



# THE JERSEY PYTHIAN

PUBLISHED BY THE GRAND LODGE, KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS, DOMAIN OF NEW JERSEY  
*CELEBRATING 152 YEARS OF PYTHIANISM*

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November/December 2016

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS - DECEMBER 2016

- November 28<sup>th</sup> Grand Council Meeting – Fair Lawn Senior Center.
- December 2<sup>nd</sup> Deborah Day Raffle Drawing at Deborah Hospital, Browns Mills
- December 4<sup>th</sup> 2-in-one rank (Page & Esquire) – at Fair Lawn Senior Center
- December 7<sup>th</sup> Rank of Knight - Benjamin Cardozo Lodge
- December 13<sup>th</sup> Grand Lodge visitation - Jersey Shore Lodge
- December 19<sup>th</sup> Charity Foundation quarterly meeting at Fair Lawn Senior Center
- December 28<sup>th</sup> Grand Council Meeting – Perkins Restaurant, East Windsor

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### *From the Desk of...* THE GRAND CHANCELLOR

To the Members of The Pythian Order

It is customary to include in my first column as Grand Chancellor a consolidated version of what I had to say at the Grand Chancellor's Dinner held a few weeks ago. I am prepared to state my vision--my objective if you will--in one word: MEMBERSHIP!!!!

Membership and its increase is the most important single objective needed to ensure our precious Order's survival at a time when every voluntary organization suffers from the same difficulty. If we want to see our Pythian Order continue to support important charitable activities and civic causes in a non-partisan and non-sectarian manner, then it is vital that each and every Grand Chancellor, Chancellor Commander, and member of our Order engage in membership recruitment activities. Membership recruitment is not something that will succeed on the efforts of one individual. We need everyone who values what they get out of being a Pythian Knight to join in the effort to bring new and active men into the Order.

I promise to do all that I can to lead that effort, and I hope that the Knights of the Domain of New Jersey will join me in this task. Everything that I propose in the days ahead as an activity of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey will be pointed in that direction. That includes social, retention, charitable, and benevolent activities. All of these require a healthy membership component because if we fail to increase our membership, we lose the ability to support every one of these programs and activities. The era of giving lip-service to a vital membership program has long since gone, and we are down to the final minutes of the game. If we want our remaining five fully functional subordinate lodges in the State of New Jersey to

be here operating as they were intended to operate ten years from now, we need to redouble our membership efforts, and all of my brothers have a role to play. I will do my part, will you do yours???

Before closing I want to express my deepest thanks and appreciation to the following individuals who have helped start my year as your Grand Chancellor:

- Sir Marvin I. Diner and Sir Jerry Weiner, Co-Chairmen of the Host Committee for the Grand Chancellor's Dinner;
- Sir Jeffrey Zerowin, Chairman of the Ad Journal;
- Sir Joe Spindel, Chairman of the Grand Lodge Directory;
- The Members of the Grand Council for their unwavering support;
- Those members of the Grand Lodge who have agreed to chair committees and provide assistance when asked; and all the brothers of Cardozo Lodge who have helped me over the years to run membership tables at the street fairs and make ritualistic rank work meaningful.
- And Last, but not least my son Daniel, current Prelate for Cardozo Lodge, his wife Sonia, and my wife Susan, and my daughter Fay. Without their support and encouragement, my participation in the activities of the Grand Lodge and the Pythian Order would not be possible.

*Sir Barry Winston*, Grand Chancellor

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### *A Message from . . . the Immediate Past Grand Chancellor*

Members of the Grand Council, my Brothers, I would like to take this opportunity to say that it was an honor and pleasure to have been the Grand Chancellor of this great Domain. I would also like to thank my advisors, Sir Marvin Diner and Sir Dave Bellask, whose input I found to be invaluable.

It has been a very interesting year. We saw a failing lodge in the north merge with Benjamin Cardozo. I hope that with this merger, we can retain a majority of their members.

We had our first Pythian Breakfast/Reunion. Over 70 former Pythians and new prospects attended. Because of this, I managed to move Fortitude Lodge from Hightstown to the Monroe Senior Center. In this way it will be able to draw from the adult communities in the area.

We have seen a rise in members from the reunion in Monroe, and the work of Cardozo Lodge from the Fair Lawn Street Fairs. As a domain we are starting to get new members. There is still much work to be done. I urge the incoming Grand Chancellor to continue the reunion in the Monroe Senior Center. This is a starting point; we must continue our efforts and refine them to attract new members.

In closing, I would like to take this opportunity to remind our incoming Grand Chancellor that you are surrounded by good people who volunteer their time and energy. Listen to what they say and come to a consensus. I wish Sir Barry Winston a good year as our Grand Chancellor.

Thank you.

*Ray Breitowich* Past Grand Chancellor

## Refurbished Peter Woodland Memorial Unveiled

On a bright Sunday morning, November 5th, Pythians from as far away as Ontario Canada gathered at the Bayview cemetery in Jersey City for the unveiling of the newly repaired monument to Pythian hero Peter Woodland (picture at left). A large contingent of New Jersey Pythians led by Grand Chancellor Sir Barry Winston was in attendance. The newly refurbished monument bears the Pythian triangle at the top. It is inscribed on three sides, one side listing donors to the project, including the Grand Lodge of New Jersey.



