



*Celebrating 158 Years of Pythianism*

The New

# Pythian International

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## GETTING TO KNOW THE SUPREME COUNCIL

An important cornerstone of my administration is that the Supreme Lodge officers are approachable.



Everyone now has a chance to get to know the Supreme Council members in their own words, so unique personalities can shine, and they are not just a name and title. I hope you enjoy their candor and humor. Remember, there may be a Supreme Lodge office, but it is not an ivory tower. You will see many years of collective experience (multigenerational!), but we need to keep in touch with what is going on throughout the order *now*, and without your input that will not happen. So feel free to reach out to YOUR Supreme Council! We look forward to meeting more of you as we travel during the year.

Regards,

*Mark Mead, Supreme Chancellor*

### **Mark Mead, SC**

What are your hobbies/favorite pastimes?

*Card games, Running, Glamping, Cruising, and of course Pythians.*

What brought you to the Pythians? How many years have you been a member?

*My father and his friends – I have been a member for nearly 30 years.*

What made you decide to join?

*Being part of an organization with my father. Further being part of something within the community.*

What has been the biggest change you've seen since you've belonged to the Pythians?

*Changing from a men's only organization.*

What do you see as the biggest challenge for the future success of the Order, and what are some possible solutions?

*Increasing cultural diversity. The values of the Order are still relevant today as in the past. Need to find ways to express them*

What is something we may not know about you and that you'd like to share?

*I love creating smart home solutions within the house. Everything is automated.*

### **Donald Stamm, SVC**

What brought you to the Pythians? How many years have you been a member?

*I was looking to join an organization that works towards the betterment of its communities. I have been a member for 17+ years.*

What made you decide to join?

*I had a relative that belonged to the Knights and he suggested I join.*

What has been the biggest change you've seen since you've belonged to the Pythians?

*The rapid decline in membership and loss of subordinate lodges.*

What do you see as the biggest challenge for the future success of the Order, and what are some possible solutions?

*The biggest challenge is to increase membership and stop the loss of any more*

*Domains and subordinate lodges. The supreme lodge needs to take a hands-on approach, and get more involved, especially with the struggling Domains.*

### **Tim Van Boening, SP**

What are your hobbies/favorite pastimes?

*Fishing, collecting baseball cards, traveling.*

What brought you to the Pythians? How many years have you been a member?

*My friend PSMA Dan Magner and my wife worked for their club. I've been a member since 2002.*

What made you decide to join?

*I wanted to be part of a fun and caring group.*

What has been the biggest change you've seen since you've belonged to the Pythians?

*To see the order go down in membership and letting women join the order.*

What do you see as the biggest challenge for the future success of the Order, and what are some possible solutions?

*The biggest challenge is to get younger people in and keeping them engaged. We need to find a way to mix old with new.*

What is something we may not know about you and that you'd like to share?

*I'm an easygoing person who gets along with everyone. I have over 1 million baseball cards and counting! I love going to Lodge Conventions.*

### **Allen S. Morris, SS**

What are your hobbies/favorite pastimes?

*Scuba Diving/Cooking/Cruising/refinishing furniture.*

What brought you to the Pythians? How many years have you been a member?

*My father was a Pythian, but it was my next-door neighbor who brought me in as a member – I have been a member for 51 years.*

What made you decide to join?

*At the time, it was the activities I was told the lodge sponsored.*

What has been the biggest change you've seen since you've belonged to the Pythians?

*Lack of understanding of our Laws.*

What do you see as the biggest challenge for the future success of the Order, and what are some possible solutions?

*Increasing our membership. The larger we are the better we can survive and flourish.*

What is something we may not know about you and that you'd like to share?

*I am an overachiever in everything I do, from work to my free time away from the office.*

### **Alan Ast, ST**

What are your hobbies/favorite pastimes?

*I am an avid stamp collector and puzzle solver.*

What brought you to the Pythians? How many years have you been a member?

*My wife brought me into the Knights of Pythias. She felt I needed additional socialization in my life. I've been a member of New City - Orangetown Lodge #854 for more than thirty-seven years.*

What made you decide to join?

*There were so many interesting and diverse personalities within the lodge.*

What has been the biggest change you've seen since you've belonged to the Pythians?

What do you see as the biggest challenge for the future success of the Order, and what are some possible solutions?

*Sadly, the loss of membership and the lack of foresight by the then-leaders of the Lodge were central to the most critical issues of today. It's necessary to re-evaluate what new members really want from the Lodge.*

What is something we may not know about you and that you'd like to share?

*I was once an athlete. Alas, those days are just memories.*

### **Wayne Knutson, SMA**

What are your hobbies/favorite pastimes?

*Antiquarian book and map collecting, European Medieval History, collector of military-type stuff, genealogy.*

What brought you to the Pythians? How many years have you been a member?

*I always had an interest in fraternal orders and came across a fraternal sword I have never seen before and started researching*

*it. It was a URKP. I read more about the history of the Order, and the rest was history.*

What made you decide to join?

