

Pythian Knight

Spring 2025



A message from Grand Chancellor Errol Lewis

"STAND UP-STEP ASIDE-MENTOR"!!!

This means, fellow Pythians, and New Members, need to be Motivated to Participate, in Positions, either on Committees, or moving up the Ranks. What I have seen is there are Members who have no initiative to participate, because they won't be Nominated, Elected, or, Appointed to a Position. If established Pythians, Stand Up, Step Aside, and Volunteer to Mentor, we will hopefully, get New Blood, and Ideas, when they hold these positions. I want you to Understand, when I say, Step Aside, that by No Means, do I want you, Not to still, continue to be Involved.

Read the entire message at

WWW.KOPNY.ORG

Move your mouse to **"ORGANIZATION"**, and click on **GRAND CHANCELLOR'S MESSAGE**

The Grand Council, 2024-2025



Standing l. to r. : GS Steven Gold, GMA Craig Kligfeld, GT Donald Rosenberg , GVC Bryan Hoffman, GC Errol Lewis, PGC Richard E Resnick, GIG Paul Barth, GOG Sheldon Miller, PGC Sir Charles Pakula, GP Brian Klasewitz

(picture courtesy of Bruce Nelson)

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Pythian Knight

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GrandLodgeKOPNY@gmail.com
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Editor

Brian Klasewitz, GP

Important Pythian Resources

Coats for Kids

Sir Lloyd Merson, PDSC

Community Involvement

Sir Michael Sukenick, PDSC

Florida Coordinator

Mike Stein, PDGC
Irving Margulias

Humanitarian Fund Committee

Jerome Bernzweig, PSR
Robert Kaufman, PCDSC

Diabetes Research Association

Jordan Levy, SR, KGS

Membership

Craig Kligfeld, GMA

Pythian Camp

Robert Banks, PCDGC

Webmasters

Bruce Nelson, PACDGC
Bruce Sicherman, PCDGC
webmaster@nypythian.org

Scholarships

Sir Michael Sukenick, PDSC

Ritual & Instruction

Sir Roger Siegel, PDSC

Executive Secretary

Bruce Sicherman, PCDGC

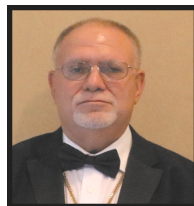
Grand Council 2024 - 2025



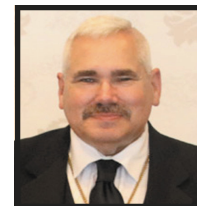
Grand Chancellor
Errol Lewis



Grand Vice
Chancellor
Bryan Hoffman



Grand Prelate
Brian Klasewitz



Grand Secretary
Steven Gold



Grand Treasurer
Donald Rosenberg



Grand Master at Arms
Craig Kligfeld



Grand Inner Guard
Paul Barth



Grand Outer Guard
Sheldon Miller



Past Grand Chancellor
Sir Charles Pakula



Past Grand Chancellor
Richard Resnick

Grand Chancellor's Team

Chief Deputy Grand Chancellor

David Salem (Esquire Goodfellowship #635)

Assistants to the Chief Deputy Grand Chancellor

2nd District Keith Karon (Esquire Goodfellowship #635)

21st District: Michael Stacher (Albany City #540)

Deputy Grand Chancellor

Deputy Grand Chancellor 72nd District:

Susan Grill (Ramapo #485)

Deputy Grand Chancellor 46th District:

Ken Schechter (Genesis #64)

PYTHIAN CHARITIES

PYTHIANS DONATE \$5,300 TO SPECIAL OLYMPICS



On September 23, the Special Olympics Fall Classic took place at Cantiague Park. The Pythians were the golf scorers for the Special Olympians. Thank you to Dale Siegel, Keith Karon, David Salem, Errol Lewis, Scott Geffon, Don Rosenberg, Robert Banks, Stuart Teicher, Lea Salem, Martha Lewis, Michael DiBlasio, Sheldon Miller, Marc Becker, and Jackie Becker for showing up and making a difference. The Special Olympics mission strives to create a better world by fostering the acceptance and inclusion of all people through the power of sports. The Special Olympians discover new strengths and abilities, skills and success. These athletes find joy, confidence and fulfillment on the playing field and in life. They also inspire people in their communities and elsewhere to open their hearts to a wider world of human talents and potential. Thank you to The Humanitarian Fund, Harmony Lodge, The William Wernicoff Children's Foundation, The Third Pythian District, and Brian Klasewitz for their generous donations.

