

Maryland, Delaware and District of Columbia



Elks Association News

A Fraternal Organization

**Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks
United States of America**



www.MDDEDCELKS.ORG

March 2017



Connie deYoung
State President

Message from the State President

Welcome to Kent Island Lodge #2576 for the Spring Conference of the DE, MD and DC Elks State Association. We are very pleased and honored to have our Grand Exalted Ruler Michael Zellen and First Lady Donna, from Saugus-Everett, Massachusetts Lodge #642, as our guests. We are also honored to have our friends, State Sponsor Paul Hesel and his wife Jane and Grand Lodge Trustee Warren Johnson and his wife Debbie with us this

weekend. Please take the opportunity to welcome these special guests to our State Association and impress upon them our many accomplishments, our Major Project, Elks Camp Barrett, and the many great volunteers – We are “Elks Having Fun Getting the Job Done”.

Thank you to the members of Cambridge Lodge #1272 for hosting the Winter Workshop in January. It was a GREAT weekend, and WOW – Cambridge members outdid themselves with the delicious food, entertainment and courtesies extended to our members. Once again, I received feedback from many people in attendance stating that they really enjoyed the Workshop. Cambridge Lodge has now set the bar a little bit higher for our offsite meetings. Also, thank you to all those who gave such informative and educational presentations and reports.

Congratulations to the newly elected Lodge Officers for the Elk year 2017 – 2018. I look forward to working with the new Officers, and hope everyone gathers something new and useful this weekend that you can take back to your Lodge to share with your membership. At these meetings we have State Committee Chairmen Reports and training presentations to give you guidance in running your Lodge as a business and to help you develop your programs and goals to ensure your Lodge has a successful year.

In February, I completed my official scheduled Lodge visits and want to thank all the Lodges for the hospitality and courtesies extended to me and the Vice Presidents. Since January's meeting, I have attended many social events: the car raffle drawing for Dave's Dream, the Peer Leadership Training, Americanism Banquet, Mid-Atlantic Soccer Shoot and Regional Hoop Shoot. We have accomplished many goals this year, and I commend all the Officers for a very successful year. With three months left in my term, I look forward to visiting many more Lodges for social events.

I thank Darleen Bedard for her service as she has stepped down as Government Relations and Charity Chairman. Carl Vogt will be assuming Government Relations for Maryland and helping with Charity Reporting until Bonnie Howell is trained. Thanks Carl for stepping up and helping out, and thanks Bonnie for taking over the Charity Reporting.

A big, sincere “Thank You” to Kent Island Lodge #2576 for hosting this Spring Conference. Members, please take time to thank them

for their hard work and their hospitality. Our next meeting is the June Convention at the WISP in McHenry, Maryland.
Membership – Fellowship – Success.

Fraternally and Sincerely,

Connie J. deYoung, State President
DE, MD & DC Elks Association

COMING EVENTS

April, 2017
DD Clinics – All Districts

May 6, 2017
State Horseshoe Tournament
Frederick Lodge #684

May 6, 2017
“Sneak A Peek” – Camp Barrett

May 20 – 21, 2017
Camp Barrett Clean-Up

May 28, 2017
Camp Barrett Family Picnic

June 9 - 11, 2017
State Association Convention
Wisp Resort, McHenry, MD

July 16 – 19, 2017
Grand Lodge Convention
Reno, NV

Sept 29 – Oct 1, 2017
Fall Workshop
Princess Royale, Ocean City, MD

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



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SPRING CONFERENCE AGENDA of the MD, DE & DC ELKS ASSOCIATION

Kent Island Lodge #2576, Stevensville, Maryland

FRIDAY, March 24, 2017

12:00 Noon – 5:00 P.M. Registration
11:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M. Lunch – Kent Island Lodge
1:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M. Advisory Committee Meeting
5:00 P.M. State Trustees Meeting
5:30 P.M. Elks Camp Barrett Executive Committee Meeting
6:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M. Dinner – Kent Island Lodge with GER Michael Zellen
7:30 P.M. – 10:00 P.M. Entertainment at the Lodge – DJ Tim Sutch

SATURDAY, March 25, 2017

7:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Breakfast Buffet – Kent Island Lodge
8:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M. Registration
8:00 A.M. Elks Camp Barrett Representatives Meeting
9:00 A.M. Conference Called to Order
9:00 A.M. – 9:30 A.M. Introductions, Invocation, Pledge, Roll Calls, Recognitions, etc.
9:30 A.M. – 11:50 A.M. Training, Presentations and Committee Reports:
(9:30)..... How Can Your Lodge Make a Difference in Special Needs Children – Cynthia Sammons (15 m)
(9:45)..... Soccer Shoot – Mike Taylor (5 m)
(9:50)..... Hoop Shoot – Basil Wadkovsky (5 m)
(9:55)..... Scholarship – Lynn Evans (10 m)
(10:05)..... The Importance of the Youth in Your Lodge – Colleen Ford (5 m)
(10:10)..... Elks and Scouting – Brian Westfall (20 m)
(10:30)..... ENVSC Army of Hope – Bob McIntyre (10 m)
(10:40)..... Welcome Home Veterans – Carl Robinson (10 m)
(10:50)..... Convention Program – Margie McIntyre (5 m)
(10:55)..... Government Relations – Bonnie Howell (15 m)
(11:10)..... Maryland Gaming & Charity Reporting – Carl Vogt (10 m)
(11:20)..... Elks National Foundation – Mary Cardinal-Vogt (10 m)
(11:30)..... Camp Barrett – John Loftus (15 m)
(11:45)..... Membership/Elks Trip – Bob Baxendell (5 m)
(11:50)..... Americanism – Sandy Brantner (5 m)
11:55 A.M. Announcements & Recess until 9:00 A.M. Sunday, March 26
12:00 – 1:30 P.M. Lunch – Kent Island Lodge
1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M. 11th Hour Toast & Flag Competition – Larry Mathers/ Ritual Committee
1:30 P.M. – 3:30 P.M. PGER Paul D. Helsel & GER Michael Zellen, Meeting DDGERs & PSPs
1:30 P.M. – 2:30 P.M. Convention & Conference Committee Meeting– Merylyn Ramsey
6:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M. Cocktails – with GER Michael Zellen and 1st Lady Donna
7:00 P.M. – 8:30 P.M. Dinner (Business Suit) Honoring GER Michael Zellen & 1st Lady
8:30 P.M. – 11:00 P.M. Entertainment at the Lodge– DJ Skid Mark

