



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



MARCH 2016



Jay Strong
State President

Message from the State President

Welcome to the Spring Workshop of the Maryland, Delaware and District of Columbia Elks Association! During the course of the weekend here, be sure to thank our hosts, the Officers and Members of Dover Lodge No. 1903, for their hospitality!

We are honored and privileged to have with us this weekend Ron Hicks, our Grand Exalted Ruler, and Nancy, his lovely wife and our First Lady of Elkdom. Also, our Sponsor, Past Grand Exalted Ruler Paul Hesel and his wife, the always charming Jane, are here. Plus, our own Past State President Priscilla Schwab, Chief Justice of the Grand

Forum, is with us this weekend as well. And, Ed Willis, our Grand Inner Guard, and his delightful wife Nancy are here. Quite a gathering of Elkdom's VIPs, wouldn't you agree? Please make every effort to help all of them feel welcomed!

Our Winter Workshop in Frederick this year actually had a higher attendance than did our Winter Workshop last year. That's a very Good Thing, because it means even more of our Lodge Leaders took advantage of the training and "How to..." presentations our volunteers made for us. A very enthusiastic "Thanks" to the 17 Members who provided those interesting and informative presentations!

Take a moment to look at the Agenda for this weekend. You will note we have nine separate training, educational and informational presentations lined up specifically for our customers: the Lodges, their Officers, and Members, of our State Association. (We'll also be packing in heavy doses of fun; heaven forbid that we should abandon all the traditions, especially the truly important ones, like the fun we have! Remember, while Brotherly Love is the Roots of Elkdom, fun is the seeds of Elkdom!) Your new Lodge Year will be starting in about two weeks. We hope the information the volunteers in your State Association have provided in our Fall and Winter Workshops, and this weekend, will help you to have the most successful of years. Above all else, that is what we want to do for you: help you to be successful. We'd love to hear back from you on how we're doing in this!

Be on the lookout for changes to our Website in the near future! New challenges and opportunities have called our Web Master, Tom Ohlendorf of Abingdon Lodge No. 2354, away from us. So Joe McGeeney of Essex Lodge No. 1866 has agreed to assume that role. Thank you for your service these past several years, Tom. Welcome aboard, Joe! Joe will be having a "breakout" session on the future of our Website on Saturday afternoon, to hear your suggestions and answer your questions.

On Sunday we will be electing the next President Elect. The Member you elect will go through a year of "apprenticeship" before becoming our State President. Be thoughtful when you cast your vote; vote for the candidate you believe will provide the best leadership for our State Association.

Speaking of Leadership, we are always looking for new leaders within the State Association. There are about thirty (30) Committees in our State Association, each with a State Chair and five District Chairs. Plus, we have the Board of Trustees, the Elks Camp Barrett Executive Committee, and five Vice President positions. There are changes every year, and many opportu-

nities to join the effort to make our State Association more relevant, more useful and more helpful to the Lodges in their quest to be successful in every aspect of their role in Elkdom. The Vice-Presidents will hold the caucuses in each District in early April. Please consider running for an office, or volunteering as a District Chair of a Committee that holds particular interest for you. There is no such thing as too many volunteers, and no such thing as too much leadership. Join the effort, help us to build a better State Association for our customers!

Your President and First Lady Karen Olivia have now completed our Official Visits. We have also attended the State Hoop Shoot, the Regional Hoop Shoot, and the Regional Soccer Shoot. (The State Soccer Shoot was last fall.) We have also attended the Americanism Banquet.

Right now, though, we should be focused on having a good time here in Dover, and learning all we can from the presentations scheduled for Saturday and Sunday! Don't miss out on these opportunities this weekend!

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



COMING EVENTS

May 29, 2016
Camp Barrett Family Picnic

June 10-12, 2016
June Conference
Timonium, MD

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

September 17, 2016
Camp Barrett Adult Camporee

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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**SPRING WORKSHOP of the
MD. DE AND DC STATE ASSOCIATION
DOVER LODGE NO. 1903 • DOVER, DELAWARE**

FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 2016

11:30AM - 2:00PM **Lunch** available - From the Dover Lodge Menu
1:00 - 5:00PM Registration
1:00PM - ????.? Advisory Committee Meeting
5:00PM State President to meet with Trustees & Camp Executive Committee
5:15PM State Trustees Meeting
5:30PM Elks Camp Barrett Executive Committee Meeting
ALL Afternoon and Evening **HOURS OF FUN !!!** (while not in meetings)
6:30 - 8:30PM Dinner Dover Lodge (Business Casual) with GER Ron Hicks
8:30 - 12:00 Midnight **FUN - Music & Karaoke with Chris Birch + Surprise Songstress!**

SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 2016

7:30 - 9:00AM **Breakfast** Buffet - Dover Lodge
8:00AM - 4:00 PM Registration
8:00AM Elks Camp Barrett Representatives Meeting
9:00AM Workshop Called to Order
9:00 - 9:30AM "Beginning Parts" - Invocation, Pledge, Roll Calls, Recognitions, etc.
9:30 - 11:50AM **Training, "How To" Pieces & Presentations:**
(9:30) "Reasons for Success" - Maurice DiPoli (25 m)
(9:55) "How to Get Your Americanism Program Going" - Sandy Brantner (15 m)
(10:10) "How to Turn Ordinary Happenings Into Membership Events" - Bob Baxendell (15 m)
(10:25) "How We Help Our Veterans" - Bob McIntyre (20 m)
(10:45) "How to Understand the Government Relations Committee" - Jay Nave (20 m)
(11:05) "How to Get the Most from Our State & GL Conventions" - Merrilyn Ramsey (15 m)
(11:20) "E.C. Bee's 10 Steps to a Fantastic Camp Season" - Angela Meyer (15 m)
(11:35) "How to Ask for Help Before It's Too Late" - Priscilla Schwab (15 m)
11:50AM **Announcements & Recess** until 9:00 A.M. Sunday, 20 March
12:00 - 1:30PM **Lunch** buffet-Dover Lodge-then **HOURS OF FUN !** (& a few mtgs)
1:30 - 3:30PM PGER Paul D. Helsel & GER Ron Hicks, Meeting with DDGERs & PSPs
1:30 - 4:30PM Committee Meetings (as requested by State Chairs)
1:30 - 3:00PM 11th Hour Toast Competition - Larry Mathers & Ritualistic Committee
1:30 - 3:30PM Breakout Session on the Future of Our State Website - Joe McGeeney
3:30 - 4:30PM Convention & Conference Committee Meeting- Merrilyn & John Ramsey
6:00 - 7:00PM **Cocktails - meet & visit with GER Ron Hicks and 1st Lady Nancy**
7:00 - 8:30PM **Dinner (Business Suit) Honoring GER Ron Hicks & 1st Lady Nancy**
8:30 - 12:00 Midnight **Triple Shot Band** in the Lounge - **now, THAT'S some FUN!!!**

