

OREGON PYTHIANS

Friendship, Charity and Benevolence

Knightly News

>>> clicking on an image will bring the article up

30 December 2020

Happy New Year 2021



Whew, what a year. Let us all embrace a new year with new possibilities for all.

13 November 2020

North Plains Veterans Park phase1



North Plains Veterans Park

Dedicated 11/11/2020

North Plains now is a place to take notice of. A first stage of the veterans park was dedicated with a huge 100 foot flag pole. Attending the ceremony were state police, local police, national guard, color guard boy scouts and many distinguished guests. The ceremony was beautifully done with many talks from generals down to community leaders. An inspiring story being told by all. Because of the fog we didn't see the F15 fly over but it was heard by everyone.

Now when you drive west on highway 26 you will see our American Flag waiving in the wind, having been dedicated for all of us. To remind all of us who have served past, present and future, giving us our freedom to live life to its fullest.





National Guard



Star Spangled Banner



11 November 2020

North Plains Veterans Park

North Plains Veterans Memorial Park

GRAND OPENING: 11 am on NOVEMBER 11, 2020

Highland Court & 20300 Ave Central Dr, McMurtry, North Plains, Oregon
Address and location are subject to change. Please check our website for updates.

A NEW SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR SPONSORS
 WHOSE FINANCIAL SUPPORT HAS MADE THIS POSSIBLE!
 WE'VE PROVIDED:

High Plains Veterans Memorial Park
 North Plains Veterans Memorial Park
 High Plains Veterans Memorial Park
 High Plains Veterans Memorial Park

Marked by:
 1. Oregon State Historical Society & 2. Oregon State Historical Society
 3. Oregon State Historical Society & 4. Oregon State Historical Society
 5. Oregon State Historical Society & 6. Oregon State Historical Society



North Plains Veterans Memorial Park

GRAND OPENING: 11 am on NOVEMBER 11, 2020

Highland Court & 313th Ave (behind the McDonald's), North Plains, Oregon

Masks are required and social distancing will be observed. "Safe" refreshments will be served.



DESIGN PROVIDED BY
MEMBERS OF THE PORTLAND POST,
SOCIETY OF AMERICAN MILITARY ENGINEERS

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR IN-KIND SPONSORS!
WITHOUT THEIR SUPPORT THIS PROJECT WOULD NOT HAVE
BEEN POSSIBLE!



Highlighting the ceremony will be:

North Plains Boy Scout Troop 275 Color Guard
Oregon Air National Guard F-15 Eagle Flyover
Martin J. Ryan VFW Post 2666 Gun Salute

Speakers:

North Plains Mayor Teri Lenahan
Washington County Commissioner Jerry Willey
Oregon Representative Janeen Sollman
Herbert Hirst, Col (Ret.), US Army and North Plains Resident
Brigadier General Mark A. Crosby, Assistant Adjutant General-Air and Commander
of the Joint Domestic Operations Command for the Oregon National Guard

Static displays by:

- Oregon Army National Guard 2-218 Field Artillery, based in Forest Grove, Oregon
- 671st Engineer Company (Multi Role Bridge), based in Clackamas, Oregon
- Military Vehicles Collectors Club of Oregon



28 September 2020

Pythian International



This Pythian International can be viewed at the OPN tab page for 2020

11 September 2020

Supreme Message



Supreme Lodge Knights of Pythias
Joel D. Flornice, KGS
Supreme Chancellor
50 Colburne Boulevard
Morris Township, NJ 08051
Tel: 973-966-9900 Email: supremelodge@kpy.com

Dear

Pythians,

To our families, those dear to us, and us,

May the days ahead bring good, peace, good health, a better and a just world. Be the best and the best for everyone in whatever world in which we are. Be of the community, its busy, and its traditions.

Good health and prosperity.

To those celebrating both Reformation and Year 1000, may the media and more, and be inspired by a Milling and more! New Year, 1,000 Year, Tomorrow.

Celebrating 150 Years of Pythianism

Friends Working Together for a Better Community



Supreme Lodge Knights of Pythias

Joel D. Fierstien, KGS

Supreme Chancellor

54 Cobblestone Boulevard

Monroe Township, NJ 08831

Tel: 973-994-1069

E-mail: marathonlaw@aol.com

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Pythians,

To our families, those dear to us, and us,

May the days ahead bring good, peace, good health, a better and a just world. Do the best and the most for tomorrow is unknown. Look to when we are free of the coronavirus, its fears, and restrictions.

Good health and prosperity.

To those celebrating Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, hear the shofar and may you be inscribed for a fulfilling and sweet New Year. L'Shana Tova Tivawtayvu.

