

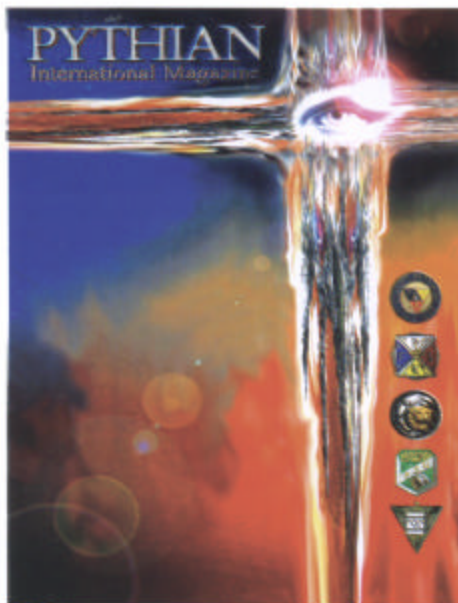
# PYTHIAN

International Magazine

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Page 2: Notes from the Editor
- Page 4: Pythian Knights
- Page 12: Pythian Sisters
- Page 16: DOKK, Santha & Nomads
- Page 18: Sunshine Girls
- Page 20: Junior Knights
- Page 22: International
- Page 26: Hall of Honor
- Page 32: Forms





### "Eye on the Universe"

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**"United we stand! Divided we fall!"**

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I would like to thank Marv Wilson, right up front, for all his years of faithful, and dedicated service to the Pythian Order. He is one of the VERY few people who can understand what I have taken on, because this was all new to him at one time (if he can remember back that long ago)!

I have spent MANY a sleepless night, facing impossible problems, that had no logical reason to exist! Even my computer's manufacturer gave up on trying to resolve the "glitches" that threatened to destroy all the work that I had done on this new magazine for the last three months!

The last three weeks, before the printing date, I was up literally 24hrs a day! Maybe, someday, I'll tell you about all my insane adventures on this "Quest..."

### I need your help to make this the best publication that the Order has ever seen!

The goal of the new Pythian International Magazine is to inform, inspire and uplift our Organization's current Members, entice non-Pythians to join, and to unite the whole Pythian Community, in deed and spirit, by dramatically improving communication...

This new magazine format will draw the eye, from across the room, and when opened, it should hold the rapt attention of Pythians, and non-Pythians, alike! The 'New' Pythian International Magazine will be concentrating on items of interest to the "worldwide" Pythian Community as a whole, and **not** on information that is **only** of interest to "localized" Members.

### **I strongly encourage all Lodges to create their own local newsletters!**

Local Member-recognition is important, but it is not the goal or duty of the Pythian International Magazine to publish items that are not of "Global" interest!

Besides the obvious "format" changes to the magazine, there are a lot of other differences that are not as easily seen.

The composition, design, layout, and printing methods are all completely, radically, different from the past, and the

## A NOTE

"Focus" of the magazine will now be truly "International," containing inspiring, and moving, "Human-Interest" stories of "Universal" appeal.

The readership will dramatically expand, from under 7,000 to nearly 40,000, and will include non-Pythians as well as the active Membership, Lodges and Temples.

Change is difficult, even in the best of circumstances, but to completely change something that has been done basically the same way for over 25 years is insane! It has been very challenging to figure out how to convey the "focus" and type of stories that I am looking for, to contributors...

I have set aside dedicated sections in this Magazine for all Pythian Groups, and over the next few issues, I am sure that it will become obvious, to everyone, just what is needed, and I will begin this change by helping you (the contributors of stories) to understand what to submit by placing a small "icon" (indicating the Group) next to stories that fit the expected profile.



Let me explain a bit about what kind of stories I am looking to publish... (This is a lot to absorb, so make sure that you reread it, as you are writing your stories.)

Inspirational, and moving, "Human" stories that are of interest to **all** potential readers, no matter what their background or beliefs...

Think about it this way... If it is a story that inspires **you** to action, makes **your** heart beat faster, brings a tear to **your** eye or makes **you** laugh out loud, touches **your** very Soul, and that **you** could not put down until completely read, **that** is a story that I am looking for!

I want people to be compelled to cross the room to pick up the magazine, and then for it to engage them so thoroughly that they cannot put down the publication!

Stories that expound upon the Pythian principals, ethics, virtues, and ideals, and make non-Pythians wish to immediately be a part of our great cause, and even make current Members want to "join" again!

I need stories that show the best of Humanity! The best, as illustrated by Pythian deeds, and attitudes, even if the stories are about "non-Pythians," that illustrate Pythian principals! **A tall order, I know, but well worth ANY effort!!!**

Please, understand that no "effort" is ever wasted! Returns may not be immediate, clearly evident, or easily understood, but it all comes back to you (*bad or good*), and in marvelous ways! Of that you can be sure! So, if you work your behind off, and don't see the results that "you" expected, trust that there is a higher intelligence that is working, and you will reap the benefit in

# FROM THE EDITOR



some unexpected way. Trust the "Process," and don't try to "force" it to be what you think it should be, and the results will be far grander than you could have imagined!

## Writing your Story

The use of "dry facts," as basic stepping stones, to build your "emotional" human story upon, can be a useful "tool," but be careful not to let facts "rule" the article...

**Encourage, and challenge,** fellow Pythians to accomplish great deeds, by your "living examples," in story form!

**"Timely" stories, yes!!!** But, also **"Timeless" stories** (as the story of Damon and Pythias), so that "future" readers will value the illustrations, and be able to apply them to their lives, as though the examples were written just yesterday.

I know that you **all** have stories to tell, and if your story touches just **One** heart (deeply), or changes **One** life for the better, all your effort will have been worth it!

This is truly an "International" magazine, and stories need to reflect the fact that we are a valuable, International organization, and that **"People,"** their hopes and dreams, are what is important to us, and not the acquisition, and control, of "money, and things" (as so many other organizations seem to spend so much of their effort on)...

I believe, and have learned through over half a century of experience, that you **"always, take care of people, first,** and the "money," automatically follows!"

It is necessary for all contributors to the Pythian International Magazine, to broaden their concept as to who the reader might be, and as to what they might (or might not) know, and understand...

It makes people feel bad, if they are made out to look and feel "stupid," just because they don't know something that **you** might "think" that they "should" know!

Approach each edition, each article, as though it were the "very-first-ever-written," and all will be well!

Just remember that, the audience will be expanding (*greatly*) to "first-comers," and "non-Pythians," as well, so we have to "explain" everything, presented, in that light.

Make your article a "mini-presentation" (*sales-pitch*) to "nonmembers," even though this is a "Member's" publication! It is **very** important to present the very best aspects of the particular Pythian Group, and its people, that you are writing for/about, as clearly as possible! Believe it or not, a vast majority of people have NEVER heard of us, and have no idea at all of what we stand for, or do! Even Members of the different subordinate groups are sometimes unaware of the existence, and purpose, of the other groups in this Great Organization! **Educate them!!!** Use your dedicated Group's space, and the new reader numbers, wisely, and to the fullest advantage! You never know who might pick up this magazine, and discover that they **really** want to be a part of our group! (*Perhaps, even more than one, of our Groups?*)

I also need a picture of the Author, as I always try to include a picture of the writer in anything published, because of the "sincerity," "veracity," and "personality," that it conveys to the readers!

From the next issue on, I will only publish "obituaries, awards, presentations, elections," and similar information, if it is accompanied by an inspirational "Life's Story" of the person, or group, depicted...

**And, please! Don't forget to include complete "contact" information, so that I may get in touch with you if I need more information, or clarification!**

**Keep in mind that I will almost always need to alter stories, and photos, for clarity, and to fit available space...**

All stories, submitted, must be of interest to "worldwide" readers! Stories that are of purely "local" interest, should not be expected to be seen published in our

"International" magazine, so if you have a lot of this type of "news," please consider creating a local "Newsletter," specifically for your area!

There will be no "deadline," per se, for submissions, however, articles should reach me at least one month before the printing, to insure inclusion in that issue.

It is crucial for all submissions to be sent **immediately**, when they first become available, as almost everything will be treated on a "first-come, first-serve" basis. Far too many timely and important stories have been lost, in the past, because of "contributors" waiting until the very last moment, and not making a "deadline!" **Send your stories in IMMEDIATELY!**

There are no longer any restrictions as to the form, or method, for submitting your creations! All photographs need to be clean, clear, and a higher resolution than ever before, preferably in full color. So, if you send them via email, save and send them as at least 3"x4" .jpg, at 200-300dpi. (*Cropping extraneous areas out of the images, before you send them, will help make files smaller, for easier transmission. Some email servers restrict the size of file transfers to no larger than 1meg.*)

Your "text" portion, of the story, can be included in the "body" of the email, or attached as a "text" file... If you cannot (*or do not know how to*) submit stories electronically, please mail your stories, and pictures, by U.S. Postal Service (*or other reliable Carrier*), but remember that "handwritten" letters make my work a LOT harder, so I prefer clearly "typed" documents!

If you wish the materials returned to you, please include a self-addressed envelope, with the proper postage.

I look forward, **with great anticipation,** to your submissions!

*Michael*

## A little about "who" and "why" I am the person that I am (and, an opinion or two)....

I am nonpolitical, in the extreme, and will not publish politically biased articles! I spent three years running up and down the rivers of Vietnam (1967-70), was wounded five times, and was awarded many medals, none of which mean much to me, because that was not why I was there! That experience is one that has helped to mold me into the person that I am today, and I am grateful for that... I do not have a hidden agenda. I speak my mind, and I do not seek awards or honors. A "Thank you!" now and then, goes a long way, but even that is not "expected!" I cannot be "bought," or "coerced." I have nothing to lose, nothing to fear, and only positive hopes and aspirations for the future of this Great and Historic Organization, and all its Members! So, I will do anything that I can to help build it up to become the best, and most well known and respected, of its kind...

This Magazine is one of the most powerful tools available to accomplish this, and I am profoundly grateful to have this opportunity, and the complete and unrestricted trust of the Pythian Leadership! I am on a "Quest," in the name of the "King," and I will not fail you! This Quest/Mission is very important to all of the Human community, and I am very passionate about it succeeding! I have noticed a decided lack of clear communication, and understanding, between the different levels and facets of this organization, so some Members naturally tend to feel isolated and neglected at times. This publication will ideally be used to solve that deficiency, and bring us all closer together!

In all organizations that I have known (*including this one*), no matter what the size or purpose, it seems that there are about 1-5% who do absolutely everything, about .05% that find fault in everything (*and make that task their life's work*), about 20% who joined solely for the perceived prestige that they would gain in the eyes of others, 30% who occasionally show their faces but only at major events, and the VAST majority are never heard from again, shortly after they join! Therefore, patience and understanding, is all important.

In my life I have stood before and beside Celebrities, Royalty, Captains of industry, Geniuses, Idiots, Millionaires and Paupers, the Famous and the Infamous, and I have learned that you cannot buy or take Honor, Happiness or Love. Some people try to feel and look more important by the use of "implied" power. They join an organization, or wear Sports, School, or Organization "Logos," for the sole purpose of feeling and looking more important to themselves and others. I would like to think that only a small percentage of those who join our ranks are seeking such artificial importance. And, I would hope that those who do, soon realize just what they have become a part of, and become productive members.

*Michael*

# "ONE TEAM - ONE GOAL"



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This is the very first issue of the Pythian International Magazine generated by our new Editor Michael Jay Burke. Michael, I wish you great success with your endeavors. Perhaps, with this new format, and exciting content, we can reactivate interest, in existing Members, as well as create an environment that will attract new members.

The "ASK" program is now in full swing. There are many good stories of subordinate lodges recruiting new members, and the secret is simple, just "ASK" a friend, or acquaintance, to join our Great Organization.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS is an ongoing charity. Urge all members to participate in local events, your involvement will make you feel better about yourself and also help a worthwhile charity. My brothers, the time is "NOW" to get involved, we can be successful but only with your help.

The "POSTER CONTEST" winners were posted on our web site, congratulations to the winners and a big thanks to all the students that participated in the contest. Time to get ready for next years contest, the subject is "AVOID ROAD RAGE." The Boy Scout Connection committee is sending out information to all members who wish to participate in the "Matching Funds" program for "at risk" Scouts. The "MATCHING FUNDS PROGRAM" has limited funding, take advantage of the money that is available for your lodge, and send a few Scouts to camp. You will not only feel good but you will get the "Pythian" name some positive publicity.

Our medallion program is very successful; The "MEDALLIONS" have been used to honor "PYTHIANS" who have contributed so much to help our lodges function. You can also honor "Local Heroes," ordinary citizen's, "NON-PYTHIANS," who have contributed their time and effort to your community. These citizens may be anybody who has worked to make your community a safer place to live. Firemen, volunteer workers, or even a school Crossing Guard, are just a few examples. Just think how impressive it will be when you choose a recipient, or recipients, and invite them, their family and friends, to a dinner or special meeting, to be presented with this honor. You should contact the local media folks to get some publicity. In conjunction with this effort you will have a chance to explain all about the Pythian Organization, and give them an opportunity to become valuable Members.

There are two "MEDALLION" types available. Type one, #9300B, is a "Bronze" medallion with a yellow and blue ribbon attached. The second type, #9300S, is a "SILVER COIN," which is presented in a velvet case, the coin itself is sealed in a protective covering. This coin is 99.99% silver, and it's the size of a US Silver Dollar. The price of the "MEDALLION," includes a multi-color certificate with the lodge's name and the honoree's name, and covers shipping, and handling costs. All orders should be placed through you Grand Secretary.

Fraternally,  
Harris A. Breit,  
Supreme Chancellor, Knights of Pythias

hbreit@dakotacom.net



## FROM THE DESK OF THE SUPREME SECRETARY

I've been sitting at this keyboard for a long time now, wondering if / how, I should change the complexion of this column, in keeping with the changes that I know are coming, with the new era in the publication of this magazine.

One of the traditions that it is my pleasure to carry on throughout the years is that of extending to the entire Pythian family the best wishes of the Supreme office staff for a joyous Holiday season. Tracey, Ruth, Margo, and I hope that this next year will be one in which the World will enjoy peace, good health, and fraternal love.

Being in daily contact with the new editor, Michael Burke, his enthusiasm, and anxiety, to accomplish a fresh appearance, and content, for the PYTHIAN INTERNATIONAL MAGAZINE, are obvious to me.

I have never seen anyone tackle a job with as much zeal as Brother Michael has exhibited in the last three months. I anticipate phenomenal changes, starting with this first issue, and I am sure most of you are also looking forward to seeing the results of his efforts. As the expression goes "What goes around, comes around."

We are back to Square One on this year's Annual Reports. Sadly, due to the clamor that was raised by a few domains and some individuals, the Supreme Council

rescinded its decision to provide for 100% distribution of the P.I. Consequently, Subordinate lodges which are not 100% subscribed will still be charged \$14.00 for seven copies of each issue.

Those individuals whose subscriptions would have expired in March of 2004, will be sent regular renewal notices, and the subscription rate will remain at \$5.00 per year. We also ask that subordinate lodges, which want to be 100% subscribed to the Pythian International Magazine, for the next year, send their checks and rosters to their Grand Secretaries for transmittal to this office along with their Annual reports. This must be done before March 31<sup>st</sup>.

We do not want individual lodges to send their checks directly to this office. The Supreme Lodge office is ready to answer any questions you may have.

Nothing about the Annual Reports has changed since last year, except that there must be a subordinate lodge roster, with zip codes, submitted with every Annual Report, **without exception!** There were several instances this past year that required immediate reference to particular rosters.

It is imperative that we receive the information.

## HOW PRECIOUS AND SHORT LIFE REALLY IS!

### Twenty years ago, I drove a cab for a living.

When I arrived at 4:30 a.m., the building was dark except for a single light in a ground floor window. Under these circumstances, many drivers would just honk once or twice, wait a minute, then drive away. But, I had seen too many impoverished people who depended on taxis as their only means of transportation.

Unless a situation smelled of danger, I always went to the door. This passenger might be someone who really needed my assistance, I reasoned to myself.

So I walked to the door and knocked. "Just a minute", answered a frail, elderly voice. I could hear something being dragged across the floor. After a long pause, the door opened. A small woman in her 80's stood before me. She was wearing a print dress and a pillbox hat with a veil pinned on it, like somebody out of a 1940's movie. By her side was a small nylon suitcase.

The apartment looked as if no one had lived in it for years. All the furniture was covered with sheets. There were no clocks on the walls, no knickknacks or utensils on the counters. In the corner was a cardboard box filled with photos and glassware.

"Would you carry my bag out to the car?" she said. I took the suitcase to the cab, then returned to assist the woman. She took my arm and we walked slowly toward the curb. She kept thanking me for my kindness.

"It's nothing," I told her. "I just try to treat my passengers the way I would want my mother treated." "Oh, you're such a good boy", she said.

When we got in the cab, she gave me an address, then asked, "Could you drive through downtown?" "It's not the shortest way," I answered quickly. "Oh, I don't mind," she said. "I'm in no hurry. I'm on my way to a hospice." I looked in the rear-view mirror. Her eyes were glistening. "I don't have any family left," she continued. "The doctor says I don't have very long."

I quietly reached over and shut off the meter....

Preparations are well under way for the 2004 Supreme Convention in Tucson next August. Preliminary flyers and reservation forms will be mailed out in January and we urge you to make your arrangements as soon as possible.

To accommodate the many email messages and inquiries, that we receive about Pythian paraphernalia, and memorabilia, we have compiled a list of Pythians who we know to be collectors. If you would like to be included on that list, please send your name and email address to the Supreme Lodge office.

Telephone number is; 617-472-8800  
Email is; kop@earthlink.net

**Happy Holidays**

### 2004 Supreme Convention Update

The Grand Lodge of Arizona is currently planning the Supreme Convention of 2004.

The convention will be held in Tucson Arizona, where Supreme Chancellor Sir Harris Breit's home lodge, Tucson Lodge No. 9, is located. Tucson is located about 120 miles from Phoenix, and 70 miles from the U.S. and Mexico border, at Nogales, Arizona. There are several points of interest in this part of the country. Tucson is the home of the University of Arizona, Old Tucson Movie Studios, Pima Air Museum, the Arizona - Sonora Desert Museum and the Columbia University Biosphere, to name a few. Trips are being planned to some of these sights. The Double Tree Hotel, Reid Park, is the host hotel. It is located in the center of the city of Tucson, across from Reid Park.

It is only a few minutes from the airport, with complimentary airport transportation.

"What route would you like me to take?" I asked. And, for the next two hours, we slowly drove through the city.

She showed me the building where she had once worked as an elevator operator.

We drove through the neighborhood where she and her husband had lived when they were newlyweds.

She had me pull up in front of a furniture warehouse that had once been a ballroom where she had gone dancing as a girl.

Sometimes she'd ask me to slow in front of a particular building or corner and would sit staring into the darkness, saying nothing.

As the first hint of dawn was creasing the horizon, she suddenly said, "I'm tired. Let's go now."

We drove in silence to the address she had given me. It was a low building, a small convalescent home, with a driveway that passed under a portico. Two Orderlies came out to the cab as soon as we pulled up. They were solicitous, and intent, watching her every move.

They must have been expecting her. I opened the trunk and took the small suitcase to the door. The woman was already seated in a wheelchair. "How much do I owe you?" she asked, reaching into her purse.

"Nothing," I said. "You have to make a living," she answered. There are other passengers," I responded.

Almost without thinking, I bent and gave her a hug. She held onto me, tightly.

"You gave an old woman a little moment of joy," she said. "Thank you." I squeezed her hand, then walked into the dim morning light.

To contact the hotel call 520-881-4200 or for reservations, 1-800-222-TREE, don't forget to request the Knights of Pythias group rate of \$79.00, single/double per night. The room block, for the convention, begins on Wednesday August 4, 2004, thru Thursday August 12, 2004. The Banquet



is being planned for Sunday night, August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2004.

The menu being planned, includes a choice of Prime Rib of Beef, Prime or Baked Salmon, and possibly a third choice of a Chicken dish.

Reservations, prices, and additional information, on trips etc. will be available after the first of the year. Bob Herman, AST is the

Convention Chairman for the Knights, and Muriel Lightfoot, PGC for the Sisters.

Contact: Bob Herman 520-885-8700  
Muriel Lightfoot 480-807-4515  
RJH1@COX.NET

Behind me, a door shut. It was the sound of the closing of a life.

I didn't pick up any more passengers that shift. I drove aimlessly lost in thought. For the rest of that day, I could hardly talk.

What if that woman had gotten an angry driver, or one who was impatient to end his shift? What if I had refused to take the run, or had honked once, then driven away?

On a quick review, I don't think that I have done anything more important in my life.

We're conditioned to think that our lives revolve around great moments.

But "great" moments often catch us unaware, beautifully wrapped in what others may consider a "small" one....



PEOPLE MAY NOT REMEMBER  
EXACTLY WHAT YOU DID,  
OR WHAT YOU SAID,  
OR EVEN WHO YOU WERE,

-BUT -

THEY WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER  
HOW YOU MADE THEM FEEL!