SUNDAY, MARCH 20, 2016

7:30 - 9:00AM **Breakfast** Buffet - Dover Lodge
8:00 - 9:00AM Registration
9:00AM Workshop Called to Order
9:05AM "How to Make Initiation a Preemptive Strike Against Lapsation" (20 m)
Priscilla Schwab, Gordon Alexander & Larry Mathers
9:25AM BUSINESS MEETING: Secretary's Report - Jim Harbour / Minutes / Communications
Trustees' Report - Budget 2016-17 - Vouchers - Claudia Finley-Bowalick
Treasurer's Report - Jackie Phillips
Advisory Committee Report - Hon. Priscilla Schwab
Report from GL Auditing & Accounting - Warren Johnson
Unfinished Business / New Business / Election(s)
ANNOUNCEMENTS / Camp, ENF & Jernick Fund Donations
GOOD OF THE ORDER Comments - President - Grand Lodge Sponsor - and, **GER Ron Hicks**
..... Departed Members / Silence / Sickness & Distress
ADJOURN by 12:00 Noon Elks Camp Barrett 50 - 50 Drawing
..... Grand Exalted Ruler's "Wine Raffle for ENF" Drawing
12:00 - 2:00PM **Lunch** Available-Dover Lodge Light Fare Menu- **still More FUN ! !**

Next Newsletter Deadline: MAY 10, 2016

GRAND LODGE

Grand Exalted Ruler to Visit MDDED State Association Workshop in March 2016



Grand Exalted Ruler
Ronald L. Hicks

Ronald L. Hicks was born and now lives in Fredericksburg, VA. He graduated High School in 1964, a graduate of Chowan Junior College and received his law degree from the University of Richmond, VA in 1972. He married his high School sweetheart, Nancy Jeanne Camper, in 1969 and they have three children, Joseph a PER, Jason a PER and Anne Kathryn, and eight grandchildren. They are lifelong members of the Fairview Baptist Church. He is an avid golfer and sports fan and played baseball throughout his college years. Ron was initiated into Fredericksburg VA Lodge No. 875 in February 1972, served on numerous committees and was Exalted Ruler in 2002-03; served as Chairman and Co-Chairman of numerous construction projects. He is also an Associated Member of Orlando Lodge No. 1079. He was Vice President of his district, District Deputy, a Ritual Judge and eventually elected as Virginia State President in 2009. He was instrumental in resolving significant issues in the successful sale of the Elks National Home in Bedford VA. Experts from his Indianapolis acceptance speech are as follows: Today, we stand at approximately 790,000 members, substantially fewer than thirty years ago, but in many ways, we are stronger today and have more to offer than ever before. We should rejoice, be loud and be proud, about who we are and what we do. However, membership growth remains essential to the success of any organization, and it should be the priority of every Lodge. I would like to think that we turned a significant corner last year with membership. Now, what must we do to continue that trend? This brings me to my theme for the year: "Elks Pride-Community Focus." "Elks Pride" represents our dignity, our joy, and self-respect. It is easily achieved when you

develop a positive attitude and can-do spirit within your Lodge. Lodge leaders, find a reason to be positive and believe you can make a difference. Be enthusiastic in all you do, learn to share your pride and energy, to listen, to take time for others, to overlook faults, and not dwell on the negative. Be optimistic, get excited, let others feel your excitement, look for the best in others, and be quick to compliment and show appreciation. Expect success, celebrate your success, and build on your successes. When communicating, be constructive and choose your words carefully. The words you use have the power to put a spring into a member's step and give them confidence. Members are easily drawn to an enthusiastic leader, and your positive attitude and confident spirit will become infectious and encourage other Elks to follow your lead. I have seen it happen. Do not treat orientation as an afterthought or as something that simply must be done before initiation. Orientation is one of the most important programs in your Lodge. You have already caused the candidate to want to join your lodge. Orientation is where you "seal the deal" and set them on the road to becoming a faithful member for life. Orientation is your first, and best, opportunity to explain what it means to be an Elk and the benefits and rewards of membership. Candidates for membership will never be more attentive or receptive, so use this time wisely to motivate them to become more than they may have imagined they would. Begin to think of orientation as the first step in member retention, and make it a process that begins with the application and does not end until you get your new member into the lodge and quickly involved in their very first lodge activity, program, or event. If you deliver a positive program that inspires candidates, they will embrace the opportunity to get quickly involved and jumpstart their career in Elkdom.

Ron Hicks. GER



Paul D. Helsel
PGER & Sponsor

Welcome to Dover Lodge No. 1903 and the Spring Workshop of the Maryland, Delaware and District of Columbia Elks Association. The Dover Lodge and our President have planned a full weekend of fun and fellowship for your enjoyment, with a bit of business sprinkled in. It promises to be a great weekend and Jane and I look forward to enjoying the fellowship and visiting with each of you.

