



Celebrating 159 Years of Pythianism

The New

Pythian International

PUBLISHED BY THE SUPREME LODGE KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS

VOLUME IX No.09

ALMOST FALL 2023



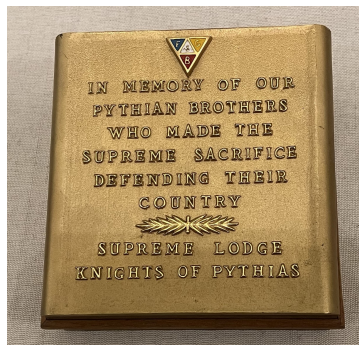
*A Message From
Supreme Chancellor
D. Mark Mead, KGS*

Today, 22 years later, the tragedy of 9/11 is still clear in my mind. I worked in the Pentagon that day and the events that unfolded are surprisingly still fresh. September 11th has become a National Day of Service and Remembrance. This so perfectly aligns with the Knights of Pythias. Review any Pythian International or review Facebook and it is easy to see how our beloved organizations stand out as beacons of service and remembrance. Our noble fraternity has deep-rooted values of service to others and a commitment to remembering the sacrifices of those who have gone before us.

At its core, the Knights of Pythias is dedicated to serving others. Members are bound by a commitment to alleviate the suffering of those in need. Through charitable endeavors and community outreach programs, the Knights strive to make a positive impact on their communities. Whether it's providing financial assistance to a struggling family or volunteering time at a local shelter, the Knights embody the spirit of service.

The importance of remembrance is deeply ingrained in the ethos of the Knights of Pythias. The organization pays tribute to fallen heroes and veterans, recognizing their sacrifices in defense of freedom and justice. Through various memorial ceremonies and events, the Knights honor those who have given their lives for their country. Lyon's Truth Lodge #170 recently visited Arlington National Cemetery recognizing a dedication to the cemetery over 75 years ago.

One of the most renowned aspects of the Knights' remembrance efforts is their support for the Soldiers' and Sailors' Memorial Day. Each year, Knights of Pythias members across the nation gather to commemorate the lives of those who served in the military and express gratitude for their sacrifices. This solemn occasion serves as a reminder of the values of bravery, patriotism, and honor.



In a world that sometimes seems consumed by self-interest, the Knights of Pythias serves as a shining example of the enduring values of service and remembrance. Our fraternal organization's commitment to helping those in need and honoring the sacrifices of others is a testament to the enduring power of unity and compassion.

As we reflect on the Knights of Pythias and their mission, we are reminded of the importance of service and remembrance in our own lives. By giving back to our communities and honoring those who came before us, we can make a lasting impact and create a better world for future generations. The Knights of Pythias remind us that in service and remembrance, we find the true essence of humanity.

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: t128van@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: myqest@gmail.com

Editorial Staff - Supreme Lodge Office
Email: supremelodgekofp@comcast.net

Grand Lodge Conventions What we know as of this writing 2023

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 La Palma	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 DSC Hartwig



*From Supreme Chief
Yolanda Chatwood*

Greetings Sisters and Brother Knights,

As this summer comes to a close, I hope that this past year has been filled with fun, community engagement, and fellowship. I have had the opportunity to visit some of the jurisdictions between US and Canada while also keeping correspondence with the membership on a variety of current and upcoming projects. There are many things happening that I want to update everyone so that we are all striving towards the same goals.

The Pythian Sister website has added an Events portal for Temples to share community activities they are promoting in their jurisdiction. Please submit events and pictures to jcowellplef@gmail.com to submit your photos and info on past and current events.

Supreme Project committee will be sending out a form and digital form link for submissions of each Subordinate Temple's minimum 1 community activity/event for 2021-22. Engagement with the community is a way to showcase the Order and promote our interests to our communities. Remember, our actions speak louder than our words. If we want our organization to grow, we need to show members in our jurisdictions, especially younger community members, we are active in our community to draw their interest.

Lastly, as we begin to roll into the fall and winter season let us continue to build on spreading kindness to those around us and engaging in fun, laughter, and love in what we are doing. By doing what you love, you'll inspire and awaken the hearts of others around you.