Celebrating 156 Years of Pythianism

Friends Working Together for a Better Community

3 July 2020

Pythian International July Edition



This Pythian International can be viewed at the OPN tab page for 2020

1 July 2020

Message from Supreme





Supreme Lodge Knights of Pythias

Joel D. Fierstien, KGS

Supreme Chancellor

54 Cobblestone Boulevard

Monroe Township, NJ 08831

Tel: 973-994-1069

E-mail: marathonlaw@aol.com

July 1, 2020

JULY 1, 1867 – 2020... THE 153RD ANNIVERSARY

JULY 4, 1776 - 2020... THE 224TH ANNIVERSARY

July 1st celebrates the anniversary of July 1, 1867, the effective date of the Constitution Act, 1867 (then called the British North America Act, 1867), which united the three separate colonies of the Province of Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick into a single Dominion within the British Empire called Canada.

July 4th celebrates the Declaration of Independence of 13 colonies from Great Britain. The authors included, "... all men are created..." It took the years of the Revolutionary War and then until 1789 to come to the present constitutional government of the United States. The founders and framers did not anticipate the evolution and struggles that have ensued until the present day.

In this unusual year of the coronavirus, enjoy the day and its barbecues, parades, fairs, and spectacular even deafening fireworks but with no baseball.

Remember past celebrations fondly family, friends. To my family the day was quite special as my mother was a Connecticut Yankee doodle dandy born on the Fourth of July.

Have a great day! Be safe, especially if fireworks are part of your day. And be healthy, masks, physical distancing, and all.

Yours in F.C. & B.,

Joel D. Fierstien

Joel D. Fierstien, KGS

Supreme Chancellor

Celebrating 156 Years of Pythianism

Friends Working Together for a Better Community

14 June 2020

Message from Supreme





Supreme Lodge Knights of Pythias

Joel D. Fierstien, KGS

Supreme Chancellor

54 Cobblestone Boulevard

Monroe Township, NJ 08831

Tel: 973-994-1069 E-mail: marathonlaw@aol.com

June 12, 2020

Brothers:

In response to several inquiries, lodges and grand lodges should resume meetings and activities when permitted by current government restrictions, if any, but the health and safety of all are the key and significant factors.

The meeting format is set forth in the Ritual. To prevent any questions or challenges, expenditures should be approved at a ritual meeting, and any disbursements not so approved should be ratified as soon as possible. Also, anticipate handling of any payments after a term or budget period where a convention has not been held as there are fixed and recurring items, e.g., maybe rent, insurance.

Recently the Supreme Lodge contributed \$50,000.00 to Feeding America to support local foodbanks, made possible by the Foundation.

There is no question this is one of the most difficult of times in our history because of the worldwide pandemic and the pressing, long overdue compelling need to address and reform societal ills, mistreatment, and injustices which do not live up to equality and fundamental fairness.

Stay safe. Stay healthy.

Yours in F.C. & B.,

Joel D. Fierstien

Joel D. Fierstien, KGS
Supreme Chancellor

Celebrating 156 Years of Pythianism

Friends Working Together for a Better Community

28 May 2020

Grand Chancellor Message

Hi Fellow Knights,

We've survived lock down, looks like we'll be able to start returning to our lodges for meetings and see one another soon. As we meet in our lodges everyone should maintain the recommended 6ft distance from one another. I would ask everyone to keep it safe 6 feet apart seems a lot but it's the guidelines we've been asked to follow, in order to be safe.

We'll start making Official Grand Officer visits, please start talking with your membership to see when they feel the time is right for your hall. Please let us know so we can start putting a schedule together.

Thanks, stay safe I hope to see you this Summer or early Fall.

Fraternally,

GC Scott Swartout.

21 May 2020

Supreme Memorial Day



Supreme Lodge Knights of Pythias
Just D. Flanigan, KPS
Supreme Chancellor
12 Colburne Boulevard
Miami Township, IN 46032
Tel: 773-964-2007 Email: members@kpythias.com

Memorial Day 2020

Pythians

This holiday is called **Memorial Day** and honors the men and women who gave their lives for what we call **freedom** in our beloved America.

In our struggle with the pandemic, let us take a moment to honor and thank the men and women who have served our country in the military.

Yours in P.P. & R.
Just D. Flanigan, KPS
Supreme Chancellor

Celebrating 176 Years of Pythianism

[Pythian Working Together for a Better Community](#)



Supreme Lodge Knights of Pythias

Joel D. Fierstien, KGS

Supreme Chancellor

54 Cobblestone Boulevard

Monroe Township, NJ 08831

Tel: 973-994-1069 E-mail: marathonlaw@aol.com

Memorial Day 2020

Pythians,

This holiday weekend honor Memorial Day and pause to remember and recall the sacrifices of those serving our country and countries giving their lives for what we hold dear, our lives and liberties.

