



News for and About Oregon Pythians

Oregon Pythian News

McMINNVILLE's DIANA LODGE SUPPORTS "SUPER DOG"



"Super Dog" MaryBeth with Brad Berry, Yamhill County DA

"Super Dog" Brings Comfort to Crime Victims in Yamhill County

"Dogs have a way of finding the people who need them" wrote Thom Jones. Luckily for me, I work in an office where people need me every day. My name is Marybeth II, but people call me MB for short. I am the furry four legged employee of the Yamhill County District Attorney's Office. Since February 2014, my job has been to be at the side of an abused child or victims of a violent crime to provide them comfort. I think I am the luckiest dog in town.

I grew up in a small town outside of San Francisco. I was raised by "puppy raisers" to be trained as a service dog through Canine Companions for Independence, the nation's largest non-profit provider of assistance dogs to children and adults with disabilities and organizations who serve them. I graduated with a group of 11 other dogs and I am specially trained to be trustworthy in professional environments. I can perform over 40 commands. The District Attorney, Brad Berry, and Victim Advocate Sarah, are both my handlers. My handlers learned all of my commands and continuously work with me to keep up my skills. Sarah works mainly with victims of sexual assault and domestic violence, so those are the children and adults I work with most.

Brad Berry, Yamhill County District Attorney, met a service dog like me in 2012 and decided Yamhill County's Victim Assistance Office could use a companion dog to work with victims and witnesses of crime. After the application was accepted, the DA's office had to wait quite a while until I was ready for them. It was worth the wait. In my first week of work, I was able to give comfort to a family whose dad was murdered and to give comfort to a child of abuse. I went with "Heidi", that little 8 year old girl, to court and lay on the floor at her feet. When the

man who abused her came into court, "Heidi" became very afraid, slipped off of the courtroom bench, and lay by my side, petting me through the entire sentencing hearing. I knew right away, this was going to be a great fit.

Family violence is sadly a big part of the lives of kids in our community. I know when kids are sad and scared. I can sense that about them. One day, a 7 year old named "Jimmie" had to testify about what his dad had done. "Jimmie" played with me before he had to go into the courtroom, and I was waiting for him as soon as he finished. "Jimmie" ran out of that courtroom calling for me. He didn't want any other adult to help him, just me. He told me all about what it was like to testify, that it seemed overwhelming, but he knew I was outside waiting for him and he said I made him feel brave. He cuddled me for almost an hour, and then he finally fell asleep on my side.

Another little boy I helped was 4 year old "Jacob", who smelled like peanut butter. He was in court because his mom needed protection from her boyfriend. "Jacob" asked my handler if I was a "Super Dog". He pointed out that I wear a cape and help people. I guess if that's what a "Super Dog" is, I just might be one! I'm lucky though, because I love helping people and this is the best job in the world.

A nine year old girl, named "Katie", told me she wouldn't have been able to get through the court hearing without me. I never get tired of hearing how I help kids feel safe and secure in court. Court can seem like a scary place for kids, but when they sit with me and pet my soft fur, they are calm and aren't afraid. I do have the softest ears around, and everyone seems to love to rub my ears, and I'd have to say, I'm happy they do.

Children are not the only people who need help. One day, I was asked to take my handler to the police department because there was a woman there reporting that she had been a victim of sexual assault. She was very afraid and when she heard I was available to sit with her, she was so happy. She let me get into her lap and she cried and hugged my head for a long time. Because I was there with her, she was able to tell the police what had happened to her. She thanked me over and over for being there to keep her company.

Often you'll see me sitting next to victims of domestic violence, petting me, as they talk about really bad things that have happened to them. It's easier for them when I help to comfort them. The other day I heard my handler, Brad Berry say "Marybeth gives victim a sense of comfort and trust. She gives them the strength to carry on". That perked my ears right up. **(Continued on Page 8)**

Grand Chancellor Mike's Message

It's that time again! A new bunch of Grand Officers.

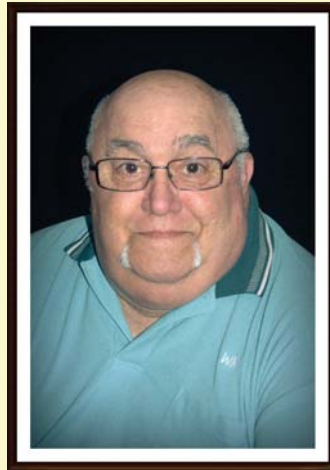
Here's a question for you. Have you been an officer in your lodge? If yes, good for you. If no, why not? Your lodge needs new people with new ideas to go through the chairs. Why? Because Grand Lodge needs new people with new ideas to go through the chairs at the state level! The only way to be a Grand officer is to have been a past Chancellor Commander in a lodge. It's not that hard. As grand lodge officer you only have 4 meetings a year to travel to and we may even buy your lunch or dinner.

So what is your lodge doing to gain new members? I think Randy's idea of the parades is a good one. Just as Ed's idea of working with the Boy Scouts is great. But we aren't gaining ground. Maybe you need to get together with your local Chamber of Commerce to see what you can do to help. Here in the Eugene area down in Cottage Grove we joined in the annual Chili Cook-off. We never win, but we meet lots of new people. Have we got new members? Not yet, but after three years they can now pronounce Pythian. That's a start!