*The purpose and works of the order resonated. The KoP seemed like a worthwhile organization to dedicate my time.*

What has been the biggest change you've seen since you've belonged to the Pythians?

*Admittance of women into the Order.*

What do you see as the biggest challenge for the future success of the Order, and what are some possible solutions?

*Modernizing itself to reach varying demographics, while maintaining what the Order already has. Identify what motivates those varying demographics and emphasize how the KoP may be able to satisfy that interest.*

What is something we may not know about you and that you'd like to share?

*I gave the invocation at the 35 Anniversary of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C.*

### ***Craig Shink, SJG***

What are your hobbies/favorite pastimes?

*I am an avid New York Football (Giants) fan and season ticket holder.*

What brought you to the Pythians? How many years have you been a member?

*My best friend Ted Pashko brought me into the Lodge. I joined in 1995 so I have been a member for over 27 years.*

What made you decide to join?

*A whole group of my friends were joining at the same time.*

What has been the biggest change you've seen since you've belonged to the Pythians?

*The biggest change is that all of those that were around when I joined are no longer with us and now the newer members just do not know what it means to be Charitable, Benevolent, or Friendly to each other.*

What do you see as the biggest challenge for the future success of the Order, and what are some possible solutions?

*The biggest challenge is that we have to get our name out there and stop being the "Knights of Who". Solutions are doing*

*radio spots to advertise that we are alive and well, teach upcoming Grand Lodge Officers what to do, and get our name out.*

What is something we may not know about you and that you'd like to share?

*I have a very long memory so those that help me or hurt me I will remember, like Pepperidge Farms, I will remember. (Warped Sense of Humor)*

### ***Mike West, SOG***

What are your hobbies/favorite pastimes?

*Powerlifting, hiking, cycling, and reading.*

What brought you to the Pythians? How many years have you been a member?

*I'd heard about my local lodge in the late 80s, but it was not a very welcoming group of guys back then. In 2009, I was invited to the lodge by a friend and joined the next year.*

What made you decide to join?

*The warm welcome I received from my Commencement brothers, and a lack of pressure to join.*

What has been the biggest change you've seen since you've belonged to the Pythians?

*Acceptance of the wider variety of communication tools that we have in today's world.*

What do you see as the biggest challenge for the future success of the Order, and what are some possible solutions?

*Declining membership is a challenge, but not in the way that many people have addressed it. It's a result, not a cause. There are many people who want to help others, to give back to their community. How do we make the Pythians the avenue for giving? First, be seen doing good things in your community. Second, have fun doing it and communicate the fun as you are doing it. Third, build coalitions with other groups and show that we are open and inclusive.*

What is something we may not know about you and you'd like to share?

*I attended 13 different elementary schools.*

### **Bruce Brown, Jr., PSC**

What are your hobbies/favorite pastimes?

*My Lodge, coin collecting, and weapons.*

What brought you to the Pythians? How many years have you been a member?

*My brothers. I have been a member 46 years.*

What made you decide to join?

*Looked like fun.*

What has been the biggest change you've seen since you've belonged to the Pythians?

*Lost membership, Subordinate lodges, and Grands. I believe that over the last decade, Subordinate and Grand lodges are realizing that Supreme Council is here to help them and is not unapproachable to them.*

What do you see as the biggest challenge for the future success of the Order, and what are some possible solutions?

*More membership, education, Ask.*

### **Arthur Westlee, Fdn. Chair**

What are your hobbies/favorite pastimes?

*My biggest hobby is playing golf.*

What brought you to the Pythians? How many years have you been a member?

*I have been a Pythian since 1992. I come from a family of knights, two uncles, a father, and a cousin. My cousin is currently the GMA in Pennsylvania.*

What made you decide to join?

*When I came back to the states after being stationed in Germany, a good friend of mine was a knight, and I ask if there was a lodge in our town, he said yes and the rest is history.*

What has been the biggest change you've seen since you've belonged to the Pythians?

What do you see as the biggest challenge for the future success of the Order, and what are some possible solutions?

*I have combined both of these questions together. Our biggest challenge for the Order is to attract younger members and then with that develop leadership skills. In my own local lodge, if it hadn't been for the next generation of sons, we may have gone the way of so many lodges. Our lodge itself is a merger of two lodges in 1969 and then again in 1980. The state of Illinois at one*

*time had 600 lodges and now we have 5.*

*What's the answer, who knows?*

What is something we may not know about you and that you'd like to share?

*I am an open book; there's not much people don't know about me.*

### **Philip Greenwald, Law Chair**

What are your hobbies/favorite pastimes?

*I am a Life Scout of the Boy Scouts of America and a Vigil Honor member of the Order of the Arrow, BSA. Serving Scouting and the Pythian Order are my favorite pastimes.*

What brought you to the Pythians? How many years have you been a member? What made you decide to join?

*My Father was a 50-year Life Member, originally from Brooklyn, NY. When my younger brother (Robert) was taken away (at age 29) by a heart attack I asked Dad if he'd like me to join "his Los Angeles lodge" (which he and Robert attended together). He said he would and I joined Beverly Hills Lodge #393 in 1965 at age 31 and have been an active member ever since.*

What has been the biggest change you've seen since you've belonged to the Pythians?

