

# Ohio Pythian News

*Grand Lodge Knights of Pythias, Domain of Ohio*

**CELEBRATING MORE THAN 150 YEARS OF PYTHIANISM!**

## New Grand Lodge Officers

July/August 2017

After many years of faithful service to the Grand Lodge of Ohio, Charles Espich has resigned his office as Grand Prelate and Lester Brandais, PGC, has resigned his office as Grand Treasurer. Health concerns and other personal reasons were a factor for both resignations. We thank them both for their service to the Order and wish them the best in the coming years. They have been great assets and their involvement in the Grand Line will be sorely missed!

The Grand Chancellor has made the following appointments to fill unexpired terms of office:

Grand Treasurer – Ron Bryant, PC (696)  
Grand Prelate – Charles Morrison, PC (513) (*previously GMA*)  
Grand Master at Arms – Steve Rine, PC (169) (*previously GIG*)  
Grand Inner Guard – William Parmer III, PC (205) (*previously GOG*)  
Grand Outer Guard – Howard Ballard, PC (205) (*previously Gr Trustee*)  
Grand Trustee – Roger O'Brien, PGC (610)

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## In Memoriam – Robert C. (“R.C.”) Thomas, PGC January 21, 1939 – June 24, 2017



The Supreme Ruler of the Universe has called Robert Camm (“R.C.”) Thomas, Past Grand Chancellor, to take his place in peace eternal. R.C. became a Pythian in Ingomar Lodge No. 610 on February 23, 1989. He later advanced through the officer line to become a Past Chancellor of the Lodge and served the Grand Lodge of Ohio as its Grand Chancellor in 2002-2003. He was very active in his Lodge, participating in the

various fundraising activities and the sports leagues. He bowled in the Springfield Pythian Bowling League and at the state K of P Bowling Tournaments for many years. He was known for his sense of humor and he loved to tell stories. He served his country with honor in the Vietnam War, but rarely spoke about it. When he did, it was with utmost humility, but it became very obvious to the listener that R.C. was a true patriot and hero.

Robert Camm Thomas, 78, of Springfield, passed away on Saturday, June 24, 2017, in Essex of Springfield. He was born on January 21, 1939, in Springfield, the son of the late Camm and Alwilda (Pitt) Thomas. He was a Marine and served our country during the Vietnam War. In 2000, RC retired from International Harvester after over 40 years of service. He also taught engineering for a short time at JVS and was a member of the Knights of Pythias where he achieved Grand Chancellor of the Domain of Ohio. RC was an avid Ohio State Football fan, enjoyed working on cars and drag racing. RC is survived by his wife Lorraine “Lorrie” (Hill) Thomas, one daughter and son-in-law, Sara and Brad Espich of Springfield, two grandchildren, Cody Espich and Rebekah (Andrew) Hurst; great grandchildren, Jaxson and Tucker Espich; step sons: Robert D Willis of Kinder, Louisiana, and Jacob M. Willis of Springfield. He was also preceded in death by his first wife, Patricia Thomas and son, Ethan Thomas.

## Grand Chancellor's Charity – HONOR FLIGHT

The program honors all men and women over 65 who served in the armed forces either stateside or overseas and provides free transportation and tours of the war memorials in Washington, D.C. All donations collected will be split between the 5 regional honor flight organizations in Findlay, Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton, & Cincinnati).



### **THANK YOU!**

**White Cross Lodge No. 308 - \$250.00**

**Ingomar Lodge No. 610 - \$25.00 (R.C. Thomas Memorial)**

Make checks payable to "K of P Grand Lodge of Ohio" and send ALL Grand Chancellor Charity Donations to the Grand Secretary at the following address:

K of P Grand Lodge of Ohio, c/o Martin Trent, 4267 S. Xenia Dr., Enon, OH 45323

## Reminder – Membership Cash Incentives – Must Report to Qualify

As part of the Grand Lodge's membership program, the Grand Chancellor will be awarding cash incentives to the top three membership recruiters during his year (\$250 to the top recruiter, \$150 to 2<sup>nd</sup>, and \$100 to 3<sup>rd</sup>). In order to be considered, we need to know about any new members in your lodge that received the Page Rank between September 1, 2016 and August 1, 2017. The Grand Secretary already has the information for any new members that were part of the Grand Lodge's 3-Rank Classes during the year. For any other new members, the Lodge needs to provide the Grand Secretary a copy of the new member's application (petition), including the sponsor's name (first-line signer on the petition), and the date of Rank work. If the Grand Secretary does not receive this information, the new member will not be counted toward the incentive award. Please also provide the new member's shirt size and his sponsor's shirt size, so that the new member and sponsor can receive a special polo-style shirt from the Supreme Lodge.

