



# NORTH SHORE LODGE #824 Knights of Pythias.

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June 2008

Volume 5, No. 4

## The Knight Light

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PC Izhak Sirota

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PC Izhak Sirota

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### Prelate

Arie Bauer

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### CHANCELLOR COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

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

After 3 years as your Chancellor Commander, my term has come to an end. Thank you, my Brothers, for giving me the opportunity to serve you and for the respect and honor you have given me. Those of you who do not come to meetings do not know what you are missing. For those of us who regularly come to Lodge functions, the word "Brothers" has taken on a special meaning. We have become a unit of friends who look forward to being in each other's company. Some of us have gotten so close, that we include our wives and families in our social lives, not just in lodge meetings. I cannot stress enough how much we enjoy each other's company. Please come to some meetings to experience the comraderie too.

I am now moving on to the position of co-editor/webmaster of the Pythian International Magazine. Supreme Lodge decided to stop printing the Pythian International and to put it on the internet as a website, updating it on a daily basis with articles, news, and pictures. The changing of the PI from a printed media to a website will modernize the Order with new technology. It will unite Brothers from coast to coast in the United States and Canada. We will be able to follow activities and ideas and we will feel a new sense of unity. I am proud to have been chosen by the Supreme Lodge to be the co-editor and webmaster.

I will continue to be part of the Executive Board and will remain active in North Shore Lodge as best as I can.

Fraternally yours,  
Izhak "Itzy" Sirota

### ONE OF THE EDITORS SPEAKS

In the last issue of the Knight Light, the question posed in this column was "Who is standing in the wings, ready to assume control and guide our Lodge?" I am pleased to report that a good man has stepped forward. At our meeting on May 20th, Brother Barry Lisak was elected Chancellor Commander of our Lodge for the upcoming Pythian Year. Thank you, Barry, and good luck. Since Barry has been contributing articles to our Bulletin, he should be all set to write his first Chancellor Commander's Message at the end of the summer.

Barry, like the Chancellor Commanders before him, cannot do it alone. Great

leaders need someone to lead. That is where you, my Brothers, come in. If you want to be part of a great group of men, who have a wonderful time getting together, who enjoy evenings with their Brothers and their wives, you do not have to go far. Barry will do all that he can to make our meetings and special events fun-filled and rewarding. It seems strange that I have to ask you to have a good time. Try us for one or two meetings. If you don't like what you see, you haven't lost much. On the other hand, if you have as good a time as we active Brothers do, then you really will have done yourselves a favor.

**BE THERE!!!**

### OUR NEW OFFICERS

Barry Lisak .....Chancellor Commander  
Sidney Weber .....Vice Chancellor  
Arie Bauer.....Prelate  
PC Izhak Sirota .....Master-of-the-Work  
GS LM Irv Kleiman .....Secretary  
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PC LM David Gurock .....Master-At-Arms

Michael Rosenkrantz.....Inner Guard  
Mark Kilmnick .....Outer Guard  
PC LM Sidney Lann .....Three Year Trustee  
PACDGC Michael Stein ....Two Year Trustee  
PC David Gratt .....One Year Trustee  
PC LM David Gurock.....Grand Lodge Rep.  
PC Barney Linden ....Grand Lodge Alt. Rep.

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## FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

It has come to my attention that we have a Brother in the Lodge by the name of Emanuel H. Gottesman who has not attended meetings for quite a while. I think we have to forgive him as he resides in Coconut Creek, Florida. Manny is over ninety years of age, but on second thought, it's no big deal. After all, it took him over ninety years to get there. Anyway, as the secretary of North Shore Lodge, I wish you what I am sure your other Brothers wish you as well, that is, many more years of good health. Always remember, "There is a better day tomorrow".

Ahead on June 3rd is an open meeting, celebrating the installation of officers for the 2008/2009 Pythian Year. Two weeks later, on June 17th, an Honor Night will be held for Robert Dillon. He entertains sick children, as Otto the Clown, and is compensated with their smiles. Please be there to hear his outstanding resume and to say thank you.

Both June conventions are open meetings, so bring friends and family. Naturally, food will be served by our outstanding Collation Committee. Applications for membership will be available.

The Grand Chancellor's Dinner was held at The Sands of Atlantic Beach on May 17th. If any Grand Chancellor deserves the honor, it surely is Allan Greenberg. He and his team have accomplished many great things during his administration. His Homecoming and the presentation of the Gavel Award to him will be held at Genesis Lodge on May 28th. Anyone who would like to come along should call me.

