

PYTHIAN INTERNATIONAL



Volume CXXV Number 2

Summer 2025

NEW SUPREME LODGE OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION

Effective immediately, the contact information for the Supreme Lodge Office during the 2024-2026 term is:

Mailing Address:

Supreme Lodge Knights of Pythias

6201 W. 87th Street, #108

Los Angeles, CA 90045

Phone Number:

(206) 787-2230

Voice/Voice Message/Text

Email:

supremelodgekop@gmail.com



A Message From Supreme Chancellor Donald Stamm



What is Duty?

Recently I was asked what my duties were as the Supreme Chancellor for the Knights of Pythias. After explaining my basic responsibilities it dawned on me that duty had a broader meaning. So I delved into what the word “DUTY” meant. Webster's dictionary defines duty as a moral or legal obligation or responsibility. The Stoic philosopher and Emperor Marcus Aurelius defined duty as one's ability to live a virtuous life in accordance with nature and fulfilling your role as a rational being. It's about acting in accordance with what's good and right, regardless of external circumstances or the opinions of others. This includes upholding justice, being kind, living in harmony, and guiding others towards flourishing. Essentially, it's about living a life of purpose and integrity, even in the face of adversity.

As brothers in this fraternal organization we all know the solemn pledge that we take every meeting. The next time you speak those words I would like you to think about what Marcus Aurelius said about duty.

In F,C,&B.

Donald L. Stamm,
Supreme Chancellor
Knights of Pythias

A Message From Supreme Chief Gwen Rhodes



Greetings Sisters and Brother Knights,

As usual, time flies! We are almost at the halfway mark of the 2024-2026 term with plenty on our plates.

Many of the Subordinate Temples take a summer break which means they are not meeting regularly to promote activities and engage new members. This is an important period that gives us the opportunity to draw focus on activities that include the general public. High on that list should be our Youth Mental Health project. At this time of the year when school activities are not taking up their free time, we have a chance to introduce activities that will offer them the opportunity to make new friends and use their time constructively. Examples you might consider include organizing a community clean-up of a local park or neighborhood, showing a family-friendly movie in a park or community center, leading a guided walk on an established trail or organizing a simple gathering in a local park.

You can share your success in this area by sending pictures and articles to jcowellplef@gmail.com so they can be published in the Pythian Tidings.

We also need to focus on building our Membership. It's time to think out of the box and try something different. Membership isn't a one approach works for all; so think about your area and your target members. Try one idea and if it doesn't work, try another. Many join to make a difference in the community. There are many activities that need volunteers so get involved. It's important to be friendly and welcoming to new members and be open to their new ideas.

Have a great summer and take this time to enjoy one another and bring happiness to all.

A Message From Supreme Secretary Dan Cowan

Brothers and Sisters,

Thank you all for your patience and understanding while the Supreme Lodge Office moved its operations to Los Angeles, California.

As of this issue of the Pythian International, all orders for supplies of “in stock” items have been shipped. If I have missed any orders, please send me a note and I’ll make sure the order is filled immediately. Diplomas and Cards, Eagle Scout Certificates and Patches, Veteran Certificates and Cards, Past Grand Chancellor Certificates and Cards have all been printed and shipped, now within 48 hours of receipt.

During the transition of the office, we discovered that our main supplier of jewelry items and pins ceased their operations without notice, leaving the following items to have become temporarily “out of stock”:

#141 Past Grand Chancellor Jewel
#331KGF Past Chancellor Lapel Pin
#405K Knight Lapel Pin

We have secured a source for an alternative to the #331KGF Past Chancellor Lapel Pin that will be available in mid-July. Unfortunately, this version is not yet available in “Gold-Filled” but is guaranteed to not tarnish. The cost of this pin purchased by the members is \$17.50 each (discounts for bulk and Grand Lodge purchases available).

We are still working on replacements for items #141 and 405K.

Substitute item #135 Past Grand Chancellor Lapel Pin is available in stock, please inquire for pricing.

UPDATES

Starting June 1, 2025, Eagle Scout Certificates and Patches will no longer incur a \$5.00 charge per requesting Scout. The request form is available for download on our website pythian.org and can either be mailed or emailed to the Supreme Lodge Office.

50-year Life Membership Applications: The process for Certification for Life Memberships can be started within 30 days of the date the member will become eligible to achieve their Honor. Applications may be submitted to the Supreme Lodge Office within 20 days of Certification. For additional information or assistance with this process, please contact me directly.

FCB,
Dan Cowan, KGS/PSC
Supreme Secretary

A Message From Editor Michelle Videlock

Welcome to summer! I'm continuing to see great submissions from across the country. Remember, we welcome items from ALL members – Knights and Sisters. Because of YOU each issue is getting bigger than the last!

Enjoy state trivia as you spend time with friends and family celebration America. How many state capitals and nicknames do you know? Can you make your old social studies teacher proud?

As we go on our summer adventures, we should think about safety. There is an article from SIG Bill Peal with tips to get us thinking.

This issue also kicks off a Power of Preservation series courtesy of SIG Bill Peal.

The new **Reader Survey** topic is related (See **Page 14**):

What has your Lodge/Temple done locally to preserve our Pythian heritage?

The Parting Thought, a story from India, reminds us that what can be seen as a flaw can also be looked at as a uniqueness to be appreciated.

Wishing you all continued health and happiness in Pythian love.

SALUTE TO ALL DADS AND GRADS!



A Message From Supreme Membership Chairman Dan Videlock

The weather is getting warmer. The summer holidays are almost here.

These are great membership opportunities to get members the easy way. Most lodges have picnics and holiday weekend get togethers. Invite candidates; show them what fraternity looks like. Show them a good time. A new member for a burger and a beer.