As we struggle with the pandemic, its costs in terms of health and lives and employment, be mindful of health, safety, our own and that of others. Stay safe and be cautious. With all, take the time to salute Memorial Day and the many fallen heroes.

Yours in F.C. & B.,

Joel D. Fierstien

Joel D. Fierstien, KGS

Supreme Chancellor

Celebrating 156 Years of Pythianism

Friends Working Together for a Better Community

13 May 2020

Pythian Fun Day 2020 **-CANCELED-**

2020 Pythian Fun Days Update.

After considerable thought and evaluation of the Covid-19 virus situation, the Fun Day Committee along with Grand Hot Springs Campground staff made the decision to cancel the 2020 Pythian Fun Days that was scheduled this July at Grand Hot Springs Campground in La Grande. The reasons are, the pool, hot tubs, restrooms, and kitchen-dining areas at the campground, along with the local attractions will be closed.

The Fun Day Committee made arrangements with Grand Hot Springs Campground to reschedule our event on July 14-18th 2021, and automatically transfer everyone's reservation to the 2021 event. If you have a reservation but not able to attend the 2021 Fun Days, you're encouraged to cancel the reservation.

Please share this information to your lodge members.

Thank you,

Ray Cable
Pythian Fun Day
Committee Chairman

16 April 2020

Pythian International April Edition



This Pythian International can be viewed at the OPN tab page for 2020

3 April 2020

Supreme Happy Easter



Supreme Lodge Knights of Pythias
Jul D. Forsyth, KGS
Supreme Chancellor
110 Williams Boulevard
Macon, Georgia, 31201
Tel: 478-884-1887 Email: supremelodge@kpythias.com

Three Pythian family and essential needs:

Wishing all well for a good Passover and Happy Easter.

As the pandemic played this, our celebrations are one through and together for a brighter, healthy future, together.

Each of us may have a mix of both and experience a variety of the rituals of life.

We bring the wine, the grapes, and the bread!

Happy Easter! (I say tomorrow)

Supreme Lodge Knights of Pythias



Jul D. Forsyth, KGS
Supreme Chancellor

Celebrating 124 Years of Pythianism

Friend, Working Together for a Better Community



Supreme Lodge Knights of Pythias

Joel D. Fierstien, KGS

Supreme Chancellor

54 Cobblestone Boulevard

Monroe Township, NJ 08831

Tel: 973-994-1069

E-mail: marathonlaw@aol.com

To our Pythian family and extended family:

Wishing all well for a good Passover and Happy Easter.

At this pandemic-plagued time, our celebrations are our strength and hope for a brighter, healthy future, together.

Each of us may have a test of faith and experience a miracle, the miracle of life.

Be strong, be wise, be prudent, and be blessed.

Happy Easter! Chag Sameach!

Supreme Lodge Knights of Pythias

Joel D. Fierstien, KGS

Supreme Chancellor

Celebrating 156 Years of Pythianism

Friends Working Together for a Better Community

24 March 2020

Words from the Grand Secretary

To All,

The scheduled April's Official Visits have been cancelled.

We hope to reschedule later in the year.

Charlie VanDomelen G.S.

19 March 2020

Grand Chancellor Words

Hi Fellow Knights,

CC Scott, hoping you are making it though Pandemic. If you're like me, you have received tons of emails. Please show your knightly leadership, in the things you do during these times. Call your fellow Knights and family to see if help is needed. Don't forget your community. You can have your hall meetings by phone or internet. Keeping are members safe and healthy is are goal. Thank you for your leadership, Sincerely,

CC Scott Swartout

6 March 2020

Gaston Lodge First Annual Chili and Cornbread Cook Off



Gaston #104 first Annual Chili and Cornbread Cook Off

In Gaston we're always looking to add more community events. One of our 10-year members, David Bates, had the idea of hosting a Chili and Cornbread Cook Off. We wanted people to show off their cooking skills by bringing their homemade chili and cornbread. The cooks for the Best Chili and Best Cornbread would be awarded \$50 cash. We opened it up to the public to come for a free meal and vote

on their favorites. We did accept donations which were donated to the Gaston Food Bank. There were a lot of familiar faces and we even had some people who lived 45 minutes away who were out on a motorcycle ride and were looking for something to do. They saw our Chili Cook Off advertised on Facebook and came to check it out. Gary Hedin, Gaston Knight, won the award for the best chili. Sophie Brundidge, mother-in-law of a Knight, won the award for best chili. Both admitted to making a prior batch earlier in the week to get their recipe right. When it was said and done, we had 7 chilis, 5 cornbread's, about 40 people came through the door, and we raised \$200 for the local food bank. It was the first year trying this so we didn't know what to expect, but it turned out to be so much fun that we will make into an annual event.