The culmination of the year's doings will be the Convention

## FIRST NOMINATIONS, MEMORIAL SERVICE, AND MORE

We had a busy evening on May 6th. First, two speakers from STARS (Sports Therapy and Rehabilitation Services) gave us an informative lecture about their health services. Thank you, Sidney Weber, for making the arrangements. Then we had an interesting meeting that included First Nominations. Finally, Dave Gurock led a memorial service that brought back bittersweet memories for all of us.

## WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON?

With the cost of food and gas going through the roof, one place where you can get your money's worth is at North Shore Lodge. This spring, the Lodge subsidized three dinners and the Brothers met at Irv's house to car pool, which saved gas. First, on April 15th, a bunch of us honored PACDGC Jerry Maron at the Long Island Pythian Council Dinner held at Verdi's in Westbury. Then on April 29th, a large contingent of Brothers and their wives had a great time at Abbraciemento Restaurant, where DGC Harvey Sobel's Dinner was held. Finally, 14 North Shore Lodge Brothers and their wives assembled on Saturday night, May 17th, at The Sands for the Grand Chancellor's Annual Dinner. It was like a wedding without the bride and groom and a lot cheaper. No one left any of these dinners hungry and everyone left happy. You should have and could have been there. In Brooklyn they used to say, "Wait until next year." Hope that by next year your waiting will be over and that you will join us.

that will be held at Honor's Haven Resort and Spa, formerly the Fallsview Hotel, in Ellenville, NY, from June 30th through July 3rd.

As promised, I am enclosing one of the late PC Jesse Levine's poems elsewhere in the Bulletin.

Irving Kleiman  
Secretary

## THE SUPREME CHANCELLOR'S MEDAL

One of the highest honors that the Knights of Pythias can bestow upon a non-Pythian is the Supreme Chancellor's Medal. It is given to members of the community who stand out as selfless contributors to society. We wanted to recognize someone who is deserving of this award. With the help of OG Sidney Weber, we found him. His name is Robert Dillon, but the children at St. Mary's Hospital for Children in Queens know him as Otto the Clown.

Mr. Dillon devotes 600 hours a year to St. Mary's Hospital, where he entertains and visits the children. He gets paid in smiles from the happy faces of the children whose lives he improves. The Lodge overwhelmingly approved presenting this award to Mr. Dillon, together with a check made payable to his favorite charity.

Please join us on Tuesday evening, June 17, 2008, at an open meeting in our Castle Hall. Dignitaries from the community will be there to congratulate Mr. Dillon for receiving the Supreme Chancellor's Medal and to give him the recognition that he richly deserves.

We urge you to **BE THERE!!!**

## ONE OF OUR LATE PC JESSE LEVINE'S POEMS

### STILLWATER

In the quiet still water of my mind,  
I think back, when I was in my prime.  
Life was good, not a care to behold,  
Just fun and tales, as my life would unfold.  
Good friends we were, this time and I,  
But never a thought, of how it would fly.  
It seemed as though I would never grow old,  
And therein lies my tale, to be told.  
My friend and I, close as can be,  
Like birds we flittered from tree to tree,  
Never a thought to building a nest,  
Fun and games, at times we would rest.  
Day into Night, Night into Day,  
Always willing, wanting to play.  
But time has a way of showing its face,  
You start to tire of this mindless race.

UNBIIDDEN THOUGHT: "Is this to be my purpose on earth?  
This running around with just a dearth, of days?"

"No," I say, "this cannot be,  
I must find one to share with me".  
This girl of my dreams, to be my wife,  
Help me fulfill our purpose in life.  
Build our own nest, start to grow,  
As fledgelings come, we can show,  
The way to live life, as one.

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

**The good news:** We have two great open meetings coming up in June. Please read about them in the Knight Light and join us.

**The better news:** Five more Brothers joined the Lodge and are members of our softball team. They wear our emblem on their shirts and do our Lodge great credit.

**The best news:** We're still having fun!

**The bad news:** Aside from the necrology section, no bad news has been reported.

**The hopeful news:** Scott Banks, brother of PC Robert Banks, underwent cancer surgery. After removing one of his kidneys, the doctors think that they got all of the bad cells. He is doing well and we wish him a speedy and full recovery.

