



*Celebrating 152 Years of Pythianism*

The New

# Pythian International

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## *A Message from the Supreme Chancellor*

My Pythian family,

Today starts a new era in our Pythian history. For 152 years we have helped countless numbers of people as well as supporting many charitable organizations and medical research facilities. We've been able to do these charitable activities with a declining and aging membership. However, this trend must stop and we must start to grow again.

The first step to begin this Renaissance is to remember who we are as Knights. We have to remember our obligations which we took on the open book of law and the pride we had when we were originally Knighted. We have to remember what a friend is. We have to remember how to be nice to each other. And as I have always said, you can't be liked by everyone but you must be respected. As Knights we help people, we do not hurt them.

*Cont. on the next page*

### Grand Lodge Conventions Fall 2016

Michigan Lansing	September 15-17 SVC Fierstien
Washington Yakima	September 16-18 SIG Ward
Illinois Peoria	September 19 SP Brown
New Mexico Lordsburg	September 23-24 SOG Stamm
North Carolina Myrtle Beach	October 6-9 SP Brown
New Jersey Livingston	October 2 SVC Fierstien
Missouri Springfield	October 6-8 SOG Stamm
Virginia Fredericksburg	October 6-9 SC Krell
Wisconsin Wauwatosa	October 8 SS Morris
Oregon Cottage Grove	October 16-18 SMA Mead
Colorado / Wyoming Cheyenne	November 12 ST Ast

## SUPREME LODGE OFFICERS

### **ALAN KRELL, SC**

2208 Avenue X  
Brooklyn, NY 11235  
O: 718-648-6600  
Email: [alankrell@aol.com](mailto:alankrell@aol.com)

### **JOEL FIERSTIEN, SVC**

54 Cobblestone Blvd.  
Monroe Twp., NJ 08831  
973-994-1069  
Email: [marathonlaw@aol.com](mailto:marathonlaw@aol.com)

### **BRUCE H. BROWN, SP**

1619 West Robinhood Drive  
Charleston, SC 29407  
843-571-2614  
Email: [brownwick@knology.net](mailto:brownwick@knology.net)

### **ALLEN S. MORRIS, SS**

458 Pearl Street  
Stoughton, MA 02072-1655  
O: 781-436-5966  
Email: [supremelodgekofp@comcast.net](mailto:supremelodgekofp@comcast.net)

### **ALAN J. AST, ST**

8 Courtney Drive  
New City, NY 10956-6122  
O: 845-638-9344  
Email: [aaast@aol.com](mailto:aaast@aol.com)

### **MARK MEAD, SMA**

6 Maggie Court  
Fredericksburg, VA 22406  
C: 703-625-2237  
Email: [meaddm@gmail.com](mailto:meaddm@gmail.com)

### **MARK WARD, SIG**

507 W. Platt Street  
Maquoketa, IA 52060  
563-652-6375  
Email: [doubletreeantiques@questoffic.net](mailto:doubletreeantiques@questoffic.net)

### **DONALD STAMM, SOG**

628 Lake Floyd Circle  
Bristol, WV 26426  
304-782-1037  
Email: [don@limesoser.com](mailto:don@limesoser.com)

### **Editorial Staff - Supreme Lodge Office**

Email: [supremelodgekofp@comcast.net](mailto:supremelodgekofp@comcast.net)

## Supreme Chancellor's Message

*Cont. from the front page*

One of the big changes that I have instituted for my administration is running Supreme Lodge as a business. This involves assigning various tasks to Supreme Lodge Officers, Deputy Supreme Chancellors, and other brothers while setting reasonable goals, and following up with the team to review their progress or the lack thereof and making adjustments when necessary. Always keeping in mind that we must operate within our legal framework.

Since Membership is the key to our growth, everyone must make this a priority. There are several domains that have taken membership growth seriously and have completely turned around their membership program. If they can do it, so can you. You just have to care.

My goal this year for every domain is to have a net membership increase of 5%.

You will note several articles throughout this and future issues of Pythian International regarding "The Read & Ride Program". This Program should be used as part of the ongoing membership campaign throughout North America.

And always remember... "It only takes one person to make a difference" are you that person?

Fraternally,  
Alan Krell KGS  
Supreme Chancellor



*From the  
Supreme Secretary's Desk*

It was great to see so many friendly faces at the recent Supreme Lodge Convention; it is nice to be able to put faces to names of Brethren who I have communicated with so many times in the past, but had never met.

I would also like to thank you for re-electing me to the position of Supreme Secretary; I appreciate your confidence in me.

