



Maryland, Delaware AND District of Columbia Elks Association News

A Fraternal Organization

BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS
United States of America



www.mddedcelksassn.org



JANUARY 2016



Jay Strong
State President

Message from the State President

Welcome to the Winter Workshop of the Maryland, Delaware and District of Columbia Elks Association! We have a full slate of training and educational presentations lined up for you, and we hope you find them to be relevant, helpful and inspiring! Take a look at the Agenda nearby for more details.

First off, I'd like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the 16 volunteers who provided training and educational presentations at our Fall Conference. Many of them had to step out of their comfort zones to do this for you; not everyone finds it easy

to speak in front of a large number of people. All of them spent hours prior to the Workshop developing their presentations. They all worked within very tight time constraints during the Workshop. And they did this all just for you, the Members of the Lodges in our State Association!

Special thanks to Merrilyn Ramsey, for taking over, on short notice, the daunting task of executing the plan for our Fall Workshop (with the help of the entire Convention and Conference Committee, of course). The plan had been made by others before Merrilyn assumed the responsibility of Chair Person of the Committee, and there was very little time for her to come up to speed. Yet Our Fall Workshop weekend went off without a hitch; none of us knew the extent of the challenges she faced, or the problems she overcame. Well done!

Congratulations and a very special thanks to Angela Meyer, also, for taking on the responsibility of Operations Director of Elks Camp Barrett. Angela had infused the Camp Executive Committee with new energy and enthusiasm. She will now be bringing that same positive approach, habit of advance planning and gift for competent administration to the Operations Director's job. Our Camp is indeed in good hands. Angela devotes countless hours to making sure everything is in place for the Camp to succeed. Now let's see to it we fill it up with deserving kids for the upcoming camping season!

And special thanks goes out to Jackie Phillips, our Acting Treasurer, and Patti Gray, our Accountant, also. Jackie accepted the appointment as Acting Treasurer, even though she did not have an opportunity to be "understudy" to the Treasurer, and thus have a full understanding of all that the job entails. Patti has stepped up and worked closely with Jackie, helping her to come up to speed quickly. Patti has also worked tirelessly to bring our books and records current. These ladies have devoted countless hours behind the scenes for the good of the Association, and they deserve our sincere gratitude!

We are deeply indebted to these folks, and indeed to all the volunteers who give so much of their time and talent to the smooth functioning of our State Association. We measure the success of our State Association by how well we help the Lodges to succeed. Please let us know how we can be more successful in this!

Your President has been busy attending Elks Camp Barrett Executive Committee Meetings, Camp Representatives' Meetings, Trustees' Meetings, Convention and Conference Committee

Meetings, the New Jersey Elks State Association Conference, and making "Official Visits" to 17 Lodges - so far. And oh yes, planning the business and training sessions during this weekend for you.

While you're here in Frederick, I encourage you to explore a little bit. There are many things to see and do in this beautiful eastern part of western Maryland, so get out there and have yourself some fun!

But for goodness sake, don't miss out on the fun right here at Frederick Lodge No. 684! The Members here have worked hard (and will be working hard all weekend) to make this a memorable and enjoyable weekend. The first way to thank them is to enjoy their hospitality!

Jay V. Strong, Jr.
State President
Maryland, Delaware &
District of Columbia Elks Association

**COMING
EVENTS**

March 4-6, 2016
Mid-Atlantic Soccer Shoot
Frederick, MD

March 13, 2016
Americanism Banquet
Westminster Lodge #2277

March 18-20, 2016
Spring Conference
Dover Lodge #1903

June 10-12, 2016
June Conference
Timonium, MD

July 3-6, 2016
Grand Lodge Convention
Houston, TX

NOTE: Lodges should refrain from scheduling conflicting events in order that their key Officers and members may attend all of these meetings.

**Maryland, Delaware and
District of Columbia
Elks Association News**
Official Publication
2015 - 2016

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WINTER WORKSHOP AGENDA OF THE MD, DE, & DC ELKS ASSOCIATION

FREDERICK LODGE NO. 684, FREDERICK, MARYLAND

FRIDAY, 15 January, 2016

12:00 Noon - 5 P.M. Registration
11:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M. **Lunch** - Frederick Lodge
1:00 P.M. - ????. Advisory Committee Meeting
5:00 P.M. State Trustees Meeting
5:30 P.M. Elks Camp Barrett Executive Committee Meeting
ALL Afternoon and Evening **HOURS OF FUN!** (Unstructured) while not in meetings
5:00 - 9:00 P.M. Dinner - Frederick Lodge

SATURDAY, 16 January, 2016

7:30 - 9:30 A.M. Breakfast Buffet - Frederick Lodge
8:00 A.M. Elks Camp Barrett Representatives Meeting
8:00 A.M. - Noon Registration
9:00 A.M. Workshop Called to Order
9:00 - 9:30 A.M. The "Beginning Parts" - Introductions, Invocation, Pledge, Roll Call, etc.
9:30 - 11:50 A.M. **Training, "How To" Pieces & Presentations:**
DD Clinic: (9:30) IRS Audit Lessons - DDGER Patti Gray (John Loftus, Marv Solomon) (20m)
(9:50) How To Motivate Volunteers - DDGER Tom Coyle (15m)
(10:05) How To Have Good Public Relations- DDGER Carolyn Riggins (10m)
(10:15) How To Use Social Media-DDGERs Danniele McKnight & Rick Konrad (15m)
(10:30) How To Set Up Your Budget - Maurice DiPauli (25m)
(10:55) How To Put the State Calendar On Your Phone - Linda Velez (10m)
(11:05) How To Develop and Practice Leadership - Trent Manson (25m)
(11:30) What's Happening at Elks Camp Barrett - Angela Meyer (20m)
11:50 A.M. Announcements & Recess until 9:00 A.M. Sunday, 17 January
12:00 - 2:00 P.M. Lunch break - Frederick Lodge
All Afternoon **HOURS OF FUN!** (Unstructured) while not in meetings
1:30 - 3:30 P.M. PGER Paul D. Hesel, Meeting with DDGERs & PSPs / DLs
1:30 - 4:30 P.M. Committee Meetings (as requested by State Chairs)
1:30 - 2:30 P.M. President & President-Elect Mtg w/VPs & Committee Chairs
1:30 - 2:30 P.M. Breakout Session on Gambling Laws in Delaware - recent events
6:00 - 8:30 P.M. **Dinner at Frederick Lodge with lots of FUN!**
7:30 - 11:30 P.M. **Frederick Lodge Lounge, MORE FUN!**