*From The Desk of
Supreme Secretary Allen Morris*

Brothers, Sisters:

I seem to be having no problem filling the pages of Pythian International with great looking pictures and articles. The problem is the majority of what's published is submitted by the same Grand and/or Subordinate Lodges.

I'm sure there are lots of activities taking place, but for some reason no one wants publicity or recognition for sponsoring a charitable endeavor, or a lodge or temple function. Why? Take a few pictures with your cell phone, write a short article on what the event was, when and where it was run, monies raised and donated and to whom, or what there was to eat.

A Halloween costume party for the kids, a picnic for the members and their families, a fundraiser for your lodge's/temple's charity? Something to get your name out to the Pythian World and into the community.

Stay well.

REMEMBERING SIR GERALD “JERRY” DEITCH, PSC
AN AMERICAN HERO
1926-2023



Gerald R. “Jerry” Deitch, was born April 8, 1926, in Brooklyn, N.Y., to Harry and Rose Deitch. He married Selma, Feb. 21, 1948, who survives as do son Martin (Cindy), four grandchildren and nine great grandchildren, and died August 23. He served in the U.S. Navy 1943-1946. His journey took him to Brooklyn, Queens, then Las Vegas in 1994. He worked in sales later as a volunteer paramedic, neighborhood watch, and with the auxiliary police at the Las Vegas airport. Most recently he and Selma lived in a group home. He was affable, a fan of the New York Giants football team and the Mets, and enjoyed travel, bowling, and being a prolific reader.

Jerry’s WWII military service was as a member of an elite Underwater Diving Team, a forerunner of the U.S. Navy Seals, and included participation in the June 6, 1944 invasion of France at Utah Beach. He was injured, left unconscious while his unit was exploding obstacles and anti-tank mines. He was part of preparation for the Pacific Theatre Operations when Japan surrendered. He attended and was honored at the 75th anniversary of D-Day, June 2019, Normandy, France.

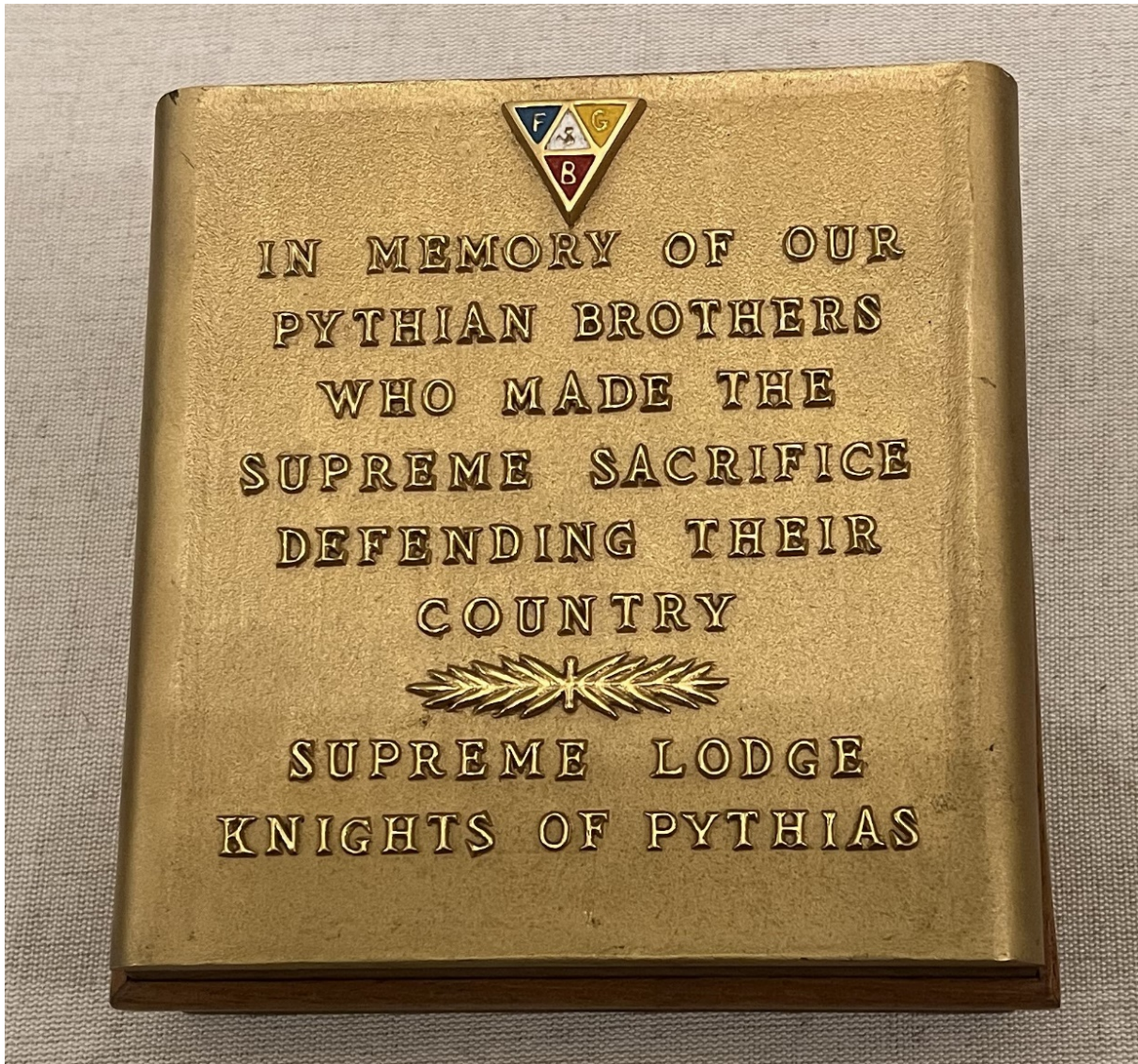
Following service in the Navy, he joined Hosea #702, a year later, March 19, 1947, beginning 76 years as a Pythian. This brought him to a number of NY lodges, becoming a Knight of the Golden Spur in 1992, GS of NY 1989-1993, to Las Vegas Lodge, a charter member of Clarke County Lodge #96, and GC NV IN 2000. He held Supreme Lodge office beginning as Supreme Outer Guard in 2004 and culminating with his election as Supreme Chancellor at the Supreme Lodge Convention in 2012 at Manchester, NH, and then the Supreme Lodge Convention, August 2014, in Las Vegas. As supreme chancellor, he prioritized Membership and promotion of the American Cancer Society.

