

Pythian Knight

December 2016



A message from our Grand Chancellor



THANK YOU to the membership of our domain – for placing their trust and faith in me to serve our great order for the past five years on the Grand Council – and to serve as your Grand Chancellor for the current year. 60 years ago, I joined the Order Knights of Pythias, not knowing what to expect or what others would expect of me. I quickly realized that all that was expected of me was my friendship. Years later, I served as Deputy Grand Chancellor under Past Grand Chancellor, Sir Irving Mendelson. This gave me the opportunity to visit many of the lodges in our domain and meet many of the brothers in our order.

When approached five years ago to run for Grand Outer Guard, I felt both honored and humbled. Now, as I begin my term as your Grand Chancellor, I make a simple pledge to serve our order in a dignified and proper manner. Know my commitment to always place the best interests of our membership and order above all else.

My Chief Deputy, Robert Banks, will capably lead my team, Blitz's Brigade. Robert and I served together on the Grand Council several years ago, when Robert served our order as our Grand Treasurer. Robert will do a superb job as our Chief.

Our order faces some difficult decisions in the coming years; at the same time it presents us some great opportunities to grow. The advent of social media and the Internet empowers our order to get our name out to the general public in a simple and cost-effective way. Indeed we already enjoy a robust website developed under the leadership of my predecessor – thank you Past Grand Chancellor Steve Kohn. Using these and other tools my administration will make Membership the focal point of our efforts. I will continue the membership program initiated by Past Grand Chancellor, Craig Shink. This proven program awards a brother one year's Lodge dues paid by Grand Lodge for every three members he brings into our order – up to a maximum of three years for nine new members.

(continued on page four)

Whether you light the Menorah at Chanukah, celebrate Mohammed's birth, sing carols around the Christmas tree, practice the principles of Kwanza, or greet the new year with thanksgiving, I wish you and your families all the best the season brings. Happy holidays and may peace be with you throughout the coming year. - Sheldon Blitz

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Pythian Knight

Grand Council 2016 - 2017

Grand Lodge Knights of Pythias Domain of New York

71 South Central Ave. Suite PH1
Valley Stream, NY 11580
(516) 739-5000
Fax (516) 739-2800
gsnykop@gmail.com
www.kopny.org

Editors

Corey Bearak, GTrib, PACDGC
Lowell Goldberg, PACDGC

Important Pythian Resources

Coats for Kids

Sir Lloyd Merson, PDSC
Sir Michael Sukenick, PDSC
Sir Ron Klare, PCDGC

Community Involvement

Sir Michael Sukenick, PDSC
Arnold Edelkind, PACDGC

Florida Coordinator

Sir Joseph Freiman, PGC

Humanitarian Committee

Jerome Bernzweig, PGC
Robert Kaufman, CDSC

Diabetes Research Association

Craig Shink, DSC

Membership

David Stanger, GMA
Harvey Rosenshein, GOG

Pythian Camp

Sir Kenneth Danker, PDSC

Dr. Morris Smoller Social Service Fund

Sir Alan Krell, SC

Special Olympics

Sir Alan Plotnik, PDGC
David Stanger, GMA

Scholarships

Sir Michael Sukenick, DSC



Grand Chancellor
Sheldon Blitz



Grand Vice Chancellor
Phillip Feigel



Grand Prelate
Douglas Handler



Grand Secretary
Marc Bochner



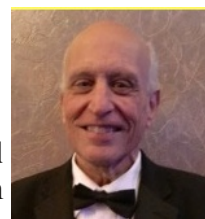
Grand Treasurer
Donald Rosenberg



Grand Master at Arms
David Stanger



Grand Inner Guard
Randy Silverman



Grand Outer Guard
Harvey Rosenshein



Past Grand Chancellor
Sir Robert Ross



Past Grand Chancellor
Steven Kohn

Grand Chancellor's Team

Chief Deputy Grand Chancellor
Robert Banks

Assistants to the Chief Deputy Grand Chancellor
Bill Cohen, Fred Simon

Deputy Grand Chancellors
Arthur Getzel (3rd District), Richard Resnick (46th District), Steven Cohan (72nd District), Avery Marder (2nd district), Terry Reich (Utica Rathbone), Barry Goldberg (Rochester Jay)

Executive Secretary
Corey B. Bearak, Esq., GTrib/ PACDGC/

Stay current on all Grand Lodge events & important subordinate lodge and district events at www.kopny.org.