SUNDAY, March 26, 2017

7:30 A.M. – 9:00 A.M. Breakfast Buffet – Kent Island Lodge
8:00 A.M. – 9:00 A.M. Registration
9:00 A.M. Conference Called to Order
(9:00)..... Drug Awareness and Peer Leadership – Cindy Taylor (15 m)
(9:15)..... Ritualistic – Larry Mathers (5 m)
(9:20)..... Our State & GL Conventions – Merylyn Ramsey (15 m)
(9:35)..... William J. Jernick Fund – John Loftus (10 m)
(9:45)..... Association Improvement Committee – Jeff Carlson (10 m)
(9:50)..... Auditing and Accounting – Warren Johnson (5 m)
(9:55)..... Directory – Betty Hardin (5 m)
10:00 A.M. BUSINESS MEETING: Secretary's Report – Jim Harbour / Minutes / Communications
Trustees' Report – Budget 2017-18 – Vouchers – Gerald Morrow
Treasurer's Report – Jackie Phillips
Advisory Committee Report – Priscilla Schwab
Unfinished Business / New Business / Election(s)
ANNOUNCEMENTS
GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION Comments – President – Grand Lodge Sponsor Paul Helsel
Honored Guest GER Michael Zellen
Departed Members / Silence / Sickness & Distress
ADJOURN by 12:00 Noon Elks Camp Barrett 50 - 50 Drawing
12:00 – 2:00 P.M. Lunch Available – Kent Island Lodge

Next Newsletter Deadline: May 12, 2017



Grand Exalted Ruler
Michael F. Zellen

Message From Grand Exalted Ruler:

Teamwork is the recipe for Local Lodge success

We will soon complete another very successful Local Lodge year, and this is due to your dedication and continued hard work in the name of Elkdom. Each Member should be very proud of the work he or she does for our veterans, our youth, our elderly and our communities.

Each of you has truly lived up to my motto, "Elks ~ Leading the Way."

I would personally like to thank all the outgoing Exalted Rulers, their Officers and their Lodges for the continued support of the many Grand Lodge programs, and especially for your donations to the Elks National Foundation, which as you all know is the Great Heart of Elkdom.

I would also like to recognize our current District Deputies and their District Esquires for their hard work and determination thus far this fraternal year. While their term of office does not end until the Grand Lodge Convention in July, each one of them has spent countless hours and has driven many miles traveling throughout their respective state in carrying out their duties, and promoting what it means to be an Elk. I know they will continue to work with the newly elected Officers who will guide the affairs of our Lodges in the coming year.

To our newly elected Exalted Rulers and Lodge Officers, I would like to thank each of you for stepping forward to lead your respective Lodge and continue to carry out the good works of our Order. You are now part of a team – make it cohesive by strengthening your relationship with your fellow Officers. View your service as the opportunity to make new friends in your Officer corps, and learn from your experience during your service as an Officer of your Lodge. An Exalted Ruler cannot do it alone. You should be proactive in seeking opportunities to be an important contributor to the advancement and success of your Lodge.

As you lead and support the activities in your Lodge, remember that your actions are supporting the concept of "Elks ~ Leading the Way." As Officers, you must be exemplars of "Brotherly Love." Be mindful of "taking the high road" when times get tense or conflict arises. Utilize the resources that have been provided by the Grand Lodge, your State Association and your District. Take advantage of the many educational opportunities that will be presented to you as an Officer. District Deputy Clinics provide a great opportunity to learn about Elkdom and the programs of the Grand Lodge. Do not forget that the Elks manuals are available for downloading at: <http://www.elks.org/grandlodge/manuals>

In closing, I wish each of you a very successful and rewarding year. I know you will set goals for your Lodge to meet, and with hard work, determination and the support from your Members, these goals can be and will be achieved.

Finally, thank you for being an Elk, and for Caring and Sharing.

Michael F. Zellen, GER



Paul D. Helsel
PGER & Sponsor

Message From Our State Sponsor:

Dear Friends and Members of the MD, DE & DC Elks Association,

Welcome to Kent Island Lodge No. 2576 and our Spring Workshop. A full weekend of fun and fellowship has been planned for your enjoyment, with a bit of business sprinkled in. It promises to be a great weekend, and Jane and I look forward to the opportunity to visit with each of you.

This weekend we are also honored to have our Grand Exalted Ruler Michael F. Zellen and First Lady Donna with us. 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 – Leading the Way"!!**

This workshop will again focus on training and providing needed information to individual members and the leadership of our Lodges so they are better prepared to handle Elk Programs in their local communities and improve the overall performance of their 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 stronger and more involved in our individual and collective endeavors!!!

This weekend finds us about a week from the end of the 2016/2017 Lodge year. We are all holding our breath and have our fingers crossed that our year long efforts will have gotten us to our desired goals and a record year for our individual Lodges and the Association. We already know that some of our Lodges

will post significant gains and improvements over previous years, while others will show declines – the question is "will the gains overcome the declines" and combined will we show gains and improvement?? Our fingers are crossed, but whatever those final numbers show – I extend my congratulations, thanks and appreciation to all the Elks who have worked so hard to move their individual Lodge and our Association forward to higher levels of accomplishment. You are solely (individually and collectively) responsible for any and all of the accomplishments we may enjoy – thank you so very much!!!

Membership retention and growth is still our #1 priority here and across the country. For our Association and our Order March 31, 2017 could be the turning point of a 30+ year membership decline – again we are holding our breath and have our fingers crossed. However the final numbers fall, it is far too close to call at this point. Whatever the results are, we need to hit the ground running on April 1, 2017 with an even more intense effort on membership retention and growth. Every member and every Lodge has to be on board with this effort!! Again this effort will involve our State Membership Team, the District Deputies, State Officers and other individual Elks at all levels of our Lodges and Association. Please be sure you and your Lodge are on board with this effort and part of the solution, not part of the problem.

Best wishes to all for a most enjoyable weekend and best wishes to all the new Lodge officers for a most prosperous and successful 2017/2018 lodge year.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Paul D. Helsel , PGER & Sponsor



Message From the President-Elect

Happy Spring and welcome to the Spring Conference in "rocking" Kent Island! It's been a short time ago that we met in Cambridge for the January Conference. Once again, hats off to Cambridge for a great weekend!

This weekend we are honored to host our special guests, Grand Exalted Ruler Michael Zellen and First Lady, Donna; our sponsor, PGER Paul D. Hesel and the lovely Jane; and our Grand Lodge Trustee, Warren Johnson and his wife Debbie. Let's make it a great weekend of Elkdom on display for our Grand so he will long remember his trip to the MD, DE & DC Elks State Association!