Remembering Jerry, PSC Sir Gerald R. Deitch, is a tribute to a Brother who leaves a legacy as a friend, leader, volunteer, and authentic hero!

Respectfully and fraternally,
/s/ Sir Joel Fierstien
Past Supreme Chancellor

LYON'S TRUTH LODGE NO. 170 – VIRGIANA

At the Lyon's Truth Lodge #170 meeting Grand Chancellor, Mike Thorton was able to do the 5-hour trip to visit Arlington VA. The Lodge member had coordinated a field trip to Arlington Cemetery. In coordination with the cemetery historian, the lodge was able to see the plaque that was donated just over to the cemetery 75 years ago. Along with viewing the changing of the guard, the lodge members were able to get some pictures together.



The Cemetery was a great place for the lodge to visit, keeping the memories of our lost service member alive.



Left to right: Joy Sullivan VC; Sir Mark Mead SC; and Sir Mike Thornton GC of VA.



Seated Sir Mike Thornton, GC of VA; Rabbi Randy Schoch, Prelate

Standing left to right Michelle Videlock, Sec; PGC Dan Videlock MW; Debbie McGhee, IG; SC Mark Mead Tres; PC Rusty Sullivan, MW; and Joy Sullivan VC

**LYON'S TRUTH LODGE #170 PROUDLY SUPPORTS SUPREME
CHANCELLOR MARK MEAD'S PROJECT (ALZHEIMER'S) WITH
A HANDMADE, KNITTED BLANKET RAFFLE!**



Tickets: \$1 Each or 6 for \$5

Drawing to be held during the Supreme Convention.

Make checks payable to: VA Supreme Convention Committee.

Mail tickets and money to:

VA Supreme Convention Committee

Attn: S.T. Fulcher

240 Hill-n-Dale

Martinsville, VA 24112

Color: Navy blue

Size: Apps 42"

**Thanks for
your support!**

FIDELITY LODGE No. 78 - CONNECTICUT

Fidelity Lodge #78, a local lodge of the Knights of Pythias, donates over \$1,100 dollars to Orange Food2Kids from Its annual golf tournament held recently at The Orchards Golf Club.