Sincerely, CDGC David Salem, Chairman

Pictured (l. to r.) CDGC / Co-Chairman David Salem, PCDGC Robert Banks, Dale Siegel, GT/PGC Donald Rosenberg, Special Olympics Liaison Alexis Dawson, PACDGC / Co-Chairman Stuart Teicher, GOG Sheldon Miller, ACDGC Keith Karon, GC Errol Lewis
(picture courtesy of David Salem)

BREAST CANCER WALK

Much thanks to all, especially to my wife Barbara Klasewitz, who helped raise \$1,948 including some matching donations. The Knights of Pythias was represented by Brian Klasewitz, Barbara Klasewitz, David Salem, Lea Salem, Robert Fletcher, Joseph St. John, Craig Kligfeld and Kenneth Schecter. We had a wonderful walk on a chilly but beautiful day in Coney Island, Brooklyn.

Sincerely, Grand Prelate Brian Klasewitz

(Pictured l to r):

PCDGC Robert Fletcher, GMA Craig Kligfeld, CC Joseph St. John, GP Brian Klasewitz, Barbara Klasewitz, CDGC David Salem, and Lea Salem.

(picture courtesy of David Salem)



On Sunday, October 6, 2024, many Pythians participated in the Walk to End Alzheimer's® in East Meadow, NY. The Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's® is the world's largest fundraiser for Alzheimer's care, support and research. Special thanks to PCDGC/AGT Sir Marty Nyear and PACDGC Scott Geffon for being our team leaders.

Thank you to the Third Pythian District, Alliance-MidIsland Lodge #801 and Island Lodge #623, CC Barry Hyman, GOG Sheldon Miller and Ted Winkler for their generous donations. Our Pythian team raised \$5,135.82. Thank you to all who participated and donated to fight this dreadful disease.

Respectfully submitted, DGC David Salem.

(picture courtesy of DGC David Salem)

2025 Diabetes Calendars are NOW available!!

Calendars are good for all of 2025

- Cost per Calendar is \$20.00 for the entire year. •

To purchase a Calendar, please send \$20.00 for each 2025 Calendar you wish to purchase with a check payable to: KoP Diabetes Research Assn. And mail it to:

Attn: SR "Sir" Jordan Levy, 71 S Central Ave, Ste PH2, Valley Stream, NY 11580
Should you have any questions or need additional information, please call SR Sir Jordan Levy, President of the Knights of Pythias Diabetes Research Association, at (917) 841-6881.

Knickerbocker Lodge Celebrates Their 100th Anniversary

Knickerbocker Lodge celebrated its 100th Anniversary of Institution on Sunday, June 30th, 2024. the celebration was held at the Worlds Fair Marina banquet Hall (opposite Citi Field), in Queens. It starting with an outdoor/indoor reception at Noon, then a "very few" welcome remarks inside at 1 PM, followed by lunch, Shortly afterwards, Supreme Lodge Life Memberships were presented to PSR Jerry Bernzweig & PCDGC Joseph Robinson. Music for Listening and Dancing was provided by the "Generation Gap. Henry Gutterman, the Chancellor Commander of Knickerbocker, MC'd the event.



100TH ANNIVERSARY

Albany City Lodge Celebrates Their 100th Anniversary

Albany City Lodge celebrated its 100th Anniversary of Institution on Sunday, May 18th, 2025 at the Italian American Community Center in Albany, NY. Honorary Memberships in Albany City Lodge were bestowed upon GS Steven Gold & GT PGC Donald Rosenberg, GA PACDGC Sir Ronald Degen & PCDGDC Robert Banks during the festivities.