Try to involve candidates in your volunteer work. Ask them to join you. The worst they can do is say no. Let them see our charity.

Wear clothing with the KOP logo. Have an application with you at all times. When they ask, what are the Knights of Pythias? it is your opportunity to tell them. If they are interested, help them fill out an application.

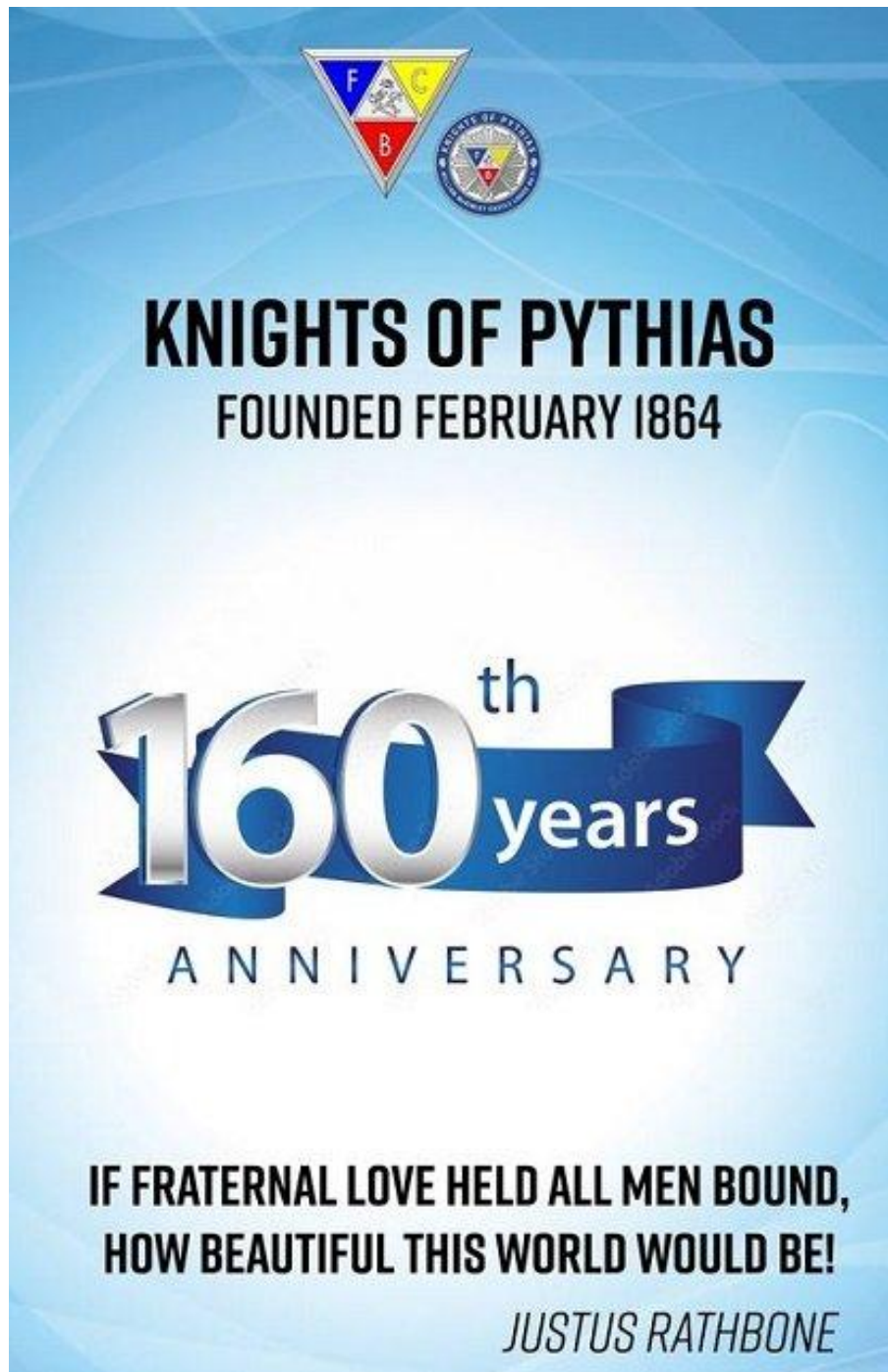
If you look in the Pythian International we sell hoodies, polo, and t shirts long and short sleeves. Become a traveling billboard. Go to www.pythias.org and find the latest edition of the PI. You will find the order form there.

Be creative. If there is a great opportunity in your part of the country use it. County fairs, car shows, yard sales etc. are great places to attract new members. Some of them are no cost. Just brochures a lunch and a smile, don't be afraid to think outside the box. It can also be an opportunity to raise money.

Keep your website and your social media fresh by putting the latest events. Showing our good deeds is not showing off. It is letting the world we help people. Most people want to make a difference. Give them the opportunity to do it together.

If I can be of assistance to you please do not hesitate to contact me. I am here to make membership easier.

Supreme Chancellor's Program



Look for updated information following the July Supreme Council meeting!

Supreme Chief's Program

EMPOWERING MINDS: YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVE

This project is designed to empower our youth by equipping them with the knowledge, resources and support they need to care for their mental health. In this effort, we hope to foster their communities to understand and prioritize mental health. Co-chairs PSR Jennifer Hensley and SPSC Yolanda Chatwood will be distributing information and ideas on how to proceed.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership has been an ongoing concern and needs the efforts of everyone. We have a great opportunity with our recent change that allows men to become members. They must meet the same criteria as women by being 16 years of age and of good character. They do not need any relationship with current or past members. Co-chairs PSR Sarah Howatson (US) and Louise Marshall (BC) will suggest ideas for you.

