



NORTH SHORE LODGE #824 Knights of Pythias.

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September 2007
Volume 5, No. 1

The Knight Light

CHANCELLOR COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

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PC Izhak Sirota

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Vice Chancellor

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Arie Bauer

"If fraternal love held all men bound, how beautiful this world would be!"

I'm back. Yes, I am about to begin my third year as your Chancellor Commander and I am as excited as ever. One of the reasons why I returned is because of the great support that my fellow officers, committee chairman and rank and file Brothers have given me. I cannot do it alone. Thank you for being there for me.

On the evening of August 2nd, Brothers of North Shore Lodge met to review and vote on the annual budget. We also tentatively planned our agenda for the upcoming year. It's looking good!

Last year we had some wonderful events, so we will repeat them. Once more, we will enjoy the picnic, the chicken dinner, the turkey raffle and the Holiday Party. And that's just the first half of the year. Meanwhile, we will try to bring you something new as well. For starters, our September 18th meeting will be preceded by a lecture from a chiropractor. We all face back problems at some time during our lives. Why don't you come down and learn something that might prove helpful?

One of the greatest contributors to Glen Oaks Lodge and later North Shore Lodge has been PACDGC Sir Sy Barmash. I was so sorry to learn about the passing of his wife, Cissy Barmash. My Brothers and I hope that memories of their many years together will help Sy through this difficult period in his life.

Not only do we have many Brothers who work hard for North Shore Lodge, but we also have Brothers working on the District and Grand Lodge level. Congratulations are in order to Irv Kleiman for his election to as Grand Secretary and to PC Ed Rasquin for his rise to the position of President of the 10th District. If all goes well (and it should), he will be our Deputy for the 2008-2009 Pythian Year.

The dates, times and places of our upcoming events are reported elsewhere in the Knight Light. Please read them and join us for a fabulous time.

Fraternally yours

Izhak "Itzy" Sirota

ONE OF THE EDITORS SPEAKS

Thank you, my Brothers of North Shore Lodge, for working so hard to give me a great honor, a real surprise, and a wonderful evening. On May 10th I went to an open meeting at Jericho Lodge to take part in an honor night for Irv Kleiman. Unknown to me, the honor night was for me. Suddenly, the Grand Lodge Ritual Team appeared and PDGC Phil Feingold, dressed in his white dinner jacket, walked around the room looking for the candidate for the Golden Spur. He stopped at my chair, took my arm, and led me away to be prepared for the ceremony.

I was elated, surprised and, most of all, grateful. It is always nice to be honored in the Pythian Order and I have received a few nice ones from a couple of Grand Chancellors and a few other lodges. The greatest honor, however, is the one that comes from my family. North Shore Lodge is my family. Thank you so much for being so good to your Brother.

Speaking of my family, my daughter, Tracy, hid in the parking lot until the ceremony began, so that I would not be alerted that something special had been planned. Later, she and Arleen each gave a great speech-not because they spoke about-me, but because they were entertaining. Tracy really did an exceptional job with no chance to prepare. She was a last minute substitute for her brother, Jeffrey, who found out that evening that job responsibilities would prevent him from attending the meeting.

I was not privy to the procedure that led to the awarding of the Golden Spur, since the nominating and approval process are done in secret and I was completely unaware that they were taking place. I later learned, however, that the one Brother without whom I would not be a Sir is Irv Kleiman. Irv was on one of the committees, planned the evening beautifully, and praised me so much in his speech, that I am sure that I was beginning to turn red. Thank you again, my Brothers, and thank you so much, Irv.

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FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

Since the last issue of the Knight Light, we have had some exciting things happen at our Castle Hall. We had our annual Wine Night, in March. Every Brother went home with a fine bottle of Passover wine.

Two Brothers, who are in the running to be the next Grand Outer Guard, visited us. In alphabetical order they are PACDGC Steven Kohn, a member of Majestic Lodge #109, and PACDGC Craig Shink of Franklin D. Roosevelt Lodge #613. Both presented outstanding resumes. Our lodge Delegate, PC David Gurock had to choose who would get North Shore Lodge's vote. I understand that he voted for Craig. David was always good at picking winners.

