



*Celebrating 158 Years of Pythianism*

The New

# Pythian International

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

On this upcoming Father's Day, I find myself reflecting on the incredible journey I have shared with my father, Past Supreme Chancellor David Mead. He has had a profound impact on my life. From my earliest memories to the Supreme Chancellor, who I am today, his unwavering love, guidance, and support have shaped me in ways I can never fully express.

Pops,

As I've grown, I've come to realize the immense value of following in your footsteps. You have been my role model, teaching me valuable lessons through your words and, more importantly, through your actions. Your dedication, hard work, and integrity have inspired me to strive for excellence in all that I do.

Cont. on second page

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

|                             |                            |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Tennessee<br>Pigeon Forge   | June 2-4<br>SP Van Boening |
| Arizona<br>Tucson           | June 3-4<br>SS Morris      |
| Texas<br>Longview           | June 16-18<br>SC Mead      |
| West Virginia<br>Bridgeport | July 13-15<br>SMA Knutson  |
| Indiana<br>Lafayette        | July 13-16<br>SS Morris    |
| New York<br>Howard Beach    | July 19-20<br>SC Mead      |

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

|                                   |                            |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Pennsylvania<br>Newtown           | August 12<br>SVC Stamm     |
| Iowa<br>Des Moines                | August 25-26<br>SIG Shink  |
| Maritime Provinces<br>Fredericton | August 26                  |
| Ohio<br>Fairborn                  | September 7-9<br>SS Morris |
| Michigan<br>Lansing               | September 14-16            |
| Maryland<br>Hagerstown            | September 15-16<br>SC Mead |

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## *Supreme Chancellor's Message*

Cont. from front page

From the way you prioritize family to your unwavering commitment to your passions, you have shown me the true meaning of strength and perseverance. Your tireless efforts to provide for us, to create a loving and nurturing home, and to instill in me the values of kindness and compassion have left an indelible mark on my heart.

As I journey through life, I am filled with gratitude for the foundation you have laid. I am proud to walk in your footsteps, guided by the principles you have instilled in me. Your wisdom continues to shape my decisions, and your unwavering belief in me fuels my aspirations.

On this Father's Day, I want to thank you for the countless sacrifices you have made and the countless ways you have supported me. Your love and presence have given me the confidence to pursue my dreams and to embrace the challenges that come my way. Your belief in my abilities has given me the courage to step outside my comfort zone and strive for greatness.

As I continue on this journey, I promise to honor your legacy by embodying the qualities that make you such an extraordinary father. I will cherish our shared values of love, respect, and resilience. I will work tirelessly to make you proud, knowing that every step I take is a testament to the lessons you have taught me.

Thank you, Dad, for being my guiding light, my rock, and my inspiration. Today and every day, I celebrate you and the remarkable impact you have had on my life. Happy Father's Day to you and all Pythian Fathers.

With all my love and admiration,  
Supreme Chancellor D. Mark Mead



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

The beginning of the summer season is upon us. Beach going, pools, cookouts, camping, hiking, etc. Whatever you do, be safe.

I am back on the road, making visits to Grand Lodges, and it feels good to be able to get out and spread the word about Pythianism to my Brothers and Sisters. Our Supreme Chancellor, Mark Mead, has also been out and about spreading Pythianism – and he has been well received, as have all the other Supreme Lodge Officers.

**Golden Spur** – if you need information on how to go about it you may feel free to contact the supreme lodge office by phone or email, or the committee chairman, PSC Alan Krell at [alankrell@aol.com](mailto:alankrell@aol.com). We are there to help.

**Poster Contest** – time is drawing close for your domain's submissions to the Supreme Lodge. Remember, there are two categories, hand drawn, and computer generated. As in the past on the odd year, the posters will be judged by the company that does the Supreme Lodge's printing.

**Alzheimer's Association** – Supreme Chancellor Mead is selling coins to raise funds for this worthwhile charity. The coins are gold color and signifies the countries Our Order has lodges in: United States, Canada, Italy, England, and the Philippines. The cost of the coins is \$10 each, with all the profit being donated to the Alzheimer's Association. Contact Supreme Chancellor Mead for further information.

**Six Pack Program** – Bring six new members into your lodge and you'll receive acknowledgement, a certificate, and the possibility the Supreme Chancellor or a Supreme Lodge Officer will visit your lodge to make the presentation. Be recognized and help build our Order at the same time. For further information contact the Supreme Lodge Membership Chairman Dan Videlock at [videlock@erols.com](mailto:videlock@erols.com).

Stay safe, stay well.

