

The Gavel

Calendar of Events & Times

**SEPTEMBER 2026
EDITION**

ALL MEETINGS AT *Our Castle Hall*
Wesley Hills Village Hall
432 Rt. 306 • Monsey, NY 10952

September 2026 :

SEPTEMBER 4 BUDGET PRESENTATION, 6:30PM

SEPTEMBER 18 G C MESSAGE, 7:00PM

October 2026 :

OCTOBER 9 REGULAR MEETING, 6:30PM

OCTOBER 23 DESK PEN SET PRESENTATION TO GC, 7:00PM

November 2026 :

NOVEMBER 6 REGULAR MEETING, 6:30PM

NOVEMBER 20 REGULAR MEETING, 6:30PM

SEE PAGE 5
FOR A DETAILED
CALENDAR
FOR THE YEAR

Award Winning
2022-2023 Newsletter

*Reminder ; The Final Date that
All Articles Are Due for the
October 2026' issue of "The Gavel"
is September 20, 2026'.*

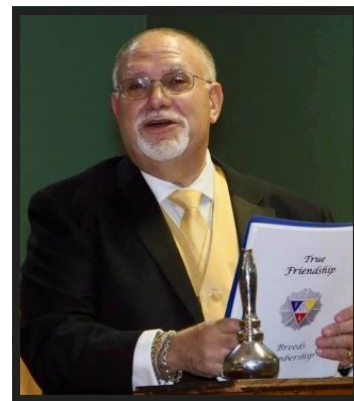
SAVE The Date

RAMAPO LODGE #485 MEMBERS,



PICTURE FOR EXAMPLE ONLY
MAY NOT BE EXACT ITEM

**MAKE SURE YOU'RE PRESENT
WHEN WE BESTOW
THE DESK & PEN SET
TO GRAND CHANCELLOR
BRIAN KLASEWITZ**



FRIDAY • OCTOBER 23RD, 2026

7PM @ Our Castle Hall

Wesley Hills Village Hall • 432 Rt. 306 • Monsey, NY 10952

THIS WILL BE AN OPEN MEETING.

**RAMAPO LODGE #485 KNIGHTS OF
PYTHIAS
2026-2027 OFFICERS**

**Chancellor Commander
Alan Paul Katz**

**22 N. DeBaun Ave. Unit 301 • Suffern, NY 10901
C-917/612-0609**

Vice Chancellor	PDSC Erwin Grill 111 Montello Commons Dr. Apt. 315 Suffern, NY 10901-5122 h-845/357-1963 c-914/419-8012
Prelate	PCDGC Dr. Alan Rosenfeld 35 Sally Street Bloomingdale, NJ 07403 973/492-5700
Recording Secretary	PDSC Harvey Rosenshein 8 Glade Court New City, NY 10956 845/425-3059
Financial Secretary Corresponding Secretary	PCDGC Dr. Alan Rosenfeld 35 Sally Street Bloomingdale, NJ 07403 973/492-5700
Treasurer	PDSC Harvey Rosenshein 8 Glade Court New City, NY 10956 845/425-3059
Master at Arms	GS Steven Gold 845/597-5141
Inner Guard	PC Harold Heller 845/548-3349
Outer Guard	ACDGC Susan Grill 845/357-1963
Master of the Work	ACDGC Susan Grill 845/357-1963
1 Year Trustee	PC Harold Heller 845/548-3349
2 Year Trustee	GS Steven Gold 845/597-5141
3 Year Trustee	Larry Bate 845/ 304-5925
Grand Lodge Rep	ACDGC Susan Grill 845/357-1963
Alternate GL Rep.	PDSC Erwin Grill 845/425-3059
District Rep.	PDSC Erwin Grill 845/357-1963
Alternate Dist. Rep.	PDSC Harvey Rosenshein 845/425-3059

TO ALL MEMBERS:

Please notify all
changes of address
and/or telephone
numbers to the
membership committee.
**Dr. Alan Rosenfeld
973/492-5700**

**Our Castle Hall is located at the Wesley Hills Village Hall
432 Route 306, Monsey, NY
(Across the road from Wesley Kosher Supermarket)**

**RAMAPO LODGE #485 KNIGHTS OF
PYTHIAS
2026-2027 COMMITTEES**

BUDGET

PCDGC Dr. Alan Rosenfeld 973/492-5700
PDSC Harvey Rosenshein 845/425-3059
PDSC Erwin Grill 845/357-1963