On April 17th, the Lodge held its annual Bingo Night. Salads, rolls, bialys, bagels and drinks, followed by delicious cookies made it a culinary delight. The assortment of good sugar free deserts was outstanding. The Collation Committee must be congratulated for once again coming through. The evening started early and ended early. All of us, including the cleanup crew, were out by 10 PM.

I did the calling and Tony Rivers kept the results and checked for the winning Bingo card. It seems that all the winners were happy when they received their cash awards, once the Bingo was confirmed, but when Ron and Arleen Degen's grandson, Brian, received his prize, a Spiderman toy, he was ecstatic. The visitors all thanked us for giving them such a good time.

My Brothers, I wrote the above before May 10th. Today is the 11th and I have so much more to write. Last night at

Jericho Lodge the event of the year took place. What started out with a talk to the Supreme Secretary at the 2006 Grand Lodge Convention by David Gurock and me, culminated in the presenting of the Knight of the Golden Spur to PACDGC GA Ronald D. Degen. This is the highest honor that can be given to a Pythian. Over 150 brothers and their guests came to honor Ronnie. Many people who might have attended did not know that a Golden Spur was going to take place, because it had to be a surprise. There is no question that in the minds of many, this event was a long time coming. We all congratulate Ron and his family. His wife, Arleen, and his daughter, Tracy, were there to add to the celebration and both had words of praise for the recipient of the award. Jeffrey, who is a neurosurgeon, could not attend, because he had to perform an emergency operation that evening. Congratulations Ron.

For those of you whom have never witnessed the ceremony of the presenting of the Golden Spur I am adding a picture of Ronnie, taking the obligation prior to becoming a KGS (Knight of the Golden Spur).

Ron was surely surprised when he was picked during the ceremony. I believe that I could say that he was shocked, but he got over it as you can see by the smiles on his and his wife Arleen's faces.

Fraternally,

GS LM Irv Kleiman,
Secretary



Irv Kleiman did the calling and Tony Rivers kept the results and checked for the winning Bingo card.



Pictured left to right are Phil Feigel, Ron, Gary Geller and Herb Lorin of the Ritual Team.



Ron and Arleen Degen

BINGO, AGAIN!

On April 17, 2007 we had a great evening dining and playing bingo at the Castle Hall. The old (most of us), the middle (some of us) and the young (Brian Chirel, grandson of Ronnie and Arleen Degen) had a fantastic time. This year we're not waiting until the spring. We're starting early on October 16th with BINGO NIGHT IN OCTOBER!!! It's an open meeting, starting at 7:30 P.M. So bring your reading glasses and join us for a fun evening.

THE THIRD ANNUAL PICNIC

The only thing more successful than our first picnic in 2005 was our second picnic in 2006. Now, we are trying even harder. In 2005 we had 65+ attendees and in 2006 the number shot past 90. On Sunday, September 9th, we're trying for 100 picnickers at the picnic, which will start at 11:00 A.M. at Alley Pond Park on Springfield Boulevard and 76th Avenue.

Hot dogs, hamburgers, salads, drinks, dessert and a good time will be taken care of by the Lodge. This year, again, there will no charge. **IT'S FREE.** And you don't have to make a reservation. All we ask is that you show up. **BE THERE!!!**

ONE OF OUR LATE PC JESSE LEVINE'S POEMS

AUTUMN

'Tis autumn now, the fall of the year,
Leaves tumbling down, both far and near.
Soft browns and gold assault your eyes,
This exquisite beauty, causes collective sighs.
Nature's way of letting us know,
That soon we shall have, winter's snow.

A time to reflect on the summers past,
With the love we met, thought it would last.
But as the seasons change, we do too,
Try to meet someone new.
A person who is warm and tender,
This love that one could not render,
Build a life with, keep out the cold,
Stay together, as we grow old.
Looking forward to life, merging as one,
As the seasons change, after each is done.

'Tis autumn now, the fall of the year,
Leaves tumbling down, both far and near.

