



Celebrating 158 Years of Pythianism

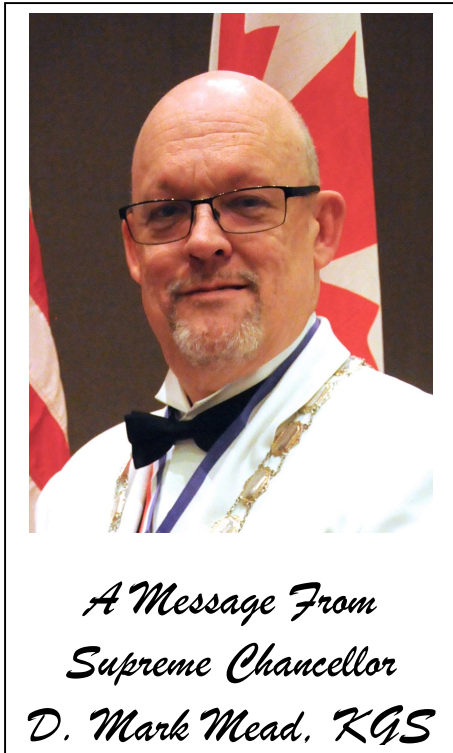
The New

Pythian International

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

Spring is here – for many of us, that means warmer weather and the ability to engage with more outdoor events. Many lodges are planning their events for the next year. Please consider having a membership event on your calendar or thinking of creative ways to incorporate membership into your social events. The Supreme Lodge is available to engage with ideas and possible financial resources to increase the chances of success. Please contact our membership chairman, Daniel Videlock at videlock@erols.com for the request form.

Cont. on second page

Grand Lodge Conventions What we know as of this writing 2023

Nebraska Hastings	April 15 SMA Knutson
Maine Gouldsboro	April 29 DSC Spencer
Florida Cruise	May 5-13 SC Mead
Massachusetts South Portland, ME	May 11-12 SVC Stamm
British Columbia Chilliwack	May 4-5 SOG West
Tennessee Cookeville	June 2-4 SP Van Boening
Arizona Tucson	June 3-4 SS Morris
Texas Longview	June 16-18 SC Mead
West Virginia Bridgeport	July 13-15 SMA Knutson
Indiana Lafayette	July 13-16 SS Morris
New York Howard Beach	July 19-20 SC Mead

**Supreme Council Meeting
July 30, Suffern, New York
Imperial Convention**

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Supreme Chancellor's Message

Cont. from front page

In February, I had challenge coins created. The coin is similar to other coins developed by Past Supreme Chancellors. The obverse has the Knights of Pythias Logo consistent with other challenge coins, but on the reverse is the symbol of the five countries where Pythian Lodges exist. For those who don't know (US, Canada, Philippines, Italy, and England).



Obverse



Reverse

I have been awarding the coin for a \$10 donation to the Alzheimer's association. We can continue to chip away at the incredible challenges this disease brings. Many of the Supreme Lodge Officers have taken a small amount to sell. Thank you to all that have made a donation to get a coin. If you have any questions, please send me an email.

Finally, I want to touch on a topic that aligns so well with Pythianism – Forgiveness. Forgiveness is a conscious, deliberate decision to release feelings of resentment or vengeance toward a person or group who has harmed you, regardless of whether they actually deserve your forgiveness. At Subordinate, Grand, and Supreme, there is often a breakdown to success due to a lack of forgiveness. Fellow Knights are holding feelings of resentment. Often this is caused by a misunderstanding. By simply increasing communications, many times a simple phone call can help relieve a grudge or bitterness. Imagine when this Order was founded.

Supreme Chancellor's Message

Cont. from second page

There was incredible deviousness and resentfulness from the civil war. Our founders were able to put difference behind and built this Order. There are so many great individuals in this Order, I encourage all to continue to work together going forward. There are unique differences between us all, but we can work together to improve our part of the world if we look at those differences as individual strengths and talents.

God Bless you and Give love where you can.

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*

As of this writing about a third of our Grand Lodges, as well as lodges under the immediate control of the Supreme Lodge, have not submitted their Annual Report to the Supreme Lodge and/or paid their per capita tax. If your Grand Lodge falls under this category, please call or email the Supreme Lodge and let us know when we may see you report, etc.

I am in the process of repaginating Supreme Law, an arduous task to say the least. Once that has been accomplished (no sections or verbiage will be changed) it will be sent out to be proofed. The intent is to get rid of the a, b, c pages and a lot of blank space. Once I get the okay, the Supreme Officers, PSCs and Grand Secretaries will receive a complimentary copy for their use, in a non-editable PDF format.

