

THE KEYSTONE



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

Grand First Principal's and Grand Chaplain's Messages

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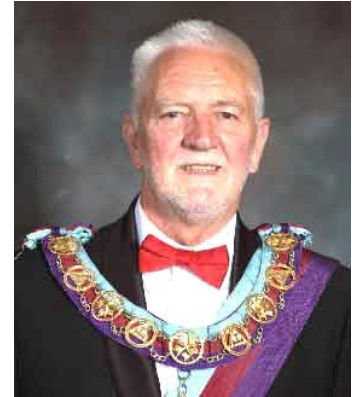
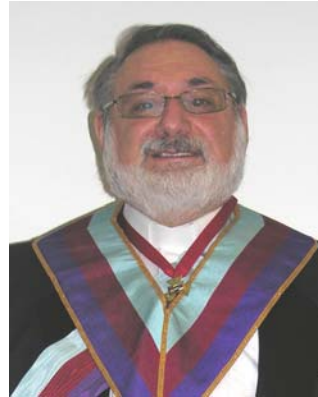
Companions,

A few months ago I attended an interfaith panel presentation on the basis and concept of salvation. The panel, organized by a Muslim group, included speakers from the Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, Jewish, Muslim and Sikh faiths. Each presenter described his or her understanding of salvation from the perspective of the speaker's religious tradition. All of the speakers, however, set out a common requirement for salvation – namely, a transformation of one's self. Whether they called it deliverance, redemption, repentance or transformation, all agreed that each individual must turn from selfish and material values to moral and spiritual ones. For the three Abrahamic faiths – Judaism, Christianity and Islam – such transformation requires an active response to the call to love God and to love neighbour. All of the different faiths expect believers to live by what is commonly called the Golden Rule – Do to others what you would have them do to you.

As we reflect on the messages taught within our Royal Craft, we recognize the call for transformation within our Masonic teaching. The messages of our rituals stress transformation of our selves through the building of the temple "not made with hands." The lessons we teach and hear, whether in the third degree or in the building of the Second Temple, relate to new beginnings.

As we observe the great festivals of Passover and Easter, let us remember the deliverance of the Israelites from their Egyptian bondage, their journey through the wilderness and their arrival in the Promised land; and the death and resurrection of Jesus the Christ. May these events recall to our minds our own need for deliverance and resurrection to a new life in the service of the Supreme Being and one another.

R.E.C. Alan Akehurst
Grand Chaplain



Companions,

At this time of Easter, in particular, I would ask all Companions attending services to remember in their prayers all the members of the Canadian Armed Forces serving overseas. The 2010 Convocation Committee is working hard to complete the last items required for our September 17-18 Grand Convocation. Registration forms will soon be on the web site: www.grandchapter-bc-yukon.ca The Convocation hotel will be the Best Western Rainbow Country Inn. Some changes have been made to the order of business in that we will start Friday afternoon with the OHP, followed by the unofficial opening that night. Business will be done Saturday, with the Installation of Officers at approximately 3:30 PM. This is to be an open installation, with the banquet to follow on Saturday evening.

M.E.C David Grange
Grand First Principal

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Scouting and Freemasonry

This year represents the 100th anniversary of Scouting in Canada. And while Scouting is not a Masonic Institution, it endeavours to inculcate many of the same strengths and values in young people that Freemasonry does.

The Boy Scout movement was founded in Great Britain in 1907 by Sir Robert Baden-Powell, Baron of Gilwell, Lord Baden-Powell, known affectionately to the scouting movement as "B-P". Baden-Powell started the Boy Scout Movement with just 20 boys in 1907. The notes that he wrote on the many useful things he was teaching became the first published Boy Scout

Handbook in 1908. The book has since sold millions of copies, and Scouting is active in over 150 countries today. It was also in 1908 that Scouting first came to Canada, though it was not until 1910 that Lord Baden-Powell wrote to the Governor General of Canada, Earl Grey, to ask him if he would organize Scouting in Canada. Every Governor general of Canada since Earl Grey has either been the Chief Scout for Canada (before 1946) or the Chief Scout of Canada.

Today, the organization is known as Scouts Canada. Young women were first introduced to parts of the Scouts Canada in 1972, and by 1998, they were

integrated into all parts of the program.

Alike in their structure, ideals and aims, Scouting and Freemasonry embrace both respect for individuals and for the society which harbours them, fostering a sense of responsibility and duty in all of their members. Self-reliance, service to one another and to society in general, as well as a strong sense of charity are basic tenets of both organizations.

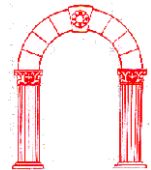
Sources:

en.wikipedia.org

freemasonry.bcy.ca

Purvey, Ralph. Boy Scouts and Masonry, a presentation to Cyrus Chapter No. 10, Courtenay, BC, 17 February 2010.

scouts.ca



Spring Board of General Purposes April 10, 2010 - Nanaimo, B.C.

