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CELEBRATING 153 YEARS OF PYTHIANISM

Volume LII, No. 2

March/April 2017

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- FEBRUARY 7TH** GRAND LODGE VISITATION – BATTLEGROUND-CENTENNIAL LODGE
- MARCH 12TH** 3-IN-1 RANK – BATTLEGROUND-CENTENNIAL LODGE
- MARCH 15TH** CHARITY FOUNDATION PRESENTATIONS DINNER - FAIR LAWN COMMUNITY CENTER
- MARCH 22ND** SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING – FORTITUDE LODGE
- MARCH 27TH** GRAND COUNCIL MEETING – FAIR LAWN SENIOR CENTER
- APRIL 19TH** GRAND COUNCIL VISITATION – BENJAMIN CARDOZO LODGE
- APRIL 22ND** JERSEY SHORE LODGE MEET THE OFFICERS & AWARDS DINNER – WOODLAKE COUNTRY CLUB,
LAKEWOOD
- APRIL 29TH** GRAND COUNCIL MEETING – PERKINS RESTAURANT, EAST WINDSOR
- MAY 2ND** PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST – BATTLEGROUND-CENTENNIAL LODGE
- MAY 6TH** AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY RELAY FOR LIFE – VIRGIL SASSO FIELD, FAIR LAWN
- MAY 21ST** WALK FOR AUTISM – GIANTS (METLIFE) STADIUM, EAST RUTHERFORD

A Message from the Grand Chancellor . . .

MEMBERSHIP! I don't care how many times I've said it or written about it until I've become sick at hearing my own voice. In the six plus years that I've had the honor and privilege to serve on the Grand Lodge Council as the State Membership Chairman, that is mainly all I've thought about as I moved up the chairs.

In that capacity, I've had little to think about until this year when I assumed the responsibility of Grand Chancellor. But now after six plus years of preaching the Gospel of Increasing Membership (because without it we will clearly die), I have come to the realization that leadership of any membership drive has got to come from those who are close to the pool of prospective candidates. And while the Grand Lodge can encourage and support that effort, it is really up to the leaders and members of the individual subordinate lodges to provide the leadership and effort that must go into any successful membership drive. Remember this: if we

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fail to attract new members pretty soon we won't have anyone to promote to leadership positions; and when that happens, the end is apparent. Once upon a time, Passaic Lodge was the largest subordinate lodge in the state. It had over 500 members, but no one wanted to go through the chairs. As a consequence, it went out of business, and out of more than 500 members only about 40 of them joined Cardozo Lodge with the rest simply disappearing. If it could happen to them it could happen to anyone. The message is clear.

With that in mind, I decided to step down as State Membership Chairman, and was particularly pleased and encouraged when Mel Feldschneider and Raphael Breitowich volunteered to serve as Co-Chairs of Membership with special responsibility for increasing membership at Jersey Shore, Battleground-Centennial, and Fortitude Lodges. Indeed, I have no doubt that these Past Grand Chancellors, who have deep connections to the three subordinate lodges, will do the best job possible in a very difficult environment, and they have my complete and unqualified support in that endeavor. As for Atlantic Lodge and Cardozo Lodge, they will each follow their own traditions and procedures in their own way, and I have every confidence that they will continue to be successful in their endeavors.

On a positive note, we will have a very full calendar of events for all of our lodges, both in terms of charitable efforts as well as membership drives, and there will be full support from your Grand Lodge in these efforts. While there will of course be belt tightening as we seek greater efficiency and expense reduction, we will be increasing our funding for membership campaigns (material support), and event sponsorships. Not only will we continue support for the Grand Lodge Walkathon, Hand of Friendship, Circus, CF We Care weekends, and various food banks and other local charities, we will also be taking on the Autism Speaks Event at Giants Stadium -- the second year of our participation and support.

And finally, also on a brighter note, there is a possibility that somewhere, sometime down the road we may be in a position to engage in activating or reactivating a formerly defunct or new lodge. So my Brothers, I leave you with this appeal: support your Brothers, and demonstrate that support with a supreme effort to gain new membership. You have the support of the entire Grand Lodge.