**The in-between news:** Everything else.

**The celebratory news:** Congratulations to Michael Bauer the son of Prelate Arie and Susan Bauer, on his graduation from Brooklyn Law School. We wish him success on the bar exam in July.

Mazel tov to PC Itzy and Phyllis Sirota on the upcoming wedding of their son Matthew and his fiancée, Amy Stewart on July 3, 2008. We wish the young couple many, many years of wedded bliss.

Congratulations to Brother Michael and Rosalind Rosenkrantz--the proud grandparents of their fifth grandchild. Her name is Jillian Brooke Rosenkrantz and she was born on April 23, 2008.

Happy Birthday Pearl Lann, wife of PC Sidney Lann (May 8th), Ruth Levine, wife of the late PC Jesse Levine (June 5th), Senator Ben Altman (June 14th), Anna Firestein, wife of Brother Al Firestein (June 30th), and Tony Chirel, son-in-law of Arleen and Ronnie Degen (July 5th).

Happy Anniversary to the June brides and grooms, including PC Sid and Pearl Lann (65 years on the 27th), Senator Ben and Rose Altman (62 years on the 8th), GS LM Irv and Anita Kleiman (58 years on the 25th), Arleen and me (40 years on the 22nd) and our children, Jeffrey and Jill Degen (8 years on the 11th) and Tracy and Tony Chirel (7 years on the 30th). The Kleimans are also beaming over the anniversary of daughter Cindy and her husband, Jean-Michel (April 13th), and the birthdays of their grandson, David Lopez (28 years on July 17th) and of their, daughters Cindy (July 21st) and Kim Lori (July 30th).

**KENNETH I. AARONSON**

Nuts, I missed the night that they had the nomination of officers for next year. I've been practicing on the computer at the Y and at the Public Library. Next week we are going to learn about using the "tab key". OK! So I'm not go good at it yet, but I am sure I would improve on the job if I was elected Secretary. Like the Brooklyn Dodgers, I can wait until next year.

How come the best dinners with the good subsidies are always on nights that I have to work? What is wrong with Sunday evenings? I very seldom work then. Sunday

afternoon Simon usually has catering jobs to do. Please keep this in mind when planning something that is heavily subsidized.

Please think of me when making plans for next year. The first thing I'll probably be able to attend, I am pretty sure anyway, will be the picnic. This year Evelyn and Hillary and I will make it. I like the cost. It's FREE.

Fraternally,  
Kenneth I. Aaronson

**EDUCATIONAL CREDITS AND DEDUCTIONS** By Barry Lisak

Tax breaks to help you pay educational expenses are some of the most commonly overlooked federal tax breaks. These incentives can provide hundreds and sometimes thousands of dollars off the total tax bill of families, not only for children in college or graduate school, but also for parents to pursue further education and training to help them at work. Let's take a look at some of the education tax incentives.

**HOPE and Lifetime Learning credits.** Two credits, which can be very attractive if you qualify, are the HOPE credit and the Lifetime Learning credit. The maximum HOPE credit is \$1,800 for 2008. The benefit of the credit begins to "phase out" for married couples filing jointly with more than \$96,000 in adjusted gross income (AGI) in 2008. The credit begins to phase out for single individuals with more than \$48,000 in AGI in 2008. The HOPE credit applies to qualified tuition and related expenses of the taxpayer, the taxpayer's spouse, or any dependent of the taxpayer for whom the taxpayer claimed a personal exemption. Generally, the credit can be claimed if you pay qualified tuition and related expenses for the first two years of post-secondary education.

The Lifetime Learning credit is similar to the HOPE credit but has some important differences. For example, the Lifetime Learning credit is not limited to the first two years of post-secondary education. A student also does not need to be pursuing a degree or other recognized education credential to take advantage of the credit. The maximum Lifetime

Learning credit is \$2,000. Like the HOPE credit, the Lifetime Learning credit is subject to phase-out rules.

**Employer-provided educational assistance exclusion.** Another valuable tax break is the exclusion of up to \$5,250 of employer-provided education assistance paid under an employer's qualified educational assistance program. Excludable education allowances from an employer need not be related to the employee's current job. Graduate-level courses are also covered.

**Deduction for interest on education loans.** Student loan interest of up to \$2,500 a year is deductible whether or not you itemize your deductions. The deduction begins to phase out for single individuals with modified AGI above \$55,000 and for married couples filing jointly with modified AGI above \$110,000. However, the rules can be highly technical. Only those legally obligated to make the loan payments may deduct them. Individuals who are claimed as dependents on another person's return cannot take this deduction.