So here's a little incentive to hunt for new people. How about \$500.00 to the lodge with the highest percentile growth in membership in the coming year. \$250.00 for second place and \$100.00 for third. Not the number of new members, but the percentile rise in membership taken from the membership list used in the 2015 convention. How much of a percentage will your lodge grow this year?

Oh ya! Helmet lodge has now been the Pythian Chili Champions three years straight. Congrats boys. Does your town have a Chili cook off? Helmet would be glad to give you some tips.

Fraternally,
Mike Talbot, Grand Chancellor



Greetings from Supreme Chancellor Keith Stooksberry

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Winter is upon us, but Spring is just around the corner as are Spring Grand Lodge Conventions. If you have not yet sent your dates for Grand Lodge Conventions to the Supreme Secretary, please do so at once.

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

See you at the Supreme Convention on August 7-10, 2016.

Fraternally,
L. Keith Stooksberry, Jr.
Supreme Chancellor

Phone: 419-422-0882
Email: KeithS848@aol.com

Celebrating 150 Years of Pythianism



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Grand Chief Cheryl's Message

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

This is wishing each and everyone of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. It is a very special time of year enjoying family and friends.

I was just thinking in years past how when Grand Chief was coming for her visit the Temple Secretary would send notice to other temples and invite them to join them. I would love it if we could do that again this year. Please let's give it a try. Thank you.

Once again I want to thank all of you who helped in making my installation so memorable and you did a great job.

To those sisters who so graciously stepped up to fill the Grand Treasurer Junior and Manager. Each and every sister is so valuable to our order. Thank you all so much.

I am looking forward to working with Grand Chancellor Mike this year. I am hoping we can get the Brothers and Sisters back working together.

Once again Happy Holidays to you all.

In PLE&F,
Cheryl



Greetings from Supreme Chief Sandy Symons

My Fellow Pythians,

As this year draws to a close, I want to thank my Pythian Family for making 2015 a year that I will never forget. I have been truly blessed by the wonderful opportunities bestowed on me as your Supreme Chief.

As we gather with our family and friends over the holidays it is a time to remember and to embrace those who enrich our lives in so many ways. My life has been enriched by my Oregon Family – thank you for sharing with me all the beauty of your magnificent state and the opportunity to renew old friendships and make many new ones.

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for the wonderful work you each do in your communities. By “making a difference together” we have proven that we can do wonderful things.

It is my hope that I will see as many of you as possible at our Supreme Sessions in Cleveland next August. I know the 2016 Convention Committee will make it a memorable one for all.

Remember our veterans; those who serve today and especially those who are not able to be home with their families during this time. Please keep them safe.

From my family to yours we send best wishes for a wonderful Holiday Season and a New Year filled with peace, good health and wonderful memories.

In Pythian Love Always,
Sandra (Sandy) Symons
Supreme Chief



Grand Secretary's Report from Ed Yates

Oregon Pythians,

2015 is rapidly coming to an end. That means yearly reports will be due soon. I will be getting out the information as soon as I receive it from Supreme.

This year was a very good year for our "Domain". Our membership after some hard looks at nonpaying and non-active members, we held our numbers the same as 2014. This was made possible by new members and the reinstating of previous members that returned to the Order.

To continue to grow the order Mike Talbot our new Grand Chancellor has made it his project to increase our membership. Read his program in this edition of the OPN.

Fraternally,
Ed Yates
Grand Secretary



HELMET LODGE # 33 & HELMETTA TEMPLE # 29

OF EUGENE, OREGON

WISHES YOU AND YOURS A

VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS

AND A HAPPY AND

PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR 2016!!!



Eugene Pythians Paul Lewis, Ann Ross, Ed Muth, Kaye Pomerleau and CW Ross—2008 Share the Spirit Visit to Good Samaritan in Eugene

Notes from Grand Secretary Sherri

This year has passed much too quickly and we are ready to celebrate Thanksgiving with Christmas just around the corner. We had our Grand Temple Session in Pendleton, Oregon this year and were honored with the presence of our Supreme Chief Sandra Symons at our sessions. We had a small gathering, due to many unexpected circumstances, but as always we enjoyed renewing our friendships and making some new ones. Those of us who have belonged to the Pythian Sister Order for many years know how endearing our Pythian family friendships are! We very much enjoyed the Knights who attended some of our meals, as we once again met in separate facilities.

Virginia Mellor had a very well run session and passed the gavel on to Cheryl Bergman, PSR, who is our first person going through a second time. Cheryl is a member of Willamette Temple #45 in Dallas. We are thankful that she is willing to do this and I look forward to working with her. I remain the Grand Secretary and with my going back to work as manager of the mobile home park that I live in, I apologize for any tardiness in my duties ahead of time. I forgot how little time you have to yourself as resident managers. My fiancée, Shawn moved to the office and house while I was at Grand Temple and when I got back, I was at work already! Still working on getting settled in and just got my office partly set up. Shawn and I are planning our wedding for March 19th of 2016, so I have one more thing to keep me busy.

Cheryl's motto is: **Friendships Near and Far**

GC project: **Doernbecher Hospital Child Life Dept**

Flowers: **Rose, Poinsettias and Cactus**

Color: **Plum, Crème and Pink**

Song: **I Believe**

Grand Chief Cheryl's official visitations are as follows: March 3rd—Phoenicia-Rose #10, March 14th—Helmetta #29, April 3rd—Thermopylae #37, February 10th—Willamette #45,

February 16th—Fern #46, April 10th—Ivanette #68. Our District Convention will be Saturday, April 30, 2016 this year with Heather Johnson-King as District Deputy Grand Chief, being held at Phoenicia-Rose Temple #10 in Hillsboro.