*In 1964 the Supreme Lodge repealed the long-standing requirement that all members had to be Caucasian (White). In 1986 the Boy Scouts of America agreed to establish a special relationship with our Order, making us a sort of "partner" to the Boy Scouts. At that time the Supreme Lodge adopted that same special relationship with the BSA Headquarters, now in Irving, Texas. Honoring Eagle Scouts at their Courts of Honor followed. Thousands of certificates, patches, and letters have been received by Eagle Scouts.*

What do you see as the biggest challenge for the future success of the Order, and what are some possible solutions?

*Membership and growth throughout the world is the biggest challenge for the future success of our Order. I strongly believe that if the proper programs are adopted our Order (like the Order of the Arrow, in which I've served since 1948, at age 14, until now) will be led by young members with the*

*guidance they received from their leadership training in Scouting. I'm working daily for that to happen.*

What is something we may not know about you and that you'd like to share?

*I dropped out of college in 1955 to place my name on a list to be "drafted" into the U.S. Army for two years. I was very dedicated in my service to the Army. But I wanted to return to college at U.C.L.A. to become a "lawyer." That came true and my studies resumed in 1957. Having graduated from U.C.L.A. in 1959 with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration I entered U.C.L.A. School of Law that same year. Graduating in 1962 with a law degree allowed me to become an Attorney at Law. I never lost faith. I have never been disappointed in those choices. I have served this Order as a Grand Tribune for fifteen years and a Supreme Tribune for ten years. Since then I've been a Chairman of Law under several Supreme Chancellors including Sir Tim McLaurin and later with Sir Keith Stooksberry and continuing, without break, each SC thereafter to the present day. I love this Order.*

**Grand Lodge Conventions**  
**What we know as of this writing**  
**2023**

South Carolina N. Myrtle Beach	February 24-25 SIG Shink
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**Supreme Council Meeting**  
**March 12, Roanoke, Virginia**

Nebraska Hastings	April 15 SMA Knutson
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Maine Gouldsboro	April 29 DSC Spencer
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Florida Cruise	May 5-13 SC Mead
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Massachusetts South Portland, ME	May 11-12 SVC Stamm
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British Columbia Chilliwack	May 4-5 SOG West
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Tennessee Cookeville	June 2-4 SP Van Boening
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Arizona Tucson	June 3-4 SS Morris
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Texas Longview	June 16-18 SC Mead
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West Virginia Bridgeport	July 13-15 SMA Knutson
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Indiana Lafayette	July 13-16 SS Morris
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**Supreme Council Meeting**  
**July 30, Suffern, New York**  
**Imperial Convention**

Pennsylvania Newtown	August 12 SVC Stamm
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Maritime Provinces Fredericton	August 26
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## **SUPREME LODGE CHARITY 2022-2024**

The Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's® is the world's largest event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer's care, support, and research. Walks are held in over 500+ communities across the nation now through November. The walk supports the following services: 24/7 helpline (800-272-3900); Care Consultations; Community Education; Caregiver training; professional training and support groups.

To find a walk near you click this link: <http://alz.org/KOP>

Start a team

Enter your zip code

Choose your walk and click "Start Your Team"

Enjoy the fellowship while supporting a worthy cause.



*From Supreme Chief  
Yolanda Chatwood*

Happy New Year,

I hope that this New Year brings happiness, peace and health to you and your loved ones. As this new year begins, I am thankful for my first five months serving as Supreme Chief for the Pythian Sisters. Whether it has been collaborating with the Executive Board, Grand Temples, or local members, I am fortunate to be in the company of such compassionate and motivated Sisters.

Even more inspiring is the energy each of you continues to give in the face of so many of the nation's current health, economic and social challenges. I am encouraged at the prospects that 2023 will bring to our Order and the communities we serve. My enthusiasm is bolstered by all of the amazing work our members do in both the Knights of Pythias and the Pythian Sisters daily.

Going into this next year, let us continue the amazing work I have been seeing from our organizations. Continue the work with the Alzheimer's Association, through charity events, walks and other creative ideas that I have seen from our Order these past couple months. Sisters, remember that we are

almost halfway through our first year of my challenge to all of you, host one community event or project with your Subordinate Temple. This could be a variety of things and could be partnered with the Knights of Pythias or another organization in your community. My project committee chairman, Rachael Cowell will be sending out follow up forms for you to report on your community events and a letter with ideas for those who are still working on their Temple's project. The only way we will increase our membership is to show our communities who we are and what we do!

This year, my theme is kindness. I am reminded of a quote about kindness when I think of the Pythian Order. "Kindness is igniting a light in someone else for no reason other than to watch them enjoy the glow." People down the road will not remember what you said or what you did, but they will remember how you made them feel. As Pythians, we do amazing work in our community and have made a difference in people's lives. I call on you to continue the great work you are doing in your communities. Give kindness and be a light for someone new around you. You never know what a little bit of kindness could bring to their lives.