WAYS AND MEANS

Do we have a deal for you! Currently available are both giraffe and rose pins for \$5.00 each. We also have a stunning red t-shirt that features the logo of Sisters, Knights, Nomads and DOKK's for \$20-\$22. We are offering raffle tickets for two quilts and the 25/25/50draw plus many other items. You will receive information soon from chair Dawn Dibble, Supreme Junior.

ENDOWMENT FUND

We also encourage you to make donations to the Endowment fund which funds the educational scholarships we offer to Pythians including their children and grandchildren. Details to apply are available from your secretary. Letters of acknowledgement are sent to recipients or their families.

Directory of Supreme Officers

Supreme Chancellor Donald Stamm
628 Lake Floyd Circle Bristol, WV 26426
304-871-1982
don@limesoser.com

Supreme Vice Chancellor Tim Van Boening
1939 West B Street Hastings, NE 68901-5626
402-460-7100
TL28van@gmail.com

Supreme Prelate Wayne Knutson
902 Vernon Drive Copperas Cove, TX 76522
254-291-4990
Wknutson1@yahoo.com

Supreme Master at Arms Craig Shink
1 Willow Place Great Neck, NY 11021
O 516-621-9000 C 347-351-3251
CraigShink@gmail.com

Supreme Lodge Office
6201 W. 87th Street, #108 Los Angeles, CA 90045
206-787-2230
supremelodgekop@gmail.com

Supreme Secretary Dan Cowan
8710 Airlane Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90045
323-702-2417
adjicow@pacbell.net

Supreme Treasurer Alan Ast
8 Courtney Drive New York, NY 10956
O 845-638-9344 H 845-634-7981
aaast@aol.com

Supreme Inner Guard Bill Peal
46393 Adams Road Pendleton, OR 97801
541-215-0810
bpeal@me.com

Supreme Outer Guard Richard Clark
909 Chester Circle Fayetteville, NC 28303
910-261-4407
richardgclark141@gmail.com

Supreme Chief Gwen Rhodes
21410 Peter Grub Road SE Renton, WA 98058-9707
206-940-9435
Gwen-Van-Rhodes@comcast.net

Supreme Senior Roxanne Beatty
20319 Beaconfield Terrace Germantown, MD 20874
240-899-8177
katlaa@cs.co

Supreme Junior Dawn Dibble
7000 Cypresswood Trail Gilmer, TX 75645
903-261-6411
dawnfour@gmail.com

Supreme Manager Lori Loughmiller
1406 E 600 South Brook, IN 47922
219-869-0424
timandlori1989@gmail.com

Supreme Secretary Jona Cowell
920 Red Falcon Way Sparks, NV 89441
775-771-8018
jcowellplef@gmail.com

Supreme Treasurer Jill Unger Moder
160 Drury Lane West Lafayette, IN 47906
765-426-2616
jungermoder@gmail.com

Supreme Protector Catherine Ann Jenkins
450 North Centre Street Cumberland, MD 21502
301-707-2538
cajenkins@verizon.net

Supreme Guard Karmen Kennerly
115 Whistling Swan Road Elloree, SC 29047
803-682-1922
karmenkennerly@gmail.com

Sitting Past Supreme Chief Yolanda Chatwood
920 Red Falcon Way Sparks, NV 89441
775-240-1797
ychatwoodplef@gmail.com

From the Inbox

We are happy to share the thoughts and feedback of our readers. You are welcome to be candid, but please remain respectful. The dedicated email for submitting questions for the “Ask a Pythian” section is askapythian@pythias.org. All messages printed with the consent of the author.

ANNOUNCING A NEW MEMBERSHIP CONTEST!!!



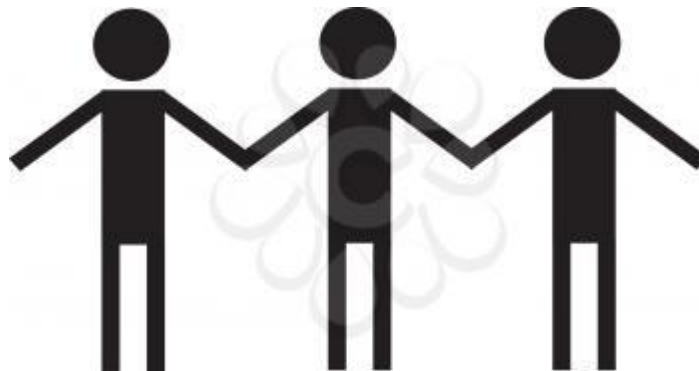
Your lodge is encouraged to participate in the new membership contest. Details are below:

1. Dates: July 1, 2025 through July 1, 2026.
2. Open to all subordinate lodges – note, subordinate level only.
3. Includes NEW members only – not transfers or additional membership applications.
4. After July 1, 2026 send your lodge name, address, and number of total new members to PI@pythias.org

Prizes to the winning Lodge:

1 st Prize	\$400
2 nd Prize	\$250
3 rd Prize	\$100

For more information, contact Supreme Membership Chairman Daniel Videlock
301-980-5446 or videlock@erols.com



Readers' Perspectives – Survey Says.....

We want to hear from you! This feature includes an interactive question. Please send responses to: pi@pythias.org. Results of the new poll will be compiled for publication in the next issue. We also welcome ideas for future topics.

NEW POLL:

What has your Lodge/Temple done locally to preserve our Pythian heritage?

LAST ISSUE'S POLL:

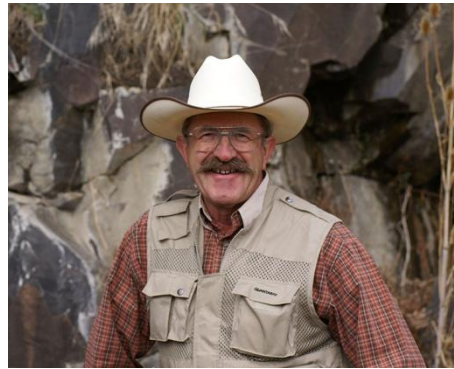
Is there a program, activity or event in your domain (local, not from Supreme), which has been successful in your Lodge/Temple that may be useful in other Lodges/Temples?