Sir Barry Winston, Grand Chancellor

Have you asked a friend to join?



PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST SCHEDULED FOR MAY 2nd

Both Fortitude and Battleground-Centennial Lodges are co-sponsoring what they hope to be a great Public Speaking "Speak-Off" at Battleground-Centennial Lodge on Tuesday, May 2nd. Invitations have gone out to students and coaches and the roster is already full. The topic this year is:

Resolved: The United States has a moral obligation to adopt a single-payer healthcare system.



I hope many of you and your spouses can be there to provide an enthusiastic audience for these kids who really “work their butts off” to prepare for this contest. And the topic is right out of the headlines. If you have not been to one of these, you have missed a great opportunity for an enjoyable, thought-provoking evening, and the rewarding feeling to know that the nation's outlook is in good shape with these kids as our future leaders.

Hope to see you there!
DSC Joseph Spindel, KGS

CARDOZO LODGE CONDUCTS SUCCESSFUL COAT CAMPAIGN

Benjamin N Cardozo Lodge completed its annual Kornfeld Coat Collection drive December 10, 2016. Chancellor Commander David Judovin, Chairman for many years, used many outlets to collect 1100 gently used winter coats. Working with Jersey Cares, the warm outer garments go to families in shelters and the homeless in New Jersey. Last year, Cardozo collected 2000 coats. The Lodge uses schools, libraries, businesses, & Pythians to achieve its goals.



COAT DRIVE

Commenting on the program, CC Judovin thanked everyone who helped. It's hard to put a value, he said, on this charitable endeavor, but using second-hand shop prices, on a very conservative estimate, these coats are valued at \$27,500.

The program's name reflects PGC Allen Kornfeld's involvement with the coat drive as chairman 15 years ago. PGC Sir Marty Birnbaum then took over for Allen. Now PC Dave Judovin spearheads the committee that has been a great success for many years.

CHARITY FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES EVENT SCHEDULE

The New Jersey Knights of Pythias Charity Foundation has scheduled many upcoming events. On March 15th the Annual Presentation Dinner will be held at the Fair Lawn Recreation Center starting at 6 pm. Come and be part of our presentation of donations to over 20 organizations from money raised from our Walk- A- Thon. The cost is \$15.00 per person. Please make reservations with Charity Foundation President Sir Jeff Zerowin, (201-796-1058), and mail your check to him, payable to "NJKOP Charity Foundation", to 3 Franciscan Way, Fair Lawn NJ 07410.

Lodges will be conducting Cystic Fibrosis Operation We Care collections the last weekend in April and first weekend in May to support the Children's CF center at St. Barnabas Hospital. Lodge chairmen will be asking Brothers to volunteer to raise money to help find a cure for this disease.

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2017 NORMAN & GERTRUDE WOLF MEMORIAL COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

The Charity Foundation at its regular meeting of October 14th, 1998 voted to establish the Norman & Gertrude Wolf Memorial Community Service Award to be presented to a High School Senior in the Domain of New Jersey who satisfies the criteria for the award. This annual award is funded by the investment proceeds of a bequest made by the Wolf family in the names of Norman & Gertrude Wolf, long time members of the Pythian Order and the New Jersey Pythian family. Norman and Gertrude's Pythian resume speaks volumes of their participation in the work of our Order and exemplifies the principles of Friendship, Charity and Benevolence. Community Service was one of the most important facets of their lives.

This year we are again soliciting resumes from High School Seniors for the Community Service award that meet the following criteria;

1. Graduating Senior from a Public, Private, or Parochial High School.
2. The applicant must present his/her participation and achievements in **community service activities** in **typewritten** form. It is imperative that the applicant provide news clips, and/or backup material. A personal statement is not necessary, but if supplied will be considered along with all other material. All information is subject to verification.
3. This is **not** an academic award; therefore G.P.A., scores in standardized tests, or academic excellence will not be considered in the decision of the judges.
4. All applicants for this award must furnish name, address, and phone number with their submission.

