

# THE KEYSTONE



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

## *Grand First Principal's Message*

*Volume 12, Issue 2  
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Fraternal Greetings Companions:

Time flies when you are having fun, and I can assure you that Peggy & I have had a wonderful time, touring BC & the Yukon, and having the opportunity to meet with you and your families.

We are now a little less than 2 months 'till the end of our term of office, with Official Visits and Installations all complete; so now the task is to plan and make certain that everyone attending Grand Chapter has the BEST experience possible.

You will note that I am including Peggy in all of my comments. The reason is very simple: the fact is that, after 53 years of marriage, I am still learning that little is possible without a partner by your side, and I am very blessed indeed.

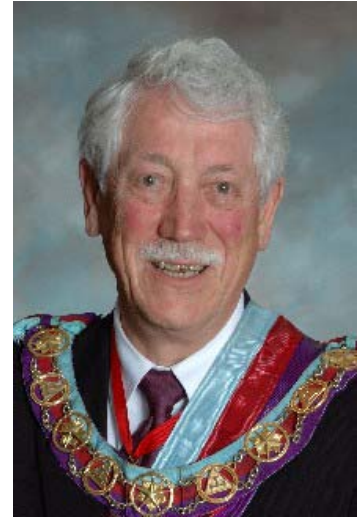
Lastly I wish to extend my heart felt thanks to the Companions of BC &

Yukon for allowing me the privilege of serving you as your Grand First Principal. This is certainly the pinnacle of my 56 years in Freemasonry and extremely unlikely to be surpassed.

Have a wonderful day &  
God Bless You and  
Yours

Norm & Peggy

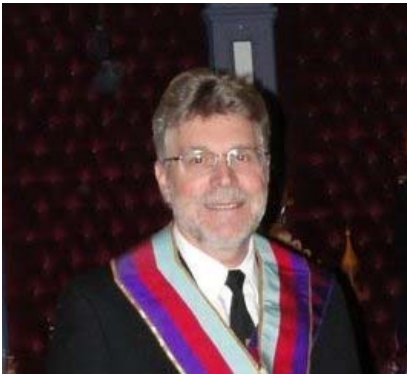
PS. Please join us in  
Victoria for  
Grand Chapter.



**Education  
&  
Respect**

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## *Grand Chaplain's Message: Masons Without Aprons*



We receive an apron and we become a Mason. Some wear them regularly – some don't. We are admonished to keep it unspotted. Observations made at chapter will tell you that some aprons show signs of toil and hard work – the apron is soiled and off-white. Other aprons appear brand new, almost as if just been taken out of the wrapping: A sign of minimal attendance or of great care?

And then there are those who are Masons and who do not wear aprons. They are those in our personal circles of friends who for whatever reason have not joined the fraternity, but who exhibit all the virtues of a Mason and Companion. My father was a Mason without an apron. He was honest and upright, dealt with others in a most humane way no matter what the circumstances. He was a dutiful husband and provider for all seven of us children. He worked hard and supported us all, and yes was a wonderful soul mate and great supporter of my mother. He would know when Mom needed a few moments to herself, away from the stress of

providing for the family with food, from the cleaning of clothes, from the family needs. His kindness was to us all unbounded, even if, once in a while, there was a need for a stern scolding for doing something we should not have done. Why he never joined was clear. He was busy with family and support as a father should be.

Another Mason with no apron was Stephen Covey, one of the most influential management gurus and a leader recognized by several organizations, including Time and Forbes magazine. Many of you know he was one of my heroes. I say was, because on 16<sup>th</sup> July, Stephen passed away. He was 79. No other author of leadership has opened my eyes wider than this man on what it takes to be a leader.

He was a deeply religious man. It is said that no matter whom you were, a baron or a beggar, a prince or a pauper, he treated you just like any other person. He was the same to all, caring, kind, honest, with amazing integrity. He went about his work in a matter of fact way. He helped millions of men and women to seek their potential and to be better citizens and leaders and managers. For me he was my mentor, my teacher and

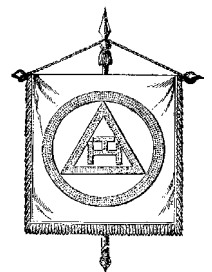
my guiding influence to become a better man, as much as the ritual of Freemasonry has.

Stephen wrote many books, *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*, being his most popular book. His most influential book for me was *Principle Centered Leadership*.

For me, it was this book, *Principled Centered Leadership* which I found the most stimulating of all his books. This particular book seems to ooze Freemasonry. It is the book I will always recommend to any new Master Masons to read before devouring any Masonic books. It will guide a brother to the true search of self, to create a philosophy of life that will be exactly what Freemasonry teaches. If you want to know how to be a Mason, read this book.