Also this weekend we are honored to have our Grand Exalted Ruler Ronald L. Hicks and his lovely wife Nancy with us. They are friends and neighbors to our Association, hailing from Fredericksburg, Virginia just across the Potomac and a short drive from some of our Southwest District lodges. I know they look forward to meeting each of you, please take a few minutes to

greet them personally and explain to them how your lodge and our Association are living by his motto - "Elks Pride - Community Focus"!!

This workshop will, once again, focus on training and providing needed information to individual members and lodges so they are better prepared to handle Elk Programs in the local community and improve the overall performance of the individual lodge. Please participate in the activities planned, learn, and take what you learn back to your lodge and apply it - hopefully helping to make your lodge a stronger lodge!!!

As I stated in previous messages, membership retention and growth is our #1 priority here and across the country. On a national basis we are making tremendous progress and shortly (this year, maybe next) we will stem the 30 plus year trend of losing members. The picture is not nearly as rosy for our Association and its 38 lodges. As I write this we have about 6 weeks to continue working the problem, but at this point we only have 7 lodges in the plus column, leaving 31 lodges

that appear will bring our Association into the negative column once again with a state wide loss of up to perhaps 400 members. Not a good or acceptable picture at all!! Every member, every lodge of this Association needs to get on board with this effort and we need to do it now!! From the standpoint of our Association or Order, the problem must be addressed and solved in the individual lodge. Moving forward not only will our State Membership Team be working on this issue with the individual lodges, the District Deputies will also start taking an active role in this effort under my and Grand Lodge direction. Please get on board with this effort and hopefully next year at this time we will be celebrating our successes.

Best wishes to all for a most enjoyable weekend and best wishes to all the new Lodge officers for a most prosperous and successful 2016/2017 lodge year.

Sincerely and fraternally,
Paul D. Helsel
PGER & Sponsor

Directory Changes & Correction

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From your Acting Secretary

At the January meeting, I was appointed Acting Secretary for the remainder of the Association Year. My contact information is:
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I am proud to serve the Association again. I want to let you know that all requests for payment need to come to me, the Request form is on the State Website. The payment process has been streamlined and we are doing everything electronically.

Jim



2016

STAFF WEEK JUNE 12-18

**GIRLS WEEK #1
JUNE 19 - 24**

**BOYS WEEK #1
JUNE 26 - JULY 1**

**GIRLS WEEK #2
JULY 3 - 8**

**BOYS WEEK #2
JULY 10 - 15**

**GIRLS WEEK #3
JULY 17 - 22**

**BOYS WEEK #3
JULY 24 - 29**

Message from the President-Elect:



Connie deYoung
President-Elect

Welcome members and a special welcome to our Honored guests, Grand Exalted Ruler Ron Hicks and Elksdom's First Lady, Nancy, to our Spring Workshop at my home Lodge, Dover Lodge No. 1903.

The selection of 2016 - 2017 State Committee Chairpersons and State Officers has been finalized. I am pleased to announce the following new Officers: Mark Walp from Annapolis Lodge No. 622 as Sergeant at Arms, Patricia James from Seaford Lodge No. 2458 as Chaplain, Worthy Washington from Westminster Lodge No. 2277 as Tiler and Virginia (Ginger) Feliciotti from Prince George's County Lodge No. 1778 as Inner Guard. Please congratu-

late these Great Elks on their appointments.

The January 2017 Workshop will be held at Cambridge Lodge No. 1272 due to a conflict of dates with Hagerstown Lodge. The March 2017 Conference will be held at Kent Island Lodge No. 2576. I look forward to these new venues for our State Association Meetings.

The Camp Barrett Executive Committee held their first teleconference meeting on Saturday, February 21st and the Con Con Committee held their 2nd teleconference meeting on February 17th. What successful meetings for both committees. I encourage more committees to hold meetings via teleconference to save time and money for our members as well as generate more involvement.

Recently I attended the State Hoop Shoot at Cape Henlopen High School. Thank you to Gary Eckenrode for organizing this wonderful event. The competing children and their families were extremely excited and impressed with this Elk event.

Please congratulate and offer your support to our new Webmaster, Joe McGeeny. Thank you to Tom Ohlendorf for your dedication and volunteerism as Webmaster. I wish you continued success in your future endeavors.

As I prepare for next year, working toward improving Membership with Fellowship creating Success, I ask for your continued support as a dedicated Elk. I look forward to seeing everyone at our June Convention in Timonium, Maryland to celebrate a great year for our President Jay Strong and to support the newly installed Officers.

Have a safe trip home and God Bless our Military.

We are Elks having Fun getting the Job Done!!

Fraternally,
Connie deYoung
President-Elect

WEST DISTRICT

Scott McKnight, VP

Frederick Lodge No. 684 • mddeapublicity@comcast.net



Scott McKnight
NC District VP

This has been a busy season since the January workshop. Between the lousy weather and the myriad of events there hasn't been much of a down-time. I was able to attend the West District Hoop-Shoot in Westminster, and the State Association Hoop-Shoot at

Cape Henlopen. One West District shooter will be competing in the Regional Shoot so I definitely plan on attending. The West District Caucus was held on 28 February. All Lodge visits have been completed and the State President's surveys have been submitted. This has

been an interesting and fulfilling year and I have greatly enjoyed meeting the members of the West District.

Fraternally,
Scott McKnight

FREDERICK LODGE



The Frederick Elks Lodge held its annual Christmas at Montevue. This was the 90th trip to Montevue to bring the Christmas spirit to the residents. The Elks brought gifts and sang Christmas carols. Standing, from left, are Joe Dominik on accordion; Fred Cole, Inner Guard; Dave Miller, Tiler; Norma Boone, Lecturing Knight; Chris Flanagan, Loyal Knight; Sheila London; Tana, Kaylyn and Kara Flanagan; and Larry London, PER. Kneeling, from left, are Bobbi, Lauren and Greg Fulmer; and Patrick DeLucia.