In Purity, Love, Equality, & Fidelity,  
Supreme Chief Yolanda Chatwood





*From the Desk of  
Allen S. Morris, PSC  
Supreme Secretary*

Hello from snowless Massachusetts. The holidays are over, it's time to get our collective thoughts together and start working for the betterment of the Pythian Order.

The Rathbone Bible is in Tennessee for a Bible Class in Mid-January. When it comes back to the office it will be repacked and shipped to Indiana – shipped for only the second time this term. I read about Rank Work taking place throughout the Supreme Domain, but only two domains have requested the Bible. To me that is most disappointing, the Rathbone Bible should be traveling on a continual basis.

The Supreme Council will be meeting in Roanoke, Virginia on the 11<sup>th</sup> of March. The preliminary agenda is growing, meaning the members of the Supreme Council will be meeting on Friday evening, and Saturday through the late afternoon, possibly into the early evening. There is a lot to be discussed and a lot of decision making to be done.

Membership should be OUR TOP priority. Acquisition, retention, building new lodges, reinforcing older, existing lodges. Without membership we will not survive – personally, I have too many years invested in the Knights of Pythias to watch it wither in the vine. If you have run/sponsored a successful membership drive – share what you did and how you did it with others, spread the wealth.

It was one hell of a year for me in 2022, but now everything is looking bright. Back on track, I'm getting ready for the Annual Reports, the office is gearing up for some new Pythian Paraphernalia, Vivian and I are here to serve you, Our Pythian Family.

Please stay well.

Fraternally,  
Al

## PROMOTE AND RECRUIT FEBRUARY 19-25

Pythian Awareness Week is the time to promote the Order to the public. Tell what we do in the practice of Friendship, Charity, and Benevolence and through Community Service. This is the opportunity for all to be acting in the same time frame.

We have in our rich history President Abraham Lincoln and Franklin #2 successor to the first lodge. Interestingly, Franklin today has the only female Knight in New Jersey. Three presidents were members, with Franklin D. Roosevelt becoming a Knight at the White House on the 69<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding, February 19, 1933.

The past decade since the week was recognized in 2012 has seen great expansion to Italy, England, and the Philippines, a lodge in Georgia, and accepting females, all in furtherance of a diverse order.

The week is also Pythian Recruitment Week for the opportunity to recruit, celebrate our history, and honor Pythian heroes, stars, and leaders.

Meet the challenge to increase our visibility and membership. Honor the 159<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and take advantage of acting in concert to promote, recruit, and celebrate our great Order Knights of Pythias!



# WELCOME LODGE 158 MASSACHUSETTS 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GOLF FOR YOUTH AUGUST 22, 2022

The 14<sup>th</sup> annual golf for the youth was held at The Blue Hill Country Club for Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange. The numbers had exceeded last year, but the weather was not cooperating with us. The 100+ golfers were able to get in 9 holes, but then the skies opened and there was a deluge of water. Even though 2 of the on-course contests were cancelled the tournament still raised over \$36000.00 for MARE. We already have a date for next year, August 21, 2023 at Blue Hill Country Club in Canton, MA



## THE GOLF COMMITTEE

L-R Paul Deletetsky; Michael Schreier; Mike Silverman; Steve Sarnowitz; Mark Zuroff; Shawn McNinch (MARE Board Member) Alan Goldberg; and Ted Foundas

## Presentation of the check



L-R Danielle Conti, Director of Development MARE; Bridget Chiaruttini, Executive Director MARE; Paul Deletetsky, Welcome Lodge 158

# Welcome Lodge 158 Massachusetts New Members

Welcome Lodge 158 initiated a golf league back in 2020, and only 5 members ended up participating. The 5 then grew to 10 by the end of the 2020 season. However, with some recruiting, the league grew to 26 in 2022. Using this core Paul Deletetsky and Steve Sarnowitz opened the 2022 season with a happy hour sponsored by the Knights, and from that the lodge gained three new members. It's a small number, but it's a start. The lodge is looking to increase that number for 2023. Below are the photos of the rank.



Welcome Lodge welcomes our three newest brothers: left to right, Ed Siegal; Bob Haynes; and Corey Rosenfield



# NEW JERSEY KEEPS ROLLING ALONG

The Deborah Hospital Foundation in Browns Mills New Jersey hosted the annual raffle drawing at 1:00 PM on Friday December 2, 2022, at the Windemer Conference Center at the Hospital.

There were eight (8) of us representing the NJ Knights of Pythias and its' Charity Foundation; GC Robert Schlegel, PSR Ray and Donna Breitowich, PSR Sir Marvin I. Diner, PSR Sir Saul Rochman, PCDGC Sir Jerry Weiner and PSR Sir David and Rochelle Bellask. The Knights of Pythias of New Jersey has supported the work of Deborah Heart and Lung Center for more than fifty years. The event was livestreamed on the Hospital's Facebook page as well.

The winners were drawn by:

The Deborah Hospital and Foundation CEO Joseph Chirichella drew the 1st prize—a \$10,000 Visa Gift card.