His combination of intellect and empathy made him a truly unique and visionary individual. The skills he taught, and importantly, the personal example provided by the life he led, will continue to bless the lives of many.

(continued on page 3)



## *Masons Without Aprons (cont.)*

Several quotes from his work have peppered my speeches over the last 12 years. He was a strong advocate to teach us that we have to look to leaving a legacy: surely a major philosophy of Freemasonry. We seek to be better than we were before we entered the Craft. We are encouraged to search for ways to make the world better than we receive it; to serve this world – to be a servant of humanity.

Stephen Covey in his book, *The Eighth Habit*, wrote of the whole person paradigm. Humans are four dimensional: Body – to live, Mind – to learn, Heart – to love, and Spirit – to leave a legacy. We find simplicity in his words but with enormous meaning. Below are some of his words. They speak volumes.

► In the last analysis, what we are communicating far more eloquently than anything we say or do.

► Effective leadership is putting first things first. Effective management is discipline, carrying it out.

► Every human has four endowments- self awareness, conscience, independent will and creative imagination. These give us the ultimate human freedom... The power to choose, to respond, to change.

► Live out of your imagination, not your history.

► Management is efficiency in climbing the ladder of success; leadership determines whether the ladder is leaning against the right wall.

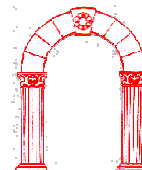
► There are three constants in life... change, choice and principles.

► We are not human beings on a spiritual journey. We are spiritual beings on a human journey.

Stephen Covey – a true Mason's' Mason without an apron.

Comp. Stephen Godfrey  
Grand Chaplain

Editor's note: I have omitted the next in the serial of articles on leadership in favour of Comp. Godfrey's eloquent paper on Masons Without Aprons. Those who have been reading the series will recall that I made reference to Stephen Covey's work in the last article on trust.



## *Grand Chapter Convocation 13 –16 September, 2012 - Victoria, B.C.*

**Thursday, September 13th: Past Master Degree (optional)**

**Friday September 14: Registration, Order of the High Priest, charitable meetings and informal opening**

**Saturday, September 15th: Registration, Grand Chapter and Banquet (at the Union Club)**

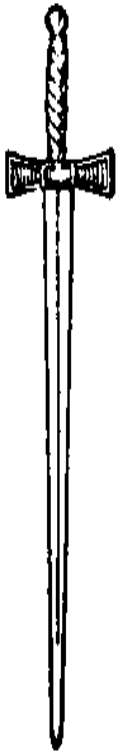
**Sunday, September 16th: Church Parade**

**Mail your registrations to Bruce Allan, 6310 Elaine Way, Victoria, BC V8Z 6A1 by Sept. 7**

**Questions? [ballan@shawcable.com](mailto:ballan@shawcable.com) or 250-652-4584**

**(registration and further information on the Grand Chapter website)**

*Liberal Arts & Sciences: Music*



This article is the sixth in a series describing the seven Liberal Arts and Sciences and their context within Freemasonry.

The third of the *Quadrivium*, the part of the Seven Liberal Arts and Sciences concerning science and the learning of the mysteries of the universe, is Music. It is to Pythagoras, chiefly, that we owe the definition of the four “ways” or branches of science: arithmetic, geometry, music and astronomy.

Music, “the art of forming concords so as to so as to compose delightful harmony by a mathematical and proportional arrangement of acute, grave and mixed sounds,” is recommended to Masons as it elevates the generous sentiments of the

soul to allow harmony to exist throughout the Craft (Mackey, 1949).

While the instances of Masonic musicians abound throughout the ages, none is more famous than Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791). The Austrian composer was initiated in 1784 in Lodge Zur Wohltatigkeit in Vienna. He composed more than a dozen pieces of music with Masonic themes or dedications, perhaps the most famous of which was his opera, *The Magic Flute*, which saw its first performance only shortly before his death. The libretto for that opera was the work of fellow Mason Emmanuel Schikanderer. Mozart also encouraged Joseph Hayden to enter the Craft.



Sources:

Hammil, J and R Gilbert 1992. *Freemasonry: A Celebration of the Craft*. Mackenzie Publishing, St. Albans, UK.

Mackey, A.G. 1949. *Lexicon and history of Freemasonry*. T.A. Maclure: Philadelphia. 570.p.

The British Columbia Ancient Work, 1974. Grand Lodge of British Columbia and Yukon.

(Readers may also wish to look up Jan Sibelius in the March 2004 issue of *The Keystone* )

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