Deserving of eternal remembrance in the annals of Pythian history, Woodland's story may nevertheless not be well known. A member of Hector Lodge No. 49 of Philadelphia, Woodland was working in New Jersey when, at the cost of his own life, he saved the lives of men with whom he was working 60 feet below the Hudson River.

In the 1870s, the Hudson Tunnel Railroad Company began an attempt to construct a Hudson River tunnel. Recognized as a risky project, it continued onward slowly for many years. At approximately 4:30 a.m. on July 21, 1880 what was commonly called a "blowout" occurred. Peter Woodland, Superintendent of Operations, was working on the tunnel in a pressurized compartment when the grand archway of the working shaft at the foot of 15th Street in Jersey City collapsed. He heard what New York Sun reporters called "the shriek of escaping air," noticed gushing water from a break through the brick, and shouted for fellow laborers to "make for the lock!" He guided eight of his men to the safety of an air chamber and closed the door. Woodland stayed behind in the compartment with nineteen other workers. The saved men could only watch at the bulls-eye opening as water and silt rushed in to drown Woodland, who stayed behind and died with the other trapped "sandhogs".

Woodland's heroism and the sacrifices and endurance of other sandhogs were recognized in front page news stories of the period. Accounts of his heroism and self-sacrifice appeared in newspapers across the country. The Order Knights of Pythias, recognizing the heroism and self-sacrifice of this martyr, undertook a fundraising project that encompassed all of the Grand Lodges and subordinate Lodges of the Order. This Pythian initiative raised sufficient funds to purchase cemetery property and erect a magnificent monument to his memory in the Bayview-New York Bay Cemetery. A procession and ceremony was held by the Knights of Pythias; the newspapers of that time reported that some 10,000 people attended the dedication. It is that monument, which had suffered damage over the years and is now refurbished, that was unveiled in an inspiring ceremony.

### Supreme Lodge Knights of Pythias

The Supreme Lodge Knights of Pythias sponsors an annual High School Poster/Visual Arts contest. It is open to any student enrolled as a Freshman (Grade 9), Sophomore (Grade 10), Junior (Grade 11), or Senior (Grade 12) in any Junior or Senior High or Parochial School in the United States and Canada

The theme for the 2016-17 contest is "Stay Alive, Don't Text and Drive".

## CONVENTION SNAPSHOTS



Past Grand Chancellor Ray Breitowich officially assumes the title of "has been" as he receives his pin from lovely wife Donna. Congratulations on a great year, Ray!

Grand Chancellor Sir Barry Winston about to take the helm of the Grand Lodge as lovely wife Susan looks on. Best wishes for a successful year, Barry!



The not so lovely Grand Secretary Sir Dave Bellask presents the Wolf Community Service Award to PC Herb Bein of Jersey Shore Lodge who accepts on behalf of his granddaughter Sidney Struble

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**Grand Secretary.....PGC Sir Dave Bellask**  
**Grand Treasurer..... PGC Henry Kazin**  
**Grand Master At Arms PCDGC Matt Silverman**  
**Grand Inner Guard. .PGC Norman Goldenbaum**

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*January-February Issue, December 1st*  
*March-April Issue, February 1st*  
*May-June Issue, April 1st*  
*Sept.-Oct. Issue, August 1st*  
*Nov.-Dec. Issue October 1st*



<p><b>ATLANTIC LODGE</b>  <b>NO. 98</b>  <b>Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday</b>  <b>8:00 PM</b>  <b>VFW Post 3361</b>  <b>601 N. Dorset Avenue</b>  <b>Ventnor, NJ</b></p>	<p><b>BATTLEGROUND-CENTENNIAL LODGE</b>  <b>NO. 100</b>  <b>Meets 1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays</b>  <b>8:00 PM</b>  <b>Manalapan Community Center</b>  <b>114 Rt. 33 West</b>  <b>Manalapan, NJ</b></p>	<p><b>BENJAMIN N. CARDOZO LODGE NO. 163/157</b>  <b>Meets 1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays</b>  <b>8:00 PM</b>  <b>Fair Lawn Senior Ctr.</b>  <b>11<sup>th</sup> St &amp; Gardiner Rd.</b>  <b>Fair Lawn, NJ</b>  <b>cardozospeaks.org</b></p>	<p><b>FORTITUDE LODGE NO. 160</b>  <b>Meets 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday</b>  <b>8:00 PM</b>  <b>Monroe Township Senior Center</b>  <b>12 Halsey-Reed Rd.</b>  <b>Monroe Township, NJ</b></p>	<p><b>JERSEY SHORE LODGE NO. 76/167</b>  <b>Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> &amp; 4<sup>th</sup> Tues.</b>  <b>8:00 PM</b>  <b>Arista Care</b>  <b>At Manchester</b>  <b>1770 Tobias Ave.</b>  <b>Manchester, NJ</b></p>
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