

News for and About Oregon Pythians

Oregon Pythian News

Pythian Floats a Success Thanks to GC Randy & Gaston Lodge



GASTON / HILLSBORO—Brother Knights of Gaston Lodge brought life to Grand Chancellor Randy Tipton's idea that Oregon Pythians should promote our Order by having Pythian Floats in community parades around the state this year. The Knights built a great float which they took to Hillsboro for their 4th of July Parade. Members of both Gaston and Hillsboro Pythians and their families rode on the float and tossed candy to children along the way. Response from the crowd was very positive. The photo to the left depicts the float and Pythians from Hillsboro and Gaston at the Hillsboro 4th of July parade.

PENDLETON—Damon Lodge planned and organized a float for the dress up parade to highlight the many activities we do to support the youth of our community. Grand Chancellor Randy Tipton came to Pendleton to be on our float and was joined by the following members: Jim Aldrich, Dale Freeman, Kone Hancock, Bill Peal, Ray Cable, Rob Inscore, Ben Anderson, Brian Bradley and Roman Olivera.

We invited organizations who we have helped with steak feeds and donations to join with us on the float with signs thanking the lodge for the support. Represented were Pioneer Relief Nursery, the Softball State Champion and Youth Wrestling Team.

Bill Peal provided the truck and Ray Cable gave us the use of his 30-foot trailer to make a great float. We were honored to have a 6-foot Knight in full combat armor, standing on the top of Bill's truck—to command the attention of the crowd. On the trailer was a huge banner provided by our state's Grand Chancellor Randy to help identify the float. This proved to be a great activity to show the involvement and the contributions that are provided by our lodge to the Pendleton community.



Article from Damon Lodge's Summer Newsletter—submitted by Ray Cable

Grand Chancellor Randy's Message

Hello Brothers & Sisters:

It is time for OPN again. I have been elected again for another year term. With all of the parades that I was involved this year, everyone thought that it was a good idea. Glencoe Lodge would like to get their Lodge, Gaston Lodge, Phoenix Lodge, and Delphos Lodge on three floats all in a row, in the fourth of July parade in Hillsboro. With all of the Sisters are very welcome to join us.

To any other Lodge that had a parade in their town and would like to use the two banners you are very welcome to.

As we visit each Lodge, Don and Ed will announce all the information of our fun day weekend campout. In 2015 we will be going to Grants Pass for four days. Some of us may not be able to join in on Thursday. This last campout we had ninety some people there. I hope that many or more can make it this time as well.

Hopefully this will help out some Lodges that are getting small on the head count.

Call 503-680-1879 or Email milkman@frontier.com



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Greetings from Supreme Chancellor Keith Stooksberry

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Spring Grand Lodge Visitations are just around the corner. In order to have a representative from Supreme Lodge at your convention, please send the date and location to the Supreme Secretary now.

On behalf of the Supreme Lodge Council, we wish for all of our Pythian Knights and Sisters a Joyous Holiday Season and a very Prosperous and Healthy New Year.

Fraternally,

L. Keith Stooksberry, Jr.
Supreme Chancellor

Phone: 419-422-0882

Email: KeithS848@aol.com

Celebrating 150 Years of Pythianism



Grand Chief Virginia's Message

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

A very Merry Christmas to all of you! It seems like it's still October and we just left Grand Temple to start our new year. I hope Thanksgiving was great and all your Christmas shopping is done so you're ready to relax and enjoy the holidays.

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you in the coming year. I will be visiting Willamette #45 on 1/14, Thermopylae #37 on 2/15, Helmetta #29 on 3/16, Fern #46 on 3/17 and Phoenicia-Rose #10 on 3/19.

Frank and I had hoped to be in Florida for December, but due to Frank's medical problems we will have to try again next year. We had our Christmas dinner here in Eugene this week. We also celebrated Ed Muth's 101st birthday! We had a very good turnout.

Please get out there and share time with our Pythian family. It's always time well spent.

Again, Merry Christmas to you and yours!

Love to all of you,
In P.L.E.&F.,
Virginia
Grand Chief



Greetings from Supreme Chief Sandy Symons

My Fellow Pythians,

It is hard to believe we are soon going to be saying good-bye to 2014. This will be one year I will never forget. I have had a wonderful time since August visiting the Grand Temple Sessions held in Iowa, Ohio, Nevada and Virginia since my installation as your Supreme Chief. My only regret is that I wish I could have attended more but I will definitely be on the road again early next year.

As I have travelled I have met some incredible people all of whom I consider to be my family. We have a wonderful organization that is truly second to none. I am excited to be working together with Supreme Chancellor Keith Stooksberry as we have both dedicated our two year term to "***Making a Difference Together***". My charities over the next two years are: Special Olympics, Cancer and Support the Military. Every charity values and appreciates your support and sacrifice, whether it's financial, or by giving of your time. The charitable work all **Pythians** have and continue to do in their communities is outstanding.

The Oregon Pythian News is a wonderful way to keep the lines of communication open and I do enjoy seeing the great work you all do in your communities. Effective communication is a building block to every successful organization. I am looking forward to working with you and "making a difference together."

My wish for you is that you have the most amazing holidays. May your time spent with your family and friends create wonderful memories that will last you a life time.

In Pythian Love Always,
Sandra Symons
Supreme Chief



Grand Secretary's Report from Ed Yates

Oregon Pythians,

The 2013-2014 year ended with the Convention at Hermes Lodge in Aurora. We were welcomed with a meet and greet Friday evening with the meetings starting Saturday morning. We were able to finish in time to install the new officers and have a fabulous meal. On Sunday morning, Hermes Lodge fed us breakfast.

There are some changes in the per capita this year due to changes at Supreme and in budget shortfalls at the Grand level. Watch your mail or email for this year's per capita rates. I will be getting out more information on this and the yearly reports soon.

I tried in vain to convince the Grand Representatives to elect a new Grand Secretary, so you are stuck with me for another year. I will continue to fulfill my duties as Grand Secretary to the best of my ability. If there is anything I can do to help in any way, please feel free to contact me.