CEMETERY / BENEFITS

PCDGC Dr. Alan Rosenfeld 973/492-5700
PDSC Harvey Rosenshein 845/425-3059
GS Steven Gold 845/597/5141



"The GAVEL"

PDSC Harvey Rosenshein
8 Glade Court • New City, NY 10956
845/425-3059
Email: foodsvce@optonline.net



GRAND COUNCIL VISITATIONS

PDSC Erwin Grill 845/357-1963

MEMBERSHIP

PCDGC Dr. Alan Rosenfeld 973/492-5700
35 Sally Street • Bloomingdale, NJ 07403-1305



SCHOLARSHIP

PDSC Erwin Grill 845/357-1963
ACDGC Susan Grill 845/357-1963
PCDGC Dr. Alan Rosenfeld 973/492-5700
PDSC Harvey Rosenshein 845/425-3059



Send all committee activity reports to:
Press & Public Relations Committee
To Be Determined

Harvey Rosenshein 845/425-3059
foodsvce@optonline.net
Dr. Alan Rosenfeld 973/492-5700

**Former Members of
Levona/Acme Lodge
Cemetery/Benefits Information**

Lewis Smith 1-800/624-8282
Dr. Alan Rosenfeld 973/4925700
alanrosenfeld@verizon.net



CHANCELLOR COMMANDER'S MESSAGE (SEPTEMBER 2026)



I hope all of my Pythian family, their friends and relatives had a most enjoyable summer that was mostly, hazy, hot and humid. People know that I am not a fan of warm weather and prefer the cold.

August 27th, 2026, I was sworn in as an Assistant Chief Deputy Grand Chancellor, and will be performing the same visitations as was done during the Pythian 2025-2026 year. After doing this upcoming tour of the Pythian year 2026-2027, I will then decide whether or not continue another tour. True, I enjoy doing these visitations but am only human and do not like running into heavy traffic and having a watchful eye on careless motorists on the road. I have said many times how I joined the Pythian order and went through the ranks to become a Chancellor Commander. I will repeat it again. I joined the Knights of Pythias on my own without knowing anyone that belonged to the order. In June 2006, I did research on the internet and a Supreme Secretary of the Midwest forwarded my contact information to Sir Lloyd Merson of Wendell Willkie Lodge. Lloyd knew that I was a loner and did his best calling me on a weekly basis.

In June 2023, I joined Ramapo Lodge while living in the Bronx for another 2 years and enjoyed attending meetings here because of the warmth and friendliness. I am once again honored and privileged to be Ramapo Lodge Chancellor Commander that will be my 10th time in the district.

I want to wish all a very Happy Labor Day and upcoming Jewish New Year 2026-5787.

Faternally yours,

Alan Paul Katz

Alan Paul Katz, Chancellor Commander

Facebook



~ Ramapo Lodge's e-mail address ~
ramapolodge485@optonline.net

Ramapo Lodge Facebook Page is

Ramapo Lodge No. 485 KOP. Please follow the
lodge on Facebook



Lodge Brother

STEVEN C. TUCHMAN, MBA, LUTCF
Partner & Senior Sales Executive

268 South Main Street
New City, NY 10956
www.hudsonunited.com/insurance
steven.tuchman@hudsonunited.com

Office: 845.825.8080
Cell: 845.222.9067
Fax: 845.678.3620

David B. Jauvtis

Certified Public Accountant
DBJTHECPA@AOL.COM

914-261-2822 (Cell #)

10062 Hickorywood Place
Boynton Beach Florida 33437

561-736-6654 (Land #)

**DAVIS
SPORT
SHOP
INC.**

PHONE: 845-753-2198
FAX: # 845-753-5944

120 ROUTE 17, P.O. BOX 86
SLOATSBURG, NY 10974



Hello From The Editor-in-Chief, Harvey Rosenshein



Dear Brothers and Friends:

Hoping all had a very enjoyable and healthy summer.

As we begin our new Pythian year, for 2026-2027, I am once again delighted to take on the editorship of our bulletin, The Gavel.

I congratulate our Chancellor Commander, Alan Paul Katz, on his reelection to this chair. He conducts meeting professionally, and in ritualistic order. He always helps put things back in order, and helps clean up after our meetings. We all wish our CC, best wishes as he begins his term as ACDGC for the 72nd District. I welcome any input you may have to insert our bulletin. Maybe it's an experience you had, a trip you took, a joke or a favorite recipe you may have, or some trivia. All input will be most welcomed.