The Deborah Hospital and Foundation C.O.O. Joseph Manni drew the 2nd prize—a \$5,000 Visa Gift Card GC Robert Schlegel drew the 3rd prize—a \$2,500 Visa Gift card.

The winners were from Toms River and Seaside Heights New Jersey.

Additionally, our Pythian Delegation presented Mr. Manni, Mr. Chirichella, and Mrs. Krevchenia from the Deborah Foundation, our NJ Knights of Pythias Charity Foundation annual donation check for \$8,000 in support of the hard work and generosity of the Deborah Medical Staff and Foundation in patient care. Mrs. Krevchenia spoke on the new Hospital building expansion to provide single patient care rooms, and all three of them stated how much they appreciate all of the financial support that the Knights of Pythias have given Deborah over the many years of our affiliation with the Hospital.



GC Robert Schlegel taking charge of the "big check" presented to the Deborah Hospital Foundation.



Pythians and Deborah Staff members are from left to right accepting our "big check:" C.E.O. Joseph P. Chirichella, NJ Charity Foundation Treasurer Sir Marvin Diner, PCDGC and Pythian Raffle Chairman Sir Jerry Weiner, PSR Ray Breitowich, Deborah Foundation Director Mrs. Ellen Krevchenia, GC Bob Schlegel, GS Sir David Bellask, and COO Joseph Manni.



GC Robert Schlegel drawing the 2nd place winner with Mrs. Ellen Krevchenia from the Deborah Foundation.

# NEW LODGE IN NEW JERSEY

On Sunday December 4, 2022, the newly formed Fortitude Centennial Lodge #160/100 New Jersey Knights of Pythias had a most meaningful event at their castle hall, the Monroe Township New Jersey Senior Center. Members of the Grand Lodge Council performed the first installation ceremony for the newly elected officers of the Lodge before almost forty (40) Brothers, Ladies, and Guests. The installation was preceded by an exceptional served breakfast.

Before the installation service, Chancellor Commander Marc Stein distributed four (4) charitable contributions to four local food banks and elaborated on the great job that the brothers did selling and buying Deborah Hospital raffles this year so that the Lodge could contribute more than \$1,300 towards a total \$8,000 donation which was given to the Hospital this past Friday (December 2nd) by the Grand Lodge Charity Foundation.



Upper left - CC Marc Stein presenting the Lodge's charity donation to the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen representatives.

Upper Right - CC Marc Stein showing the "big check" donation to Deborah Hospital which included the Lodge's donation.



Officers Elect taking their Oath of Office from PSC Joel D. Fierstien, KGS





Newly installed Officers-Group photo. Left to right: CC Marc Stein; VC Marvin Levine; Prel. Joe Spindel, KGS; MW David N. Bellask, KGS; Sec'y Ray Breitowich, PSR; FS Norman Pinhas; Treasurer Richard Simons; MA Richard Satnick; IG Dennis Gutkin; OG Warren Shiner (absent)



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## A LEASURELY SUNDAY AFTERNOON IN INDIANAPOLIS

Members of Luculles Temple joined together for “It’s a Wonderful Life” at the Beef and Boards Dinner Theater in Indianapolis, Indiana.