SOUTH WEST DISTRICT

Theodore S. Keen, VP

Deale Lodge No. 2528 • tedsk35@comcast.net



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

WASHINGTON-ROCKVILLE LODGE



The Annual Charity event was "Hearts and Wings" and was held on February 13th. The event brought the Washington-Rockville Lodge #15 together to celebrate Valentine's Day and support Angel Flight Maryland, a non-profit group that provides air transport to and from medical facilities at no charge. In addition to raising over \$3,500.00 that evening, including a silent auction, PER Diana Patton's parents celebrated their 63rd wedding anniversary. PER Lyle Waldron and Past Trustee Pete Peterson also helped raise money with an old fashioned kissing booth. A local student Creed Keith, past recipient of the Jernick Fund (hearing aids), helped with the dinner and is pictured with his former teacher, Loyal Knight Judy Black.



NORTH EAST DISTRICT

Robert H. McIntyre, VP

Newark Lodge No. 2281 • bobbymac72@yahoo.com



Bob McIntyre
NE District VP

Greetings from the Northeast! I am pleased to report that I have completed all of my official visits and accompanied President Strong on his visits to Wilmington, Newark and Dover Lodges. I have visited and administered the Surveys to Dover, Milford and Chestertown. Hopefully, by the March Workshop all of the Lodges in the Northeast will have completed the Surveys. I want to thank all the Lodges for the hospitality they extended to me and Margie when we visited. It was fun to socialize and spend time with friends and members at each Lodge.

I would like to congratulate all the Lodges for the great job they are doing participating in Hoop Shoot and our Veterans Program along with Americanism and Drug Awareness. I am proud that the Northeast District Lodges applied for and received many grants. Special kudos to Dover Lodge for receiving an Impact Grant in the amount \$10,000.00, which will help the Code Purple Program for the homeless in the Dover area.

Congratulations also to Milford and Chestertown for receiving a Freedom Grant. Milford will use the funds to provide a luncheon and "Day at the Races" for Veterans at the Delaware Veterans Home and provide gift cards and a Pizza Party for Veterans at the Home of the Brave. Chestertown will be taking our Veterans from Perry Point on a Charter Fishing Trip this Spring.

Another first time for me was attending the State Hoop Shoot Contest held at Cape Henlopen High School. Although a few tears were shed, the kids were very talented and all did a great job. It has been a pleasure to work with President Jay Strong and the various State Committees this past year. I encourage all Past Exalted Rulers to consider running for the office of District Vice President and to become involved with our State Association.

Fraternally,
Bob McIntyre

DOVER LODGE



This proclamation was awarded to Dover Elks 1903 Pantry Ladies at City Council. It has not been formally announced but Doris Decker Solomon who passed suddenly in January had worked hard for an Impact Grant for Code Purple. This was awarded to Dover Elks 1903 in the amount of \$10,000 to be used for helping people in need of Code Purple. Her passion continues with giving of food, beds, blankets, boots, Giving Day and a new washer!! We at Code Purple are so very honored to continue her passion...thru the passion of all her friends at Dover Elks and her loving family.

NEWARK LODGE



On September 20th we held our USO BBQ for the Troops. The weather was perfect, the BBQ fired up, the dunk tank splashing, and friends having fun. A big thank you to all that helped with the event: Rich, Stephanie and Mason Gray, Margie and Bobby McIntyre, MaryAnn and Rich Izzo, J.R. Biddison, Dee Ledeker, Lynn McConnell, Pamela Moore, Barb Dycio, and Anita Viola.

Thank you to Bernie Huot for being our DJ for the day. To Rich Gray for picking up, setting up, taking down, and returning the dunk tank.

Special thanks to the Dunk Tank Volunteers, Michelle Rhoads, Anita Viola, Bob Harrity, SP Jay Strong, PSP Warren Johnson, DDGER Pattie Gray, DDGER Danielle McKnight.

Finally, thanks to all that made donations including Ashby Hospitality. Your generosity made the event a success!

ABINGDON LODGE

In keeping with tradition the Abingdon Lodge No. 2354 provided Christmas Dinners for disadvantaged families in our community. With the generous donations from our members and money provided from the Beacon Grant, we were able to provide 30 families with everything they needed to prepare a great Christmas meal. We also adopted two families from SARC for Christmas, providing them with gifts for under the tree. "Elks Care - Elks Share".

SOUTH EAST DISTRICT

George Tunncliff, VP

Kent Island Lodge No. 2576 • tunncliff69@hotmail.com



George Tunncliff
SE District VP

Greetings All,
Now that the year is coming to its end, I hope that all the lodges had a successful and profitable year. As we all know, it is not an easy thing to do, so keep in mind that we (all of State Association Officers, Committee Chairs, and District Leaders) are here ready and willing to help you in anyway we can. Just call us, e-mail us or even text us. Our contact information is in the Directory and online on the Maryland, Delaware & District of Columbia Elks web site and we are ready to help.

Exalted Rulers, you will be Past Exalted Rulers soon and many opportunity's will be open to you at the State Association level, I encourage you take advantage of these opportunities. Leading Knights, you have been assisting the Exalted Ruler with his or her duties all year and I am sure that the transition will be an easy one for you as Exalted Rulers. But if not, we (all of State Association Officers, Committee Chairs, and District Leaders) will also be there for you. Loyal Knights, as you move in to the Leading Knights chair it is your job to assist the Exalted Rulers with their duties not just at the lodge meetings but with all of the everyday duties at the lodge. It will help you in the long run when you become Exalted

Rulers yourselves. And we (all of State Association Officers, Committee Chairs, and District Leaders) will also be there for you. Lecturing Knights, as you move to the Loyal Knights chair please do what you can to assist the Leading Knights and the Exalted Rulers with the everyday duties at the lodge. I also ask you to help your new incoming Lecturing Knights with the duties of their chair as some of them are new members who will be filling this position in some lodges, And we (all of State Association Officers, Committee Chairs, and District Leaders) will also be there for you.

