



*Celebrating 154 Years of Pythianism*

*The New*

# *Pythian International*

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*From the  
Desk of Supreme Chancellor  
Joel D. Fierstien, KGS*

This is the opportunity for promotion, recruiting, and taking advantage of the current program. Promote the Order and what it does and supports, among others, Read and Ride, Poster Contest with the new topic-“Go Green, Help Save our World,” the Boy Scouts of America, ACS and Canada Cancer Society. Promotion, public relations, and media releases lead to recognition as well as increasing the potential for community service, volunteering and recruiting. Some new things to look for are: Project Safety- recognizing hazards and risks, coat and food bank contributions, “ad words,” Buyer’s Edge discounts available to all Knights, and disaster communication and coordination.

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## **Grand Lodge Conventions Spring/Summer 2019**

**All dates, Locations and positions have not  
been finalized**

South Carolina Columbia	SP Mead
Nebraska Hastings	March 29-30 SOG Schwartz
Oklahoma Tulsa	SOG Schwartz
Maine Bangor	April 25-27 SS Morris
New Hampshire/Vermont Laconia	ST Ast
British Columbia Harrison Hot Springs	SP Mead
Florida Miami	May 5-12 SMA Ward
Massachusetts Peabody	May 9-10 SP Mead
Tennessee Pigeon Forge	June 7-9 ST Ast
Arizona Tucson	SP Mead
Texas Longview	June 7-9 SC Fierstien

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SC Message from page 1

Each brother should try to ask one person to join which sounds very easy, just ask. Wear Pythian logo, hats, shirts, jackets, or pins. Also, carry an application in your wallet to be prepared. In addition to increases in membership, there are several new lodges!

Be optimistic and enthusiastic that now is the time to make a difference, for the Knights of Pythias to make a difference, and remember how quickly time passes. The key is friendship.

We are building the Order as,  
**“FRIENDS WORKING TOGETHER FOR  
A BETTER COMMUNITY”**



*From the  
Supreme Secretary's Desk*

The yellow Membership Shirts that we have come to know and love are no longer available. In their place are beautiful, nicely embroidered with the Pythian Logo, hats... And they are one size fits all. They are for new members from mid-August throughout the remainder of this biennium – available for the New Knights and their sponsors (only one per sponsor). They will also be for sale, the cost will be announced as soon as the first invoice hits my desk.

Fraternally,  
Allen S. Morris, SS/KGS



*From Supreme Chief  
Joan Way*

To My Pythian Brothers and Sisters – I have visited the Grand Temples of Maryland and Virginia and had a wonderful time. It's extraordinary to see the great work that these Grand Temples can achieve when brothers and sisters work together on a common goal. I plan on staying put for the next couple of months and work on ideas that can generate members. The Supreme Temple has been working on a new look for our web site, updating and adding more information which I hope to be able to announce shortly.

Some of our subordinate temples struggle to come up with ideas to raise money for our charities, if any one has any ideas please let me know.

To all our Canadian and American Sisters and Brothers I want to wish you the best that life has to offer and always extend your hand to someone in need – its not a hand out it's a hand up.

My quote for the day is "Change is the law of life. Those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future." JFK



*From the Supreme Secretary's  
Desk*

Belated Happy Thanksgiving to our Canadian Pythian Family.

Wishing our Pythian Family in the States a Happy upcoming Thanksgiving.

We give thanks all year round, but at the harvest season we give special thanks for what we have.

We know this has been a hard year with fires, floods, hurricanes, sickness, passing of love ones and etc. But if only look around us we will see others who have more problems than us.

Let us say **THANK YOU** for what we have and sharing with family and friends. To all my Pythian Family, thank you for being part of our family.

Connie F. Edwards,  
Supreme Temple Secretary

## FROM THE “ATLANTIC MONTHLY” MAGAZINE

An article in a recent issue of The Atlantic monthly magazine spoke favorably of the Pythian Order. The article, “Americans Aren’t Practicing Democracy Anymore” by Yoni Appelbaum (October, 2018), proposes that our current political turmoil arises from an abandonment of respect for, and practice of, the principles of democracy.

In our early years, European observers like Alexis de Tocqueville noted our penchant for resolving the conflicting needs of society by organizing into associations, adopting written rules, choosing our leaders by election, and making our decisions by majority vote. We did this not only in politics but in trade associations, labor unions, religious institutions and fraternal organizations. Appelbaum notes

“These groups had their own systems of checks and balances. Executive officers were accountable to legislative assemblies; independent judiciaries ensured that both complied with the rules. One typical 19<sup>th</sup>-century legal guide, published by the Knights of Pythias, a fraternal order, compiled 2,827 binding precedents for use in its tribunals.”