**IRAs.** The Tax Code also allows you to withdraw funds from your IRA tax-free for qualified educational expenses. The education must be for you, your spouse, or the children or grandchildren of you or your spouse, at a qualified post-secondary institution. This is a great way to help grandchildren pay for post-secondary education.

Any questions regarding these tax-saving ideas, please e-mail me at MRBARRYTAX@aol.com or call at 516-TAX-SAVE (829-7283).

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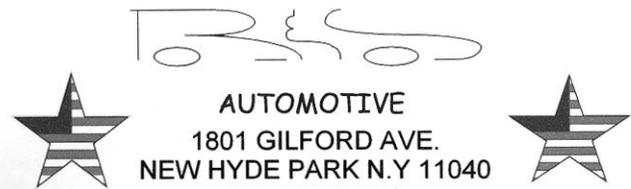
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**NOSTALGIA CORNER**

Twenty-five years ago Douglaston Lodge published the June 1983 issue of the Knight Light. It was Volume 28, Issue Number 10. The outgoing Chancellor Commander was Ronnie Degen, the incoming Vice Chancellor was Ed Rasquin, and the Financial Secretary was Barry Wheatman. All the other officers are deceased. Dues were \$35 per year and the Acting Editor, PC Norm Hirsch, predicted that by the year 2000 "we will just about be no more." We sure are glad that he was wrong. Although he was not listed on the masthead, the unofficial assistant editor, who did not share this viewpoint was Ronnie Degen. In Volume 29, Issue Number 2, the first letter from Ira Lugener appeared. He has contributed a letter to every issue published from October 1983 to date.

**A TOAST!**

Not only does North Shore Lodge give its members many reasons to raise their glasses high, but we also fill them. Every Brother who attended the April 8th meeting left with a bottle of Passover wine.

**YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN THERE!!!**

**INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS**

One of the best-attended and most enjoyable evenings of the year is the night that we install our officers. The collation always is special and good feelings permeate the air. DGC Harvey Sobel of Genesis Lodge will swear in the officers, Izhak Sirota will give his farewell address, and Barry Lisak will greet us for the first time. It's an open meeting and usually our farewell for the summer. This year, it will be one of two June open meetings. Still, it will be a fantastic evening that will not be affected by the great honor night planned for June 17th. **BE THERE!!!**

**BUDGET AND PLANNING MEETING**

On Tuesday, August 5, 2008, we will be holding our annual budget and planning meeting at Sinai Chapel. Each year we use this meeting to map out our budget and to go over the Chancellor Commander's plans for the upcoming year. It is an important and interesting meeting that all Brothers who want to help shape the future of our Lodge should attend. **BE THERE!!!**

**BINGO**

No one got rich, but the desk officers are not complaining. At our April 1st Bingo Night, the winners included Jerry Geier, who won twice, Tony Rivers and Anita Kleiman. Robert Banks also took home some winnings.

**YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN THERE!!!**

**GRAND LODGE CORNER**

This year, the Grand Lodge Convention will be held at the Fallsview Hotel, now Honor's Haven Resort & Spa, from June 30th through July 3rd. Attending from our Lodge will be Barney and Janet Linden, PC David and Roz Gurock, Irv and Anita Kleiman, Sidney and Marion Weber, and Ronnie and Arleen Degen. Even though we can fill a table, we would love to add on a few Brothers and their wives for an even bigger table and we hope that some more of you will join us. Meanwhile, as mentioned elsewhere in the Knight Light, the Grand Chancellor's Dinner was held on Saturday evening, May 17th, and was a great night of dining and dancing.

**THEY'RE BACK!**

We're talking about the snow birds. No need to be in Florida when the weather in New York is so beautiful. It is the best time of the year, when the combination of good weather and more Brothers in the area increases attendance at our meetings. If you want to see your friends, you know where the Castle Hall is.

**DEPUTY ED**

The next Deputy for the 10th Pythian District is slated to be our own PC Eduvigas Rasquin. This year he served as President of the District and now he is ready to step up and be its Deputy. Ed is his own man and he should be a great assistant to our next Grand Chancellor. We hope that North Shore Lodge will give him the support that he deserves.

