

# THE KEYSTONE



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

## A Message from Demolay

To all active Demolay , Demolay Advisors and the Masonic Family:

I encourage all Demolay Chapters to set goals with the assistance of their advisors and to keep me informed of your state of affairs and your progress so that I can alert both other Demolay Chapters in British Columbia and the membership of the greater Masonic Family. I can be contacted via phone at 604-589-2099 or by e-mail at mac1142002@yahoo.com as well as by mail at #114, 13806, 103 Ave, Surrey , BC V3T 1R9.

I urge the greater Masonic Family to give your time, experience and expertise in support of Demolay in BC. There is no better investment in our future than by investing in our young people. They are our investment in the future, not only for Freemasonry, but for society as a whole.

A boy is a bank where you may deposit precious treasures; your hard-won wisdom, your dreams for a better world. A boy can guard and protect these, invest them wisely, and win a profit larger than you ever dreamed. A boy will inherit your world. All your work will be judged by him. Tomorrow, he'll take your seat in society.

Yours fraternally,  
Dad Ernie MacDonald  
Executive Officer, British Columbia  
Order of Demolay

## Grand First Principal's Message

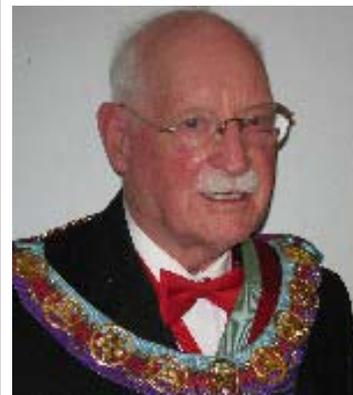
My Companions,

As our term of office is near the end, I wish to thank the Companions for the trust they put in me to perform the duties of their Grand First Principal and to thank all of the Chapters of this Grand Jurisdiction for the courtesies extended to my Wife and myself on all of our visits.

The 90th Convocation this year takes place on the second weekend in September in order to give our incoming Grand First Principal the opportunity to make official visits during the finer weather. Many Chapters, especially in the North have chosen the third week of the month on which to meet.

I invite all Companions to our Grand Chapter Convocation in Courtenay, for

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which the Grand Steward and his committee are working so hard to make a success.

I wish all of the incoming officers well and assure them that I will be there to assist if called upon.

**M.E.C.**

**George R.E. Tillotson**

**Grand First Principal**

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## *The Mason's Mark*

When the new Mark Master Mason chooses a unique mark of his own, he is following an ancient tradition of the medieval stone mason's guilds whereby an operative Master Mason was granted a distinctive mark to place upon all of his work. Often, these accomplished artisans were illiterate; hence, the need for a mark rather than a name. Such a mark not only gave the mason credit so that he could receive wages for his work, but it demonstrated accountability for the quality of his work.

Today, professional engineers, foresters, lawyers and others are required by law to stamp or seal their work in similar attestation. The reason that our Grand Craft dictates that a Mark Master Mason's mark be composed only of straight lines is that such was the common nature of operative masons marks, they being cut with a mallet and chisel, the working tools of a Mark Master Mason.

While the lineage of Freemasonry dates back to the medieval craft guilds, the use of a stonemason's mark dates back far earlier. Operative mason's marks have been found on structures dating back to 2500 BC. It was not until an article was published in England in 1841 on the study of such ancient carvings that the link was made between operative and speculative masonry. Early European references to a mason's mark date to 1462 in Germany where journeymen (similar to the English fellow-craft) were said to take their marks at a an admission feast. The first know statutes governing mason's marks in England and Scotland appeared under King James VI of Scotland.

The earliest known appearance of a mason's mark in speculative masonry is in the minutes of the Scottish Lodge of Edinburgh for July 31, 1599, where one member's signature was accompanied by a mark, from which time the example was expanded.

Though later marks became more elaborate, the earlier ones tended to duplicate aspects of operative masonry, such as the simple trowel mark in Robert Burns' diary, below.



Sources:

[www.masonicworld.com](http://www.masonicworld.com)

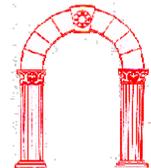
[www.rosslyntemplars.org.uk](http://www.rosslyntemplars.org.uk)

[www.royalarchmasonsAlberta.com](http://www.royalarchmasonsAlberta.com)

[www.kingsolomonlodge.org](http://www.kingsolomonlodge.org)

<http://shoreham.adur.org.uk>

[www.historylearningsite.co.uk](http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk)



## *90th Annual Grand Convocation September 11, 12, 13, 2008 - Courtenay, B.C.*

**Location:** Best Western—The Westerly Hotel  
1590 Cliffe Avenue  
Courtenay, B.C. V9N-2K4

**Bookings:** 250-338-7741 or 1-800-668-7797

**Registration:** see the Grand Chapter web site

**Committee Chair:** V.E.C. Tom Feely  
250-338-7546  
406 South Island Highway, Courtenay, BC V9N 9R8  
E-mail: [roberta\\_feely@telus.net](mailto:roberta_feely@telus.net)

