

Our Troops thank New York's Pythians for their Support

On Memorial Day 2013, the Grand Lodge of New York Knights of Pythias shares these warm messages from troops provided supplies from Pythians on the home front. Grand Lodges originally established its [Servicemen and Veterans Committee](#) to provide support and visitations to VA hospitals where simple gifts and good cheer would bring comfort to injured – many permanently disabled -- members of our armed forces. In 2006, a New York Pythian and former Marine, recognizing that our service personnel in the middle east battle zones lacked access to basic personal care products including shampoo, razor blades, snack foods, books, etc., started soliciting products to send over.

It currently costs \$15.00 to ship one box via USPS. With the support of Pythians and others, the Servicemen and Veterans Committee under the leadership of its chair, PCDGC Sir Joseph Robinson, raises enough money and material to box and ship some 900 boxes per year totaling over 5,000 individual packages to service men and women currently serving tours in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Below find two most recent “thank you” letters received by the the committee.

Letter #1:

From: Sgt. Danilo Lopez
To: Joseph Robinson
Sent: 5/25/2013 10:29:44 P.M. Pacific Daylight Time
Subj: care package

Joe, Thank you for sending the care package. My guys are thankful for having people like you, who without even known any of us continue to send care packages every month without receiving anything in return. I will send you some pictures today after I get off work that I have taken while flying around the area of operations. I have a young lance corporal that has not received anything from family yet, we currently on month 5 of being deployed overseas. If you can drop his name in the box perhaps someone will send him a small box. He enjoys candy and cookies, playing video games on Nintendo ds. His name is Mervin Jimenez he is 19 years old from New Jersey, the address is the same as mine. Thank you very much.

Sgt Lopez D
United States Army

Letter #2:

From: Keidrick M. Scott
To: Joseph Robinson
Sent: 5/27/2013 4:23:14 A.M. Pacific Daylight Time
Subj: THANK YOU

UNCLASSIFIED

Good afternoon,

Hopefully this email finds all in good health and high spirits! I just wanted to shoot a quick line out to say "Thank you" to the Knights of Pythias and North Shore Det. Marine Corps League #240 as well as all others that support all deployed Service Members. Ooh Rah! Your care packages, thoughts, and prayers are gratefully appreciated. The last 11 years have been an extremely busy time for us all. It's always good to know that the people back home understand and appreciate the efforts required to keep the fight going. So, thank you for all that you do. And thank you for providing such a strong legacy for us to follow. The efforts and reputation of our forefathers make the daily task at hand tremendously easier.

Thanks

MGySgt Scott, Keidrick M.
United States Army

View these articles on the work of the committee in Pythian News:

[*Pythians thanked for Supporting Our Troops*](#)

[*Marine Corps League Presents Flag to Grand Lodge*](#)

[*North Shore Lodge Supports Pythian Servicemen and Veterans Committee*](#)

[Posted Memorial Day, May 27, 2013]