



Maryland, Delaware and District of Columbia

ELKS ASSOCIATION *News*

A Fraternal Organization - Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks

www.mddedcelks.org

MARCH 2021



State President Stuart Burgoon
MD-DE-DC Elks Association

STATE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Stu Burgoon

Members, Families and Guests of Maryland, Delaware and District of Columbia State Elks Association,

It is still, WOW, in our "COVID-19 Pandemic." This is our 1st meeting in person as an Association since October of 2019. It is precisely one year since our nation was turned upside down with new restrictions, masks, and "Social Distancing." I am sure we will touch on that later over the weekend.

We are all very honored to host our Grand Exalted Ruler from Willmar, MN Lodge No. 952., Paul R. Ryan and his lovely 1st Lady Stacey. And always a pleasure to have our Sponsor, Past Grand Exalted Ruler Paul D. Helsel, and his 1st Lady Jane. We look forward to meeting with you and having some social time as well.

I want to personally thank and congratulate this year's Exalted Rulers and Officers of our Association. Through these unforeseen times and "19" circumstances, you all have done a tremendous job. And, with your efforts, have kept your Lodges functioning. Many tasks, schedules, and Lodge events had to be adjusted or canceled. We had closures, limited occupancy requirements, Health department regulations, and local liquor board visits. I applaud you. Be proud.

On the same note, I want to "WELkome" all the new Exalted Rulers and Officers for the next Lodge Year 2021-2022. You should be proud your members have put their faith in your leadership to guide your Lodges. I know many of you, and I know

you will work well with State President Rob Raleigh. Cheers to you all.

As of this writing, most Lodges have reached the Grand Exalted Ruler goal of \$4.80, and I know by the end of the Lodge year, the remaining will achieve this milestone. It is essential for all the grant monies we receive and for all our charitable programs.

I am very proud to announce five Lodges have reached my State President goal of \$10.00 per member, to date. Wow, Kent Island Lodge at \$22.72. Thank you.

According to our latest membership report, as an Association, we are at a 9.2% delinquency. Although our Association may not hit a plus "one" this year, many Lodges are still working hard and getting members back and initiated. I feel some Lodges will achieve this milestone.

We are looking at moving forward. We still have Lodge business. Complete this year and mentor your new officers. Pick qualified committee chairs. Give them the responsibility to "own" their jobs and, with the guidance of PERs and senior members, guide them and assist them in making your Lodge succeed.

As stated in my Winter message, these are unprecedented times. We must continue to follow our ever-changing "19" restrictions and CDC recommendations. I know it has affected all of our Lodges in some fashion. Unfortunately, it does not appear we will have a Camp Barrett camper

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MESSAGE FROM OUR GRAND EXALTED RULER

By Paul Ryan, Grand Lodge ER

PLANNING THE NEW YEAR MEANS TAKING A LOOK BACK

This is the time of year that many people look for change. Days are getting longer and, in much of the country, warmer. Signs of spring are beginning to show. It may be the end of an Elks year, but it is also the beginning of a new one. If you are retiring from your leadership role, continuing on in a new one, or beginning your year as the leader, no matter what you are doing, you are the leadership of the organization and your Lodge.

Year end seems like a time of celebration, but we also need to continue to move forward. Lodge Secretaries need to prepare the year-end reports. Budgets for the upcoming year should be solidified and any last-minute changes should be made, if need be.

This is also the time to evaluate your Lodge and review what was successful. Continue those programs and work them. But also look to see what didn't work. Don't over analyze it,

but rather consider what it was that didn't work. Ask yourself if it is worth having it again or scratching it and try something new.

Begin now to update your Lodge's calendar and prepare for the future events. If you are prepared, you are Creating Momentum ahead of time.

Be sure also to review your Lodge bylaws. Is there anything that needs attention? At the same time, review your house rules and make sure they are up to date and ready for the next year. It is vitally important to have these rules and bylaws in effect to protect your Lodge from a business perspective to clearly define how the Lodge will handle any and all negative situations that may arise.