#### NOTE:

The story, above, is a perfect example of the type of article that I am seeking to publish in this new magazine, and I included all group icons, because it "fits" every Pythian on the planet!

A "Grand, and Ethical Purpose" can be a hard thing to find, for our lives, these days. Ethics, are best taught by example, so "live" as a Pythian, and others will naturally want to emulate that.

Let's be remembered fondly, in the annals of history, for all the positive things that our Group contributed to Humanity, and for the lives, and hearts, that we touched, with our good deeds!

*Michael*

# KNIGHTS



Tons of Food, Lots of Volunteers!

The Lafayette, Indiana area, has been hit with floods this past spring and early summer, along with a downturn of employment, in the county!

These factors have contributed to a 25% increase in need, at the local food bank. Lafayette Lodge #51 has completed their 6<sup>th</sup> year of sponsoring a food drive between Lafayette Lodge #51 and local employer, Eli-Lilly and Company, Tippecanoe Laboratories.

This year's drive resulted in the Knights delivering 6,100 pounds of food to "Food Finders Food Bank of Lafayette."

Ms. Barb Ahler, Director, said: "The Knights have been a key resource for the Food Bank for almost a decade. The Food Bank really needed this donation! The donated food will allow the Food Bank to feed more than 4,500 deserving individuals in the surrounding counties, and in our own community!"

"The Knight's annual food drive has yielded over 20,000 lbs of food in the seven years since we have started conducting food drives for our community.

Activities, such as this food drive, reinforce the Knight's commitment to improve our community!" Stated Dr. Ken Moder PGC, KGS, GS, and treasurer of Lafayette #51.

At Lilly, there is an associate, Bryan Jones. He comes from a family of 11 kids. When he was growing up in the Lafayette area, his family did not earn enough money to feed themselves, as well as clothe, and maintain a house. They had to rely on the Food Bank for most of their meals or go hungry.

This experience is burned deeply into his memory. So, now, with a family of his own, a good job, and able to afford better for his family, he still remembers the kindness shown to him and his siblings in the past.

He organizes his department collection of funds, for our food drive, every year, and goes out and purchases food for the food drive. Since he arrived, his department of about 80 folks, has donated over 1,000 lbs of food each year.

Bryan also digs a little deeper in his own pocket each time, to ensure he purchases the type, and quality, of food needed, from his "first hand" experience!

When asked why he does this, his response is; "It is a labor of love, and a way for me to say thank you!"

To organize a drive you need only be committed to help. I would advise partnering with the business you work for, to increase awareness, and the donation base. Large business, like Eli-Lilly, have "set" procedures, in order to conduct a drive like this, at the workplace. Smaller businesses will not have these restrictions. Also, work closely with the director of the Food Bank, or pantry. They can get media coverage better than we can, and they know that coverage helps both their organization, and ours, to get publicity and recognition.

Fraternally,

Dr. Ken Moder PGC KGS GS

P.S.

We are still working on Bryan to become a member of the Pythians, and he is interested! He would make a great addition to our ranks!!

Submitted by: Jill Unger-Moder, Grand Lodge, Knights of Pythias, Indiana Office Manager email: jum324@msn.com

## Knights of Pythias Mission

From the initial point of entry, the generosity of The Knights of Pythias to the Shaughnessy-Kaplan Rehabilitation Hospital (SKRH), is a very visible tribute.

Life-sustaining and enhancing donations, "Ventilators," a "Therapeutic Garden," and new "Therapy Centers," demonstrate the commitment that this Fraternal Order has made to SKRH over the past decade.

The group's latest donation is now one of its most visible: an "Awning" that greets, and protects all who enter. This spring, the Peter Woodland Lodge, in Lynn, donated the money to buy a new awning that now covers the walkway at Shaughnessy's main entrance. In addition to presenting a finished look to the entrance, the awning provides much-needed coverage. Before its installation, patients had to walk the 15 or so feet, from the curb to the doors, in any kind of weather. That meant patients, many of them with mobility impairments, had to walk along the rainy, or icy walkway.

"Now patients can get dropped off near the front door, and they are immediately covered," noted Julie Voegelin, Director of

Program Development at SKRH. The awning is just one of many donations from the Lynn lodge, over the past ten years!

Voegelin said the Knights' support has brought both necessities, and luxuries, that might otherwise not have been funded.

"We rely upon Philanthropy in order to start new programs, reinvest in ongoing projects, buy new equipment and grow our business to better serve the needs of our community. The support that we receive from the Knights of Pythias has been crucial!" Voegelin said.

In 1995 alone, the Knights were among the leading donors, in an effort to create a rooftop Therapeutic Garden. Today, that beautiful garden is a stunning mix of plants, walkways, and meeting space where our patients can practice walking, hear concerts, and enjoy gardening.

Patient reunions are held annually, in the garden, which accommodates up to 250 people.

The Knights also donated money to equip the Shaughnessy-Kaplan Therapy Center, that opened in Lynn in 1996. The Center now employs five staff members and serves

about 1,000 new patients annually.

Dick Cronin, a representative from the Lynn lodge, said the Knights of Pythias have designated Shaughnessy-Kaplan, as one of the official beneficiaries of its charitable work.

The lodge holds a dinner-dance, and golf tournament, each year to raise money for its charities, with many members and spouses pitching in to help make the events successful.

Voegelin noted that "Such dedication makes a big difference in the quality of the services that the Shaughnessy-Kaplan Rehabilitation Hospital is able to provide... And, for that, we are extremely grateful!"

SKRH is a comprehensive rehabilitation facility for adults with, 450 Doctors, Nurses, Therapists, Administrative Personnel, and Support Staff.

More than 2,000 individuals may be admitted to its inpatient unit, yearly, and some 4,500 new outpatients, or more, are seen annually.

Thank you! Knights of Pythias!

# ON GREAT QUESTS



## NEW YORK PYTHIAN SISTERS ON THE MOVE

New Yorkers were not hallucinating when they saw "Yellow Rubber Duckies" swimming down the East River!

They were from the Million Dollar Duck Race, that the Pythians took part in, for Special Olympics at, the South Street Seaport.

Our Sisters from Mid-Island Temple, walked with pride, in the "LIGHT THE NIGHT WALK FOR LYMPHOMA," in Bethpage Restoration Village, in memory of GPC Sunny Tobin, wearing T-Shirts that bore the Pythian logo, amongst the many sponsors of the walk. They were joined by our Grand Chief Judith Bernstein in raising a great deal for this worthy cause.

With the anticipation that New York's cold winter was not too far off, the Knights of Pythias, and Pythian Sisters, held the COATS FOR KIDS program "Kick-off, at Randi's Cleaners in Mineola, New York.

Arthur Epstein, of Randi's Cleaners, represented the NCA, Grand Chancellor, Honorable Lloyd Merson, represented the Knights of Pythias.

This program has donated clean coats to many thousands of children and adults over the past fifteen years.

The Knights of Pythias, and the Pythian Sisters, were recognized for their efforts in collecting and distributing coats to the needy.

Last year the Pythians of New York State were instrumental in collecting, cleaning, and distributing thousands of coats, helping to keep those less fortunate, warm and comfortable.

This year's "Kick-off" attracted a large audience, including Representative Carolyn McCarthy, Mayor Jack Martins of Mineola, and a large number of other notable dignitaries, including the Town of Oyster Bay, Councilman, Anthony Macagnone, and Assemblyman Steve Labriola.

The Coats for Kids program ended about Christmas time. Donations of coats are dropped off at the NCA dry cleaners, where the coats are cleaned and made ready for distribution. The Pythians have various drop-off areas from which the coats are then brought to the dry cleaners. They are then picked up, and the clean coats are delivered to thankful families.

Another example of Pythianism at work! Although we are always eating, drinking, and enjoying ourselves, the underlying motive, of all our endeavors, is to benefit the charities that are in dire need of all the help and funds they can get, and that is the goal of each of our Lodges, and Temples.

The side benefits keep us Laughing, and make living worthwhile.

Happy Holidays and a Healthy, Happy New Year, to all my Pythian Sisters, and Brothers, and their families, everywhere!

## Grand Press Correspondent Jurisdiction of New York

Joan Simmons  
105-67 Flatlands 7 Street  
Brooklyn, N Y 11236  
(718) 531-7234  
email: joans722@aol.com



Dear Mike:

We Love the Internet, and we have some good stories to send in. I just hope that you can keep the members of the Knights of Pythias up on showing firsthand, events (photos taken via Digital [cam or scanned]), with the DC Pythians.

Photo (above) is a picture of us sending off Kids, to the NC, for the Special Olympics.

Fraternally Submitted:

Zachary S. Liebenson

Grand Secretary Washington DC Lodge

(In photo, is Dan Vidlock Grand Chancellor, on the Right, and in the suit is Grand Sec Zachary Liebenson.)

The kids are holding up their coins, that we gave them, for good luck, and to bring back a "win." With the past year, I feel that we have the domain in good order.

The Domain of the District of Columbia, Knights of Pythias, continued to enjoy the fellowship and service of the Fraternity during 2003.

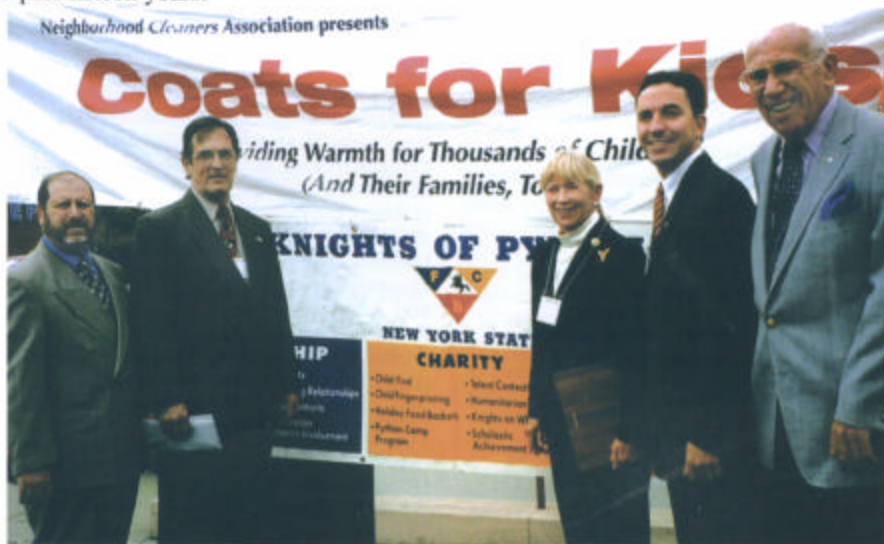
Knights in the Domain, enthusiastically contributed to the Special Olympics with both monetary donations, and hands-on service. Franklin Lodge and Capitol Lodge presented a wreath, at the Lincoln Memorial, during a memorial service for President Lincoln.

Grateful are we, to the Knights who gave, and continue to give so much time, attention and talent in this Domain where the order was founded in 1864.

FCB Grand Secretary, Washington DC

Zachary Liebenson

Web site of the Washington, DC Order of the Knight of Pythias. 1864, Franklin Lodge #2.....  
[www.homestead.com/dckop](http://www.homestead.com/dckop)



## Pythian Memories

I have been asked, several times, about different "personalized" Pythian items that have been found in attics, basements, garage sales, flea markets, and at estate auctions, especially Swords...

From what I have learned, it was very common for every "Pythian Knight" to receive a "personalized" sword of their own, throughout most of the history of this organization... (You can still order one, if you are willing to pay today's cost!)

Since each one is personalized, you would have to know what specific Lodge the Member belongs/ belonged to, and they would have had to keep good dated records, for you to find the information...

It would be a real Human treasure, if you were to go to the effort to find the families of these perhaps long-lost items, and to return them!

Wouldn't it be absolutely incredible to have "Great Uncle Joe's" old sword, hanging above the fireplace? Maybe the family never even knew that he was a member! And, then again, maybe they have always wondered what ever happened to his old sword? You could bring them such unexpected happiness, and memories!

Michael

## History of the Order Knights of Pythias

By: Past Supreme Representative, Sir Alfred M. Silberfeld, Including excerpts from: PYTHIAN HISTORY by Wm. D. Kennedy Published 1904

Justus H. Rathbone was born October 29, 1839 in Deerfield, New York. His father Justus Hull Rathbone, a distinguished jurist, practicing in Utica, and his mother Sarah Elizabeth Dwight, a descendant of the famous Protestant divine Jonathan Edwards, named him Henry Edwin Dwight Rathbone. In 1849, his parents added the prefix "Justus," and deleted the Edwin Dwight, and he was known from then as Justus Henry Rathbone.

He was educated in Mount Vernon Boarding School, Courtland Academy, Carlisle Seminary, and Madison State University.

He left home at the age of 18 and toured the West as a part owner of a traveling minstrel show. He had, early in life, developed his natural music talent. One of his compositions, a mazurka, was played at the inauguration of President James Garfield, and received high praise. His fine voice and dramatic ability led him to the stage for a time.

A disastrous financial setback in the midst of a tour of the northern peninsula, in Michigan stranded him there. He was forced to seize an opportunity to teach in the one-room schoolhouse in Eagle Harbor. In addition to his duties as teacher, he was also a "Dealer in Stationery, Novels, Standard Works, Periodicals, and Playing Cards, etc." And conducted "The Agency of Yankee Needle Threader," as attested to by some of the stationery used by Brother Rathbone.

When his father died, May 27, 1861, Rathbone returned east, was married, August 11, 1862, to Emma Louise Sanger of Utica.

She died December 31, 1887, two years before her husband, and is buried alongside him, in the Rathbone Monument, in New Forest Hill Cemetery, in Utica, New York.

Rathbone's residence, on his return from Eagle Harbor, was in Germantown, Pennsylvania.

He entered the United States Hospital Service, as a citizen nurse at the Cuyler General Hospital in Germantown, on January 15, 1863, and remained there for six months.

On July 21, 1863, the Adjutant General ordered him to report to the 2nd United States Artillery Recruiting Office for enlistment, and he was appointed "Hospital Steward," in Washington D.C. He remained in that post until March 25, 1865.

On April 1, 1865, he was appointed as clerk in Class One of the office of the Commissary General of Subsistence. He resigned that post on April 21, 1866.

On December 14, 1866, he was appointed to a clerkship of the First Class in the office of the Second Auditor of the Treasury and remained in that position until he resigned in May 1869 to accept employment with the Independent News Service of Boston.

From there, in 1871, he went to Brooklyn, New York in the same employ, but returned to Washington in the Fall of 1873.

On April 8, 1874, he obtained employment at the Correspondent Division of the War Department.

He was promoted to Class Two on July 1, 1874 and eventually to Class Three on June 1, 1875.

On July 22, 1875, he was instructed to "proceed to Paris, France," to purchase certain instruments needed for the Military Academy. He sailed for Le Havre July 24, 1875, and returned toward the end of 1875.

He was commended by the Secretary of War for the satisfactory manner in which he had accomplished his mission.

On June 1, 1879, he was transferred to the Office of the Adjutant General, and remained there until March 26, 1889, when he resigned.

### The Rathbone Epoch:

During the years of the Civil War, when the ties which bound the United States together had been sundered in twain, and anger, hatred, and revenge were rampant throughout the land, it was felt by all that some influence, outside of purely political, was urgently needed to "re-ignite" the brotherly sentiment which had been all but stamped out under the merciless heel of human passions, and it appeared that the church was impotent in its effort to bridge the gulf.

In this crisis, Justus H. Rathbone realized the growing necessity of the moment.

He knew that the spark of brotherly love, kindled by the old Pythagorean Brotherhood, that had been so ably dramatized by John Banim, still burned deep down in the hearts of men; that the story of Damon and Pythias still had the power to quicken the pulse, and to arouse in men the spirit of comradeship.

Brother Rathbone was so impressed with the Story of Damon and Pythias, that he determined to do all in his power, to induce men to follow in their example. He said that the high type of friendship, therein portrayed, seemed to him to be the basis on which a fraternal society could and should be established.

He decided that, by fanning the old spirit into flames, the old spirit could be revived under a new organization (*as set forth in our Declaration of Principles*), seeking to gather under one common banner, in a mighty fraternity, men who would thoroughly appreciate the true meaning of human friendship.

With this object in view, he proposed the organization of a fraternity based on the glorious trinity of Friendship, Charity, and Benevolence, and proclaiming "Peace on Earth, Good Will toward men."

It seems almost Providential that, under such circumstances, men would stop and listen to the dream of a clerk in one of the departments of the government in Washington, but listen they did, and the result was the organization of our great humanitarian order, which has done so much toward bringing together the estranged portions of the country.

Founded on the grandest principles known to man, it could not help but appeal to the hearts of men and as a result the Order has gone forward, spreading its influence for good, bringing sunshine and gladness to hearts in gloom, rendering aid and assistance to those in need, until it has become one of the grandest benevolent institutions in the world.

In addition to his musical abilities, he was a versatile writer, possessed a great deal of dramatic ability, and he was a great Shakespearean scholar and often took part in amateur plays.

It was while teaching school in the little schoolhouse at Eagle Harbor that Brother Rathbone wrote the ritual of our beloved Order.

### Justus H. Rathbone Founder of the Order

Brother Rathbone was a "Charter Member," of the Washington Lodge #1, at the institution of the first lodge in the Order, in Washington, D.C. in February 19th, 1864 - April 21st, 1864.

He joined, and left Franklin Lodge #2, April 30th, 1866 - June 17th, 1867, DC; Liberty Lodge #6, D.C., July 12th, 1867 - September 10th, 1869; Maverick Lodge #39, East Boston, MA, 1871-1873; Calanthe Lodge #11, DC, January 17th, 1876 - July 2nd, 1877; Mount Vernon Lodge #5, DC, July 11th, 1877 - April 9th, 1879; Sicilian Lodge #97, Prince's George County, Maryland, October 21st, 1878 - May 1888; Oriental Lodge #6, Alexandria, Virginia, 1886-1889.



### ALBANY CITY LODGE HOLDS "GIANT" FUND RAISER

For the past six years, the Brothers from Albany City Lodge #540, have been selling Giant Story Coloring Books, throughout the Capital region, in Upstate New York, during the holiday season. Last year the lodge raised over \$4,000.00 from this project, in under one month.

The proceeds from this project are used to finance their various community projects. Some of these projects and endeavors, are done in conjunction with the Grand Lodge of the Domain of New York, and others are on the local level.

This would include, but not be limited to, sending underprivileged children to summer camp for two weeks, a poster contest for middle and high school students, achievement awards for graduating students on the middle, and high school level, who have made the greatest progress in extracurricular activities, and/or community endeavors, college scholarships for Pythian children, providing programs for the residents of the Daughters of Sarah Nursing Home, Juvenile Diabetes, YMCA Youth and Government Program, Police Athletic League of Albany City, and the much-needed Child Identification Program! Not only are funds provided for these programs, but Albany City Lodge Brothers are, personally, actively involved in many of them!

Pictured above, from left to right, are Brothers from Albany City Lodge, as they are putting the finishing touches on their coloring book booth, at Crossgates Mall (the largest mall in the Capital District): PACDGC Sir Martin Seaman, PACDGC Jack Brand, and PC Robert Gandler.



## Pythians Help Fund Children's Christmas Shopping Event

### HANDI-KIDS

On a small parcel of land located about 30 odd miles south of Boston in the Town of Bridgewater, Massachusetts; a group of Pythians created a unique place for special children. In 1963 members of King Solomon Lodge #18 created the "King Solomon Knights of Pythias Humanitarian Foundation," what has become known today as "Handi Kids".

The founders wanted a facility where both physically and mentally challenged children could enjoy a couple weeks of fun just like other children. In the beginning this was offered at no cost, but as time and expenses began to mount it became necessary to charge a fee. However, every camper receives a scholarship to help offset that fee, with tuition based upon the financial situation of the individual family. There are still many campers that do not pay, simply because they can't afford to.

At first the camp serviced approximately 20-40 campers over an eight week summer season. Today 400 clients are served during the same eight week period. The camp has now become a year round facility; besides summer camp, the facility offers afternoon and weekend programs, Boy Scout and Girl Scout programs made up totally of challenged members.

The facilities at the camp include: a handicapped accessible swimming pool, complete with bathing and toilet facilities; ¼ mile running track; handicapped accessible play ground; duck/fish pond with island and paddle-boats; indoor gym and recreational facility; outdoor, nonsectarian chapel; indoor and outdoor cooking facilities, on site nurse's station, along with many other amenities.



One of the most significant programs to date is the therapeutic riding program. Through fund-raising, charitable functions and generous donations Handi Kids built an indoor riding arena at a cost of nearly \$400,000.