THE GOOD NEWS, THE BAD NEWS, THE IN-BETWEEN NEWS

The good news: A few months ago, Marion Weber, wife of Outer Guard Sidney Weber, had open heart surgery. We are pleased to report that she recovered well, looks great, and is back in the swing of things.

The bad news: We mourn the loss of Cissy Barmash, wife of PACDGC Sir Sy Barmash. It took a long time for them to move to Florida, because of Cissy's illnesses. Once they finally made it, their years together there were too few in number. Our hearts go out to Sir Sigh and we pray that she will rest in peace.

The happy news: PC Izhak and Phyllis Sirota are overjoyed with the engagement of their son, Matthew Sirota, to Amy Stewart on March 16, 2007. Meanwhile, Barry Lisak is pleased to announce his recent engagement to Carol Halpern. We wish the newly engaged couples many years of wedded bliss.

PC Sidney and Pearl Lann are the very proud great grand parents of Noah Ethan Lann, born February 10, 2007. Noah is the son of Dr. Matthew and Dr. Lindi Lann and the grandson of Gordon Lann.

The celebratory news: The Lindens and Birnbaums have a lot of celebrations to announce, starting with PC Barney Linden's birthday on May 12th. Alan Birnbaum, grandson of Barney and Janet and son of Brother Rod and Michelle Birnbaum, enjoyed his 5th birthday on August 2nd. Meanwhile, Rod and Michelle toasted 11 years of marriage on August 18th. Still coming up, they look forward to Barney and Janet's 42nd anniversary (September 12th).

KENNETH I. AARONSON

Well fellers, I could not get to the Bingo night, but my wife Evelyn made it. She went with our neighbors, while I was stuck watching Hillary. She is almost two and we could not get a babysitter. As you know, I work for a caterer and I often am allowed to take home leftovers. It is great when I bring home a brisket or some steaks and also some of those delicious deserts. Evelyn said that she enjoyed the salads with a bagel, and also a roll, as I almost never bring that kind of food home. She played every game and enjoyed herself, even though she did not win even once. She said that it cost less playing bingo than she would have spent in the Dairy Master on Union Turnpike for the same meal. She also said that one member brought his grandson and that when he won a prize he got very excited. She said that was the highlight of the evening. Evelyn was home early. She assumes the reason is that some of the other people had babysitting problems too.

Your Brother,

Kenneth I. Aaronson

IRA S. LUGENER

To My Brothers:

Even though Iris and I are enjoying the many subsidized dinners and the great financial benefits we receive by bringing home leftovers from the meetings, I am still perturbed by the reckless financial policies of King Itzy. I hate to say it, but his election as Chancellor Commander for the third time is tainted by fraud. Rumor has it that he bought the election by spending so much money on the Brothers. What's worse, he still is not content. Apparently, he wants to be King Itzy forever, because this year looks like it's going to be a spending fiasco. From picnics, to dinners, to free raffles, to entertainment, to holiday parties, to giant subsidies, there is no end. I am afraid to go on vacation, because I might miss one of his many freebies.

Birthday congratulations also go out to PC Barry Wheatman (May 5th); Pearl Lann, wife of PC Sidney Lann (May 8th); the grandchildren of Brother Stanley and Tamara Reich: Anna (17 years old on April 11th) and Jordan (13 years old on May 11th); Ruth Levine, wife of the late PC Jesse Levine (June 5th); Senator Ben Altman (June 14th); and Anna Firestein, wife of Brother Al Firestein (June 30th). Happy Anniversary to the June brides and grooms, including PC Sid and Pearl Lann (64 years on the 27th); Senator Ben and Rose Altman (61 years on the 8th); GS LM Irv and Anita Kleiman (57 years on the 25th); Arleen and me (39 years on the 22nd) and our children, Jeffrey and Jill Degen (7 years on the 11th) and Tracy and Tony Chirel (6 years on the 30th). Besides celebrating their 57th wedding anniversary, GS LM Irv and Anita Kleiman are happy to announce the anniversary of daughter Cindy and her husband, Jean-Michel (April 13th), and the birthdays of their grandson, David Lopez (27 years on July 17th) and of their daughters Cindy (July 21st) and Kim Lori (July 30th).