College Scholarships Applications Available!

Dear Pythian Member (parent),

Don't miss out on \$4000 worth of available college scholarships from Grand Lodge. In order to receive this scholarship, you (the parent 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 their child's college career.

Do the math! Example: \$65 a year for dues over the six years required equals \$390.00. Your child 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, you must be a Pythian for two years prior to the application!

Dear Pythian Member (grandparents),

If you have grandchildren, inform your child or child-in-law that they need to be a Pythian for two years prior to your grandchild being eligible for this scholarship.

In 2025 Grand Lodge awarded scholarships to:

Pearl Kreiger (Jarrod - Rochester Jay #639)

Zev Loring (Jonathan - Genesis #64)

Ryan Steir (Hugh - Majestic #109)

Owen Carlin (Brian - Esquire Goodfellowship #635)

NCO LODGE No. 854 PARTICIPATES IN MAY 25TH NYACK STREET FAIR



The sun was shining down on our booth at the May 25th Nyack Street Fair, and so were the smiles of our dedicated Knights and Friends. Representing the 72nd Pythian District of the Northern Suburban Area, we came together once again under the banner of friendship, charity, benevolence and community service.

Our Lodge always looks forward to this event –not just for

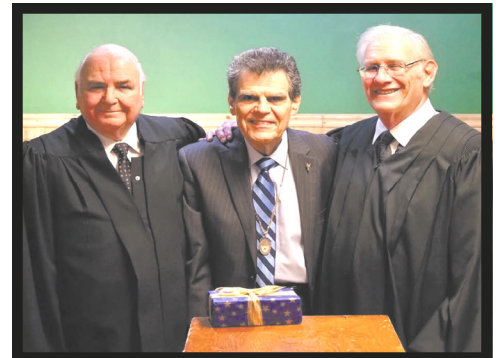
the opportunity to enjoy the company of our brothers, but also connect with the wider community. We shared our mission with hundreds of passersby's, answered questions, and raised funds for the charities we proudly support year-round.

A huge thank you to everyone who stopped by, donated, or simply shared a kind word. Every handshake, smile and conversation reminded us why we do what we do. It was a beautiful Sunday spent in the spirit of giving and unity.

↑↑ Pictured above l. to r. is MA Edward Blocker, Marcia Shapiro, Trustee Jan Cohen, PDSC Sir Michael Sukenick (Picture & Article by Stephen Herbst)

Majestic Lodge Presents Honorary Membership to PACDGC GA Sir Ron Degen

On Wednesday, March 6th, 2024, Majestic Lodge honored PACDGC GA Sir Ronald Degan with Honorary Membership in our lodge. The ceremony was a bit out of the ordinary - it was made into a "trial" as Ron is a lawyer. Eventually the jury found him "guilty" and the sentence was "life imprisonment in Majestic Lodge". Congrats to a well deserving Pythian.



Pic'd (l to r): PACDGC Lewis Smith, GA PACDGC Sir Ron Degen, & SR Sir Robert Ross (picture courtesy of David Salem)

Make Sure You Get Your Pythian News & Event Updates

Grand Lodge publishes a printed Pythian Knight annually. Any additional versions get published to Grand Lodge's website periodically. If you want an email alert to get these updates, please provide your email address, name & Lodge or Pythian Sisters Temple to webmaster@nypythian.org.

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

No computer? View us on a library computer.

Majestic Lodge Presents The Red Collar

Majestic Lodge presents Grand Chancellor Errol Lewis with the Red Collar on Wednesday, March 19, 2025



Pictured (left to right): GC Errol Lewis receives the Red Collar from SR Sir Robert Ross, GC Errol Lewis with SR Sir Jordan Levy. *(picture courtesy of David Salem)*

GC Errol Lewis Is Honored with KNIGHT OF THE SHIELD

FDR Lodge presents Grand Chancellor Errol Lewis with His Commemorative Shield on May 8th at AOH in Brooklyn.