Two Constitutional Amendments have been sent to your Grand Secretary. They are to be included in the Preliminary Report for your next Regular Grand Lodge Convention and acted upon. Recorded should be the yeas, nays, and abstentions when completed they should be sent back to the Supreme Lodge Office. It will take a majority vote of the Grand Lodges to make these proposed amendments law.

All orders received by this office must be sent by your Grand Secretary. When filled they will be sent back to your Grand Secretary for him to distribute.

The Supreme Lodge Office hours will vary, but generally they will be between the hours of 9:30 AM and 3:00 PM. The phone number is 781-436-5966. Please leave a message if no one answers.

You can also E-mail us at:  
[supremelodgekopf@comcast.net](mailto:supremelodgekopf@comcast.net)

## READ & RIDE PROGRAM G. W. Carver School Winners Cleveland, Ohio



Left to right: Pearlez Thomas (1st); O'unique Taylor (2<sup>nd</sup>); Jeremiah Jackson (1st); Raymark Price (2<sup>nd</sup>). Background Dawn Glasco - Cleveland Central Promise Neighborhood Coordinator, Sisters of Charity Foundation

## North Carolina



Cumberland Road Elementary School,  
Fayetteville, NC  
Left: SFT William Spade; GMA Bill Perham  
(Domain Read/Ride Chairman) both of  
Cumberland Lodge #5.  
Left: Imia Williams (1st grade);  
Kevin Hammonds (2<sup>nd</sup> grade)

## 2016 SUPREME LODGE CONVENTION



The Committee responsible for organizing the convention, coordinating everything with the hotel, arranging for transport to and from the airport, selected the meals for the banquets, did an outstanding job. The guest rooms, meeting rooms, and the offices were conveniently located to the membership, well-lit and comfortable.

The business sessions of the convention were some of the quietest in recent memory; with few exceptions, the legislation was presented, discussed and disposed of in an orderly fashion. Supreme Chancellor L. Keith Stooksberry, Jr. did an outstanding job presiding over the sessions – bringing the gavel down only when needed, and over a three-day period that was a minimal number of times.

L. Keith Stooksberry, Jr.  
Supreme Chancellor  
2014-2016

As part of our new look and our desire to be transparent, we offer for the first time a synopsis of the legislation adopted at the 2016 Convention. Of the Forty-Eight pieces of proposed legislation brought before the body for its consideration (some were withdrawn, defeated, declared moot or tabled) the following are those that were adopted and/or agreed to by the body.

Document B-1; SS. §1.16.018(b): Allowed for the voluntary monetary donations made by the grand lodges to the supreme lodge, to be counted in lieu of the per capita tax, to be used as the funds paid to the supreme representatives for mileage to and from the Supreme Convention.

Document B-2; SS §3.6.014(i): Corrected a mistake made at the 2014 Supreme Convention requiring the budget of a Grand Lodge to be in the hands of the voting members of the Supreme Lodge prior to the opening of the Supreme Lodge Convention.

Document B-3; Resolution: Established the Per Capita Tax at the rate of \$6.75 per taxable member for the 2016-2018 Biennium.

Document B-4; SC Article IX, §12: If ratified by at least a majority of the Grand Lodges, would give the Supreme Chancellor, upon the request of a certain number of members, the authority to pardon or commute decisions of the Supreme Tribunal, with certain restrictions.

Document B-7 thru B-15: Have to do with the manner in which mail is sent to and from the Supreme Tribunal and/or the manner in which it is sent to the Supreme Lodge.

Document B-16; SC Article VIII, §1: If ratified by at least a majority of the Grand Lodges, would give the members of the Knights of Pythias Foundation, Inc. (other than a Past Supreme Chancellor who have a vote by virtue of the position he/they achieved) voting rights at the Supreme Lodge Convention.

Document B-17: SS §1.13.09: Has eliminated the mandated \$15,000 from the Foundation for Pythian International for the Biennium 1966-1968.

Document B-20; SS §1.14.08: Mandates the Supreme Tribunal prepare a monthly report of docketed items on its calendar, to be sent to the Supreme Chancellor and the Supreme Secretary.

Document B-21, SS §1.5.023: Corrected the word “Your” to “Youth”.

Document B-22, SS §1.17.024: Eliminated the mandatory \$1.00 per year increase in Per Capita Tax through July 31, 2020.

Document B-23; SS §7.2.05: Added additional days of remembrance to “Devine Day of Worship”.

Document B-24; Resolution: Established the dates and location of the 2018 Supreme Lodge Convention.