Congratulations to Charlie Herbert as our new Southeast District 1 year State Trustee, and John Loftus as our Southeast District 1 year Camp Barrett Executive Committee Chairman.

I have completed all of my official visits to the lodges and I have had such a wonderful time at your lodges. Thank you all for the time you've taken to help with the State Association surveys. I've enjoyed all time that I've spent with you all. Exalted Rulers incoming and outgoing please invite all of your officers and members to attend our State Association meetings, District Deputy Clinics and especially your Lodge meetings.

Fraternally,
George Tunncliff

South East District Awarded the MD-DE-DC Soccer Traveling Trophy



Awarding the MD-DE-DC Soccer Traveling Trophy to the highest scoring district from the State Shoot in October. Winner is Southeast District. Accepting the Award is George Tunncliff, VP for the SE District. From Left to right G. Gerald Morrow, PDDGER State Soccer Chair, George Tunncliff VP SE District, Jay Strong President MD-DE-DC State Elks Association, Paul Helsel PGER/Sponsor, Ronald Lamont PSP State Soccer Advisor.

SOUTH EAST DISTRICT

SEAFORD LODGE



Picture from January 2016.



This person was very appreciative of the food and blanket. He is hugging 2016-17 Exalted Ruler-Elect, Dawn Eskridge.



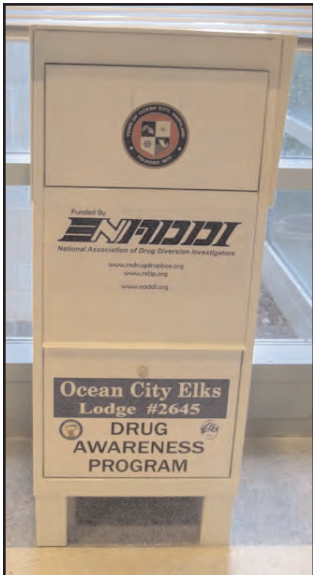
Two teenage area boys who volunteered to help with one of our newest members

The Seaford Elks lodge #2458 members have been working in conjunction with the Code Purple homeless shelter in Seaford, DE. On January 24th, ten members of our lodge provided and served soup, biscuits and cookies to about 18 homeless people at the shelter. They were also given a backpack containing a blanket, towel, wash-

cloth, toothpaste, toothbrush, toiletries, a pair of gloves and a hat. On February 11th, we went to the Code Purple shelter at St. Luke's Parrish along with 8 members of our lodge and provided about 20 homeless people with goulash, soup, rolls, crackers, cookies, and brownies as well as socks, gloves, blankets (if they need-

ed any of these items). We also had two teenage boys from our area who volunteered to come and help with this project. We are planning to do this again in March and we are hoping to be able to use our Beacon Grant to enhance this project for the upcoming lodge year.

OCEAN CITY LODGE



ABOVE: Ocean City Lodge #2645 has two Drug Drop Boxes in the area. In a report from Ocean City Police Department for the year ending 2015 there were 838 pounds deposited into the boxes of which 17,081 pills were controlled substances with a street value of \$74,980. All substances have been properly disposed of.

Ocean City Lodge #2645 has a program to honor active duty service men and women who live in Worcester County. This year we are expanding this to include veterans from Worcester County. The banners plus frame cost about \$295 which is donated by individuals and businesses. We have had 20 banners the last two years on the Boardwalk from the Pier to 4th Street. The banners

are flown from May 1st through September 30th. When they are taken down the Elks have a presentation of the banners to the families or the service personnel. We are very proud of this project and the Mayor of Ocean City said it is the only program where he has not had any complaints, only compliments.



NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT

Stuart Burgoon, VP

Severna Park Lodge No. 2482 • mdrodman@yahoo.com



Stu Burgoon
NC District VP

Happy March All Elk Members and Families,

I am pleased to announce that I have completed all my official Lodge visits and had some wonderful visits with our President Jay and First Lady Karen. My wife Julie

has enjoyed meeting with you all as well.

The State survey and Camp survey that was conducted at each Lodge had some mixed reviews but it was thought by most to be a good undertaking. The State Association needs input from all the Lodges so we can better serve you. As Jay always said, "We look at you as our

customers and this will help us growing as an organization and bring renewed interest back". I have noticed and have seen an up-tick at the Lodges and a new spirit and excitement with our membership.

It seems that the new, now outgoing, ERs were just coming in and with a blink it was over. I feel North Central Lodges did a great job this year and I look forward to meeting all the new officers for the coming year. It is not always easy but we have some great mentors to help us along our way.

As promised in Frederick, I have one announcement as North Central Entertainment Chair. The Adult Camporee will be held September 17th this year. Mark it down. Dave Wolcott always wanted to bring back the Steak and Ale night at the Camp as well. We will be combining these events. So you can come

enjoy the Steak dinner and camp. Or just come enjoy a good Steak and hang out for the entertainment awhile. More news to follow.

In closing, I want to let you all know that serving as your North Central Vice President has been one my most gratifying Elk experiences and I appreciate all the Exalted Rulers, officers and members for their support for your Lodge year. I very much enjoyed the fellowship and camaraderie of my fellow Vice Presidents. President Jay and First Lady Karen, thank you for your help and friendship on our visits as well. Lastly, thank you to my darling Julie. You are my heart and strength. I love ya'

Fraternally,
Stu

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

SEVERNA PARK LODGE

Severna Park Lodge No. 2482 Exalted Ruler presented a check for \$2,500 to the Severna Park After Prom Breakfast Dance. It was an ENF Grant awarded to the Lodge.