I'm excited to share two impactful community events that highlight our commitment. For the past three years, we have partnered with Traditions at Wake Forest, NC, a neighborhood of homes, to organize a three-day collection of non-perishable food items from the community. Centre Lodge No. 3 will combine our collection efforts with the community and deliver the collected items to the Tri-Area Ministry Food Pantry in Wake Forest, NC. This pantry, founded in 1988, serves over 1,600 families each month. The drive is part of the lodge's continuing efforts to fight hunger in our area.

Centre Lodge No. 3 members purchased and assembled backpacks for children attending schools in Wake County. We partnered with The Friends of Wake County Guardian ad Litem to provide these backpacks and school supplies. Each backpack was filled with essential items, including binders, pens, pencils, highlighters, calculators, and more. This project aims to ensure Wake County children have the necessary supplies for a successful school year.

The mission of Friends of Wake County Guardian ad Litem is to enhance the lives of at-risk children through programs that promote their physical, educational, and emotional well-being. Anthony Bonapart, Chancellor Commander Centre Lodge #3 – Raleigh, NC

The Power of Preservation



A Message from Supreme Inner Guard Bill Peal Preserving our History

How do you preserve historical items that tell the story of a lodge and its past? Most of our lodges have a storeroom with treasures and records that tell of the many accomplishments which a lodge has achieved over the years. These items mark a history which is easily overlooked or forgotten. Conducting an inventory and listing what is in those storerooms may surprise and educate your current members about our strong past accomplishments.

Where do we begin? Once you identify what you have, you can plan for how to display your history. A first step might be in finding a display case to hold and show your items. Sometimes you may have several duplicates of a certain item, so offering to share with another lodge can be a way to help them to tell their story. A China closet or a display case with glass top and sides can be effective to show your materials and objects. Some items can be hung on the wall along with historical pictures.

Your lodge may have open spaces that can display swords, banners, and award plaques. Pictures of your past Chancellor Commanders and their years of service tell an important part of your lodge's history. A place for your current leadership team picture could also promote a positive image for your lodge.

Care should be taken to protect and preserve more fragile items, books, etc. The Book of Law, the Charter and other very old pictures and records must be protected. Some of these items may need repair and covering to prevent further deterioration or fading from light.

A very important key to success in this effort is an attitude of putting renewed value in telling our story and showing our everlasting commitment to Friendship, Charity, and Benevolence.



The Supreme Lodge Foundation Trustees are providing every newly created Knight from August 7, 2024 through the 2026 Supreme Lodge Convention, a choice of one of these embroidered polo shirts at no charge.

Subordinate Lodge Secretaries will need to send the name and address of the newly created Knight, Lodge number, Domain name, color of shirt and size of shirt to the Supreme Secretary at supremelodgekop@gmail.com.

The Supreme Secretary will ship out the selected choice of shirt directly to the new Knight.

Supreme Lodge Knights of Pythias
6201 W. 87th Street, #108
Los Angeles, CA 90045
(206) 787-2230

supremelodgekop@gmail.com



In Loving Memory

Colleen Madge Schneider 72, passed away Monday, June 2, 2025 at home from a sudden illness. Colleen was born the second of 5 children at Delaware County Hospital, Manchester, Iowa to Howard H. and Faye C. (Boss) Schneider.

Colleen attended school in Coggon and Monticello, Iowa and graduated in 1971. Colleen attended Kirkwood Community College and earned a degree in business management. She worked at several business over the years.

She was a member of the Pythian Sisters for over 50 years. She held many offices in the local chapter as well as at the state and earned the honor of Past Supreme Representative. In August Colleen would have been installed in Imperial Santha as Maharoni for the next two years.

Colleen along with her sister Corrine were accomplished quilts, amassing a large collection of quilts for charity and for family.

Colleen is survived by siblings Calvin H. (April) Schneider, Cedar Rapids; Connie F. Edwards, Monticello; and Colette K. (Paul) Knoll, Stanwood. She is also survived by nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, and great-great nieces and great-great nephews.

Colleen was preceded in death by her parents, Howard H. and Faye C. (Boss) Schneider, sister Corrine M. Schneider, brother-in-law Robert "Rocky" Edwards. Her grandparents and many Aunts and Uncles.

Colleen will be greatly missed by all who know her as a loving and generous individual who gave generously of her time and spirit. The family will hold a private graveside service at Cedar Memorial Park and Cemetery.



State Trivia –

How many capitals and nicknames do you know?

STATE NAME	CAPITAL	NICKNAME
Alabama	Montgomery	The Yellowhammer State
Alaska	Juneau	The Last Frontier
Arizona	Phoenix	The Grand Canyon State
Arkansas	Little Rock	The Natural State
California	Sacramento	The Golden State
Colorado	Denver	The Centennial State
Connecticut	Hartford	The Constitution State
Delaware	Dover	The First State
Florida	Tallahassee	The Sunshine State
Georgia	Atlanta	The Peach State
Hawaii	Honolulu	The Aloha State
Idaho	Boise	The Gem State
Illinois	Springfield	Land of Lincoln
Indiana	Indianapolis	The Hoosier State
Iowa	Des Moines	The Hawkeye State
Kansas	Topeka	The Sunflower State
Kentucky	Frankfort	The Bluegrass State
Louisiana	Baton Rouge	The Pelican State
Maine	Augusta	The Pine Tree State
Maryland	Annapolis	The Old Line State
Massachusetts	Boston	The Bay State
Michigan	Lansing	The Great Lakes State
Minnesota	Saint Paul	The North Star State
Mississippi	Jackson	The Magnolia State
Missouri	Jefferson City	The Show Me State
Montana	Helena	The Treasure State
Nebraska	Lincoln	The Cornhusker State
Nevada	Carson City	The Silver State
New Hampshire	Concord	The Granite State
New Jersey	Trenton	The Garden State
New Mexico	Santa Fe	The Land of Enchantment
New York	Albany	The Empire State
North Carolina	Raleigh	The Tar Heel State
North Dakota	Bismarck	The Peace Garden State
Ohio	Columbus	The Buckeye State
Oklahoma	Oklahoma City	The Sooner State
Oregon	Salem	The Beaver State