Lastly, celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Use this celebration as a chance to meet and greet your new officers.



MESSAGE FROM OUR STATE SPONSOR

By Paul D. Helsel, PGER & Sponsor
P.O. Box 8173, Newark, DE 19714-8173
(302) 737-4460 | pdhelsel@verizon.net

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

I hope this message finds all our MD DE & DC Elk family safe and doing well after a year like no other we have ever experienced in our personal and Elk lifetimes. The pandemic has exacted a heavy toll on all of us as individuals, as Lodges, as an Association. As an Order – we've lost family and friends, and our Lodges have been shut down and/or operating at reduced capacity with never before restrictions in place.

I have been thankful and impressed that through it all, our Elk family has adapted, persevered, and done what's necessary to keep our Lodges and Elk Programs moving forward and relevant in their individual communities, our Association, and indeed our Order. My deep appreciation and thank you to each and every MD DE & DC Elk who continues to fight the fight, providing that untiring effort and support for their individual Lodge and all that Elkdom does and stands for. Because of all your efforts, innovations, and insight, I am confident that we will exit the challenges of this pandemic stronger and better equipped to do our great work for many, many years to come – at least another 150 years.

Our Association has been unable to hold an in-person meeting since October 2019, and it's been over two years

since we've had a March Spring Conference and a Grand Exalted Ruler visiting with us. Well, it's my honor and pleasure once again to welcome you to the Spring Conference of the MD DE & DC Elks Association at Cape Henlopen Lodge #2540. Cape Henlopen 2540 graciously agreed to host this Conference during difficult times and under challenging conditions. Still, I can assure you they have gone above and beyond to ensure the safety and well-being of all who are willing and able to participate. Despite the COVID-19 restrictions and requirements, it promises to be a fun and informative weekend.

As usual at our March Spring Conference, except for this past March 2020, we will have the honor of hosting Grand Exalted Ruler Paul R. Ryan and First Lady Stacey for their official visit to our Association. As Paul and Stacey have had many of their scheduled visits canceled so far this year, I know they are incredibly excited to make this visit and meet each of you and learn about Elkdom in MD DE & DC. Please join Jane and me in welcoming them, and please take a few minutes to greet them personally and explain to them how your Lodge and our Association are "Creating momentum for the Future of Elkdom"!!!

With the pandemic and a year of shutdowns and reduced activities within our Lodges, Membership retention and growth is dismal across our Order. It is dismal in our Association as well, and we are on track to lose about 1,300 members – the highest annual loss in our history. It is imperative we all continue to do whatever we can to salvage as many of those 1,300 that we can. Every Lodge needs to be working on this problem – it could be a matter of life and death for some individual Lodges. We have until March 31

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**MD, DE & DC ELKS
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PUBLICATION 2020—2021**