Venue: NANAIMO YACHT CLUB **OPENING 10:00 AM**
400 Newcastle Avenue

Recommended Hotel: Ramada Inn (Rooms \$92.50+tax, breakfast included)
315 Rosehill Street
Nanaimo, B.C. V9S 1E3
250-716-2009 or nanaimoramada@shawcable.com

Other Hotels: Coast Bastion (\$119+tax), Port-O-Call (\$76+tax)

Registration: Grand Chapter web site (Registration \$10, Lunch \$15, Dinner \$25)

Lord Baden-Powell, Baron of Gilwell

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Born on February 22, 1857 (the 125th anniversary of the birth of our late Bro. George Washington), Sir Robert Baden-Powell served in the British Army in India and Africa from 1876 to 1910, rising to the rank of Major-General. It was said to be on the advice of King Edward VII that he retired from the Army to promote Scouting.

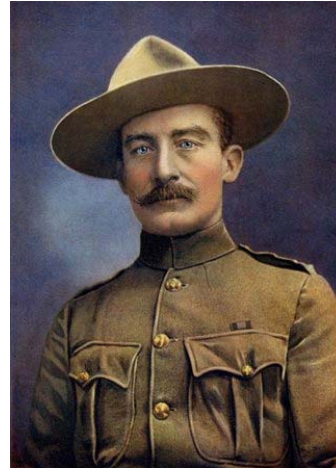
It was during his command of a garrison in the Boer War that he began to write down a guide to scouting. Originally intended for military purposes, he felt, after the war, that it would be useful to young people in Britain who were not, to his mind, receiving enough

training in outdoor life. He felt that the teaching of scouting skills would give boys focus in life and encourage them as leaders.

In 1910, Lord Baden-Powell's sister founded a parallel organization for young women known as Girl Guides, with which his wife Olave (m. 1912) was also a great help. They had three children

Named Chief Scout of the World at the 1st World Scout Jamboree in Olympia in 1920, he was further honoured with a baronetcy, Gillwell Park being the International Scout Leader Training Centre.

The date of Baden-Powell's birth is known as



"B.-P. Day" or Founder's Day to Scouts around the world. Lord Baden-Powell died on January 8, 1941, and is buried in St. Peter's Cemetery, Kenya.

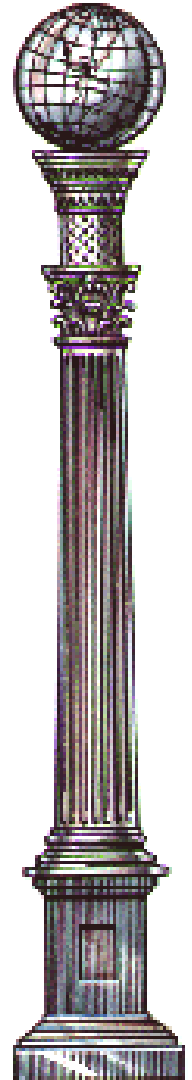
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Purvey, Ralph . Boy Scouts and Masonry, a presentation to Cyrus Chapter No. 10, Courtenay, BC , 17 February 2010.

scouts.ca



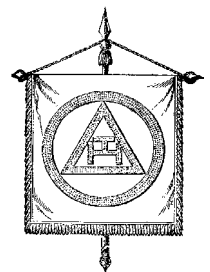
IRELAND TOUR May 12-26, 2010 with M.E.C. David Grange and his wife, Libby

Approx cost \$3,199 sharing, \$3,649 single, including air fare from Vancouver, 13 nights hotel, 14 buffet breakfasts, 2 dinners and transfers.

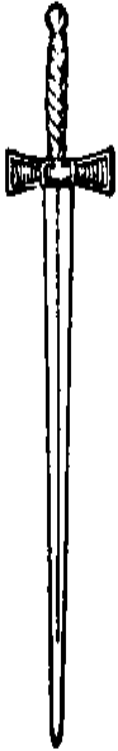
Non-Masons are welcome.

Contact: MEC David Grange, phone 604-756-2205
e-mail davidgrange@telus.net

Companions or businesses may purchase from Grand Scribe Ezra a business card ad (see page 4) , running for 3 issues of the Keystone at a cost of \$20. Please include an actual copy or electronic file of your card. To: Grand Scribe Ezra at the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of BC and Yukon.



The Royal Masonic School



“To be as the polished cornerstones of the Temple” reads the motto of the Royal Masonic School for Girls, an independent school now located in a beautiful, 315 acre country setting in Rickmansworth, England, 176 acres of which were once Rickmansworth Deer Park.

One of the oldest girl’s schools in the United Kingdom, it was instituted in 1788 by a group of 10 Freemasons led by Chevalier Bartholomew Ruspini. First established in London, the school was originally intended for the schooling of daughters of

Freemasons who, though death, illness or poverty were unable to support their families. The school is now in its third home, and today accepts the children of Masons and non-Masons alike on a fee-paying basis.

The silver Ashlar badge is an award all girls strive to achieve by the end of year 11 for their contributions to school life, their sense of personal responsibility and their responsibility to others. Like the pillars of the Temple, the smooth Ashlar figures prominently on the school badge depicted here.



Author’s note:
There was, between 1857 and 1977, an unassociated Royal Masonic School for Boys which was forced to close due to declining enrollment.

Sources:

www.royalmasonic.herts.sch.uk

<http://en.wikipedia.org>

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