It is truly amazing to watch children ride specially trained horses, children that cannot walk on their own. With the help of trainers, the children ride, receive therapy, enjoy the company of others and they laugh. The Board of Directors consists primarily of members of the Knights of Pythias. Handi Kids receives no State or Federal funding. The camp is funded through various fund-raisers from Massachusetts Pythian Lodges in the form of raffles and dinner dances; charitable events sponsored by the camp such as horse shows, motorcycle runs and an annual golf tournament. Auxiliary organizations sponsor an annual "Night at the Pops" at Boston's famed Symphony Hall, and an annual road race, all of which helps to offset the current annual budget of well over \$700,000. The camp also receives donations and various grants from private organizations.

Handi Kids is a Pythian labor of love. If you'd like to learn more about Handi Kids and what it does please visit their web site at "[www.handikids.org](http://www.handikids.org)," or write:

470 Pine Street  
Bridgewater, MA 02324  
Phone: 508-697-7557  
Fax: 508-697-1529

The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts sponsored its 21<sup>st</sup> Annual "Pythian Special Olympics" on Saturday, June 7<sup>th</sup> at the Handi-Kids Complex in Bridgewater, Massachusetts.

The Handi-Kids Camp was founded by King Solomon Lodge #18 some 30 years ago. Situated on 30 acres, its purpose is to provide therapeutic stimulus to mentally and physically challenged children.

Each year the Grand Lodge invites schools, and institutions that work with challenged "clients," to attend and participate. This year saw more than 200 clients participate in games such as Frisbee throwing, softball throwing, foot races, etc.

Clients, chaperones, and volunteers were all treated to a barbecue of hamburgers, hotdogs, potato chips, cold drinks and ice cream. Each participant received a shirt, hat and medallion featuring the Pythian logo on the front, and the year of the event, on the back.

Despite the size of the undertaking, everything ran on schedule, thanks to the chairman, PSR Alan Zamansky and his committee, which included PGC Barry Rubin; PGC David M. Winer; cooks SR Allen S. Morris, PC Steven A. Winer and PSC Archie Block; and event coordinators Donna Fox-Rubin and Debbie Harmon.

There were also many Pythians, and their significant others, who volunteered their time as they have for so many years! **Thanks to all!!!**

The Knights of Pythias, in Roane County, Tennessee, Oak Leaf #49, and Sam Rayburn #160, donates to the annual Operation Reach project, each year, to help fund the program for needy children to Christmas shop for themselves, and their families.

The budget is approximately \$25,000 and enables a few hundred Kids to buy gifts and toys. The event is held each year at WalMart, where on a Saturday, early in December, the store opens especially for the children to do their shopping.

Each child is assigned an adult volunteer to help him or her shop. The WalMart also gives a discount to this program.

Operation Reach, in Roane County, has been in existence for over 20 years, and has touched thousands of children's lives.

The police, and fire personnel, head up the leadership of Operation Reach, and volunteer their time, along with numerous others, throughout the community.

The County has a population of some 40,000 persons. Most of the funds are raised through roadblocks, private, and business donations. Both KP lodges have donated funds, and volunteered labor, for this worthy charitable program.

Thanks!

**Bobby Crowe, PSC Secy, Oak Leaf Lodge**

### NJ-Pythians Present Deborah Hospital \$15,000

The Domain of New Jersey, presented Deborah Hospital, Browns Mills, \$15,000.00, at this year's annual November luncheon, and reception.

Charity Foundation president GMA Joseph Spindel and outgoing GC David N. Bellask, made the presentation to Ellen Krivchenia, Director of the N.J. Region, Deborah Hospital Foundation.

In addition, the last portion of a generous gift from P.C. Seymour Cohn, deceased, through his Will and Estate, was presented by PDGC Seymour Frankel. PDSC Sir Dan Feigan was master of ceremonies for the program. Harvey Hamerling chaired this year's raffle drawing. The NJ Domain has contributed to Deborah since 1957.

Deborah is a regional heart and lung center, of world renown, that does not charge above insurance, treating patients as family with great dedication, care, and compassion, following the philosophy of founder, Dora Moness Shapiro, "There should be no price on life." Krivchenia spoke very warmly about the Children of The World program reaching some 81 countries, and advances in pediatric cardiac surgery, and showed a brief, poignant video from the NBC Today show, with Campbell Brown, with infant patients and procedures.

## NJ-PYTHIANS HELPING USPS POSTAL CARRIERS GO CELLULAR

The Knights of Pythias presented 300, 9-1-1 programmed, cell phones, to the United States Postal Service, at the James A. Farley Main Post Office, New York, NY for use by letter carriers.

The USPS program, November 20, 2003, Knights of Pythias Helping Postal Carriers Go Cellular For Emergencies, was attended by USPS officials and Pythian dignitaries from NJ.

A poster entitled "United We Stand," depicting the donated phones, and a Pythian hat, was presented by District Manager/Postmaster Vinnie Malloy and Anthony Esposito, US Postal Inspection Service New Jersey/Caribbean Region to the Knights represented by GVC Sir Murry Greene with GC Henry Kazin, PGC David N. Bellask, and DGC Stu Levy, a retired postal inspector, in attendance with Allan B. Kreitzman who graciously provided a limousine for the Jersey Pythians.



Introductions were made by George B. Flood, Public Affairs & Communications, USPS NY Metro Area which includes NY, NJ, CT, and PA, of Pat Doyle, USPS Security Coordinator and Frank Orapello, president of National Association of Letter Carriers #36.

The Main Post Office rotunda had a banner appropriately announcing the occasion, with thoughts of the poster and program possibly being commemorated by a US postage stamp.

Flood thought the program was fantastic, as a great concern of the USPS is for the safety and security of carriers and the mail, and the emergency cell phones enable speed up of the Senior Citizen Alert Program, where letter carriers notify local police when they see an accumulation of a senior citizen's mail, and also to report accidents, problems on delivery routes and with vehicles, and crimes.

Greene, who helped arrange the presentation, has been instrumental in creating, and organizing, the collection and distribution of cell phones for the Knights of Pythias, in New Jersey, since the Summer, 2002.

Cell phones programmed for emergency use have been collected, outfitted, and distributed throughout NJ to among others senior citizens, battered women, the Livingston Police Department, and US post offices in Livingston, Westwood, and Edison. The phones have been collected with much support including Wyeth Laboratories, Shoprite, the Livingston Police

Department, and the Glenby Real Estate Agency, and re-programmed by Jerry Horowitz. Remarkably, their use has come to the rescue of several people in the brief time since inception.

The program was featured, and on the cover of the Spring, 2003, P1 issue. To date over 3,000 phones have been distributed!

The Supreme Lodge supports the 9-1-1 Cell Phone Program, and encourages other domains, and subordinate lodges, to develop similar programs, an excellent, unlimited opportunity to help individuals and the public, community service, and for public relations.

Greene may be reached for assistance, so that the concept may become universal throughout the Order, at: 973-422-0330 [mgreeneone@aol.com](mailto:mgreeneone@aol.com)

### YOUNG MEETS "YOUNG AT HEART"

BY: ELLEN KLEINERT-COHN

It has been a phenomenal ten weeks. It has been a beautiful sight to warm the heart and nurture the soul.

This would easily be the best way to describe the relationship between the wonderful athletes of the Bulldogs organization and the kind, dedicated men of The Knights of Pythias, Kings Knights Lodge #221, both of Tamarac, Florida.

The Bulldogs, A "Special Needs" Organization, Inc., caters to providing individuals with developmental disabilities programs designed specifically to meet their persisting life problems. The Bulldogs organization provides support to the Tamarac Bulldogs, an Agency of Special Olympics Broward County. The goal here is to help these very special young adults to fulfill their dreams and live up to their own individual potential.

For ten weeks, beginning on June 7, 2003, the Knights of Pythias, Kings Knights Lodge #221, have helped in the Bulldogs organization's efforts.

Approximately forty Bulldogs athletes participated in the sport of bowling, at Strikers Family Center, in Sunrise, Florida. With the generous financial support of "The Knights," every special young adult bowled three games every Saturday, and were "decked-out" in classy specialized bowling tee shirts, enjoyed an "end-of-year" pizza party, and received beautiful trophies. In addition, Bernie Gissen, Deputy Grand Chancellor, worked hard to secure a most generous donation of fifty "real" bowling pins, used in the Knoxville 2003, Championships Bowling Tournament.

Each Bulldog athlete received their very own bowling pin, for a keepsake of a time they will long remember. However, it wasn't just the financial support that made this so special. It was the knowledge that every week, several came out to cheer on our athletes, and give them the compassion, understanding, positive reinforcement, and acknowledgment they so richly deserved.

But, most of these guys are retired along with their wives. Don't they have anything better to do, you may ask? Well, for them, and our athletes, there was nothing better than this! It was the time and energy they took, to sincerely care. It was the response they received from our "Bulldogs" who felt so loved and special, because of their presence every week. It was the interaction between a generation of loving, concerned and compassionate senior citizens, and a group of often forgotten, but capable, unique and "very special" young adults. This interaction will stay in my mind and my heart for years to come.

As a parent of three children, two Bulldog athletes and one Bulldog volunteer coach, there could be nothing better than to experience the happiness and joy that Kings Knights Lodge #221 members gave our kids, the chance to partake in.

In our fast-paced world, we often forget what is really important. Well, our "Knights" have not forgotten! They realize that more important than shopping, on a Saturday afternoon, or playing golf or cards; the importance of taking time to give to those less fortunate, is paramount, in their lives.

Our "Knights" and our kids really got a "kick" out of each other, as I did all of them. Their wisdom and smiles mixed well with our kids and their interesting "antics," which make them all the more unique and special.

I truly appreciated the bonding that took place over those ten summer weeks and look forward to our continued relationship with our "Knights".

Starting October 4th, 2003, we embark on our 10-week fall bowling session. I embrace the knowledge that our "Knights" will be there to encourage our very special athletes, with their kind hearts, and wisdom. They truly are "Bridging the Gap" between the special population and the senior population.

Many thanks go out to DG Chancellor Bernie Gissen, Prelate Robert Krakow, PDGC

Jerry Kalinsky, GOG Murray Engel, KN Lou Allen, PC Louis Cohen, PGC Sir Joseph

Frieman, and KN Max Posner and all the rest of our heroes.

Yes, Knights of Pythias, Kings Knights Lodge #221, you definitely are the Bulldogs' "Knights in Shining Armor"!



WEARING T-SHIRTS WITH THE KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS LOGO, THE BACK SAYS: TAMARAC BULLDOGS BOWLING.

#### KJLN KNIGHTS LODGE

#221 KNI OF PY  
DCC Bernard Gisse  
7573 Granville Dive  
Tamarac, FL 33321  
(954) 718-0005

MEMBERS OF THE LODGE - LEFT TO RIGHT CC MAX COHN, PRELATE ROBERT KRAKOW, PDGC JERRY KALINSKY, DGC BERNIE GISSEN, RS BROTHER MEL EISNER, PC LEWIS COHEN, DGC BERNIE GISSEN



#### COMPASSION

And they call some of these people, "retarded!" A few years ago, at the Seattle Special Olympics, nine contestants, all physically, or mentally disabled, assembled at the starting line for the 100 yard dash.

At the gun, they all started out, not exactly in a dash, but with a relish to run the race to the finish. All that is, except one little boy who stumbled on the asphalt, tumbled over a few times, and began to cry.

The other eight runners heard the boy cry. They slowed down and looked back, then they all turned around and went back. Every one of them!

One little girl, with Down's Syndrome, bent down and kissed him and said: "This will make it better!"

Then all nine linked arms and walked together to the finish line!

Everyone in the stadium stood and the cheering went on for several minutes!

People who were there are still telling the story. Why? Because deep down we know this one thing. What matters in life is helping others win. Even if it means slowing down and changing our course!

**A CANDLE LOSES NOTHING BY LIGHTING ANOTHER CANDLE!!!**



**Pictured are:**

**Supreme Representative, Roger A. Kahan,  
Grand Prelate, Thomas (Tiny) O'Connor,  
Grand Vice Chancellor, Frederick B. Steinberg,  
Grand Master-at-Arms, Joseph Boise  
Fire Chief, Charles Foley, Jr. May 5, 2003**

The Knights of Pythias, of Massachusetts, has donated \$2,600 to the Randolph Fire Department, for the purchase of an additional Defibrillator.

Fire Chief, Charles Foley, Jr. said he was approached by Joseph Boise, a member of the Order, and a former member of the town's Finance Committee.

"Boise had been in the department's ambulance several times, and wanted to help the department," Foley said. Boise took the idea to the Knights of Pythias, and along with Supreme Representative Roger A. Kahan, they made a joint presentation to their committee. "Joe wanted to do something!" The Chief said. "He's a generous supporter of the department, and we're thankful for that!"

A defibrillator provides an electric shock to restart a stopped heart. The Knights of Pythias is the first Fraternal Organization to ever be "Chartered" by an act of Congress, and then President, Abraham Lincoln, signed the Charter in 1864. The Order has members throughout the United States, and Canada.

Massachusetts has established a program to assist in the purchase of Defibrillators, for communities, around the state. I especially enjoyed this one because it was given to my hometown department.

Thanks!

**Supreme Representative, Domain Massachusetts**  
Sir Roger A. Kahan CPA  
1214 Park Street  
Suite 203  
Stoughton, MA 02072-3738 USA  
Voice: 781.963.RAK-1 FAX: 781.961.RAK-1

**Hi Brother Michael Jay!**

Congrats on becoming the new Pythian International Magazine Editor!!! I know by just looking at your picture, that you have the determination to make it great, once again!

The one comment that I hear more than anything else is:

"Oh! Isn't that the "Old People's" magazine?" Maybe a few more pictures of our "younger members" would help to dispel this attitude? I know! Seems like the "Older" ones carry most of the work-load! Just food for thought...

My name, by the way, is Denny Adams. I am a Past Grand Chancellor of Indiana ('96), and Secretary of Crescens Lodge #33, in New Castle... Indiana's largest! Hang in there Brother!

We have an annual parade here that I thought you might like to hear a little about! The parade annually selects someone from the New Castle, Indiana community, to serve as "Grand Marshal." These people normally, have served the community in some capacity for several years, and it is our way of saying; "Thanks!"

This year's Grand Marshal is Whitey Shively, long known in our community as an "Auctioneer." He was just named as "Auctioneer of the Year" for the USA, by the National Auto Auctioneers Association.

His Sister, the late Barbara Hedrick, was a Past Grand Chief of Indiana. Another Sister, Frances, also was a Past Chief of Venus Temple #50, in New Castle. Whitey is a neat guy!



**Toulouse, France?**



Greetings! Supreme Chancellor, Supreme Officers, and Past Supreme Chancellors...

There is more good news from the "Heartland," concerning those from "another" land - namely, 10 new applicants, and 2 current members, have sent a completed "Petition for Warrant" from Toulouse, France!

After many months of email, and Instant Messages, even telephone calls, along with a personal meeting back in February between myself and Brother Pierre Meste of Toulouse, France - a completed Petition was received, here at the Grand Lodge of Missouri office, this past week.

With all the "required" information received, and the approval of the pursuit of establishing this lodge in France, from the Supreme Council at the August, 2003 meeting - our Grand Chancellor, Robert Bray has approved the Petition!

Brother Meste tells me that one of the applicants is a veteran "Master Mason," and is a devout Fraternalist (*as Pierre is*) also.

They have other contacts in Europe, Germany, and Portugal among them.

I would not be surprised if this developed into more interest in our Order in those countries as well.

I will keep all of you informed as to their date of institution.

A copy of the "Petition for Warrant," has been mailed to the Supreme Secretary, for historical, and informational purposes.

Yours Fraternally, in F. C. & B.,

**Grand Secretary Domain of Missouri**  
Steve Glise PGC



**Peter Woodland Lodge #72  
Lynn Mass**

Bro Mike,  
I have some news to report from my lodge. Our lodge donated \$400.00, to each of the six little leagues, plus the "Challenger" handicapped baseball league, for a total of \$2,800.00 in October 2003.

On Saturday night, November 1st, 2003, our lodge held a dinner dance to benefit Handi-Kids.

We raised over \$2,100.00! On Monday, May 17th, 2004, we will hold our 4th annual golf tournament to benefit the Shaughnessy-Kaplan Rehabilitation Hospital. The cost is \$125.00, per golfer.

We have "hole" sponsorships, for a \$100.00 donation, with your company name on the sign that will be placed on the tee box.

We will also be giving a car away, for a "Hole-in-one." Anyone interested in playing, or sponsoring a hole, may call the lodge at: (781) 599-1336, and speak to Dick Cronin. We've raised almost \$30,000.00 in the past 3 years doing this!

Joe Martin PC  
Peter Woodland Lodge # 72 Lynn Mass 01902  
email: JMart8889@aol.com

Santa arrives at his headquarters, housed in the building where these Pythians hold meetings.

He comes to a headquarters totally sponsored by these Pythians. A headquarters alive and vibrant, with over two dozen mechanical characters, to bring this fantasy land alive for the community.

These Pythians have given their community a gift that can never be matched, or equaled, because it comes from their hearts.

The Parade also honors a member of the community, for years of service to the citizens, and town!

Look Mommy, at the clowns, the horses, the bands, the race cars, the floats, the big balloons!

Oh, Mommy, isn't this parade just wonderful! Yes Honey! It certainly is, and it is a lot of hard work. The Knights of Pythias really work hard to put this on for us.

Mommy, where is Daddy? Honey, you know where he is! He is one of the Pythians helping in the parade! (*Damon doesn't know his Daddy is the "Santa" in the parade!*)

I know what I want for Christmas Mommy! I am going to ask Santa if I can be a Pythian when I grow up! And, Damon's Mommy said; "I sure hope so, honey!"

Submitted by:  
Denny Adams, PDSC  
email: dennyvoiceofandersonspeedway@msn.com





# THE JOURNEYS OF OUR

In this, my first article for the "new" Pythian International Magazine, may I offer my congratulations and best wishes to Michael Jay Burke, our new editor. I hope that the goals he has set for himself and for the best communication tool we have, our "Pythian International Magazine," will be fully realized.

Perhaps through these goals, he will also grow in the knowledge, and wealth of history, contained in this great Pythian Order.

Michael has requested that we write "inspirational" articles. (*I, myself, am inspired daily by the zeal and dedication of my Pythian Sisters.*) But, I will endeavor to write of the latest "inspirational" event in my life with the hopes that you, too, will find it inspirational.

On November 2nd, 2003, in Cherryville, North Carolina, it was my Supreme privilege to institute a new Temple of fifteen ladies (*with three more to come*).

With the assistance of Supreme Manager Sheila Boren Stookesberry; P.S.R. Mary Frances Rose; G.C. Beth Key; S.P.G.C. Nancy Mead and eight other sisters from Virginia; plus four sisters from South Carolina, these ladies were instructed, initiated, obligated, and duly installed into our Order.

When I, as Supreme Chief, declared them Cherryville Temple #1 "Duly Instituted," tears rose in my eyes and a quiver went up my spine. I can only hope that having read these paragraphs, my readers will themselves be willing to shake off the winter doldrums and reactivate themselves in our National programs.

Are you participating in our "one-on-one" membership program? Remember to be realistic - One Sister, bringing in one new member, would **double** our membership!

Each member of the Pythian Sisters should be carrying with them a brochure, wallet card, and a "new membership" application!

Continue to subscribe to our Pythian International Magazine and pass extra copies out to nonmembers so that the words "Pythian Sisters" become synonymous with the words "Community Service."

Remember that my altruistic project was, and is;

**"Community Service, and Recognition!"**

You will be asked in a few months to select your best efforts, and send them in for judging, that they may be recognized at our Supreme Sessions in August, 2004.

Remember, too, that each subordinate temple should be advising the "State Chairman" of their efforts.

And, the "State Chairman" should, also, be communicating with our "National Chairman."

To my Pythian Sisters: **Please! Know that you "inspire" me daily!**

Remember that we are promised a new day each twenty-four hours. What we do with this gift, and how we utilize these hours, is our choice!

In Love and Friendship,  
Georgia Jean Byrd,  
Supreme Chief, Pythian Sisters

## "Rip Van Winkle" - A Christmas Story -

While taking pictures for our local Pythian newsletter, waiting for our Pythian Sisters to finish decorating the tree at the local Veteran's Hospital (*so I could take a "final" shot*), Mary, a woman that I know from my work for the local "Arts" community, saw me and asked to introduce me to her husband.

She explained that he was a long-term patient at the VAMC, suffering from advanced Alzheimer's. He seemed alert, a bit quiet, but aware of what was going on around him, and he was very eager to meet me, because of what Mary had told him about my nonprofit works, and the fact that I was a fellow Veteran who spends time at the VA.

She introduced Joe to me, and he promptly beckoned me to lean closer. He whispered in my ear that he knew that the "womenfolk" were "decorating the tree," and that he did not want them to know how emotional it made him.

As I pulled back, I noticed that he was on the verge of tears. Mary took me aside, while his Daughter (*also named Mary*) visited with him, and she told me that she knew how much the tree decorating meant to him, because every time the volunteer decorators showed up at the hospital, he became dramatically better.