Al

## 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.

# KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS LODGE DONATES BOOK TO THE FLORENCE LIBRARY IN MEMORY OF THE LATE DR. DANIEL “DAN” HOWARD

By Steve Edwards

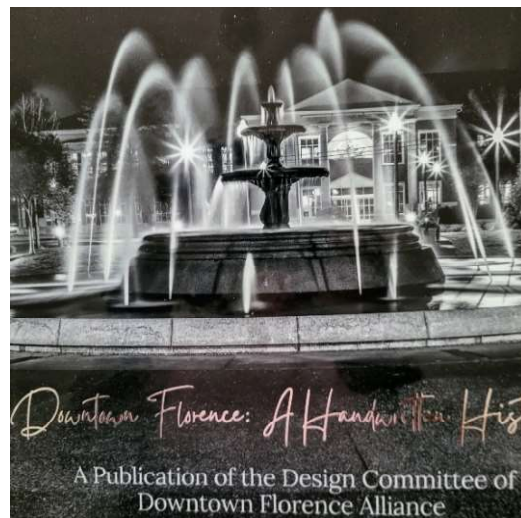


Late Brother Dr. Daniel “Dan” Howard Florence, Alabama  
November 29, 1949 - January 30, 2022

On Friday, April 14, 2023, the Florence Knights of Pythias Monte Bello Lodge #10 donated the book “Downtown Florence: A Handwritten History” to the Florence Lauderdale County Library in memory of the late Brother Dan on behalf of the Howard Family and the local lodge.

Dan was a long-time resident of Lauderdale County and made many contributions to the community as a citizen, Vice President of the University of North Alabama (UNA), a caretaker for UNA Lion Mascots Leo and Una, and as the Grand Chancellor of the Alabama Knights of Pythias.

Following his retirement Brother Dan continued to invest and help his community by volunteering in organizations like the Knights of Pythias and continuing to work as a volunteer alongside his wife, Ann, by being the head caretakers for the UNA Lion Mascots. Brother Dan 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. Brother Dan's wife Ann had recommended that the staff at the Florence Lauderdale Library chose the book and the library staff recommended, "Downtown Florence: A Handwritten History." The book chronicles the downtown history of Florence through photographs and descriptions of houses and buildings including the campus of the University of North Alabama for which Brother Dan contributed so much to through his leadership in the growth and renovation of the campus which is a large part of downtown Florence and the surrounding area.



Brother Steve Edwards assists in the donation of the book to Library Staff Member Lee Freeman

## **CHEYENNE #122, CAPITAL #123 AND CHEYENNE TEMPLE #1 (OKLAHOMA) COMBINE THEIR EFFORTS**

The Knights from Cheyenne Lodge #122 and Capital City Lodge #123 along with the Pythian Sisters Cheyenne Temple #1 have been putting on a haunted house as their major fundraiser since 1989. The only time the haunted house has not operated was 2020 due to the pandemic. Thanks to the efforts of a wonderful group of volunteers the haunted house runs for 10 or 11 nights every October in the basement of the Pythian Castle basement built in 1888. The proceeds from the haunted house are then used to help support charities in the Cheyenne area.

Starting in 2021 the Knights began asking the Cheyenne Community for local charities they may not know about to consider giving donations to. The Knights choose four charities and then ask those going through the haunted house to vote for their favorite of the four. Each charity gets a donation from the proceeds, with the charity with the most votes getting a larger donation. 2021 and 2022 brought record breaking crowds through the haunted house allowing the Knights to do some long overdue maintenance projects to the Pythias Castle as well as still giving back to the community.

Some of the charities that have received donations in the past two years include Grace for 2 Brothers for suicide awareness, Kids Deserve Dads which helps dads with custody issues, Dogs and Tags that helps

with service animals for soldiers, Muley Fanatic Foundation that not only helps with mule deer habitats, but also encourages hunting programs in our schools, Hunting with Heroes that provides hunting trips for service members, Wyoming Recovery, ARC of Laramie County, Safehouse of Cheyenne for battered women, Wysail- Wyoming State Advocates In Leadership helping those with disabilities find leadership opportunities, Unaccompanied Students Initiative which helps with homeless students, the Empty Stocking Fund helping families at Christmas time, Friday Food Bag Foundation which provides for for the weekend for kids and Platte Rivers Veterans Fly Fishing which provides fishing trips and fly tying lessons to Veterans.

The Knights and Sisters look forward to providing many more scares in 2023 so that they can continue to help the Cheyenne Community.



Knights Greg Searls and Brian Hartwig present a check to the staff of Grace for 2 brothers.



Knights Darren Hartig, Duane Huston, Brian Hartwig, and Greg Searls take a quick picture at the Knights sponsored hole before teeing off in the annual Dogs and Tags golf tournament.



Haunted House Chairman and Knight Brian Hartwig presents a check to the founder of Kids Deserve Dads.

# KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS SPECIAL OLYMPICS MEDAL PRESENTATIONS PALM BEACH GARDENS, FLORIDA

On March 4, 2023 members of the Grand Lodge of Florida Knights of Pythias and the Pythian Youth Foundation presented Director Rick Fleming host of the event, checks totaling for \$5,000.00: Pythian Youth Foundation, Inc. \$3,000, and the Smoller' Fund, Inc. \$2,000. The event was held at the William T. Dwyer High School. We handed out hundreds of Pythian-Special Olympic Medals to all athletes participating in the various events, there were no losers. One and all had an awesome time, and look forward to next Year's Summer Games.