SUNDAY, 17 January, 2016

7:30 - 9:30 A.M. **Breakfast** Buffet Frederick Lodge
8:00 - 10:00 A.M. Registration
9:00 A.M. Workshop Called to Order
9:05 - 10:55 A.M. **Training, "How To" Pieces & Presentations:**
(9:05) What's Up With the Convention & Conference Committee-Merrilyn Ramsey (15m)
(9:20) How To Win An Impact Grant (ENF) - Mary Cardinal-Vogt & Doris Solomon (25m)
(9:45) How Elks Can Help Mentally Disabled Youth - Cyndee Sammons (15m)
(10:00) How to Grow Your Youth Activities - Colleen Ford - (10m)
(10:10) How To Have Membership Success - Kathy King (20m)
(10:30) Government Relations + Why We Do Charity Reports - Tom Ohlendorf (25m)
10:55 A.M. BUSINESS MEETING: Secretary's Report - Gary Eckenrode / Communications
. Trustees' Report - Vouchers - Claudia Finley-Bowalick
. Treasurer's Report - Jackie Phillips
. Advisory Committee Report - Hon. Priscilla Schwab
. Unfinished Business / New Business
. Announcements
GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION Comments - President - Grand Lodge Sponsor
. Departed Members / Silence / Sickness & Distress
ADJOURN by 12:00 Noon Elks Camp Barrett 50 - 50 Drawing
1:00 - 3:00 P.M. Get Away Lunch - **Frederick Lodge - believe it, still More FUN!**

Next Newsletter Deadline: February 19, 2016

GRAND LODGE

Message from Grand Exalted Ruler:

RESOLVE TO BE MORE ACTIVE IN YOUR LODGE THIS YEAR



Grand Exalted Ruler
Ron Hicks

Happy New Year! January and the New Year bring hope for the renewal of all that is good in our lives. It is the time to make a resolution to set and pursue new goals, be stronger, do better, achieve more, and to inspire others.

This New Year, why not resolve to become more active in your Lodge and

increase your efforts on behalf of the Lodge and Elksdom? Why not resolve to bring in at least one new Member before the end of this Lodge year? Elks make a tremendous difference in the lives of our Members and the people we serve, and you can be a part of that difference by sharing the pride that comes with active membership and volunteer service.

Lodge Officers, consider a resolution to strengthen your programs for youth, patriotism, Drug Awareness, Veterans and those with special needs, and strive during the coming year to put a "face" on your

Lodge and prove yourself a reliable partner in the community. We offer great appeal to those who know who we are and what we do; we just need to let the public know. Make a resolution to be loud and proud, and let your bright light shine throughout the community.

We have all enjoyed the rewards of giving to our communities over the past year, especially our recent efforts during the holiday season. While these programs and activities are still fresh in our minds, take a moment to document what improvements can be made in each of them, how you can more accurately document your service to the community through your Charity Reports, and what you can do to publicize your service and accomplishments to let everyone know the value of your service to your Members and the community.

I wish all Elks success with your resolutions for the coming year. And, yes, if we can finish strong, it will be a Happy New Year!

Follow our travels at www.virginiaelks.org/GER_Ron_Hicks_Blog.htm

Ron Hicks. GER



Paul D. Helsel
PGER & Sponsor

Welcome to the Frederick Winter Conference and Happy New Year to all!! Hopefully each of you and your families had a most joyous holiday season!!

We are now a little over nine (9) months into the 2015/2016 lodge

year and it is time to make that final push to ensure that YOUR LODGE and our Association goals are achieved - a little over two (2) months to fill in the gaps, clean up the loose ends, and get all the things we had planned completed in a successful manner. Our success for this lodge year will, once again, be measured on how well YOUR LODGE and the other 37 lodges of our Association fare in the quest for membership growth, financial stability, Elks Program participation, community involvement, and adherence to operational requirements.

Hopefully you and YOUR LODGE are right on track to show positive results in all these areas and thus make YOUR LODGE and our Association the envy of all Elks across our Order.

Membership retention and growth remains our number one priority and we need to push these last couple months to show a gain in many of our lodges. As you are all aware, the success of our Membership Program (retention and growth) rests squarely on the shoulders of the local lodge - YOUR LODGE. An individual Elk does not join the National Order, they join a local lodge - YOUR LODGE. What YOUR LODGE does to recruit, manage, and retain members will determine whether YOUR LODGE, our Association, and our Order are successful in this most vital effort! If YOUR LODGE is not there yet and/or not doing the things necessary to show a membership gain, you still have the next two months to get the job done. Work to get your delinquency level below the 5% goal, make sure you get your candidate backlog initiated, and keep working to get new applications and

reinstatements. You and YOUR LODGE can do it and we are all counting on you and YOUR LODGE to get it done!!! We want YOUR LODGE and our Association on the plus side this year!!

Also next month YOUR LODGE will be electing the officers for the 2016/2017 lodge year - the leaders, who will by their individual and collective efforts, or lack thereof, determine how YOUR LODGE will fare through the coming year. Pick your leaders wisely and choose those with the abilities to put or keep YOUR LODGE on a successful course.

Thanks to all of you who have and are working so hard for YOUR LODGE and our Association. It is your individual and collective efforts that will continue to make YOUR LODGE, our Association, and our Order successful.

Best wishes to all for a successful and enjoyable Winter Conference and a successful and rewarding and prosperous 2016.

Sincerely and fraternally,
Paul D. Helsel
PGER & Sponsor

E.C.B. 50/50 Raffle in Ocean City



The winner of the E.C.B. 50/50 Raffle in Ocean City on Sunday, October 4, 2015 was Ellie and Mike from Washington - Rockville Lodge No. 15.

The total income was \$778.00.

Please help our Elks Camp Barrett Facility and buy your raffle tickets from the hard working ladies at the Registration Table. Drawing will be on Sunday after the closing of the General Membership Meeting.

Message from the President-Elect:



Connie deYoung
President-Elect

I hope everyone had a joyous Holiday Season and I wish you a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year. Thank you to Frederick Lodge #684 for hosting this fun filled and informative Winter Workshop. Since our last meeting in

Ocean City, I have been busy working on committee chairs, Officers and plans for our next State Association year starting in June, just a few months away.

The committee chair selection is going great. There are only a couple of committees to finalize. Thank you to all the wonderful, dedicated Elks who have decided to stay on as a chairman and to the new chairmen that stepped up to take on more responsibilities. I am working on the State Association Officers for 2016-2017 and plan to have all positions

filled by March for announcement to the Association.