**OUR SOFTBALL TEAM**

Yes, we have a softball team and 12 new members who are playing for our Lodge. They are in second place with a 7 and 5 record, but are looking to move up. If anyone wants to watch them play, just call Irv or Ronnie for the location of the next game. The team plays doubleheaders in different parks in Queens on Sunday mornings, starting at 9:00 A.M. **BE THERE!!!**

**SORRY THAT WE MISSED YOU, SY**

PACDGC Sir Sy Barmash visited New York. Unfortunately, his schedule did not permit him to visit our Castle Hall. Still, five Brothers got together with him for dinner on May 13th. They report that Sy looks good and that they spent an enjoyable evening with him.

**NEW GRAND LODGE WEBSITE**

In the last issue of the Knight Light, we announced that the Grand Lodge has a brand new web site at [www.kopny.com](http://www.kopny.com) that was created by our own PC Izhak Sirota. We hope that everyone had the chance to view it. Just remember, that it is constantly updated. Therefore, you should visit it soon and often.

**IRA S. LUGENER**

To My Brothers:

Wow! What a wonderful April and May Iris and I had. Can you believe it? Three subsidized dinners. First, we piled our plates high at the LIPC Dinner at Verdi's on April 15th. Then, two weeks later, it was off to Abbraciemento Restaurant to devour the great cuisine. Finally, we made it to the Grand Chancellor's Dinner on May 17th. Yes, all that for just a fraction of what it would have cost us without the Lodge subsidies.

And it's getting even better. Yummy, I can taste those June collations already. Iris and I have our doggy bags in hand and expect to score heavily at the two open meetings. It will be the last hurrah for King Itzy, who has been spending money like we have it and is sure to end his reign on a culinary high note.

Iris and I welcome King Barry. As an IRS Enrolled Agent, he should have a keen eye on the purse and, hopefully, will not idly spend money like his predecessors, King Itzy, King Barney and King Robert. Yes, we may lose out on the advantageous discounts on the dinners and the super collations at the meetings. But we are hopeful that King Barry will protect our future, so that when I go to that great collation in the sky, Iris will get a payment and a grave for me.

By the way, don't believe me about what's going on and **DON'T BE THERE!!!**

Fraternally,  
IRA S. LUGENER

**WELCOME, NEW BROTHERS!**

On Thursday, April 3rd, 5 neophytes from North Shore Lodge attended a three-in-one rank and joined our Lodge. We welcome our new Brothers, who are:

Anthony Collazo, Hector Mejia, Javier Mercado  
Irfan Musliwala, Zufikan Musliwala

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 it's officers. Copy will be accepted by the editors during any meeting. We reserve the right to decide which copy to print and when. Only typed copy is acceptable. The editors and North Shore Lodge do not vouch for the accuracy or the validity of any legal or financial advice that may be published." The editors hope that the opinions expressed will be taken in the spirit in which they were written and that the readers will realize when we jest and that no real criticism is intended.

**WHAT A NIGHT!!!**

On May 20th, four of our newest members (Tony Mercado, Alex Mercado, Jay Lucio and Anthony Collazo), who play on our softball team, joined us for a delicious Chinese food buffet. Thank you, Arie Bauer, for, once again, giving us a fantastic collation. Tony Mercado, Captain of the North Shore Tribe, addressed the Brothers in a relaxed and confident manner that says that he definitely is officer material, should he choose to go up the chairs. He thanked the Lodge for supporting the team and thanked Irv Kleiman and Sidney Weber for having attended games. He invited everyone to come on down and cheer the team on. After we elected next year's Lodge officers, DGC Harvey Sobel installed the District Officers. He also presented PC Ed Rasquin with a plaque, commemorating and thanking him for the fine job that he did as President of the 10th District. Visiting Brothers Michael Gliner, Harold Fox, Mark Schwartz, Harvey Sobel, Sheldon Soloway and Sid Soloway helped to make it a wonderful evening.

**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.

**BROTHER HERBERT VICHNES**

March 31, 2008

*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*

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245-37 60th Avenue,  
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Phone: 718-225-4166

Email: kop@littleneck.net

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 2008**

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.

- June 3 Installation Night (Open Meeting)
- 17 Honor Night for Robert Dillon aka Otto The Clown (Open meeting)
- Aug 5 Budget and Planning Meeting

**Supreme Chancellor's Medal Presentation**  
**June 17th, 7:30pm-9:45pm**  
**at Marathon Jewish Community Center**  
**245-37 60th Ave. Douglaston**

**Honoree**  
**Robert Dillon aka Otto the Clown**

### **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**