Pictured (left to right): PDSC Irwin Grill, PCDCS Robert Kaufman, SMA Craig Shink, PDSC Sir Roger Seigel, GC Errol Lewis, PGC Phillip Feigel, PGC Sir Charles Pakula. *pictures courtesy of David Salem)*

GC Errol Lewis Receives The Gavel From Genesis Lodge #64 at his Homecoming !

On Thursday May 29, 2025, Genesis Lodge #64, held Grand Chancellor Errol Lewis' Homecoming at AOH in Gerritsen Beach. The GC was presented with The Gavel from Genesis Lodge #64.



Pictured (left to right); Genesis CC Jay Streich presents GC Errol Lewis with the commemorative Gavel

PSC Sir Roger Seigel with Grand Chancellor Errol Lewis *(picture courtesy of Dvid Salem)*



Pictured (left to right); The Members of the Grand Council at the proceedings *(picture courtesy of Dvid Salem)*



• SWORDS OF DEFENSE •

from Rex Lodge #551



Grand Chancellor, Hon. Errol Lewis received the Swords of Defense from Rex Lodge #551. The evening was hosted at AOH Hall in Gerritsen Beach, Brooklyn, NY, on Friday, May 30, 2025. Errol's Wife, Martha, received the Lady of the Knight from DGC Susan Grill



(pictures courtesy of David Salem)

KOP JOINS IN THE LUCK OF THE IRISH!!



Members of the Knights of Pythias showing their support of the Gerritsen Beach community as they joined the neighborhood St. Patrick's Day parade on March 29, 2025.

Pictured Above are: (l. to r) CDGC David Salem, CC Joseph St. John, PCDGC Robert Fletcher, GMA Craig Kligfeld, GP Brian Klasewitz, VC George Perez, and VC Martha Lewis
(picture courtesy of GP Brian Klasewitz)

• NEW KNIGHTS •

3 - IN - 1 RANKS

On Wednesday, January 8th, 2025 Genesis Lodge hosted a three in one rank with a class of 10. The lodges included were Esquire Goodfellowship #635, Genesis #64, Knickerbocker #510, and Rex #551.



PYTHIANS VISIT PURPLE HEART RECIPIENTS IN TRAUMA UNIT •

Members of Yorktown Lodge #859 along with the Purple Heart Society and Megan Robey, recreational therapist takes 15 patients in the PTSD unit of the Montrose Veterans Hospital out to lunch at a local diner on May 10. This is an annual event.

The PTSD trauma unit the Montrose Veterans Hospital is the focus of much of Yorktown Lodge's community outreach. The vets come into the program for 45 days and the Lodge helps them throughout the year. Thanksgiving dinner, Christmas breakfast, barbeques, and lunch at a local diner. All these vets are suffering from PTSD.

(Picture at right includes) CC Don Rosenberg along with Neil Gross and Purple Heart recipients with Megan Robey, Recreational Therapist. ↑↑





GRAND LODGE, KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS

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Valley Stream, NY 11580

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ANNUAL JACKET NIGHT, A SUCCESS!

On Thursday, November 7th, 2024, the Annual Jacket presentation took place at AOH Hall. The 2nd Pythian District presented current Grand Chancellor Errol Lewis with the Red Jacket. Harmony Lodge presented this year's Chief Deputy Grand Chancellor David Salem with the Blue Jacket. The turnout was wonderful, 48 attendees!! It included many past recipients of both jackets, as shown below.



*Red Jacket past recipients: (l to r)
Richard Resnick, Sir Jordan Levy, Phil Figel, Current
Grand Chancellor Errol Lewis, Sir Robert Ross,
Sir Roger Seigel, Erwin Grill, Sir Charles Pakula*



*Blue Jacket past recipients: (l to r)
Robert Fletcher, Robert Banks, Bruce Sicherman,
Current CDGC David Salem, Sir Ron Degen (Grand
Advocate), Teddy Pashko, Sir Charles Pakula, &
Erwin Grill.*