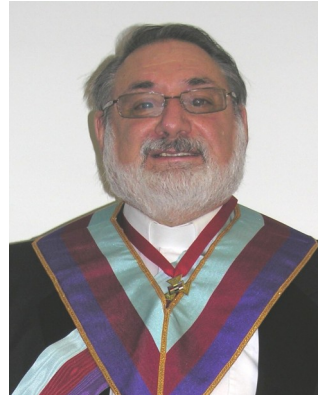
The Mohawk Thanksgiving Address is one that rings true in all our cultures: "We who have gathered together are responsible that our cycle continues. We have been given duty to live in harmony with one another and other living things, We give greetings that our people still share the knowledge of our culture and ceremonies and are able to pass it on. We have our elders here and also the new faces yet to be born, which is the cycle of our families. For this we give thanks and greetings...."

The Address goes on to give thanks for the earth, plants, waters, animals, winds, weather, sun, moon and stars that make up the known world, then it turns to the Creator:

"We now turn our thoughts to the Creator, himself. We choose our finest words to give thanks and greetings to him. He has prepared all things on Earth for our peace of mind. Then he said, 'I will now prepare a place for myself, where no one will know my face, but I will be listening and keeping watch on the people moving about the earth.' And, indeed, we see that all things are faithful to their duties as he instructed them. We will therefore gather our minds into one and give thanks to the Creator. Now our minds are one."

On behalf of M.E.C. Alan Akehurst, may I wish you and your families a season of thanksgiving in which you can all be grateful to the Supreme Being for his bountiful blessings

V.E.C. John McIntosh
Editor



My Companions,

As my year as Grand First Principal is closing, I would like to thank you all for the friendship and support I received during the year. Due to my trip to Belfast with a number of Companions and friends, there were some Chapters I was unable to attend. In Belfast and Glasgow, I met with a great group of Companions who took the time to make the trip an experience we will remember for a long time. On the 25th of July, my wife joined me for another trip,; this time to Port Alberni, from which we sailed down the Alberni Inlet to Bamfield in fine weather. Thanks for REC Joel Chiri and MECC Basil Hobbs for the arrangements. My best wishes and support to REC Joel Chiri and his officers for 2010/2011. My wish for the year was to enjoy myself and to meet new Companions, both of which happened. Thanks to all of you who made that happen.

M.E.C David Grange
Grand First Principal

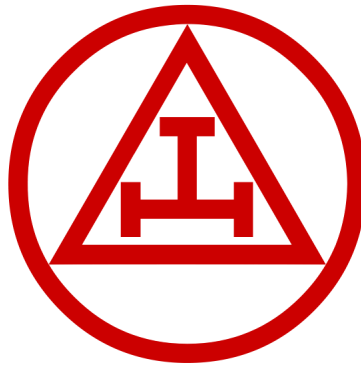
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Leadership: The Basics

With this article, I wish to initiate a series of educational offerings on leadership and its many aspects. The resources, both printed and on the web, are many and varied. I will tend to rely on fairly contemporary works, and will start with the basics of leadership, as espoused by Warren Bennis, a profound and prolific author on leadership, organization and management. I encourage you to consult his many works.

Leaders may come in every size, shape and disposition, declares Warren Bennis; nevertheless, they all seem to share some, if not all, of the following ingredients:

The first basic ingredient of leadership is a **guiding vision**. The leader has a clear idea of what he or she wants to do (professionally and personally) and the strength to persist in the face of set-



backs, even failures. Unless you know where you are going, and why, you cannot possibly get there.

The second basic ingredient of leadership is **passion**, the underlying passion for the promises of life, combined with a very particular passion for a vocation, a profession, or a course of action. A leader loves what he or she does and loves doing it.

The next basic ingredient of leadership is **integrity**, the three essential parts of which

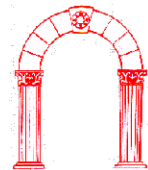
are self-knowledge, candor and maturity. Having located these qualities in themselves, leaders can encourage them in others.

Integrity is the basis of **trust**, which is not as much an ingredient of leadership as it is a product. It is the one quality that cannot be acquired, but must be earned. It is given by co-workers and followers, and without it, a leader cannot function.

Two more basic ingredients of leadership are **curiosity** and **daring**. Leaders wonder about everything, want to learn as much as they can, are willing to take risks, experiment, and try new things. They do not worry about failure, but embrace errors, knowing they will learn from them.

Source:

Bennis, Warren. 2009. *On becoming a leader*. Basic Books: New York, NY. 254 p.



Ninety-second Grand Convocation September 17 & 18, 2010 - Chilliwack, B.C.