Ed Yates

Grand Secretary



Words From Supreme Secretary Allen Morris

Pythians All,

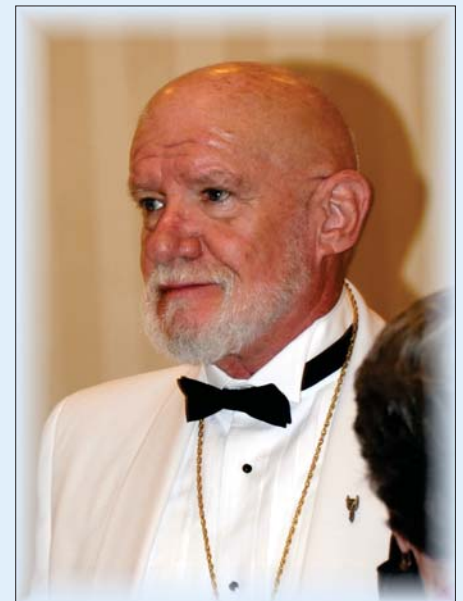
The Supreme Lodge Office, located in Stoughton, Massachusetts, is open to serve the Knights of Pythias five days a week, from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm EST. We have pretty much anything Pythian you could ask for, and we get it out fairly promptly. Feel free to call me at 781-436-5966. I'll be more than happy to talk with you, or email me at supremelodgekofp@comcast.net

I'd like to wish all of my Pythian Brothers and Sisters the very best for a happy, healthy and prosperous Holiday Season.

Fraternal in F.C. & B. and P.L.E. & F.,

Allen S. Morris, KGS

Supreme Secretary



Notes from Grand Secretary Sherri

This year has passed quickly, as we are approaching Thanksgiving and Christmas is just around the corner! Grand Chief Leatha had a very successful, and well run Grand Temple session held in McMinnville again this year. Grand Chief Leatha had the North Portland Academy, which was her project come to Grand Temple and they and their students provided us with a variety of musical talent, which we all enjoyed very much! There was a wide range in age and it was endearing to watch. We tried something new and had a pizza party Friday night so we did not have to go out for our meal. It seemed to be a success.

We had the pleasure of Sisters from British Columbia, California, Utah and Washington. Margaret Grochocki, who just this August became a Past Supreme Chief, after serving 10 years as Supreme Treasurer, was our Parliamentarian.

Our newly installed Grand Chief is Virginia Mellor from Helmetta Temple #29 in Eugene. None of her visits will be until after the New Year, as she had to change dates, so I do not have these for you, but perhaps she will have the information in her article. Her Grand Chief Project for the year is Doernbecher's Child Life Program. If the weather we are having right now is any indication of what is to come, I will probably not be making it to any of the Grand Chief's visits. As I am cat sitting at a house in Crooked River Ranch in Central Oregon and have well over a foot of snow right now! I am basically not going anywhere until the first of the week, when the lady is due back. Hopefully we will be plowed out by then. It is beautiful here though and I have fantastic view of mountains and sunsets and sunrises, when I can see them (not now). Our District Convention will be co-hosted by Fern Temple #46 & Willamette Temple #45, with Donna Johnson, PGC as DDGC on Saturday, May 2, 2015. Our Grand Temple next year will be held in Pendleton.

A thank you to all Secretaries who have gotten back to me on Supreme Revision counts! This is a busy time of year, with

Grand Temple just ended and getting year end reports ready to mail out. Secretaries, pay close attention to the instructions included with the reports and check that you have completed all requirements to save phone calls and extra work later! The Annual Reports are due in my office by February 20th or sooner if you have them completed. Thank you!!

I know each Temple is struggling with attendance for meetings and to be able to be an asset in their community, but don't forget to let your Sisters or Brothers know if you are sick or in need of help! We are here for one another, but unless we are informed, we cannot attempt to help. As we reach out to others at this special time of the year, don't forget to take advantage of an opportunity to ask if someone might want to join our organization. Thinking it, doesn't get an answer and the one time you don't ask, might be the person who really would be interested and could use the support we provide for one another.

Until my next article or we see one another, I wish EVERY ONE OF YOU:

**A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
HEALTH AND HAPPINESS IN THE NEW YEAR!!**

Sherri Sievert, PSR

Grand Secretary



Message from Supreme Secretary Connie Edwards

Sisters and Knights,

At this Holiday Season we have so much to be thankful for. Yes, we may have problems, but if we look around us we can always see someone else with bigger problems.

So I extend to each of you:

WISHING YOU A WORLD OF PEACE AND HAPPINESS NOW AND THROUGHOUT ALL THE SEASONS OF THE COMING NEW YEAR.

Connie F. Edwards
Supreme Secretary



EUGENE's ROLL CALL DINNER

Helmet Lodge No. 33 treated their members and the Sisters of Helmetta Temple No. 29 to a Roll Call Dinner at The Sizzler in Springfield, Oregon on Saturday, November 15, 2014 at 3:00PM. There were 26 in attendance and all enjoyed good food and good company. We had the honor of having three Grand Temple Officers present, our Grand Chief Virginia Mellor, Paula Talbot, Grand Junior and Ann Ross, PSR, Grand Manager. It was wonderful to have Jerry Girard, PSR, PIR down from Hillsboro, Oregon. Also in attendance was Ed Muth who will turn 101 on December 23, 2014.

At one time, Helmet Lodge was down to 3 members and the Temple was just as big. But with hard work and stubborn determination we have made our organization grow! At our Roll Call dinner at Sizzler, we had to have an extra table brought in! That was just so cool!

If you put your nose up against that imaginary grindstone and your shoulder to that silly wheel, you can make your Lodge or Temple grow! We still have a lot to give our communities! So 7 people turn you down — number 8 may not!

Article submitted by Kaye Pomerleau AND Mike Talbot

GLENCOE LODGE—OUR VERY OWN SUIT OF ARMOR!

During the 4th of July this year, Grand Lodge had an idea to have a float in the Hillsboro Parade to try & drum up interest for the Hillsboro Lodge. I along with several other Knights joined in, throwing candy to the masses lining the 2 miles of streets. Gaston Lodge did a great job with the float. They were even able to borrow a knight in armor from a local furniture store. It really added a lot to the float.

This got me thinking, why can't we get a knight of armor for our lodge? We could use it on floats, display it in the hall, and even put it out on the sidewalk during our social evenings. Well, one thing led to another, and I got ahold of Mr. Brauer who runs the metal and wood shop over at Glencoe High School and queried whether this might be a project they could do. He said to get ahold of him 2 weeks after school starts to see if anyone was interested.

What I found out later is that many people ask Glencoe High School to do projects. Trailers, golf carts, lots of stuff. Mr. Brauer puts all the projects on the blackboard, and students pick which ones they're interested in. We were really fortunate as Luke Perrine, who is a Junior, wanted to do our Knight in Armor as his senior project.