I thoroughly enjoyed attending the Supreme Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, the first week of August, with my wife Rona. Aside from being extremely hot, over 100 degrees each, day. But as they say: "It's a dry heat". Never the less it was great to be with brothers and friends from all over the country and Canada. Please see my article on page 6, for the convention highlights. I also report on the convention of the Grand Domain of New York, that was recently held.

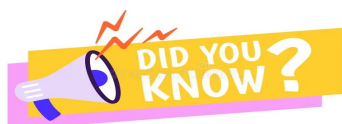
In closing, emails will be sent out for meetings, usually a week in advance. We would all be delighted to see some new faces at our meetings. The calendar for this Pythian year, is on page 5. Any material you may have for the Gavel, for our October issue, deadline will be September 20, 2026.

Fraternally yours,

Harvey Rosenshein, PDSC

Editor-In-Chief

Treasurer/Recording Secretary Ramapo Lodge No. 485



Do You Know ???

1. I am not alive, but I can grow. I don't have lungs, but I need air. What am I?
2. I am a fruit that's always sad. What am I?
3. I am a vegetable that sounds like I could be a weapon. What am I?
4. What weighs more: a pound of feathers or a pound of bricks?
5. If you throw a blue stone into the Red Sea, what will it become?
6. What goes up but never comes down?
7. What begins and ends with an "E" but only has one letter?
8. A father and son have a total of 66 years. The father is 42 years older than his son. How old is the son?
9. What comes at the end of everything?
10. Why can't a man living in New York be buried in California?
11. It has a face but shows no emotions, numbers, or clock hands.
12. If three cats can catch three mice in three minutes, how long will it take 100 cats to catch 100 mice?

*** SEE ON PAGE 7 FOR THE ANSWERS ***



PLANNING CALENDAR FOR 2026-2027



All Lodge Meetings are at our **CASTLE HALL**
Village of Wesley Hills , Community Room, 432 Route 306, Wesley Hills, NY 10952

SEPTEMBER 2026

September 4---Budget Presentation, 6:30PM

September 18---G C Message, 7:00PM

OCTOBER 2026

October 9-----Regular Meeting, 6:30PM

October 23-----Desk Pen Set presentation to GC, 7:00PM

NOVEMBER 2026

November 6----- Regular Meeting, 6:30PM

November 20----Regular Meeting, 6:30PM

DECEMBER 2026

December 4---Regular Meeting, 6:30PM

December 18---Regular Meeting, 6:30PM

December 29---Pre new Year's Eve Dinner out with NCOLR. Location TBD

JANUARY 2027

January 8-----Regular Meeting, 6:30PM

January 22-----Regular meeting, 6:30PM

January 29 ----Dinner Out. Location TBD 6:30PM

FEBRUARY 2027

February 5----- Regular Meeting, 6:30M

February 19-----Regular Meeting, 6:30PM

MARCH 2027

March 5-----Homecoming for ACDGC Alan Paul Katz, 7:00PM

March 19-----Regular Meeting, 6:30PM

APRIL 2027

April 2-----Regular Meeting, 6:30PM

April 16-----Regular Meeting, 6:30PM

April 30----Dinner out. Location TBD 6:30PM

MAY 2027

May 7-----Regular Meeting, 6:30PM. First Nomination of Officers

May 21-----Regular Meeting, 6:30PM. Second Nominations and elections

JUNE 2027

June 4-----Regular Meeting, 6:30PM

June 18-----Installation of Officers, 7:00PM



FICTIONAL FRATERNITIES OF TV

(PART 3 of 3)

Mystic Order of Whelks. *Wodehouse Playhouse* Annabel Purvis refers to her uncle, Joe Boffin: "This is a photo of him taken in the regalia of a Grand Exalted Periwinkle of the Mystic Order of Whelks." [00:30:50] Episode 3 : "Romance at Droitgate Spa". First broadcast 1975/04/30.

National Organization of Men Against Amazonian Masterhood. *Married with Children* (FOX : 1987-97). Al Bundy (Ed O'Neill) was a member of this misogynist fraternity.

Raccoons. *The Honeymooners* (CBS : 1955-56). Bus driver Ralph Kramden (Jackie Gleason) and sewer worker Ed Norton (Art Carney) were members

Regal Order of the Golden Door to Good Fellowship. *The Andy Griffith Show* (CBS : 1960-68). Sheriff Andy Taylor (Andy Griffith) and his deputy Barney Fife (Don Knotts) were members. The group's password was "Geronimo."