Each year the Lodge hosts the after-prom event for stu-

dents of Severna Park High School. It gives them a place to continue their Prom activities at a safe location. It promotes no drugs and no alcohol for teenagers every year. Over 150 members and guests were in attendance.



Picture L-R: Exalted Ruler Kenny Roussey; Lecturing Knight Phil Hicks; Severna Park after Prom Committee Member Beth Murphy and Karen Cropper.

As Chairman of the Elks National Veteran Service Committee for the MD, DE & DC Elks Association, I would like to welcome Grand Exalted Ruler Hicks and his wife Nancy to our Spring Conference. It is a great honor to have you with us this weekend.

As we close out the Lodge year, you have now elected new Lodge officers and Committee Chairs for the upcoming year. I would like to remind all Exalted Rulers and Veterans Chairs in each Lodge to review and plan together a budget for fundraisers and activities for their Veterans' Programs for next year. I ask that you present to your Lodge a planned budget that will benefit our Veterans' Programs such as the Army of Hope, Adopt-A-Vet, and the VA Voluntary Service

ELKS NATIONAL VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION



SERVING OUR NATION'S VETERANS

Facilities.

I thank all the Lodges for their support of our Veterans and the support they provide to the VA Facilities in their areas. I again congratulate Washington-Rockville Lodge 15,

Milford Lodge 2401, and Chestertown Lodge 2474 for receiving the Freedom Grant. Each application was well planned, and I am sure our Veterans will be appreciative and will benefit greatly from the Grants.

In closing, let me say it has been my pleasure to serve as your Chairman, and I look forward to another exciting and successful year in 2016 -2017. I would like to thank all the VAVS Reps at our VA and State Facilities who have represented the Elks proudly. Thank you all for your time, your talent and the passion you provide to the Elks and the love you have shown our Veterans.

Fraternally,
Bob McIntyre

ENF Ornament Winners

Congratulations to the winners of the November-December Christmas Ornament (Balls) Fundraiser. Pictured are Mary Cardinal-Vogt State ENF Chairman; Jay V. Strong Jr., State President, and the Division Winners, Susan Caldwell, Leading Knight, Ocean City Lodge #2645; Ed Pettit, Milford Lodge #2401; Sandra Brantner, Oakland Lodge #2481; Richard Fleck Jr., E.R., Selbyville Lodge # 2173. Not pictured is Camp Spring Lodge # 2332.



Gratitude Grants: A flexible way to meet local needs.

Gratitude Grants are a way of saying thank you to every lodge that meets the Grand Exalted Rulers per member goal of \$4.65 for giving to ENF. These \$2,000.00-\$2,500.00 grants offer an opportunity for Elks to think about how to best serve their Community and make it stronger. ENF Grants should always be used for charitable purposes. Keep the following IRS defined categories in mind when planning a grant project: relieve the poor, distressed or underprivileged; advance education; lessen the burdens of government; lessen neighborhood tensions; eliminate prejudice and discrimination; combat juvenile delinquency. If the lodge is unable to plan an active project, it may use a Gratitude Grant to donate funds or supplies to a charitable cause. Gratitude Grants may be split and used for more than one project.

Important things to remember

The Deadline Date is March 31st 2016 for Donation of \$4.65 per Member. Application Close May 31, 2016 and the grant must be used by July 31, 2016

To learn more about the Community Investments Program, please visit www.elks.org/enf/community.

**Mary E. Cardinal-Vogt,
ENF State Chairman**

ELKS CAMP BARRETT IMPROVEMENT FUND RAFFLE

I would like to open by advising you that the net from last year's raffle was just shy of \$40,000.00. This helps to keep the reserves available for our Camp's improvements.

The tickets should be in the mail between the 15th of March and the beginning of April. I would ask that if you don't receive your tickets, please call one of your District Chairmen. They are Jim Harbour in the SE, Greg Adams in the NE, Gordon Alexander in the West, Thomas Coyle in the SW, or myself in the NC. Our phone numbers are in the Directory.

We are again this year offering the tickets for \$10.00 each or 6 for \$50.00. We are asking that every Member purchase at least one ticket and sell the rest to neighbors, co-workers, friends, family, etc. Of course, if you can purchase all 6 then we thank you very much and if you want more tickets, please contact one of the aforementioned Committee members and we'll be sure that you get your additional tickets.

We are in hopes that this will be our best Camp Barrett Improvement Fund Raffle ever, but it can only happen with your help.

Please be as generous as you are able to be to help our wonderful Major Project remain as beautiful and well maintained as it is currently. This raffle is the major source of funding of the Improvement Fund.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Family Picnic on May 29th, where the winners will be drawn. I also hope to have a very favorable report for you in June.

Lou Schmeltzer, PDD
Improvement Fund
Raffle Chairman

Elks Camp Barrett Means So Much to So Many

To many Elks members, our State Major project, Elks Camp Barrett is a nice location, where we hold our annual Elks Family Picnic every spring, a great Adult Camporee in the fall, and a fantastic place to send local children to camp for a traditional summer camp experience. In actuality, Elks Camp Barrett is far more. Elks Camp Barrett is used year around by many groups. Non-profits, churches, schools, sports teams, police departments, and medically oriented camps use ECB regularly.

ECB hosts Scout troops from all over the region, as well as scouts from around the country, who stay with us while visiting the nation's capital. Each November we host a Scout Camporee where 900 - 1000 scouts stay at our camp for a weekend. This summer and fall, wounded warriors from local military hospitals will be using our camp for a "weeknight away" program, where the warrior and family can stay overnight and take a breather from being in the hospital for long periods of time. This is a great morale booster for our wounded soldiers and their families, as well as a great source of pride for our camp.