Since our last meeting, I attended the State Hoop Shoot in Chestertown. Great job by State Hoop Shoot Chair Basil Wadkovsky and the Chestertown Elks Lodge for a very nice affair. There were many happy children, and a few disappointed ones; but it was clear that they were all winners. Thank you, Basil, for allowing me to assist in awarding the trophies to the participants. It was a great day!

I also attended the Regional Soccer Shoot and Hoop Shoot, both held in Frederick. What a fun time had by everyone at both events.

I have been working on filling the State Committee Chairs needed for next year. Being a chairman, whether it be on the local, district or state level, requires commitment and

dedication. I am confident that our State Chairs for next year will lead us through another outstanding year for our Association, and I am looking forward to serving with them.

Congratulations on your Lodge elections and incoming officers for the ensuing year 2017-2018. I hope that you have an agenda for the year and are ready to get started! Always remember that our Association is here to give any help that you might need.

Our next meeting will be the State Convention in June at the Wisp Resort in McHenry, MD. I am really looking forward to those of you visiting that have not been to the "far west" before! The lake is beautiful and offers many activities, dining options, and Oakland Lodge is only 13 miles up the road. I hope that you can take time to visit our Lodge and maybe even take a stroll down through Oakland to see some history of our town. Packets will be available at this conference, so please pick one up and review. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask Jim or me.

Until our next meeting, have a safe trip back home, Happy Easter to you, Happy Memorial Day to you, and don't forget to thank a veteran for your freedom!

Fraternally,

Sandy Brantner
President-Elect



ELKS CAMP BARRETT IMPROVEMENT FUND RAFFLE

I am in hopes that by the time you are reading this article, you have received your packets containing this year's raffle tickets. They have been mailed, so if you haven't received them please let me know. I am looking forward to being very busy opening envelopes with tickets and money for the Camp. With your generosity, we can, hopefully, exceed last year's net of \$42K. This raffle helps to keep the reserves available for our Camp's improvements.

We are offering the tickets for \$10.00 each or 6 for \$50.00, again this year. 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 me and I'll be sure that you get your additional tickets.

We are hoping 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 28th, 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

ENF TOASTING ELKDOM CONTEST WINNERS WITH OUR STATE PRESIDENT



From left to Right Greg Scott Robbins, Sr., E.R. Cambridge Lodge #1272; Gary J. Eckenrode, E.R. Cape Henlopen Lodge #2540; Our State President Connie deYoung; Nicole Dilorio, Leading Knight Abingdon Lodge #2354; Kathy King, E.R. Dover Lodge #1903; Ruth K. Collins-Shaw, Leading Knight Hagerstown Lodge #378; Slightly forward in the front is Theresa Boileau, E.R. Abingdon Lodge #2354.

South West District

John F. Amer Jr., VP

Deale Lodge No. 2528 ♦ Jfa20733@yahoo.com



Hello Everyone,
I have completed my last and final visit. Thank you to St. Mary's Lodge for a delightful evening. I was pleasantly impressed by the program on the P.E.R. Assn. St. Mary's Lodge is one of the earliest Lodges in the area, so my visit was both enlightening and interesting. It is a very busy Lodge with great member participation. Their Young Buck program is a wonderful example for any Lodge

wishing to get one started, and I am sure they would be happy to offer some good suggestions.

Thank you again to all the Lodges I visited for your warm hospitality. It has been a good learning experience for me, and the Lodges in the Southwest are doing a great job with our Elks programs.

I am looking forward to seeing everybody at Kent Island Lodge and hope you all enjoy the weekend.

Fraternally,
John F. Amer, Jr.

CAMP SPRINGS



"God is good all the time"

On Tuesday, February 14, 2017 (Valentine's Day), I decided to spend the day with some of the elderly residents at Cameron Grove Residential Development for Senior Citizens. I surprised them with strawberry bakery goods and flowers. To see the expressions on their faces and the kind words of gratitude touched me so deeply. The day of fun had just begun. I participated in a game of scrabble and was even challenged by one of the seniors in a couple of games of pool. I am so thankful to have been amongst people who were blessed with such kind and loving hearts. There was no other way that I wanted to celebrate Valentine's Day, but with this group of individuals.

The Valentine's celebration also turned out to be a birthday celebration for 2 of the elderly attendees. One lady was turning 90 years old on February 16th and the other lady had just turned 84 years old on February 13th.

The day was well spent with love, peace and harmony.

Kathy Jackson
Esteemed Lecturing Knight
Camp Springs Lodge 2332

WALDORF LODGE



Waldorf Lodge contributed \$400.00 to Charlotte Hall Veterans Home. Pictured L to R: Rodney Young, Exalted Ruler; Sharon Mattia, Director; Jim Allen, Veterans Chairman; and Bill Suter, Trustee.

CONVENTION PROGRAM

As we informed you at the March Workshop, we are re-establishing the use of a Convention Program for our June Convention. This weekend, each Lodge has received a packet that includes some ideas for Ads together with instructions on how to submit and pay for your Ads. Exalted Rulers, please take the packet back to your Lodges and request this expenditure. We are looking to have participation from all Lodges together with individuals and Special Groups. Special Groups can be formed at the Lodge, District and State level, such as PER Associations, Trustees, BOD or L.O.T.E. of a Lodge, incoming and outgoing District Deputies, and Past State Presidents. The larger the group, the less the individual expense. Ads can be purchased for \$25.00 for a quarter page, \$50.00 for a half page and \$100.00 for a full page Ad. Please also consider soliciting local businesses.

In addition to the Ads, we will be incorporating Booster pages in the Program. Use the form enclosed in your packet to solicit boosters from your Lodge. \$5.00 will get your name printed in the booklet under your Lodge name.

Time is of the essence. Please get this project accomplished as soon as you can in your Lodges. The deadline for submissions is May 1st. Thank you. We hope to see your Ad in our Convention Program!

West District

Dale Sears, VP

Westminster Lodge No. 2277 ♦ dwsears2@comcast.net



Hello to all!!! The last point of our State President's motto – "success" – has many facets. Financial success, success in offering entertaining events for our members, success at holding benevolent community projects and success with membership growth.

The "West" has been very successful in many ways, but there is always room for improvement. Fellowship is alive and well in the West. Financial success remains a major challenge requiring sound business

practices and creativity (Frederick held a Christmas Tribute to Motown raising \$16,000. for their Lodge).