In September, Ivanhoe Lodge regained a Sister Temple. They took the same name of Ivanette Temple #68 that the previous Pythian Sister Temple had. They were honored to have the Supreme Chief Sandra Symons at the institution of their Temple. We welcome all you Sisters and Ivanette Temple #68 back on the roll!

In this new age we live in and the competition for our time in so many different ways, it is even more important to follow the 3 "R's" that Supreme Chief Sandra promotes in her correspondence. I would like to take a moment and list them here. Please consider each word carefully. We need to **RETAIN** our existing members, making each one feel important and an integral part of the Temple membership. Next we need to **RECRUIT** new members and make sure to come alongside and explain and teach them the different aspects of our Order! In **retaining** and **recruiting** we will **REBUILD** each of our Temples and our Order as a whole. Please, each one take it upon yourself to ask someone you have thought about and not put it off.

WISHING EACH OF YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS & HEALTH AND HAPPINESS IN THE NEW YEAR!!

Sherri Sievert, PSR
Grand Secretary



Willamette Temple's Community Service

After a busy Grand Session, Willamette Temple's three Grand Officers settled back to normal business.

Continuing to provide educational coupons for Whitworth Elementary School and collecting pull tabs for the Kidney Foundation and planning a Christmas potluck.

Article submitted by Carol Jenkins



Eugene's Helmet Lodge Hosts Roll Call Dinner

As we are just coming off our summer hiatus and starting to have meetings again we had our Roll Call Dinner on November 21, 2015.

Helmet Lodge No. 33 and Helmetta Temple No. 29 held a joint Roll Call Dinner at the Empire Chinese Restaurant in Eugene. There were 15 members and families present (the Oregon Duck Game interfered with the dinner) but we were able to

watch the game at the restaurant. By the way, the Ducks won! The food was delicious and earned seconds and thirds. As roll was called, the members present reported on the missing members and shut-ins. Some jokes were read and enjoyed, and a good time was had by all.

We had a great time at the Empire Buffet. But seeing as we somehow scheduled the dinner at the same time the Ducks were playing turnout was a little lite.



Eugene Pythians at Annual Roll Call Dinner

We're all looking forward to Ed's 102nd birthday party, Dec. 12th at 2:00 pm at the Sizzler Steak House on Gateway in Springfield.

Mike Talbot

Helmetta Temple #29 would like to thank the Helmet Lodge #33 for inviting the ladies to join them at the Roll Call Dinner at the

Empire Buffet in Eugene. It was very good as usual.

Hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving..... and looking forward to the New Year 2016.

Thank You Again,

P.L.E.F.

Paula Talbot E.S.

Collaborative articles and photo submitted by Mike and Paula Talbot and Kaye Pomerleau

Eugene's Chili Cook-off 2015

July 25, 2015—Made a little over 6 gallons of Texas Chili (no beans) for the cook off! Started serving at 11! To be served one bought a packet from the Chamber of Commerce for \$2.00 or 3 for \$5.00, each packet had 3, 2 ounce cups a yellow ticket and some discount cards from business' around town. If you liked a chili you gave them a yellow card that counted in the people's choice award. One pint was taken for judging at noon! It was to end at 3! We ran out of chili at 2:30! Nope we didn't win! We knew that going in since we, the lodge, is from Eugene not much chance of winning in Cottage Grove, but we got to meet new people, saw old friends and handed out Pythian paperwork! I was told to make 8 gallons next year!

Article and photo from Helmet Lodge's Facebook page



Thank You from Phoenix Lodge

The Knights of Phoenix Lodge were treated to a "Thank the Knights Thanksgiving Dinner" given by the Sisters of Phoenicia-Rose Temple, for the support and willingness to share the hall. A great dinner was prepared by the Sisters. After dinner the Sisters presented a check to the lodge for to help with upkeep, and the purchase of a new vacuum cleaner.

It was nice to see the Lodge filled with friends and family enjoying each other's company. In attendance were ages newborn to 90 years young for this event. We all enjoyed the dinner and fellowship.

Thank you Sisters for a great evening!

Respectfully submitted,
Charlie VanDomelen



Hillsboro Pythians Still Relaying for Life



Hillsboro Pythians continue to raise money for cancer research with their monthly fundraiser dinners.

The photo on the right is from one of our fundraiser dinners.

The photo on the left shows Shelley Corby, Don Lacy and Leatha Tyra, 3 of Hillsboro Pythians' cancer survivors at the 2015 Relay event.



Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

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

Gwen Rhodes, Supreme Protector



Ivanhoe Lodge Activities

Early last summer Ivanhoe elected new officers. There were 3 Ivanhoe Lodge families at the Pythian Fun Days and the LohKamps brought a guest. What a great time we had visiting with everyone! Ivanhoe Lodge had 4 members attend the Grand Lodge in October where we helped trim the budget. There was a great barbecue dinner provided by the Pendleton Lodge. A good time was had by all. Thanks Pendleton for hosting.

The lodge continues to support FRC Team 1432 also known as Explorer Post 89. On January 9th they will begin the build season for their competition. Since they were robbed last spring the Lodge has installed a new security system. There was another attempted break in that was foiled thanks to the bright eyes of a neighbor. The team is

still trying to replace some of the equipment which was stolen. If anyone has any scrap aluminum the team is always looking for materials to build their robot with. They could also use 2x4s, plywood, sheets of plastic, 12 volt motors, and electric wire. They are currently \$1,400 short of their registration fees for competition but are hoping to raise at least some of that at their Italian dinner in December.

Ivanhoe Lodge is again supporting Toy and Joy this year with a purchase of toys. They will have the students from the robotics team pick them out. We hope everyone has a happy holiday and best wishes for the new year.

Article submitted by Rebecca LohKamp

“Super Dog” (Continued from Page 1)

People in Yamhill County have been very generous in support of my work. Although there wasn't a cost to get me, there is cost to maintain my care and training. There is no cost to programs to receive the dog, but the sites are responsible for all the care thereafter. The community has been very supportive in contributing to my continued care. I have a group of special friends from the Knights of Pythias, Diana Lodge 69. I just know them as “KP”. The men at KP have been very generous in helping financially with my support. I can't thank them enough. Their ongoing support has really helped me to be able to help others.

One thing I really enjoy doing is going to service clubs with the District Attorney to talk about the work I do. If your service club

would like for me to come visit, please call the Yamhill County Crime Victim Services Office, 503-434-7510 and we can schedule a visit. You can also follow me on Facebook and Twitter: Facebook.com/MarybethII or Twitter @Mary_BethII. If you see me walking around town, don't hesitate to stop us and say hello, we love to visit.

Bio: When Marybeth isn't at work, you can find her practicing her skills, catching up on her social media or playing with her friend Lambeau.

Article suggested by Lee Vasquez and submitted by Brad Berry



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

Ivanette Temple Instituted in Portland (Again!)



After many years of being closed Ivanette Temple # 68 was reinstituted on September 20, 2015 at the Ivanhoe Lodge # 1 in SE Portland. We were most fortunate that Supreme Chief Sandy Symons from Ontario, Canada was able to come and preside over the Institution and Installation. She brought Supreme Temple's Rathbone Bible with her so our Temple Institution was considered a

Pythian Sisters Bible Class—very special! Also part of the installation team were Kathlene Henry, who was instrumental in making this happen in the first place, Shelley Corby, and Grand Chief Virginia Mellor. Other Sisters travelled from Eugene and Dallas to help us with the Institution.

Phoenicia-Rose Temple did a wonderful job of setting things up and running the meeting. The tables were decorated with arrangements of dusty miller and pink cabbage roses (which Rebecca LohKamp provided), arranged by Donna Johnson and Coral Villareal and placemats with pictures of people from the Pythian family on them. Thank you Phoenicia-Rose for the decorations and all the hard work to make it so beautiful.



We had 18 new Sisters inducted and 7 Brother Knights in the Bible class including Don Lacy who we were so honored to have come.

Thank you Ivanhoe Knights for letting us share your Lodge and for helping to make it such a successful meeting.

We also celebrated Grand Chief Virginia Mellor's birthday. It was a great evening with much joy and fellowship.

Our next meeting was October 18 so it was a mad dash to the state convention for the new Most Excellent Chief Rebecca LohKamp

and when she got back she had a ton of stuff so generously provided by Grand Temple. We now have regalia and everything we need to have a meeting. Thanks so much to everyone at Grand for their kindness to a stranger and generosity to a new Temple.

At our Oct 18th meeting we filled all of the

offices, we decided on a meeting date, decided on our yearly dues, and meeting format. Our new officers are Rebecca LohKamp as Most Excellent Chief, Shelley Corby as Past Chief, Kimberly Brown Excellent Senior, Anastasia Cantu Junior, Marya Tracer Manager, Mary Lou Sullivan Secretary, Judy McDuffy Treasurer, Carol Akins Protector, Lydia Carlson Outer Guard and Maureen Murphy as Musician. There's a lot to do when opening a new temple.

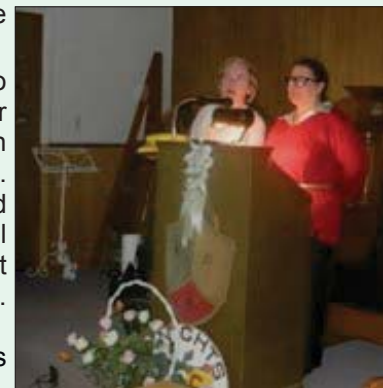
On October 27th the Knights of Ivanhoe Lodge invited the new Sisters of Ivanette to join them for dinner at the Old Country Buffet. What a great night! There was great conversation and a wonderful sense of comradery. We started as strangers and ended the night as friends. Many thanks to Ivanhoe.

At our November 8th meeting we opened the boxes of supplies from Grand Temple. It was very exciting! Each officer found their place and got their regalia and we tried to conduct our first short form formal meeting. There is so much to learn! Our thanks go out to all of our Phoenicia-Rose Sisters for their kindness and patience with teaching us what to do, when and how. The Grand Chief is coming to visit us April 10th and we really want to be able to do the meeting with all the trimmings when she gets here but I am sure she will be

understanding if we haven't quite got it all figured out yet.

At this meeting each Sister got to give her suggestion for our Temple charity. We will vote on that at our December meeting. We also discussed the Grand and Supreme charities and will vote how we will support those at our next meeting as well.

Grand's charity is



Doernbecher's Child Life Program. Several of us have benefited from what happens at Doernbecher so that shouldn't be a problem we just need to set a goal and decide how we will achieve it. So much to do! We are going to form a committee to review the bylaws for Phoenicia-Rose and if any of the other Temples has suggestions of what we should include in our bylaws we would be most appreciative of your thoughts. **(Continued on Page 13)**



Pythian Sisters Grand Convention ~ Pendleton

Oregon's Pythian Sisters had an enjoyable and productive time at their Grand Sessions at the Red Lion Hotel in Pendleton.

Friday evening was the time for their Welcoming Dinner and the Memorial, which was performed by the Sisters of Helmetta Temple.

Grand Chief Virginia Mellor called our Grand Session to order on Saturday morning. To our delight, Supreme Chief Sandy Symons from Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada joined us at our sessions. She offered words of wisdom and cheer to all of us.

The Saturday night banquet was well attended by the Sisters. A few of the Knights joined us—which we appreciated very much! After introductions and speeches from the dignitaries, we were led in song by Vesta Poteete and Barb Christopher.

Our sessions continued on Sunday with Installation of Officers in the afternoon. Our new Grand Officers are: Grand Chief Cheryl Bergman, Grand Senior Paula Talbot, Grand Junior Maureen Murphy, Grand Manager Shelley Corby, Grand Secretary Sherri Sievert, Grand Treasurer Sarah Owens, Grand Protector Carol Jenkins, Grand Guard Arlene Kimball, Sitting Past Grand Chief Virginia Mellor and Grand Press Correspondent Donna Johnson.



Grand Chief Virginia Mellor, Supreme Chief Sandy Symons and incoming Grand Chief Cheryl Bergman, PSR



Past Grand Chief's and PSR's introduced at the Altar



Grand Manager Ann Ross introducing PSCs Kathlene Henry and Margaret Grochocki at the Altar



Saturday Night's Grand Banquet



2015 ~ 2016 Grand Temple Officers

Grand Lodge Convention—Pendleton's Lodge Hall



Preparations for Grand Lodge do not start in the fall of the year. According to our rules, each lodge is to have elections for the second half of the year in June. It is at this time that the semiannual password is to be revealed to those entitled to receive it, officers of the lodge elected for

Grand Lodge rank should be invited to receive the Grand Lodge password and sign of courtesy before the start of the Grand Lodge. This is done in order so the start of the meeting will not be delayed and the new members won't be embarrassed by being asked to leave. The procedure during the meeting has been shortened by having the Grand Council determine the operating agenda. But, usually the procedure includes examining the reports of the Grand Lodge officers, then the Grand Lodge committees, then the other bodies having a relationship with Grand Lodge, then electing the officers for the next term, determining the operating budget and revenue for the next year and installing the officers for the next term.

Our Grand Lodge this year made an attempt to follow this procedure and they did make the best of it. Without the need for dealing with changes to the constitution and statutes, there was no need for additional committees to deal with them, so most everything was dealt with using the lodge members as a committee of the whole. Things progressed, maybe not smoothly, but at a great pace, so that things were concluded during the day.

the next six-month term and the Representatives to the Grand Lodge. The names of those Representatives as well as the registration fees for them are to be forwarded to the Grand Secretary at that time.

Changes to our constitution or statutes are to be sent to the Grand Secretary shortly after that so that he may be able to put together a journal of documents which may be decided at Grand Lodge. If there are any changes, then they are sent to all the lodges, so that they may be read and discussed by the lodge, giving the Representative time to form an opinion of those specific changes.

The Grand Lodge this year, had a hospitality night at the Damon Lodge Hall on Friday night. Unfortunately, this did not include the Sisters as they were holding their Past Grand Chiefs' meeting, and the welcoming dinner at the Red Lion. This meant that the Knights would not be in the Memorial, because they were not present. Even though a meeting room was available at the Red Lion Hotel at no cost for the Knights, the Officers and planning committee decided to hold the Knights' Grand Lodge meeting at the Damon Lodge Hall.

Arriving at Grand Lodge, the credentials committee should examine your dues receipt in order to determine if you are in good standing at your lodge. They also should have a record from the Grand Secretary in order to determine the make-up of the voting members of the Grand Lodge as we need to divide the members between Grand Lodge officers, representatives and Past Grand Chancellor's as our quorum is decided by the lodges present. The new members entitled to the



2015-2016 Grand Lodge Officers

One idea presented during the meeting was skipping a year and having meetings every other year, or skip the use of a hotel, luncheons and banquets every other year.

The Grand Chancellor for the next term is Mike Talbot of Helmet Lodge in Eugene. His program is to reward the lodge who has the best percentage increase in new members during the year. We'll see if the Grand Council agrees to this program. Again we held our meeting away from the Sisters, and again it was a disappointment. Apparently there is a rift between the knights and the sisters but, we should be working together. Having the sisters with us makes the convention a success.

The planning committee (aka Grand Council), decided also to have a dinner on Saturday night away from the Sisters and the Red Lion, causing both events to be less than they should have been. Immediate Past Grand Chancellor Randy Tipton presented two awards at the dinner to deserving members of the lodges. With no meetings on Sunday, we left early, without any exchange with the Sisters. This meant we would not participate in the day's luncheon, or attend the Sister's installation.

Article submitted by Mark Erickson, PSR, PIR

Photos submitted by Bill Peal, PSR



Ray Cable receiving medallion from
GC Randy Tipton



GC Randy Tipton presents Gaston's
Member of the Year Award to Stan Shope



Scott Swartout, Hermes' Member of
the Year with GC Randy Tipton

Hillsboro Pythians Activities

“THANK THE KNIGHTS” THANKSGIVING DINNER HOSTED BY PHOENICIA-ROSE SISTERS



On November 7th approximately 30 members and their family met for dinner at Phoenix Lodge #34 in Hillsboro for a “Thank the Knights Thanksgiving Dinner” hosted by the Sisters. The Sisters of Phoenicia Rose #10 wanted to thank their brother Knights for allowing them to meet in the hall all these years and for their support with our projects such as Relay for Life. Recently the Knights bought a new Vacuum cleaner, which we really appreciated. MEC Heather Johnson-King presented Knight Charlie Van Domelen with a check from the Temple Sisters in appreciation. We had all the Thanksgiving fixings including a 22 -pound turkey prepared by Sister Donna Johnson. Of course the other Sisters brought side dishes and



desserts to go with the turkey. Also in attendance were Sister Brenda Branson and her husband Paul Branson all the way from Philadelphia, PA as they were in Portland that week visiting family. Everyone who attended had a great time. Thank you Phoenix Brothers for all you have done for us and “Happy Thanksgiving to everyone.”

PHOENICIA-ROSE ELECTS 6 GRAND TEMPLE OFFICERS

Grand Temple 2015 was held in Pendleton on October 16-18. During Election of Officers the following Phoenicia-Rose Sisters were elected: Maureen Murphy, Grand Junior; Shelley Corby, Grand Manager; Sherri Sievert, Grand Secretary; Sarah Owens, Grand Treasurer and Donna Johnson, Grand Press Correspondent. The new Grand Chief, Cheryl Bergman also appointed Barbara Christopher as the Grand Musician. Both of the Supreme Representatives, Donna Johnson and Beverly Cox are also members of Phoenicia Rose. Congratulations Sisters!



SUPREME CHIEF SANDRA SYMONS VISITS PHOENICIA ROSE



On October 15 Supreme Chief Sandy Symons attended a meeting at Phoenicia Rose Temple #10 in Hillsboro. Supreme Chief Sandy was in town to attend Grand Temple in Pendleton the following weekend. We were very pleased to have her come to our Temple and even happier to have her join our Temple as a member. During the meeting we were pleased to hold a full ritualistic meeting with everyone reciting their duties and marching perfectly in their officer's parts. Manager Jennifer Smith introduced the Supreme Chief at the Altar then she was presented with a gift made by Donna Johnson, a beautiful bag in the Pythian colors of red, yellow, blue and white. After the meeting we all met in the dining room for yummy cake and refreshments. We all had a great time.



Articles and photos submitted by Shelley Corby, PSR

ANNOUNCEMENT: Grand Lodge Membership Contest

To all Lodges—

This year's Grand Chancellor's Project:

This year's project is membership. I'd like a concerted effort to increase membership by 10% this year state wide.

Yes, I understand people say no. But what are you and your lodge doing to help your community? Are you, as a lodge or one person in the name of the lodge, working to help people recognize the Pythian name and associate it with a strong community? With that in mind, we are starting a membership contest:

- ◆ \$500.00 for 1st Place
- ◆ \$250.00 for 2nd Place and
- ◆ \$100.00 for 3rd Place.

No, this is not a contest to see who gets the most new people. This is a contest to see which lodge can increase the size of their membership by the highest percentage. Grants Pass has 11 members, so if they get one new member, they will have had a 9% growth in membership. Since McMinnville has seventy four members, they would need to get eight members or a 10% rise to beat Grants Pass.

I'm hoping this will level the playing field and give the smaller lodges an incentive to give a real effort to join in their communities to help.

This contest only counts new members.

Winner of a tie will be determined by Grand Lodge Officers.

Starting membership numbers are taken from membership lists submitted for 2015 convention.

Membership list submitted for the 2016 convention in Cottage Grove will determine the winner. But keep me informed on how you're doing. Better yet, keep us all informed.

Helmet Lodge has a Facebook page. Does your lodge? We just opened an email account for the lodge, then using "Helmet" for a first name and "Lodge" for a last name we opened a Facebook page. If all the lodges in the state could start a Facebook page, we at Grand lodge, meaning me, can open a closed group page that only Grand Officers and Oregon lodges can be part of. This would give us an easier way to disseminate information in a timely manner.

On that same subject, does your lodge have a website? If someone takes a few hours, there are places on the web that have free websites (search Wix.com, Tripod.com to name two) but you have to put it together yourself. From doing a few, it's not that hard guys! After you make one, tell me. Then I'll pass it on to the Mike Harmes, our State Webmaster to get you added into the state site.

That seems to be it for now. If you have any questions, get in touch with me at revmkell@yahoo.com or on Facebook at Helmet Lodge. Or, contact any of the other state officers.

Mike Talbot

Grand Chancellor, Domain of Oregon



Ivanette Temple Institution (continued from page 9)

There's a parade in our area April 30th it would have been fun to be a part of but that is district convention and as we will be hosting it in 2018 we have all decided we are going to convention instead. We really need to learn what has to happen to make a district convention work so we can do a good job when it is our turn.

Speaking of 2018 there were a couple of suggestions that we would like to share with all the other Temples and Lodges. 2018 is the 130th anniversary of the founding of the Pythian Sisters. Wouldn't it be wonderful if all the Lodges and Temples could

come together to use this occasion to promote Pythians all year? We could do a float for the Grand Floral parade, and at the state convention we could host a public event like a grand ball. I have heard that the guys don't really get into this kind of thing but this is a really special occasion and what a great way to make the public aware of who we are and what we do. Maybe it could even be an Edwardian period costume event. Anyway it's something to think about.

Article and Photos submitted by Rebecca LohKamp.

Pendleton's Damon Lodge Initiates 3 New Members



Damon Lodge #4 held an initiation ceremony and received three new members into the lodge on November 16th.

In the picture left is Ray Cable our Chancellor Commander offering a hand of welcome to Cal Garton, Dave Lange and Patrick O'Grady.

We had an ice cream social following the initiation which was a great hit with all the members.

Article and Photo submitted by: Bill Peal

Damon Lodge's Family Nights & Ice Cream Social

The Damon Lodge is working to involve families with our family night activities and the old fashioned Ice Cream Social with music played by member Ron Martin and Cindy Powell was a good start in this direction.

We had so much fun singing along with the fun old songs that everyone knew.

Article and Photo submitted by: Bill Peal



Damon Lodge Hosts Bridge Planning Meeting



The second public meeting with the city planners, engineers and ODOT on the Bridge 8th Street is being hosted by Damon Lodge November 19th at 7pm. This is called the 30 percent meeting, meaning that the planning is about 30 percent done and they can start to give some answers to questions everyone is asking about the impact that the project will have on property owners.

The neighbors effected by this project have been invited so we expect 30 to 50 people to attend the presentation by the planners to explain the process and time table for the bridge project. It is too early in the process to have answers to all the questions because some decisions have not been made yet. And the beat goes on.

This offers an opportunity for dialogue and planning to be shared for bridge construction happening in 2017.

Article and Photo submitted by: Bill Peal

Oregon Pythian Continuing Education Foundation (OPCEF) Report & Greetings

The Oregon Pythian Continuing Education Foundation (OPCEF) had a change in Board members this past year. Shelley Corby was kind enough to fill the open Director position, which was vacated by Stan Shope, who graciously stepped up to fill the vacant Treasurer position. Eric Howden had announced his departure from the Board and we appreciate his many years of service.

The OPCEF Board is happy to announce 16 scholarship winners for the 2015/2016 school year. Our applicant pool continues to grow and we are pleased to be able to help these deserving students achieve their educational goals.

Unfortunately, as our number of applicants increased our investments decreased along with the economy. As of August 31, 2015, our checking account balance was \$836.42 and our brokerage account balance was \$96,922.18. Regardless, we are required to spend 5% of our corpus every year. This year we estimate granting \$275.00 to each scholarship recipient

2015/2016 Scholarship Winners:

Steven Basquez	Emily Bradley	Douglas Bruce
Haylie Davis	Jordan Delay	Shilo Fields
Chase Forman	Rachel Funk	Travis Hancock
Trevor Hancock	Dylan King	Jessica Lantz
Michael Saul	Racine Sheldon	Rebecca Wagner
Shayne Wagner		

All students are encouraged to 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 and applications are due by April 15th of each year. Scholarship applications are available from any Knights of Pythias Lodge or Pythian Sister Temple, or by contacting the OPCEF directly at:

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

The Board invites you to support continuing education for Oregon Pythians! Donations of any size are deeply appreciated and are welcome at the address listed above.

Sincerely,
The OPCEF Board:
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



*To Our Pythian Friends & Family
Our best wishes to you for a
Happy Holiday Season!
Bruce & Marilyn Stevens*

Pythian Fun Weekend at Grants Pass

In July we met at Valley of the Rogue State Park south of Grants Pass for our Pythian Fun Weekend.

This year we started one day early—on Thursday. Several of our members and their families took part in an “extra” outing which was the Hell-gate Jetboat Excursion. What a fantastic ride—and—a terrific all-you-can-eat BBQ lunch downriver at the OK Corral. On Friday evening members had dinner on their own and visited by the campfire. Saturday morning members could participate in whichever outing they preferred. Some members went to Oregon Caves; others went to Crater Lake; while some preferred to “stay local” and visited the farmer’s market or antiquing in Grants Pass. Saturday evening was the big BBQ hosted by Grand Lodge and the Grants Pass Pythians. On Sunday morning Grand Lodge hosted breakfast for everyone, then held a Grand Council Meeting.



Pythian Fun Weekend at Grants Pass



Photos
submitted
by Bill Peal
and
Kathlene
Henry



Southern Oregon Pythians Celebrate Holidays & Fun Day

Thermopylae Temple and Talisman Lodge held their annual Thanksgiving dinner November 15th. The traditional turkey dinner was served with all the goodies. About 20 members and guests attended. Everyone had a good time and said the meal was delicious. After dinner all lingered for friendly conversation making all "give thanks" even more.