David Bates (organizer) and the chili



The kids who found our ice cream stash.



Sophie Brundidge, Best Cornbread



Gary Hedin, Best Chili



Great crowd our new guests of disabled veterans traveling by motorcycles

29 February 2020

Wapato Showdown



10 February 2020

Pythian International News



This Pythian International can be viewed at the OPN tab page for 2020

20 January 2020

2020 Pythian Fun Day

Make your July 15-19 reservation at grandehotsprings.com

address: 65182 Hot Lake Lane La Grande, OR 97850 / phone: (541) 963-5253 / email: hotlakerv@gmail.com



The Knights announced that the Fun Day in 2020 would be held at the Grande Springs Resort just outside of La Grande. Over the hill from La Grande is Baker City. Sites to see in Baker City include the Baker Heritage Museum with its impressive displays related to the gold mining history of the area. The Pythian Castle Hall may be available for a tour. This building is made from stone as are many of the historic buildings in Baker City. Baker City may have started for gold mining but it was built to stay.

Just outside of Baker City is an Oregon Trail Interpretive Center. It has hiking trails that go down the same hill that the pioneers travelled. There are still parts of the original trail to be seen. It is truly the best interpretive center that I have seen! In the mountains just outside of Baker City is Sumpter, an early gold mining town. One of the main mining methods for the Sumpter area was dredging. Miles of tailing piles can still be seen. The dredge is still available to be viewed. Many Pythians and friends had a chance to see the dredge and ride the Sumpter Valley Railroad on the Pythian Day held in Baker City in 2011.



One site to see on the La Grande side of the hills includes the Eagle Cap Excursion Train. It starts in Elgin and winds through the beautiful canyons to beautiful Wallowa Valley. Wallowa Valley was the homeland of Chief Joseph. Traveling by car to see Wallowa Lake and Eagle Cap Mountains would be a full day trip from La Grande. There is a tram that rises 3,700 feet and provides an expansive view of the Eagle Cap Wilderness. This area is considered the "Little Switzerland" of Oregon.

Elgin also has an Opera House that was built in 1912. It has been beautifully restored and considered to



be acoustically perfect. Plays and musicals can be seen here several times a year. This was just a movie theatre when I was growing up but since has been beautifully restored.

And I should mention that the RV park is part of the Hot Lake Springs Resort. The building has had many functions through



the years, including spa, nursing home and mental hospital. It is now a bed and breakfast and history center. There is also access to the soaking tubs that made Hot Lake a primary stop from the 1860's to the turn of the century.

Article submitted by PSR Risa Rigger

This article has been re-formatted for the OregonPythian.org website.

17 January 2020

Talisman Lodge gets some needed help



Talisman Work Crew

Talisman Lodge

Grants Pass, Oregon

Re: Work weekend



Talisman lodge just completed a work party this last weekend. They had the help of 7 dual members that came down south and helped jump start the renovations. The ceiling was covered with 12 by 12 cellulose tiles but unfortunately the ceiling had been leaking water for a long time and they were falling down. The narrow space above the ceiling to the roof had been open for birds to roost in as well. We had to evict a resident owl and wish him luck finding a new home. Bird block were put in place and the roofing had a lot of patch work done. Of course after all the leaking the original stucco ceiling had been saturated as well. All of it came down and corrected as needed. The carpet had been glued down to the floor so it came up. The original fir flooring still looks to be in good condition. A 30 yard drop box was filled with left over junk out of the garage leaving only good items that the lodge is going to donate to the appropriate places. It was a lot of work but was well worth the effort towards saving the building. This was just a start with more work events to come.

When the work was done some of the closets were opened up and many discoveries made. Grants Pass had Roseburg's original charter. They were instated in 1891 and Grants Pass was 1892. Plenty of historical documents and ritual items were found. Now seeing this a person might wonder just how much more is out in the general public without them even knowing what they have.



Talisman Work Crew



4 January 2020

Phoenix Lodge support our Navy



USS Milvus DDG-49

One of the ongoing projects of Supreme Lodge and the Domain of Oregon is to support our troops. Phoenix Lodge Member Cameron has been serving in the US Navy for several years. He has been assigned to the 7th Fleet serving on the USS Milius that's been "deployed to deal with activities near China, Russia, and Korea". He has asked us to help with items not readily available to him and his 14-member crew.

Members of Phoenix lodge went shopping for items requested, we were able to gather up most of the supplies they requested. One request was for letters from Student and community members. We contacted Imlay Elementary Grade School in the Hillsboro School District where we ran a successful Read -n- Ride program with their first graders. The 4th Grade Class teacher answered our request and the students wrote 28 letters of appreciation plus each of the 14 Sailors received a gift bag of requested items.



Respectively Submitted
Phoenix Lodge #34
Hillsboro Oregon