



Celebrating 159 Years of Pythianism

The New

Pythian International

PUBLISHED BY THE SUPREME LODGE KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS

VOLUME IX No.08

SUMMER 2023



LAWN MOWERS AND SUPREME LODGE OFFICERS

Recently I attended a Grand Lodge event, where I was in my white tuxedo and Supreme Chancellor jewel – dressed to the nines. It was a spectacular time. Although the next day after I returned home, I had my regular chores to be done. Not only put things away and get ready for the work week but also mow the lawn. A chore that requires pushing the lawn mower in the heat of the day. What a difference in 24 hours. The point of this is even though we as Supreme Lodge Officers are fortunate enough to represent the Supreme Lodge, we all lead regular lives.

All too often the officers of the Supreme Lodge are presumed to have this special life, free from everyday chores and nuisances. We get to travel and see many corners of this Order. Yet, for many, there are jobs, families, and issues to be addressed like everyone else.

In my situation, I have been blessed with a job and a family that supports my desire to support the Knights of Pythians. Especially as Supreme Chancellor, I have to carefully balance job expectations. Not only the work but also how much leave I accrue.

Each Supreme Lodge officer makes difficult decisions daily to balance the needs of the Order with work and family life. Some recognize early that the demand is too much.

After spending the last decade of my life supporting the Supreme Lodge, I have come to respect even more the individuals that have volunteered their time. They go to the Supreme Lodge Meeting, their Grand Lodge Meeting, and most importantly they are still dedicated to their lodge back home.

Each Officer has earned my respect so much – their love for the Order shines through.

So, the next time you see a Supreme Lodge Officer, just imagine that their next day might just be sweating while pushing a mower back home.

Optimism and Gratitude are sustainable.

D. Mark Mead

SUPREME LODGE OFFICERS

D. MARK MEAD, SC

6 Maggie Court
Fredericksburg, VA 22406
C: 703-625-2237

Email: meaddm@gmail.com

DONALD STAMM, SVC

628 Lake Floyd Circle
Bristol, WV 26426
304-781-1982

Email: don@limesoser.com

TIM VAN BOENING, SP

1939 West "B" Street
Hastings, NE 68901-5626
402-460-7100

Email: tl28van@gmail.com

ALLEN S. MORRIS, SS

458 Pearl Street
Stoughton, MA 02072-1655
O: 781-436-5966

Email: supremelodgekofp@comcast.net

ALAN J. AST, ST

8 Courtney Drive
New City, NY 10956-6122
O: 845-638-9344

Email: aaast@aol.com

WAYNE KNUTSON, SMA

902 Vernon Drive
Copperas, TX 76522
254-291-4990

Email: wknutson1@yahoo.com

CRAIG SHINK, SIG

One Willow Place
Great Neck, NY 11021
347-351-3251

Email: craigshink@gmail.com

MICHAEL WEST, SOG

710 South Cushman Avenue
Tacoma, WA 98405-3625
206-291-4518

Email: myqgest@gmail.com

Editorial Staff - Supreme Lodge Office

Email: supremelodgekofp@comcast.net

Grand Lodge Conventions What we know as of this writing 2023

Pennsylvania Newtown	August 12 SVC Stamm
Iowa Des Moines	August 25-26 SIG Shink
Maritime Provinces Fredericton	August 26 DSC Mattinson
Ohio Fairborn	September 7-9 SS Morris
Michigan Lansing	September 14-16 DSC Masefield
Washington Mt. Vernon	September 15-17 SP Van Boening
Illinois Marion	September 23 SP Van Boening
North Carolina Myrtle Beach, SC	Sept 29-Oct 1 SC Mead
New Jersey Monroe Township	September 30 PSC Fierstien
New Mexico Lordsburg	September 30 SMA Knutson
California	October 6-7 SOG West
Virginia Roanoke	October 7-9 SC Mead
Missouri Sedalia	October 12-14 SC Mead
Nevada Sparks	October 12-14 SOG West
Oregon Aurora	October 14-15 SVC Stamm
Colorado/Wyoming Cheyenne	November 11, 2023



*From the
Supreme Secretary's Desk*

We are halfway through this Biennium, and there's a lot going on – most of it positive. I will tell you that I could not be happier working with SC Mead than I ever thought possible. Brother Mark is doing his homework, working for the betterment of the Order Universal. Plaudits to Brother Mead.