Happy Anniversary Barry and Kathie Wheatman (38 years on August 16th), PDGC Tony and Carmen Rivera (51 years on September 15th), PC Marvin and Delma Scharfman (59 years on September 19th), PC David and Irma Gratt (58 years on October 29th), PC Jerry and Fran Geier (47 years on October 22nd) and Elyse and Joseph Isopo--daughter and son-in-law of PC Barry and Kathie Wheatman--(6 years on September 8th).

PGC SIR PAUL SCHACK

My North Shore Lodge #824 Brothers:

I just received and read the March edition of the Knight Light. It took me at least three times longer to read everything than any other lodge bulletin that I receive. My compliments go to your editor, his staff and all supporters.

After I finished reading it, I felt that I had attended at least three or four meetings myself. Great stuff and a lot of nostalgia. As only a few of you know, I am a Life Member of Great Neck Lodge and, thereby, of Lodge #824. I have not been up north since I was awarded a Golden Spur but, don't push it, maybe I'll be up there and would certainly show up at a meeting.

I was fascinated by the columns of Izhak Sirota, Ira S. Lugener and Ken Aaronson. I don't remember (my memory is not what it was) ever having had the pleasure of meeting them. Irv Kleiman gets my hearty support as a candidate for Grand Secretary. I couldn't have chosen better myself. I certainly do not want to forget Grand Advocate Ron Degen, whose work in the Knight Light is recognizable by its style and phraseology.

Down south, I'm certain you have heard about our Lodge, Boca-Delray-Boynton #206, from PC Barney Linden, a frequent visitor. I am also in contact with Sir Sy Barmash and occasionally I meet up with PC Marv Scharfman. Let me wish you and yours a good and healthy year. When in Florida, please contact me.

Fraternally, PGC Sir Paul Schack

I do not want to sound pessimistic, but the drop in membership in the Order over the past 30 years or so from 85,000 to fewer than 15,000 Brothers does not bode well for us. However, as always, Ira is coming to the rescue. I sure hope that our new Grand Chancellor reads this letter. A key to success would be to honor our men and women serving overseas. Each month we could have the Soldier of the Month. We could publish his/her picture, give him/her a plaque, send him/her a care package (a phone card and some cookies baked by Iris would be great), and give him/her (it was a lot easier writing when the army only had men) free membership for five years in a Pythian Lodge or Pythian Temple. The media would eat it up, we would be doing a good deed, and the publicity wouldn't hurt.

Fraternally,

IRA S. LUGENER

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NEW GRAND LODGE WEBSITE

Thanks to our own Itzy Sirota, the Grand Lodge has a beautiful new website. Grand Chancellor Allan Greenberg appointed Itzy to be webmaster. He responded in fine fashion. The new address is www.kopny.com. Why don't you browse by and see Itzy's fine work and learn more about us.

VISITATIONS

On February 6, 2007 Grand Chancellor Martin Fasting visited our Castle Hall for the second time. He brought PDSC Joel Bergenfeld and PDGC Carl Broder with him. DGC Sheldon Soloway of Wavecrest Five Towns Lodge was also present. On May 1, 2007 DSC Kenneth Danker delivered the Supreme Chancellor's Message. PDGC Warren Nadel and DGC Ted Pashko of FDR Lodge accompanied him. Both candidates for Grand Outer Guard came to see us and to give us a chance to meet and question them. We saw PACDGC Steven Kohn on March 6th and PACDGC (now Grand Outer Guard) Craig Shink on March 20th. The candidate for Grand Secretary attended every meeting.

GRAND LODGE CORNER

We had so many people from North Shore Lodge at the Grand Chancellor's Dinner honoring Grand Chancellor Martin Fasting, that all of us could not fit at one table. In attendance were Izhak and Phyllis Sirota, Jerry and Fran Geier, David and Roz Gurock, Ed Rasquin, Robert Banks, Irv and Anita Kleiman, Ronnie and Arleen Degen.