Success serving our communities is evident throughout our Lodges. From Hoop Shoots (Hagerstown's Hoop Shoot success has been submitted to the State Newsletter) to Drug Awareness (Frostburg held a very successful Drug Summit for their community) to Youth Scholarships (Westminster gave over \$20,000. this year) and Americanism (Oakland, active local and State participation).

Membership growth is within several of our Lodges' reach. As a District, we have the State's lowest lapsation rate (Westminster's lapsation is the lowest in years with a plus membership).

The "West" is proud of our accomplishments and continues to improve while "having fun and getting the job done."

Fraternally,

Dale Sears

HAGERSTOWN LODGE



Hagerstown Lodge #378 sponsored the annual Elks Hoop Shoot at Williamsport High School. One hundred and ten youth "shooters" participated in the three groups, and over 350 parents and adults attended the shoot. Each "shooter" was given an Elks Hoop Shoot T-shirt which was worn during the competition. Two of the Lodge's winners also won the West District Hoop Shoot competition.

Pictured L to R: Winners in the 8-9 age group: Jacob Tyler (boy runner-up); Ashton Stouffer (boy winner); Exalted Ruler Richard Hovis; McKenna Murphy (girl winner) and Lauren Hobbs (girl runner up).



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 and reading your newsletters. 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 would like to thank those who attended the Peer Leadership Conference in Dover on February 4th. Even though we were small in number, we had a wonderful day and were able to get positive feedback to plan for next year. The speakers were excellent and very informative. I would like to congratulate Havre de Grace Lodge for submitting our Enrique Camarena Award winner: Patrolman First Class Tom DeLuca. He has been notified and hopefully will join us at our State Convention in June.

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 29th – once again your state should be having a day for "National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day". Get involved (take your own unused prescriptions, work with local law enforcement agencies, take you elderly friend's, parent's, member's 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.

Thank you to all for what you do to educate our youth and parents on the dangers of drugs.

Sincerely,
Cindy Taylor, State Chair



North East District

Merrilyn Ramsey, VP

Dover Lodge No. 1903 ♦ mramsey1002@gmail.com



Having made all of my visits, attending the January Conference (a GREAT JOB Cambridge!), and Camp Barrett meetings these last couple of months, I have taken time to see what is happening in the NE Lodges and wanted to share their good works with you. Enjoy the following:

- 5 Lodges participated in the NE District Hoop Shoot – YEA!
- Dover Lodge LOTEs raised \$1500 for the Home of the Brave with an Elvis Show.

- Wilmington Lodge continues to hold their monthly Vets Bingo – so proud of the support they provide to our Veterans.
- Abingdon Lodge has a Mardi Gras party scheduled for next month – they DO know how to celebrate!
- Check out the Havre de Grace Lodge fb page – great things they are doing (Bring a Friend Friday, Christmas donations for Families).

NE Lodges continue to raise the bar when it comes to success. I am so proud of these Elks and their accomplishments! They are the groundwork for incoming officers for this coming Elk year. I am available to help until the end of my year as VP. Membership is still critical, as is mentoring and guiding the incoming officers and developing Lodge budgets and plans for the year.

Remember the upcoming NE District DD Clinic April 9th and think about serving in a State capacity. Let's take the NE into the next year with the same commitment to success!

Fraternally,

Merrilyn Ramsey

Yes, he is alive.

- Dover and Milford Lodges have received grants to help folks within their communities.
- Newark Lodge packed and donated over 15 boxes of cookies, socks, blankets and dog treats for our Troops.
- Chestertown has "0" lapsations as of February 14th– AWE-SOME!

NEWARK LODGE



"Cookies for Our Troops" - Newark Lodge #2281 packed and shipped 340 lbs. of cookies, together with blankets, socks and K9 treats to our Troops overseas. Enclosed with the goodies were hand-written Valentines from children at a local elementary school.

MILFORD LODGE



Milford Elks Lodge 2401 had a very successful Needy Family Program last Holiday Season and raised over \$4,000. We were able to help 9 families and 11 children with food, clothing and presents. Nine members came with trucks and SUV's to distribute all of the items to ensure that our adopted families and their children would have a memorable Christmas. Funds that were not used for the Holiday Season are used to help the community with oil and electric bills.



DOVER LODGE held its Annual Charity Event on February 25th. The Mardi Gras themed event, celebrating the ELKS 149th Birthday, consisted of dinner, dancing, a silent auction, 50/50 and a Cash Bash Drawing. The Event was well attended and raised \$3800.00 to benefit charities including the Army of Hope.



Pictured at left: Incoming ER Wayne & Patty Stanley

North Central District

Rick Lawton, VP

Glen Burnie Lodge No. 2266 ♦ dawnlawton2@aol.com



It has been a great year in Elkdom in the North Central District. It has been a pleasure visiting our Lodges officially with Madam President Connie DeYoung and my wife Dawn Lawton. The outpouring of hospitality that was shown to us during our visits was incredible. Dawn and I also enjoyed going to as many Lodge events as we could, sometimes for a visit and sometimes to help with the event, which was very pleasant.

We are about to start a new year in Elkdom, and I would like to thank the outgoing ERs for the great job they did. I know they will continue to stay active and mentor and help the new ERs that will soon take office.

I am looking forward to working with the new officers in the time that I have left as Vice President for the North Central District.

Always remember I am only a phone call away so please feel free to call me and I will do my best to help you out. Always remember NC Rolls.

Respectfully Yours,

Rick Lawton Jr.



MARYLAND GAMING MACHINES – HB 1230

The first hearing of HB 1230 by the Ways and Means Committee was held on Friday, February 24th at 1:00 PM in their Chambers in the House of Delegates in Annapolis, MD.

The Sponsor of the bill is Nick Mosby and the Co-Sponsors are B. Barnes, Buckel, Fisher, and Hornberger.

We had 35 Proud Elks attend the hearing and listen to the testimony of Carl F. Vogt, Jay Nave, Stu Burgoon, Charles Spadone and Mary Cardinal-Vogt. The Committee Members listened very intently and applauded when we all stood up as Proud Elks at Stu Burgoon's request. We left no question unanswered in our appeal for the need of these machines and Nick Mosby, the Bill's sponsor, did an excellent job in his summary on what the bill will do and what it means for the ELKS.

We are now about a quarter of the way to the finish line, and we must continue to write to our Delegates to thank them for what they have done so far and to remind them to support the bill as it moves thru the House. As more information becomes available, I will let you know. In the interim....."Keeping a Positive Attitude will Reap the Reward".

The picture above shows the attendees with Delegate Mosby taken in the corridor outside of the Ways and Means Committee Hearing Room.