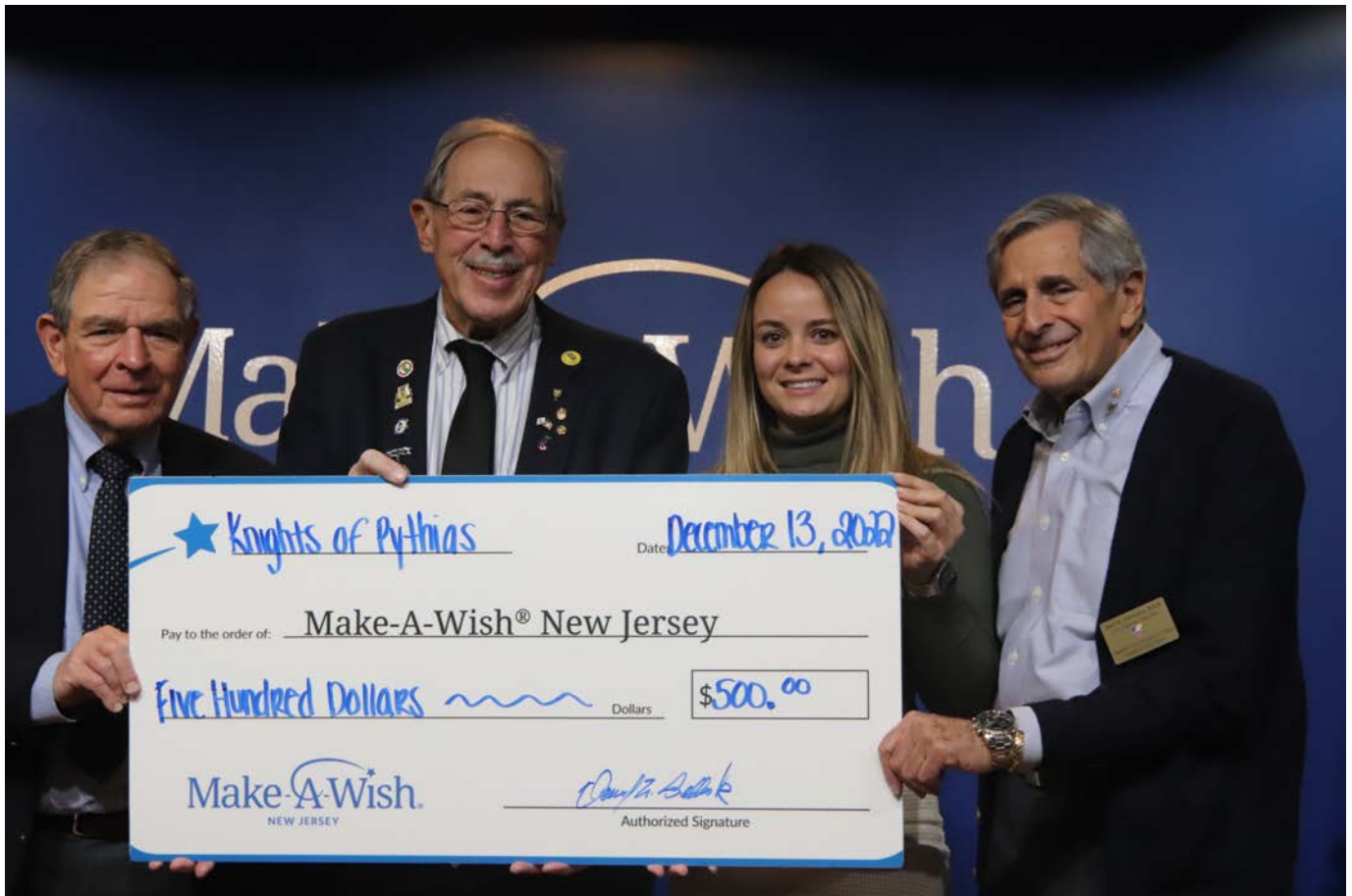
Pictured left to right: PGTRO Cassie Willis; GrTrustee Melissa Wilson; ST Jill Unger-Moder; and PGC Beverly Deaton



# NEW JERSEY KEEPS ON GIVING

On Tuesday December 13, 2022, the New Jersey Grand Lodge Knights of Pythias Charity Foundation presented our annual Five Hundred Dollar donation to Make-A-Wish New Jersey at the Wishing Castle in Monroe Township, New Jersey. Once again, we experienced the wonderful feeling of helping to give life changing Wishes to critically ill children as a product of our charitable work. The included photo of our visit depicts the presentation to Ms. Dominique Gleason from Make-A-Wish New Jersey and the Brothers who joined in the presentation; Past Supreme Chancellor Sir Joel D. Fierstien, Past Supreme Representative Sir David N. Bellask, and Fortitude Centennial Lodge Vice Chancellor Marvin Levine all representing the Charity Foundation for this presentation. We were accompanied by Mrs. Rochelle Bellask (photographer) and Mrs. Joan Fierstien.

The members of the Charity Foundation have voted to increase the donation to One Thousand Dollars next year and the staff of Make-A-Wish will be making a presentation to one of our subordinate lodge meetings in the near future along with an offer to tour the Wishing Castle for our members and guests.



L to R: VC Marvin Levine; PSR David N. Bellask, KGS; Ms. Dominique Gleason; PSC Joel Fierstien, KGS

# BREAKFAST WITH SANTA DELIVERS HOLIDAY SMILES TO NEEDY LOCAL KIDS

For decades, the Inn has been serving a free breakfast to youngsters and their families who are facing economic and personal hardships.



**WASHINGTON CROSSING, PENNSYLVANIA** — When the kids inside the Washington Crossing Inn heard Santa was arriving on a fire truck, they ran to the windows to catch a glimpse of the jolly old soul.

It was a priceless moment during a morning of memorable moments at the annual Breakfast With Santa held at the Washington Crossing Inn.

For more than 30 years, the greater Newtown community has launched the holiday season by making the season brighter for Council Rock families facing economic and personal hardships.

The families are treated to breakfast, share their Christmas wishes with Santa and receive a special age-appropriate gift from the man of the hour.

The event wouldn't be possible without the Washington Crossing Inn, which provides the space and food for free, and the Council Rock social workers, who supply the invitation list.

Find out what's happening in Newtown with free, real-time updates from Patch. Let's go!

In addition, helping to organize this year's event were the Newtown Rotary Club, the Kiwanis Club of Washington Crossing, the Upper Makefield Business Association, the Newtown Presbyterian Church, the

Upper Makefield Fire Company, the Knights of Pythias and members of the now defunct Newtown Exchange Club, which had organized the event for years.

“We’re super lucky. We get to work with business leaders in the community who help us help our needier families at Council Rock, not only with this awesome event but with many other things,” said Council Rock social worker Mike Fiore who helped arrange the invitation list with social worker Stephanie Warshaw. “We collect presents for them. We also work with all of our local police departments with Shop With A Cop that helps a lot of our families.”