To make a suit of armor, we needed quite a few things. First up was a book on how to make armor. We also needed a mannequin to hang the armor on, as this would reduce the work load considerably without having to build an integrated structure to hang it on. I was able to find a mannequin on Craig's list for \$50. I did some researching and found this

book: *Techniques of Medieval Armor Reproduction: The 14th Century* by Brian Price, and procured this book for Luke.

After reading the book, Luke came up with a shopping list of tools. The list was considerable, with many hammers and one expensive set of "ball stakes" which are used to help shape metal. All told, this amounted to over \$600 in tools. When presented to our brothers at the lodge, generosity leapt forth from many wallets as donations

poured in. We were able to fund all the tools plus get an old anvil made from railroad track to help Luke out. This project is just starting out, and it will take many months to put together. We'll keep everyone updated as to how this turns out.

With this amount of tools, it sure would be nice if we could get other seniors interested and build a set of armor every year and we could distribute to other Oregon lodges. We'll cross our fingers and hope that future high school students are interested in this!

Article and Photo Submitted by Russ Sheldon for Thurman Miller



Luke Perrine, a Junior at Glencoe High School

NORTH PLAINS STINKFEST DRAWS GARLIC LOVERS

The 17th annual North Plains Elephant Garlic Festival was held on August 8-10, 2014 at the Jessie Mays Community Center.

The crowds were heavy on Friday night and Saturday when demand for garlic offerings nearly reaches its peak over the three day event and Sunday was hotter than a firecracker, with temperatures soaring near the 100 degree mark. While Garlic beer flowed all three days of the event, we didn't run dry as in years past with plenty on hand for the tear down crew. And with an abundance of other beer on hand, over 40 kegs of beer were consumed by the close of the festival Sunday evening. With clear blue skies and balmy afternoon temperatures on Friday and Saturday, the Garlic concoctions, including ice cream, were in high demand throughout the entire festival.



The festival opened on Friday, with 20 food booths, over 50 arts and crafts booths and FREE children's entertainment. As families sat under the shade and atop the hay bales lined up in front of the stage, they enjoyed music by Responsible Party, Flexor T, Twangshifters, Carrie Cunningham, 23 Window, Norman Sylvester, Patrick Lamb and other entertainment at the Beer and Wine Garden from opening until closing. The annual 10k run / 2K walk was held on Saturday at 8:00 AM with over 500 participants maneuvering the course. The parade began at 10:00 AM on Saturday with over 40 entrants winding through the streets of downtown North Plains and ending at the festival center. A Car Show sponsored by Glencoe Lodge held in downtown North Plains on Saturday, drew gawkers with a good selection of American made oldies.

According to Patti Burns, who chiefly organized the "Stinke" celebration over 35,000 attended the event over its three day run.

The Knights of Glencoe Lodge operated the entire beer garden including; set-up, serving, monitoring, containment, handling receipts, expenses, tear down and clean-up.

It's a big commitment (approximately 450 man hours) but a worthwhile endeavor with all of the proceeds going right back into the local community. It's also a great place to attract potential new recruits for our lodge. The Garlic Festival Beer Garden is a high profile event for the Glencoe Knights, providing a source of funds for our programs, a direct connection with our community and recognition for our Order.

Article and Photos Submitted by Russ Sheldon



From our family to yours:

We're sending our best wishes for Happy
Holidays and a New Year filled with Peace,
Health and Happiness.

The Lacy Family



Hillsboro Pythians Activities

Hillsboro Pythians had a busy summer and fall. We continue to host our monthly Relay for Life fundraiser dinners on 1st Saturdays of each month. In June our team walked at the Relay event and held a baby shower for Heather Johnson King. In July we rode on the Pythian float in Hillsboro's 4th of July Parade with Gaston Lodge. Then came Pythian Fun Day at the Beach. While at the coast, we travelled to Cannon Beach to see Hitchcock's play "The 39 Steps." Our Nomads hosted barbeques in July and August. In August several of our members went to Supreme Convention in Las Vegas. In September our meetings began again. In October we travelled to the coast again—this time to take an old-fashioned steam train ride from Garibaldi up the coast and then north along the river enjoying the view of golden trees in the sunshine. Next came Grand Convention. November marked our 3rd Hillsboro Symphony of the year. And our annual Holiday Party was held December 6th with 26 in attendance. We wish all of you a great year in 2015!



To Our Pythian Friends & Family



*Our best
wishes to you
for a Happy
Holiday
Season!*

Bruce & Marilyn Stevens

Wishing you all a
Merry Christmas!

May the joys of the season fill
our hearts with Pythian love &
friendship!

Gwen Rhodes
Supreme Protector



Ivanhoe Lodge Updates

Since the Fun Days at the beach, Ivanhoe has been busy recruiting. We now have a dozen members showing up for the business meetings.



Bo Cranford, Webmaster
FRC Team 1432

We have a Facebook page and we are looking for historical data and pictures of Pythians, especially for the last 100 years here in Oregon. The Chairman of our Facebook page, Bo Cranford is the person to contact if you have information to share. He can be reached at bo8586@gmail.com.

We have a committee looking into designing letterhead for the lodge and another looking into the possibility of putting solar panels up on the roof of the lodge hall. We are also working on plans for summer recruitment and to become more involved in the community. We are looking into forming a ladies temple again in

conjunction with our lodge. If anyone knows a lady in the SE Portland area that might be interested, please send their information to Alan LohKamp at alohkamp@q.com or Rebecca Maier at rmaier@concorde.edu.



We continue our support of FRC Team 1432 robotics program and the Reedwood Friends Church Kitchen. Both programs had a hard year last year and we are looking at ways we can help them more this year. We have already given the robotics team \$750 to help them fill the gap after a donor did not give money promised this fall. We continue to support the BB gun team in Forest Grove and the Girard Fund in New Mexico.

Our thanks to the Aurora Lodge Knights of Pythias for hosting the Grand Lodge Convention.

Article and Photos submitted by Rebecca LohKamp.

FIRST Robotics Team Fundraiser Dinner—Dec. 19th



Many thanks for inviting us to your Fun Days. It was great getting to meet all of the Knights and visiting the aquarium was awesome. We are starting a new year and are busy recruiting new members. There have been some changes in our group, so this is going to be a real building year for us.



Our thanks to Ivanhoe Lodge for their patience with our big clean out. We emptied the basement into their meeting room so that we could completely clean and reorganize. It took significantly longer than

we anticipated. Many thanks for not just chucking us out. We are sincerely sorry for the mess and grateful for your patience.