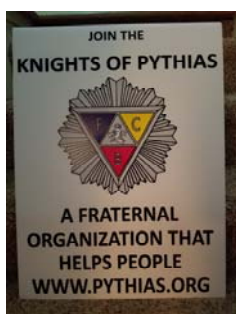
## More New Members!!!!

Lafayette Lodge #37 hosted a Grand Lodge 3-Rank Class on July 15, 2017 in Middletown during which the Grand Chancellor had the pleasure of knighting 6 new members. They included Jacob Combs (#37), Christopher Johnson (#37), Craig Hasty (#37), Mike Trimble (#37), Matt Barker (#37), and Phil Borger (#696).

Glen Lodge #459 hosted a special 2-Rank Class on July 18, 2017 in Seven Mile during which the Grand Chancellor had the pleasure of conferring the Rank of Page and Esquire on 5 new members. They included Shawn Gallagher (#459), Dale Truster (#459), Harold Terry (#459), Ricky Hinton (#37), and Randy Hinton (#37).

This has been a GREAT year for membership - - over 50 new members! Let's keep it going and bring in at least 75 new members next year!

## New Pythian Yard Signs to Help With Recruiting



The Supreme Lodge has produced new vinyl yard signs to promote Pythian membership. A supply of these signs and the metal stakes to secure them in the ground have been shipped to the Grand Secretary. They will be available at the Grand Lodge Convention. Be sure to get your sign and display it proudly in your front yard. Every Lodge should also have one displayed in front of their building.

## 2017 Grand Lodge Convention – MAKE MEAL RESERVATIONS SOON!

**Remember – Lodge Reps receive a \$100 per diem stipend for attending Grand Lodge. EVERY Lodge in Ohio should be represented on Friday and Saturday!**

Wednesday, August 30, 2017  
Evening – Hospitality Room

Thursday, August 31, 2017  
9:30 – Joint Opening and Memorial Service  
11:30am – Lunch Break  
1:00-4:00pm – Knights' Registration  
1:00-4:00pm – Grand Officers & Trustees, Grand Tribunal, & Committee Meetings  
Evening – Hospitality Room

Friday, September 1, 2017  
8:00am – Knights' Registration  
9:00am – Open Grand Lodge  
Noon – Lunch Break  
1:30pm – Grand Lodge Reconvenes  
5:30pm – Social Hour with cash bar  
6:30pm – Friendship Banquet (\$35.00 per person)  
Evening – Hospitality Room

Saturday, September 2, 2017  
8:00am – Knights' Registration  
9:00am – Grand Lodge Reconvenes  
Noon – Lunch Break  
2:00pm – Joint Installation of Grand Lodge and Grand Temple Officers

[Note that the Memorial Service will be on Thursday morning with the Joint Opening instead of having a separate Memorial Service on Wednesday night.]

### Friendship Banquet Information and Reservations

The Friday night Friendship Banquet is open to all and is \$35 per person. You have your choice of beef, chicken, or vegetarian meal. All meals include rolls, salad, dessert, and coffee/tea/water. **Reservations are REQUIRED and must be made by AUGUST 19, 2017.** Remember to specify your meal choice when making reservations. To make reservations, contact the Grand Chief, Judy Pennington, at 1317 Pershing Ave., Middletown, OH 45044, [penningtona@twc.com](mailto:penningtona@twc.com), or (513) 423-7045. Make checks payable to: "The Grand Lodge of Ohio K of P."