I am also in the process of redoing the Subordinate Lodge Ritual, making all the type the same font, minimizing the different font sizes and redrawing the illustrations that demonstrate how the Castle Hall is set for Rank Work. Also contemplating having it printed in an 8 1/2x11 format, spiral bound – a bit more costly, but much easier to read. Age does take its toll.

I would like to wish all a Sweet Passover and Happy Easter.

Stay well!

My Pythian Friends,

Membership is the future of our order. I would love to say we are all set and fine. Unfortunately, I cannot. We have lost 34% of our members in the last 10 years. Some of you may not be aware of this. I was not.

As the Chairman of Supreme Membership, I was surprised. I believe strongly we can reverse this. Times have changed so we have to change how we get members. Supreme and Grand lodges can only do so much. We are here to help. But membership starts in the subordinate lodges.

It is time to think out of the box. If what you do for membership has not been working. It is time to try something different. I can suggest different ways to go after members, but you are much more knowledgeable about your community. What works in one place may not work in another place.

Here is your challenge. Try a different way for membership. It may or may not work. If you succeed you may have new members with new ideas. Be open to embracing them and make sure your lodge is fun and friendly. We want our members to stay for a long time. Many members join to make a difference in their community. Give them the opportunity to do so. Get behind them and help them succeed. If they succeed the lodge grows and they will bring more members.

There is financial help for membership-focused activities. Please contact me to find out more.

If I can be of assistance to your lodge, I am available to help.

I took this position because I believe in this order. I want it to flourish so others can share friendship and comradery. My goal is to make the order grow. With your help, I am confident it will.

Yours in Pythian Friendship
Daniel Videlock
Supreme Lodge Membership Chairman

INDIANA'S GRAND LODGE MASCOT



Floppy, a 5-year-old basset hound, keeps watch over Broad Street six days per week. The long-eared canine belongs to Knights of Pythias Grand Secretary, Denny Adams. “Floppy loves to watch traffic and people,” Adams said, he’s an unofficial downtown mascot. People often stop at the traffic light outside the building to take Floppy’s photo, whistle or call his name.

DO YOUR EARS HANG LOW?

LAFAYETTE LODGE NO. 51 – INDIANA

February 2023: Lafayette Lodge # 51 presented a ceremonial check to Thomas Miller Elementary in the amount of \$1,100. This represents the amount of money Lafayette Lodge donated to the school through the Coke Point Program. This represents about 5-years of work. The school receives checks quarterly for the outstanding balance on the account.

Thomas Miller Elementary uses the funds to help students with clothing, books, and athletic equip if they cannot afford to purchase the same.



L to R: Mrs. Erin Phillips, School Principal; and Chancellor Commander Jill Unger-Moder, ST.



Lodge Brothers with Mrs. O'Dell's 2nd grade class. They happen to be passing by when the presentation was made.

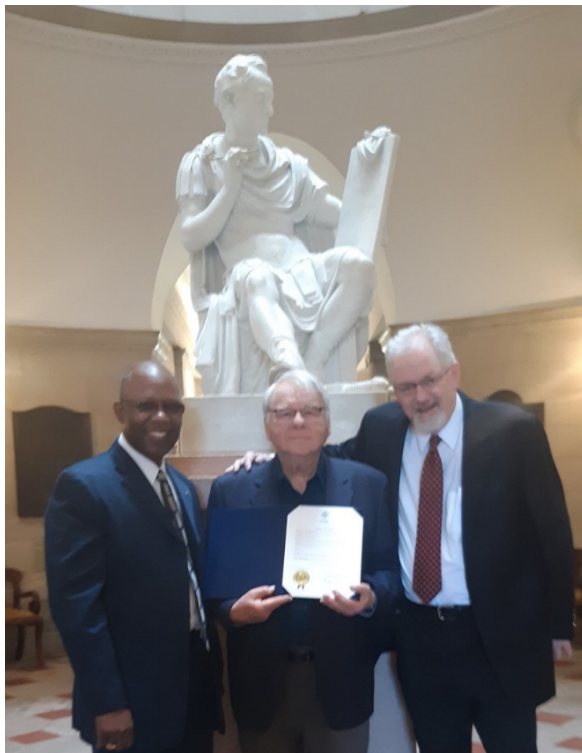
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA LODGE RECOGNIZED

Recently, Centre Lodge #3 Knights of Pythias was recognized and honored to receive a Proclamation from Raleigh Mayor Mary-Ann Baldwin in honor of Pythian Founders Month.