Document B-29: Added a new “Three in One” Rank to the already Supreme Lodge approved Rank Work. It will be held over to 2018 Supreme Lodge Convention for final consideration and disposition.

Document B-33; §1.16.018: Increased the Expenses a Supreme Representative is entitled to from \$50.00 per day to \$75.00 per day for each day of the Supreme Lodge Convention.

Document B-34; SS §3.8.018: Will allow an additional member, in a subordinate lodge who is a Past Chancellor whose additional membership is in a Subordinate lodge of a Grand Domain in good standing, and a primary resident, shall be eligible to be elected to serve as a Grand Lodge Representative or Grand Lodge Officer with voice and vote and entitled to hold any Lodge office to which he may be elected in that Grand Domain.

Document B-35: Adopted the Proposed Knights of Pythias Foundation, Inc. Budget.

Document B-36: Resolution for a “Mission Statement” for the Knights of Pythias Foundation, Inc.

Document B-37; SS §1.14.42: Will now require a “Filing Fee” for various filings with the Supreme Tribunal.

Document B-38; SS §1.14.291: Specifies how and to whom a true copy of a complaint is filed with, and how it is to be sent.

Document B-39; SS §1.14.37: Specifies how monies collected by the Supreme Tribunal for fines are transferred to the Supreme Treasurer.

Document B-40; SS §1.14.30: Outlines the maximum time allowed before a filing shall be docketed by the Supreme Tribunal.

Document B-41; Resolution: The adoption of the Supreme Lodge Budget for the 2016-2018 Biennium.

Document B-42; added SS §1.4.09: In the event of the suspension of the charter of a grand lodge, operation of the grand lodge and subordinate lodges under its control shall be at the discretion of the Supreme Chancellor and under his direction and control.

Document B-43; added SS §2.5.044 (e): The Committee Public on Relations, whose duties shall include developing, organizing, instituting, and maintaining a program to promote the Order to the public, to organize programs and events for the public, to promote charitable and community service causes, and for the distribution of releases concerning such activities to media outlets.

Document B-45; Resolution: Authorizing “Actual Expenses” for a member, with the prior approval of the Supreme Chancellor, to visit the Rathbone Monument for an overview of its condition, and to write a complete report on his findings – to happen only once during a Biennium.

Document B-46; Resolution: That from this time forward our Brothers in Catania, Sicily shall be entitled to be known as the GRAND LODGE OF THE DOMAIN OF CATANIA (the Province of Catania) instead of the "Grand Lodge of Italy" and that they shall have the distinction of being the first legally formed Grand Lodge of Italy, with all of the rights and privileges attached thereto, pursuant to our Supreme Constitution and Statutes.

## SPECIAL MEDAL PRESENTATION



Left to Right: Stan Wolski, SR; Sir Ron Kiessling, PST;  
Les Brandais, PGC; and Judith Shamis, PSR

### CUYAHOGA COUNTY PYTHIAN CONVENTION COMMITTEE, KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS Special Award Medal Presentation September 7, 2016

On Wednesday September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016 there was a Thank You Dinner for CCPCC members and other volunteers who worked at the Supreme Convention 2016. It was held at Vittorio's Restaurant in Wickliffe, Ohio. After dinner there was a special presentation to three members. Sir Ron Kiessling, PST and President of CCPCC presented Special Award Medals to Judith Shamis, PSR; Les Brandais, PGC; and Stan Wolski, SR. They were awarded in recognition of and appreciation for their outstanding support rendered to Supreme Pythian Convention 2016. Their dedication and assistance was in keeping with the highest Traditions of Friendship, Charity and Benevolence.

## MORE READ & RIDE

Six Library Systems on the south shore of Massachusetts have taken advantage of the Read & Ride Program sponsored by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, funded by its charitable division. The bikes, boys and girls, cost very little in comparison to the publicity the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts is/has been receiving.

MA does it a bit differently by awarding bikes to the winners of the reading contests who are in the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grades, a total of 6 bikes per library. Each winner receives a bike, helmet (with K of P decals as well as a plug for the store where we purchase the equipment at cost) and safety lights. The cost per library is less than \$450.00, including printed paraphernalia and certificates.

The program started last year with one library, but word has spread quickly and this summer MA has presented bikes in Stoughton, Needham, Lynn, Easton, Canton and Middleborough. We will also be sponsoring a winter contest, as we did last year, to the Library System in Stoughton for its winter vacation reading contest.

The pictures below (two of the six winners) were taken at the presentation in Canton, MA on August 26.



William Hannon (1st Grade)



Ryan DeLello (2nd Grade)