Royal Order of Camels. *Petticoat Junction* (CBS : 1963-70). Uncle Joe Carson (Edgar Buchanan), grocery store owner Sam Drucker (Frank Cady), and two railroad engineers Floyd Smoot (Rufe Davis) and Charley Pratt (Smiley Burnette) were members.

Royal Order of the Mystic Nile Lodge. *The Real McCoys* (ABC/CBS : 1957-63). Former West Virginian farmer Grandpa McCoy (Walter Brennan) was a member.

Sacred Order of the Stonecutters. *The Simpsons* (FOX : 1989+). Homer Simpson was elected the group's supreme leader.

Scorpions. *Dennis the Menace* (CBS : 1959-63). Dennis Mitchell (Jay North) tried to join a club of older boys called the Scorpion Club, later forming his own club called the "Buzzards" with members more his own age. His father, Henry is once referred to as a "32nd degree mason".

Seals. *The Dick Van Dyke Show* (9 March 1966) A fez-wearing fraternity whose recognition sign involves barking like seal while clapping the backs of the hands together. Rob Petrie meets them at a convention in season 5, episode 149 : "Bad Reception in Albany". [00:08:00]

Secret Order of the Beavers. *One Day at a Time* (CBS : 1975-84). Apartment superintendent Dwayne F. Schneider (Pat Harrington, Jr.) headed the activities and entertainment committee for the North Central Chapter of the Secret Order of Beavers.

Smiling Sons of the Friendly Shillelaghs. *The Jackie Gleason Show* (CBS : 1962-66). Crazy Guggenheim (Frank Fontaine) mentions this fraternity in the "Joe The Bartender" sketches.

Sons of the Tundra. *Northern Exposure* (CBS : 1990-95). The members of this "Men's Only Club," called Fraters, hosted an annual dinner that distributed toys.

Stonecutters. *Simpsons* (Fox : 1990+). Homer Simpson is initiated into this fraternity in Episode 2F09: *Homer the Great*.

Wilbebeests. *The Drew Carey Show* (ABC : 1995+). Drew's father, George is a member of what is revealed to be a group of bigots. (Episode 11 "The Electron Doesn't Fall Far from the Tree")



GRAND DOMAIN OF NEW YORK CONVENTION



The 158th convention of the Grand Domain of New York was held on June 30, 2026, at Roma View Caterers in Howard Beach, NY.

The attendees at the convention were informed that SC Don Stamm was unable to attend the convention, due to a family emergency. He notified DSC Harvey Rosenshein and asked him to be the installing officer for the convention.

GS Steve Gold gave the annual organizational report. GS Gold noted that membership declined from 4,066 to 3,702. A net loss of 364 brothers. It was also reported by GS Gold, that the number of active lodges was reduced to 29, due to mergers. He also reported on the successful relocation of Grand Lodge offices. GC Bryan Hoffman, reported on his accomplishments during his term.

The full slate of Grand Lodge officers were elected without any opposition. The following officers were elected: Brian Klasewitz, GC, Craig Kligfeld, GVC, Paul Barth, GP, Sheldon Miller, GMA, David Salem, GIG, Alex Needleman, GOG. PGC Steve God was reelected as GS, and PGC Don Rosenberg as GT.

A solemn memorial service was held, with special recognition given to SMA Craig Shink, for his service to the Domain of New York, as well as the order.

Resolutions were adopted to transfer 15% of assets from the Dr. Morris Smoller Social Service Fund and the Pythian Camp into the newly activated Pythian Foundation.

This will create a stronger long-term funding source for Grand Lodge.

Committee reports noted contributions by the Humanitarian Fund, Dr. Morris Smoller Social Services Fund, and Pythian Camp.

The budget for 2026-27 was presented and approved.



SUPREME CONVENTION 2026 ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO



The Supreme Lodge Knights of Pythias held its annual convention in Albuquerque, in New Mexico from August 1, to August 6, 2026 at the Isleta Resort and Casino.

It was very enjoyable and informative to attend the convention.

A Necrology service was held on the first day, with a eulogy read for SMA Craig Shink, who recently passed way, which was read, by ST/PSC Sir Alan Ast KGS. Other eulogies were also read for various other notable Pythians that have passed away since the last convention, in 2024.