She explained that he had always hidden his feelings from others, especially when the tree was being trimmed for Christmas, at home. He would always sit back and watch, never ever touching ornaments himself, and not even directing the process, just sitting in silence. Mary loved him so deeply, but was **never** able to "open-him-up!"

She explained that Joe had seen a lot of combat, and had learned never to show emotion, but since he had been hospitalized it had become harder and harder for him to hide his feelings.

Mary (*"M," as he calls her*) and Joe, have been married for sixty three years, and had gotten "hitched" right after he came back from the war. His family learned to never discuss feelings with him, even though he did nothing to quell their own emotional expressions.

Nor did they ever talk about his "avoidance" of Christmas tree decorating. They just assumed that it had something to do with the war, and let him sit, and watch, as everyone else had fun!

After I took the final pictures, and the Sisters had gone, I went back in, to see how Joe was doing, and to say "good-bye."

He was sitting in his wheelchair, next to the tree, by himself. He was trying to reach something that was on the floor, so I walked over, to see if he needed any help...

When no one was watching, he had wheeled himself down to the tree, and had accidentally bumped one of the ornaments and it had fallen off.

When I approached, he quickly stopped what he had been doing. He had a very strange look on his face (*one of some "hidden" terror*), would not meet my eye, and he tried to "act" like he was "just looking!"

I knelt down next to him, put one arm around him, and picked up the ornament. I placed it into his hand, and softly said;

"I know you didn't mean it! It's okay! Go ahead and hang the ornament up again..."

To my extreme surprise, the "Dam" broke!

Tears were running down his face, he was shaking, and sobbing uncontrollably, and he could not say anything! A nurse noticed, and started towards us, but I waved her off, before Joe saw her approach...

When he eventually regained a bit of his composure, we began talking. We talked for nearly three hours. He told me that he **NEVER** talked, like that, with anyone before!!!

It seems that when he was a small child, he had absolutely loved decorating the family Christmas tree, but one fateful day, when he was about five, he accidentally knocked over a candle as he was hanging his "favorite" ornament...

His little Sister (*whom he loved very deeply, and had been charged with "protecting," by his Father*), was also decorating the tree, and when the tree caught fire she got trapped and had burned to death, horribly, right in front of him.

His father blamed him for it, and never forgave Joe! He became very brutal, and punished Joseph severely, at even the slightest sign of **any** display of emotion. "You don't deserve to have feelings!" He would tell him. (*Among other nasty things! Some that truly could not be repeated here!*)

So Joe never touched another Christmas tree, or ornament, again, and learned never to ever show emotion! Now, all he wanted was to die!

It turns out that I look quite a lot like his father did when Joe was little. He had blocked out the event from conscious memory, but he could not block out the lifetime of pain that emotional suppression had made him suffer...

He had never understood why he could not show his feelings, to anyone, not even to the ones whom he loved with his very Soul...

He had finally collapsed under the immense weight of a lifetime of suppressed emotion, and it took on the appearance of Alzheimer's.

When I had spoken the key words; "I know you didn't mean it!" I immediately became his father, and he remembered everything! He had been given the "forgiveness" that he had yearned for, so desperately, yet never found, during his entire life!

Mary had gone to lunch, after helping to decorate the tree, and had run a few errands...

When she returned, Joseph, and I, were still talking...

As she approached, Joe lit up like the sun had just come out, and he reached out to her!

With a very confused, and somewhat frightened, and alarmed, look on her face, she came over, and asked what was wrong...

Joe gave her a very long, very emotional hug! Tears were running down his face, again! Mary began crying, because Joe had never done that! Not in over sixty years of life together had he once hugged her, like that!!!

She was sure that something was horribly wrong! He must have been told that he was dying, or something equally disastrous!

When Joe could finally speak again, he began explaining what had happened. I stayed awhile, but felt like I had better give them time to get to know one another, on their own.

**Mary sent me an email, today...** Joseph is home now, and they have begun a course of therapy, on the second floor (*the "psych." dept.*), because Mary, and Joe, are just discovering that they have been given the "gift" of a new life!

Mary told me that she feels like she is sixteen again, and Joe is almost unrecognizable... The immense weight that had been lifted from his crushed shoulders, had released a great explosion of emotion, but also a massive feeling of confusion, because he had never been able to "feel" before, much less show those feelings to others! Now, he wants to live!

As a Pythian Knight, and a Human Being, there is no joy that can fill my heart to overflowing like being able to help "awaken" the sleeping heart of another, to the true expression of "life," and "living!" The "expression" of emotion, and Love...

And, all this got started because of our, "Lady Lignite" Temple, Pythian Sisters, volunteering to decorate a Christmas tree, for the "shut-in" Veterans at our VA Hospital!!!



*Michael*



**COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION**  
- TEXAS -

Barbara Wood, Grand Senior of Texas and, Manager of the "Pythian Guest House," was Top Jailbird for Greenville, Texas, raising \$1,897.00 for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. Submitted by:

Roy C. Kelley, PGC, Reporter, 1209 Windy Meadows Drive, Burlson, TX 76028

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**Cherryville Temple #1**  
- More Details -

On the lovely fall weekend of October 31st, my husband and I traveled to the small rural town of Cherryville, located in the beautiful rolling hills of southwestern North Carolina.

There we had the honor and pleasure of witnessing something that is happening all too rarely these days. The institution of a brand new Pythian Sister Temple, Cherryville Temple #1.

Ten other Sisters from eastern Virginia also made the almost six hour trip, and gave up the whole weekend to help out at the institution. Georgia Byrd, our Supreme Chief, drove down from Michigan, and Supreme Manager, Sheila Stookesbury, and her husband, came down from Ohio.

13 Sisters from Virginia (*including 5 Grand Temple Officers*), a group of Sisters from South Carolina, and 4 Brother Knights. About 14 new Sisters were initiated. They were enthusiastic about becoming Sisters and carrying on the work of the Order. It's wonderful to have a Pythian Sister Temple again, in N. C.

All of the Sisters paid their own way, including hotel accommodations. The trip to south western N.C. was over 6 hours for the Virginia Sisters, and involved two nights stay away from their homes.

The devotion to the Order, demonstrated by these Sisters, is certainly to be highly commended!

It's been quite a while now, since all the Temples in North Carolina closed down, so this one had to be organized from scratch.

The man largely responsible for getting this Temple going was Butch Gantt, a Knight who is very active in the Pythian Lodge, in Cherryville.

The new Temple was in the planning stages for a couple of years now. Fifteen women are required to start a new Temple.

Recruiting them to start a brand new organization, in a rural area, could not have been easy. Work of instituting the Temple lasted all day, on Saturday (*with a lunch put on at the hall by the new Sisters*).

Members had to be voted upon, initiated, and instructed about the proper form and floor work, to be used at meetings.

Officers were elected and installed in due ceremonial form..

It was a splendid day, culminating with the chance to welcome 14 new Sisters. They were young, energetic, and full of plans, and high hopes, for their new Temple.

What a rewarding way to spend a weekend!



**Supreme Temple**  
Chat Room Winter 2003

**Dear Sisters,** I would like to open with a welcome to our new Pythian International Magazine Editor, Michael Jay Burke. I look forward to working with him in the future.

**I hope** everyone is having an enjoyable Holiday season! This is the time of year for families and friends. My circle includes ALL of my Pythian family.

**In my last column,** I erroneously stated that Shirley Avery, of California, was omitted from the list of Supreme Representatives that took the "Supreme Temple Degree." Janice Johnson, of Michigan, was omitted! Please! Make this correction to your "Journal of Proceedings."

**I must remind** all of the Grand Secretaries that your bonding fees are due by December 31, 2003. Please, forward them to me as soon as possible!

**It has been brought to my attention** that there is not a listing, of the information needed, for a new charter in some of the Grand Temple Secretary's offices. I am asking each Grand Secretary to get the correct information from each Subordinate Temple, in the event that a new charter is needed...

**I am happy to report** that I took part in the start-up of the "Heartland Pythian Association." We met in Perry, Oklahoma and adopted a set of bylaws, and elected officers. This association is comprised of ALL Pythians in the states of Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska and anyone else who wants to join. You can contact Addie Sadberry, GP, for information on joining this association.

**Texas instituted a Sunshine Girl Council** on 12-6-03, in Weatherford, Texas, with Supreme Chief, Georgia Byrd, Supreme Manager, Sheila Stookesbury and Supreme Royal Princess, April Farough in attendance. The Supreme Protector, Addie Sadberry and I, were there. We are all excited about this event. The Sunshine Girls are our future.

**There are many** wonderful exciting things happening, with institutions of new temples, etc. Let us strive To make our order bigger and better.

**In closing,** I would like to thank Marv Wilson, for the many years of service to the Pythian Order, and for the many kindness's, and courtesies, that he has extended to me during our association in the past few years. I feel I have made lasting friends of him and his wife, Alma, and look forward to spending time with them In the future.

All for now,

**Supreme Protector**

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**Grand Chief**  
**Press Correspondent of Virginia**

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## Congratulations to Manchester Temple #27 Manchester, Iowa

As New York City, Mayor Koch, used to say **"HOW ARE WE DOING?"** I'm looking forward to hearing from all of my "Super Saleswomen" on my Membership theme of "Sale-ibration Pythian."

We must make the positive effort, now to "network" our name, and to show some growth before it's too late!

The Pythian Sisters have worked for well over **100** years, in our communities, for our country, and for those near and dear to us. Strong friendships have been made within our Subordinate, Grand, and Supreme Temples.

All **YOU** have to do is go out and "SELL" what you love! Now isn't that easy?

Make sure you take photos and write articles, on the altruistic work you are doing, for the "New-Improved" Pythian International Magazine, and publish the same in your local newspapers, and "Penny-Savers!"

**We are so unique!** How can anyone resist us? Don't forget the Sisters that haven't been to meetings or functions. They might need you to encourage them, a bit, and we definitely need them.

Through your efforts, as my "Super Saleswomen," we will see growth!

Think Pythian Sisters!  
Think Membership! And, think "positive!"

**If you need help,  
ideas, or encouragement,  
don't hesitate to contact me!!!**

To be a part of... To belong to... To work for... To laugh, and cry, with... Let **this** be our legacy for the future.



### International Membership Chair

Anne Gropper, PSR  
9 Rutland Road  
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This temple recently had a "Friendship Nite," inviting friends in for a meal and information about the Pythian Sisters. As a result, they welcomed 5 new members last Wednesday evening, and have the potential of more, to join at their School of Instruction in the spring.

It is such a simple thing to do, to let everyone you know about what you're passionate about, what you do, and in a nonthreatening way, like inviting them to a dinner! And, where **"free food"** is offered, they are sure to come!!!

Try it in your own home town, and you will be surprised, and pleased, just how many people are looking for a "cause" to live for, and a satisfying, altruistic goal, some creative way to help others, to work toward! If you do not tell them about the Pythian Sisters' Organization, and what we stand for, and do... **How will they ever know?**

**Way to go girls!** We are very proud of all the work you have done to keep Manchester a thriving and growing temple!

\*\*\*\*\*

It seems, sometimes, to take tragedies to bring out the best in people, and it certainly did that in my hometown of Edgewood.

After September 11th, the children of Edgewood went door to door, and raised over \$8,000.00 dollars, for the Red Cross.

In the last year, a young family, near Edgewood, was struck by tragedy! The young father became paralyzed. A benefit was held and over \$40,000.00 was raised, to help this family with their expenses! This family had just moved to the Edgewood area in the last year. For a town of less than 1000 bodies, this seems quite extraordinary! Although, as a native of Edgewood, I was not surprised, for there were many times, when I was growing up, that a farmer fell ill, or was injured, and everyone gathered to bring in his crops, get his cows milked, or whatever else needed to be done.

Why is it that Edgewood seems to exemplify the best of friendship? I believe it is because of their deep history of Pythianism! Pythianism first became a part of Edgewood's fraternal life on December 29, 1892, when they established Edgewood Lodge #358, and then, on May 6, 1927, the Edgewood Temple of Pythian Sisters, was established, and the Lodge, and Temple, are still very active today!

Pythianism is based on the story of Damon & Pythias - Two youths, whose loyalty to each other, symbolizes true friendship. Pythias, a Pythagorean, condemned to death for plotting against Dionysius I of Syracuse, was given leave to arrange his affairs, after Damon pledged to give his own life if his friend did not return.

When Pythias returned just in time to take his own place for execution, Dionysius was so surprised, and impressed by their loyal friendship, that he released them both!

As you can see, these acts of selflessness, demonstrated above, are not reserved for fellow Pythians; This love for their fellow man is shown to anyone.

**Grand Secretary, Grand Domain of Iowa  
Edgewood Temple #45  
Winter Temple #78  
Christe A. Harwood  
email: charwood@juno.com**



## Expression of True Love

**It was a very busy morning!** At approximately 8:30am, an elderly gentleman (*perhaps in his late 80's*), presented, to have sutures removed from his thumb.

He stated that he was very much in a hurry as he had an important appointment at 9:00am.

I took his "vitals," and had him take a seat, knowing that it would most likely be over an hour before someone would be able to see him.

After some time, I saw him looking nervously at his watch, and I decided that, as I was not busy with another patient, at the moment, I would evaluate his wound right away.

On examination, it was well-healed, so I talked to one of the doctors, got the needed supplies to remove his sutures, and began to redress his wound.

While I was taking care of his wound, we began to engage in a conversation. I asked him if he had another Doctor's appointment, this morning, as he was in such a hurry...

The gentleman told me; "No!" but that he needed to go (*as he did every morning*) to the nursing home, to eat breakfast with his wife!

I then inquired as to her health... He told me that she had been there for awhile, and that she was the victim of a very advanced case of Alzheimer's Disease.

As we talked, and I finished dressing his wound, I asked if she would be worried if he was a bit late. He replied that she no longer knew who he was, that she had not recognized him in 5 years, now.

I was surprised, so I asked him, incredulously; **"And you still go every morning? Even though she doesn't know who you are?"** He smiled, as he patted my hand, and said, "She doesn't know me, but I still know who she is!"

I had to choke back the tears, as he left, I had goose bumps on my arms, and thought; **"That is the kind of love I want in my life!"**

I have retold this story, many times, and still get goose bumps, and shivers, every time!

**Cheryl Shoemaker  
Emergency Room Nurse**





## From a Child's Eye View

I have never been up to any mountains, just seen them from far away. I don't go to many places because my mom works two jobs, and my grandma doesn't drive a car.

Three months ago a lady came to the apartment, and said I might be able to go to a camp in the Sequoia's, owned by an organization of Pythians.

My Mom, Grandmother, and I never heard of them, but she told us about their charity work, and she said they would pay for me to go for a week, and they made all the arrangements.

I felt so lucky to have this opportunity and so excited about going to a camp.

I met 2 other girls who were going from this area, and learned that I would be traveling with them, and someone called a chaperone!

The Mountains and trees were so beautiful, up close, and the camp was really neat looking. There were bunks in the cabins, a large dining room, a beautiful swimming pool and plenty of things to do. The meals, and treats were delicious.

We got to go on outings to see the "General Sherman," the biggest tree in the world. We climbed into one of the trees, and were able to crawl out the other side.

We saw Crystal Cave, and a beautiful lake, and a nice lady called the "bird lady" visited our camp, and showed us real hawks and owls, and my favorite was a baby owl that was so small he could fit in a soda can.

Our counselor showed us waterfalls, the very bright stars at night, and we would listen for the bird sounds at night, or a bear in the woods.

I enjoyed myself so much, and learned a lot. I was a little homesick, and got a tummy ache, but the nurse gave me lots of hugs, and I was soon feeling better.

Thank you for letting me come to this camp! And, I will never forget this experience, for the rest of my life!

**Grand Press Correspondent, Pythian Sisters**  
**Doreen Freidman**  
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(Submitted by Carole Webber, Pro-tem Camp Nurse and Pythian Sister of Eleanor Roosevelt Temple #18)

## Damona Temple's Family Affair

In the folds of what is now the oldest temple in Ohio, there are not only a band of "fraternal" sisters. There is a bloodline that runs among them!

It began with Sister Laura, and Brother James Pease, of Damona Temple, and Champion Lodge. They encouraged niece, Sister Phyllis (Lucas) Contizano, and her late husband Ernie Lucas, to become members of Damona and Champion Lodge.

Sister Phyllis began the dynasty with her sisters Elda Happ, Clara Bishop, Ella Reed, Dorothy Ramey and Vivian Estell. Phyllis, Dorothy, and Vivian all had daughters in the Sunshine Girls, and one niece as well. Some have followed in their mother's footsteps, straight into Damona Temple, and the Grand Temple of Ohio. Sister Carla Ramey is P.C., Secretary and Grand Press Correspondent of Ohio, her sister Lori Ramey is the Excellent Junior, and Dorothy's 'adopted' daughter, Elizabeth Weaver, nieces Linda Burkett, P.R.P., and Patty Immel, are members as well. Linda is the daughter of Sister Phyllis, and her late husband Ernie.

In 2000, we began another phase, as Sister Vivian's eldest daughter Marilyn (Estell) Burkhart, joined, and is now our M.E.C. On May 10 Damona transferred more family to the fold, Brother Ross Contizano, P.D.D., District 11, who is Sister Phyllis' husband of 16 years, and his daughters, with late-wife Sister Helen Contizano, P.S.R.; Donna Poston, P.C., Ruth Fink, P.C. and granddaughter Carol (Poston) Patton, P.R.P.

So when inspection rolled around, on June 14 there was no surprise to many that 3 more nieces were to join; Sister Vivian's second daughter, Sharon Estell, and nieces Bobbie Jo Hicks, and Joyce Johnson. One month later, Bobbie, and Joyce's sister Karen DiPetro, is to join as well.

Many members of the family have passed to the council, temple, and lodge above. Their presence is gone, but as younger members of the family enter we strengthen the bloodline.

New lessons are learned, as fraternal sisters of one family, are bound by Pythian ties. As we move on, next year the fourth generation will begin to arrive, as the granddaughters of Sister Vivian and Sister Dorothy, become members.

The Grand Domain, and Jurisdiction of Ohio, are proud and honored to introduce our new Grand Chancellor Dale Gray and Grand Chief Addie Lockard.



Addie Lockard  
Grand Chief  
of Ohio  
2003-2004

On September 6th, they were jointly installed into office in Columbus.

Grand Chancellor Dale's main goals are to increase membership, introduce a scholarship program, support Ronald McDonald House, Special Olympics, and his project is Kidney Foundation.

His motto is, "Effort Equals Results." Our elegant Grand Chief, Addie's goals are to increase membership as well, her emblem is the Hummingbird, flowers are red & white roses (*together for unity*), and her bible verse is Ephesians 4:32.

Her altruistic project is Crohns/Colitis Foundation, as well as Special Olympics. Her motto is, "Always be a little kinder than necessary." Their joint reception was held in Lancaster on October 11th, with many Sisters and Brothers in attendance. Jill and Ken Moder, Past Grand Chief and Grand Secretary of Indiana, were in attendance to aid in the celebration. Grand Chancellor Dale will be holding a Grand Chancellor Birthday Bash/Fund Raiser, in Sandusky. All funds going to the Kidney Foundation on November 30th. Grand Chief Addie will be holding a Bowl-A-Thon, in Columbus. All of her funds, that evening, will go to the Crohns/Colitis Foundation, on May 22, at Main Lanes Bowling Alley. All Pythians are welcome to join in the fun at both fund raisers to support our Grand Chancellor and Grand Chief. Congratulations to you both!

**From the desk of:**  
**Carla L. Ramey**  
Grand Press Correspondent

## - The Order - Supreme Temple Pythian Sisters

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#### Send contributions to the fund to:

**Treasurer**  
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# DOKK

## Notes from the Imperial Prince



Greetings from the Imperial Palace Dramatic Order Knights of Khorassan. We are pleased to be a part of the new format of the Pythian International Magazine. Most everyone knows that this Order goes by the abbreviated title of "DOKK" but did you know we have been a part of the Pythian Order since 1895?

Actually, the "Dokies" originated as "The Grand Order of the Orient" in 1879, giving the DOKK a history of service to humanity for one hundred twenty-four years. Our Order accepts only those who are members of the Knights of Pythias. If you are not a member, I cordially invite you to investigate the DOKK as a means for further service to mankind. Some Pythian Domains have no DOKK Temples.

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Send all correspondence relative to Imperial Palace Foundation to Martin Koehler

### Dokey Student Loan Program Revised

Significant changes were implemented in the Student Loan Program...

At the DOKK 2003 Board Meeting of the Board of Trustee-Managers of the Imperial Palace Foundation it was voted to change the guidelines of the Student Loan Program.

No longer will there be separate classifications for undergraduates. The loan program will now allow the student to determine the amount of loan he or she needs, to a maximum of \$1,000.00 per year.

Students who go on to do graduate and post-graduate work may also apply for a loan up to the maximum of \$1,000.00 per year.

These changes will be effective with applications and on going loans to be approved at the DOKK's August, 2004 Board Meeting.