TOWSON LODGE

On February 4, 2017, Towson Lodge # 469 presented Micaela MacDougall with a check from the William J. Jernick Fund in the amount \$2000. Micaela attended with her father, Greg. She has spinal muscular dystrophy which has relegated her to a wheelchair and dependent existence.

L-R: Paul Curry-Trustee, Jack Gordon, M.D., John Morton-ER, Micaela MacDougall, Greg MacDougall(father), Victor Brice-PER, Richard Hurd-Trustee, James Bullington-Chaplain.



South East District

Charlie Herbert, VP

Ocean City Lodge No. 2645 ♦ cherberty100@comcast.net



Welcome to the Spring Workshop at Kent Island Lodge, another shining star Lodge located within the Southeast District. The Southeast District has been so fortunate to host so many association events: Ocean City in the fall, Cambridge in the winter, and now Kent Island for the spring. Congratulations and a huge thank you to all the members who have worked so hard and diligently for all these successful events. A

very special welcome to our Grand Exalted Ruler Michael Zellen and First Lady Donna at this event.

Thank you to the entire Southeast District for the honor and the privilege to serve as your District Vice President this year. I'd like to also thank our Association President, Connie deYoung for all her wisdom, guidance, laughter, and fun we have shared. She has done an amazing job, and I have truly enjoyed working with her. I also need to recognize and thank the Southeast District leaders Stu Kerr, Carroll Wagner, and Bill Buttrill. These gentlemen have displayed their experience and talents, in their own unique

ways, to aid and guide me during my term. Once again, the Southeast District is so fortunate to have such a diverse and well educated group to watch over and lead the way.

Together we have endured and shared some challenging times, which all Lodges will have from time to time, but it's the true strength, commitment, and character of our District that drives the success and resolutions to any problem or situation. We all need to stand proud to proclaim that our District is indeed "Southeast Strong".

There will be a District Deputy Clinic held at the Seaford Lodge on April 23rd, 2017 at 10:00 AM. On that same day and location I will hold a caucus at 9:00 AM for the election of the Camp Barrett Representative, Association Trustee, and a new Southeast District Vice President. I encourage everyone who will be present for the Clinic to also be there for the caucus and this very important election. These will be the members you vote in to represent our District and your Lodges' best interest.

Wishing Sandy Brantner and her team all the best for the next successful term leading our Association.

Fraternally,

Charlie Herbert



OCEAN CITY



Sadly, on the day we honored the passing of Roger Wilbrant, we received the news that another beloved Elk had passed away, Pete Peterson. Both were PERs and very active in local and state activities. Those Elks who were lucky enough to know and work with them, remember that Elkdom was truly in their lives. On Jan. 28th and Feb. 4th many gathered to bid farewell to two dear friends.

Pictured at Ocean City Elks Memorial Service for Pete Peterson L to R: Stu Kerr (PSP), Carroll Wagner (PSP), Bill Buttrill (PSP), a tribute silhouette of Pete Peterson (PER), Joan Thompson, John Loftus (DDGER), Jay Strong (PSP), and Susan Caldwell (ER).



www.mddedcelks.org

***** OUR STATE ASSOCIATION WEBSITE *****

www.MDDEDCElks.org

AND OUR

~ STATE MAJOR PROJECT – ELKS CAMP BARRETT ~

www.ElksCampBarrett.org

**** Check out our State Website with over [101+] Pages of information currently available. Every Committee, District & Lodge has a web page!**

***** Any ideas, additions, deletions, errors, etc. are always**

wELKome...

PLEASE REFER THEM TO OUR STATE WEBMASTER: Joe

McGeeny, PDD – Essex Lodge #1866

Cell: 443.610.0935 / Email: joemcgeeny58@gmail.com /

State Email: MDDEDCElks@gmail.com



***** Note:** to eliminate confusion and redundancy, please refer any ideas to **Joe Mc. – State Webmaster**. If anyone is interested in learning to be an assistant to the Webmaster, please call **Joe**.

WANTED A FEW GOOD MEMBERS

At the June Convention at the WISP, 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 who has shown exemplary efforts in furthering the works 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 recognition. 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 by April 15, 2017. Please e-mail your nomination to (conniedeyoung@gmail.com). It does not have to be elaborate. Just a simple "who" and "why" they are deserving of this recognition.

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

Connie deYoung, State President

Chestertown Elks Lodge hosted the State Hoop Shoot on Saturday, February 4, at Washington College in Chestertown, MD. The winners who advanced to the Regional Shoot in Frederick on March 11 were:

Boys	Age Group	Girls
Emre Tari	8-9	McKenna Murphy
Alex Navarro	10-11	Sydney Snyder
Jackson Merrill	12-13	Gabrielle Krystofiak

Kenly Brice of Chestertown Middle School, 5th place winner of 10-11 Girls is pictured with Exalted Ruler Donna Moloney and State President-Elect Sandy Bratner. All contestants received a Hoop Shoot back pack with a Drug Awareness Basketball and a water bottle along with their trophy or plaque.



ER Donna Moloney, Kenly Brice, President Elect Sandy Bratner



Government Relations Report

Make government relations a priority in your Lodge

The Government Relations Committee is one of the most important committees in the Lodge and requires a chairman that takes the position seriously and is dedicated in fulfilling the assigned responsibilities that accompany the position.

It's time to reflect as 2016-17 nears its end. The following few checkpoints may be mute at this point however, it's time to reenergize and very shortly get ready for a new year.

- As you all have heard many times, 100% reporting of charitable stats remains elusive, but why? A Team effort is needed to total our charitable output....this includes both the Lodge and State Levels. Charitable stats are only as good as willingness of Lodges, State and District Officers and Committee Chairs to report them. This should be a number one priority. Let's spread the message of all the good works Elks do, it certainly helps our profile and image when the GER makes his visit to Washington, DC.
- Keep in touch with your state legislators. We just witnessed how important this was as I launched and led a successful and challenging initiative to obtain a Gaming Slot Machines Bill for the Western Shore Lodges. This became a Team effort and we are now waiting for HB 1230 to move thru the Ways and Means Committee for its first hearing. This article was written before press time for the Newsletter, so I will have more to report at the March Conference.
- Changes in Law at all levels of Government, know what your Local/State and Federal Government are doing with regard to Gaming/Liquor/Taxes and other legislation that may affect your Lodge and its operation.
- Last and perhaps most important go to www.Elks.org for more program information.

In closing, I wish to thank all of you who are submitting your reports as requested.