If you read the report of the Supreme Secretary, it was sent out soon after the close of the Mid-Term Supreme Council Meeting, the membership numbers are not what they should be. I know it's happening in all other Fraternal Organizations, but let me be blunt, I don't really care about them, I care about the Knight of Pythias. If you read the reports, you would have seen a multi-page essay written by PC Michael Duque (William McKinley Lodge #1 in Manila) on membership. If you missed it, go back and read it, you may find something in his missive that could work for you, for your subordinate lodge, for your domain. Membership is the life blood of any organization, we need to start infusing ourselves – start a special interest lodge, start a lodge of all younger members. Remember we are a gender-neutral Fraternal Order.

Stay well.

Fraternally, and in Friendship,
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.

CANTON LODGE #6 MASSACHUSETTS KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS

On Saturday, May 6, the brothers of Canton Lodge #6 sponsored a yard sale at the home of PDSC Barry Rubin and his wife Donna Fox Rubin for the benefit of Kendrick House. Kendrick House located in Wareham, MA, provides housing for up to 21 veterans. The lodge was able to donate \$500 from the sales of merchandise.



Those participating were PDSC Barry Rubin and his wife, Donna Fox Rubin; DSC David Winer; GC Richie Albert; GT Harvey Slobodkin; PGC Jerome Ziedman; KGS and his wife Phyllis; PDSC Dave Prager and his partner, Ruth Rubino; PSR Alan Zamansky, KGS; CC Dennis Ackerman and his wife, Judy; and Sandy Medeiros. Donations were made by members of Canton Lodge and others.

CENTRE LODGE NO. 3, KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS RALEIGH NORTH CAROLINA

Chancellor Commander Sean Van Pallandt and Secretary Anthony Bonapart took part in a raffle at the Richard B. Harrison library. Each participant in the children's Summer Reading Program is entered into the raffle. The prize for this 1st raffle was a bicycle donated by Centre Lodge #3.

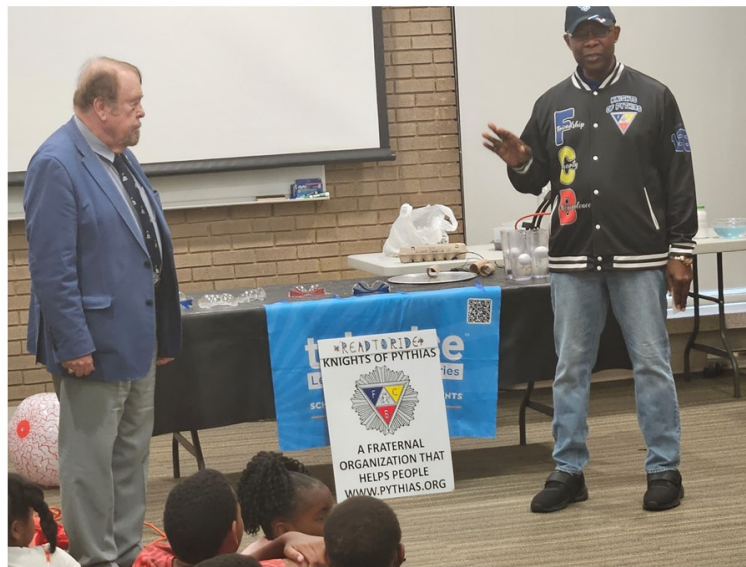
Centre Lodge No. 3 donated two (2) bicycles to the Richard B. Harrison library. The donations are made to support the library's 2023 summer reading program, which encourages reading and aims to keep children turning book pages to increase childhood literacy and a love of books.

Chancellor
Commander
Sean Van
Pallandt

&
Secretary
Anthony
Bonapart

Bicycle giveaway at
Richard B. Harrison
Library Summer
Reading Program for
children.

6/20/2023





Winner!



**CENTRE LODGE NO. 3 DONATES BOOKBAGS
AND
SCHOOL SUPPLIES
Raleigh, North Carolina
7/20/2023**

The members of Centre Lodge No. 3 of the Knights of Pythias purchased and assembled backpacks for children attending Wake County schools.