### Hotel Information

Holiday Inn Fairborn  
(Recently renovated – beautiful!!!!)  
2800 Presidential Dr., Fairborn, OH 45324  
937-426-7800

The previously published special room rate of \$104.00 plus tax (including FULL, HOT BREAKFAST BUFFET) expires on July 22 and the hotel is reaching capacity; however, you may call Susan Jacobson at 937-431-4674 to inquire about rooms and the rate. If you are unable to secure a room at the Holiday Inn, there is plenty of free parking and many other hotels in the area. A few that are very close to the Holiday Inn are:

Homewood Suites, 2750 Presidential Dr., Fairborn – (937) 429-0600  
Fairfield Inn by Marriott, 2500 Paramount Pl., Fairborn – (937) 427-0800  
Hampton Inn, 2550 Paramount Pl., Fairborn – (937) 429-5505

## **Grand Lodge Knights of Pythias of Ohio**

4267 S. Xenia Dr.

Enon, OH 45323

**Phone:** 937.864.5603

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*"If brotherly love held all men bound,  
what a beautiful world this would be."*

J.H. Rathbone

We're on the Web!  
[www.seekinglight.com](http://www.seekinglight.com)

## State Golf Tourney

Mother Nature rained out the round on Saturday, but 34 golfers were able to enjoy chasing that little white ball on

Sunday. Congratulations to:

Low Net Winner – Greg Apple (#344)

Low Actual Winner – Fred Wiles (#173)

Low Senior Net – Chris Voss (#278) and

John Morris, Jr. (#755)

Low Sr Actual – Dwight Reynolds (#173)

Low Guest Net – Bryan Breneman

Low Guest Actual – Corey Wyckoff

Team Trophy – St. Paris Lodge #344

*Next year's tournament will be June 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>  
at the Pines Golf Course in Orrville, Ohio. Mark  
your calendars!*

## Calendar of Events

**Talmadge Lodge #194 Fish Fry Dates at Vets Field in Mt. Sterling**

**11am – 7pm on Jul 27&28, Aug 25&26, and Sep 28&29**

**Sherman Lodge #470 Fish Fry Dates at the Lodge (1019 Columbus St., Harrisburg)**

**10am-6pm on Jul 29, Aug 12, Aug 26, Sep 9, Sep 23**

**July 30, 2017 – Pythian Picnic NORTH and Pythian Picnic SOUTH (sorta)**

**Both picnics are on the last Sunday in July. The North picnic will be in Cleveland and South (sorta) picnic will be in Prospect. See details below.**

**[If you need more detailed directions, contact the Grand Secretary and he can e-mail them.]**

***Picnic North* – Starts at Noon – West Woods (Deer Run Shelter), 946 Kinsman Rd., Novelty, OH 44072. Steaks and soft drinks will be provided. Please bring a dish to share with 10 to 12 people. If your last name starts with A through H, bring a side dish; J through Q, bring a salad; R through Z, bring a dessert. This is optional for out of towners. Please RSVP to Ron Stovsky by July 15, 2017 at 440-449-5582. There are picnic tables or bring a lawn chair.**

***Picnic South (sorta)* – Starts at 1pm – Prospect Park (at the south end of 5<sup>th</sup> Street in Prospect, Ohio) at the large shelter house on the LEFT as you follow the main drive thru the park. Hot dogs, burgers, drinks, and plastic ware will be provided. Bring a side dish or dessert to share. RSVP to Stan Lauer by July 15, 2017 at [turbostan@frontier.com](mailto:turbostan@frontier.com) or 740-494-2493. As has become tradition with the southern picnic, bring a wrapped/bagged surprise to auction for the Grand Chief's and Grand Chancellor's charities. There are picnic tables or bring a lawn chair.**

**Aug 30 – Sep 2, 2017 – Grand Lodge Convention – Fairborn, OH (see page 3)**

**Oct 28, 2017 – Grand Chancellor's and Grand Chief's Reception**

**Courtyard by Marriott, 100 S. Fountain Ave., Springfield, OH (937-322-3600)**

**MAKE HOTEL RESERVATIONS NOW! Special \$99 rate expires September 13<sup>th</sup>!**

**(Meal information will be published in the next newsletter)**