We are working hard to get some business and corporate sponsors as well as doing our regular fundraising. Our fall

fundraiser was a car bash. We had a great time doing it, but there were some issues that made it less successful than we thought. Someone came and stole parts of the car (we lost about \$100 in parts) and a donor reneged on a \$250 donation after the fact. As we were counting on that money to pay the phone and garbage bills that month, it put us in a very bad way. Our thanks to Ivanhoe Lodge for helping us out. We don't know what we would have done without them.

Our winter fundraiser is an Italian Dinner cooked by Mrs. LohKamp at Reedwood Friends Church on December 19th from 5:30-7:30PM with an auction from 7:30-8PM. We will be doing a presentation from 7-7:30PM about our robot program. Save \$4 by purchasing your tickets online. Online ticket costs are: \$10 per person / \$30 family (up to 5). At the door, the tickets will cost: \$15 per person / \$40 family (up to 5). If you would like to donate anything for our auction, please contact Mr. LohKamp.

Kick Off for competition is January 3rd so we are working fast and furious to raise the \$5,000 we need to register. Again, our thanks to all of the Knights who have made us feel so welcome and included us in your activities. I hope some of you will come see us compete in Wilsonville or Philomath. Looking forward to seeing all of you at our Italian dinner on December 19th and introducing our new members.

Many thanks, Matt Robinette

Oregon Grand Conventions ~ at McMinnville & Aurora

Oregon Pythians and members from British Columbia, California, Utah and Washington convened in 2 different cities again this year for the Knights' and Sisters' Grand Conventions.

The Sisters met at the Red Lion Inn & Suites in McMinnville again this year, while the Knights met at Aurora's Pythian Lodge Hall. Due to the distance between the two facilities, we did not have any joint functions this year.

Grand Chancellor Randy Tipton and Grand Chief Leatha Tyra presided over the Knights and Sisters' sessions.

The Sisters convention began with our Memorial Service on Friday evening. Sisters read eulogies for **Jean Schlinsog, PSR, PIR, Jacquie Girard, PSR, PIR, Pauline Terry, PSR and Betty Jean Seitz, PSR**. Friday evening continued with a fun-filled "pizza party" at the Red Lion Inn & Suites. The PGC's brought home-made cookies for all to share.

Saturday morning our meetings convened. The Sisters travelled to the Golden Valley Brewery for their luncheon where the Grand Temple Officers presented Grand Chief Leatha with a set of kitchen ware in the color of bright red! The Sisters' meetings continued Saturday afternoon and again on Sunday. The Sisters' Saturday

banquet was a hearty meal, also held at Golden Valley Brewery.

Election of Officers:

Grand Lodge elected the following officers: Grand Chancellor Randy Tipton, GVC Mike Talbot, Grand Prelate Don Allen, Grand Secretary Ed Yates, Grand Treasurer Mike Harmes, Grand and Councillor at Large Corkye Funk, Grand Tribune Chris Anderson, OPCEF Director 5-Year Shelley Corby, Grand Trustee 3-Year Charles VanDomelen.

Grand Temple elected the following officers: Grand Chief Virginia Mellor, Grand Senior Cheryl Bergman, PSR, Grand Junior Paula Talbot, Grand Manager Ann Ross, PSR, Grand Secretary Sherri Sievert PSR, Grand Treasurer Robyn Neeley PSR, Grand Protector Arlene Kimball, Grand Guard Carol Jenkins, Grand Press Correspondent Donna Johnson PGC and Sitting Past Grand Chief Leatha Tyra.

Plans are underway for the October 2015 Grand Convention. At the time of this printing, it is believed that the Knights' Convention will be held at Pendleton's Lodge Hall while the Sisters will be meeting at the Red Lion Hotel also in Pendleton, Oregon. We hope to see everyone there for another Grand time!



2014 ~ 2015 Grand Lodge Officers taking their oath.



2014 ~ 2015 Grand Temple Officers

EUGENE'S CHILI CHALLENGE

We in Eugene wish to do a "Chili Challenge" this year! Helmet Lodge says we have the best Chili in the state!

If you disagree, then get in touch with us and we'll set up a "COOK-OFF"! March or April? Get in touch and we'll set up the rules and who should judge and a firm date!

Since we're the current champs, I think we should have it at Helmet Lodge in Eugene but we're open to a better offer.

All Oregon Lodges are hereby challenged!

Submitted by: Mike Talbot, PCC Helmet Lodge

Grand Vice Chancellor.



Lodges Sponsor Student's Costa Rica Trip



Me Snorkeling

my expectations and created a new interest in traveling for me and also clarified that I want to work with marine science for my career.

My trip consisted of a four day camping trip in the Saraquipi rain forest in tents on wooden platforms, where I got the opportunity to learn about rain forest ecology. We had about three lessons in the four days, including the chance to zip-line and white water raft. Next we took a canal boat ride to Tortugaro where my group and I would be staying for the next ten days. We got to stay at the Sea Turtle Conservancy research station and our lessons on sea turtle biology began. During that time I completed thirty hours of community service by going to a local Costa Rican elementary school and volunteering on nightly beach walks to assist with collecting data from nesting sea turtles. The beach walks were four hours long of continuous work where from 12am to 4am a small group of students on the trip and a Research Assistant working at the Conservancy would walk completely in the dark and when we saw a turtle we would take

Diana Lodge in McMinnville, Delphos Lodge in Forest Grove and Grand Lodge Foundation sponsored a trip to Costa Rica for McMinnville High School student Chloe Zinda. Here is her report:

I had such an amazing time and am so grateful. It exceeded

measurements of the shell or carapace both with a tape measure and a caliper, then do a complete body check and record data. If we got to the turtle before she started laying we could count her eggs by laying in the sand behind her and sticking our gloved hand under her tail inside her egg chamber so that we could catch the eggs and count them as they fell. Finally, we marked the sea turtle's nest in a way that poachers couldn't find it. The research assistants would also get to tag the turtles, but we didn't have enough experience to do that. In Tortugaro we completed research experiments to see what



Whitewater rafting in the Saraquipi Rainforest

so factors affected hatchling rates and had a midterm on all the things we learned.

Next we took a plane ride to Drake Bay on the Osa Peninsula of Costa Rica and here we went whale watching and snorkeling plus hiking and swimming in waterfalls to complement our lessons on Marine mammals and the effects of commercial fishing. On the final days we completed a final exam which I passed and earned three college credits in Marine Biology.