I have attended the Trustees, Elks Camp Barrett and Convention Conference Committee meetings, and am very pleased to announce that the Con Con Committee held their first teleconference meeting. "Go Merrilyn and John"!! It was great to attend a meeting while sitting at home still in my PJs. We are looking forward to more opportunities to conduct business over the phone instead of driving 1 to 2 hours, which hopefully will help get more members involved in our committees.

There are many new challenges and changes across our association, and I look forward to continue working and helping to improved our processes and communications. Please welcome and offer your support to our new Acting Treasurer, Jackie Philips, new Chairman of the Convention Conference Committee, Merrilyn Ramsey and new Elks Camp Barrett Operations Director, Angela Meyers. I am confident they will do an outstanding job. Also a big Thank You to Patti

Gray for helping with these transitions. President Jay and I have been in constant contact and he has done a wonderful job keeping me informed and involved while passing on his knowledge.

In response to my letter requesting Lodges to host a State Association meeting in January or March 2017, Hagerstown Lodge #378 has offered to host the January 2017 Winter Workshop and Kent Island has offered to host the March 2017 Spring Conference. These are excellent choices, as our State Association has not held a meeting in these Lodges in a long time. Please put these on your calendar and plan to attend!

I look forward to seeing everyone in March at the Spring Conference at my home Lodge, Dover #1903. Have a safe trip home and God Bless our Military.

We are Elks having Fun getting the Job Done!!

Fraternally,
Connie deYoung

NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT VP REPORT



Stu Burgoon
NC District VP

Happy New Year to All,

It is said that the older you get, the faster the years go by. It is also true that time flies when you are having Fun. Well, it has been a whirlwind, fun year thus far.

President Jay has kept me very busy. I have enjoyed our official visits to the Lodges we have been to so far. First Lady Karen and my wife Julie have been treated most graciously. And I know they have had a chance to meet with old friends and make some new ones. Jay's message has been well received. A lot of members have said how much they have enjoyed the renewed excitement in our State Association. We still have a couple more to visit the remaining part of the new year. The State and Camp Surveys have been quite enlightening. These have given us a chance to get some honest feedback as well as hearing some great ideas from the members and officers of the local Lodges. I hope the information provided, once processed, will give us a better understanding of how we, The Maryland, Delaware, DC Elks Association can better serve you. And help us understand how we can improve upon our

charity programs to better serve our communities. I have had the privilege to see the enthusiasm and joy the Lodges get in helping our friends and neighbors while promoting Elkdom. Also, as Entertainment Chair for North Central District and with Julie's help, just an FYI, we will be putting together a few more events and surprises for the coming year. Stay tuned. I hope I get a chance to chat with a lot of you at Frederick Lodge and look forward to working

closely with you in the future. If you need anything or have a question, please call or email.

Lets all have a Safe, Prosperous and Happy New Year in 2016.

Fraternally,
Stu

"Shake a Veteran's Hand, Keep a Smile on Your Face and a Song in Your Heart"

WEST DISTRICT VP REPORT



Scott McKnight
NC District VP

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season with a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Now we get to sweat off all that holiday food.

This has been a very busy Fall, I have completed two of my visits to Frederick and Hagerstown and accompanied President Strong on two of his visits to Frostburg and Oakland, with one more to go at

Westminster in February. I also was present at a Jernick Fund presentation at Frederick and the State Soccer Shoot in Ocean City. I also attended the Toys For Tots kick-off dance at Hagerstown. I also attended the November and December meetings for Elks Camp Barrett. All of the West District lodges have been busy and are participating in all the Elk activities, and are participating in President Strong's surveys.

I have really enjoyed my visits to the lodges and look forward to more visits of a more social nature.

Fraternally,
Scott McKnight

SOUTHEAST DISTRICT VP REPORT



George Tunnicliff
SE District VP

Greetings all,
I hope everyone had wonderful and joyful Holiday Season this year.

I had a great time at the State Soccer Shoot in Ocean City. This was my first time at this event and I will be returning. Congratulations to all of the

Participants, Runners-up and Winners. The State Association Soccer Shoot overall District Champion trophy went to the South East

District this year. Go South East!!!

I have made a few of my official Vice President lodge visits and would like to say what a great job the officers are doing for their lodges, members, Elkdome and their community.

All of you make the world a better place and I'm glad to be a part of it. YOU ROCK !!!!

As we have been saying, We are here to Help you with any Training, Guidance, Material or Manuals you may need to make your efforts easier at the lodge. We also are here as Fellow Elks; feel free to give us a call anytime. My contact information is in the State Directory handbook and the New Online Directory on the

State website; check it out.

I have completed a few of the surveys on the State Association, Membership and Camp Barrett.

Thank you again to all of the officers and members for taking the time to complete the surveys.

As we are doing the surveys, please think about the future of the State Association, Camp Barrett and your lodges. Communication is the key, so Please tell us what you and your lodges need from us.

Thank you
George Tunnicliff

Directory Changes & Corrections

Page 8-Camp Barrett
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Page 8- Ralph C. Allen, 1 yr., (NE), Chairman

Page 37- Earl W. Schellman, PDD/PSP, Secretary
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Page 46- Sally Kramer, Lodge Secretary
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Page 47- Susan B. Caldwell, Leading Knight
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NORTHEAST DISTRICT VP REPORT



Bob McIntyre
NE District VP

Greetings from the Northeast District! I hope everyone had a very enjoyable Holiday Season.

I would like to thank Abingdon, Chestertown, and Havre de Grace Lodges for extending me a most warm and hospitable welcome on my official visits. As the Vice-President I was able to see and appreciate the fine work these Lodges are doing in carrying out our Grand Lodge Programs. I thank Abingdon for my purple polo shirt with my name and lodge embroidered on it.

The shirt was presented to me as a gift upon my arrival at Abingdon for my official visit. I wore it proudly as I did my presentation to the Lodge. What is that saying... "When in Rome, do as the Romans do"? I would also like to thank President Jay Strong for his guidance and for the talking points he provided for the Lodge presentations. I felt the agenda was very much appreciated and accepted by the Lodges.

I am still in the process of visiting Lodges to administer the Surveys, and I am looking forward to accompanying President Strong on his official visits to Wilmington, Newark, Dover and Milford in January.

In closing, I would like to extend to all members of our great State Association a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

Fraternally,
Bob McIntyre

SOUTHWEST DISTRICT VP REPORT



Theodore Keen
SW District VP

Sorry to have missed the meeting in Ocean City; I was weathering the same storm as you, while attending Rehoboth High School 55th class reunion. The storm was as bad on the Rehoboth boardwalk as it was in Ocean City.