Pythian News

Pythians get Thank You from Marines

Servicemen and Women and Veterans Committee Sent Packages to Base in Turkey

The Servicemen and Women and Veterans Committee of the Grand Lodge Knights of Pythias received a thank you from Marines stationed in Turkey:

“Thank you so much for the care pkgs. The Marines send their gratitude for all you Pythians caring about us here in Turkey. We are in support of operation inherent resolve via electronic warfare. We basically jam radio or network signals from the enemies and disrupt their modes of communications.

“There are still boots on the ground because they need to set the command and military presence. My unit is VMAQ -4 , a lot of young Marines on their first deployment in this miserable place. Little Problem when a coup started against the Turkish President. He blamed the U.S.A. was behind it, and shut all power to the base. Our government said if power is not put back on, we will pull out all U.S. troops in Turkey. Lights and power right back on. A little scary we thought that ISIS would attack the base as we are very close to Syria. Once again thanks for all you do, we hope to be back in the states before the year ends. Please continue to aid our troops serving in harm's way. -S/Sgt Wilmar M. Lopez”

Alpha-Genesis Sunshine Foundation helps Marine Get New Limbs.

Pythians Helping People!

Six years ago, Marine Sgt. John Peck had all four of his limbs blown off by an explosion in Afghanistan. Today, thanks to a double arm transplant, he is talking about the miracle of holding his fiancée's hand and feeling the pressure when she squeezes.

"That truly is a special gift," the retired Marine told reporters at a news conference at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.



Peck, 31, underwent a 14-hour surgery in August, performed by a team of 60 doctors, nurses and other medical personnel led by Dr. Simon Talbot, the hospital's director of upper extremity transplantation. Talbot said it will be nine to 12 months before the nerves in Peck's new arms are fully functional again. Still, Peck said he can lift his arms and is relearning to brush his teeth, dress and feed himself. His goal is to achieve the dream he's had since he was a boy: to become a world-class chef. Peck's remarkable story was detailed in The Washington Post. In May 2010, he lost his limbs to an improvised explosive device during a search mission in a small village in Afghanistan's Helmand province.

Since 2010, the Alpha-Genesis Sunshine Foundation has made two separate donations to the fund to replace this marine's arms. The Foundation is a private charity foundation affiliated with Genesis Lodge #64.



The Grand Lodge Knights of Pythias presented a check in support of the Special Olympics, Saturday, September 24 at Catiague Park in Hicksville, NY. Volunteers included GC Sheldon Blitz, GS Marc Bochner, GMA David Stanger, PACDGC Michael DiBlasio and Jeffrey Freese and Nassau County Legislators Laura Schaefer and Rose M. Walker.

Grand Chancellor Sheldon Blitz's Message

(continued from page one)

Working with the Grand Lodge Membership Committee, its chair, Grand Master at Arms David Stanger and the Grand Lodge Webmaster, Executive Secretary to the Grand Chancellor PACDGC/Grand Tribune Corey Bearak, Grand lodge will provide each subordinate lodge and district their own distinct page on the new Grand Lodge website, KnightsofPythiasNewYorkGrandLodge.com. We expect each (lodge and district) will submit their contact and meeting location, a list of officers, including photos and individual contact information – if they wish, and a calendar of events and/ or key events.

Know that each of these pages remain dynamic. Each lodge and district maintains the ability to submit an updated page to post to their site as often as they desire. This empowers our individual lodges, and the districts – if they wish, to purchase their own website names with that URL pointing directly to their page on the Grand Lodge site. My Chief Deputy, Robert Banks, will work with each of the Deputies to encourage each subordinate lodge to take advantage of this opportunity to self-promote and promote their events and doings. Further, the Grand Lodge, through its “Pythian Events” link on the website, will post any and all appropriate subordinate lodge and district events. This includes links to invitations and flyers.