The Knights of Pythias was founded on February 19, 1864 in Washington D.C. the organization is based on the ancient Greek story of the famous friendship of Damon and Pythias and is the oldest fraternal organization chartered by an Act of Congress. The Order is non-sectarian and has as its main principles, Friendship, Charity and Benevolence. It has lodges throughout North America and in places around the world. The Order prides itself on promoting cooperation and friendship between people of good will, through service to our community and love of home and family.

Locally, Centre Lodge #3 is active in supporting Mary's Pantry in Raleigh through the collection and donations of non-perishable food items to help needy families, monetary donations to the Food Bank of Central and Eastern N.C; ongoing annual donations of children's bicycles at the Richard B. Harrison Community Library in support of the children's reading and literacy program. The lodge participated in the 2022 Memorial Day Services and wreath laying ceremony at the Raleigh National Cemetery and socially, an annual Holiday Year-end dinner and Installation of Officers event. Centre Lodge #3 was the third Pythian lodge initiated in N.C. on September 29, 1871. For many years it lay dormant until it became active again, receiving its charter on June 3, 2014.

The lodge welcomes membership inquiries. For further information contact Anthony Bonapart at Anthonybonapart@bellsouth.net.



The attached photo of members posing with the proclamation was taken at The North Carolina State Capitol. Standing, left to right: Anthony Bonapart; Ken Noar (holding proclamation); and Rick Roberson.

PHOENIX LODGE #2 - ARIZONA DONATION



In January, **Mark Kisala, Phoenix Lodge #2**, presented a check to Valley View Food Bank for the amount of \$550.00. It was part of our Share the Spirit stipend. VV Food Bank is our primary charitable organization that we work with throughout the year. We also regularly donate canned goods from the lodge to this organization.

Hermion Lodge #27 - Ocala, Florida

28 December, 2022

Our lodge, in good fellowship donated \$10,000.00 dollars to help in the building of a shelter for inclement weather for the scouts. The below picture is the presentation of our donation.

Boy Scout Camp La-No-Che
Paisley, Florida



Top Row Left to Right: Nicole Lusk; Quinton Lusk; Justin Benson; and Noah Chaputt
Bottom Row Left to Right: Mike Johnston (Hermion Lodge #27); Matt Regan; Todd Hempfield;
and Mac Griffith

HERMION LODGE #27 OCALA, FLORIDA

Brother John Powell Grave Marker Placement Ceremony

On June 21, 2022 our lodge finally placed a Pythian grave marker next to the headstone of our departed Brother John Powell who passed away on 27 September 2019, which was long in coming thanks to the efforts of Supreme Prelate Tim Van Boening.



Left to right: Mark Lepinskie (Prelate); William Nicholson (Chancellor Commander); and Juan Hernandez (Treasurer).

This 4th day of February, 2023 Hermion Lodge #27 of Ocala, Florida was extremely proud to be able to donate \$5,000.00 to the Kimberly's Center for Child Protection, a non-profit organization, located Ocala, Florida.



L to R: Dorene Nicholson (Recording Secretary); William Nicholson (Chancellor Commander); Kristina Donohue (Development Director); Mike Johnston (Inner Guard); and Mark Lepinski (Prelate)



L to R: Dorene Nicholson presenting the donation to Kristina Donohue

STONEWALL-JASPER LODGE #6 – CHARLESTON, SC.

March 16, 2023

The first two Lady Knights in South Carolina.



L to R: PSC Bruce H. Brown, KGS; PGC Cathy Steinbrecher; PGC Missy Zelasko; SR Jon Zelasko

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS DONATION – NEW YORK

On Thursday, February 2nd the Morris Smoller Social Service Fund presented a check to Menorah Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing Care. The Knights of Pythias established this fund in memory Dr. Morris Smoller in 1983. This fund helps to support nursing homes, rehabilitation facilities with short- and long-term rehabilitation and hospices. Presenting the check on behalf of the Morris Smoller Social Service fund and the Knights of Pythias were Supreme Rep Robert Ross, Supreme Rep. Jordan Levy and Grand Inner Guard Brian Klasewitz. Jessica Wares, Administrator and Linda Charneco, Associate Director of Admissions received the check on behalf of Menorah Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing Care. The fund supports Menorah Center as it continues to provide excellent service to their patients.