Once again, the Grand Lodge Convention was held at Kutsher's in Monticello. There were enough people with complaints, but the North Shore Lodge contingent was not among them. We had a great table made up of Irv and Anita Kleiman, David and Roz Gurock, Sidney and Marion Weber, and Ronnie and Arleen Degen. Joining us were Sidney and Roz Polansky of Jericho Lodge. The major events of the Convention were eating and electing Irv Grand Secretary. We were successful on both fronts.

AN IMPORTANT MEETING

Our new Grand Chancellor Allan Greenberg instills new life and fresh hope in the Knights of Pythias. He is a dynamic leader, who brings new ideas into the Order. On Tuesday evening, October 9, 2007, DGC Harvey Sobel will deliver Allan's message to our Lodge. That evening we will also participate in the Traveling Gavel. It should be an informative meeting that will not last long, but will be long on interest. BE THERE!!!

DID SOMEONE SAY....

...CHICKEN DINNER AND TURKEY RAFFLE?

Yes they did. On November 20, 2007 we will hold our annual, always successful, chicken dinner and turkey raffle. We'll be starting early (7:30 P.M.), finishing early, and having a good time in between. Please join us. You'll leave sated and you might even have a turkey (besides whomever you are driving) to take home. BE THERE!!!

CONGRATULATIONS IRV!!!

For the first time in the history of North Shore, Douglaston, Great Neck and Glen Oaks Lodges, we have an officer in the Grand Lodge of the State of New York. (PGC Sir Paul Schack was Grand Treasurer of the Domain of Florida). Yes!!! PDGC LM Irv Kleiman is now GS LM Irv Kleiman. The GS stands for Grand Secretary. At the Grand Lodge Convention in July, Irv was unanimously elected to the exalted office of Grand Secretary of the Domain of New York. Having attended two Grand Council meetings at which he acted as Grand Secretary and having seen him otherwise in action, I can state that New York has made a wise choice. The office of Grand Secretary probably is the most demanding position on the Grand Council. A Grand Chancellor serves for one year. A Grand Secretary serves every year, usually for at least 5 years and often longer. We all wish Irv well and thank him for bringing this honor to himself and to our Lodge.

CHANGE IN MEETING DATES

Because of the timing of the Jewish Holidays and Election Day, there will be no meeting on October 2nd, November 6th and December 4th. Instead we will meet on October 9th and December 11th. BE THERE!!!

MY HEARTFELT THANKS.....

My heartfelt thanks to my Pythian Brothers of North Shore Lodge. Your most kind expressions of sympathy were greatly appreciated.

Fraternally yours,

Sy Barmash

**HOW'S YOUR SPINE?**

If you want to learn a little something about your spine and how to take better care of it, come on down to our chiropractic lecture on Tuesday evening, September 18, 2007. The lecture will precede our regular convention and should be very informative.

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

PC Izhak Sirota is one of the Directors and the Web Master for the Little Neck Douglaston Memorial Day Parade--the largest one in the country. This year Irv and Anita Kleiman and Ronnie and Arleen Degen, together with grandson Brian Chirel, joined Itzy. They marched with the North Shore Lodge banner while he rode up and down the parade route to make sure that everything was running smoothly. And it did. It was a beautiful day for a parade, especially one capped off with free hot dogs and drinks.

Use Your Measuring Stick

From time to time some Pythians say. "Who needs AHF, because I got this terrific HMO?" To this statement, let AHF tell you what it has done.

This past May, a national HMO, a Pythian Lodge, and several not-for-profit organizations could not help a Floridian Pythian couple place their son in a specialized medical institution to save his life. What exacerbated the problem was that the son was in New Jersey. Immediate help was needed, and the life-saving time element measured a day or two. In desperation, this couple remembered that they were AHF contributors, so a call was made to AHF. In about twelve hours after the call was made, an ambulance medical team from Deborah Hospital picked up the son, sped him to their hospital, and life-saving treatment began immediately with success.