They also work closely with the Newtown Angel Tree project and with the Levittown Give-A-Christmas campaign.

“The cool part about this is that the Washington Crossing Inn does it every year at no charge, which is a blessing, and it is often the only time a lot of our families will get to meet Santa,” said Warshaw. “A lot of people in this room have gone through a lot of hardship from family struggles to being financially strapped or having gone through a fire or a loss of a relative. We also have a lot of families who have come from the Ukraine, so we welcomed them today, which is really amazing.

“This takes a lot of people - multiple agencies working together - to pull it off. And certainly, a lot of love. Council Rock always comes through for its people. And this is a big, beautiful example of it. It’s pretty amazing.”

This year, more than 200 people were invited to the event, which not only includes breakfast and holiday treats but also delivers gifts to each of the kids.

The special part about their partnership with the community is that it extends throughout the year, said Warshaw. “It has built a relationship between all of us where we are able to have a family that needs help at any time of the year because people need help not just at Christmas. That for me is the biggest thing that this program does. It has built a resource for Mike and I as social workers. It started here sitting at this table and talking about this, but the ripple effect is incredible.”

While Council Rock is home to one of the wealthiest communities in the state, about 12 to 13 percent of the district’s students are on free or reduced lunch, which is the federal poverty level.

“Out of 11,000 students that’s a lot of kids,” said Warshaw. “A lot of people might think Council Rock is predominately wealthy, and it is, but that doesn’t mean there are so many families that need support.”

Randy Beck and Duane Buck, both members of the now defunct Newtown Exchange Club, have continued their involvement with the breakfast, which they said was always the highlight of the year for them. Randy helps organize the event by coordinating the organizations involved and working with the toy supplier to match each child with an age-appropriate toy.

“It’s been a very successful event thanks to the organizations involved,” said Beck. “It’s also very rewarding to see the kids and families having a good time.”

“It’s very satisfying to see the turnout and to hear the appreciation,” added Buck.

When Rotarian Paul Salvatore looks around the room, he sees the community coming together for those less fortunate. “That’s what it’s about.” Christmas is about giving. It’s not about getting. And this is just the beginning.

“We’re also distributing gifts donated by the community for the needy through our Angel Tree project. We’ll also be doing meals for people at Christmas. This is a great way to start it. This is what it’s about.”



## WELCOME LODGE NO. 158 - MASSACHUSETTS

Mark up another year for the Welcome Lodge annual Christmas Eve visit at the Lemuel Shattuck Hospital. This year we have a new “Champion” heading the 68-year-old tradition. Terri Deletetsky, the daughter of our late brother PC Hyman Deletetsky, not only raised close to \$1,000.00 but she has also taken over the reins and will be heading this event for hopefully another 68 years.



L-R: Samantha Glaser; GC Rich Albert (AKA Santa); Terri Deletetsky; CC Tom Glaser.

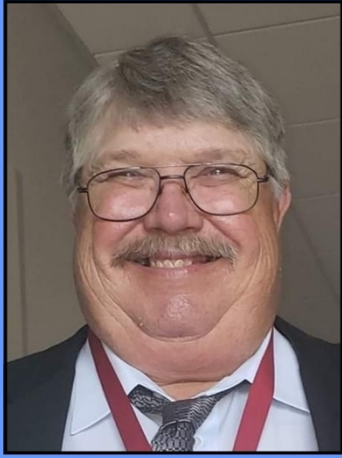


CC Tom Glaser (third from left) along with PC Paul Deletetsky (not in photo) dropping off over \$1800.00 in toiletries, winter clothing, personal items, and snacks to Shari Holstein from the Shattuck.

Welcome Lodge wants to thank the following brothers and their families for their continued support: PC Mark Zuroff; Prelate Michael Schreier; PC Steve Weber; PC Steve Sarnowitz; Treas. Alan Goldberg, PC; PC Michael Silverman; PC Paul Deletetsky; Sec. Jerry Fleishman, PC; CC Tom Glaser; Bro. Ed Seigel; and PC Bruce Sarnowitz.



## NEW SUBORDINATE LODGE IN TENNESSEE RATHBONE LODGE #357



**Dennis Kelly — Grand Chancellor**

**In the name of Friendship, Charity and Benevolence, it is my sincere pleasure to welcome you to the website of the Grand Lodge of the Domain of Tennessee, Knights of Pythias.**

The above is from Darrel Chapman the Chancellor Commander of our new Lodge, Rathbone #357 in LaFollette, Tennessee, which was instituted on Saturday, 1/14/23 by some of our members in Tennessee. We think Darrel did a great job getting this picture plus an article to the newspapers, it is great publicity for the new lodge and also for the Knights of Pythias in Tennessee. They have a very good group of Pythians in this new lodge, very committed and interested in the Knights of Pythias. I commend brother Chapman who did a great job getting the picture and article together in such a short time. Thanks, Darrel, you did a great job both with this article and your leadership in recruiting all the new members for your new Knights of Pythias Lodge.