All completed application forms must be submitted prior to May 30th, in order to be consider at the August Board meeting.

Ongoing loans will receive form of note and grade report from me. As in the past, for the Student Loan Program, a member of the Dramatic Order Knights of Khorassan must have at least 2 years of membership in the Order to be eligible for himself, his spouse or his children to apply.

The application forms maybe downloaded off of the worldwide web from:

<http://homepage.mac.com/mfk46952/FileSharing1.html>

(please note the capitals "F" and "S" in FileSharing)

The files are in the "Foundation" folder and are in ".pdf" format so you will need to have the free "Adobe® Acrobat" software installed on your computer in order to view and print the forms.

In the event you do not have this software installed on your computer it can downloaded from:

<http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>

Or, you can request application forms from me via email, or U.S. Postal Service

We are interested in visiting those Grand Lodge sessions, if possible, to tell our story and encourage the formation of new temples.

DOKK is truly a worthwhile endeavor. As I write this, the Holiday Season is just around the corner. However you choose to celebrate the holidays, I wish for you many pleasant hours filled with merriment and good cheer. So far as I know, we only live once, but if done correctly, once should be enough.

George Fox IP

It troubles me that there seems to be such a lust for "Blood-Sport" of late. It appears that there is a morbid and growing fascination with violent, isolating video games, and grotesque depictions of cruelty in such things as animated cartoons... And, some shows, that bill themselves as "comedy," are just plain "gross!"

It is at times like this that I find comfort, and hope, in the actions of a few... One such event comes to mind, especially, at this time of year...

The Christmas of 1914, on the Western Front, during WWI, when one man proved the strength of the true Human spirit, by standing up, from the trenches, with a Christmas Tree, lit with candles!

He, and his fellow Germans, sang Christmas songs, and came out of the trenches, and across "No-Man's-Land," to meet with the "Enemy," and to exchange gifts and good will. That one brave act brought the war to a standstill for two days. The "Enemy" was no longer a "Godless Monster," but young men, full of hope, fears, and dreams, just as they were (both sides).

Because of one small act, by one desperate young man, despair was turned to hope for those lost Souls, drowning in a living Hell! They buried the dead, and prayed, together, played football, and exchanged gifts. One person CAN make a difference!!!

Michael

### New Regional Pythian Association

#### Greetings!

All Pythian Sisters, and Brothers,

After several months of correspondence and planning, I am delighted to announce the formation of a new Pythian Association!

The "Heartland Pythian Association" held an organizational meeting November 1st, at the Best Western, Cherokee Inn, in Perry, Oklahoma.

Among the states included are Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas.

This association is modeled after other regional associations (particularly the *Midwestern Pythian Association with many thanks to GS Ken Moder/IND.*), for promoting and publicizing the Pythian Order.

The concept of combining ideas, and resources, with the goals of increased membership and visibility of the **Sisters, Knights, DOKKies and Nomads**, can and will, help not only those in these states but the entire Order, as a Whole!!!



# SANTHA & NOMADS



Fourteen members, from four states, attended this initial meeting, and an election of Officers and Executive Committee was held with the following results:

**President** - Charles Morris (MO/KS);  
**Vice President** - James Connor (OK);  
**Sec.-Treas.** - Addie Sadberry (TX);  
**Past President** - Steve Glise (MO/KS);

**At-Large Executive Comm. Members:**  
 Linda Bridges (TX);  
 Vaughn Gilbert (OK);  
 Carl Self (TX).

One position remains open! Also, among those attending were,  
 Imperial Prince, George Fox (TX),  
 DSC Roy Kelley (TX),  
 GOG Barry Carter (TX),  
 GC Robert Bray (MO),  
 GMA Leonard Weinstein (MO),  
 and the two newest Kansas lodge founders -  
 Leroy Loggins (Genesis #439, Wichita),  
 C. David Williams (Wheatland #440, Anthony).

The next Annual Convention will be held October 30th, 2004, at a site yet to be determined.

There will also be a meeting during the first half of 2004, the date and location yet to be determined.

In Pythian fellowship,  
 Steve Glise PGC  
 Grand Secretary/MO.Founder - HPA  
 email: MOPythianGC2001@aol.com



This issue is rather simplistic, in nature, because of the fact that there were time constraints, and WAY too much to design, and lay out, to fit fully the new Pythian International Magazine's immense changes!

If you will notice, all fonts are the same "type-style," all stories are kept "together" (few "broken" stories split between pages, or sections), no extraneous graphics, and a limited color range...

All this will change with the next issue, and become far more complex! This is a truly "International" magazine, and as such, stories need to address, and interest, that audience! Unlike in past years, and issues, the "size" of this publication will fluctuate according to how much material you, the readers, submit that is in accord with the mission, focus, and expected quality of this magazine, and the Pythian Order's goals, ethics, and principals...

Hopefully too, the "Hall of Honors" section will greatly diminish in size, while others dramatically grow, because more people will send me their "stories" as "Human-Interest," rather than "just-the-facts" of what happened, and to whom it happened!

### REMEMBER!

Behind every Award, behind every Retirement, and every Obituary, behind every Event, there is a "Human" story to be told! A "reason" for that life, and that is what I am looking for!!! Bluntly, who cares, on an "International" basis, that "Aunt Martha" died? But EVERYONE would care, and remember her, if you told a touching or humorous story about her life... Why it was worth living... Who's hearts she had touched and how... What lives she was responsible for changing for the better... What "personal" triumphs she had, and her philosophy in life!

*Michael*

Anyone care to guess where I would get the strange idea that the DOKK group has WAY too much fun??? Especially the group from Canada???



Jacquie Girard  
 Maharani - Santhas

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# The Pythian Sunshine Girls United States and Canada Junior Auxiliary Order of Pythian Sisters - Instituted August 14, 1930

Today many parents think that their child is already in too many things, why not try something that gives a girl a place where they can safely have Charity, Purity, Faith, and Love all around them, and mould their lives into a dignified woman.

I never realized till I was trying to write this article, for the Pythian International Magazine, just exactly how being a Sunshine Girl has helped to shape my life.

I became a Sunshine Girl when I was 7 years old (now 27). I can remember my Mom, and sister, going to the meetings, and I couldn't wait till I was old enough to go.

They would have "sleep-overs," and parties for the different occasions, and get to go to a hotel (for Grand Council), and swim. They would come home with a bag of goodies, and my mom would always give me hers.

Through years of dedication, and trying to balance everything going on in my life such as; Basketball, Band, Girl Scouts, Softball, school work (and many other extracurricular activities that I was in), I have always made sure I found time to go to Sunshine Girls, whether I came to the meetings late or not, I was always there!

I didn't realize exactly how much of a role, the Sunshine Girls played in my life, until I went off to college and could no longer attend meetings!

The Sunshine Girls have brought me leadership qualities; to instill morals; to develop and encourage friendships, and to be able to socialize with **anyone**, no matter how different they may be!

Being a Sunshine Girl has taught me to be kind, and generous... To have sympathy and compassion, among the Members, and with anyone else I come in contact with... To love, honor, and obey my parents, to protect our public schools and the children who attend them, and to defend our country's Flag, and ideals.

In Sunshine Girls you will learn six lessons (actually, a lot more), in which we teach: Friendship, Patriotism, Faith, Hope, Charity and Fidelity.

The Pythian Sunshine Girls was first organized August 14, 1930, for the purpose of helping lay a foundation for a life of purity, service and usefulness, in all things that help to make the lives of those around us happier and the world a better place to live.

When you join the Sunshine Girls, you start at the lowest office, and work your way up till you receive the highest honor in your Council... That of being "Royal Princess."

Then you continue on through Grand Council, which is like your local Council, but with Girls from the entire state, in which you live.

Every year, going to "Grand Council," is what we look forward to, with the most anticipation! Basically, it is one of the main reasons that we worked so hard, and raised money for Charitable causes, during the year. Once again, you start at the bottom, and work your way through the offices, to eventually become "Grand Royal Princess!"

From there, you become part of "Supreme," which follows the same process, except you are then with Councils from all over the United States, and Canada.

Along the way, you learn leadership, cooperation, and Social skills that would be nearly impossible to gain without being a part of the Sunshine Girls' Organization!

It is a true "hands-on" approach to learning very valuable skills for living, prepares us well, for the future, and is a truly wonderful experience for all girls who are fortunate enough to discover, and join us!

## My "Mission," as Royal Princess!

As most of you know my pet project, and passion, is "Leukemia," due in part to the death of my Uncle, who was a big part of my life.

This year I did not want to ask people to "sell" anything, or buy tickets, to raise money for my project. I decided, instead, to contact someone from the "Leukemia Society," because I had found out that on October 4<sup>th</sup> they were having a walk, downtown, called "Light The Night!"

"Light the Night," is the "Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's" annual evening walk to celebrate and commemorate lives touched by cancer.

Each fall, teams of friends, families, and co-workers, gather in cities and towns all across America, to participate. They walk in twilight, holding illuminated balloons; **White** balloons (for Leukemia survivors), and **Red** ones (for supporters, friends, and contributors). More than a walk, the evening includes music, food, and family activities!

Keep in mind that, when we finally quit playing "phone-tag," I had learned that this event was to take place in only one week, and my contact needed to mail out the information to me before I could become a part of all this. And then I needed to find "supporters" to contribute money for our participation in the walk!

How could we possibly raise any money, at all, in just one week?

So, that night, when I got home from work, you never saw anyone scramble, like I did, to contact all the girls in "Faithful Council #17," with the plan...

All the Girls, Mothers, and a lot of their friends said that they would be glad to help do the walk.



I explained to them that even if they couldn't get any donations, that I would just be happy for them to walk with me!

It touched my heart, and made me so happy, that, on such short notice, all of the girls pulled together "as one," to help with my project!

I am happy to say that in that very short time, of just one week, the Sunshine Girls of Faithful Council #17 raised over \$800.00 for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

I deeply appreciate the effort from my fellow Sunshine Girls, and I hope to be able to make this an "annual" event for our Council... This is what it is all about to be a part of such a great organization!!!

## PYTHIAN SUNSHINE GIRLS SUPREME ROYAL PRINCESS

April Farough  
125 Harrison, P.O. Box 375  
Swanton, OH 43558-1331  
(419) 825-1961 email Ape4rent2@aol.com



### - COURTESY MEMBERS -

Knights of Pythias and Pythian Sisters in good standing, and interested in the Sunshine Girls, may become "Courtesy Members." Fee \$1.00

### - PRICE OF OUTFIT -

The price of an "Outfit," to start a council, is \$50.00. This includes the Charter which is sent four months after the date of Institution. The fee must accompany the petition for a Council, and must be sent to the Supreme Royal Princess.

The money order or check should be made out to "The Supreme Council, Pythian Sunshine Girls."

All councils must be instituted by the State Organizer, or a Deputy. Her traveling expenses, while instituting, will be paid by the Council. We are asking all Pythians to lend their help in organizing a Council, in their city, for the advancement of Pythianism, and that Pythian Sister Temples sponsor the Councils. It will be a pleasure for the Officers to answer questions, regarding the starting of a Council, and for Spreading Sunshine and building for the future of our Order of Pythian Sisters.. Our Motto:

**Do all the good you can,  
In all the ways you can,  
To all the people you can.**



## A BRIEF HISTORY

This Order, created for "Girls," came about as the result of a recommendation presented by Lucy F. Munson-Palen, P.S.C., at the session held in Chicago, IL, August 9th-14th, 1926.

Sister Palen, a woman of high ideals and noble character, had the inspiration and desire to see an Order for our Pythian Girls who were too young to join the Sisters group. She realized that the girls of that day (*indeed, any day*), needed a place where the very essence of Charity, Purity, Faith, and Love could be wrapped around them, in a "safe" environment, to mold their young, impressionable lives into noble Womanhood.

She wanted the Order to be called "Sunshine Girls," and PSC Ida M. Johnson moved to amend the name by adding the name "Pythian," thereby making them a part of the greater Pythian Order. Supreme adopted her amendment, and the Order was named "Pythian Sunshine Girls."

A Committee of three, all "Past Supreme Chiefs," was appointed – Lucy F. Munson Palen, Elizabeth J. Hutchinson, and Ida M. Johnson, to write a "Ritual" and present it at the next regular session. The "Ritual and Floor Works" were the ideas of Sister Hutchinson, and the "Installation Service" was written by PSC Johnson and Sister Palen, who also wrote the songs and prayers.

The Ritual was read at the Supreme Temple session, held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, August 13, 1928, and was adopted "as read," without change. It was voted to have the Ritual copyrighted, before the Order was "Instituted."

At the session held in Tampa, Florida, August 11th-17th, 1930, the Supreme Temple, Pythian Sisters, voted to accept the Girls' Order as a "Branch" of their own, but still granting them the right to have the Order "Incorporated," to be an entirely separate Order, thus responsible for making their own laws, and for governing themselves. It also voted that the same committee should have charge of the Order. The result being, its "Incorporation" under the laws of the State of New York, in Albany, July 9, 1931.

## INSTRUCTION FOR INSTITUTING COUNCILS...

The Supreme Royal Princess may appoint Special Deputies, for the purpose of Instituting Councils, as she may deem advisable.

## HONORARY MEMBERS...

The Mothers, and Fathers, of Sunshine Girls, and Pythian Sisters who sponsor a girl, may join as "Honorary Members." The "Fee" is \$1.00.

## ELIGIBILITY...

Any girls, between the ages of eight and twenty years may apply. A Pythian Sunshine Girl, who has been an active member of her Council for three years or more, may receive her "Honorary Membership" card, to which she is entitled at twenty years of age.

## FEE...

The fee, to join, shall not be less than one dollar, and Councils may make it more, if they so desire. The setting of dues amounts is left entirely up to the Council.

## COUNCIL...

A Council cannot be instituted with less than 15 girls. There are twelve officers of a council, as follows:

**Junior Past Royal Princess, Royal Princess, Charity, Friendship, Prelate, Recorder, Exchequer, Guide, Mystic One, Warder, Sentinel, and Musician...**

When the "Degree" is given, there are also six "Banner Girls." Every Council must also have a "Royal Advisor," a Pythian Sister who will take full charge of the Girls' work, and five "Councilors," three Pythian Sisters and two Knights of Pythias. Their duties are to help the Royal Advisor whenever she may call upon them.

## Supreme Council Pythian Sunshine Girls

### Supreme Royal Princess

April Farough  
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### Supreme Friendship

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### Supreme Prelate

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### Supreme Royal Recorder

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### Supreme Sentinel

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Pythian Sunshine Girls is an Auxiliary of the Pythian Sisters. In recognition of the need to make the lives of those around us happier, and to make the world a better place in which to live. The Pythian Sunshine Girls seek young ladies, between the ages of 10 and 20 years, who are related to members of the Knights of Pythias or Pythian Sisters, or who may be recommended by members of those organizations, and who are interested in helping to lay a foundation for a life of purity, service, and usefulness in all things that tend to fulfill this need. The objectives of the Pythian Sunshine Girls are: To teach young ladies that God is the very essence of our existence, and the foundation upon which every country must build, if it is to prosper; To teach them the importance of having and showing love and respect to their parents, and always to be watchful to help other girls to love, and respect their parents; To love their country and their flag, and to recognize their responsibility as citizens; To practice Friendship, Charity, Hope, and ever to have Faith in God and in all of God's children, seeing the good, and trying to forget all that is unkind to others. The motto of the Pythian Sunshine girls is; To do all the good they can, in all the ways they can, to all the people they can. Parents of Pythian Sunshine Girls, and Pythian Sisters who sponsor a girl, may join as Honorary members. Knights of Pythias, and Pythian Sisters in good standing, may become Courtesy members. If there is no Council of the Pythian Sunshine Girls in your area, contact any member of the Knights of Pythias or Pythian Sisters, or write to the Supreme Royal Recorder, Lonnie Baughman 4985 Bickel Church Road Northwest, Baltimore, OH 43125-9328 (740) 862-8935 email: Lonnie@buckeyeinternet.com

Junior Order Knights of Pythias  
Pi Delta Pi  
An Auxiliary of the Order  
Knights of Pythias



**JUNIOR ORDER  
KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS**

At the Supreme Council Meeting in March, I was asked by Harris Breit, Supreme Chancellor to assume the duties of the Junior Order Chairman to replace SIG Dan Cowan, who has been assigned greater responsibilities on the Membership Committee.



Due to Dan's additional responsibilities, I agreed to accept this position, as the Junior Order has been close to my heart for many years.

The Junior Order Knights of Pythias is a recognized auxiliary of the Fraternal Order Knights of Pythias.

As the Supreme Lodge Chairman of the Junior Order, I am pleased, and honored to submit an article about them in this first issue of our new revised Pythian International Magazine, prepared by our new Editor, Michael Jay Burke.

We are excited, and proud, to have a small section devoted solely to the Junior Order, and I take this opportunity to encourage all our Junior Order Chapters to select a correspondent, from your chapter, to provide an article about your activities for each, and every, upcoming issue of the Pythian International Magazine.

I feel that this is one of the most exciting things to happen for the Junior Order, and the Pythian Organization in general, in many years, to gain us promotion, interest, and enthusiasm, for our great Cause.

The Junior Order is an organization which affords preliminary training in the Principals of Fraternity for our Youth with the cardinal Principals being Friendship, Leadership and Citizenship.

The Junior Order is maintained to promote Patriotism, Health, Character and Righteous Living.

In planning for the future of our Order, we must include the Junior Order Youth, as they are the future members for our subordinate lodges.

To compete with all the outside activities available to our Youth, through the Junior Order, we must attract these young men at an early age, as we establish, and maintain, programs that attract the Youth, and provide proper training, in a Fraternal atmosphere.

A Junior Order Chapter can be formed with 15 young men ages 12 through 17 with an Adult Advisor and a Sponsoring Lodge. I suggest using the "BUDDY SYSTEM" to assist in starting a new Chapter. Its simple, just ASK a young man to come and join the Junior Order and bring his friend along.

It is taken for granted that the task of the youngster is to learn the business of growing up, to ascertain from his elders, and forefathers, how best to live in a society that has become more and more complicated, by a highly inventive generation.

Everything we do as children points in one direction - that of getting us ready to do the same things better as adults.

The scout learns, in fun, how to become tomorrow's defense soldier. And the Junior Pythian similarly trains to become a Senior Pythian.

But even as he does that, he is really training to become a "leader of men" in his organization. For all of society is made up of "organizations," of every kind.

Government is the largest organization of all; then come the large corporations which organize with a profit motive, and the social institutions, schools, hospitals, labor unions, and so forth, which are all organizations to serve social, educational, medical, employment and other ends.

To learn to move in such organizational circles, to use the rules of democracy, of parliamentary conduct, of organizational meetings, or conventions of debate and discussion, of speech making, and program proposing, these are all part of a relatively complex road to leadership.

To make this road easier, the Junior Order has been formed. The lessons in the story of Damon and Pythias have prompted a Ritual for the Junior Order.

With proper training in a fraternal background and the lessons of the Ritual, these young men can become our leaders of tomorrow, to carry forward our great Fraternal Order.

Our goal is to obtain at least one Junior Order Chapter in each Domain, to begin. We are requesting each Domain or lodge to form a Junior Order Committee to work on recruiting and starting a new Junior Order Chapter in your area.

A promotional literature packet may be obtained from Alfred Saltzman, the Supreme Secretary, and the necessary supplies to start a new chapter are provided, free of charge, from the Supreme Secretary's office.

A few new Junior Order Chapters have already been instituted and more are in the process.

We need your help to contact these young men to start a new Chapter at your lodge, and when the Junior Order member reaches age 18, he is entitled to apply for membership in your lodge.

It's a "win-win" situation for us all, therefore, we trust all Domains will support these Youth by starting, and supporting, a Junior Order Chapter at your Lodge.

For information and brochures on the Junior Order, contact the Supreme Secretary Office at (617) 472-8800, for a free literature packet.

Fraternally,  
**Chairman, Junior Order, Knights of Pythias**  
Bobby G. Crowe, PSC



In recognition of the universally-held belief that, the character of a nation depends upon the training of its youth, for the duties, and responsibilities of citizenship, the "Junior Order Knights of Pythias" seeks young men, of good moral character, 12 to 17 years of age, who are interested in developing, in themselves, and in their associates, an understanding of the deeper meaning of friendship, leadership, and citizenship.

Applicants for membership need not be related to members of the Knights of Pythias, but must possess, except for age, all the qualifications for membership in the parent Order.

**The objectives of the order are:**

To encourage, in young men, traits of self-development and leadership;

To train them for active and useful participation in community affairs;

To provide them a thorough knowledge of parliamentary procedure;

To give them the knowhow of direction, management, and control of organization, programs, and procedures;

To afford them an opportunity for self-expression, debate, and public speaking;

To foster, and perpetuate, friendships, and associations, with their fellow members;

To inspire, in them, acceptance of the responsibilities of citizenship;

To instruct them in the development of self-discipline, self-confidence, self-government, and poise under pressure, thus preparing them for leadership in moral, intellectual, and civic accomplishments.