Venue: BEST WESTERN RAINBOW COUNTRY INN
43971 Industrial Way

Registration: Friday, September 17, 8:30-12:00 & 3:30-5:30

Informal Opening: Friday, September 17, 7:15-9:15, Fraser/Heritage Room

Formal Opening: Saturday, September 18, 08:30

Open Installation: Saturday, September 18, 3:00-4:00

Sir Winston Churchill, Freemason



Born on November 30, 1874 in Blenheim Palace, Woodstock, Winston Leonard Spencer-Churchill was a British politician and statesman best known for his **leadership** of the United Kingdom during World War II.

A noted orator, particularly during his parliamentary career (where he twice served as Prime Minister), he was

also an army officer in WW I), a writer, artist (particularly of impressionist landscapes) and an historian.

First Lord of the Admiralty in the Asquith Liberal Government, and then later under the Chamberlain Government, he became Prime Minister on Chamberlain's resignation in 1940. He left that post in 1945 when his party was defeated, and returned to it in 1951 until 1955. He died on January 24, 1965

He is the only British Prime Minister to have received the Nobel Prize in Literature "for his mastery of historical and biographical description as well as for brilliant oratory in

defending exalted human values."

Highly regarded in North America, he is the first person to have been made an honorary citizen of the United States. His name also graces one of the most visible peaks in the Canadian Rocky Mountains.

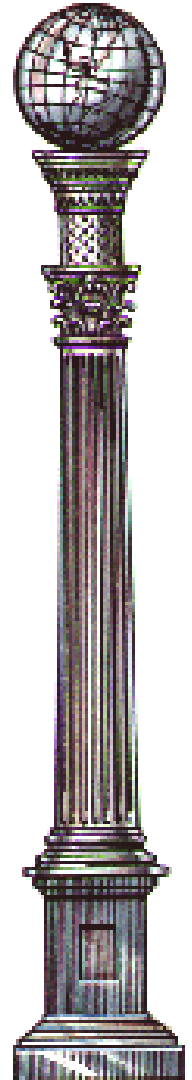
Churchill was initiated, passed and raised in Studholme Lodge, London, over 1901 and 1902. While he attended regularly, he did not hold office. He resigned from that Lodge in 1912.

Sources:

freemasonry.bcy.ca

winstonchurchill.org

en.wikipedia.org

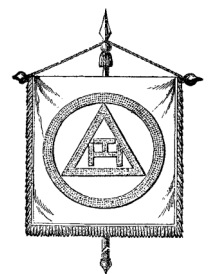


The Words of a Leader

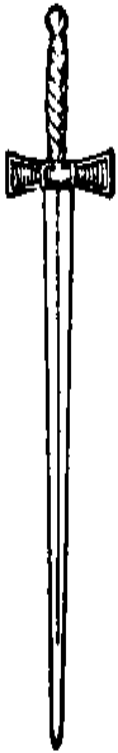
"Do not let us speak of darker days; let us rather speak of sterner days. These are not dark days: They are great days - the greatest days our country has ever lived; and we must all thank God that we have been allowed, each of us according to our stations, to play a part in making these days memorable in the history of our race."

W. Churchill, Harrow School, 29 October, 1941

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The Seven Liberal Arts & Sciences

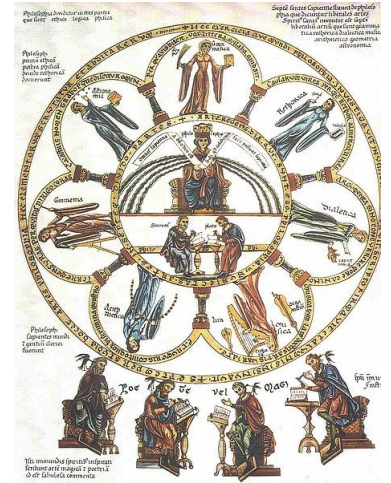


This article is the first in what will be a series describing the seven Liberal Arts and Sciences and their context within Freemasonry. Those of you who are regular readers of the Keystone will recognize that I have already addressed two of the seven: Astronomy (Vol. 4, No. 3) and Architecture (Vol. 5, No. 2).

In classical antiquity, the "liberal arts" referred to the education which a free person received (as opposed to the technical skills afforded a slave). But those same subjects, described as Liberal Arts in ancient Rome, were already the basic curriculum of classical Greece.

As defined by Martianus Capella in 5AD, they were the 3 *Trivium*: Grammar Rhetoric and Logic; and the 4 *Quadrivium*: Arithmetic, Astronomy, Music and Geometry.

Fellowcraft Masons learn the importance of the seven Liberal Arts and Sciences in the course of their degree. But our Masonic curriculum, as taught through our degree work, does not make an attempt to examine the seven arts and sciences in further depth; nor is the individual Freemason necessarily likely to pursue the nature of those arts and sciences



in the context of Freemasonry unless he is encouraged to do so through additional Masonic education. For this reason, I will begin with an article on Grammar, the first of the *Trivium* in Vol. 11, No. 1.

Sources:

masonicdictionary.com
en.wikipedia.org

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