*Submitted by
Carl F. Vogt, PSP
Government Relations Liaison*

On behalf of the ENVSC Committee for the MD, DE & DC Elks Association, I would like to welcome Grand Exalted Ruler Michael Zellen and his wife Donna to our Spring Conference here at Kent Island Lodge on the beautiful Chesapeake Bay.

I congratulate the newly elected Exalted Rulers and incoming Lodge officers for the year 2017-2018. Exalted Rulers, you have been elected to the highest position within your Lodge. As the Exalted Ruler you have the responsibility to carry out the programs of the B.P.O.E. One program that is dear to my heart is the Elks National Veterans Service Commission. I hope that you will appoint a Chairman who will actively pursue our Veterans Programs and get your Lodge involved. You are required to provide Grand Lodge and your District Chairman with the name, address, and contact information of your Veterans Chairperson. Please also provide that information to me as I would like to include them in my monthly mailing to the VAVS Reps and District Chairmen. It is the duty of the District Chairmen and the State Chairman to assist the Lodge Chairmen in matters per-



taining to our Veterans Programs. It is the goal of the ENVSC to have all the Lodges within the MD, DE & DC Elks State Association participating in Veterans Programs, such as the Army of Hope whose mission it is to assist both active and retired military and their families.

In the first 8 months of this year, Grand Lodge ENVSC reported that our VAVS Reps had spent \$11,423.77 on our veterans. They provided entertainment and gift cards, hosted pizza and bingo parties, provided playing cards and games for the patients at our VA Hospitals and Veterans

Home. They had sponsored events and brought the veterans to Crab Feasts and Appreciation Dinners at their lodges, they greeted our troops as they passed through halls of BWI Airport at the USO handing out snacks and water, and they purchased video games for the Fischer House in Dover that are used for the entertainment and enjoyment of the families of our fallen heroes.

As I write this letter, the raffle drawing for the 55 Ford is fast approaching. In accordance with Dave's Dream, the proceeds from this drawing will be used to fund our newly established Army of Hope. We have just passed the \$20,000.00 mark! Thank you to everyone who helped with the ticket sales. I think Dave would be proud of what has been accomplished.

I would like to thank Kent Island Lodge for hosting the Spring Conference, and I hope that everyone has a great weekend.

"So long as there are Veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them."

Fraternally,
Bob McIntyre, Chairman



From Your State Membership Chair:

Membership:

"What Have You Done Lately?"



As the month of March comes to a close, there is likely one more round of initiations that will seal your Lodge's final membership results for the year. The reinstatements your Lodge has pursued have either returned or not. The lapsations, to whom your Lodge has probably sent numerous overtures to, have either paid up or not. Has your Lodge shown a net gain or not? Only your final membership result will tell. The fact is that at this point in the Lodge year, we have a pretty good idea of where our final numbers will be.

It's time to look in the mirror. From our Exalted Rulers, through all the Chairs, through all the committee chairs, and even that growing list of PERs; Did we do all we could to recruit and retain membership? Did we have an active public relations effort to increase visibility and attract members? Did we screen applicants carefully so that this year's recruits are not next year's lapsations? Did we conduct an effective orientation with every incoming candidate to give them a true picture of Elkdom? Did we make every effort possible to seek out reinstatements, to recover lapsations and, moreover, overcome the root issues that lead to lapsation? Did we have an active Membership Committee? And, lastly, did we have a Standing Relief Committee? If we can answer YES to every one of these questions, then chances are your Lodge has a favorable membership result. As is always the case, the results that WE generate start with YOU. In a few weeks, when your Lodge's final membership results are real, will you take pride in them? Some people *make it happen*, others *wonder what happened*. So, while you still have that mirror out, ask yourself: **What Have I done lately** to support and grow membership?

**Bob Baxendell,
State Membership Chair**

Elk State Auditor Quarterly Report

This Report covers from May 1, 2016 through February 25, 2017

1) Elks Nat'l Foundation Income:	Income \$226,604.02	Budgeted \$225,708	Over \$906.02
2) Association Ordinary Income:	Income \$43,253.66	Budgeted \$42,750	Over \$512.56
3) Assoc/Con/Con Off Site Income:	Income \$116,737.34	Budgeted \$103,186	Over \$13,551.54
4) Association Other Income:	Income \$43,017.00	Budgeted \$29,282	Over \$13,735.
5) Camp Barrett Ordinary Income:	Income \$77,347.78	Budgeted \$101,250	*Under -\$23,902.22 (low)
6) Camp Barrett Donation Income:	Income \$147,476.65	Budgeted \$144,500	Over \$2,976.65
7) Elks Camp Barrett Fund Raisers:	Income \$119,747.21	Budgeted \$69,650	Over \$50,097.21

<u>OVERALL TOTAL INCOME:</u>	Income \$774,183.66	Budgeted \$716,326	Over \$57,867.66
1) Elks Nat'l Foundation Exp:	Expense \$201,159.80	Budgeted \$225,708	Under -\$24,548.20
2) Assoc. Ordinary Exp:	Expense \$17,573.55	Budgeted \$58,482	Under -\$40,908.45
3) Assoc/Con/Con Off Site Exp:	Expense \$100,885.01	Budgeted \$103,186	Under -\$ 2,300.99
4) Assoc. Other Exp:	Expense \$ 22,152.74	Budgeted \$13,550	*Over \$8,602.74(High)
5) ECB Ordinary Exp:	Expense \$240,694.79	Budgeted \$286,750	Under -\$46,055.21
6) ECB Donation Exp:	Expense \$0.0.	Budgeted \$0.0.	No Budget
7) ECB Fund Raiser Exp:	Expense \$50,523.89	Budgeted \$28,650	*Over \$21,873.89(High)

OVERALL TOTAL EXP: Expense \$632,989.78 **Budgeted** \$716,326 Under -\$83,336.22

Total Profit/Loss Income: \$774,183.66 minus Exp: \$632,989.78 = \$141,193.88 **Net Profit**

State Association Balance Sheet: As of February 25, 2017: Checking/Savings assets of \$770,476.05. Overall total assets of \$1,401,187.60; included within this figure, the Edward Jones Investments of \$44,688.26. Total Liabilities & Equity \$1,289,437.87. What does this mean? We are making money, 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!

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...

Maurice DiPoli, PDDGER

State Chair, Auditing & Business Practices

AMERICANISM

Spring is here and our contests have concluded. The participation from the Lodges was down this year, but we still had some happy winners.

The banquet was held on Sunday, March 12th at the Westminster Elks Lodge and once again, was a great day and a great job by the Westminster Elks staff and members.