**These objectives** are accomplished through regular meetings of the Junior Order Chapter;

Through participation, as a group, in sports, such as bowling, tennis, golf, camping, swimming, boating, fishing, hiking, skating, and other activities;

Through cultural hobbies, and activities, such as chess, music, art, drama, debates, lectures, discussions, demonstrations, and programs dealing with science, literature, philosophy, and religion;

Through social activities, such as, outings, parties, dances, etc.

The Junior Order is a very patriotic organization; The flag must be displayed at all meetings.

The Holy Bible occupies a central place in all meetings, representing the Supreme Being, belief in whom is the sole religious requirement; The Order provides fellowship with young men of all creeds and beliefs.

If there is no Chapter of the Junior Order Knights of Pythias near you, contact any member of the Knights of Pythias, or for further information, write to the Supreme Secretary, Knights of Pythias...

## ... A Knight's Quest ...



**I come before you with my story... It is a story of hope, profound gratitude, and great promise...**

I started my life as an outcast, in the world of man. The example set by mankind was not at all inspiring to me, and I wished them to be gone! I felt that I was on the wrong planet at the wrong time period. No example of "man," that I had seen, could hold to my ethics, and it saddened me greatly!

As a child I was ashamed of my heritage. To be a part of what I had seen as "mankind," sickened me, and I wanted no part of it. When the war in Vietnam became part of my awareness, I decided to join the fight, because I was very unhappy with the people around me, and how they treated each other! I thought that it "could not be any worse," and maybe, by learning about other cultures, I could find my place on this planet.

**I was wrong!** I saw the worst of mankind, and it was mostly on "our" side... Vietnam was against my soul, against my inner being, and I was sickened beyond all hope, by what I had witnessed...

For years I searched for a "reason" to exist in a world of corruption, deception and pain. To myself, I was true, but for others, I found that I had only contempt, and felt disdain, and disgust (*even though, deep down inside, I loved the "Human" Race*)...

Still, I treated others with more respect than they treated me, or themselves, and in turn they began to treat me with respect. I began to sense that perhaps "Humanity" had simply fallen into a deep trap. A trap forged by the belief that they had to "fit" other people's expectations, and image, and therefore had to abandon all their hopes, and dreams, accepting far less than what they deserved, desired, or could actually be and do.

I came to see that nearly all of mankind was simply "asleep!" Distracted so much by things, and money, that they had forgotten the true meaning of life, and what was of value! They had lost their objectivity, and awareness, and had settled for a kind of "opinion-driven," self-induced-suicide...

I began to "pity" man, instead of hate him. Later, I turned pity into compassion, and understanding, and then eventually into love... I began to reach deeply inside my fellow human beings, to where that "still small voice," had its last stronghold. I found that by living true to myself, I could somehow inspire that voice to begin to speak more loudly, in others.

I learned to drop "Ego," and "Intellect," and to trust the "Process," as it was far more intelligent than I, and it made that clear to me daily! When I "forced the issue," as taught to me by "man," I was faced with failure, disappointment, and anger!!! But, if I "trusted the process," surrendered to a "higher" intelligence, I found that the outcome was always far greater than anything that I could have imagined. I learned to "step aside," and "trust," and then, "peace" came to me.

This did not come easily! I lost everything, and everyone, that I had loved and lived for. Several times! I was placed in situations that no one could have possibly lived through, over a dozen times, yet I did!

The final event; the loss of my family of nearly twenty years; the loss of my 11 year old Son, and his open, "unconditional love;" finally did it! **I died...**

This freed me of the last of my bonds! The bonds, built upon "illusion," that had been placed upon me, and accepted by me, reluctantly, that had injured my very soul, so incredibly deeply.

I was at last free to be myself, because all my "masks" had been burned away, leaving only my true self!

The tools that I had learned to use for "survival," the "masks" that I had built, so well, to hide my true self behind, so as to be able to survive in this violent and corrupt world, had been violently destroyed. I was free!!! But, then, who was I??? I had all but forgotten!

I decided that, rather than rebuild my masks, I would remain true to myself, even in the face of other's strong opinions, because I could not be harmed any worse than I had been, by others, and by, myself!

Because of this, I was, at last, free to see the true nature of mankind, and the true meaning and purpose of life, itself. Still I found no particular reason to remain upon this plain of existence, and I struggled with that daily... I had no "reason" to stay, and I had no reason to go, so I was in limbo... Compelled to "motion," by my very nature, yet with no where to go, and nothing to do! **I needed a "purpose!"**

I began to do what I had truly loved to do before, in the hopes that it would rekindle my desire for life. I loved life, was very passionate about life, but could find no "reason" to live!

I began saving lives, changing lives, and taking on tasks that needed to be done, but that no one else could, or would, do...

Still... My heart was empty of a purpose great enough to command me to live! I could not even imagine starting another family! The fear of losing that again, was too overwhelming!

He who said: "It is better to have loved, and lost, than never to have loved at all!" **NEVER TRIED IT!!!**

In my quest for purpose, I came to know a few who had the same ideals, for a kind and ethical "mankind," as I had always possessed.

As I had died, many times, and had learned what was of "true" value in life, I had come to the clear knowledge that I did not "want" or need anything that another possessed, nor could I be bought, or controlled, by the will of another, or a promise of "Reward!"

I discovered that these people knew others, with whom they shared their dreams of honor, and that they had formed a fellowship, long ago, for that purpose. The group however was fragmented, and subject to the distractions that held sway over the rest of human kind...

It was in danger of becoming a lost, and forgotten, part of history... So, I joined this organization, and began to search for a way to help breath life back into its great mission, as, to me, it seemed to be slipping into a deadly slumber, and was beginning to forget its true purpose, and its importance to mankind...

### The answer did not seem to come easily...

Then, one day, I was informed that the "King" was in search of a brave Knight, to carry the word, and mission of our Great Order, to the far edges of the world, and to all who had ears, and eyes, to behold "truth!"

The Knight had to be fearless, incorruptible, and without political, or hidden, agenda... Free of desire for self aggrandizement, awards or honors...

A knight who knew the true meaning, and value, of life... One who knew that money, things and praise were not important, that instead, "people," and their hopes and dreams, were what was the focus of life, and the need to balance life with ethics, truth, and Love...

I went before the King, and found him to be a true, and just man... His dream was my dream, and I felt compelled to take up his gauntlet... I trusted that I would be safely guided, in the paths of truth, and honor, and fearlessly accepted the King's Quest!

I knew little of the "inner workings," of the Empire, and "that" I actually viewed as an advantage, because I would be forced to view every aspect of the mission, that I had undertaken, with new, and objective eyes...

Well meaning Knights began to try and guide my actions, but their's was a viewpoint fashioned by the past, and I had to find my own "unique" way...

I began to send out messengers, to the few in the Kingdom that I had come to know... I was asking them to open their viewpoints to another way of thinking, and to most, it was a change that was not understood... Although they were most supportive, and tried, they just could not conceive of my methods, or just what I was trying to do. Still... Sensing that it was the "right thing to do," they began to "spread the word," to others, to give me what help they could, in my quest.

**None will be forgotten,** and none will be ignored! The slightest breath has great meaning to me, and the smallest idea could become of the greatest importance!

"Fact" is important, but so is feeling, and emotion... This Kingdom is filled with emotional beings, with heart, and spirit, and that is what makes it great... So I have asked **all** to "feel," deeply, and to share those feelings, without fear, and with joy, and inspiration...

In this, the Order's 140th year, we will begin to become a "household-name," to all peoples, worldwide, and all the facets, the Groups, of this Great, and "Timeless" Organization, will gleam brightly!

**The sun is rising,** on a new era, for Pythians... There is no longer a danger of the organization fading into the mist of the "forgotten" past... The Quest has been taken on, by a Knight, who will not surrender, and will not quit... A Knight who knows the value of the King's vision, and who, along with others, shares it...

I ask that all able-bodied Pythians join me, in this great Quest, forget the desire for the illusion of self gratification, and power, and end squabbling, in favor of the greatest possible works for all who inhabit this planet! What good will awards, and honors, be, if the world no longer exists, because of the illusions crated, by self-aggrandizement and power?

There is a long road ahead of me, and I will make friends along the way. If I make enemies, it is by no will, intention, or design, of my own. Sometimes the best of intentions can be misunderstood. I can only hope that the one who does not understand my intent, or method, will have the inner strength to "ask" me for clarification, as I wish only the best, for all, and will answer all who question my methods, and intentions...

I demand, and expect, nothing for myself, and everything for the Quest... I will accept any help that is offered, as long as it is given cleanly, freely, and without expectation of reward. We are on this quest together, and should support each other, in that light!!!

**Reprive! Reprive!** I heard those sweet words, this morning, echoing along the walls of the deep canyon, into which I had fallen!

*(The "Printer" would not be ready for me, today! I have another day, or two, to finish preparing this!)*

The night before, having spent many days without leaving my saddle, I collapsed, just as the dawn was breaking! I fell into a fitful sleep, haunted by the drive to find the **Royal Prince**, and to complete the King's message to the Empire, suffering an exhaustion that goes far beyond words!

I am not used to "riding a horse," especially for such an extended length of time, and even though I had redesigned the saddle, to support my weight better, my back and neck could stand no more!

Concerned friends have offered me diversion, but I refused, because the Quest is the Quest, and until I have completed it, there can be no rest! I have been lost in a jungle of words, pictures, ideas, and complications, to the point of total confusion, and exhaustion!

One friend, a "Medicine Man," gave me potions to stem the tide of physical pain, and another, a great "Bone Doctor," from "Chiro-Practicus" helped my body sit straight, again, and the pain to subside! But, still, without taking time to sleep, I could not go on!

From time to time I would hear laughter... Its warm humor would wrap around me, and lift me up... It was me! Laughing out loud at the wonder, and the joy brought to me by the thought of how wondrous it was, that the King had held me in such high esteem, that he would entrust no other knight to this perilous Quest...

A Quest of such importance, that could mean life, or death, to the Empire... I alone had been entrusted with the greatest mission that I could conceive! And, though a new knight, I had been given this great Quest...

How could that be? The thought had never filled me with trepidation or fear. It filled me, instead, with joy and purpose!

I had seen many battles, and received many wounds, and, somewhere, had lost my sense of "purpose..." This Quest has restored my Soul, and made me to walk the peaks, and valleys of the world, once again, without fear...

The King saw into my very Soul, and has helped to restore purpose, and joy to my life...

I am a Knight, with a reason to live, once again, and I will not fail in my Quest to...

**Make** "Pythian" a worldwide, "household-name!" **Remove** illusion, and barriers to understanding, between the King, Ranks of the Order, and his Loyal Subjects!

**Bring** communication, familiarity, understanding, joy, and harmony to all of the various facets of this Great Fraternity, so that it may better attain its goals...

*Michael*

*(Don't worry about me! I'm not going "Psycho" on you! This is just a story, ya know!)*

# CANADA



Hi Mike! This is Ian Rothnie, Past Grand Chancellor of British Columbia...

Just a short note to say "Good Luck," with the new Pythian International Magazine!

You have our **complete** support, here in BC... I laugh when I here of those few short-sighted dissenters, about the fee to pay! They should be here, in Canada! We pay more than most, because of the "monetary exchange rate," and **we** are not at all complaining!!!

Mike, I wish you luck in the future! I am looking forward to the first issue! There are people who call themselves "Pythians," yet they are the ones who are always complaining!!! Tell them to "**get a life,**" and start by looking at themselves, and then at what a "**Pythian**" is... They may get a shock when they see themselves as they are! All the best!!!

Ian Rothnie (print this if you want to)



## What is inspiration?

It can be anything from a show you watch, to just watching your grand children play.

I was so inspired, in August of this year, by something that I thought was just another mundane "chore."

My Lodge, Maple Lodge # 15, in the Grand Domain of British Columbia, through our present Grand Chancellor, decided to sponsor an Electric Wheel Chair Hockey Team!

This team is located in Victoria, British Columbia, about an hour's drive from our Lodge, and they practice every Saturday at a local Gym, in that town. I was asked to come and watch them practice, and I did...

That was fine, no problem, I met the kids spoke to them, and had a nice time!

(Oh! I forgot to mention that I was Grand Chancellor at that time!)

Our present Grand Chancellor, Robert Wright, was a Lodge Officer, but was also the assistant coach of the team.

So, I was asked, last August, to assist at a National Tournament for the hockey Association, and I thought; "Okay, I will give up my Saturday and Sunday! Why not? It's for the lodge!" So, I said; "Yes!"

Brothers and Sisters, **I was blown away** when I went to the tournament thinking, "Oh well! Get it over with!" But, there was a catch to this! I was to be the announcer (*which I did in style*)...

**No one will ever be so inspired as they would be watching these young, and not so young, people!!!**

There were four teams, playing in the tournament, from Victoria-BC, Toronto-Ontario, Calgary-Alberta, and London-Ontario.

Every one of the players is **Physically Handicapped**, and they either control their wheelchairs with one hand, head, or mouth!!! Their hockey sticks, for the majority, are attached directly to their wheelchairs!!!

**It was a truly overwhelming experience!** To watch them playing hockey, on the floor, with a ball, and the excitement displayed was incredible!

The sportsmanship was superb, and every team would help the other, if a player had a problem!

It was **SO** inspiring, that I, and my Lodge Members, have started raising funds for our team to go to Minneapolis, in 2004, for the World Championships.

I am intending to go with them, and be there for them, all the way!!!

These young people suffer from cerebral palsy, and various other problems, but to see them play is wonderful!

Our Knights, throughout the world, are involved in many different charities, and good works, and we are **so lucky** to belong to such a great organization!

I am Ian Rothnie... I am the Junior Past Grand Chancellor of the Grand Domain of British Columbia, Canada...

I send you all our Fraternal Greetings!

Past Grand Chancellor of British Columbia

Ian Rothnie

email: ianrca@shaw.ca



I'm sure that, by now, you have noticed that, in this first issue, I have had to simplify the layout a bit, because of time constraints. This layout is a completely new approach, so things like "fonts" and a few other items that would normally be VERY complex, I have chosen to keep simple, but that will change by the next issue, and you can look forward to further improvements as time passes, and I become more comfortable with the process.

The Magazine will fluctuate in size, according to the volume of articles that I receive, unlike past years. Having just started my Quest, I do not yet have the extensive network of contacts, and friends, that Marv developed, over the last 25 plus years!

## A letter from an 83 year old Pythian



Dear Victor, I'm reading more and dusting less. I'm sitting in the yard, and admiring the view without fussing about the weeds in the garden.

I'm spending more time with my family and friends and less time working.

Whenever possible, life should be a pattern of experiences to savor, not to endure.

I'm trying to recognize these moments now and cherish them.

I'm not "saving" anything; We use our good china, and crystal for every special event, such as losing a pound, getting the sink unstopped, or the first Amaryllis blossom.

I wear my good blazer to the market. My theory is if I look prosperous, I can shell out \$28.49 for one small bag of groceries...

I'm not saving my good perfume for special parties, but wearing it for clerks in the hardware store, and tellers at the bank.

"Someday," and "one of these days," are losing their grip on my vocabulary; If it's worth seeing, or hearing, or doing, I want to see, and hear, and do it, now!

I'm not sure what others would've done, had they known they wouldn't be here for the tomorrow that we all take for granted. I think they would have called family members, and a few close friends. They might have called a few former friends, to apologize, and mend fences for past squabbles. I like to think they would have gone out for a Chinese dinner, or for whatever their favorite food was. I'm guessing; I'll never know!

It's those little things, left undone, that would make me angry if I knew my hours were limited.

Angry because I hadn't written certain letters that I intended to write, "one of these days."

Angry, and sorry, that I didn't tell my husband and parents, often enough, how much I truly love them.

I'm trying very hard not to "put off," "hold back," or "save," anything that would add laughter, and luster to our lives.

And every morning, when I open my eyes, I tell myself that it is special!

Every day, every minute, every breath, truly is a gift from God!

Take a few minutes, just to let your friends know that you're thinking of them.

"People say; "True friends must always hold hands," but true friends don't need to hold hands, because they know the other hand will always be there!

I don't believe in miracles. I rely upon them!

Life may not be the party we hoped for, but while we are here we might as well \_\_\_\_\_

(fill in the blank yourself)!!!



I hope that you will all be patient with me, if I make some mistakes, or leave out important information...

Just correct me, or inform me of the error, and I will do my best not to repeat it in the future! It will get better, every issue!!!

Thanks, for your kind understanding!

Michael

**You know! There is a story behind that picture of Ian (on the opposite page), and here it is;**

This is a picture of "Pythian Spirit," that I took of Brother Ian Rothnie, Past Grand Chancellor of the Domain of British Columbia, at our "Social."

Capital City, Lodge #61, has their annual Christmas Social, in November, so that the donations, throughout the City, can be counted, and distributed, before the Christmas holiday arrives... May it be for food, or money for other needs.

Brother Ian is holding the "CFAX Santa Bear" (one of the recipient Groups who receives funds just before Christmas)!

"Mustard Seed Food Bank," is one to whom I also donate food, from my Garden, plus fresh herbs...

"Cops for Cancer," "Victoria Electric Wheelchair Hockey," and "Esquimalt Neighborhood House" (where they umbrella Groups like "Battered Women"), are some of our other recipients...

At these socials, we have the Wives, Widows, Widowers, Guests from our local District, and the Group Representatives, to whom we donate funds, attend.

We take this opportunity to recognize individuals, and Groups, giving them certificates and awards, for their individual efforts.

I believe that recognitions of effort, are needed, to be given to these Brothers and Sisters, for performing sometimes "thankless jobs, and tasks!"

By having the Group Representative, receive the donations, it shows our presents in the Community, and it demonstrates to other Lodges what work we do.

This year, a Master Magician (Tony Eng), volunteered his professional service, to entertain our Pythian Group! Steel rings, going through steel rings, puzzled everyone, especially Brother Ian, who was the spokesperson of the audience; Mind reading baffled everyone; Card tricks that were impossible, and lastly, the Celery Cutting Blade, barely missing Brother Ian's finger, ending with opening countless numbers of boxes, and Brother Ian finding his watch was in the last one... And, he did not know it was even missing!

With the dinner social being less formal, many members and guests had gotten a chance to shake hands, and socialize.

This type of Pythian energy brought in three new Brothers, for our Lodge, this year.

With the extra monies, that we have collected this year, our Lodge will donate a gift certificate to the Widower's, and over 50 year members, of our Lodge... An extra token, that we remember them, besides the invitation to two of our Major gatherings of the Lodge.

Victor R. Eng, PCC  
Capital City Lodge # 61, Victoria, BC Canada  
email: veng@shaw.ca



Once upon a time, there was a group of Pythians, who liked wearing dresses, a lot!



These are some old, "Brownie," camera shots, of Canadian "Dokkies," posing for pictures as they emulate the "Dumbells," who were a group that entertained troops during WWII...!

Exploring the history of our great Organization can be fun (if not, a bit unnerving), and this all goes to proven my theory, our Canadian Brothers have way too much fun!!!

**... On Gifts...**

Christmas (whatever it may be called anywhere on this world) is a time of gift giving and receiving. I find the subject of gifts (giving, receiving both) quite fascinating.

What is a gift? Seems a gift is something that stands for something else. I think it could be called love. Gifting is the sharing of love.

Now, love is a strange thing, too. It flows only under certain conditions. People who are naturally loving readily find and receive love. They never go without, and never have to chase it. You will never hear a loving person say: "You don't love me;" never hear a loving person ask: "Do you love me?"

The very same thing happens with gifts. To receive gifts, one must be a giver. Only when there is an outward flow of gifting energy can that same energy find its way back. When it does return (and it will always return), it is with abundance.

And so it was said long ago: "Cast your bread upon the waters, for after many days, you will find it again."

Blessings, forever,  
Sha'Tara EarthStar

And, the scary thing is, they still do! (Oops! I mean "Kilts!")



## Brother John Speaks!

### Sister in the Grand Jurisdiction of the Prairie Provinces Wins Pythian Scholarship

Sister Sandra Gibson, a member of Royal Temple No. 13 in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, was awarded the four year Pythian Sister Scholarship for 2003.

She is enrolled in a Bachelor of Fine Arts Program, and is attending Red Deer College, for the first two years, and then will transfer to a University of her choice, for the remaining two years.

At the first meeting in September, Sister Sandra made her announcement to the Sisters of Royal Temple. Royal Temple congratulated Sister Sandra, for her effort in obtaining this scholarship, and know that she will put the funds to good use.



Sister Sandra is the daughter of PSR Barbara Gibson, and granddaughter of PGC Victoria Ford, who passed to the Temple Above, on January 5th, 1995.

Sandra joined the Pythian Order in the fall of 2000, and immediately was elected to the Protector's station.

For the past two years, she has been holding the Manager's position, to get a better grasp of the ritual procedures.