## *Frederick Arthur Stanley, Freemason*



Born on January 15, 1841, in London, England, Sir Frederick Arthur Stanley, 16th Earl of Derby, 1st Baron Stanley of Preston KG, GCB, GCVO, PC was, from an early age, a keen sportsman. After studying at Eaton College and Sandhurst, he joined the Grenadier

Guards, but his family's prominence in British Politics soon saw him called to Parliament, serving the districts of Preston, Lancashire and North Blackpool, consecutively, during which time he joined Royal Alpha Lodge No. 16 in London. He was married to Lady Constance Villiers, a daughter of the 4th Earl of Clarendon on 13 My, 1864. They had 10 children.

After service as War Secretary (1878-1880) and Colonial Secretary (1885-1886), he was named President of the Board of Trade until 1888, when he became Governor General of Canada, traveling widely, notably to the West, where he

avidly pursued fly fishing until 1893. He died on June 14, 1908.

Renowned in sport as the namesake of the Stanley Cup, he was warmly remembered in Western Canada, where his name graces Stanley Park and the Stanley Theatre in Vancouver as well as Stanley Peak in Kootenay National Park, a name bestowed by the first man to summit the peak in 1901, Edward Whymper.

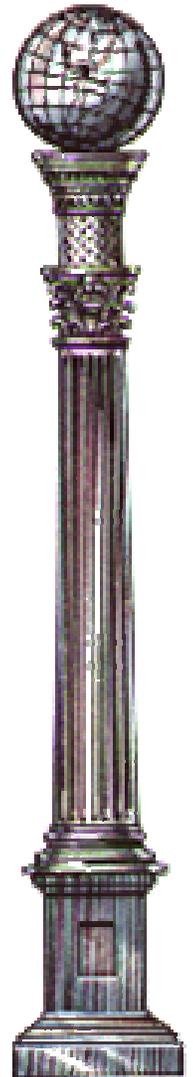
Sources:

[www.nationmaster.com](http://www.nationmaster.com)

[www.freemasonry.bcy.ca](http://www.freemasonry.bcy.ca)

[www.thecanadianencyclopedia.com](http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.com)

<http://en.wikipedia.org>



### **The Stanley Cup**

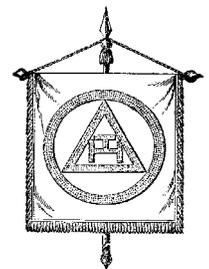
Lord Stanley imparted his love of sport to his sons, who became avid ice hockey players during their years in Canada. As a result, Lord and Lady Stanley became staunch hockey fans. In 1892, he

gave the first Stanley Cup as an award to the top amateur hockey club. Starting in 1908, it became contested by professional teams only. Stanly was inducted into the Canadian Hockey Hall of Fame in 1945 as an "Honoured Builder."

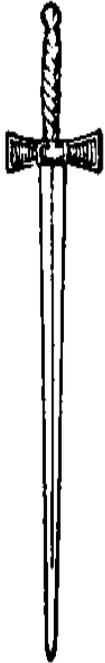
*Editor's Note:*

*Observant readers will have noted that there was no Spring edition of the Keystone. I apologize to our Grand First Principal and my Companions for that omission as I was recovering from two back surgeries which left me significantly incapacitated.*

*VEC J. McIntosh*



*Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks*



This article is the sixth in a series describing some of the fraternal bodies and other groups which are often mistaken by the public for concordant bodies within the Masonic Fraternity.

The BPOE had its beginnings in 1868 as a private social club in New York City known as the Jolly Corks (after a popular bar trick), most of whose members came from theatrical and performing troops.

After the death of a member in 1867 which left his family destitute, the membership decided that they needed both a more noble purpose and a way of

serving the needs of others as well as their own, the BPOE was born on 16 February 1878, adopting the principles of: Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love and Fidelity. The Elk won over the Buffalo as their adopted symbol by a vote of 8 to 7.

Elk Lodge are governed by an Exalted Ruler. Officers wear evening dress and regalia. Lambskin aprons were worn in the initiatory work up until 1895. A password was used until 1899. A secret grip was eliminated in 1904. And in 1995, women were admitted to the Order.



Active in both the US and (since 1912) in Canada, the BPOE supports veterans, seniors and children's programs through the Elks National Foundation. There are 330 lodges with some 24,000 members in Canada.

Sources:

[www.elks.org](http://www.elks.org)

[www.phoenixmasonry.org](http://www.phoenixmasonry.org)

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The "Jolly Corks"

The Keystone is a publication of The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of British Columbia and Yukon

Editor  
V.E.C. John McIntosh

Grand Scribe Ezra  
R.E.C. Ed Wilson

35188 Spencer Street  
Abbotsford, BC V3G 2E3

Phone : (604) 854-3446