In addition, the Grand Lodge website’s “Pythian News” section will include all appropriate news submissions from the subordinate lodges and the districts. It is my hope that submitting these articles for the Grand Lodge site will also induce similar submissions to the community media that covers the communities where each of the lodges and districts operate. This empowers the lodges and districts to more easily share their news and events via social media, including Facebook, Twitter and other media to help spread the word about our Order, the work of the districts and each subordinate lodge. I will also work with our Public Relations Committee, as well as our Supreme Chancellor, Sir Alan Krell, on methods we can use to get our name out to the public. As outlined above, we have the tools. Simply stated we need to increase our membership to continue to do all of the things we do for people. With your support, I know we can do it.

I commend to my Pythian brothers and sisters several Grand Lodge committees to join and work for. Our Humanitarian Committee conducts several shaker cans throughout the year; it helps support, in particular, the charitable work of our Servicemen’s and Veteran’s Committee, led by Past Chief Deputy, Sir Joseph Robinson. In addition to sending packages to our servicemen and women serving our country abroad, Joe and his committee also take the time to visit many of our wounded warriors at Veterans Hospitals in our area, and as far away as Bethesda, Maryland. The Pythian Humanitarian Fund also provides scholarships to the sons and daughters of members of our order. In addition, it provides generous donations to support Camp Sunrise on Long Island and Double H Ranch in Upstate New York. The Diabetes Research Committee continues to raise money through shaker cans as well as the daily lottery tickets sold through the committee. Since its inception, this committee contributed in excess of \$1,000,000 to help find a cure for this disease – one which many Pythians and family members suffer through. Pythian Camp continues to send underprivileged children to camp for several weeks during the summer months and will continue this for the foreseeable future. And the Dr. Morris Smoller Fund continues to donate money to local area hospitals, nursing homes and rehabilitation centers. All of these committees share the same motto: We Help People!

For my primary charity for the coming year, I select the American Cancer Society. Each of us knows personally of someone who suffered from this dreaded disease. And as a cancer survivor, I personally believe this to be a most worthy charity.

In closing, I share my hope and desire for this coming year – a year totally enveloped by friendship and benevolence among our brothers. Only by working together can we make this order succeed. And as my motto to support these efforts, I select: DO WHAT’S RIGHT!!! Thank you all for your support and may God bless our order and God bless America.