Royal Temple No. 13, on behalf of all the Sisters of the Grand Jurisdiction of the Prairie Provinces, wishes to extend their best wishes to Sister Sandra, and know she will keep up the good work.

Submitted in P L E & F  
Sharon Baker, Press Correspondent

### Why Membership growth should come easy to the Pythian Order.

Victor Eng

Everybody sees the signs, and are getting involved, but only a few recognize the opportunities. It was as if dozens of Pythians had stumbled upon each other in the Rocky Mountains. We must focus on the potential, and not the obstacles, and do what is right to make things happen. Pythian Brothers, and Pythian Sisters, are amongst the last people who can be ever accused of suffering loneliness. Members are constantly engaged in friendship, and doing charity works for others, but the aging population is demanding attention. Some are not doing well, and need extra companionship, and support.

Sometimes it is better to check the weather, before we put out our Lemonade stand. Success comes not with your original idea, but your reaction to how the real world accepts your plans. Remember, long-term plans have been implemented for your Lodges, and Temples, in recruitment, so why reinvent the wheel?

We must be open minded and adapt, however, new recruits work in complete isolation from typical potential members, so it's not recognizable by the standards of yesteryear. Like-minded, people in the Pythian Order are trying to motivate the membership to "wrestle and win." The thing is, if we can find a way to unite with our peers, sparks are sure to fly, automatically. Yesterday, it was called a "Think tank," today it is called Growth Camp. By assembling in our annual Grand Sessions, we have a chance to combine learning opportunities with many others, to talk shop over a meal, a glass of wine, or, as some demonstrated, a wicked game of friendly Bonco. Within hours of meeting one another, on arrival in the afternoon, fellowships re-formed, and understand that they belonged to a strong, and well-defined, Pythian Order, was clear. It was as if dozens of Pythian backpackers had stumbled upon each other, in the Rocky Mountain! They bonded deeply, and quickly, discussing their daily lives as if they'd been acquainted for a lifetime, but then again, fifty years can be considered a lifetime!

Over the Campfire, during the evening, and once the mistakes were identified, one Past Chancellor said to another that he wishes to share his plan to relaunch the membership of their Lodge, and improve the common struggle by looking for simple, and workable, solutions. Around the campfire, all of the others nodded knowingly. During the Group discussion on Managing growth, other PC's wondered what metrics the others used to gauge their success, or to rank the progressive strategy. Half a dozen peers chimed in "avoid making excuses for poor results..." We do better to sell ourselves to new membership.

By two or three days, numerous business cards, and email addresses, were exchanged, and appointments made, in an effort to keep on sharing. One Brother is starting his own website, and a discussion group to establish an information Loop. "I had an awesome time, and cannot wait to teach the others what I had learned!" Said another. I met some exciting people and learned some valuable things, that I will be able to implement in my Lodge, right away! You can do the same, without going to Growth Camp. Call your local Supreme Rep, and invite him to meet in your boardroom, or the local restaurant, to unlock the potential of his experience, to help you achieve unparalleled growth! Remember, you are not alone! Supreme's invisible army is at your service... Don't let it go to waste, for they are fully committed to help! **KEEP IT SIMPLE, AND MAKE IT WORK!**

This excerpt is from Brother John Barr, Master of the Work, Maple Lodge No. 15, Duncan, BC  
Canada October 20<sup>th</sup> 1961

Friendship 1864 - 1964

Dear Brothers:

We are approaching the end of another centenary in the life of our Beloved Order and I think that it is the duty of every knight to make some contribution to the good of the Order. The member who has ceased regular attendance at lodge conventions can offer unbroken attendance for six, four or three months, whatever he can contribute of his time.

The active member can call on that reserve of energy and self-sacrifice to under take some extra work in the Lodge that has been waiting for a volunteer. This member, who is not able to attend because of night shift, can undertake to bring in a new member when he has instructed in the aims and objects of our Order. Every member can offer something of himself and the only limit to the extent and size of our offering is our personal value of our Order and how much it means to each one of us.

In deep humility and with a feeling of inadequacy, I submit the following as my contribution to the centenary of our Order and with the hope that it may point goal for the next centenary on Feb 19<sup>th</sup> 2064.

Just as I had completed the attached brochure, and had written the last word, I turned my attention to my mail which contained the August issue of the Pythian International and our Grand Lodge publication, The Pythian Record. After I had read the many optimistic articles, especially the one by our Supreme Chancellor, and others referring to it, I had grave doubts that I should submit this. I know, from experience in my own Lodge, that I hold views of our Order in which many members do not concur, and yet some have shown considerable interest and a sympathetic agreement.

To put it briefly, I see the Order Knights of Pythias as a mighty generator, with potential to light the darkness of the whole world and I believe that, at present, we alone are the only organization equipped to do this. That we are not ready, at this date, must remain a black mark on our record. But what is past, is past, we must set our sights to the future. Christ is the Light of the world and His Christianity is the brotherhood of man, and ordained His



# ROYAL KNIGHTS OF CANADA



## WE SHALL OVERCOME.....

Judaea Lodge #52, Domain of Ontario; the sole surviving Lodge in the City of Toronto, may have problems which are not unique to any community service group.

An ageing membership coupled with a different, but necessary lifestyle, among the younger generation, bears witness to decreasing numbers of current members and applicants.

Still; we carry on. We have not had the need to pull previously elected officers back to active executive positions and are grateful that enough brethren are there to take over the reins.

Our bingo project (*100% of its proceeds go to a host of deserving charities*), continues without interruption. The same applies for our efforts to improve the quality of life, of the elderly, who are institutionalized.

Our ongoing collection of used eyeglasses, for under-developed nations, serves a most worthwhile purpose. Our supply of pop-can tabs, for recycling into wheelchairs, continues unabated.

Topping it off are some brethren who, on an individual basis, receive commendation from organizations for whom they volunteer their time and energy, to help those less fortunate.

In short, whatever problems there may be, are nothing more than bumps along the road.

We may have to detour but we shall overcome.

From: Nelson Modlin

email: [mailto:nelson\\_modlin@hotmail.com](mailto:nelson_modlin@hotmail.com)



## TEMPLE SUPPORTS EQUIPMENT NEEDS

British Columbia Dogwood Temple #5, of Campbell River, recently made a \$1,000 contribution to assist the community hospital foundation, striving to raise \$150,000, to pay for the purchase of an echocardiograph Machine. From left, Linda Deneer, Campbell River Hospital Foundation Director, PDDGC Marilyn Owen, representing Dogwood Temple #5, Ray Jordan, resident expert on the echocardiograph Unit, Steve Fraser, Hospital Foundation Chairman. Funds were raised through the Bingo Gaming projects.

Church to carry His light to the utmost parts of the world. Owing to diversions of dogma and creed, the Church is not read.

The missionaries of the Church have done a wonder job, and with them civilization, as we know it, would not exist.

We have no restrictions of dogma and creed to hinder us from taking Friendship, Charity and Confidence to every corner of a world that sorely needs them, and we are a Christian Organization.

We have, however, neglected the expansion of our outlook and organization to carry out our duty and to fulfill our Destiny.

The Generator, built to give light to every corner of the world, is concentrated on lighting a few cities and some towns.

These, it is true, are lighted with a brilliance which sometimes blinds our eyes to the fact that we have left many dark corners.

As I see it, we must push back the walls of our Lodge room; open the doors of our Castle Halls and go out to find those who need our Friendship.

May I be permitted to paraphrase a poem we all know so well and for which, in its original form, I have the greatest affection and appreciation.

**"Let us leave our house by the side of the road,  
Where the race of men go by:  
Men who are good and men who are bad;  
As good and as bad as I.  
Who stumble and fall on life's highroad,  
Let us give them a helping hand;  
A smile, a word and maybe our purse.  
Let us be a friend to man."**

My sincere apologies to the author...

Where employer and employee meet; where inter-provincial and inter-state representatives meet; where foreign secretaries and their sides meet and, most important of all, at the meetings of the United Nations we must have members; brother knights on both sides of the table.

You don't have to share when you have Knights of Pythias on both sides of the table. You don't have to share another's views or believe as he does to be his friend and, when you have knights of Pythias on both sides of the conference table, holding different views and believing different creeds, but all dedicated to the belief in a common Friendship, Charity, Benevolence and Confidence, then there will be a hope for ultimate understanding.

With sincere apologies for the many mistakes in spelling, punctuation, and syntax, I am no stenographer; I submit this with my devotion for our Order and the best of intentions.

John W. Barr, Duncan, BC



... Happy Holidays ...

**To all Pythian  
Sisters, and Brothers,  
in Canada, and throughout  
the whole world!**

**May this issue of the New  
Pythian International  
Magazine  
show  
all of us what we can expect  
for the future of our  
Great  
Organization!**

Victor Eng and Ian Rothnie

# THE PYTHIAN



Grand Chancellor Isabel Webber, right, enjoying a chat with Sister Flo Hurry, as she added greetings on Flo's 100th birthday! Nakusp, a small community nestled among the Selkirk Mountains, and on the northeastern shore of the Upper Arrow Lake, came out in full force to celebrate the 100th Birthday of one of its long time citizens, Sister Florence Hurry!

October 11th was a blustery day, with a fresh dusting of snow evident on the mountain peaks, but the Nakusp Legion Hall was packed to capacity, as warm wishes were brought for Sister Hurry from many members and friends.

Some traveled from as far away as England, California, and Florida. In total there were nine Pythian Sisters in attendance which included her best friend, Marjorie Stanley of Nakusp; Grand Chief Isabel Webber, and her husband, Reg Webber, PDSC; Sisters from Castle Gar, included Fran Moffat, Joan Marks, Marg Moore, Bernice Barrass, for a wonderful opportunity to meet, greet, and renew Pythian friendships with Provincial members who reside in the area of Sisters Olive Jensen, Hazel Fellows.

**There is no longer a Temple in Nakusp, it having gone defunct some years ago; however Sister Hurry belongs to the Jurisdiction Provincial Temple #1, where members can keep her Membership active.**



Also present was the son and daughter-in-law of PGC Della Parent, who was grand chief in the 1955-56 term. Sister Flo was a school teacher and also the proprietor of a ladies wear store, "The Bon Marche." The store is presently being operated by the third generation of the Hurry family, Sister Flo's grand daughter.

Among her many memories is becoming a member of Myrtle Temple #16, at the age of 18! If her memory serves her well, she has been a Pythian Sister for 82 years. She lives at Halcyon Home in Nakusp. She rose from her chair to thank everyone for attending her celebration, hoped that everyone would mix, visit and have a good time. 100 years of memories were displayed on an 8'x6' plywood board along with congratulatory messages from the Premier of B.C., the Prime Minister of Canada and - The Queen of England.



Ruth Auge, of Belen, has been named Grand Chief of the New Mexico Pythian Sisters, in a Grand Temple meeting, in Socorro.

Other officers are:

Joyce Taylor of Socorro, Grand Senior;  
Sue Wakitsch of Belen, Grand Junior;  
Corrine Cable of Deming, Grand Manager;  
Pat Watson of Deming, Grand Secretary;  
Jo Ann Miske of Belen, Grand Treasurer;  
Gayle May of Corona, Grand Protector;  
Sherrill Hradford of Corona, Grand Guard;  
Mary Jane Woodruff of Socorro, PGC;  
Ethel Floyd of Estancia, Historian;  
Charlotte Keeter of Deming, GPC.

Officers were installed by Helen Auge of Belen, Supreme Chief Deputy, along with Elna Canner and Velma Smith, Geraldine Perkins, 95, was the oldest Pythian Sister present, and was a Pro-tem for Sue Wakitseb of Belen, who couldn't be present. The Belen delegation invited the group to meet here, next year.



Due to state budget cuts, the South Carolina School for the Deaf, and Blind, in Spartanburg, South Carolina, found itself in a difficult financial position. The Pythian Order, in Spartanburg, recognized the need, and went to the aid of the school by presenting donations to the Walker Foundation, to be used for much-needed school supplies, for the students of this wonderful school.

In the picture (above), Harold W. Sosbee, PGC, presents a check for \$500.00, from Morgan Lodge #22, and Ruby Brown, PGC, presents a check for \$200.00, from Morgan Temple #1, to Kathy Dunleavy (center), Executive Director of the Walker Foundation. The money will be used to buy school supplies for the students.

In addition to helping the South Carolina School for the Deaf, and Blind, Harold Sosbee (Morgan Lodge #22), Ruby Brown, Leona Callahan, and Sandra Littlejohn (Morgan Temple #1), are very active in the "Area 12" Special Olympics activities. Harold recently served as a volunteer in the Fall games, held in Spartanburg, the week end of October 31st-Nov. 2.

At least twice a month, Harold, Ruby, Leona, and Sandra, can be found bowling with these special athletes, at Brunswick Lanes.

For anyone watching, from the sidelines, it is impossible to tell who is having the most fun, - the athletes, or the volunteers.

If you have the opportunity to participate in Special Olympics activities, please do. You will receive far more than you give, just to see the happiness these activities bring, to the athletes.

On November 1st, South Carolina Grand Temple officers traveled to Cherryville, North Carolina, for the institution of the new Cherryville Temple #1, Pythian Sisters, by Supreme Chief, Georgia Jean Byrd.

Attending from South Carolina, were Christine Bickley, Grand Chief; Ruby Brown, PCG; Leona Callahan, PGC, and Grand Manager; and J. Sosbee, Grand Junior.



In the picture (left), Sister Helen Mixon, PGC, is presented with her 25-year Certificate of Membership, and her 25-year pin, from sister Patsy Stewart of Myrtle Temple at the Grand Lodge/Grand Temple Convention. Sister Mary Sesnauskas also received her 25-year Certificate of Membership, and pin, but was unable to attend the Convention, because of recent knee surgery.



The Grand Lodge of Texas recently awarded an Eagle Scout patch during a Court of Honor, for Michael Nichley of The Colony, Texas.

Grand Secretary George Fox, and Grand Treasurer Mark Helm, attended the ceremony, and were greatly impressed by the ceremonies.

Nichley comes from a Scouting family. His father, his father's brother, and his cousin, all hold Eagle Scout honors.

The award gave the Pythian's an opportunity to present the history and purposes of the Order to those present.



# HALL OF HONOR

Michael,  
I know, as does everyone else, that email has certainly made our lives easier, and things go more quickly; yet, I, for one, miss the closeness and intimacy of writing a letter the way we used to.

I congratulate you on your new office as Editor of the Pythian International magazine. I do not know whether you had aspired to be the new editor, or whether it just happened. Either way, may you enjoy, and be successful!

I was elected Grand Press Correspondent, for Iowa, at our Grand Temple session, in September.



Carma Schwarz (*in front*), our new Grand Chief of Iowa, (*Behind Carma*) Dan Cowan, Supreme Inner Guard, Ernest Carley, new Grand Chancellor for Iowa And Mike Carr, outgoing Grand Chancellor, and recipient of the Golden Spur Award.

Ernest Carley has been a member of Big Grove #226 Lodge since 1990. Work prevented him from joining any sooner. His wife, Myrna has been a member of Oakland Temple #150 since 1968.

They are true Pythians, having each held many offices and being supportive in any way they can. They have been married for 59 years and have three children. Besides being involved in the steel industry, Ernest also did some farming on the side.

Ernest has based his program for the coming year on the word "REAL." **Recruit, Enjoy, Activity and Leadership.** He says; "These words define a true Pythian, and it should be our goal to make them work for the benefit of all members, new and old alike."

Special Olympics will be his main project, and will sell chances on two \$50.00 prizes.

We will see Ernest traveling the state to District Conventions, and other special activities, as he wants to meet as many Pythians as he can.

Carma Schwarz, our new Grand Chief, has been married to her husband, Harvey, for 57 years. They have 8 children, 15 grand children and 5 great grand children. This sounds like it would keep a person really busy, but Carma has many other interests. She is a 60 year Pythian member who joined Eldridge Temple #230, held all the offices there, and then transferred to Walcott Temple #192, when they moved to that area.

She has held all the offices there and is currently serving as their manager.

After serving Iowa as a district deputy, and going through the Grand Temple offices, she is

now our Grand Chief. Her project for the coming year will be, "Ronald McDonald House." This serves as a place for parents to stay while their children are undergoing cancer treatment, so they can be close at hand.

Since she makes ceramics, these will serve as prizes, to those donating to her project. Carma is also a 50 year member of the Walcott Legion Auxiliary, where she has held all the offices, and has served as District President, Chaplain and Iowa Vice-President. Carma uses her many talents in other ways. She is a retired seamstress, who still makes wedding dresses, attendants dresses, and wedding cakes.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Davenport also is one of her special places to do things. She serves as an Assisting Minister, writes prayers, and sings in the choir, and takes communion to home bound members.

She also bakes four dozen cupcakes, to take to the nursing home, each month, and baby sits the little ones, each Friday, during the school year.

This isn't enough to keep her busy, so she also bowls at least once a week, and attends meets throughout the country. Five times a year she prepares meals for 200 plus members of the Walcott Community Club.

Here we have one busy lady, who really gets involved in anything she believes in!

Mike Carr was Iowa's recipient of the Golden Spur Award, in a very impressive ceremony, at our Grand Temple session. Mike has a very warm place in his heart for children, who for one reason or another, cannot quite come up to the level of their peers. A special project for Mike and his wife Bev, is what is called "Buddy Ball."

Buddy Ball makes it possible for children on crutches, in wheelchairs, etc, to be able to go out and play ball, just like their brothers and sisters. It takes a heap of dedication from the volunteers of this sport, to make it happen, and Mike is there to see that it succeeds.

Mike is a great supporter of the Pythian Order. Although, he already was a Past Grand Chancellor, when the need arose, he stepped in, and just finished another term, as Grand Chancellor. Mike has also written a book on the history of the Pythian Order.

This is the end of my write-up. If you see the need to delete anything, feel free to do so. This is my first contribution as Iowa's Press Correspondent.

Good luck in your new job....

You will probably hear from me again.

My e-mail address is: [IowaGrSec@aol.com](mailto:IowaGrSec@aol.com)



--- Service Pins Awarded ---  
Newark Roland Lodge # 13 presented:  
Brother Howard Norris, with a 50 yr pin  
Brother Dana Hammond, with his 25 yr pin



How do you say; "Thank You?" To a dear friend who could have saved your life?

How do you say; "Thank You," for calling personal friends, and organizations, religious groups, all for a blood drive.

**But what a blood drive?**

Norman Abramsky is my hero! President of the T.C.M.A. He went out of his way to call all of these people.

The South Florida Blood Bank, provided two blood bank busses, and staff, and would you believe that while all of this was going on, I was in the hospital receiving two pints of blood. Ironical? But the reality is there! A blood shortage in South Florida!!!

Thanks to Norman Abramsky, and all of his efforts, and his friends, and connections, this blood drive raised forty pints of blood. My thanks to all of the donors who made this blood drive a real success!

And so, Thank You, **Thank you, THANK YOU!** From your friend, Lee Koslowsky, November 11, 2003.

"Veterans Day," throughout our country, but in addition to that, Gold Coast Lodge #215, of Coconut Creek, Florida had it's own Veterans Day.

We had our Grand Chancellor, Sir Irwin Westle's visitation. With him of course came his entire entourage. All Great Pythian Veterans. From Past Deputy Supreme Chancellor, to Grand Outer Guard, Gold Coast Lodge #215, also had a distinguished visitor, Mark Zuckerman, Grand Chancellor of the State of Nevada.

Ritualistically, the evening went well, but after the closing ceremonies were over, Pythianism took over. Handshakes from the Grand Council members, to all of our brothers, was abundant.

The "How are you? - and - How Have You Been?" Was everywhere!

The warmth and sincerity was felt everywhere. The "F" of Friendship, was experienced, demonstrated, and lived through.

A very rare moment and we are proud to have been part of it!



## SYMLACA Assembly Petition Submitted



### KNIGHT OF THE YEAR GRAND LODGE, OHIO 2003

A very surprised POC Donald C. Baker, received the honor of "Domain of Ohio Knight of the year 2003." This award was given at the Grand Convention in Columbus, Ohio, in September 2003.

Don is a very active Brother in Lodge affairs. Since joining the Pythian Order, over 46 years ago, he has demonstrated that he is more than just a name on a membership list.

He's a Pythian's Pythian! Don has his heart, and soul, into the Pythian Order! He has, and is, doing everything that is asked of him, plus. Don has, or is, serving in the following offices:

Imperial Maharajah (2001-2003),  
Ohio Society Secretary (1991-2003),  
El Shams Temple #199  
DOKK Secretary, Amina Santa #18  
(1989-2003)  
Treasurer (1995-2003)  
and, Secretary of Past Chancellors  
Association District #23.

These organizations, he continues to be active in, and serving as an officer. Don holds membership in four Lodges;

Ingomar Lodge #610  
Comet Lodge #60  
Owatonna Lodge #62,  
and Clark Lodge #764.

Don almost never misses a meeting, at his home lodge (Comet), and he attends his other lodges, when he can. Don is active in Grand Lodge, and Supreme Lodge programs, and work projects at his Lodge hall & community.