Mid December, mid-term as Vice President of Southwest District and mid 60's temperatures - how long since we have experienced that? Since June, I have visited all lodges in the District several times for survey and visitation purposes. Had the honor of accompanying President Strong

during his visit to Waldorf Lodge # 2421 on October 8th and plan to accompany him to Calvert Lodge #2620 on February 9, 2016. Made my official visit to Deale Lodge #2528 on October 7th and look forward to visiting Prince George's County Lodge #1778 on January 7, 2016.

I am proud to represent a District that is working so diligently to increase membership, community visibility and participation in our Elk State and National projects.

We look forward to the helpful, informative and fun filled activities planned for the January Workshop in Frederick. The District anticipates the future implementation of POSITIVE changes inspired by the results of the President's survey.

In summary: I made nineteen (19) trips, traveled 1181 miles and sixty-eight (68) hours.

Fraternally,
Ted Keen

Wm. J. Jernick Memorial Fund

Greetings All!

I was out of action for awhile at the start of our fraternal year and as a result I got off to a late start. I want to thank Robert Raleigh, PDDGER, of Chestertown Lodge #2474 for stepping up and handling applications and issues in my absence. Since my return in August I have processed five applications and had the pleasure of participating in two presentations. It is such a pleasure to be part of this charitable activity and I am grateful for the opportunity to serve in this capacity.

Just a reminder, every dollar you contribute to the Jernick Fund is invested to earn interest and dividends to fund future grants. Unlike many charitable entities we have no administrative overhead, no paid or compensated employees, no expenses but those associated with helping those in need. I appreciate your generosity and look forward to working with our member Lodges to help families in distress.

I trust you have had a memorable Christmas and New Year and are now ready for another great Elk Year!

Fraternally, John Loftus, PDDGER, State Chair

Fraternally yours,
John Loftus

LODGE OF SORROW

WAYNE J. DROLL, PER, PDD

Born: 26 September 1942

Initiated: 19 May 1971

Died: 20 November 2015

ELKS MEMORIAL SERVICE

Annapolis Elks Lodge
Saturday, 30 January 2016
11:30 a.m.

Followed by
Brunch at 12:30 p.m.

If attending, please email R.S.V.P. to
Secretary Schellman (secretary622@verizon.net)
on or before 25 January 2016

Jernick Fund Recipient

John Loftus presented a check for \$1500 to the family of Amanda and Stephen Lowe for their son Coleton who was born Oct 6. 2015. Coleton was born with a transposition of the great arteries, a condition in which the baby's arteries are incorrectly attached to the chambers of the heart. They were informed of the condition prior to birth and research showed the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia were the experts for this surgery. They moved to Philadelphia for the birth and within 2 hours of birth Coleton had his first surgery. This was necessary to get oxygen

when the umbilical cord was severed. The second operation was two days later to repair the swapped arteries. He was on a pace-maker and had a draining tube in his heart. He is still having trouble with fluid accumulating around his heart and has to have it drained periodically. It is amazing that he looks so healthy for a 2 month old baby who has gone through so much. His father is a policeman with the Fenwick Island Police Department and he is a 10 year veteran with the Air force and his wife Amanda is a 4 year veteran with the Navy.



Coleton Lowe



Pictured above are Chief Boyden, Fenwick Island Police, Amanda Lowe, Stephen Lowe holding Coleton, Pat Riordon, Veterans Chairman, John Loftus, MDDED State Chairman for Jernick Fund and Toni Wagner, Lodge Chairman for Jernick Fund.

Audit Report - May 1, 2015 through November 30, 2015

1) **State Association Ordinary Income:** Overall Income: \$44,047.30, Budgeted Income of \$42,000 Over \$2047.30.

2) **Association Other Income:** \$1083; Budgeted \$29,958. Remaining balance of: Under -\$28,875.

3) **Camp Barrett Donation Income:** Income \$10,203.67. Budgeted \$149,000. Under: -\$138,796.33.

4) **Camp Barrett Fund-raises Income:** \$145,452.32 Budgeted \$121,315. Over \$24,137.32.

5) **Elks Camp Barrett Ordinary Income:** \$82,201.83, Budgeted \$85,925.00. Under - \$3,723.07.

6) **Convention/Conference Income:** \$114,896.87. Budgeted \$130,860. Under -\$15,963.13.

7) **Elks National Foundation Income:** \$238,632.69, Budgeted \$228,300.00 Remaining balance of: \$10,332.69.

***OVERALL TOTAL INCOME: \$636,490.68 Budgeted \$787,358 Under -\$150,867.32 w/off-site**

1) **State Association Ordinary Expenses:** \$11,242.19 Budgeted \$51,658. Under -\$40,415.18

2) **Association Other Expense:** \$1,981.14. Budgeted \$20,300 Under -\$18,318

3) **Camp Barrett Donation Expenses:** \$0.0. Budgeted \$0.0. Or a remaining plus balance of \$0.0.

4) **Camp Barrett Fund-raises Expense:** \$39,366.50; Budgeted \$89,500.00 Under -\$50,133.50.

5) **Camp Barrett Ordinary Expense:** \$232,718.90; Budgeted \$266,740.00. Under -\$34,021.10.

6) **Convention/Conference Expense:** \$105,114.74. Budgeted \$130,697. Under -\$25,582.26.

7) **Elks National Foundation Expense:** \$9,578.15; Budgeted \$228,300.00. Under -\$218,721.85.

OVERALL TOTAL EXPENSE: \$400,001.62 Budgeted 787,195 Under -\$387,193.38

State Association Balance Sheet: As of November 30, 2015: Checking/Savings assets of \$773166.93. Overall total assets of \$1,278,685.78, last quarter \$1,134,782.50. Not Included within this figure, the Edward Jones Investments of \$38,584.18, last quarter \$30,423.75. Total Liabilities & Equity \$1,278,685.78, last quarter \$1,134,782.60. What does this mean? We are still holding our own, but we must continue to watch our spending, for there is always more work to do, just like owning a house, your work is never done.

Hope all lodges are within budget and making money, hand over fist? If not, please try to attend one of my seminars, you may pick up something that will help you and your lodge? Cost -> YOU'RE TIME and, the Benefits -> FREE KNOWLEDGE!

Remember, any State Committee or Lodge having questions or needing assistance from the State Auditing Committee may contact their District Chair and, if he or she is not available, please call or e-mail yours truly. We are only a phone call or e-mail away!

Fraternally yours,
Maurice DiPoli, PDDGER
State Chair, Auditing & Business Practices

WHO NEEDS THOSE STUPID STATUTES?