Thank you to Worthy Washington for assisting me in displaying the poster winners on the big screen as they received their awards.

Thank you to the District Chairs and to all of the Lodges that participated in the Essay and Poster Contests. The Essay winners have been forwarded on to Grand Lodge in hopes of a winner for our State Association.

Have a great Easter and Memorial Holiday, and I will see you at the Wisp Resort in June.

Sandra Brantner
Americanism Chair



11th HOUR TOAST CONTEST

I will be holding an 11th Hour Toast Contest at the Spring Workshop at Kent Island Lodge at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday afternoon. Those eligible to compete are incoming Leading Knights, incoming Exalted Rulers and Past Exalted Rulers. If you are repeating as an Exalted Ruler, you will be considered a Past Exalted Ruler.

Also, if there is any interest, we will also hold a Flag Charge Contest immediately following the Toast Contest.

Larry Mathers,
State Ritualistic Chairman

**ELKS CAMP BARRETT
50/50 RAFFLE IN JANUARY**

The winner of the ECB 50/50 Raffle in Cambridge, MD on Sunday, January 22, 2017 was Carl Riffle from Washington-Rockville Lodge No. 15. The total raffle income was \$731.00. The Camp received \$365.00 and Carl received \$366.00. Please purchase your ECB 50/50 raffle tickets this weekend to help support the operation of our Elks Camp Barrett.

Sincerely,
H. Lee Davis

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

WHAT IS HAPPENING???

At the State and District level, have you completed your charitable reports and sent them to your State GR Chairperson??

At the Lodge level, have you completed your committee reports and given them to your Lodge Secretary??

At the Lodge level, is the Lodge Secretary putting the information into CLMS to be collected by Grand Lodge??

On the State level, the State President, Past State Presidents, Vice Presidents, District Deputies, State Committee Chairpersons and District Chairpersons submit their information to the State GR Chairperson to be reported to Grand Lodge.

On the Lodge level, the Lodge Committee prepares and submits a report to the Lodge Secretary after each event. The report should include the hours spent preparing for the event, the hours worked, all helpers, Elks and non-Elks, and the number of people present.

If we do not report all that we do (**only 50% is being reported**), we may lose our exempt status. Then we would not be able to help as many people as we do now. How would some of the Veterans, Youth, Needy, and communities do without the Local Lodges' Help? We need to do a better job of reporting. **BE LOUD BE PROUD and have FUN DOING IT!** If we do the work, we should get the credit for doing a great job.

As a member of the Elks, please be watchful of any pre-filled bills that would affect your State Association or your Local Lodge. Be on the lookout for changes in the liquor laws or laws and regulations that could change how work is to be done at the Lodges. You can report these findings to your Lodge GR chairperson to research, and they will forward concerns to the District GR Chairperson then to the State GR Chairperson for MD or DE. If there is something we can do before something becomes law, the better it is for your Lodges. Sometimes it takes a village to watch over us.

"The Grand Lodge Government Relations Committee is working with a Washington, D.C., firm to look into reducing our taxes on unrelated business income. We believe it could be helpful if the Internal Revenue Service's unrelated business income tax threshold for 501(c)(8) fraternal societies could be adjusted." Stated by GL GR Area 2 Member Edward R Gerstenmier.

"Another issue that local governments look at is who is using our facilities. Our closed-door policy as a member's only organization is of utmost importance. When the public is routinely allowed into our buildings, we will cease to exist as the "Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks". Our members pay for that right in many ways. Our Statutes are very explicit on how we are to run our facilities. At our initiation we each swore to uphold those words. Let's not forget what we have promised." (Stated by GL GR Area 5 Thomas J. Widzinski.)

Thank you for your time.

Bonnie Howell, PER
Delaware State GR Chairperson



HAS YOUR LODGE INSTALLED THE "CAMP BARRETT BUTTON" YET?

The "Camp Barrett Button" project is the addition of an easy-to-use, Camp Barrett website link to your VHP (virtual homepage) on the National Elks website, Elks.org. The purpose is to inform lodge members and the public about the latest Camp Barrett activities, plans and accomplishments.

Installation of the button only takes a few minutes and after it is done, the State webmasters will continue to update the Camp Barrett website with the latest information.

For installation instructions go to the website, ElksCamp-Barrett.org and click on "Barrett Button Instructions". Alternatively, send Ted an email at crdiobpr@aol.com and he will send you the two files you will need plus brief installation instructions. If you have any questions, we will assist you. Contact Ted, the Assistant to the State Webmaster by email crdiobpr@aol.com or call 410-279-1683.

Congratulations to these MD, DE, & DC Association lodges who have already installed the "Camp Barrett Button" on their VHP:

Annapolis #622, Bowie #2309, Easton #1622, Essex #1866, Kent Island #2576, Frostburg #470, Severna Park #2482, and Westminster #2277.

2017 ELKS CAMP BARRETT SCHEDULE

<i>Staff Week</i>	<i>June 11 – 16</i>
<i>Boys Week #1</i>	<i>June 18 – 23</i>
<i>Girls Week #1</i>	<i>June 25 – 30</i>
<i>Boys Week #2</i>	<i>July 2 – 7</i>
<i>Girls Week #2</i>	<i>July 9 – 14</i>
<i>Boys Week #3</i>	<i>July 16 – 21</i>
<i>Girls Week #3</i>	<i>July 23 - 28</i>

Elks Camp Barrett

Welcome to the Spring Workshop! Congratulations to those in attendance that have been selected to lead their Lodge in the New Year! This is a busy time for you, selecting your Committee Chairs and planning your agenda. Please don't forget that it is the Exalted Ruler's responsibility to identify two members to serve as the Lodge's ECB Representatives. You have received a form on which to report this selection to the Executive Committee; please don't forget this important task.

It is the ECB Reps who work in your communities to identify the campers that you will be sending to camp. Our goal is to have six hundred kids attend our camp this season. As you may already know, our primary purpose is to provide a high quality camping experience to kids, who without our help, may not be able to share in this opportunity for personal growth. That said, we welcome all children sponsored by our member Lodges.

On Sunday, May 6, 2017, following the Representatives meeting we will be conducting our annual "Sneak a Peek" at the Camp. This is an opportunity for all our members, specifically Lodge Leaders, to come and see the Camp, learn what it is that we do, and how we do it. Please make plans to attend.