Fraternally Yours,
Sheldon Blitz

Upcoming Pythian Events

- Sun., Mar. 12, 10:00 a.m.** Pancake Breakfast benefit for servicemen/women & veterans at Tom's Restaurant Coney Island (End of Stillwell Ave.), 1229 Boardwalk Henderson Walk, Bklyn, NY 11224. \$15pp payable to "Humanitarian Fund" (In memo area: "Servicemen & Veterans). RSVP CDSC Robert Kaufman, 3165 Nostrand Ave., Apt 5J, Bklyn NY 11229; (917) 626-8185 or rrk4745@aol.com
- Mon, Mar 20, 8:00 p.m.** 46th District presents Blue Jacket to GC Sheldon Blitz & Lodge Man of the Year Awards (Closed) AOH Hall, 2750 Gerritsen Ave, Brooklyn
- Fri, Apr 21,** Dinner Honoring DGC Steve Cohan (Open) time, cost & place TBA
- Wed, Apr 26, 8:00 p.m.** ACDGC Bill Cohen's Homecoming Genesis Lodge #64 (Open) AOH Hall, Brooklyn
- Thu, Apr 27, 7:30 p.m.** Diabetes Dine A Round at Giardino Restaurant, Douglaston, NY \$35pp. RSVP Mar. 31 to Craig Shink (347) 351-3251 or David Stanger (718) 336-2533.
- Fri, Apr 28, 7:00 p.m.** Kings-FDR Tolerance Foundation Dinner & Poker (Open) at FDR's Castle Hall, 1348 E. 64th St, Bklyn. \$20pp Prizes: \$100 1st, \$50 2d, \$25 3d. Bob Kaufman (917) 626-8185 rrk4745@aol.com
- Tue, May 9, 7:30 p.m.** New City Orangetown Lodge #854 Annual Scholarship Night (Open) at Ramapo Senior Center, 319 Haverstraw Road, Suffern, NY.
- Thur, May 11, 7:00 p.m.** United Queens #175 (Winter) Jacket (to Jr PC) & Tie (to GC Sheldon Blitz) Knight (Open) at Amer. Leg. Post, 10-20 Clintonville St, Whitestone, NY 11357. Info, Joe Robinson (646) 270-6285.
- Fri, May 12, 8:30 p.m.** FDR Lodge #613 Night of the Shield to GC Sheldon Blitz (Closed) at Masonic Hall, 1348 E. 64th St, Brooklyn; Corey Bearak (718) 3436779
- Sat, May 13, 7:30 p.m.** Grand Chancellor's Dinner at Temple Avodah (see back page)
- Mon., May 15,** 3d Dist. Deputy dinner honoring DGC Arthur Getzel (OPEN) at East Meadow Jewish Center, 1400 Prospect Ave., E. Meadow, NY cost TBA. RSVP CDGC Robert Banks
- Tue., May 16, 7:00 p.m.** Rex Lodge #551 presents Swords of Defense (OPEN)at AOH, 2750 Gerritsen Ave., Bklyn, NY 11229. 7:00 p.m. Dinner precedes program. RSVP REQUIRED to Marty Fasting (718) 338-5620.
- Sun, May 21,** Salaam & Habibi Temples DOKK honor GC Sheldon Blitz at a brunch Location & details TBA
- Wed, May 24, 8:00 p.m.** Genesis Lodge #64 Presents Gavel to GC Sheldon Blitz (Closed) AOH Hall, Bklyn
- Thu, May 25, 8:00 p.m.** North Shore Lodge #824 Homecoming for CDGC Robert Banks (Open) at Amer Leg Hall, 10-20 Clintonville St, Whitestone, NY 11357Dessert and Coffee Collation
- Sat, June 3,** American Cancer Society RELAY FOR LIFE at MCU Park, Coney Island, Brooklyn, NY
- Sun, June 4, 11:00 a.m.** Humanitarian Luncheon (see page 7)
- Wed, June 7, 7:00 p.m.** DGC Steven Cohan installs officers of Yorktown Lodge #859 (Open)
- Sun, June 11, 8:00 a.m.** Camp Sunrise Walk at Wheatley Heights, NY
- Tue, June 20, 7:00 p.m.** North Shore Lodge #824 Installation of Officers at Location TBA (TBD if open)
- Fri, June 23, 8:30 p.m.** FDR Lodge 613 Annual Installation & Charitable & Scholarship Awards (Open), Masonic Hall, 1348 E. 64th St, Brooklyn, NY; Corey Bearak (718) 343-6779

Grand Lodge updates this events listing on its KOPNY.ORG website almost daily.

Make Sure You Get Your Pythian News & Event Updates

Grand Lodge publishes a printed version of Pythian Knight annually.

Any additional (web-only) versions get published to the Grand Lodge website periodically.

If you want an email alert to get these updates, please provide your email address, name and Lodge or Pythian Sisters Temple to PythianKnight@KOPNY.ORG.

Find this and future print and electronic-issues of Pythian Knight at KOPNY.ORG.

No computer? View the Pythian Knight on a library computer.

More Pythian News

College Scholarships Applications Available

Dear Pythian Grandpa,

Don't miss out on \$4000 worth of available college scholarships from Grand Lodge. In order for your grandchild to receive this scholarship, your son or son-in-law (the father of the recipient) must be (1) a Pythian for two years prior to applying for this scholarship; (2) a member of any Lodge in New York State; and (3) remain a member throughout his child's college career.

Do the math! Example: \$60 a year for dues over the six years required equals \$360.00. Your grandchild will be receiving, in turn, \$4000. This is a NO BRAINER! Please call Grand Lodge for an application and complete list of eligibility requirements at 516-739-5000.

Remember, your son or son in law must be a Pythian for two years prior to the application! Fraternally, Sir Michael Sukenick DSC....

In 2016 Grand Lodge awarded scholarships to: Rachel Brynien, daughter of Robert Brynien (Mid-Island); Luke Diamond, son of Eric Diamond (FDR); Steven Estes, son of B. Bradley (Omni); Netania Kligerman, daughter of Tom Kligerman (Albany); Landon Finkel, son of Steven Finkel South Nassau); Javier Rodriguez, son of Michael Edelkind (United Queens); and Rachel Sortino daughter of Andrew Sortino (Canarsie).