It's a fair question.

You folks at the Lodge have been running the show for years, and you're OK, right? You don't need Grand Lodge or their Statutes to be telling you how to run your own business, right? What business is it of those guys anyway?

Well, actually, it is their business.

Elkdom is like a franchise model. Grand Lodge is the Franchisor. The Lodges are the Franchisees. All such relationships are governed by contract. The Statutes are a part the Lodges' contract with Grand Lodge. It is Grand Lodge that has given the Lodges their Charters. That Charter comes with obligations - the Lodges must conform to Grand Lodge standards. Complying with the Statutes is part of that. Some might think they don't have to comply with the Statutes. But Grand Lodge doesn't have to let you continue to be a Member if you choose not to abide by the Statutes, either. Remember, we all took an oath!

But there is more to it than that.

The Statutes provide a recipe for success. They are like a business plan, which shows you a way to conduct Lodge business successfully. If you ever read through the Statutes thoughtfully, and tried to absorb their substance, you would see two recurring themes throughout: transparency and checks and balances.

The transparency theme is illustrated by the fact that in Sections 12 through 15, there are no less than 29 separate requirements for reports. Who reports, what gets reported, when the reports are made, and to whom the reports are made - all specified. Why? So that everyone can know what's going on. No secrets. Transparency.

The checks and balances theme also recurs in numerous places. Here's one example to illustrate the point. The Statutes call for the appointment of an Auditing and Accounting Committee. The Committee is sort of like an inspector general - there to be sure things are being done the way they should be done. The Committee is given certain powers, authority and privileges, and they are insulated from interference or influence. Their first duty is to engage an Accountant (with the approval of the membership), who will audit the Lodge's books and records. Why not let the Exalted Ruler or the Board of Directors select the Accountant? Because they are among the ones the Committee is checking up on. Grand Lodge knows that in some Lodges, some officers have taken advantage of their positions, to the detriment of the Members. If those same officers had a hand in selecting the Accountant, would they not have an incentive to select an Accountant who would be willing to sweep their transgressions under the rug? Hence, check and balance. Rules for all Lodges, whether they think they need it or not.

Finally, the Statutes reflect over 140 years of the collective wisdom born of who knows how many mistakes and problems that can and have cropped up among our thousands of Lodges and millions of Members.

We may think we can get by without the Statutes, but the Statutes are given to us to help us succeed, so let them!

Jay V. Strong, Jr.
State President
2015 - 2016

10th Annual MD, DE, and DC Elks Trip Grand Palladium Lady Hamilton Resort & Spa

Lucea, Jamaica, April 23-30, 2016
from \$1,560.22* per person

The Maryland, Delaware, and District of Columbia Elks Association has supported Elks Camp Barrett using funds raised from group travel for the past nine years. The tenth annual trip will go to Jamaica, the largest English-speaking island in the Caribbean and the third largest in the region. It is considered one of the most special places on Earth due to its rich culture and the Jamaican outlook on life. Nothing is a problem on the island paradise of Jamaica, where reggae, romance and the Caribbean sun come together.



The **Grand Palladium Lady Hamilton Resort & Spa**, set on the northern Jamaica coastline with spectacular views of the Caribbean Sea and only 40 minutes from the Montego Bay airport, is one of two Grand Palladium resorts in the complex on Jamaica. This resort is all-inclusive, and guests have exchange privileges within the Palladium complex, including ten restaurants and thirteen bars. Rooms feature two double beds or one king bed, hydro-massage bathtub, hair dryer, mini-bar, in-room safe, iron and ironing board, ceiling fan, phone, satellite TV and balcony or terrace. Your vacation package includes all meals, snacks, and drinks. The **Grand Palladium Lady Hamilton Resort & Spa** features three buffet restaurants, seven à la carte restaurants, thirteen bars, free basic Wi-Fi access throughout the entire complex, five swimming pools, tennis, beach volleyball, basketball, windsurfing, snorkeling, slot machines, and spa (fee). Live music and shows provide the perfect nighttime entertainment. **Funjet Vacations** rates the **Grand Palladium Lady Hamilton Resort & Spa** 4 Stars, indicating that this property is "Superior: deluxe accommodations, excellent service, and a wide variety of amenities."

This all-inclusive, deluxe vacation is available from **Funjet Vacations** and includes non-stop roundtrip airfare from BWI airport on Southwest Airlines (includes 2 free bags). The rates below are per person, based on double occupancy (call for single or triple rate), and include taxes, government fees, gratuities, and transfers in Jamaica.

Junior Suite	\$1,560.22*
One-bedroom Suite	\$1,624.55*
Honeymoon Villa Suite	\$1,775.65*

* Rates are subject to change without notice.

This **Funjet Vacations** special group rate is time sensitive. It is necessary to make your deposit as soon as possible to guarantee this rate. A **deposit of \$100.00 per person** is required to reserve space. **Funjet Vacations'** All-In-One Travel Protection cancel-any-reason insurance is available for \$139.99 per person additional. **The deposit amount including insurance is \$239.99 per person.**

When you plan to join this group to the **Grand Palladium Lady Hamilton Resort & Spa** in Jamaica, you should be aware of some important information:

- **A VALID PASSPORT is required for travel to Jamaica. Boarding will be denied without proper documentation.**
- **Final payment is due to Antietam Travel Service, Inc., by February 8, 2016.**
- **Travel insurance is highly recommended. Funjet Vacations' All-In-One Travel Protection cancel-any-reason insurance is available for \$139.99 per person additional and covers you throughout your trip. Insurance cost is non-refundable.**
- **Tour penalties begin December 24, 2015.**
- **Space is very limited at these group rates so book early.**

Call Linda at Antietam Travel Service, Inc. at 301-662-8080 or 800-722-3489, or send an email to linda@ats.travel, or send a fax to 301-662-8666.

Registration Form:

Antietam Travel Service, Inc., 2190 Old Farm Drive, Frederick, MD 21702

Enclosed is my deposit of \$_____ at **\$100.00** per person *OR* **\$239.99** per person, including All-In-One Travel Protection insurance. Please make check payable to **Antietam Travel Service, Inc.** *OR* complete the credit card information below.

Deposit is due immediately to guarantee this group rate.

Room category: Junior Suite _____ One-bedroom Suite _____ Honeymoon Villa Suite _____

(Please list first, middle, and last names as on Passport)

NAME _____ Date of birth _____

U.S. Passport No. _____ Issue date: _____ Exp. Date _____

NAME _____ Date of birth _____

U.S. Passport No. _____ Issue date: _____ Exp. Date _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE (Home) _____ (Work) _____

(Email) _____ (Cell) _____

Credit Card Information (Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Diners Club, Discover)

(If not paying by cash or check)

Name as it appears on Credit Card _____

Credit Card Number _____ Exp Date _____

Security Code _____

I hereby authorize **Funjet Vacations** to charge my credit card.