Article and photos submitted by Lee Vasquez for Chloe Zinda



Chloe holding a baby iguana at the Sea Turtle Conservancy research station

Snowman's Soup

*was told you've been real good this year.
Always good to hear it.
With freezing weather drawing near...
You'll need to warm the spirit.
So here's a little Snowman Soup!
Complete with a stirring stick*



*Add hot water and sip it slow,
It's sure to do the trick!*

*(Ingredients: 1 cup hot chocolate garnished with
a candy cane and mini-marshmallows.)*

Recipe compliments of Donna Johnson

Supreme (International) Pythian Convention—Las Vegas!



Oregon was well represented at the 2014 Supreme Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada. We had 12 members in attendance—10 Sisters and 2 Knights.

Our Supreme Representatives were Bernice Balschweid, Maureen Murphy and Ed Yates. Other Oregon members attending were PSCs Kathlene Henry and Margaret Grochocki, PSRs Cheryl Bergman and Shelley Corby, PGC Beverly Cox, Grand Chief Leatha Tyra and her husband Don Tyra, Arlene Kimball and Sarah Murphy.



Of special note, Margaret Grochocki completed her 10-year term as Supreme Treasurer and earned her Past Supreme Chief's honors!

The 2016 Supreme Convention will be held in Ohio.



2014-2016 Supreme Temple Officers

Hillsboro Pythians Participate in Relay for Life



On June 28th and 29th more than 20 Hillsboro Pythians met up at the Washington County Fairgrounds to participate in their 13th Relay.

Luncheon on Saturday at 11 am. We had at least 5 Survivors and their Caregivers from our team who enjoyed this yummy meal.

The weather was especially good this year although we have walked in the rain several times over the years. Next year the Relay will be held at the Hillsboro Stadium on June 27th and 28th. It will be



**Hillsboro Pythian Pirates
Maureen and Phil Murphy with Andrew
Murphy and Shelley Corby**

We started volunteering in 2002 at the Forest Grove Relay for Life, then moved on to the Hillsboro Relay a couple of years later. 2014 Relay had a Pirate theme "Make Cancer Walk the Plank" so many of our teammates dressed for the occasion complete with Pirate Bandanas, Eye-patches and other assorted Pirate gear.

This year we walked in memory of Jacquie Girard, PSR, PIR who passed away in February. We also walked in memory of our other "Angels" who passed away in previous years and we also walked in support of our Survivors and Caregivers.

Here is a link to the 2015 Hillsboro Relay that shows photos from the last Relay including one photo with some our Pythian teammates dressed in Pirate garb: http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR/RelayForLife/RFLCY15GW?pg=entry&fr_id=66539. If you would like to join our team, you can use this link to register. Just follow the instructions on the Relay website.

Our own Doug Sellers, the Co-owner and Chef for "Primrose & Tumbleweeds" once again provided the meal for the Survivor



**Don Lacy, Phil Murphy and Chef Doug Sellers
at Relay for Life Survivor's Luncheon**

We will have a new Captain for our team. Jennifer Smith has volunteered to take on this responsibility.

We have collected over \$1,200 for our upcoming 2015 Relay thanks to the matching donation from the Oregon Grand Lodge Pythian Foundation. As usual we will be holding our Bingo-Dinner fundraisers each month on the first Saturday starting in January. Everyone has been asked to bring their favorite International dish to share for the theme of "Destination: Cure." Please join us if you are free at the Hillsboro Pythian Hall for yummy food and fun Bingo games while we raise funds for the Hillsboro Relay for Life 2015. Call any Hillsboro Pythian for more information.

Article and photos submitted by Shelley Corby

Southern Oregon Pythians Celebrate Holidays

Thermopylae Temple and Talisman Lodge held their annual Thanksgiving dinner November 16th at the Knights of Pythias Hall. It was well attended and enjoyed by all. Baked turkey was served along with all of the traditional fixings. The Christmas dinner will be served on December 21st and we anticipate an equally delectable meal. Wish you were here.

The Southern Oregon Pythians wish a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of our Pythian Brothers and Sisters.

Article submitted by Robyn Neeley



GASTON LODGE INITIATES 8 NEW MEMBERS

Gaston Lodge #104 hosted an initiation ceremony on October 22, 2014 where eight members were formally awarded the rank of Knight. Don Allen, a long time member of the lodge, coordinated the lengthy ceremony and was assisted by Knights Chris Anderson, Stan Shope and Kurt Mueller, on loan from the Delphos Lodge in Forest Grove.

The eight new members initiated were Randy Ruggles, Clinton Nelson, Dwain McKenzie, Gary Kniss, Terry Clark, Jordan Delay, Chris Locey and Duane Reeves.

The initiation ceremony was held in the main hall at the lodge. At the conclusion of the ceremony, all eight Knights were awarded their KOP pins.

Valuable assistance for the ceremony was provided by Grand Chancellor Randy Tipton, John Delay and Ed Yates. Congratulations!

Submitted by: Ed Yates

DAMON LODGE REPLACES CONCRETE WALL

PENDLETON—The retaining wall behind the lodge was falling over, so 11 members combined their efforts to replace the wall with a new wall. It was decided to use blocks rather than concrete for the new wall.

Ray Cable constructed a set of steps to allow for passage from our property down to the neighbor's which made Patty, our neighbor very happy. A big thanks is due to all of the members who donated their time and efforts to make this project a success. Jim Aldrich, our Trustee in charge of lodge properties is THE MAN! He moved 500 wheelbarrow loads of dirt to open the area for new construction. Thanks, Jim!

Helping with this project were: Ray Cable, Randy Gundlach, Jim Aldrich, Bob Smith, Rob Inscore, Dwayne Gift, Ben Anderson, Greg Dennis, Brian Bradley and Travis Hancock.

Article and Photos from Damon Lodge's Summer Newsletter, submitted by Ray Cable



[Click Here](#)

GASTON LODGE'S WAPATO SHOWDOWN

SENDS BEST WISHES FOR

HAPPY HOLIDAYS &

GREAT NEW YEAR IN 2015

Holiday Greeting from Oregon Pythian Continuing Education Foundation (OPCEF)

It's getting to be that time of year again.... Not just for the holidays, but to start thinking about filling out scholarship applications! They are due by April 15th and it's never too early to get started.