Highlights of the convention were:

- ST/PSC Alan Ast KGS, was given the Supreme Chancellor's medal for all of his hard work as Supreme Treasurer for the past thirteen years. SC Donald Stamm when presenting the medal, said: "Alan, You are a national treasure!"
- The Supreme Lodge budget passed, with an increase in per capita tax, by \$5.00 per eligible member.
- PSC Alan Ast KGS, was appointed as a trustee for the Pythian Foundation.
- Weighted Vote was eliminated by the Supreme Council
- Tim Van Boening was elected as incoming Supreme Chancellor, and announced his convention in 2028, will be in Kansas City, Kansas. He also provided his program for the next biennial. If you would like a copy of his program, please feel free to contact me.
- PGC Randy Silverman was appointed DSC for SC Van Boening's term, for the Domain of New York.



BEGINS SUNDOWN FRIDAY, SEPT 11TH



BEGINS SUNDOWN SUNDAY, SEPT 20TH

Yom Kippur





LESSER KNOWN KNIGHTS OF THE ROUND TABLE



The Knight who was afraid to fight:
The Knight no one believed:
The Knight too big to sit at the table:
The Knight who designed the round table:
The Undercover Knight:
The Knight who was never killed in battle:
The Knight who who exceeded expectations:
The Knight who showed up unexpectedly:
The Knight who overcame obstacles:
The Knight who kept the maps up to date:
The Knight who drank too much:
The Knight who performed in three rings:

Sir Render
Sir Real
Sir Round
Sir Circumference
Sir Veilance
Sir Vivor
Sir Passed
Sir Prize
Sir Mount
Sir Veyer
Sir Rhosis
Sir Cus



Answers to Do You Know ???

1. (Answer: A fire) • 2. (Answer: A blueberry) • 3. (Answer: A squash) • 4. (Answer: They weigh the same—one pound!) • 5. (Answer: A sponge!) • 6. (Answer: Your age!) • 7. (Answer: An envelope!) • 8. (Answer: 12!) • 9. (Answer: The letter "G") • 10. (Answer: Light!) • 11. (Answer: A telephone!) • 12. (Answer: Three minutes!)

Cemetery

Several members have complained about the headstones which have been blackened by weather over the years. The committee has investigated the cost of power washing these stones and found it would be too expensive for the lodge to pay for all of them. Therefore, if any family wishes to clean a particular stone, they may do so by contacting Gene Jackson and paying him directly. His number is 845-596-7584. The cost is \$195.00 for a single headstone and \$325.00 for a double headstone.

Gene stated that the stones will look like new when he is done and should remain so for at least five years.



RAMAPO LODGE (KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS)
DSC HARVEY ROSENSHEIN
8 GLADE COURT
NEW CITY, NY 10956-1546

FORWARDING ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DATED MATTER • PLEASE EXPEDITE

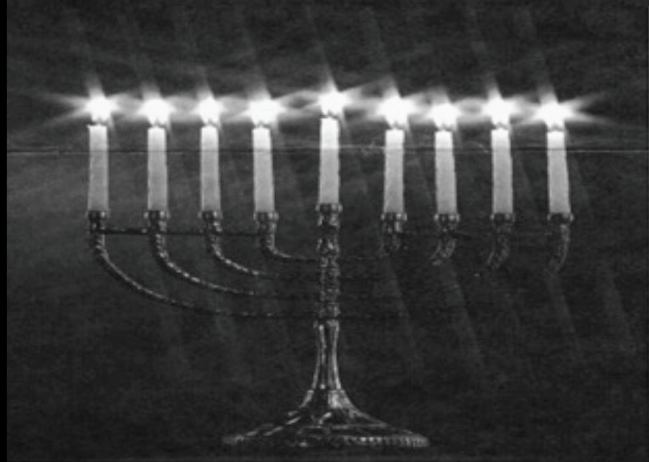
SEPTEMBER 2026
EDITION



"We Help People"

The Gavel

Observing Jewish Funeral Customs and Traditions



Lodge Brother
For generations we have served the Jewish Community with care and compassion, and we will continue offering our unsurpassed service and dedication. We are your friends and neighbors and we will always be here for you.

Hellman Memorial Chapels

Steven C. Dranow, PDGC
15 State Street
Spring Valley, NY 10977
845-356-8600

Our affiliate, Jewish Memorials of Rockland, complete full service monument and inscription provider (large display on premises). 845-425-2256

1300 Pleasantville Rd
Briarcliff Manor, NY 10977
914-762-5501

Special allowance to Pythian Brothers and their families.