Signature _____

Grand Palladium Lady Hamilton Resort & Spa, April 23-30, 2016 Group CGELKS

Photos & information: <http://www.palladiumhotelgroup.com/en/jamaica/grand-palladium-lady-hamilton-resort-spa/>



Greetings and thank you to Frederick Lodge 684 for hosting the Winter Workshop for the MD, DE & DC Elks Association. I hope everyone had a great Holiday Season. I would like to thank all of the Lodges and our VAVS Reps for the time, dedication and service they provided to our veterans and the 9 Veteran Facilities throughout Maryland, Delaware, DC and Martinsburg, WV during the months of November and December.

One thing I really enjoy about being the Chairman of the ENVSC for the State Association is the fact that I get invited to so many different veterans' events during the month of November. With that being said, I attended the Veterans Appreciation Dinner at Dover Lodge on Saturday November 7th at Dover Lodge. Special thanks to VAVS Rep Dover/USO and NE District Chairman Francis Clauser and the volunteers from Dover Lodge for sponsoring this event. The keynote speaker was CM Sgt. Bryan Ford, Superintendent of the 712th Maintenance Squadron at Dover AFB, who gave a moving and emotional speech about our Homeless Veterans.

On Sunday, November 8th, I attended the annual Veterans Appreciation Dinner at Abingdon Lodge. The veterans from Perry Point VA Medical Center arrived by bus escorted by 63 motorcycle riders with great

fanfare. The veterans were entertained by elementary school children who did a great job singing some patriotic songs, especially the finale of "God Bless America". They then

ELKS NATIONAL VETERANS
SERVICE COMMISSION



SERVING OUR NATION'S VETERANS

delivered an American Flag to all the veterans in attendance. Great job Abingdon and VAVS Rep Mike Ford for remembering our veterans. Thanks to Bob Baxendell for sharing pictures of this event on the State Facebook page for all us to enjoy.

On Saturday, November 14th, I attended a Veterans Luncheon at Laurel Lodge. The veterans from Baltimore VA Medical were served a great meal. The highlight of the event was the entertainment which was provided by Laurel member Mike Hurst, who is a great Elvis impersonator, and Jennalyn Yon, a beautiful and talented young singer, both of

whom volunteered their time and talents to entertain our veterans. I could tell by all the smiling faces how much the veterans enjoyed the show. Great job by VAVS Rep George Larkins and all the members of Laurel Lodge.

I also attended a Veterans Thanksgiving Dinner at Wilmington Lodge on Monday November 23rd. In attendance were veterans who reside in the community living center and staff from the Wilmington VA Medical Center. The Junior Elks of Wilmington Lodge served dinner and provided thank you cards to the veterans. Thanks go out to Les Hendricks and all the Wilmington members who prepared a delicious home-style Thanksgiving meal for our veterans.

I would like to welcome Wendy Goodnive from Laurel Lodge, our new VAVS Rep for BWI/USO. Wendy has a long history of serving our veterans, as she is also a Deputy VAVS Rep with her father, George Larkins at the Baltimore VA Medical. Thank you Wendy for volunteering your time and for your support in providing our young Military men and women a pleasant journey home or abroad as they pass through BWI. ELKS CARE ~ ELKS SHARE!

Fraternally,
Bob McIntyre, Chairman ENVSC



Bob Baxendell
STATE MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

FROM YOUR STATE MEMBERSHIP CHAIR:

Membership:

“WHAT HAVE YOU DONE LATELY? - WHAT WILL YOU DO TOMORROW?”

Happy New Year! Not only did December 31st put us into a New Year; but it also signifies we are 3/4 of the way through our Membership Year. With the holidays behind us; I am sure all Lodges will have lots of activities planned in the coming months. Let's hope that Membership is part of all those activities. It's important to take a look at where we stand as of December (12/15) CLMS reporting. With recruitment of new members, return of reinstated members, and those in waiting to be initiated; we will have added 1,211 new faces to our membership. Regrettably, there are still 1,606 delinquents out there with the opportunity to recover them fading fast. If “nothing” were to happen for the rest of the Membership Year; as an Association; we would be down 395 members, or about 2% - certainly not something we aspire to. Now we all know

that “nothing is not going to happen and we are going to do “something”. The new Members that Lodges have earned likely all have friends that they think enough of to invite into the Order. The reinstatements that your Lodge has pursued have returned for a reason; and they too have friends. The Delinquents, to whom your Lodge has probably sent numerous overtures to; have either paid up, or not. Unless they are inherent procrastinators; your time is better spent pursuing new members. The good news is There is still time!

It's time for a self-evaluation. From our Exalted Rulers, through all the Chairs, through all the committee chairs, and even that growing list of PER's: Are we doing all we can to recruit and retain membership? Do we have an active Publics relations effort to increase visibility and attract Members? Do we screen applicants carefully so that this year's recruits are not next year's Lapsation? Do we conduct an effective orientation with every incoming candi-

date to give them a true picture of Elkdom? Do we make every effort possible to: seek out reinstatements, to recover Delinquents, and moreover overcome the root issues that lead to Delinquency? Do we have an active Membership committee; and lastly a Standing Relief Committee? If we can answer YES to every one of these questions; then chances are your Lodge is building a favorable Membership result. As is always the case; the results that WE generate start with YOU. As those winter activities peak over the remaining months there will be many golden opportunities to attract new Members. What will you do? Some people make it happen, others wonder what happened. So; while you are still evaluating - Ask yourself:

What Have I done lately & What Will I do Tomorrow to support and grow Membership?

Bob Baxendell
State Membership Chair



**New Years Resolution:
Help the ENF Build
Stronger Communities**

The Elks National Foundation allocated \$9.77 million this year to fund the Community Investments Program. Lodges meet local needs in Elks communities through Beacon, Gratitude, Promise and Impact Grants. These grants offer Lodges opportunities to serve the community in ways that will raise the Lodge's profile, energize the membership, encourage former members to return to the fold, and gain the notice of people who want to be part of an organization that's doing great things. To learn more about the Community Investments Program, please visit www.elks.org/enf/community.

In 2016, a record 63 Lodges will be using an Impact Grant to implement large-scale, ongoing service projects within their communities. Among them, let's extend Special Kudos to Dover Lodge 1903 for being awarded an IMPACT Grant. Please attend the ENF Presentation at the Winter Workshop to hear more of their successful story.