KOP Brothers--How to get free Dues

Grand Lodge will pay your dues up to three (3) years. All you need do is: Sponsor 3 members, Grand Lodge pays one years dues; Sponsor 6 members, Grand Lodge pays two years dues; or Sponsor 9 members, Grand Lodge pays three years due. Every new member and every sponsor receives a Pythian shirt from Supreme Lodge. Any Brother who sponsors three or more new members receives a special coin from Supreme Lodge. Every Lodge will receive a \$5 credit for each new member or reinstatement. We need all brothers to bring in new members. It is the lifeblood of our order! Talk it up. Let others know what we have been doing for 151 years. That is Helping others. RECRUIT – RETAIN – REINSTATE. Any questions about membership, please contact: GL Membership co-chairs GMA David Stanger, at davbar531@verizon.net, or GOG Harvey S. Rosenshein, at foodsvice@optonline.net.

Cyclones Games fundraiser supports Diabetes Research & More

Pythians raised substantial funds for Diabetes Research and subordinate lodge charities this past summer at MCU Park in Coney Island Brooklyn. Over 250 people joined in the fun.



Excellence in Journalism & Fraternalism

by PACDGC Lowell Goldberg

Congratulations to my co-editor, GTrib/ PACDGC Corey B. Bearak, Esq. PGC Steve Kohn presented an award for best Pythian newsletter to Bro. Bearak as editor of The Beam from FDR Lodge #613. Also pictured at left 2015-16 Pythian Bulletin Committee chair PACDGC Joel West.

To receive non-mailed editions of the Pythian Knight, send your e-mail address to PYTHIANKNIGHT@KOPNY.ORG or visit us at KOPNY.ORG

Pythian Humanitarian Fund Brunch

Sunday June 4, 11:00 a.m.

Temple Avodah of Oceanside, 3050 Oceanside Road
Hot & Cold Buffet

Raffles*Music*Friendship

Tickets available several ways:
Gold Page \$500 (includes 8 tickets to Luncheon)
Silver Page \$250 (includes 4 tickets to Luncheon)
Full Page \$125 (includes 2 tickets to Luncheon)
1/2 page \$75 (includes 1 ticket to Luncheon)

Contact CDSC Robert Kaufman (917) 626-8185 or PSR Jerry Bernzweig (631) 981-4422

To place a Journal Ad, call PGC Sir Robert Ross (718) 252-7546

Pythian Clothing Items for Sale

Polo Shirts (Available with or without a pocket. The shirts come with your name, lodge and # if desired.
Sizes: S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL. Colors: Blue, Red, Gray, Green, Black. Price \$25 (XL sizes \$2 extra)

Jackets - Choice of a fleece lined or light windbreaker -- with your name, lodge and # if desired.
Sizes: S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL Colors: Blue, Black. \$65 Fleece lined; \$40 Windbreaker (XL sizes \$2 extra)

Hoodies - zippered, with your name, lodge and # if desired.
Sizes: S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL. Colors: Blue, black or grey. Price: \$45

Hats (Blue only) - Price: \$10

Order Form - Pythian Humanitarian Fund

Item (circle selection) Polo Shirt Jacket Hoodie Hat
Size
Color
Pocket? (Polo shirt only)
Name
Lodge Name and #

Please return all order forms to:
PDSC Sir Roger Siegel
17 Broome Blvd.
Nyack, NY 10960



Fleece



Windbreaker

Grand Lodge, Knights of Pythias

71 South Central Ave. Suite PH1

Valley Stream, NY 11580

**Forwarding Address
Service Requested**

The Grand Lodge Knights of Pythias

Domain of New York

cordially invites you to attend a Testimonial Dinner in honor of

Grand Chancellor Sheldon Blitz

Saturday, May 13, 7:30 p.m.

Temple Avodah, 3050 Oceanside Road, Oceanside, NY 11572

\$125/person \$245/couple -- Black Tie Optional -- Business Attire Required

For more information contact PCDGC Jerry Bale, (718) 336-5955. NOTE RSVPs required by April 28.

Please check with your home lodge concerning any lodge subsidy before you reserve direct.

NYS Now Supreme

Congratulations to our domain's own Sir Alan Krell, pictured above with wife Irina, at this past August's Supreme Convention, on his election as Supreme Chancellor of our Order. Alan appointed Robert Kaufman Chief Deputy Supreme Chancellor and Craig Shink Deputy Supreme Chancellor for NYS. Sir Alan Ast was re-elected Supreme Treasurer.