STATE NAME	CAPITAL	NICKNAME
Pennsylvania	Harrisburg	The Keystone State
Rhode Island	Providence	The Ocean State
South Carolina	Columbia	The Palmetto State
South Dakota	Pierre	Mount Rushmore State
Tennessee	Nashville	The Volunteer State
Texas	Austin	The Lone Star State
Utah	Salt Lake City	The Beehive State
Vermont	Montpelier	The Green Mountain State
Virginia	Richmond	The Old Dominion State
Washington	Olympia	The Evergreen State
West Virginia	Charleston	The Mountain State
Wisconsin	Madison	The Badger State
Wyoming	Cheyenne	The Equality State



Our Good Works

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Congratulations to the new Grand Lodge and Grand Temple Officers of British Columbia! Sisters of BC met at Revelstoke.



GC. DON HELIWELL, GVC. ROB RICHTER, GP. EDWIN CALE, GS. IVAN JOHNSTON, GIG. GEORGE RADFORD, GOG. CAROL RICHTER



SIG Bill Peal congratulated new Grand Chancellor Don Helliwell with presenting of the gavel.



Lawrence Greensill completes his year as Grand Chancellor of British Columbia and receives a plaque in recognition at the Grand Lodge Banquet.



Penticton Lodge #49:

This year the Penticton Lodge #49 Legacy Fund yielded \$8,160. As a result we were able to present cheques for \$1,632 to each of the following 5 charities:

The Dragon Pond Family Society

The South Okanagan Similkameen Medical
Foundation – designated to Penticton Regional
Hospital Renal Dept.

Alzheimer Society of B.C.

OSNS Child and Youth Development Centre

Okanagan Boys and Girls Clubs – designated to the Penticton club

Pythians Support Tam Kung Temple:

Chancellor Commander Carole Richter of **Capital City Lodge #61** writes Tonight, our Lodge attended a fund raiser for one of our charities, the Tam Kung Temple. Our relationship grew out of the Chinese Ladies New Year Luncheon which we have sponsored for about 9 years. We had supported the Yen wo Society for a couple of years and they have just had the Temple site declared a Provincial heritage building and site. In the picture CC Carole Richter stands with Nora Butts, president of the Yen Wo Society, pointing at the Knights of Pythias as donors. The following excerpt is from an article titled "Chinatown's Tam Kung Temple declared a national historic site" that was published by the Times Colonist: "A Chinatown Temple with a wooden carving of an ancient deity that was brought to Victoria about 160 years ago has been named a national historic site, Tam Kung Temple, on the top floor of a narrow building at 1713 Government St. near the Gate of Harmonious Interest, is the oldest Chinese temple in Canada and has served as an important religious and meeting space for Chinese Canadians, including members of the Hakka community. The origins of the Tam Kung Temple can be traced to the gold rush of the 1860's, when a Hakka miner placed a statue of the deity Tam Kung in a wooden roadside shrine by the Johnson Street ravine, which divided Chinatown from Victoria's downtown core to the south. The Hakka belong to a distinct Chinese culture and linguistic group, and revered Tam Kung, a sea deity, because he was believed to protect fishermen and seafarers." Grand Vice Chancellor Don Helliwell said Capitol City Lodge is proud to support such a treasure.



CONNECTICUT



Fidelity Lodge #78 volunteered at Loaves and Fishes on Saturday March 22nd. We had had 10 Brothers volunteer for this event. Loaves and Fishes provides nutritious, high quality meals and culturally appropriate food, sourcing from the CT Food Bank, local farms, grocers, gardeners, and bakers to accomplish this goal. On average, Loaves and Fishes provides food to 300-400 people every Saturday.

FLORIDA



On May 9, 2025, the Grand Lodge of Florida held their 139th Annual Convention at the Embassy Suites in Boca Raton, Florida. Supreme Outer Guard Richard Clark administered the Oath of Office to the newly elected Grand Lodge officers for the term 2025-2026. The new officers (left to right) are SOG Richard Clark, SR Sir Irving Margulies, GOG Janet Simon, GVC Daniel Simon, PDSC Sir Joseph Frieling, Grand Chancellor Juan Martinez, GIG Matt Cordoves, PDSC Jack Nalick, PDCG Melvyn Farber, Virgil Hempghil, PGC Mitchell Weinstein, PGC Sir Allen Plotnick, SR Bruce Laster, GS Norman Rothfeld.
(photo credit: PC Edward Birch)

MAINE



Grand Lodge Installation:

Picture #1 left to right: Bruce Norton, GP, Harry Spencer, GS, Joseph Ohmeis, PGC, Robert Chapman, GC, Mike Barker, Richard Rossi, GMA GT, Kevin McKenna, GVC, Wayne Knutson, SP. Missing from pic Wayne Ayers GIG.

Picture #2 PGC Joe Ohmeis receiving his plaque from his council for an exceptional year.