This year, the Lodge teamed up with The Friends of Wake County Guardian ad Litem to provide backpacks and school supplies to children. The backpacks were full of school supplies such as binders, pens, pencils, highlighters, calculators and more. The goal of this project is to help provide Wake County kids with the school supplies they need to have a successful school year.

The mission of Friends of Wake County Guardian ad Litem is to enhance the lives of at-risk children through programs which promote their physical, educational, and emotional well-being.



Accepting the bookbags is Laura Gruebel, president of Friends of Wake GAL with Centre Lodge No. 3 Secretary Anthony Bonapart.

NEW HAMPSHIRE / VERMONT HAPPENINGS

VERMONT – DANVILLE TO BE EXACT



Danville, VT Lodge helping to build a kitchen in a habitat for humanity.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

American Cancer Relay for Life in Derry, NH with assorted lodges representing the event. We donated a check for \$2,000.00 from Grand Lodge with combined donations from lodges. It rained all day, but we were giving out free water and they had banners around the track with the K of P logo and announced over the PA system that the Knights were the official water supplier of the event. They also listed the Knights on Facebook and in the Union Leader newspaper.



In no specific order: American Cancer Rep. Nancy Mathis; Knights and spouses Wayne Boyce (VT); Brian Rossiter & Doug Macwilliams (Newport); Howard & Ann Kagen (Derry NH); Jim & Laurie Tebo (Derry NH); and Ken & Dotti Warren (Derry NH).

OAK LEAF LODGE NO. 49 - TENNESSEE

Oak Leaf Lodge #49, Knights of Pythias, Rockwood, TN held its annual summer lodge cookout at Roane County Park on the lake on Saturday, July 15, 2023. A good attendance was on hand in spite of the hot weather and rain showers. Gerald Willard and Warren Rhea did the grilling of the hamburgers and hot dogs. We enjoyed the delicious food including hamburgers, hotdogs, chili, vegetables, desserts, chips and drinks and socializing on the lake shore. Many thanks to everyone who supported and attended our lodge summer cookout.



Pictured left to right: Bobby G Crowe, PSC & lodge secretary; James Lynn, PSR & Supreme Chairman of Finance; PGC Dennis Kelly; and PGC Gerald Willard.

GRAND DOMAIN OF WEST VIRGINIA 154TH ANNUAL CONVENTION

The Grand Lodge of the Grand Domain of West Virginia met at Bridgeport WV July 13th to 15th. The officers were given the oath of office by Supreme Master at Arms Wayne Knutson.



Front row L to R: Riley Strawderman, GIG; Jim Kudlak GS.; John Morris, GC; Cody Handschumacher, GVC; and Lawrence Handschumacher, GT.

Back row L to R: Jim Keller, GMA; Clifton McDonald, GP; Barry Rude, GOG; David Penwell PGC; and Wayne Knutson, Supreme Master at Arms.



Sir Wesley Lanham KGS, PSR was awarded the Pythian of the Year for the Grand Domain of West Virginia. Sir Wesley works tirelessly for the Grand Lodge and his home lodge Blue Ridge #131. Congratulations Sir!

GRAND DOMAIN OF WEST VIRGINIA SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS



The Grand Lodge of the Grand Domain of West Virginia awarded ten (10) \$1000 scholarships to qualifying members or immediate family members or 4H members. PGC Larry Ferguson, Chairman of the scholarship committee is shown presenting 3 of the recipients with their awards.

Winners of the Scholarship are:

Allison Debarr	Catherine Hunnell	Emily Thompson	Isaiah Ash
Jeremy Swiger	Kevin (Cole) Porter	Logan Campbell	Michelle Wagner
Sydney Kudlak	Wesley Strawderman		

TEXAS GRAND LODGE OFFICERS 2023 – 2024



L to R: Herman Weber - Grand Chancellor (Texas #1); Blevins Choate – Grand Vice Chancellor (Mineral Wells #212); Willie Jones - Grand Prelate (LaNana #106); Charles Stephenson - Grand Master at Arms (Greenville Banner #86); Roger H. Fangman - Grand Secretary (LaNana #106); Jalon Peterson - Grand Inner Guard (LaNana #106); Pamela Knutson - Grand Outer Guard (Davy Crockett #193); & Robert Lautenschlager - Grand Treasurer (Midlothian #50) (not shown).