



Celebrating 158 Years of Pythianism

The New

Pythian International

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*A Message From
Supreme Chancellor
D. Mark Mead, KGS*

Welcome to the Holiday Season! That means many different things to people. Regardless of faith or climate zone, this is a time of togetherness, charity, remembrance, celebrating achievements, and planning for the future. This is the time for us to gather with those we love and care about and express our gratitude and appreciation for them.

The Order continues to evolve. We lost some lodges over the past year due to COVID, yet we welcome new lodges, such as in the Philippines (if you haven't seen the welcome message from the Philippine Vice-President, please visit the website). If you recognize an area we can grow, let us know. The Supreme Lodge is here to support the membership efforts

**Grand Lodge Conventions
What we know as of this writing
2023**

South Carolina February 25
N. Myrtle Beach SIG Shink

**Supreme Council Meeting
March 12, Roanoke, Virginia**

Nebraska April 15
Hastings

Maine April 29
Gouldsboro

Florida May 5-13
Cruise SC Mead

Massachusetts May 11-12
South Portland, ME

British Columbia May 4-5
Chilliwack

Tennessee June 2-4
Cookeville

Texas June 16-18
Longview

West Virginia July 13-15
Bridgeport

Indiana July 13-16
Lafayette SS Morris

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Supreme Chancellor's Message

Cont. from front page

I would like to thank all the people that contributed to Alzheimer's association. We know the challenges involved when a family member or friend is diagnosed with this disease. I am astonished that one in three seniors dies of Alzheimer's or another dementia. Please volunteer or give however possible. You can count on me to support ALZ efforts in 2023.

Finally, I am so grateful for the opportunity to be part of this great organization. I have traveled to meet a number of Pythians over the past couple of months. Each time I am reminded of the wonderful members we have. We are diverse yet work together in a common principle. Be kind and help others where possible.

With Fraternal Love

SUPREME LODGE CHARITY 2022-2024

The Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's® is the world's largest event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer's care, support, and research. Walks are held in over 500+ communities across the nation now through November. The walk supports the following services: 24/7 helpline (800-272-3900); Care Consultations; Community Education; Caregiver training; professional training and support groups.

To find a walk near you click this link: <http://alz.org/KOP>

Start a team

Enter your zip code

Choose your walk and click "Start Your Team"

Enjoy the fellowship while supporting a worthy cause.



*From the Desk of
Allen S. Morris, PSC
Supreme Secretary*

In the words of the late James Brown, “I Feel Good”!

I have sent blank reports to all Our Grand Secretaries and Secretaries of Subordinate Lodges under the immediate control of the Supreme Lodge. The per capita tax (\$12.00) per dues paying member is indicated on page 1 of the report. If for any reason you have received this and not your report blank let me know immediately and I will send another copy off to you. Please adhere to the cutoff date the reports need to be in the Supreme Lodge Office. I have heard every imaginable reason the reports are late – your subordinate lodges should have received their blanks by now, giving them two months to complete their part and get it into the Grand Lodge for the Grand Secretaries to complete their report. As I have said countless times, we are not looking to turn this into a fund raiser, but we will if necessary.

Please let the office know ASAP if you need additional blank copies of either the Subordinate Lodge or Grand Lodge Reports, either electronically or by mail.

The editorial staff of Pythian International is planning to send an issue every two months. We are hoping to be able to send timely articles and pictures while they are meaningful. If you are looking to have an article, especially if there is a picture(s) included, we ask that you send it in an MS Word format – PDF may work for you, but it does not for the staff. We thank you for your attention in this matter.

Please remember, the Rathbone Bible is available for your Rank of Knight. Disappointing is that not many domains have requested it. If your domain is interested, please contact the Supreme Lodge office at 781-436-5966, feel free to leave a voice message if after hours or email to supremelodgekfp@comcast.net. The Bible has already been reserved for Founder’s Day 2023.

The office will be closed on Monday, December 26 in observance of Christmas and on the following Monday, January 2, for the New Year.

Wishing all our Brothers and Sisters the absolute best for a joyous holiday season, and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous 2023!

Stay well.

Fraternally, and in Friendship,
Al

NEW FOREST CEMETERY SHOWCASES IMPROVEMENTS ON CONDITIONS



The Rathbone Monument located at New Forest Cemetery in Utica. The cemetery hosted an open house event on Saturday, November 19 inviting guests to check out the grounds, meet and greet new board members, enjoy food and participate in a scavenger hunt.

UTICA — New Forest Cemetery, which previously suffered through neglect and dilapidated conditions, held an open house on Saturday, November 19 to showcase the improved conditions under the new volunteer board.

The cemetery at 2001 Oneida Street had been burdened by significant financial difficulties, allowing conditions at the cemetery to worsen, including overgrown weeds and fallen tree limbs. The financial difficulties and dilapidated conditions ultimately led to the previous volunteer board resigning and abandoning the cemetery.

The cemetery caught the attention of state lawmakers, including Assemblywoman Marianne Buttenschon, D-119, Marcy, who led a tour of the cemetery back in July for community leaders, a representative from New York State Governor Kathy Hochul's office and the State Director of the New York State Division of Cemeteries.