Accepting the donation is Sue vonRabemstein. Presenting from the Knights is Mitch Goldblatt and Chairman John Kelman

The Order of Knights of Pythias is an international, non-sectarian fraternal order, and was the first fraternal order to be chartered by an Act of Congress. Today in addition to supporting our military the Order does charitable work, sponsor dances and fundraising events.

BERKELEY LODGE No. 162 - DOMAIN OF CALIFORNIA

Berkeley Lodge No. 162, Knights of Pythias, Domain of California, presented Mr. J.R. Wilson, founder of the non-profit Delta Veterans Group ("DVG") with a check for \$750 to help the DVG put on the Veterans Stand Down in the Delta. Berkeley Lodge is happy to help support DVG to help veterans in need. This is Friendship, Charity, and Benevolence in practice.



Present were (left to right) Hugh Keith, PC; J.R. Wilson, Delta Veterans Group; Sir Herb Lederman, PGC; Greg Andrews, Knight; Stanley Bransgrove, CC; Gene Ellerbusch, PC; Victor R. Hanson, Esquire; Lee Ortega, Esquire; and Nathaniel Harrison, PC.

JERSEY SHORE LODGE, NEW JERSEY CHARITY PROJECT



Some of our Veteran Friends Enjoying the Bar B Que-Picnic





VC Phil Ress, FS Chuck Greenberg, Staff Members Chancellor Commander Ron Schnapp Prepping the Preparing & Serving the Picnic Luncheon to the Veterans Food for the Bar B Que and Picnic Luncheon

More of our Veteran Friends Enjoying the Day, The Food and the Great Weather.

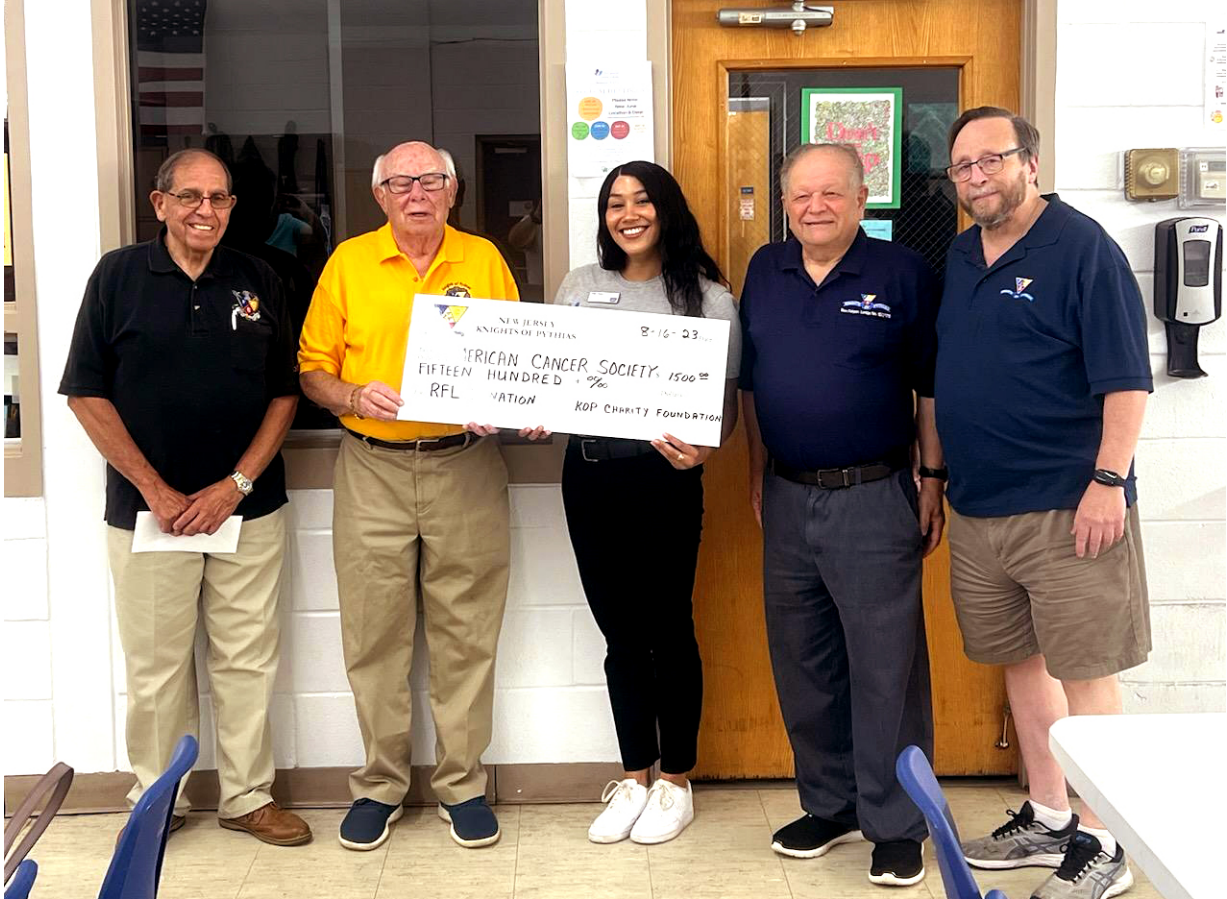
On Tuesday July 25, 2023, the Jersey Shore Lodge Knights of Pythias of New Jersey hosted a Bar B Que and Picnic for Veterans at the Vineland New Jersey Memorial Veteran's Home in Vineland, New Jersey. The Lodge's team consisting of Brothers and Pythian Ladies who experienced the wonderful feeling of helping to lift the spirits of the more than fifty (50) Veteran Guests and staff members by providing them with an extensive homemade and on-site cooked Bar B Que and Picnic. The food was prepared, cooked, and served by our Pythian team representing the Jersey Shore Lodge Knights of Pythias. The included photos of our event depict some of the activity during the event including mingling with several esteemed veterans who had won Silver and Bronze Stars in their duty to the United States Military, and Our Country.