The 2017, 19th Anniversary award will be made in late May or early June. Therefore, we need all applicants' material received by myself no later than May 1st, 2017. We will then choose our winner based on the information provided by each student and notify the local Lodge, the student, and the school so that we can make an appropriate presentation.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sir David N. Bellask, Chairman
97 Draw Bridge Drive
Monroe Township, NJ 08831
(732) 561-2174



AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO ALL BROTHERS:

At the upcoming semi-annual meeting of the Grand Lodge on March 22nd there will be a time when we ask the assemblage if there are any Brothers who wish to announce their willingness to serve on the Grand Council. The last several years no one has expressed such an interest, and at last year's convention we left with a vacancy in the chairs that has not been filled.

If we cannot get individuals who are interested in serving, then there is no point in the Grand Lodge of NJ continuing on its mission of Fraternalism, Brotherhood, and Charity. Without people willing to lead we cannot exist. **Is this what you want?**

We are not asking for a huge commitment. We need you to commit to maybe 10 hours a month for one council meeting, a few visitations, and maybe a special meeting or project here or there. What we mostly need are your ideas and your willingness to help implement those ideas and suggestions to make sure that our order continues its great work.

We know that there are talented people in various lodges who would be an asset to have on the Council but are not stepping forward to help. We hear excuses like "I still work", or "I am busy with other activities", or "I just don't have the time". Every individual currently on the Council has those same excuses, but they were willing to make the commitment to the Order to which they proudly belong. We need you to make a similar sacrifice!

ANNUAL SIR DAN FEIGAN HUMANITARIAN AWARD

Applications are now being accepted for this annual \$500 award. It is presented to a June 2017 high school/technical school graduate and is open to children and grandchildren of all Pythian Brothers. They must also be pursuing a college degree or entering a technical school after graduation.

To be considered the graduate must submit, in writing, an essay describing their humanitarian activities. These could include volunteer work with special needs people, assisting in senior citizen programs, working on drug and alcohol awareness programs, working at food banks, etc. Please include the school and community where these activities took place.

Applications (in the form of an essay-- there are no forms to fill out) must be received by May 30, 2017 and sent to: Sir Marvin Diner, 13-15 Plaza Road , Fair Lawn, NJ 07410.



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- Grand Vice Chancellor PDGC Allen Haller
- Grand Prelate.....Sir Steve Pardes
- 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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The Jersey Pythian will be published 5 times during 2017. It is most important that your articles reach the Editor by the deadline dates listed below. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated. Articles for publication must reach the Editor, Steve Pardes, at StevePardes@gmail.com **no later than the following Publication Deadlines:**

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

A Relay for Life to raise money for the American Cancer Society will be held at the Virgil Sasso Stadium in Fair Lawn on May 6th starting at 6 pm The Knights are hoping to enter a team and get sponsors to pledge money. We will also use this as an opportunity to attract potential new Brothers by distributing information about the Knights of Pythias.

The Charity Foundation has been invited to participate in the Autism Speaks Walk-a-Thon on Sunday, May 21st at Met Life Stadium, home of the football Giants, by setting-up our “Hand of Friendship” games under a tent on the field to entertain the many Special Needs attendees. Volunteers from the domain are needed to man the games and give out prizes. With attendance expected to be 10,000 people, we will use this as an opportunity for a membership drive. If you would like to help, please contact GC Sir Barry Winston at 201-906-4966.

Sunday, June 4th we will be hosting our annual Circus in conjunction with Benjamin Cardozo Lodge at Memorial Park in Fair Lawn. Volunteers are needed for traffic control, assisting our guests to their seats and overall crowd control. Please let PGC Sir Saul Rochman know if you are available to help (201-791-7472) Any time between noon and 5:30 pm would be appreciated.

The culmination of our events is The Hand Of Friendship, held this year on Sunday, September 10th. As in the past, it will take place at Otto Pehle park in Saddle Brook. Once again, we need volunteers to help set up the games and give out prizes. Contact PGC Sir Marvin Diner at 201-791-7184 if you are able to help.



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