The new board took over the cemetery in August and since then members have taken inventory of the equipment and had it repaired, had vigorous ground maintenance and lawn care done to the grounds, approved various capital improvements, consolidated the cemetery's debt and put together an operating budget to work with. The board is also working to establish a marketing plan to engage with funeral homes in the area.

During the open house, board members were on site to meet with the public and offer walking and riding tours to see the changes made under the new leadership.

"We know that over the last three months, through Facebook updates and feedback, people really were very pleased to see the progress we were making and we wanted to have a formal event where we welcomed the community and had people come and give their feedback on it and give us ideas on how to serve the community better," said Shawn Lancaster, board president of New Forest Cemetery.

The new board is also engaging in ways to ensure what happened to the cemetery under the previous board's leadership will not happen again.

"We decided to in-house all the burials, which is a very core component of the financial stability of the cemetery," Lancaster said. "We have the equipment, we're getting another tractor that's going to be donated and that will help us too, but we are running it as a business and that's the most important element of this."

DOMAIN OF OREGON'S FUN-DAYS 2022

Past Grand Chancellor Scott Swartout planned organized the Grand Lodge of Oregon annual Pythian fun days, held on July 20th through the 24th at the Old Mill RV and Marina campground in Garibaldi, Oregon. We had over 30 campsites with over 100 members and friends participating in the campout and activities.

The organized activities included in a train excursion from Garibaldi OR, to Rockaway OR. Deep-sea fishing. Several of the lodge members brought their boats to take other members Crabbing with in the bay.

We fellowshipped each evening to discuss the events of the day and to catch up with friends and acquaintances.

On Saturday evening we had a potluck dinner, with Grand Lodge providing the main course of fresh fish, chicken and pork ribs, along with drinks.

On Sunday morning, Grand Lodge officers prepared breakfast for all the participants before heading home.



DINNER AND FELLOWSHIP



FFUN-DAY 2022 GROUP PICTURE



FFUN-DAY OF FISHING

REBUILDING UPDATE

OREGON'S TALISMAN LODGE No. 31

Oregon's Past Grand Chancellor Scott Swartout chose the rebuilding of Talisman's lodge as his Grand Chancellor's project and has moved forward with repairing the lodge. Below is an update on the progress in Grants Pass, Oregon. PGC Swartout enlisted a team of Knights from several Oregon lodges to evaluate and identify any issues with the building and to formulate a plan for repairing the problems found. These issues included:

1. Leaking roof in both meeting rooms which caused damage to the ceilings, walls and floors.
2. Attic vent screens were missing which allowed Barn Owls to nest inside the rafters.
3. The water pump which supplied water from the well needed to be replaced
4. The septic drain field needs to be repaired

During several work parties, members were able to remove all the wallboard debris and carpeting. One of the groups inspected the roof and found some damage which caused the leaks. The group was able to make temporary repairs of the damaged area. A second group was able to install screens in the 8 attic vents to keep the Barn Owls out.

During the last 18 months we have continued to travel to the Grants Pass Lodge to make additional repairs. During this time the roof has been replaced, and we have rebuilt the roof access. Additionally, we have added ceiling lights, additional power outlets, and fans in the ceiling. Once this was completed, we were able to insulate and install the sheetrock. The talented crew of Knights were then able to tape, texture, and paint the walls and ceiling.

During the remodel we discovered that the lodge had an office that hasn't been accessible for a few years. With the office being located in the basement there was some significant water damage resulting in the paint crumbling and falling off. After the cleanup of the damaged area we were able to air dry the office then apply a sealer to the walls and finally move forward with repainting the entire room and floor.

Though lots of progress has been made to the Grants Pass Lodge we still have a long road ahead of us. Next up we will address the meeting room and move forward with having our work party install all new flooring and molding, then move ahead with furnishing it.

Before



After



PENNSYLVANIA'S NEW GREAND CHANCELLOR

The Grand Domain of Pennsylvania held its Annual Grand Lodge Convention on Saturday, August 13, 2022, in Newtown, PA. In the attached photo you will see our new Supreme Chancellor, D. Mark Mead, and the new Grand Chancellor of Pennsylvania, Edgar Fulmor, being passed the gavel after our new Supreme Chancellor Installed our Officers for the ensuing term. This was the first Official Visit of our newly installed Supreme Chancellor.



Left to right: GC Edgar Fulmor; SC D. Mark Mead

NEWLY INSTALLED GRAND LODGE OFFICERS - DOMAIN OF VIRGINIA AND INSTALLING OFFICERS



Sitting L to R: SFT S.T. Fulcher Jr.; SC Mark Mead; GC Mike Thornton; Sitting PGC Mike Benedict; and SF Earl Harrell, Sr.

Back row L to R: GVC Jerome Dickinson; GP Chris Carney; GIG Stephen Lewis; GT Lyle Joyner, GMA Andy Foley; GS Al Sims; and GOG Kevin Bokman.