All students may apply every year for the OPCEF scholarship. Any Oregon Pythian member in good standing, their children, grandchildren or relatives of a deceased Oregon Pythian who was in good standing at the time of their passing, is eligible to apply. A minimum GPA of 2.5 is required. Scholarship applications are available from any Knights of Pythias Lodge or Pythian Sister Temple, or by contacting OPCEF directly at:

OPCEF
c/o Gaston Lodge
PO Box 507
Gaston OR 97119

This past year, we had the pleasure of announcing 14 scholarship winners for the 2013/2014 school year. We were pleased to be able to help these deserving students achieve their educational goals:



Destinee Dennis
Joshua Davis
Laura Boles
Michael Saul
Riley Hoffman
Steven Basquez
Tyler Lantz

Evangelina Olivera
Jordan Delay
Leisa Boles
Rachel Funk
Rebecca Wagner
Sydney Hoffman
Thurman Miller

The OPCEF Board has had a few changes this year. Eric Howden's term of office expired in 2014. We thank Eric for his service and would like to welcome our newest member, Shelley Corby. The Board is honored to serve in the following capacities:

John Murchison, President
Sarah Owens, Secretary
Stan Shope, Treasurer
Ed Yates, Director
Shelley Corby, Director

Please keep OPCEF in your thoughts during this time of giving. Scholarship funds are heavily dependent on your donations and donations of any size are deeply appreciated.

Wishing everyone a happy and healthy holiday season!
The OPCEF Board *Submitted by Sarah Owens*

HELMETTA TEMPLE # 29 & HELMET LODGE # 33
OF EUGENE, OREGON, WISH EACH
AND EVERY ONE A VERY MERRY
CHRISTMAS AND MAY YOU ALL
ENJOY GOOD HEALTH, WEALTH AND
MUCH HAPPINESS IN THE NEW YEAR 2015!!!



Pythian Fun Day at the Beach

This past July we met at South Beach State Park in Newport on the 18th through the 20th and it was a huge success. We had over 80 members and family in the park. I think we had members from every lodge in the state.

On Friday evening we had a great turn out for the hospitality event to start out the weekend. There was good food and snacks to be had by all plus adult beverages. As a group we had a lot of fun catching up on all the happenings since our last time together. The Pythian Fun Days are aimed at providing fun activities for members and their families in true fellowship with a purpose other than business like:

Spending time at the aquarium, walking on the beach, pitching horseshoes, taking pictures, sightseeing, and just spending time together visiting.

Article submitted by Ray Cable via [Damon Lodge 2014 Summer News](#)



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OREGON PYTHIAN NEWS

The Oregon Pythian News is published by the Knights of Pythias of Oregon, a Fraternal Organization for the distribution of Charities, Promotion of Friendship, the Development and Cultivation of Social Life of its Members, Generally the Elevation of Mankind.

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Editor's Message—Important, Please Read...

Oregon Pythian News History & Surprise!

To all Pythians and friends ~

Normally I would use this space to bring my holiday greetings to you and talk about Pythian projects for the upcoming year.

Instead, I'm worrying about the future of the Oregon Pythian News, so I'm using my space to give you some history about the OPN, tell you about its longtime goals, guidelines and the news that I got from Grand Lodge last month which prompts me to write this message to you.

For 24 years 4 different OPN Editors, Don Lacy, Mark Erickson, Darrell Henry and now Kathlene Lacy Henry have successfully produced the Oregon Pythian News. You may not realize it, however **the OPN is the only document which has been continually provided to ALL Oregon Pythians across the state.**

1990 - "In the beginning"—My Dad, Don Lacy, was our first OPN Editor, so I asked him what prompted the OPN to begin. He said *"The answer is simple: We needed it."* In 1990, Mark Erickson was Grand Chancellor and Betty Alexander was Grand Chief. We had no mechanism to communicate between the 4 Pythian Orders nor across the entire state. The OPN was established to collect and distribute news about and for Oregon Pythians—to Oregon Pythians.

Purpose/Goals—Over the years, the OPN Editors have held steadfast to some basic principles. Some examples: We felt that communications in the OPN should be positive in nature—to inspire our current members and serve as a membership tool. We wanted the OPN to represent BOTH the Knights AND the Sisters—and—to represent our members all over the state. The OPN is a historical record of our accomplishments, acknowledges members' significant milestones, reports on lodge and temple projects, introduces our new members and announces upcoming events.

OPN Highly Regarded—The OPN is highly regarded across all of North America as being one of the best Pythian newsletters in our entire organization. Many members across the US and Canada read the OPN—either online for FREE, or by spending a little cash to be an OPN Booster.

Self-Supporting—As far as I knew, the OPN has been self-supporting. What I mean by this is that although the OPN is technically "owned by" Oregon Grand Lodge, the expenses have been covered by contributions from our Oregon Knights and Sisters + OPN Boosters.

The Mailing Process—For many years, OPNs were printed and mailed to ALL Oregon Pythians throughout the state. To keep costs low, the Grand Secretary got a bulk mail permit and several of our members would meet at a Pythian Hall where we affixed the mailing stickers on the newsletters and banded them in batches. The

OPN Income & Expense Summary

The OPN Editor / Business Manager appreciates ALL OPN Booster support and donations. Here's some information so you will have the details on the OPN's funding:

KNIGHTS—Oregon's Knights pay \$7.00 per member for the OPN, so we consider ALL Oregon Knights to be OPN Boosters. 2014 Membership Rosters listed 305 Knights who pay \$7.00 each via membership dues. That's a total of \$2,135.00 per year.

SISTERS—Oregon's Pythian Sisters are assessed \$2.00 per member via our per capita tax. These funds have been passed on to Grand Lodge each year for several years.

For 2013, the Pythian Sisters contributed \$786 to Oregon Grand Lodge towards OPN expenses.

The funds were comprised of:

\$248.00—OPN Booster Fees
218.00—OPN Per Capita Assessment (109 members)
107.00—2013 Grand Temple Coin March
213.00—2013 Grand Temple OPN Payment (#1603)

\$786.00—Total contributed for OPN

At the 2014 Pythian Sisters' Oregon Grand Convention, there was again great support for OPN.