For the past 6 years, Elks Camp Barrett has been home to the Johns Hopkins pediatric oncology summer camp, known as Camp Sunrise. This camp provides a summer camp experience for over 100 children with cancer. These campers can enjoy the great outdoors, camp activities and fellowship, even while they are undergoing active cancer treatments. Doctors, nurses and medical staff stay right on the campus with the campers and deliver their treatments during the camp program. In addition, The

Children's Oncology Camping Association International will be using our camp as a regional training hub for their counselors and staff later next month.

Our State Major Project, Elks Camp

Barrett serves our state members well, and we are very proud as a State Association to support ECB and its mission, but in the end, as Elks members, we burst with pride over what our Elks Camp Barrett means to so many people in our communities.

DRUG AWARENESS

Welcome to the Spring Workshop! Drug Awareness activities continue to be active within our State Association. "How do I know this?", from talking with many of you, reading your newsletters, and in some cases walking into your lodge. But, my question to you is "Does Grand Lodge know what you are doing?" please remember to report all charitable activities to Grand Lodge. I had the honor to once again attend the Mid-Atlantic Elks Soccer Shoot in Frederick earlier this month. Elroy accompanied

me for the weekend and not only did the kids enjoy seeing him, he had a great time as well. Materials and literature were handed out and questions answer when asked. The State Drug Awareness program also provided basketballs, materials, and literature for the State Hoop Shoot and basketballs for the South East District Hoop Shoot. Remember when you are having a District or State event notify me, my responsibility as state chair is to support District and State events.

Drug Awareness Program Schedule to help you with planning:

- April is National Alcohol Awareness Month (possible way to get involved: share facts with local schools, youth groups, radio, etc. that can be shared daily or weekly)
- April - once again your state should be having a day for "National Prescription Drug Take-Back Days" get involved. (take your own unused prescriptions, work with local law enforcement agencies, take you elderly friends, parents, members.. unused prescriptions to a drop-off)
- April - Drug Awareness Program information in CLMS before May 1st.
- April - Plan Drug Awareness Activities for the first week of May during "Youth Week"
- Nominate someone for the President Volunteer Service Award

As you know the essay, poster, and video contest was extended till March 15th due to school closings. Well this weekend the winners will be chosen and our winners will be immediately sent to the

National Director in charge. Thank you to all who participated.

Sincerely,
Cindy Taylor State Chair

AN UPDATE FROM YOUR CONVENTION/CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Following is a brief summary of what we've been up to:

- Re-constructed the Committee, with some folks leaving, others assuming a "call-me-when-you-need-me" responsibility. You can see the full Committee on the website.
- Holding regular meetings, either via teleconference or at State workshops/conferences.
- Prepping for the June and GL Conventions to make them exciting and fun for you.
- Exploring new merchandise items.
- Getting into the technical age with credit card mobile app and working with the Webmaster on a marketing component.
- Creating more of a presence on the State website.
- Being Ambassadors at State functions so all feel welcomed.
- Reservation slips for the June 2016 State Convention and for July 2016 Grand Lodge Convention will be distributed by e-mail via Scott McKnight and also will be available on the State website.

WILLIAM JERNICK FUND RECIPIENT

The Elks Maryland, Delaware and District of Columbia State Association and Frederick Elks Lodge 684 recently presented checks to the Lacey family to help with the medical bills for young Logan Lacey. Shown in the photo are, from left to right, Trustee Dennis Helmstetter, West District Vice President Scott McKnight, Laura, Logan, Chris and Riley Lacey, Exalted Ruler Jim McNitt, and Jernick Fund coordinator John Stush.



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-

ognition 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

MD-DE-DC STATE ELKS ASSOCIATION SOCCER REPORT

Once again the MD-DE-DC State Elks Association sent a full slate of shooters to the Mid-Atlantic Regional Invitational Soccer Shoot held again this year in Frederick MD on March 4, 5 and 6th. Sorry I don't have the results here for the newsletter due to the deadline being before the shoot. I'll try to find time at the March Conference to squeeze in the announcement of the results.

This is my last year as your State Soccer Shoot Chair and in June I will step down. It has been a wonderful

time serving the State Association in this position. I hope the Soccer program will continue to grow within the State Association. Remember it starts with YOU the individual Lodges and Districts. Without your shooters the State Association has no soccer program. Thank you.

Sincerely,
G. Gerald Morrow PER, PDDGER
State Soccer Chair

Charity Begins at Home.....

Well, Good Public Relations Do!!

How many times have you heard the argument that "Charity begins at home"? This usually comes up when there is money in the treasury earmarked as restricted funds for charity. Usually, the "Elks" in attendance prevail and the funds are distributed to the earmarked charities and the argument ends because as Elks our Order is in the business of doing charitable works.

My focus in this article is that Good Public Relations really does begin at home and we need to do just that....Start at Home to promote the good deeds we do so that our "Mid-night Trustees" know exactly where the funds from our efforts are going. It is my contention that if we publicized our good works within the lodge, our members will take the message to others with whom they come into contact.

Instead of grousing across the bar, about the lack of entertainment, parking, price of drinks, absence of officers, or the quality of the food, we should be talking about what our lodge is doing within the community. Our members know that we have a Major Project, because we are always soliciting their funds to support the program. How many of them know exactly how the program works and how much the program costs? How many of them have met the poster child or the clients that we help through our many programs? Are they aware of how many visits are made to the Veterans' facilities or how much the

items we distribute to the vets means to them? Do they have any idea how many scholarships are given by the ENF? Do they know the far reaching effects our Hoop Shoot, Soccer Shoot, Americanism Contest, Drug Awareness Contest and Eagle and Bronze, Silver, and Gold Scouting Programs have on the youth we serve and recognize?

Besides discussing these topics in the lounge, are we featuring these programs in our lodge bulletins or on the marquee in front of our facility? A simple one or two-line blurb on what was raised at the last fund raiser and how these funds are going to help others will do wonders to enhance your "in-house" image....and don't forget to thank all for their help and cooperation. You need not mention contributors individually, but a general statement of thanks to the "Lodge" will do wonders in promoting your cause and the image that your members have of their lodge.