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SPRING CONFERENCE AGENDA

Hosted by Cape Henlopen Elks Lodge #2540 March 19, 20 and 21, 2021

Friday, March 19, 2021	
Noon - 5:00 PM	Registration
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Lunch – Lodge #2540 - Menu
1:00 PM	Advisory Committee Meeting
5:00 PM	State Trustees Meeting /2nd floor small conference room
5:00 PM-9:00 PM	Dinner- Lodge #2540 - Menu (casual dress)
5:30 PM	Elks Camp Barrett Executive Committee Mtg./ 2nd floor
8:00 PM	Band in Hall
Saturday, March 20, 2021	
7:00 - 9:00 AM	Breakfast Buffet
8:00 AM - Noon	Registration
8:00 AM - 8:45 AM	Elks Camp Barrett (Meeting)
9:00 AM	Workshop Call to Order by State President Stu Burgoon
9:00 AM - 9:30 AM	Introductions, Invocation, Pledge, Roll Call, etc.
9:30:00 AM	Presentations, Committee Reports
9:30 AM - 9:40 AM	Americanism / Donna Sheldrake
9:40 AM - 9:50 PM	Auditing and Business Practices / FRS / Debbie Price
9:50 AM - 10:05 AM	Elks Veterans Service, Welcome Home, Robert McIntyre & Carl Robinson
10:05 AM - 10:15 AM	Elks National Foundation, Marge McIntyre (Donations Accepted)
10:15 AM - 10:25 AM	Elks Camp Barrett, Ben Stone (Donations Accepted)
10:25 AM - 10:35 AM	Drug Awareness Program, Angela Myer
10:35 AM - 10:45 AM	Government Relations, Corey Bradley
10:45 AM - 10:50 AM	Scholarships, Lynne Evans
10:50 AM - 10:55 AM	Accident Prevention, Mike Ford
10:55 AM - 11:00 AM	Membership Report
11:00 AM - 11:05 AM	Soccer Shoot, Dolly Broom
11:05 AM - 11:10 AM	Youth Activities, Colleen Ford
11:10 AM - 11:15 AM	William J. Jernick Memorial Fund, Susan Caldwell (Donations Accepted)
11:15 AM - 11:20 AM	Lodge Activities, Michael Todd
11:20 AM - 11:25 AM	
11:30 AM - 11: 50 AM	2019-2020 Awards PSP John Loftus
Announcements	Recess until Sunday 9:00 AM
12:00 Noon - 1:30 PM	Lunch Lodge #2540 - Menu
1:30 PM - 3:30 PM	Hon. Paul D. Helsel, PGER Meeting with DDGERS / GER Paul R. Ryan
1:30 PM - 2: 00 PM	State President & President Elect Meeting with Incoming ER's
2:00 PM - 3: 00 PM	State President Meeting with VPs / Committee Chairs
3:00 PM - 4: 30 PM	Committee Meetings
6:00 PM - 7: 00 PM	Social Hour
7:00 PM - 8: 30 PM	Dinner – Presentations to GER Paul R. Ryan (Coat & Tie)
8:30 PM	Live Entertainment
Sunday , March 21, 2021	
7:00 AM - 9: 00 AM	Breakfast Lodge # 2540
8:00 AM - 9: 00 AM	Registration
9:00 AM	Meeting Called to Order
9:00 AM - 9: 10 AM	Con Con Committee / Robert Broom
9:10 AM - 9: 20 AM	State Officers' Reports
9:20 AM - 10: 50 AM	Unfinished Business, New Business, Elections, Trustee Budget
10:50 AM - 11: 00 AM	Good of the Association
11:00 AM - 11: 10 AM	Comments, Connie deYoung GL Area 2 Membership/ James Stewart GL Area 2 Fraternal Comm
11:10 AM - 11:20 AM	Comments, State President Elect, State President,
11:20 AM - 11: 35 AM	Comments by GL Sponsor Paul D. Helsel
11:35 PM - 11: 50 PM	Comments by GER Paul R. Ryan
11:50 PM - 12: 00 PM	Remembrance of Departed Members
12:00 PM	Adjournment / Prayer Chaplain Carrie Kane
12:05 PM	Raffles / Drawings

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED FROM COVER

season. Although we will still try and have the Spring Picnic, other plans are also in the works for the pool and future events. Lou Schmelzer is continuing his effort with our annual improvement raffle. If your Lodge can support us, we still need help with maintenance and donations.

One other topic I wanted to discuss is getting involved with our upcoming State Association year. Suppose you would like to be involved as a Camp Barrett Executive Board, Camp Rep, State Trustee, or Chair. Let your current VP's, DD's, and Senior Advisory know. It is a wonderful experience. It gives you a whole new perspective to Elkdom outside your Lodge.

Julie and I are almost finished with my Official President Lodge visits. Although some were canceled for "19", we are still going to visit in a social setting. Traveling from Lodge to Lodge through our Association Districts, we are truly blessed to witness the Association's individual Lodge's charitable work. We have met many members, made new friends, and rekindled old friendships. