



Celebrating 157 Years of Pythianism

The New

Pythian International

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*From the
Desk of Supreme Chancellor
Joel D. Fierstien, KGS*

By way of my final message as Supreme Chancellor, this term has seen many advances even with the Covid pandemic and its losses, suffering, closings, and restrictions, and now, many activities are coming to life. Personally, it has been a great and gratifying time with some challenges, obstacles, pitfalls, and regrets along the way. Creating excitement are the opening of a lodge in Manilla, other new lodges, a Membership Plan, a dialogue with the other Pythian Order, and the much-awaited Supreme Lodge convention.

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Grand Lodge Conventions 2021

What we know as of this writing

West Virginia Bridgeport	July 8-9 SVC Brown
Indiana Lafayette	July 15-17 SS Morris
Pennsylvania Dunmore	August 31 DSC Charles Swartz III

Supreme Lodge Convention August 26 - 31, 2021 Newark, New Jersey

Ohio Fairborn	September 2-4 SP Stamm
Iowa Des Moines	September 10-11
Maryland Gaithersburg	September 11
New Jersey Monroe Township	September 12 PSC Fierstien
Michigan Lansing	September 16-18
Washington Yakima	September 17-19
Illinois Marion	September 18
New York Howard Beach	September 22-23 SVC Mead

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Supreme Chancellor's Message

Cont. from front page

Thank you to everyone for the support and contributions and work for the Order also to the Foundation and Tribunal as progress comes from our working together. As we get ready for the next term be optimistic and see the great potential for new members, new lodges, female members, public relations, and the unlimited opportunities for community service. Remember the importance of public recognition and the value of wearing Pythian Logo.

The upcoming Supreme Lodge Convention moves the Order ahead with important proposed legislation, a new budget, new officers, and appointments. If you are coming, please make your hotel and banquet reservations. The Convention Committee has done an excellent job.

Being vaccinated is so important for all of us in terms of protection for ourselves and those with whom we come in contact and has allowed us to recover.

Congratulations and welcome to the new officers and the promise of a busy, bright future for the Knights of Pythias!

**WORKING TOGETHER FOR A BETTER
COMMUNITY.**

STAY SAFE! STAY HEALTHY!

TWO OF THE LONGEST ONE-TERM EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF OUR ORDERS



Imperial Prince Roger Siegel, left, elected in August 2019 in Roanoke, VA; Supreme Chancellor Joel D. Fierstien, right, elected August 2018 in New York. Each was elected to a two-year term, each, due to the Coronavirus, is still in office.



*From the
Supreme Secretary's Desk*

This could be, should be, my final message of this term, a term that has lasted more than a year longer than normal. Now we need to determine if the normal we knew will be the normal or will what has transpired over the past 18 months be the new normal – time will tell.

The Supreme Lodge Office should be opening at the Convention on Thursday afternoon, August 26. We will have a minimum amount of paraphernalia there for sale, but catalogs and price lists will be available for you to order merchandise.

The Registration Table will be open, in the lobby, on Friday, August 27. Along with the Registration Committee, the New Jersey Convention Committee will be there to welcome you. The cost of registering for the Convention is \$20.00 per Brother. Cash or personal checks are welcome. Checks should be made out to the Supreme Lodge Knights of Pythias.

Also on Friday, August 27, a Supreme Council Meeting will be taking place – it should be going on for most of the day. If you are interested in seeing how your Supreme Lodge Officers conduct themselves to benefit Our Order, stop in.

The business sessions of the convention will begin Saturday morning at 9:00 am; with the Supreme Lodge Memorial Service being held at 4:00 pm that afternoon, followed by the Supreme Lodge Banquet at 6:00 pm that evening. The business sessions will continue through Tuesday, August 30 – culminating with the Installation of YOUR Newly Elected Supreme Lodge Officers; an Officer's Banquet will be held that evening.

STAY SAFE!

Fraternally,
Allen S. Morris, KGS
Supreme Secretary



*From Supreme Secretary
Connie Edwards*

In June I traveled to Texas with Supreme Guard Corrine M. Schneider and Imperial Zamorin Colleen Schneider to attend the Grand Temple Convention of Texas. The convention was one day in person and/or zoom. The Texas Pythian Home for children hosted the convention. The home has been serving Texas families since 1909. As we drove up the driveway, I could see why they call the home the castle on the hill.

The Texas Sisters had a nice session and took care of all business. After the meeting Kristin Watson, the homes Marketing Coordinator, Grand Junior of Texas Grand Temple, gave me a tour of the home. And was I impressed with the activities that the home has to offer.

Kristin went on to tell me that in 2019, the movie “12 Mighty Orphan’s” was filmed at the home. The movie is based on a true story that took place during the great depression. The orphans lived at the Fort Worth Masonic Orphanage. As the orphanage closed in 2005, the Texas Pythian Home was chosen to be used in the film. The two main characters are Martin Sheen as Doc. Luke Wilson was the teacher/coach Rusty Russell. Rusty made these boys into football players. Most of the boys had never seen a football or knew what football was. Rusty Russell is the legendary coach who took this team into 4 state championships, over his years at the home. They came close but never won a championship.

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The team was small and played against teams from bigger schools and the player were always bigger than the boys. The equipment they used was old hand me downs, but they were proud to wear the uniforms.

This movie depicts the hardships this team and folks faced during the depression. At the end of movie, it tells about the players and what they went on to do in life.

I was honored to attend the movie while in Texas, thanks to the Nacogdoches Lodge who purchased the tickets for us. Thank you, we enjoyed the movie and since has read the book.

Martin Sheen wear a Pythian Knights watch fob in the film. During the filming Martin would take a nap in one of the guest rooms. Martin Sheen has been on several T.V. shows since the movie came out and has mention the Pythian Home.

The Texas Pythian Home for children is funded by donations and contributions, there is no government funding. The Texas Pythian Home, provides a safe, stable environment for the foster children at the home and is the first priority. The children attend the local school. If you would like to make a donation to help fund needed everyday supplies sent to: Texas Pythian Home, Inc. 1825 East Bankhead Drive, Weatherford, TX 76086. Or if you have an Amazon account you can go online and look up the wish list for the home, pick what you would like to send, and Amazon will deliver it to the home.

If you are ever near Weatherford, I strongly advise you to make arrangements to visit the home. There is one room as a Pythian Sister Museum on the second floor. Some of the furniture used at the home dates to its early days.

The Grand Chiefs of Texas picks projects for the home. New drapes were purchased for the auditorium for the stage. Special ordered windows that look like the original ones and new furniture for the library is the project now.

Thank you to the Pythian Sisters and Knight of Texas for the enjoyable time we had while in Texas and for giving a tour of the home. Your support of any kind would be appreciated by the children and support staff at the home. The Texas Pythian take pride in the home.

In P.L.E. & F
Connie F. Edwards
Supreme Temple Secretary

NEW DOKK MEMBERS IN INDIANA

In the last year, Supreme Lodge has opened the door on allowing ladies to become Knights of Pythias. Indiana, with Lafayette Lodge #51 and Amir Temple 258 have now accepted our first female member on May 25th.



Left to right rear: Dr. Ken Moder PIP Imperial Secretary; and Joe Sutton RV Amir 258

Left to right lower: Ken Stanford new Dokie; Jill Unger-Moder new Knight and Dokie; Justin Major new Dokie; and Dave Chasey of Amir Temple 258. To our knowledge, Jill is the first female Knight in the state of Indiana as well as the first female DOKK member in the world.

A NIGHT TO REMEMBER



View of Texas Pythian Home for Children, Weatherford TX as shown in movie [12 Mighty Orphans](#)

On Friday, June 11, 2021, following their annual Grand Lodge convention in Mineral Wells TX, a group of some 20 Texas Pythian Knights and Pythian Sisters were treated to a first showing of the new movie “The Twelve Mighty Orphans” in Weatherford TX. The film was produced in 2019 using the property of the Knights of Pythias Texas Home for Children, as its setting; the appearance of the Home was turned back to as it might have looked in the 1930’s. The Home and its environs appear prominently throughout the movie.

The movie is about legendary Texas football Harvey “Rusty” Russell and his late 1930’s journey with twelve “throw-away” orphan boys at the Texas Masonic Home for Children in Ft Worth Texas, turning them into a “brotherhood of men” high school football team that became a national treasure during the Great Depression. Based on a true story, biographic sketches for the coach and players are shown at the end of the film.

The movie was released in June 2021 for national showing. It is an exceptional fine movie. Texas Pythians, Pythian Sisters and Pythian Home Staff members are proud to have been a played a part in its production.

DELPHIA LODGE #2 DOMAIN OF WASHINGTON TOUR OF OLD KOP CEMETERY IN ROSLYN, WASHINGTON FOLLOWED BY HISTORICAL TOUR OF TOWN



Eleven (11) members joined us for our trip to Roslyn Cemetery, which is east of the Cascade Mountains from the Puget Sound Area. We met our guide David Franklin there. CC Jeff Craig had made previous arrangements to have a guide for touring both the Cemetery and the city of Roslyn. Our guide provided many stories of the early days of Roslyn, when it was a coal mining town for the railroad. There were many family tragedies back in the day, from losing 42 men at one time in the mines, to children dying from the many diseases of the day.

Following the Cemetery tour, we traveled into town and got a unique history lesson of Roslyn. The railroad advertised jobs in far-flung countries of the world. Many men and women made the journey from Europe to Roslyn to work in the coal mines. We learned about the attempts to bring in strike-breaking Afro-Americans to work in the mines following a job strike. After the strike was over, most of the men brought in drifted away from Roslyn as the miners made life uncomfortable for them. We got a tour of the company store and an explanation of its importance in a company owned town.

We finished up with lunch in Roslyn. Everyone I talked with had a great time. We are planning on participating in the next work party to assist with maintaining the KOP gravesites

TENNESSEE'S GRAND LODGE CONVENTION

The annual Grand Lodge of Tennessee Convention was held June 4-6, 2021 at the Holiday Inn Express in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. A very good Grand Lodge was conducted by GC Rob Mitchell with visitors Imperial Prince Roger Siegel and Imperial Basha Michael Sukenick in attendance along with SIG Donald Stamm from West Virginia. Prior to the Grand Lodge Convention on Friday evening a Dokey initiation was conducted by Imperial Prince Siegel. We were honored to host SIG Donald Stamm, who presented the Supreme Chancellors program to the lodge brothers.



Pictured L-R: IB Sukenick; IP Siegel; GS Bobby Crowe, PSC; SR Jim Lynn; GLR Michael Brandenburg; PGC Mike Hartley; GP Mike Melton; SMA Mark Ward; SIG Don Stamm; GC Rob Mitchell; PGC Steve Gregory; GMA Darrell Rich; and PGC Robert Hall.

HERMES LODGE #56 AURORA, OREGON READ-N-RIDE PROGRAM

Hermes lodge #56 of Aurora Oregon partnered with Aurora library and North Marion School District for the Read-N-Ride reading program. On Friday June 11, 2021 the Aurora Knights raffled 2 bikes and 10 helmets. The Aurora library also gave away another two bikes, plus the school gave away some small prizes.

For every student that read for 20 minutes of reading was given a raffle ticket with their name school and classroom. When the members for Hermes Lodge came to help with the raffle they found several containers full of raffle tickets, representing more than thousand hours of reading. Most of the drawings was conducted over the web with the two classrooms along with a few students that was able to attend at the library.

A special thanks to the North Marion Library and North Marion School District for partnering with us to make this project a success. Now that we have a couple of dedicated partners, next year's Read-N-Ride project will be another successful event!

We received a thank you from North Marion School District

“Hello, this is Page from North Marion. Thank you so much for donating the bikes for the kids. The students were so thankful. The Read and Ride raffle was a huge success”.