Back row volunteers left to right

Bro. Bill Margulies; PGC Allen Plotnick; Bro. Mark Gamzon; CC Billy Nicholson; SR Irving Margulies, President of the Pythian Youth Foundation; PC Ed Ross

Front row volunteers left to right

Lynn Levy; Knight Janice Simon; Knight Dorene Nickerson; Sherley Hernandez; GIG Juan Hernandez





## FLORIDA'S GRAND LODGE CONVENTION – AT SEA

No, it wasn't on the "Good Ship Lollipop", but the Grand Lodge of Florida hosted its 2023 Grand Lodge Convention on a seven-day cruise. Supreme Chancellor D. Mark Mead took advantage and represented the Supreme Lodge for a much needed few days away.



GC Mitch Weinstein getting ready to cut the celebratory cake. In the back is SC Mead – it pays to be tall.





GC Mitchell Weinstein and SC D. Mark Mead.

Editor's note: off the top of my head it would appear more of us are using the same barber.

# NORTH CAROLINA - ROBERT C. "TOAD" HAYES MEMORIAL LODGE #174

Robert C. "Toad" Hayes Memorial Lodge #174, Cherryville, North Carolina participated in the Annual Cherry Blossom Festival, April 21 and 22, 2023. This is a community "Kick-Off" to the start of summer. The Lodge hosted a very successful food tent and sold hamburgers, hotdogs, funnel cakes and fried oreos. All proceeds support the Lodge Scholarship fund.



# OREGON'S GASTON LODGE #104 SPRING READ AND RIDE PROGRAM

Gaston lodge #104 presented 14 bikes and 100 helmets to the students at the Gaston elementary school on May 5, 2023. The bikes were presented to students who read extra books during a 3-week period. The awards were given during an assembly of the whole student body.

The lodge had 5 members present to give 14 bikes to kindergarten through 6th grade book readers.



Left to right is John Delay; GP Bill Sneathen; CC Dan Griffin; DSC Don Allen; and PGC Randy Tipton.



## PENNSYLVANIA HONORS TWO BROTHERS WITH 50-YEAR HONORS



Shown above from left to right: PGC Charles “Corky” Swartz, III, AST; PGC John “Eric” Johnson, DSC; I. Edgar Fulmor, GC and John Duggan, CC.

On Saturday, April 29, 2023, Defiance Lodge #335 held its Annual Ladies Night at the Northampton Valley Country Club in Richboro, PA where we honor and thank our ladies for all they do for us. After a fine Social Hour and Dinner our Chancellor Commander, John Duggan and the Secretary of the Lodge, Charles “Corky” Swartz, III presented 50 Year Certificates and Pins to our Brothers PGC John “Eric” Johnson, DSC and I. Edgar Fulmor who is currently serving as the Grand Chancellor of Pennsylvania.

With the addition of these two Brothers, we now have three Brothers who have earned their 50 Year Certificates. The other Brother is Paul Westle who is currently serving as the Grand Master-at-Arms for the Domain of Pennsylvania.

## SIDNEY LODGE No. 85 IS THE FIRST LODGE IN THE DOMAIN OF WASHINGTON TO ADD LADIES AS MEMBERS – PLUS ONE GENTLEMAN



Left to right: Michael Syvrov; Cynthia Adams; Brenda Wiley; Betty Depee; Charlene Halsey; Tracy Larson; and Patricia Christensen.

Sidney Lodge #85 is the first lodge in Domain of Washington to initiate women as members. The group above just completed their Rank of Esquire.

The Pythian Sister Temple in Port Orchard, Washington closed due to multiple deaths. The remaining sisters were left with traveling long distances to attend temple sessions. As such, two sisters decided to join the men in the corresponding Pythian Lodge, Sidney #85 in Washington, along with one man and four new women members. The women were already attending a lot of the Pythian events, so giving them the opportunity to join with the men made perfect sense. This is a big boost to the lodge membership.

# 2023 READ & RIDE PROGRAM

Palmetto Lodge #513  
Ashville, Ohio 43103  
May 26, 2023

This year's read and ride program has been completed and without a doubt it was the "best" we have ever had. This year the Pythian Sisters helped distribute the bikes to the students of Teays Valley School District.

This was the first time we pick a student (2<sup>nd</sup> grader) and he looked at the principle and said, "may I have the microphone?" He proceeded to tell everyone in the room that he wanted to give his bike to a classmate that deserved (needed) it more than him. At that time everyone in the room was wiping tears from their eyes. Later he told me that his parents just got him a new bike for his birthday. He wanted to "pay it forward !!!"

Attached are a few pictures of our 2022-2023 Read and Ride presentations.

Fraternally,

*Charles Morrison*