In just a few short weeks, we will be embarking on a new lodge year. Start promoting our benevolent programs among those whose help we so desperately need. Bring our membership up to a new level of involvement and start promoting Good Public Relations within the local lodge.

Dennis W. Kanouff,
Grand Lodge Public Relations Committee
Area II

QUARTERLY AUDIT REPORT

This report covers from May 1, 2015 through February 15, 2016

- 1) **State Association Ordinary Income:** Overall Income: \$44,076.67 last Qtr \$44,047.30, Budgeted Income of \$42,000 Over \$2,076.57, last Qtr \$2,047.30.
- 2) **Association Other Income:** \$12,300 last Qtr \$1,083; Budgeted \$29,958. Remaining balance of: Under -\$17,858 last Qtr Under -\$28,875.
- 3) **Camp Barrett Donation Income:** Income \$145,009.27 last Qtr \$10,203.67. Budgeted \$149,000. Under: -\$3,090.73 last Qtr Under -\$138,796.33.
- 4) **Camp Barrett Fund-raises Income:** \$376,460.55 last Qtr \$145,452.32 Budgeted \$356,240 Over Qtr \$20,220.55 last Over \$24,137.32.
- 5) **Elks Camp Barrett Ordinary Income:** \$87,232.96 last Qtr \$82,201.83, Budgeted \$85,925.00. Under -\$1,307.96 last Qtr Under - \$3,723.07.
- 6) **Convention/Conference Income:** \$115,143.87 last Qtr \$114,896.87. Budgeted \$130,860. Under -\$15,963.13 last Qtr Under -\$25,716.13
- 7) **Elks National Foundation Income:** \$239,240.62 last Qtr \$238,632.69, Budgeted \$228,300.00 Over 10,940.02 last Qtr Over \$10,332.69.

***OVERALL TOTAL INCOME:** \$1,019,463.94 last Qtr \$636,490.68 Budgeted \$1,022,283 Under -\$2,820 last Qtr Under -\$150,867.32

- 1) **State Association Ordinary Expenses:** \$17,914.03 last Qtr \$11,242.19 Budgeted \$51,658. Under -33,743.97 last Qtr Under -\$40,415.18
- 2) **Association Other Expense:** \$12,835.33 last Qtr \$1,981.14. Budgeted \$20,300 Under -\$7,464.27 last Qtr Under - \$18,318
- 3) **Camp Barrett Fund-raises Expense:** \$50,221.89 last Qtr \$39,366.50; Budgeted \$89,500.00 Under -\$39,278.31 last Qtr Under -\$50,133.50.
- 4) **Camp Barrett Ordinary Expense:** \$260,179.23 last Qtr \$232,718.90; Budgeted \$266,740.00. Under-\$6,560.77 last Qtr Under -\$34,021.10.
- 5) **Convention/Conference Expense:** \$105,537.68 last Qtr \$105,114.74. Budgeted \$130,697. Under -\$25,159.32 last Qtr Under -\$25,582.26.
- 6) **Elks National Foundation Expense:** \$197,489 last Qtr \$9,578.15; Budgeted \$228,300.00. Under -\$30,810.91 last Qtr Under -\$218,721.85.

OVERALL TOTAL EXPENSE: \$644,177.16 last Qtr \$400,001.62 Budgeted 787,195 Under -\$143,019.84 last Qtr Under -\$387,193.38 INCOME \$1,019,463.94 - Expenses \$644,177.16 = Net \$375,286.78

State Association Balance Sheet: As of: Feb. 15, 2016 Checking/Savings, etc., \$732,886.98 (returned checks \$1035) last Qtr as of November 30, 2015: Checking/Savings assets of \$773,166.93. Overall total assets of \$1,003,375.17 last Qtr \$1,278,685.78, October Qtr \$1,134,782.50. Not Included within this figure, the Edward Jones Investments of \$32,412.86, last Qtr \$38,584.18, October \$30,423.75. Total Liabilities & Equity \$1,2387,335.51 last Qtr total Liabilities & Equity \$1,278,685.78, October \$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... 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, PDD
State Chair Auditing & Business Practices

STATE HOOP SHOOT RESULTS

The State Hoop was held January 31st at Cape Henlopen HS in Lewes, DE. The award ceremony and luncheon held at Cape Henlopen Lodge #2540. Twenty-seven district winners

participated. The pictured 6 state champions will advance to the regional shoot held in March in Middletown, MD.



Left to right:
 State Director Gary Eckenrode,
 William Powell III, (10-11)
 SW- Waldorf
 Emri Tari- (8-9)- W-Westminster
 Jake Kegley-12-13-
 NE- Abingdon
 Katie Marks, (8-9)-
 SW- Washington-Rockville
 Tanae Johnson- (12-13)-
 NE-Chestertown
 Sydney Usilton (10-11)-
 NE- Chestertown
 State President- Jay V. Strong Jr.

AMERICANISM

The Americanism Banquet was held on Sunday, March 13th at Westminster Elks Lodge #2277 in Westminster, MD.

Thank you to Westminster Elks and staff for hosting our banquet again this year!

Since the newsletter had to go to publication prior to the banquet, winners and photos are not available in this newsletter but will be in the June Convention Newsletter.

Although the participation was less this year, I want to thank all lodges that participated in the essay and poster contests, and hopefully we will have a Grand Lodge Essay winner this year!

God Bless America!

Sandra Brantner, PDDGER
 State Americanism Chair



GER WINE RAFFLE for ENF



3

Bottle
 Pack



Help
 Support
 ENF

Tickets \$5 each

5 Tickets for \$20

*GER will sign the bottles for the
 Winner with Proceeds going to
 ENF in Winner's name*

Drawing at Spring Workshop in Dover, DE