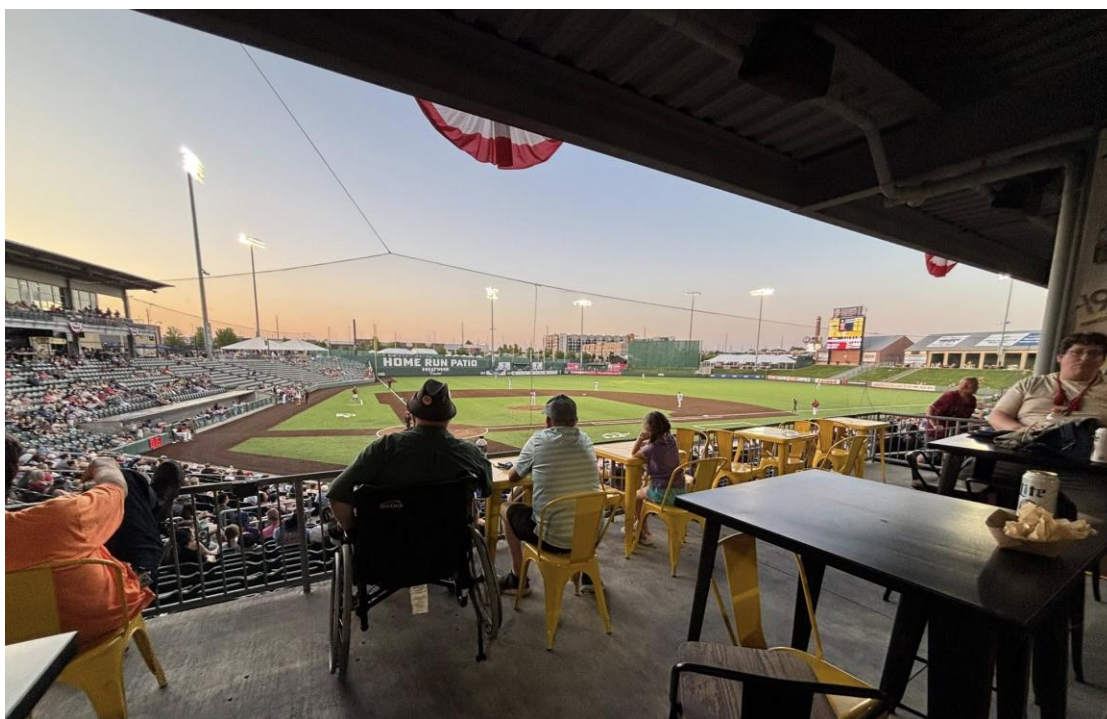
picture #3 Left to Right, The Grand Lodge Officers for 2025-2026 GMA- Richard Rossi, GVC-Kevin McKenna, GS-Harry Spencer, GT-Mike Barker, GC-Robert Chapman, GOG- Larry Young, GP-Bruce Norton, GIG-David Ayers.



Chancellor Commander Brent Spencer (far right) presents to Roy Goodwin, (middle) both of Col Brewer Lodge 56 of Brewer Maine his 50 year veteran pin and diploma. To the left is Maine Grand Chancellor Robert Chapman.

MISSOURI





Missouri's District 4 invited members and their families and friends to Legends Field in Kansas City, Kansas, to watch the Kansas City Monarchs host the Lincoln Saltdogs on Saturday, May 10th, 2025. The 15 attendees from Sicilian Lodge #39 and Moniteau Lodge #446 had a first-rate view from a shaded spot, and the announcer gave the Knights of Pythias a shoutout in the 7th inning. The weather was perfect, and a good time was had by all.

NORTH CAROLINA



Members of Centre Lodge #3, Cumberland Lodge #5, Dobbin Lodge #13 and Grand Strand Lodge #81 of SC held initiation on April 26, 2025. Not pictured William Spade.



Cumberland Lodge #5, along with Dobbin Lodge #13, centre Lodge #3, all of NC, and Grand Strand Lodge #81 of SC held a joint initiation on April 26, 2025. Pictured: CC Mark Sears of Cumberland Lodge #5, Michael Noack of Cumberland Lodge #5, Paul Houghtaling of Centre Lodge #3, Bobby McDonough of Grand Strand #81, CC Scott Sears of Grand Strand Lodge #81, and CC Anthony Bonapart of Centre Lodge #3.



Supreme Foundation Trustee Sir William Spade presents to Jackson Vaughn of Chapel Hill NC the KOP Eagle Scout Award on May 11, 2025. Jackson is his grandson.

OHIO





Photos from Palmetto Lodge 513, Ashville, OH. 2025 Read and Ride Program presentations.

OREGON

Damon Lodge, Pendelton, Oregon

Oregon's Pythian Continuing Education Fund success story:
Evangeline Olivera

At the Grand Chancellor's official visit to Damon Lodge the officers of the Domain of Oregon had the pleasure of meeting Evangeline Olivera, the daughter of Roman Olivera, a 15 plus year member of Damon Lodge.

The Oregon Pythian Continuing Education fund awarded scholarships for Evangeline to achieve her educational and life goals. Over the last 8 years Damon Lodge, Grand Lodge of Oregon, and the OPCEF Committee Members have watched Evangeline Olivera grow from a beginning college student on her journey to becoming a Physician, and Captain in the U.S. Air Force.

On May 17th Evangeline graduated from college as a Dr. in family medicine and will start her residency program at Nellis Air Force Base in Las Vegas, Nevada, where she was promoted to Captain and will be stationed there for at least the next three years.

Damon Lodge, Pendleton Oregon, Grand Lodge of Oregon, and the OPCEF Committee are very proud of Evangelina's success. We're all very happy to be a small part of her achievements.