The Morris Smoller Social Service Fund, Inc. was set up under Section 402 of the Not-For-Profit Corporation Law. The purposes for which the corporation formed are to provide financial assistance to programs which address the social needs of senior citizens, including, wherever suitable, the provision of grants of assistance for senior citizens in association with the goals and mission of the Grand Lodge of the Knights of Pythias of New York and its subordinate Lodges.



Left to right – Brian Klasewitz; SR Robert Ross; Jessica Wares; SR Jordan Levy; Gail Fleischman; and Linda Charneco.

PYTHIAN LODGE # 26 - TEXAS

On Monday February 27, 2023, members of Pythian Lodge # 26 donated \$ 1,000.00 to “Hooves & Halos,” a nonprofit that is a Christian based organization which provides equine and recreational programs to individuals and their families, children and adults that are physically or mentally challenged, discouraged, or disadvantaged, regardless of gender, age, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, religion, or nationality.



Left to right: PC Mickey Couture; Johnette Poole, Administrator of Hooves & Halos Gabriel - Official Greeter at Hooves & Halos; and CC Paul Springer.



Monte Bello Lodge #10 Donates Book to the Florence Library

in Memory of the Late Harry Williams

By Steve Edwards



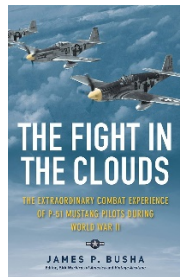
**Late Brother John Henry "Harry" Williams of Florence, Alabama
March 31, 1947-Januaey 3, 2023**

On Thursday, March 16, 2023, officers and members from the Florence Knights of Pythias Monte Bello Lodge #10 and members of the John Henry "Harry" Williams family met with Jordan Collier, Assistant Local History and Genealogy Librarian for the Florence-Lauderdale Library, for the purpose of donating a book in memory of the late Brother Harry on behalf of the Williams' Family and the local lodge. Harry was a long-time resident of Lauderdale County and made many contributions to the community as a citizen, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, president of the local Jaycees, a member of the Civitan Club, the local American Legion, and the Knights of Pythias. He graduated from Coffee High School in the mid-sixties and went onto attend Saint Bernard College in Cullman, Alabama, a private Catholic College and now a Prep School, where he received a Bachelor of Arts Degree. In addition to obtaining his BA degree, Harry later went to the University of Alabama, where he was a roommate with Former Lauderdale County Sheriff Rick Singleton, where they both obtained a master's degree.

After graduating from college, he worked for the Boys Scouts of American in the Huntsville-Decatur area. After leaving the Boy Scouts he became involved in the Juvenile Justice System in Alabama, first as a Juvenile Probation Officer in Morgan County, he then was involved with a Juvenile Detention Center in Muscle Shoals before becoming the Chief Juvenile Probation Officer in Lauderdale County, working in District Court Judge Leslie Johnson's Courtroom, another member of the local lodge. Harry also worked with former and late University of Alabama's Provost Dan Howard, another Lodge member, to develop a detention program for juvenile female offenders.

Before retiring from the state juvenile system, Harry returned to the District Court in Decatur, Morgan County as the Chief Juvenile Probation Officer. After retiring from the District Court Juvenile Probation Office in Decatur, he became a contract employee for the State of Alabama's Juvenile Justice System helping to set up offices across the state with advance technology. Harry was also instrumental with helping to develop laws related to the protection of children and juvenile delinquency.

Following his retirement Harry continued to invest and help his community by volunteering in organizations like the Knights of Pythias. At the time of his death in early January he had been working with Brother Leslie Johnson and other Brothers in the Lodge to develop a Divisionary Program for our youth that would assist children who have not been in trouble but without intervention might find themselves cross with the law. Harry was a very humble man and never sought recognition for himself or his accomplishments.



When a member of the local Florence Lodge passes away it is customary for the membership to donate a book to the Florence Lauderdale Public Library in memory of that member. Harry's family recommended that the Lodge donate "The Fight in the Clouds" by James P. Busha. The book is about pilots who flew the P-51 Mustang during World War II. Harry's father, the late George Williams, another longtime resident of Florence, was a pilot in a P-51 Mustang during World War II.



Charlotte Williams, wife of Harry Williams,
and Lodge Secretary Hermon Graham



Brother Hermon presents Librarian
Jordan Collier with the book.



Lodge members and Brother Harry's family during presentation