Some of the helpers not shown in the photos are Mrs. Linda Fraistat, Mrs. Marian Pardes, Mrs. Merri Haller, as well as Brothers CC Ron Schnapp, VC Phillip Ress, FS Chuck Greenberg, and MA Michael Perks.

The day was uplifting and meaningful for both the Veterans and our Team as a project that we will consider repeating again in the near future.

CARDOZO LODGE NO. 163/157 – NEW JERSEY

On Wednesday August 16, 2023, at the Castle Hall of Benjamin N. Cardozo Lodge #163/157 Knights of Pythias of New Jersey; Ms. Halle Baker, on behalf of the American Cancer Society & Relay for Life, received a \$1,500 check from the NJ Knights of Pythias Charities Foundation & Benjamin N Cardozo Lodge 163/157, at Fair Lawn NJ as part of our annual donation.



Left to right: Marvin I. Diner, KGS, Charity Foundation Treasurer; Jerry Weiner, KGS, Charity Foundation President; Halle Baker (ACS); Cardozo Lodge Chancellor Commander Michael Seligman; and Cardozo Lodge ACS Team Leader Knight David Sloves.

Delphia Lodge #2 - Domain of Washington

Delphia Lodge #2, Domain of Washington, kicks off each new Fall meeting with a picnic. This year the picnic was held on the last Saturday in August in order to avoid the Labor Day weekend.

This year, the sisters from Crescent Temple #12 in Black Diamond, Washington and Knights from Sidney Lodge #85 in Port Orchard were invited and attended.

This was a great turnout to start out our new year after going dark during the summer. All who attended had a great time. We were able to re-connect with our Pythian Sisters. There was plenty of food that was shared. We had everyone bring a potluck dish to share without any prior planning, ending up with an interesting mix of food.

We look forward to repeating the picnic next year.



Front - left to right: Janice Ranton; Jerry Parkison; Jan Greggs; Gwen Rhodes; Lucy Aponte; Betty Depee; Don Depee; and Jeff Craig.

Back - left to right: Mike Smitson; David Aponte; Corey Whitfield; Mike Palko-Dean; David Greggs; and Jim Wiley.