The Oregon Pythian Continuing Education fund was formed to operate for educational purposes to provide continuing education assistance to members, their children, grandchildren of members of the Knights of Pythias of Oregon to provide continuing education assistance.



Chancellor Commander Rob Burnside of Damen Lodge congratulated Evangelina on her graduation and becoming a Doctor.

PENNSYLVANIA



On March 29, 2025, Defiance Lodge #335, Domain of Pennsylvania held its Annual Ladies Night at the Jerico Gold Club at which time they were honored to present two 50 Year Members with their 50 Year Certificates.

Photo on left is the Widow of Brother Nicholas G. Shaw, who passed away prior to Ladies Night and his wife, Judy, is shown accepting the Certificate. Presenting the Certificate in photo is PDSC John "Eric" Johnson, KGS and PGC Edgar Fulmore.

Photo on right is Brother PSC Donald H. Grant, KGS with his 50 Year Certificate that was presented by PDSC John "Eric" Johnson, KGS and PGC Edgar Fulmore.



On Tuesday, May 20, 2025, Gravity Lodge was proud to welcome the Grand Chancellor of Pennsylvania, Luke Schofield, to our Lodge. During his Official Visit Gravity Lodge unveiled a new custom made Banner that the Lodge had made. The Banner is a reproduction of Banners from the early 1900's.

If any Lodge is interested in obtaining a Banner they can contact the Grand Secretary of Pennsylvania at GrandSecPA@aol.com

Safety: A Matter of Attitude By Bill Peal – Supreme Inner Guard

A focus on safety is a national priority for the Knights of Pythias. Summer safety comes to mind as we move from Spring to Summer. Water safety is a focus that we need to be aware of as we engage in various water sports. Anything we can do to promote life jackets, boat safety, and care around our waterways can be a big benefit to our friends and family. The season is here for fire safety as wet weather in many places results in fuel for wildfire. Reducing that wildfire danger can have a very positive effect and may save lives and help our communities. Our lodges can establish goals to put safety first and by doing so we may work to improve the quality of life in our own communities. Safety comes as a part of our daily lives and is important in all we do. It is our goal to encourage every lodge to consider the promotion of some form of safety as a part of its program of work for the near future and beyond. Our success in promoting programs of safety will produce a benefit in our homes and communities that will have a positive lasting effect for all.

This program can take many forms, so a lodge can evaluate its own community and choose an area of concern that meets the unique nature of the place in which they work and live. For some water safety may be the focus while others may feel that fire safety is a higher priority. When outdoor sports are a predominant part of a community, promoting environmental related skills may be the choice.

It all boils down to evaluating the need and picking a safety program that everyone can support and feel that the effort is meeting a need, one that protects people and prevents pain and suffering. An advantage of this kind of program is that there are resource people with methods and materials to share in each of our communities. Fire departments have programs aimed at prevention and safety. Police science programs encourage safety and protection for all our citizens. Also county and state health departments promote programs to prevent and protect our health and safety. We have state and national parks with programs to help the public enjoy the outdoors and prevent accidents and the dangers that exist in nature.

The more you consider the program, the evidence looms loud and clear; your only limitation is your imagination in choosing where to place your emphasis. Ask for guidance from your community and you will be given many ideas and resources. Involving the community in such a worthy undertaking can also serve as a very positive public relations tool for your lodge. Such programs attract attention of the media, and teaming with other community organizations may lend good will for all.

Getting a program planned and started is the first step, and sharing your ideas with others is a great way to extend the benefit.

I will be eager to hear of any successes your lodge has developed as they accept this challenge to promote safety in your community. Yes, Safety is a Matter of Attitude.

Here are some ideas on safety for you to share with your lodge.

What is Safety? It is a state of mind.

Some of the logical categories of safety are:

- I. Home and fire safety. Use of smoke alarms, Fire extinguisher, Electrical safety in our homes, and fire escape plans.
- II. Bike safety : Wearing helmets, Hold Bike Safety programs, Promote accident prevention.
- III. Avoiding distractive driving.
- IV. Chemical Safety. Household, yard and garden chemicals and their safe use.
- V. First Aid update: Caring for victims in emergency situations. How to deal with a heart attack. Use of a Defibrillator. The new procedures in CPR. How to recognize stroke signs and take action.
- VI. Water Sports safety. Lifejackets, Boat Safety, Diving Safety, and River or float trip safety.
- VII. Stranger Danger. How to stay safe in public or on our travels away from home. Never walk alone and avoid known questionable areas. Provide supervision of our children at all times. Practice traffic and parking lot safety.

Upcoming Grand Sessions

<u>State/Province</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>
Arizona	Tucson	June 7-8, 2025
Alabama	Florence	June 28, 2025
British Columbia	Revelstoke, BC, Canada	May 7-10, 2025
California	Bakersfield	September 11-13, 2025
Colorado/Wyoming	Cheyenne	November 15, 2025
Connecticut	TBD	TBD
Florida	Boca Raton	May 9, 2025
Illinois	Champaign	September 20, 2025
Indiana	Lafayette	July 10-12, 2025
Iowa	Des Moines	August 22-23, 2025
Italy	TBD	TBD
Maine	Gouldsboro	April 26, 2025
Maritime Provinces	TBD	TBD
Maryland	Hagerstown	September 12-13, 2025
Massachusetts	Norwood	May 16, 2025
Michigan	Lansing	September 11-13, 2025
Missouri	Kansas City	October 10-11, 2025
Nebraska	Hastings	April 12, 2025
Nevada/Utah	Henderson	September 11-13, 2025
New Hampshire/Vermont	Gorham	April 25-26, 2025
New Jersey	Monroe Township	September 27, 2025
New Mexico	Lordsburg	September 27, 2025
New York	TBD	TBD
North Carolina	Myrtle Beach	September 26-27, 2025
Ohio	Worthington	September 4-6, 2025
Ontario	TBD	April, 2025
Oregon	Eugene	October 18, 2025
Pennsylvania	Dunmore	August 16, 2025
Quebec	TBD	TBD
South Carolina	N Myrtle Beach	February 21-22, 2025
Tennessee	Pigeon Forge	May 30-June 1, 2025
Texas	Longview	June 13-15, 2025
Virginia	Norfolk	October 2-5, 2025
Washington/Alaska	Shoreline	September 19-21, 2025
West Virginia	Bridgeport	July 10-12, 2025

Note: Information is current as of printing and subject to update/change.