While our focus is on our campers and providing a "best in class experience" for them, we have a number of other activities at the Camp. The annual Family Picnic which officially kicks off the season is fast approaching. Shortly thereafter we have six successive camping weeks, followed by Camp Sunrise (Johns Hopkins Cancer Kids), quickly followed by "Band Camp" for aspiring marching band musicians.

In September, we host the "Adult Camporee" which has fast become a popular way to enjoy the camaraderie of our fellow Elks while raising much needed funds for the Camp.

In November we host the Scout Camporee during which the scouts tour historic Annapolis and attend a Naval Academy football game. We are always in need of additional volunteers for this event, and I give you my word that if you work it, you will have a great time working alongside a group of great Elks!

These are but a few of the many activities at your Elks Camp Barrett! I urge you to come out and join with others to make our State Major Project a success and a focal point of our Association.

Fraternally,

Your Camp Barrett Executive Committee

John Loftus, Chairman



**Elks
National
Foundation, Inc.**

Thank you, Exalted Rulers and all the Lodges of the MD-DE-DC State Association for your support this year which has resulted in record distributions to build stronger communities.

There is still time for those Lodges who have not met Grand Exalted Ruler Michael Zellen's goal of \$4.65 or our State President Connie's goal of \$10.00 to get it in!

The Donation Deadline for 2016-17 is Friday, March 31, 2017, in order for donations to be credited to the current Fiscal Year and your Lodge's per-member-giving total.

Congratulations incoming Exalted Rulers. It is time to appoint your Elks National Foundation Chairmen for the 2017-2018 Elks Year. When making your choice for Chairman, please choose a member who can fulfill the ENF Chair duties and responsibilities as they are the Elks National Foundation's representative to the members in your Lodge.

- They should register (online) as the Lodge Chairman for ENF.
- Promote ENF's mission and programs to your members.
- Complete the ENF Fundraising Chair Certification Course (online) and participate in ongoing education.
- Stay current on information from ENF and share relevant information with your members.
- Solicit donations from your members.
- Submit donations and remittances regularly to the ENF office.
- Provide donors with accurate donor information and serve as liaison to the ENF.
- Recognize donors who recently supported the ENF.
- Improve your fundraising program from the previous year.
- Encourage participation in the ENF Community Investments Program (Lodge grants).
- Demonstrate their support of the ENF program by donating each year.
- They should look to their District and State ENF Chair and the ENF staff as a resource.

Mary Cardinal-Vogt

State Chairman marycardinal-vogt@earthlink.net 301-706-7051

ENF at fundraising@elks.org or 773/755-4762

William J. Jernick Memorial Fund

This has been a relatively slow year for the Jernick Fund. As you know, the Fund's Board of Directors takes the interest and dividend earnings from the prior year, and any left-over funds from the prior year and divides them among the Districts to fund grant awards throughout the current year. In recent years, you and I have worked together and successfully given it all away to those in need! I am not sure how anyone else feels about this but I think that it's the best indication of our mutual success!

That said, we have money to be awarded and few grant applications being submitted. One possibility is that modern health care has resulted in significantly fewer families with sick kids. Another is that everyone in our communities is so prosperous that they have no need of outside assistance. Possibly our Lodges are doing so well that they are meeting the charitable needs of their communities with funds from general revenue. But the more likely scenario is that we have focused on other programs and activities.

When we gather, as we have this weekend, we often see the same faces regardless of where or when we meet. So I will not repeat statistics or appeals that you have heard again and again. However, I will remind you that the William J. Jernick Memorial Fund is here to help you help others. I will remind you that our Grand Exalted Ruler's motto for this year is "Elks Leading the Way." When you reach

out to families struggling with the issues associated with caring for a child in distress, you bring the Grand Exalted Ruler's motto to life! I know that you have all been inundated with pleas to increase membership. What better way to receive positive press and recognition than helping your community? What better way to demonstrate to a prospective member who we are and what we stand for?

Speaking for myself and the Jernick Fund District Chairs, we are here to help you help others. There is money on the table; it won't go to waste for sure, but for those folks underwater with health expenses it often feels like better times will never come. Why wait?

We don't help out only critically ill or seriously ill kids. Sometimes grants involve hearing aids, eye glasses, wheelchairs, and computers to aid in communication, diabetes detector dogs, and a myriad of other needs.

The William J. Jernick Memorial Fund is another important tool in your charitable toolbox. We are here for you!

Fraternally yours,

John C. Loftus, Chairman

REGISTRATION FORM

**MARYLAND, DELAWARE AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ELKS ASSOCIATION
June Convention, Memorial Service and Installation of Officers
June 9 - 11, 2017**

Wispr Resort  296 Marsh Hill Road, McHenry, MD 21541 (301-859-3159)

- WEEKEND ACCOMMODATIONS PACKAGE:** Includes hotel room for two (2) nights on June 9th and 10th, Saturday Night All American Dinner Buffet and Awards, Breakfast Buffet Saturday and Sunday.
 Single Occupancy: _____ \$325.00 (King _____ or Queen _____)
 Double Occupancy: _____ \$416.00 (King _____ or Double Beds _____)
 Triple Occupancy: _____ \$531.00 Quad Occupancy: _____ \$624.00 \$ _____

**HOTEL RESERVATION DEADLINE - MAY 9th, MEALS ONLY DEADLINE - MAY 9th
(OUR BLOCK OF ROOMS WILL BE RELEASED AFTER MAY 9th)**

- Individual Room ONLY:** 1 Night : _____ \$145.00 OR 2 Nights: _____ \$290.00 = \$ _____
- Breakfast ONLY:** \$18.50 per day Friday: _____ Saturday: _____ = \$ _____
- DINNER ONLY @ \$40.00 per person:** (**Advanced Reservations only – no tickets will be sold at the door**)
 Number requested X \$40.00 = \$ _____

THEME FOR DINNER -W/ENTERTAINMENT - IS TEAM – WEAR YOUR FAVs JERSEY

- REGISTRATION FEE:** PER ATTENDEE IN ADVANCE OR AT THE DOOR = # x \$5.00 \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE BASED UPON OPTIONS 1, 2, 3, 4 AND 5 REGISTRATION = \$ _____

Make payments to MD, DE and DC Elks Association. Print & Mail with payment to: John & Merrilyn Ramsey, 152 Hickory Ridge Road, Smyrna, DE 19977. **For Special Accommodations and/or Questions:** Call: 302-242-1117 (John – C) 302-382-0288 (Merrilyn – C) OR 302-659-0659 (H)

Name: _____ Lodge : _____

Spouse/Roommate(s): _____

City/State/Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Badge #1: _____

Badge #2: _____

Badge #3: _____

Badge #4: _____