For 2014—Here's a summary of funds received this year:

\$238.00—OPN Booster Fees
216.00—OPN Per Capita Assessment (108 members)
115.00—2014 Grand Temple Coin March
200.00—2014 Donation from Helmet Lodge

\$769.00—Total contributed for OPN. In 2014

SUMMARY:

\$2,135—Knights (\$7 x 250 members)
770—Sisters (at 108 members)
\$2,905—Estimated ANNUAL income
- \$2,553—OPN COST 2013—**Leaves \$352 PROFIT**
- \$2,016—OPN COST 2014 (Est.) —**Leaves \$889 PROFIT-**

Updated OPN Booster List after 2014 Pythian Sisters Oregon Grand Convention:

#	NAME	Booster	#	NAME	Booster
1	Betty Alexander	Nov-15	19	Maureen Murphy	Oct-15
2	Tanya Bancroft	Oct-17	20	Robyn Neeley	Oct-15
3	Cheryl Bergman	Oct-15	21	Kaye Pomerleau	Oct-15
4	Irene Clink	Oct-15	22	Vesta Poteete	Oct-17
5	Shelley Corby	Oct-15	23	Linda Reyburn	Oct-17
6	Elizabeth Fisher	Oct-15	24	Ann Ross	Oct-15
7	Farrel Fuerst	Oct-15	25	Carlene Saria	Oct-15
8	Jacquie Girard	Nov-14	26	Jean Schlinsog	Oct-14
9	JoAnn Gotcher	Oct-15	27	Sherri Sievert	Oct-15
10	Margaret Grochocki	Oct-15	28	Rachelle Sievert	Oct-15
11	Helmet Lodge	Feb-15	29	Jennifer Smith	Nov-14
12	Kathlene Henry	Oct-16	30	Marilyn Stevens	Oct-16
13	Donna Johnson	Feb-15	31	Carolyn Swanson	Oct-15
14	Sharon Johnson	Oct-15	32	Paula Talbot	Oct-15
15	Arlene Kimball	Oct-15	33	Leatha Tyra	Oct-15
16	Don Lacy	Oct-15	34	Wapato Showdown	Oct-16
17	Bernice Meadors	Oct-14	35	Donna Zinchuk	Oct-15
18	Judy Murchison	May-17			

Editors' Message—(Continued... Please read...)

Editor would transport the postal bins to the main post office in Portland for bulk mailing. Eventually the work was delegated to a commercial mailing service who could accomplish the task more efficiently and at a better bulk rate. No more wearing out our members! **(Thank you, Kelly Anderson!)**

QUANTITY OF MAILED COPIES—In 2010 we were printing and mailing 390 issues to our members. Since then, each time we produce an OPN, we have worked to "thin" the postal mailing list by removing the names of people who are willing to receive their OPNs via email or via our OregonPythians.org website. **(Thank you, Webmaster Mike Harmes!)** From 2011-2013 we were mailing between 242-245 OPNs. That 40% reduction in count produced considerable savings for each issue!

EMAIL COPIES—Currently, more than 1/2 of those who receive the OPN get it "for free" via the internet. **THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU WHO ARE WILLING TO GET YOUR OPNS VIA EMAIL AS THIS IS WHERE THE SAVINGS ARE ACHIEVED.**

INCOME—Here's a summary of where the OPN's money comes from:

\$2,135—Oregon Knights (305 Knights listed in 2014 lodge directories x \$7 per member via their membership dues = \$2,135.)

\$ 770—Oregon Sisters (108 Sisters) and **OPN Boosters** (see article on page 18)

\$2,905—Total Income for 2014

COST—The true expense of the OPN is the cost of commercial printing and postal mailing for our members who cannot get the OPN via the internet—or—who pay the OPN Booster fee to pay for their copy. In 2010 Darrell negotiated truly amazing rates from BOTH our printer and mailing service. The deal that he negotiated 4 years ago still holds up today. Our rate for color printing is only 12 cents per page! Try to get that at your local print shop—or—think about the cost of a color cartridge—I doubt that your cost per page is that low at home...

MAILING COST—Our bulk mail rate runs between 76-85 cents per newsletter depending on the # of pages. It would be closer to \$2.00 per copy if you had to mail 16-20 pages in a large envelope from home.

TOTAL COST—From 2011-2013, printing and mailing of the OPN was running between \$650-\$760 per issue—depending on the # of pages (16 or 20 pages) and total count.

2013—In 2013, Grand Lodge asked OPN to reduce the # of issues from 4 to 3 annually to save costs. The total cost for those 3 issues was \$2,552.67—which should have left Grand Lodge with a **profit of approximately \$352. <I agree with 3 OPN's per year.>**

2014—For the Spring 2014 issue, the Knights' Grand Secretary and Grand Chancellor agreed we should update the OPN mailing list by using the 2014 membership rosters from the Lodge and Temple Secretaries. That increased our mailing count from 245 to 293—a 20% increase! (LOTS of members who had NOT been reported to the OPN—and thus were not previously receiving the OPN!) Naturally this 20% increase in names, increased our printing and mailing costs. In 2014, due to unusual circumstances, we will only have 2 issues, with an estimated total cost of \$2,016—which **should leave Grand Lodge with a profit of almost \$900.**

GRAND LODGE'S PROPOSED CHANGES—Mid-November, Grand Chancellor Randy Tipton and Grand Secretary Ed Yates asked to meet with me. They informed me that the Knights who were assembled at their 2014 Grand Lodge Convention voted to change the methodology for distributing the Oregon Pythian News. As they explained it to me, Grand Lodge has been running a shortfall, so they needed to cut expenses. One place they decided to cut back was the OPN. Their plan is to:

- 1) Publish the OPN only in digital format
- 2) Produce only 2 OPNs per year. **(A)**
- 3) Raise the OPN Editor's honorarium to \$300 per issue x 2 issues = \$600 per year. (In past years, the Editor had been given \$150 per quarter to cover expenses. This totaled \$600 annually—that is, when we were producing 4 issues per year.) **(B)**

Apparently Grand Lodge Knights expect ALL of our members to view the OPN online, either by email or on our OregonPythians.org website.

I expressed my dismay to the 2 Grand Lodge Officers who met with me and asked about the OPN Boosters—who have been loyally contributing \$8 per member for the OPN (many of whom receive the OPN via email)—certainly that group of people should still be receiving the OPN by mail. I reminded them that the Sisters paid Grand Lodge between \$700-800 in 2013 and had a similar amount of money collected for 2014. I showed them the Sisters' Journal + the list of OPN Boosters who contributed funds at the Sisters' 2014

Grand Convention in October. They seemed shocked to hear that the Sisters were contributing this quantity of money towards the OPN.