You can visit enf.y.org/2016ImpactGrant for the full list of 2016 Impact Grant recipients. Let's learn from the info that these winners are sharing with us in order that we will have more participants and winners next year.

Mary E. Cardinal-Vogt, ENF State Chairman

Newark Lodge #2281

**CHRISTMAS ANGEL
TREE PROJECT**



Newark Elks 2281 participated in a Christmas Angel tree project. Originally we partnered with the VA Hospital Volunteer office that gives us the needs of children of Veterans.

This year we also included children from Pleasantville Elementary School. When we were done we delivered 30 gifts to the V.A., and 24 to Pleasantville, showing again, Elks Care, Elks share.

NEED INFO AT YOUR FINGERTIPS?

Scan these codes with your smartphone.

MDDEDC Directory ... MDDEDC Calendar ...



MDDEDC Spring Workshop - Dover #1903 ...



To use, open your QR Reader App on your Phone, scan over the QR symbol and immediately see the informational pages. If you do not have an App, go to the App Store or Android Marketplace and download a QR Reader. It is pretty cool - give it a try. This is in the experimental stages so if you have a problem, please email lindakvelez@gmail.com.

Drug Awareness

Happy New Year to All & Welcome to the Winter Workshop! I would like to start by saying "Thank You" to all Lodges for their dedication in helping to educate our youth and parents in the dangers of drug use.

Reminders of Important Events

- **Information for below can be found on State Website**
- Essay, Poster and Video Contest Winners to District Chairs' - February 15th - "Just Don't Do It"
- Exalted Rulers, DAP Chairs, & Secretary's please remember to enter all DAP information into CLMS
- Start planning to take part in the National Prescription Drug Take-Back Days in April (contract local law enforcement for information in your area and how you can help)
- Work to nominate someone for the President's Volunteer Service Award - send to State Chair
- Work to nominate someone for the President's Volunteer Youth Service Award- send to State Chair
- Start planning for the National Alcohol Awareness Month (April)

The following are resources you may want to check out, very valuable information for parents and kids, please share in your lodge newsletters:

- www.elkskidzone.org
- www.GetSmartAboutDrugs.com (DEA - sponsored)

I am sorry I am unable to be with you all this weekend; but I am just a phone call or email away if you need my help with anything. I look forward to seeing you in March.

Thank you again for your continuous support in our endeavors in educating our parents and youth on the dangers of drugs.

Sincerely,
Cindy Taylor, State Chair

REGISTRATION FEE

Lodge Officers and Members All,

As we make final preparations for the Christmas and New Year's Holidays, the last thing on our minds is the upcoming Winter Workshop scheduled for January 15th - 17th at Frederick Lodge #684. That said, I respectfully ask that you take a moment and allow me to explain an often misunderstood issue that seems to come up each time we gather as an Association for a Workshop.

Several years ago we revived a long dormant practice of requiring a "Registration Fee" for those attending a Workshop. The monies raised thru this fee are used to defray some of the costs of Workshop including, but not limited to, our "Hospitality Room." The most often heard complaint is "my Lodge sent in a contribution to support the Hospitality Room, why do I have to pay again?"

If each of our 38 Lodges sent a donation of \$35.00 (or \$80.00 for GL), we would have \$1,330.00 (\$3,080 for GL) to rent a Hospitality room, purchase liquor, beer, soda (mixers), food, paper plates, napkins, ice, and much more. Sadly, not all Lodges contribute and not all contributions are as much as \$35. The actual expense associated with providing this opportunity for our members to gather and exchange ideas and information in a friendly, informal setting far exceeds the money raised through Lodge donations. In addition, we have to be prepared for other expenses, i.e., printing, meeting rooms, furnishings, sound systems (would you believe a fee for each microphone!) and much, much, more!

It is important to remember that the MD/DE/DC Elks Association is comprised of the members of our 38 Lodges. Our annual dues are only \$2.25. The Association leadership has resolutely refused to raise annual dues in recent years, instead concentrating on working more efficiently, eliminating waste, and making our various activities as self supporting as possible.

Those of us who have been fortunate enough to have attended a Grand Lodge Session can attest that in order to participate in the Convention or gain admission to the Display Hall, or to visit a State Association Hospitality Room one must display "credentials" issued by Grand Lodge upon payment of a registration fee. In short, this "fee" is simply an effort by your Convention and Conference Committee to raise the funds required to make your Workshops a "Best in Class" experience.

There are many benefits to attendance at these events. Including timely exposure to training and information on critical issues, and the opportunity to expand your "network" of fellow Elks performing the same duties in their Lodge as you do in yours! A personal support system!

We look forward to seeing you in January!

Jay V. Strong
Convention/Conference Committee
State President



MD, DE, & DC ELKS STATE ASSOCIATION

Americanism Banquet

will be held at the

Westminster Elks Lodge #2277 on

Sunday, March 13, 2016 at 1:00 p.m.

At this time winners of the Essay and Poster Contest

will be recognized and presented awards for

their achievements.

Please make an effort to have a representative from

your lodge present for the event.

Any questions can be directed to your District Chair or to me,

Sandra Brantner, State Chair

301-334-1880 (H)

301-501-7533 (C)



CONVENTION/CONFERENCE COMMITTEE IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS

Winter Workshop - January 15 – 17, 2016

A big THANK YOU to Frederick Lodge Officers and Members for hosting the Winter Workshop.



Spring Workshop – March 18 – 20, 2016

Host: Dover Lodge #1903
200 Saulsbury Road
Dover, DE 19903
302-736-1903

**NOTE: Still taking shirt orders for June delivery.
June Convention reservation available on the State website
GL Convention reservation also available on the website.**

Exalted Ruler Marv Solomon

June Convention – June 10 – 12, 2016

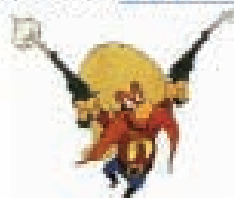
Radisson Hotel North Baltimore
2004 Greenspring Drive
Timonium, MD 21093

410-252-7373
www.radisson.com

Just 20 minutes from the Inner Harbor, newly renovated Hotel, beautiful indoor Atrium and outdoor pool – what more could we want????

Grand Lodge Convention – July 3 – 6, 2016

Join Yosemite Sam at the Hilton – Americas in Houston for a Grand Time. Located at 1600 Lamar Street, it is the Grand Lodge Hotel, next to the Convention Center. Go to www.Hilton.com for more info.