Now, let's measure true value. Yes, you need health insurance-we all do. AND we all need AHF for that exclusive entrée to urgent medical treatment to which AHF can offer assistance. You pick the measuring stick, do the measuring, and AHF will be on you charity list. Go AHF, because AHF goes for you!

The 2008 AHF Drive begins this October. Join us to help each other.

THANK YOU BOTH

This short article is to thank the brothers of North Shore Lodge who have always supported me. Two Brothers, PACDGC GA Ronald D. Degen and PC LM David Gurock, were magnificent in their nominating and seconding speeches in support of my candidacy for the position of Grand Secretary.

If I would have had any competition for the office, the words that rolled off Ron's tongue would have won the election for me, no matter who my opponent might have been. It was just another one of his elegant speeches.

As for David and his revised Gettysburg Address, it surely rivals the eloquence of the words of that other statesman, Abraham Lincoln. David may have missed his calling in life. Thank you both.

Abraham Irving Kleiman

The editorial policy of the Knight Light is the sole responsibility of the editors and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of North Shore Lodge No. 824 or its officers. Copy will be accepted by the editors during any meeting, with the deadline being the first board meeting of each month. We reserve the right to accept submitted copy during the second convention of each month and to decide which copy to print and when. Only typed copy is acceptable. The editors hope that the opinions expressed will be taken in the spirit in which they were written and that no real criticism intended.

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR FINANCIAL SECRETARY

I would like to thank all the Brothers who sent in their dues on time. It made my job a lot easier.

Fraternally and Sincerely

PC JERRY GEIER

CORRECTION

The last edition of the Knight Light incorrectly referred to Brother Barry Lisak as a CPA. He is an I.R.S. enrolled agent, that is, an EA.

NECROLOGY

It is with deep sorrow and regret that we offer our sincerest sympathy to our Brothers and their kin upon the demise of dear members of their families.

CISSY BARMASH

Wife of PACDGC Sir Sy Barmash

July 24, 2007

ZACHARY PORTNOY - age 9

Grandnephew of Brother Sidney Weber

February 26, 2007

We thank thee, O Lord for their companionship and the sweet memories they leave behind.

May their souls be bound up in the Bond of Eternal Life and may their families know no more sorrow.

Amen

NORTH SHORE LODGE #824

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www.littleneck.net/kop



Over a Century of Service • Founded on Friendship • Charted for Charity • Built Through Benevolence

"If fraternal love held all men bound how beautiful this world would be."

Meeting Schedule for 2007

CONVENTIONS ARE NORMALLY HELD EVERY FIRST & THIRD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH AT 8:00 PM

Marathon Jewish Community Center 245-37 60th Ave. Douglaston, NY (718) 428-1580

Executive Meetings are held at Sinai Chapels 162-05 Horace Harding Expy, Fresh Meadows, NY 11365

* Meeting dates and locations are subject to change.

Sep 4 Regular Convention
Sep 9 Annual Picnic
Sep 18 Regular Convention With a
special speaker from 8:05-8:25
Sep 25 Executive Meeting
Oct 9 *Regular Convention,
GC Message & Traveling Gavel
*Second Tuesday
Oct 16 Bingo Night
Oct 23 Executive Meeting
Nov 20 Chicken Dinner & Turkey Raffle 7:30
Nov 27 Executive Meeting
Dec 11 *Regular Convention
*Second Tuesday
Dec 18 Holiday Party 7:30-9:45
Jan 15 Regular Convention
Jan 22 Executive Meeting

Annual Picnic
Sunday, September 9th, 11:00AM
Springfield Boulevard and 76th Avenue

KOP Bingo Night at Marathon JCC.
245-37 60th Ave. Douglaston
October 16th at 7:30 p.m.
Cash prizes

Membership Application

New Applicant Renewal

Full Name: _____

Address: _____ Apt. _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Place of Birth: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ E-mail Address: _____

**Annual membership is
from January 1, thru
December 31 of same year.**

Annual dues are \$45.00.

**Make checks payable to
North Shore Lodge #824.**

**For information E-mail:
kop@littleneck.net**