Next, I asked them about the \$7 fee that each Knight pays Grand Lodge for the OPN via their membership dues. (The Knights have been paying this amount for several years, so we consider ALL of the Oregon Knights to be OPN Boosters.). G.Sec. Ed informed me that the Knight's \$7 fee would now go into their General Fund. I truly didn't know what to say! According to non-profit association accounting rules, funds raised for one purpose are supposed to be used for that purpose—not something else.

In the end, they agreed to publish the Holiday Issue of the OPN as usual, since they hadn't given notice to the membership about the changes they had voted. And, since this issue would be covered by the current term—especially since we didn't have our usual Summer Issue this year.

EDITOR'S POSITION—Over 24 years, the OPN has evolved to fit our changing needs. I support 3 issues per year—via the same methods we've been using for the past few years—some by bulk mail and as many as possible via the internet.

I'm very concerned about Grand Lodge's new plan for MANY reasons. I thought that most of us Oregon Pythians understood that the members who have been receiving the OPN by postal mail for many years do so because they are our older, loyal members—most of whom do NOT use the internet. Apparently Grand Lodge does not understand that basic concept.

In fact, when I asked GC Randy and G.Sec. Ed how those members would get OPNs in the future, they said they'd be sent by the Lodge and Temple Secretaries. (Does that mean the Grand Secretaries will print and mail OPNs to the Domain 100 Brothers and State Temple Sisters?) Truly, I can't see this piece of the plan working well. Most people use cheap paper at home, and print 1-sided, so the home-printed OPNs will look "shabby." Lodge and Temple Secretaries may not have color printers at home—and—if they do, do we really expect them to use up their color cartridges to print 16-20 pages per OPN for their members who don't come to meetings? There's also the added WORK of collating the pages, stapling the large stack of papers and fitting it into a large envelope, then addressing the large envelopes. (Our printer and mailer do this now.)

There's the added work of reorganizing the mailing list and communicating to all of the Secretaries exactly who in their Lodge/Temple they should be mailing newsletters to. There's also the increased COST of mailing. The new plan sounds like a logistical nightmare to me. // And that doesn't even speak to who is going to pay the bill for the home-printing of OPNs. Are we really expecting our local Lodges and Temples to bear that extra work and expense when we have a system which works so well at a low cost per issue now?

As a follow up to our meeting, I sent a communication to GC Randy and G.Sec. Ed (plus the G.Treasurer Mike) asking to meet again, with the facts in hand, because I truly believe that the Knights' decision to only publish the OPN digitally was made in absence of the facts. Such as, the funding for the OPN has been largely paid for by our members. **I hope that after a 2nd meeting the OPN will be back where we started—with the OPN being sent to as many Pythians as possible by email and via our website—and by postal mail to those loyal, older members who don't use the internet—sponsored by ALL of us via our membership dues, our Booster fees, coin marches and donations. I hope that you agree!**

If things go back to "normal" - the next OPN will be the Spring Issue—scheduled for distribution by April 1st—so we can promote District Convention, Pythian Fun Day and other summer activities. Please send articles and photos to arrive by March 10th.

Best Wishes for the Holidays,

Kathlene

- (A) *I think it's kind of funny that the # of issues is being limited to 2 issues per year if we're only going to produce the OPN digitally. For that method, the only costs would be the Editor's time + converting the document to a PDF—which just takes a special computer program like Adobe Acrobat. If we no longer have the \$600-800 per issue cost—why limit the # of issues at all? (I think we should have 3 issues.)*
- (B) *I told GC Randy and G.Sec. Ed that I was willing to give up my \$600 Editor's honorarium if we could use the funds for continuing to print and mail the OPN. Or.... they can give the funds to me and I'll use it towards the Sister's share of printing and mailing.*

THANK YOU FOR READING THIS MESSAGE & MAKING YOUR OPINION KNOWN.

Change Service Requested

**SEE THE OPN AT
oregonpythians.org**

Upcoming Pythian Events

- ⇒ **December 19** (Friday) — Ivanhoe's FRC Robotics Team 1432 Fundraiser Italian Dinner—5:30 at Reedwood Church. (See article on page 9 for details)
- ⇒ **January 3** (Saturday) — Hillsboro Pythians Fundraiser Dinner for Relay for Life—4:30PM
- ⇒ **January 14** (Wednesday) — Grand Chief's visit to Willamette Temple
- ⇒ **January 24** (Saturday) — Aurora's Annual Crabfeed Dinner
- ⇒ **February 15** (Sunday) —Grand Chief's visit to Thermopylae Temple
- ⇒ **March 16** (Monday) —Grand Chief's visit to Helmetta Temple
- ⇒ **March 17** (Tuesday) —Grand Chief's visit to Fern Temple & Happy St. Patrick's Day!
- ⇒ **March 19** (Thursday) —Grand Chief's visit to Phoenicia-Rose Temple
- ⇒ **May 2** (Saturday) — Pythian Sisters' District Convention
- ⇒ **June 27-28** (Saturday-Sunday) —Relay for Life walk-a-thon—Hillsboro Stadium
- ⇒ **July 17-19** (Friday—Sunday) — Pythian Fun Weekend in Grants Pass—Contact Don Allen for details
- ⇒ **August 22** (Saturday) — Wapato Showdown Car Show in Gaston—Details at www.WapatoShowdown.org
- ⇒ Please send details of your Pythian events to the OPN Editor and we'll add them to the calendar in the next issue!

AFTER 24 YEARS, OPN CHANGES MAY BE COMING SOON!

**Please see OPN Editor's Article
on Pages 18 & 19**

PS—THANK YOU to all OPN Boosters for your continued support! As far as the Editor is concerned, Boosters WILL continue to receive your copies—by email or postal mail.

PYTHIAN FUN DAY 2015—SAVE THE DATE

It is confirmed we are going to Grants Pass for Fun Day next year. The dates are July 17-19, 2015.

We have reservations at The Valley of the Rogue Campground. Contact Don Allen ASAP to ensure you have a camp site. His phone # is 503 985 9548.

Many of us are arriving early and leaving late. Talk to Don to see what days are reserved. A few of us plan to take the Jet Boat ride on the Rogue on Friday AM. Our Saturday event is still up in the air. Don and I plan to firm it up on our official visit to their Lodge in the next month or so.

There are many attractions within driving distance of the campground, including the Oregon Caves, Crater Lake, Wildlife Safari, and museums and attractions in Grants Pass itself. We should have more info for you on our visits.

Don and Ed Fun Day Committee

Any questions or reservations call:

DON ALLEN
503-985-9548 OR

ED YATES

503-985-7585

For more information see:
www.visitgrantspass.org