NORTH CAROLINA GRAND LODGE CONVENTION

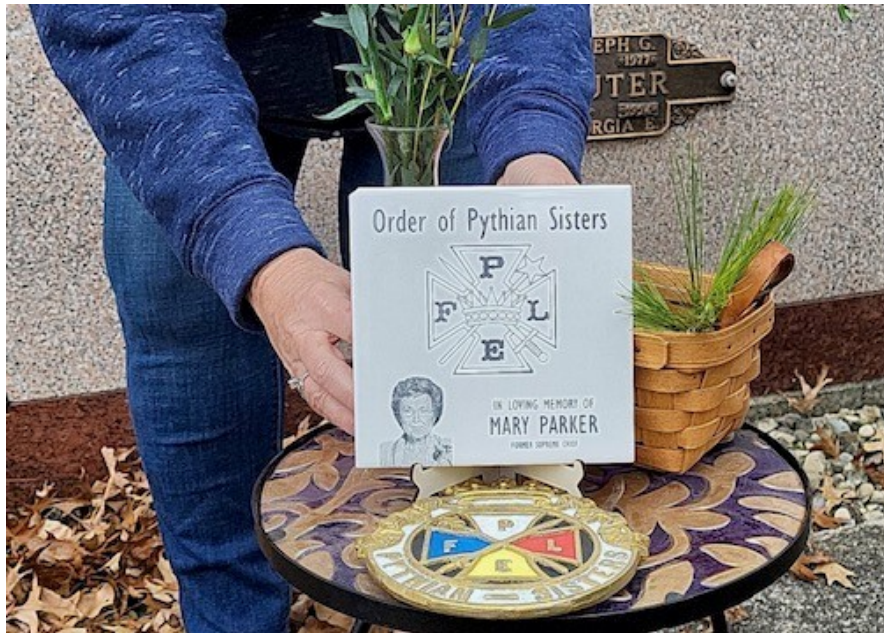


Pictured L to R: Outgoing GC Mark Sears; 2023 GC Brent Davis; GVC Mark Wilson; GS Steve Satsky; GT Steve Stanley; GIG Derek Willmott; and GOG Wes Lovelace.



The Convention was held in Myrtle Beach, SC at the Kingston Plantation Resort September 30 and October 1.

MEMORIAL SERVICE HELD IN HONOR OF PSC MARY ESTHER PARKER



A Memorial Service was held on November 5, 2022 in Fort Wayne, Indiana in honor of Past Supreme Chief Mary Parker.



Present from Indiana, L to R: Cassie Willis, PGRO; Lori Loughmiller, PSR; Myrtle Davidson, PSR; Doug Kleinknight; Cathy Kleinknight (Mary's daughter); Julie Coverdale; Rolland Coverdale (Mary's son); Melissa Wilson, Gr Trus; Joyce Harter, PGC; Suzy Cyrus, GS (Mary's granddaughter); Joe Colgan, PSR; Dianne Miller, GC; Patricia Butler, PSR; Marline Springer; Jill Unger-Moder, ST; Bonnie Rose; and Sherry Adams.

WEST VIRGINIA GRAND LODGE DONATES \$5,000 TO MOUNTAINEER FOOD BANK

On November 8th 2022 the Grand Lodge of the Domain of West Virginia, represented by Junior Past Grand Chancellor Robert Rinehart presented a check for \$5,000 to Becky Conrad of the Mountaineer Food Bank.

Mountaineer Food Bank provides food and other household items to over 450 feeding programs in 48 counties in West Virginia. These programs include food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, senior programs, Veteran's Table programs, mobile pantry programs, school food pantry and backpack programs.

This is the 2nd year that the Grand Domain of West Virginia has been able to donate \$5,000.00 to this great cause in the name of Friendship, Charity and Benevolence.



Pictured Becky Conrad Community Engagement Specialist for Mountaineer Food Bank and Robert Rinehart, Junior Past Grand Chancellor, Grand Domain of West Virginia

LAFAYETTE LODGE #51, LAFAYETTE, INDIANA

The Community Minded Moder Elves ringing the bells for the Salvation Army on Saturday, November 19 as part of Lafayette Lodge's Community Service Program.



Left to right: Elf Jill; Elf Ken

Ken Stanford and John Hardesty of Dayton and Lafayette Lodges respectively are not pictured

CRESCENS LODGE #33 HAS 33RD CHRISTMAS PARADE

Crescens Lodge #33 in New Castle held its 33rd Annual Christmas Parade for the city of New Castle on November 19th in frigid temperatures and single digit windchills. Santa came to town in the Knights of Pythias Building.



The Santa Sleigh float, created by PC Chris Adams, flies through the air in memory this year of PGC William Keith Goff, Jr, who portrayed “Bernard the Elf”. He died in March. In the right GS Denny Adams & PGC Jodi Goff, aka Santa & Mrs. Claus arrive in town with the town mascot “Floppy”. This is Brother Adams 53rd year to portray Mr. Claus. Crescens Lodge has a free Santa headquarters in their building annually for the kiddies to come and visit Santa and receive a free treat. They also decorate the courthouse seen in the background.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

*Happy Hanukkah; Merry Christmas;
Happy Kwanza; and a Happy, Healthy
and Prosperous New Year to All!*