WANTED

A Few Good Members

At the June Convention I will announce the recipient of the Maryland, Delaware and District of Columbia Elks Association Elk-of-the-Year award. I need your help in finding this person. The criteria for this award are very much like your lodge Elk-of-the-Year award. It is someone one who has shown exemplary efforts in furthering the work of Elkdom, but on the State Association level. This is someone who has gone "above and beyond" in performing their duties. And to that end, there are a couple of classes of our members who are NOT eligible this year: any currently serving District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler; any currently serving State Association Vice President; and any Past State President. The thinking being that in the first two cases, they are basically doing their job and should not get special recog-

nitition for that. And in the case of the PSP's, well this is a group of Elks who have "been there, done that" and have already been recognized for their efforts.

Your nomination for Elk-of-the-Year must be sent to me in writing. It can be by snail mail (35199 Seaport Loop; Lewes, DE 19958), or e-mail (jvs.elk@comcast.net), but NOT by phone. I would prefer e-mail. It does not have to be elaborate. Not how long they have been an Elk or a list of all their past positions. Just a simple "who" and "why."

Thank you for helping me in making this decision and I look forward to hearing from you.

Jay V. Strong, Jr., President

TERRI LYNN NUT CAMPAIGN

This past October at our Fall Workshop, we delivered the nuts that were ordered by the State Association members. The nuts were delivered early in the week to the Ocean City Lodge and they took care of them until our arrival on Thursday. Thank you Ocean City Lodge. I have to give a big thank you to Carroll and Toni Wagner, Jay (2.0) and Karen Strong, and Dana Gourlay for helping unpack, sort and repack the orders. Toni said that next year I need to find people who need to complete service hours to do that, but she hung in there until the end. Dana volunteered her hotel room to store the nuts after we transported them to the hotel, thank you Dana. I must say that Lee and Jay had the worst end of everything trying to load the car in that wind and rain but both did it without a complaint. This was not an easy task but without the help of all the above-mentioned people, it would have been harder to complete.

I would also like to thank everyone who purchased the nuts. Since this is a new project, please pass the word on to others so we can make this a larger moneymaker for Elks Camp Barrett. Next year I will sell them again in October, sending out some books in advance. The reason for this is the company has a price increase in August and I need to see the results in order to price the nuts. This past year the nuts went up more than I anticipated and we did not make as much profit. Our check to Elks Camp Barrett is \$519.89.

Thank you again for your participation.

Sincerely,
Hilda Davis

WORLD'S FINEST CANDY BAR CAMPAIGN

At the January Workshop, I will be taking orders for the World's Finest Candy Bar Campaign, whose profits go to Elks Camp Barrett. The bars will be delivered to the March Workshop held at Dover Lodge this year.

Essex Lodge has success selling them by walking around the bar and during bingo and letting people know the profit goes to Elks Camp Barrett. The VAVS representatives from Dover, Essex and Washington/Rockville Lodges purchased them for the veterans. Some lodges such as Prince George's Lodge and Easton Lodge just set them behind the bar and sell them that way. These are just a few examples of how lodges are selling the candy bars.

This year there is a new box configuration. Each box contains 60 \$1.00 candy bars: 12 milk chocolate almond; 12 dark chocolate; 9 solid milk chocolate; 12 crisp; and 15 caramel bars. I was able to change the configuration of the box if I purchased 100 boxes (which is the amount I have always ordered in the past), so please do not let me down this year. Many people told me they wanted more caramel and dark so that is why we changed the configuration.

Last year during the distribution of the bars, several lodges who did not order candy bars wanted to purchase a few boxes after the fact. Unfortunately, I only order the amount for which I have orders. Please place your order ahead of time this year and help the Camp.

Thank you for your time and participation.

Sincerely, Hilda Davis

SOCCER SHOOT-OFF MD-DE-DC State Champions

Well there my fellow Elks, we held our State Soccer Shoot Off in Ocean City MD on October 24, 2015 and the turnout was super. First let me start off thanking Ocean City Elks Lodge for all their help in coordinating the shoot site and the pizza's afterwards-great job OC!!!!!!! Next I want to thank Greg Adams for his efforts to pick-up, haul, assemble and disassemble the goals we used for the shoot, thank you Greg for your effort. Last but not least I want to thank all the Elks, Non-Elks, President Jay 2.0, PSP, PDDGER's, DDGER's, VP's and District Chairs that showed up and helped out; from helping my wife Nina at the registration and tabulation table to those out on the floor, shagging soccer balls, running the shoot lines, scoring, judging and assisting. Ladies and Gentlemen, boys and girls this Soccer Shoot would not be possible without your assistance and I thank you, one and all for the helping hands.

Now let's get to the nitty gritty the results:

GIRLS			BOYS		
U7	Zoie Gray	NE	U7	Joshua Gray	NE
U10	Dalonna Thomas	NE	U10	Aaron Nelson	SE
U12	Cassidie Bramble	SE	U12	Ethan Scott	SE
U14	Raelyn Bowser	W	U14	Nick Sanders	W

These are YOUR MD-DE-DC State Soccer Shoot Champions who will represent us at the Mid-Atlantic Regional Soccer Shoot in Frederick MD on March 5, 2016. Please come out and support them that day. If you can't make it well you and your Lodges can support them by taking out an ad in the Regional Soccer Shoot Journal _ page (\$25.00), _ page (\$50.00) or a full page (\$100). And any of you with big bucks well we have on a first come first serve basis Back Cover \$250, Inside Back Cover \$200 and Inside Front Cover \$200 or if you want a full page in color we offer that also at \$150, now see the MD-DE-DC web site for the forms or see me at the January workshop (all lodges will be getting a packet) for a copy of the forms. If your pockets are not that deep here is even a bigger and better way to support; take one of our Booster Sheets set it up at the bar or in the dining room or at a lodge meeting and let people (Elks and NON-Elks) PRINT their names on it at \$5.00 per name. Just collect the money and the sheet and send it to the Regional Committee as noted on the sheet by the deadline listed.

Why do I ask you to do this??? Our State winners this year will be traveling to Frederick, Maryland with their parents to compete against the winners of six different states. The sole support for this program has been and still is the gracious support of ads and boosters for the Regional ad journal. With expenses for traveling, hotel rooms, food, uniforms, etc., rising I again am asking for your support. With ads and/or booster sheets from lodges we will be able to send these families to the Mid Atlantic Soccer Shoot and they will not have to worry about these expenses. Let's support YOUR Champions!!!!

See you in Frederick MD March 4, 5, and 6, 2016.

G. Gerald Morrow, State Soccer Chair