Historian Arthur Schlesinger Jr. noted in 1944 that voluntary associations have

“provided the people with their greatest school of self-government, ... Rubbing minds as well as elbows, they have been trained from youth to take common counsel, choose leaders, harmonize differences, and obey the expressed will of the majority. In mastering the associative way they have mastered the democratic way.”

However, the world Schlesinger referred to has disappeared. Appelbaum notes that today our drive to associate no longer exists. We are “no longer a nation of joiners.” He does not say why.

I know why. Growing up in a small town of 1300 souls in rural northern Vermont in the 1950s, there were over fifty different social organizations active in the community. Today, with a population of 2200, - man, woman and child – I would be hard-pressed to name four remaining associations, including my home lodge, Damon No. 16. Of those remaining associations, with the exception of the Scouts, they are largely populated with my generation, none younger, and even many of them spend meetings buried in their cellphones. In the mid-1950s, television, and then color television, invaded our homes. Our attention turned from outside to inside, from the external to the internal. On February 9, 1964, 73 million people watched the Beatles appear on the Ed Sullivan show. Fairly rapidly, within a decade, we no longer looked to the community and household to fulfill our social needs. We found solace staring blankly at a brightly-colored screen.

If you approach a millennial with an application to join the Order, be thinking of it as an opportunity, to offer training in leadership skills, to teach the principles of democracy, and, possibly, to save the Republic.

Fraternally submitted,  
Ernest Tobias “Toby” Balivet, CST

## AND THE WINNER IS?

On Thursday evening, September 6 during the Grand Lodge/Grand Temple Convention in Fairborn, Ohio, 500 brave ducks took to the frigid waters to swim for their lives; the last of the five heats was very close, with Edgar Duck taking first place! The duck race was organized by Ruby Morgan, PSR, and Judy Campbell, DDGC of Ohio. The ducks were provided by Grand lodge of Indiana (on loan) with their travel arrangements provided by ST Jill Unger-Modar (IN). Edgar won a \$50 gift certificate (to Walmart) for his owner, GC Alvin Cox (OH). Edgar was partially responsible for raising close to \$540, with half of that going to the Grand Chancellor's Charity, The Epilepsy Foundation; and the Grand Chief's Charity, The Kidney Foundation – Ohio raised more than \$14,000 for the Epilepsy Foundation during Brother Cox's term as GC.



L to r: Edgar Duck, GC Alvin Cox

# *DID YOU KNOW??*

The AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY and LYFT have teamed up to help patients get to and from cancer-related medical appointments?

Through the American Cancer Society's ROAD TO RECOVERY program, cancer patients are eligible to receive free transportation in their area\*. To find a ride near you, contact:

(800) 227-2345

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

Transportation must be set up by patient four days in advance of their appointment date.

\*Service by Lyft or volunteer drivers may not be available in all areas of the United States.

Interested in becoming a volunteer driver? Contact the American Cancer Society at (800) 227-2345 or [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org) Road to Recovery Program

# **SAFETY: A MATTER OF ATTITUDE**

A focus on safety is a national priority for the Knights of Pythias. Supreme Chancellor Joel Fierstien has asked all of us to work to improve the quality of life in our own communities. A good way to accomplish this goal is to promote safety. Safety comes as a part of our daily lives and is important in all we do. It is our goal to encourage every lodge to consider the promotion of some form of safety as a part of its program of work for the near future and beyond. Our success in promoting programs of safety will produce a benefit in our homes and communities that will have a positive lasting effect for all.

This program can take many forms, so a lodge can evaluate its own community and choose an area of concern that meets the unique nature of the place in which they work and live. For some water safety may be the focus while others may feel that fire safety is a higher priority. When outdoor sports are a predominant part of a community, promoting environmental related skills may be the choice.

It all boils down to evaluating the need and picking a safety program that everyone can support and feel that the effort is meeting a need, one that protects people and prevents pain and suffering. An advantage of this kind of program is that there are resource people with methods and materials to share in each of our communities. Fire departments have programs aimed at prevention and safety. Police science programs encourage safety and protection for all our citizens. Also county and state health departments promote programs to prevent and protect our health and safety. We have state and national parks with programs to help the public enjoy the outdoors and prevent accidents and the dangers that exist in nature.

The more you consider the program, the evidence looms loud and clear; your only limitation is your imagination in choosing where to place your emphasis. Ask for guidance from your community and you will be given many ideas and resources. Involving the community in such a worthy undertaking can also serve as a very positive public relations tool for your lodge. Such programs attract attention of the media, and teaming with other community organizations may lend good will for all.

Getting a program planned and started is the first step, and sharing your ideas with others is a great way to extend the benefit.

I have been asked to serve as a resource person for ideas and resource sharing, so I will be eager to hear of any successes your lodge has. I will also be willing to help in planning for your success in Safety, A Matter of Attitude.