The annual Pythian Fun Day was held in Southern Oregon this year at the Valley of the Rogue State Park, by the river. Festivities included outings in groups and "on your own". People were surprised to learn how many fun and beautiful things there are to do in

Southern Oregon. There was boating, fishing, Crater Lake, Oregon Caves, Wildlife Images, etc, etc. Many wonderful meals were served, prepared by the Knights and Sisters from near and far. Many hours of hard work went in to preparation and execution of that busy week-end and the crew is to be congratulated for making it a wonderfully successful event for all of us.

Article submitted by
Robyn Neeley, PSR



OPN Editor's Message

Hello Brothers, Sisters, Family and Friends,

It's that time of year when we think about our families and friends. We spend special times of remembrance and looking forward to the new year. I hope that all of you enjoy a lovely holiday season with those who are special to you.

A BIG THANK YOU to those who have been thoughtful enough to routinely send in articles and photos for the Oregon Pythian News. Those who deserve special thanks—again—are Mike and Paula Talbot, Rebecca Lohkamp, Bill Peal, Shelley Corby, Kaye Pomerleau and Mark Erickson. (And to Shelley again for being our proofreader!)

Just a reminder that the OPN needs your support. Due to our current low funding, Grand Council requested that we only mail out 2 issues per year. We hope this is temporary until funding is restored.

For many years, each Oregon Pythian Sister has been contributing \$2 towards the OPN through her membership dues. OPN Boosters (see chart on right) contribute an extra \$8 or \$10 towards the OPN's costs. Please consider becoming an OPN Booster to help us pay for printing and mailing of the OPN to our longtime members who live at a distance from us so they can't easily attend meetings and/or those who do not have access to internet service.

If you currently receive a paper copy of the OPN via postal mail and you're willing to switch to receiving it via email, please let me know. Any names which we can remove from the "snail mail" list will save precious OPN budget money.

If you have suggestions for the OPN, please submit those also. We're always looking for new ideas.

Happy Holidays and Best Wishes for the New Year!

Kathlene

OPN Editor

Happy
Holidays!

Updated OPN Booster List after 2015 Pythian Sisters Oregon Grand Convention:

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

To become an OPN Booster, make a \$10 check payable to:
"Grand Lodge of Oregon—OPN" and mail it to:
Kathlene Henry, OPN Editor, PO Box 40713, Portland, OR 97240.

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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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Unsigned material will not be accepted for publication.

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Grand Inner Guard.....TBD
Grand Outer Guard.....TBD

Change Service Requested

**SEE THE OPN AT
oregonpythians.org**

Upcoming Pythian Events

- ⇒ **December 5** (Saturday) — Hillsboro Pythians Holiday Dinner and Movie Night - hosted by Rose City Nomads—4:30 pm—All are welcome to attend
- ⇒ **January 2** (Saturday) — Hillsboro Pythians Fundraiser Dinner for Relay for Life—4:30PM
- ⇒ **January 23** (Saturday) — Aurora's Annual Crabfeed Dinner
- ⇒ **February 10** (Wednesday) — Grand Chief's visit to Willamette Temple
- ⇒ **February 16** (Tuesday) —Grand Chief's visit to Fern Temple
- ⇒ **March 3** (Thursday) —Grand Chief's visit to Phoenicia-Rose Temple
- ⇒ **March 14** (Monday) —Grand Chief's visit to Helmetta Temple
- ⇒ **April 3** (Sunday) —Grand Chief's visit to Thermopylae Temple
- ⇒ **April 10** (Sunday) —Grand Chief's visit to Ivanette Temple
- ⇒ **April 30** (Saturday) — Pythian Sisters' District Convention
- ⇒ **June 25-26** (Saturday-Sunday) —Relay for Life walk-a-thon—Hillsboro Stadium
- ⇒ **July 14-17** (Thursday—Sunday) — Pythian Fun Weekend in Joseph—Contact Ray Cable for details
- ⇒ **August 27** (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!

2016 Pythian Fun Weekend Save the Date



Dates: July 14-17, 2016

Location: Joseph, Oregon
Nestled in the midst of some of the most spectacular geography you'll ever see is a little gem of a town with enormous charm. Surrounded by the breathtaking Wallowa mountain range of northeast Oregon, it is often referred to as the "Little Switzerland of America." It's a one-of-a-kind place rich in history, art, recreation and agriculture.

Lots to See & Do: Scenery, shopping, galleries, museums.

RV Camping: Park at the River, 59888 Wallowa Lake Highway, Joseph, OR 97846

All spots are RV sites.

To reserve an RV spot:

\$40 deposit required. Send check payable to Grand Lodge to Ray Cable at PO Box 806, Pendleton OR 97801.

Act quickly: 15 sites reserved for our group – 2 already taken!

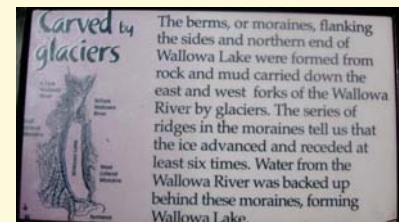
If you'd like tent camping (State Campground) or hotel room, please make your arrangements SOON!

If you have any questions:

Contact Ray Cable

Email: RCable59@yahoo.com

Telephone: 541-969-7759



For more information:

<http://ParkAtTheRiver.com>

<http://JosephOregon.com>