Ask A Pythian

The dedicated email for submitting questions for the “Ask a Pythian” section is askapythian@pythias.org. A Council member or other subject matter expert will address your question and we will print it here to the extent possible in a future edition. Please note, if the content is of a sensitive nature someone will reach out to you offline.

Submissions Welcome!



Give me your pictures, your articles, your updated information yearning to be published.

The dedicated email is: pi@pythias.org.

No Submission Left Behind!

Pythian Shirt Order Form

Description	Price	Quantity	Total \$
Short Sleeve T shirt Small	\$25	_____	_____
Short Sleeve T shirt Medium	\$25	_____	_____
Short Sleeve T shirt Large	\$25	_____	_____
Short Sleeve T shirt XL	\$25	_____	_____
Short Sleeve T shirt 2XL	\$25	_____	_____
Short Sleeve T shirt 3XL	\$30	_____	_____
Short Sleeve T shirt 4XL	\$30	_____	_____
Long Sleeve T shirt Small	\$35	_____	_____
Long Sleeve T shirt Medium	\$35	_____	_____
Long Sleeve T shirt Large	\$35	_____	_____
Long Sleeve T shirt XL	\$35	_____	_____
Long Sleeve T shirt 2XL	\$35	_____	_____
Long Sleeve T shirt 3XL	\$40	_____	_____
Long Sleeve T shirt 4XL	\$40	_____	_____
Hoodie Small	\$60	_____	_____
Hoodie Medium	\$60	_____	_____
Hoodie Large	\$60	_____	_____
Hoodie XL	\$60	_____	_____
Hoodie 2XL	\$60	_____	_____
Hoodie 3XL	\$65	_____	_____
Hoodie 4XL	\$65	_____	_____
Polo Small	\$40	_____	_____
Polo Medium	\$40	_____	_____
Polo Large	\$40	_____	_____
Polo XL	\$40	_____	_____
Polo 2XL	\$40	_____	_____
Polo 3XL	\$45	_____	_____
Polo 4XL	\$45	_____	_____
Subtotal			_____
Please contact us for shipping cost before submitting form			
Shipping			_____
Grand Total			_____

Please to make checks payable "Donald Stamm".

Then Mail check and order form to: Michelle Videlock 14830 Watt Road Novelty Oh 44072

To reduce shipping cost it is recommended to consolidate order to a single point of delivery. Large shipments may incur additional shipping costs.

Ship to

Name

Address

Phone/email

Additional questions? Michelle Videlock 240-994-7581 Dan Videlock 301-980-5446



**LYON'S TRUTH LODGE #170 PROUDLY SUPPORTS SUPREME CHANCELLOR
DON STAMM'S PROJECT (ALZHEIMER'S) WITH OUR 2nd ANNUAL
HANDMADE KNITTED BLANKET RAFFLE!**

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

Drawing to be held during the Supreme Convention.

Make checks payable to: Donald Stamm.

Mail tickets and money to:

Supreme Convention Committee

Attn Michelle Videlock

14830 Watt RD.

Novelty, OH 44072

**Thanks for
your support!**

Colors: Blue, Beige

Size: Appx 43" by 47 square

[illegible]

Kudos Korner

Thanks, appreciation and congratulations for those “extra efforts”! The dedicated email is: pi@pythias.org.

SIG Bill Peal is new to the Supreme Line, but has already made a positive impact. He has great ideas, and is also a terrific listener so every conversation is a creative exchange. It's always inspiring and energizing to talk with him!

A Parting Thought



The Cracked Pot – A Story From India

A water bearer in India had two large pots. Each hung on one end of a pole, which he carried across his neck. One of the pots had a crack in it, and while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water at the end of the long walk from the stream to the master's house, the cracked pot arrived only half full. For a full two years this went on daily, with the bearer delivering only one and a half pots of water in his master's house. Of course, the perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments, perfect to the end for which it was made. But the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection, and miserable that it was able to accomplish only half of what it had been made to do.

After two years of what it perceived to be a bitter failure, it spoke to the water bearer one day by the stream. "I am ashamed of myself, and I want to apologize to you." "Why?" asked the water bearer. "What are you ashamed of?" "I have been able, for these past two years, to deliver only half of my load because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your master's house. Because of my flaws, you have to do all of this work, and you don't get full value for your efforts," the pot said.

The water bearer felt sorry for the old cracked pot, and in his compassion he said, "As we return to the master's house, I want you to notice the beautiful flowers along the path." Indeed, as they went up the hill, the old cracked pot took notice of the sun warming the beautiful wild flowers on the side of the path, and this cheered it some. But, at the end of the trail, it still felt bad because it had leaked out half its load, and so again it apologized to the water bearer for its failure.

The water bearer said to the pot, "Did you notice that there were flowers only on your side of the path, but not on the other pot's side? That's because I have always known about your flaw, and I took advantage of it. I planted flower seeds on your side of the path, and every day while we walk back from the stream you've watered them. For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate my master's table. Without you being just the way you are, he would not have this beauty to grace his house."



Stay strong. Stay true.
Stay PYTHIAN!