You can contact me at:

Bill Peal [bpeal@me.com](mailto:bpeal@me.com) or by calling 541-215-0810

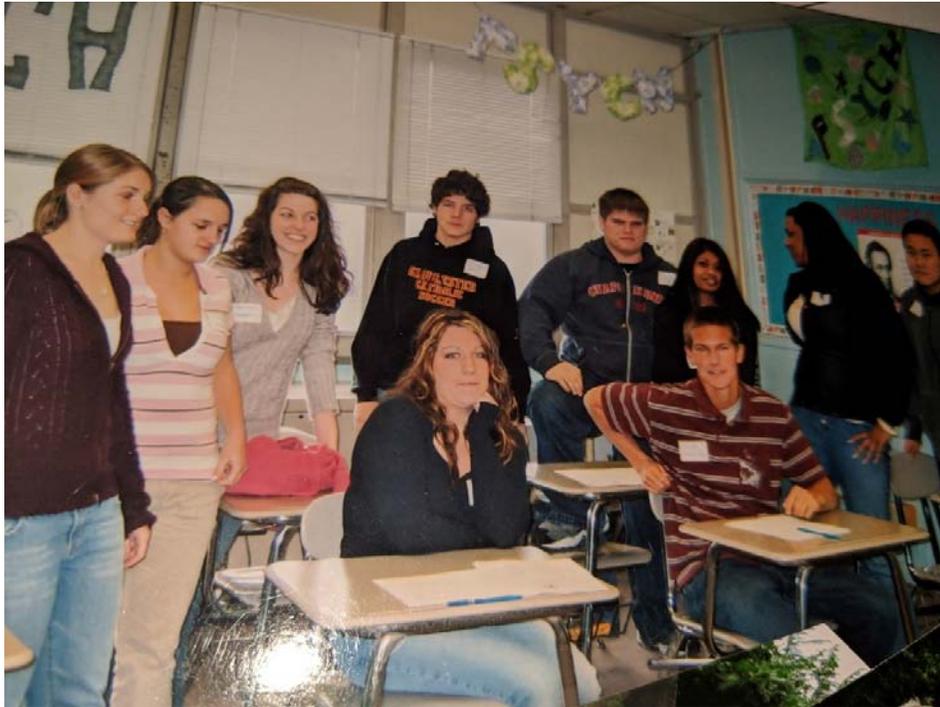
## 2018-2019 GRAND LODGE OFFICERS – PENNSYLVANIA



Seated: (From left) PGC Dennis O'Brien; SMA Mark Ward; GC Edmund Goodfield

Standing: (From Left) GS Steven Arch, PGC; GOG William Mahler; GT Tom Morris, PGC; GIG Edgar Fulmor; GMA Jim Garner; GVC J. Eric Johnson; GP Jack Powell

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ACTIVE IN THE COMMUNITY



Grand Lodge of DC received \$1000.00 from Grand Secretary Jozsef DeKovacs to give to children to buy books on behalf of Franklin Lodge No. 2; Hermione Lodge No. 12; Mount Vernon Lodge No. 5; Calanthe Lodge No. 11



## IP/SR MICHAEL THORNTON MAKES A PRESENTATION



On left: Supreme Representative Michael Thornton presenting Grand Chancellor Howard Tabor a check for \$1000 for his charity Edmarc Hospital in Portsmouth VA; a hospital for children with cancer. The presentation was made at Patrick Henry Lodge.

## FREDERICKSBURG LODGE NO. 22, VIRGINIA



Fredericksburg Lodge #22 of Virginia started the month of October off right by initiating 10 new members. Conway Reid, Robert Fleming, Bob Birch, Chuck Forrester, Kevin Pelletier, Joey Wright, Tim Clark, Frank Lynch, Anthony Bowie, William Sales and Chad Sales joined the order on Oct 4<sup>th</sup>. Additionally, the Brothers were able to take their oath with the Rathbone Bible. Rank work team was led by Sir Mark Mead – Supreme Prelate.

Remembering our fallen heroes of the past, as well as those of today, Armistice Day when the observance originated, WWI (The Great War) was so terrible on so many levels, it was thought there would never be another, so the day the Armistice was signed (the 11<sup>th</sup> day or the 11<sup>th</sup> month at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour) was made a holiday. In 1954 the name was changed to Veteran's Day to remember all who served in the military, those who fought for our right to be free.

## Remember Memorial Day, November 11, 2018



**Thanksgiving Day** is a national holiday celebrated on various dates in Canada, the United States, some of the Caribbean islands, and Liberia. It began as a day of giving thanks for the blessing of the harvest and of the preceding year. Similarly named festival holidays occur in Germany and Japan. Thanksgiving is celebrated on the second Monday of October in Canada and on the fourth Thursday of November in the United States, and around the same part of the year in other places. Although Thanksgiving has historical roots in religious and cultural traditions, it has long been celebrated as a secular holiday as well.

**Let us all be thankful !**