Also, we want to think our Lodge members who went to LaFollette on Saturday and participated in the rank work and institution of Rathbone Lodge #357, they were GC Dennis Kelly; SR Jim Lynn; and Ken Matheney; PGC Robert Officer; Tom Teas; Gerald Willard; GIG Gerald Scarbrough; and GS Bobby Crowe, plus a of Blue Grass Lodge. They all did a great job and are to be commended.



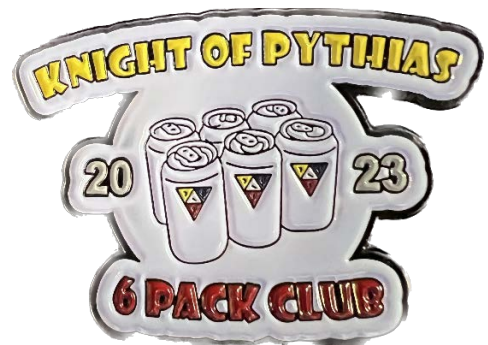
# FIRST RECIPIENT OF THE SIX PACK CLUB

On Thursday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, Supreme Chancellor presented the first six-pack award to PC Frank Toombs and Edwin Allen of Fredericksburg Lodge #22. These members of Fredericksburg Lodge #22 have helped to significantly increase the membership. Fredericksburg Lodge has nearly 330 members and set a goal of 400 members by the end of 2023.

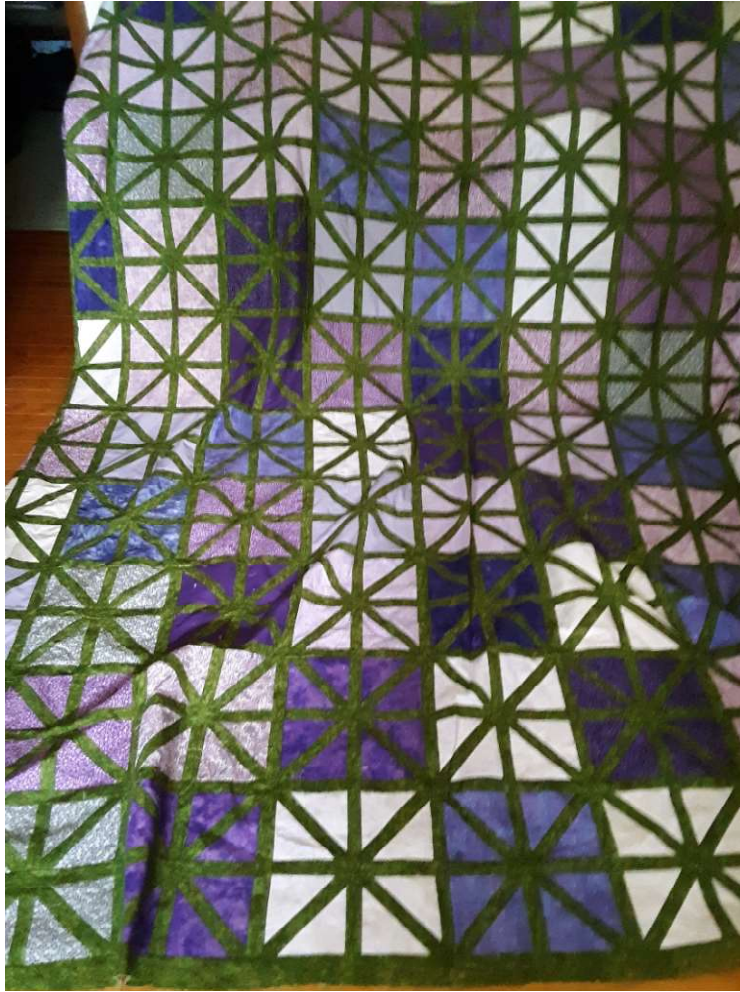


*Pictured above are SC Mark Mead and PC Frank Toombs*

Just a reminder, beginning October 1, 2022, and continuing through December 31, 2023, once a Brother in good standing has brought six new members into Our Order, the Lodge Secretary or Chancellor Commander will send an email to that Domain's Deputy Supreme Chancellor (DSC), to include the recipient's name, address, email, and phone number (if desired this can be mailed to the lodge for presentation). This will be forwarded to the Supreme Chancellor's Membership Chairman. ([membership@pythias.org](mailto:membership@pythias.org))



# TO BE RAFFLED AT IMPERIAL



## IMPERIAL SANTHA WAYS AND MEANS QUILT DRAWING

On Wednesday (August 3, 2023) during the Imperial Session, the Ways and Means Committee will hold a drawing for a super king size quilt (approx. 98" x 110") done in shades of purple with dark olive-green accents. The quilt pattern is "Ditto". The quilt was machine pieced and quilted by Imperial Zameron Colleen Schneider. Chances are \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00. Purchase your chances at Imperial sessions or mail your funds to Imperial Zameron Colleen Schneider, 1083 Rainbow Blvd. Hiawatha, IA 52233. Please include your contact information for an email or text so a confirmation of receipt of funds may be sent to you.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT INFORMATION: \_\_\_\_\_  
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