Maryland KOP Councils

Aberdeen Arnold Baltimore Bel Air Berlin Bowie Capital Heights Chestertown Clinton College Park Columbia Cooksville Darlington Denton Eastern Elkridge Federalsburg Fort Washington Fredrick Glen Burnie Hagerstown Hanover Havre de Grace Indian Head Landover Laurel Mardela Springs Millersville Middle River Pasadena Pikesville Pokomoke Silver Spring Temple Hills Upper Marlboro Westover Germany United Kingdom Italy



Mission Statement for The Order of

Knights Of Pythagoras

The Maryland Council of The Knights of Pythagoras is a Youth Organization dedicated to "The Fatherhood of God, and the Universal Brotherhood of Man".

Our organization takes young boys between the ages of Six through Eighteen, and helps to train them in the areas of

Leadership, Responsibility and *Humanity*.

Providing a partnership between Master Masons, our youth, their parents and the community. Our program promotes Family Values, Community Service and continuously providing training for our Youth as they become the future Leaders of today as well as tomorrow.

Order of the Knights Of Pythagoras

(KOP)

YOUTH PROGRAM

MENTORING PROGRAM

Sponsored By

The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Of Maryland, Inc. F. & A. M.

E-mail address: mwphglmd@hotmail.com
Homepage: www.mwphglmd.org

Teaching Our Youth Leadership, Responsibility

And Brotherhood.

Information Pamphlet



The Honorable Lee A. Taylor, 33°

Most Worshipful Grand Master

Julio A. Martinez 33° State Director, (Maryland) E-mail: kop@mwphglmd.org

No Man Stands So Straight, As When He Stoops To Help a Boy

History of The Knights of Pythagoras (KOP) Program; The Knights of Pythagoras is a youth program for boys between the ages of nine through twenty. This program exists currently in 25 states across the U.S. and is sponsored by Prince Hall Masons, Inc. This movement, originally the Chivalric Order of Knight Companions, was commenced by Masons representing The Grand Jurisdiction of Kansas and Colorado, in a conference held November 19th 1938.

It was adopted for universal use in the Grand Jurisdiction of Prince Hall Masons dispersed throughout the United States under the name "THE ORDER OF THE KNIGHTS OF PYTHAGORAS," at the National Conference of Grand Masters of Prince Hall Masons, under the leadership of Grand Master Amos T. Hall, President, held in Denver, Colorado, May 8-10, 1951.

A survey of all the movements designed for the benefit of youths, as started in several Grand Jurisdictions, disclosed two alarming defects. (1) Because of the localization of these movements, boys found no similar organizations when they left their homes and traveled to other states, (2) the jurisdictions, of themselves, have shown that, financially and in many other respects, they are unable to provide adequately and efficiently for this all important work.

As a solution to these and many other difficulties, "The International Supreme Council of the Order of the Knights of Pythagoras" was formed at a National Conference on Youth, held in Chicago, Illinois, August 17, 1958 with Grand Masters and representatives of 20 Prince Hall (states) jurisdictions.

Maryland KOP Program

In 1995 the late Most Worshipful Grand Master, The Honorable Samuel T .Daniels, Sr., began the KOP Youth Program in this jurisdiction. He named R.W. Brother Earl H. Matthews, 2nd, as State Director to get the Program up and running, for the Jurisdiction of Maryland.

After establishing approximately fifteen councils, to include one council in Germany, Brother Matthews handed the State Directorship over to R.W. Brother Novell Washington, who expertly guided the councils through 2010.

In 2010 M.W. Grand Master, Shelton D. Redden, deciding that the Knights of Pythagoras should serve as a mentoring program for the youth of the various Districts throughout the state. In continuing the same theme, The Honorable Lee A. Taylor, Most Worshipful Grand Master, indicated his desire that we train our Youth in Leadership, Responsibility and Brotherhood.

<u>KOP Councils</u> – consist of adult supervision referred to as **Sir Knights** (Master Masons). The youth are referred to as **Youth Knights**. The council is made up of at least fifteen (15) youth officers. The Master Knight serves as the youth leader of the group, the Senior Knight (2nd in command), and Junior Knight (3rd in command) serves as his primary officers. There is a Youth Recorder (Secretary), Youth Treasurer, and a Youth Chaplain just to name a few. The councils meet once or twice a month.

What is a Youth Knight?

- 1. A boy who falls between the ages of 6 18.
- 2. A boy who attends his meetings and contributes to the organization.
- 3. A boy who is ready to take on leadership roles and responsibility.
- 4. A boy who learns how to be a better citizen, leader, thereby providing a better world of tomorrow.

What is A Sir Knight?

- 1. Prince Hall Mason(s) who contributes their time, effort, and financial support to the KOP Program
- 2. A Prince Hall Mason who often becomes a second father to the young men and boys who look up to him for guidance and support.
- 3. A Prince Hall Mason who cares about the development and growth of the youth in our city.
- 4. A Prince Hall Mason who strives together to prepare our Youth Knights to be leaders of tomorrow.

Parents Club

Made up of parents of the Youth Knights, who serves to assist our officers; President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Chaplain. They assist the council in areas such as; coordinating, booking, driving, chaperoning and adult supervision.

KOP YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCES

Each year councils from across the state come together for training and fellowship. They also compete in several competitions which includes a statewide basketball tournament, music and oratorical contest, etc... These yearly conferences are held in various cities across Maryland.