Don Served as Grand Chancellor, 1992-1993. He served as Deputy Supreme Chancellor, 1996-1998, and continues to

support Supreme Lodge programs. In Comet Lodge #60, he has been through all the Chairs, several times, as a member of Comet Lodge, for over 46 years.

Don works at securing members, and reinstatements. Every year, it's harder, but Don continues to hold together his present Lodge, and works toward preventing any suspensions. Don has been an active member, through the years, and this past year, he continues to do many things. Don continues to be willing to help, in any capacity, pertaining to the Order.

Brother Don Baker is always available, when called, and that is why he has been selected for this high honor!

His dedication to the principles, and purposes, for which the Pythian Order was founded, are to be commended.

Since joining the Pythian Order, Brother Don has been a true asset, to the order, and shows it every year.

#### Picture:

Don Baker,  
Past Grand Chancellor of Ohio  
Submitted by  
Sir Ronald F Kiessling, PGC  
19 Schubert's Alley  
Olmsted Twp, OH 44138  
440-235-0776  
email: jkthimble@worldnet.att.net



N J - C D G C  
Leon Ben-Ezra  
New Knight of  
the Golden Spur  
Battleground  
Centennial  
Lodge #100.

Freehold, conferred the degree of the Golden Spur on Chief Deputy Grand Chancellor, Leon Ben-Ezra in a surprise ceremony, at this year's installation of officers, and awards, night.

Leon joined the Order at Concourse Lodge #689, Bronx, NY, in 1958, and has been in the lodge since his reinstatement in 1980, serving in many capacities, including having been Chancellor Commander, in 1983, and Secretary, from 1995, to the present time.

He served as Deputy Grand Chancellor, and Chairman of Deborah fundraising. He is active in the Monmouth County area, driving cancer patients, for the American Cancer Society's Road to Recovery, and as a carpenter for Habitat for Humanity projects.

He has been a pillar of the lodge, and Grand Lodge charitable activities. He organized, and supervises, Battleground Centennial Lodge, fundraising collections.

I'm delighted to announce that a petition to form a Society of Young Magicians (SYM) Assembly, in Tarzana, CA, along with five (5) new membership applications, from new members, ages 7 to 16, were submitted to Richard Blowers (SAM), the Society of American Magician's National Administrator, on October 3rd, 2003!

This charter group, and prospective new members, will meet at the Encino/Tarzana Library on the following Wednesday evenings, at 6:30 p.m., during the fourth quarter, 10/22, 11/26, 12/10.

Through the study, and performance, of magic, these young magicians will be given the opportunity to develop their reading, social, and public, speaking skills.

They will offer service to their community by performing for charitable events, hospitals, and senior care facilities.

Our new Assembly, will need help from adult members of our community, to donate their time, and resources, to obtain instruction books on magic, and magic materials, to grow, and prosper.

If you would like to help please contact me by email at [SYMLACA@aol.com](mailto:SYMLACA@aol.com),  
Phone (818) 708-7112,  
fax (818) 865-3126 or post  
5930 Reseda Blvd. Apt. 47  
Tarzana, CA 91356

Please say a little prayer, for the success of the Society of Young Magicians of Los Angeles California (SYMLACA) Assembly. Thanks!

Brother Chuck LeFever

At various times, he was a Cubmaster, and Scoutmaster, a member of the PTA, a cook for the high school football concession, and worked on the Colts Neck Baptist Church addition. In 2000, he was inducted into the NJ Pythian Hall of Fame, and last year was selected as Domain Volunteer of the Year.

His wife, Eloise, died in 1997. He has a daughter, Susan Hope, married to Robert Faust, son Glenn, son H. Leon, whose wife Linda, recently died, five grandchildren, and five great grand children.

Leon's dedication is a love of people, and helping others, with a radiant, affable smile. He is the personification of a Gentleman, working for the good of mankind, and the community.

Congratulations to Leon, as Chief Deputy Grand Chancellor, and on earning the "Golden Spur," that Knighthood wears by his contributions to the lodge, to the Order, and to the community, making the world better for posterity!

It is not what you own, the papers you carry, what you drive, or wear, the rituals you follow, what you do for a living, or the company you keep that shows who you are! It is the deeds that you do, and the hearts that you touch, and the way that you treat others that will be remembered... *Michael*

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

## PYTHIANS IN HISTORY

From:  
**ALFRED A. SALTZMAN**  
SUPREME SECRETARY  
59 Coddington Street  
Quincy, MA 02169  
(617) 472-8800  
(617) 376-0363 Fax

To:  
**ALL MEMBERS SUPREME COUNCIL**  
**ALL FOUNDATION TRUSTEES**  
**ALL SUPREME TRIBUNES**  
The next meeting of the Supreme Council will be held at 9:00 AM on Saturday, March 6th, 2004 at:  
**NASHVILLE AIRPORT MARRIOTT**  
600 Marriott Drive  
Nashville, TN 37214  
1-800-770-0555 615-889-9300

The room rates are \$89.00, per night, plus tax, for Friday, and Saturday nights, March 5th, and the same rates will apply one night before, and one night after.

Identify yourself, as a member of the Knights of Pythias, to get the group rate. The cut-off date is February 20, 2004...

Hotel Shuttle Service, to and from, the Airport is available.

Dress code for the meeting will be business casual (*sport jacket, trousers, shirt, tie*).

If you want to put any item on the agenda, please notify me and / or the Supreme Secretary, before February 27th!

It will be greatly appreciated if all reports are submitted, in written form, to insure complete accuracy.

Fraternally yours,

**Harris A. Breit**  
Supreme Chancellor

October 31, 2003  
**OFFICIAL NOTICE**

From:  
The Supreme Chancellor  
Harris A. Breit

To:  
All Pythian Brothers

RE:  
Pythian International Subscription Fee

This is to inform you that, because of issues of concern by some domains and members concerning the Subscription Fee for the Pythian International.

The Council members have agreed to rescind their vote, which approved the fee.

The fee will NOT be due and payable with the per-capita tax, on January 2004, until further notice.

Thank you for your understanding pertaining to this issue.

Fraternally,  
**Harris A. Breit** Supreme Chancellor

The Yellow Fever Epidemic:

In 1878 all hearts were touched and earnest measures of relief went out to the stricken people of the South. The terrible epidemic of yellow fever had come upon them; the extremities of human misery were illustrated with grim and ghastly effect; all their business was stifled; and all their industries paralyzed; their people were panic-stricken; the dead who had fallen in the scourge were being borne to hastily-prepared graves in almost continuous, unbroken lines.

Among the men who were striving by their presence and unceasing efforts to alleviate the sufferings of that stricken people, no one was more active than Henry S. Reynolds, Grand Chancellor of Tennessee, Jonathan Wood, and Thomas E. Wilson.

These brothers constituted the Pythian Relief Committee and, as such, were constant faithful, fearless, and untiring in ministering to the wants of their afflicted brethren.

When Grand Chancellor Reynolds was urged to leave the stricken city, he answered in one of his last letters, "So long as one member of the Order remains in Memphis, I deem it my duty to remain, and should I fail, I will fall at my post of duty."

In fulfillment of that duty, he fell victim to the scourge and died on the 18th day of September, 1878. Although Brother Reynolds had fallen at their side, the other members of the relief committee did not shrink from the work of mercy they had undertaken.

Brother Jonathan Wood succumbed to the plague on September 26, 1878. This left Brother Thomas E. Wilson the only surviving member of the gallant trio. Like our great prototype Pythias, in the crucial test, he neither faltered nor murmured.

For many days he was actually the only Knight of Pythias in Memphis on his feet. While he met death face to face, he went on with undaunted courage to the bedside of his brothers until the disappearance of the epidemic. His heroism is worthy of all praise.

Brother Jacob Lutz Jr., Keeper of Records and Seal of the lodge in Memphis, also stood manfully at his post, caring for the sick and dying until he was taken with the fever and died. Dr. Early of Little Rock, Arkansas, deciding to leave home and go to the stricken ones in Memphis, first announced his intention in his Pythian Lodge, when Brother Jasper Dickinson arose and said, "Brother Early must not go alone; if he should be attacked with yellow fever, who would care for him? I will go and aid him, if need be."

Go they did, and in the midst of their self-imposed duty, were stricken down and now rest side by side.....

**Carla L. Ramey**  
Grand Press Correspondent

**Damona Temple #45 Makes Pythian History**

During inspection on June 14 Damona Temple #45 turned a page in Pythian history.

After their three new Sisters were initiated and obligated, P.S Phyllis Contizano dedicated their obligated class in memory of her sister Dorothy Ramey, who passed to the Temple above on November 14, 2002.

She was the secretary for 22 years of her 27 years of faithful service to her temple.

**Then ground-breaking history was made.**

Sister Phyllis then motioned to retire Dorothy's cape and jewel.

Carla Ramey, Secretary (*Dorothy's daughter*) seconded the motion, and the Grand Chief Susan Gelbaugh assisted the M.E.C. by carrying the motion.

It was a tearful moment for her sisters, daughters, nieces present, and the officers, and members, at the meeting.

The secretary will don the original cape worn when Damona Temple was instituted — From this day on.

Sister Dorothy's cape will remain with Damona's members in a place of prominence.



When traveling in South Florida and you see the above car you know that the Knights of Pythias are out and around.

This car belongs to PC Larry Hochfeld of Kings Knights Lodge #221 one of the fastest growing lodges in the State of Florida. With these signs in the back and also one in the front, people see and know that the Pythian Order is active and flourishing in the South Florida Area. Brother Hochfeld is constantly being stopped for information on Pythian lodges and he directs them to the proper lodge in their community. For information call Larry Hochfeld at 954-721-4833.

Fraternally yours,  
PC Larry Hochfeld SLM  
9537 Weldon Circle #408  
Tamarac, Florida 33321  
954-721-4833

Submitted by:  
**Alfred M. Silberfeld**  
Past Supreme Representative  
Knight of the Golden Spur  
50 Year Veteran Member  
Knights of Pythias  
Email: asilberf@aol.com





As I bring to a close this, first-of-its-kind, issue of the Pythian International Magazine, I have chills running through my Soul! Chills that one can only feel when he knows that he has "fought-the-good-fight," doing the best that he could, in the time allotted, with the tools at hand. A joy that one can only feel when doing something that they truly love!

Some of you will think that I am a bit looney, but there are those of you who know exactly what I mean, and how I feel, at this moment!

I have fought my first "Joust," and I have survived!

If the "King," and his "Subjects," and my fellow "knights," are pleased with my works, this most fascinating journey will continue!

I hope that I have been able to adequately explain what kind of stories I am looking for, because without you, there would be no Magazine, no matter who was "Editor!"

By next "crunch-time," I should have a computer system that I can better count on! I'm afraid that when you are working with the "highest-end" publishing, and "photo-editing" software, and "working" files are pushing one Gigabyte in size, you need the best computer, one that you can really trust!

Just one last reminder / thought, before I put this thing to bed...

**This is an International Magazine,** being published for, and about, a 140 year old, benevolent, Fraternal Organization, with a varied, sophisticated, International audience, and it needs to be filled with uplifting, touching, and inspirational, "Human" stories.

Because, our readers are human beings, with the same hopes, dreams, and fears that you, and I, have, and a lot of them are looking for a "real" way to serve their fellow beings, a creative path where they can be assured of the fact that their lives have mattered, in some way, and that they will be remembered fondly...

Photographs are a precious, frozen, moment in history. Treat your photos as such, when you send them to me!

When you are "published" in this magazine, it means something!

You are being "immortalized" in print, in the Pythian International Magazine!

An organization that stands for all the best in Humanity, and is 140 years old!

Don't you think that that means something special, and that you should submit ONLY the very best pictures, and stories, that you can???

Every story that you send me, every photograph, needs to be of the highest quality, and it needs to be sent with care, and reverence, because this is no small thing that we are doing, this is no meaningless time-filler!

This is our future, and it will affect change in the universe, in ways that we cannot know, so let's do the best that we can to make those effects positive ones!

**Thank you, profoundly,** for the love, and trust, that you have shown me!

I will not fail you, in this Quest!

*Michael*



Mary E. Semmens (standing), at Grand Temple of Bozeman, Montana, joined in 1934, a 69 year member! Sitting, is Lou Snell, of Gateway Temple #14, who joined the Sisters in 1944, a 59 year member, and very active in her temple!

This picture came to me, damaged, in the mail... Although hours of work repaired the Photograph pretty well, the hand-written note, that accompanied it, had been damaged beyond repair!

I recovered what I could, but please! Next time, type your message, so I don't lose something that was possibly very important!

Thanks for your understanding!

*Michael*



On October 8th, Kathleen Conway P.S.R., was presented with her 50 year Certificate, and Pin, at her home, by six members from Elkhart Temple # 14!

Due to health problems, Kathleen ("Kitty," or "The Old War Horse," as she is sometimes called, by her fellow Temple members), has not been able to attend any meeting...

In 1962 she became District Deputy, under two Grand Chiefs, then Kitty was elected Grand Guard in 1964, and became Grand Chief in 1968. She was Installing Officer for several local, district, and state conventions. In 1979, she was appointed Grand Temple Mother, and in 1980 was elected Supreme Representative in California. In 1999, Grand Chief Jill Unger-Moder, appointed Kathleen Grand Temple Grand-Mother, the first such appointment in any of the 50 states, and Canada!

This tradition is still being carried on in Indiana. In 2000 she was again appointed Grand Temple Mother, Congratulations on 50 yrs, of service. It has been quite a journey.

**Kathleen Conway P.S.R. & Past Grand Press**



Fifty year Members: V Freeman and Rheabelle Swank have 50 years with the Pythians, and have been married for 61 years. They joined Jefferson Temple #389, in Bellville, Ohio, Both are on Richland County Fair Board, They have three children, three great-grand children, and one great, great, grandchild.

## Honor Someone With a Paver's Stone at the Rathbone Monument



For a \$200.00 contribution, a 4"x8" Paver's Stone can be engraved with the name and/or the words of your choosing. For a \$500.00 contribution, you will get a "First Row" Paver's Stone!

For \$125.00, you can share the same Paver's Stone, with another person...

Your personal "Walk of Honor" Paver's Stone, will become part of the permanent, historical pathway, at the foot of the 40' tall "Rathbone Monument," in Utica, New York.

Simply fill in the form, printed on the reverse side of this page, cut this section out, and mail it via U.S. Postal Service, or other Postal carrier to:

Supreme Secretary, Alfred A. Saltzman  
 Supreme Lodge, Knights of Pythias  
 59 Coddington Street, Suite 202  
 Quincy, Massachusetts 02169-4150

Questions? Call: (617) 472-8800

### ADVERTISING?

In order to partially cover the costs of producing this magazine, it has been suggested that we open it to outside "paid" advertising...

I would like your views on this subject, as it would be quite an undertaking, would further change the complexion of the publication, and ethical questions would abound...

If it were to happen, where the "Hall of Honors" sits now, would be an "advertising" section, open to "supporters" at the rate of;

- \$2,000.00 per page,
- \$1,250.00 for half page,
- \$700.00 for quarter page,
- \$400.00 for eighth page,
- "display ads."

Send me your opinion at:  
[knightsopythias@earthlink.net](mailto:knightsopythias@earthlink.net)  
 Or, send it directly to:  
 Supreme Secretary  
 Alfred Saltzman  
[kop@earthlink.net](mailto:kop@earthlink.net)

Thank You!

### PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

Annually, since 1946, the Knights of Pythias has conducted an international contest in public speaking, between young men, and women, who are regularly enrolled students, in high schools, or in parochial or preparatory schools, of high school rank.

In each year's contest, all speakers discuss the same subject, which is always timely and interesting.

Prizes in the international finals currently total \$5,000 in scholarships, to college, or universities, selected by the winners.

Young people, interested in entering this contest, should contact the nearest subordinate lodge of the Order Knights of Pythias, or write to the Supreme Secretary:

Alfred Saltzman  
 Knights of Pythias  
 59 Coddington Street  
 Quincy, MA 02169  
 email: [kop@earthlink.net](mailto:kop@earthlink.net)

### POSTER CONTEST

Since 1960, the Knights of Pythias has conducted an international poster contest for the promotion of courtesy, and safety, on our highways.

This contest is open to students enrolled in the 9th, through the 12th grades, of any junior, or senior, high school, in the United States, or Canada.

Its purpose is to promote highway courtesy, "thinking," by students who have recently, or who soon will become drivers; and to bring to the attention of all drivers, in the United States, and Canada, the causes of accidents, and the means by which they may be prevented.

For information, concerning the next contest, write to the Supreme Secretary:

Alfred Saltzman  
 Knights of Pythias  
 59 Coddington Street  
 Quincy, MA 02169  
 email: [kop@earthlink.net](mailto:kop@earthlink.net)

### SUBSCRIPTIONS

If you would like to subscribe to, or renew, this Magazine, print your full name, and address, on the reverse side of this section, cut out this section of the cover (as marked), and mail it, along with your payment, to the address shown. Include payment of \$5.00 for one year, or \$12.50 for three years (U.S. Dollars).

This form can also be used as a "change of address" notification.

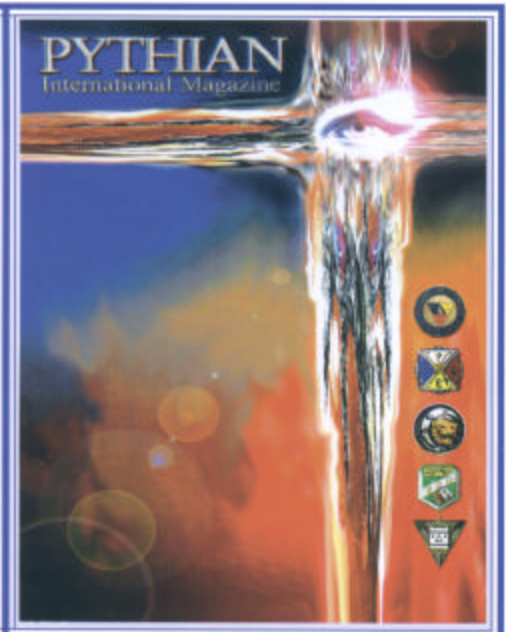
For information on becoming a "Supporter" of this publication (an advertiser), contact the Editor, at the address found on the inside of the front cover.

### SUBMISSIONS FOR PUBLICATION

A reasonable attempt will be made in order to prevent copyright infringement, and plagiarism, but as the Editor has no control over the submissions of others, there is no way that he can prevent the fact that some materials will come from sources that the person submitting it has no copyright for.

In the event that there is a legal dispute, it is the sole responsibility of the party who submitted the materials, and this magazine, its Editor, and the Pythian Order, cannot be held responsible, in any way. Materials submitted will not be used in any way, except in the publication of printed materials, for the Pythian Organization.

All submissions to this magazine automatically become the property of the magazine, unless otherwise stipulated, in writing, by the Editor, in advance. This will remove the potential conflicts, misunderstandings, and "red tape," that may occur because of the Editor's constant need to alter materials, to fit the publication.



*Application for Paver's Stones, at the Rathbone Monument in Utica, New York...*

Contribution enclosed (circle one):

"First Row" .....\$500.00  
 "Regular" .....\$200.00  
 "Shared" .....\$125.00

Total amount enclosed: .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Check or Money Order

Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_

**PRINT MESSAGE CLEARLY: 20 CHARACTERS ONLY, INCLUDING SPACES**

Line One: \_\_\_\_\_

Line Two: \_\_\_\_\_

Line Three: \_\_\_\_\_

Two lines are engraved normally, but for \$20.00 more, you can have a third line added.

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Your Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Your City, State & Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Your Phone Number and Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_



How many of you have families that do not know your history? Will that history be lost forever, and people forgotten, because of deteriorating photographs, and memories? How precious would it be, to your relatives, to have your family history, stories, and photographs, preserved before they are lost, for all time? Being the Editor for this magazine, I have seen a lot of lost history!

Try digging out those old photos (*interview older relatives while they still remember the "good old days"*), and restore them, before it is too late!

I have been helping local people to do just that! Some have made these memories into a book, others have used them to do a painting, as a Christmas, or Birthday, gift to remember!

Because so many Pythian Artifacts exist in Flea Markets, etc., I believe that many of you have forgotten their meaning, and historic significance in your family history!

Maybe, your future generations would treasure these memories? It is not too late to restore, and preserve these items! And, if you do not want them, donate them to a Pythian Museum!



I've been thinking of starting one, myself, because we have quite a lot of artifacts at our local Lodge. I have restored 150 years of old photographs, already, of past Members (*many famous historic figures, and many who no one knows anything about, even their names*). It is sad, to me, that these people have been forgotten, and their stories lost, perhaps forever! Why did they have their picture so lovingly framed, and placed in a place of Honor, on the walls of our Lodge, if they were just to be forgotten? Let's restore our past, and show the future generations who we were!



# Pythian International Magazine

Supreme Lodge: "Knights of Pythias"

ATTN: Subscription Services

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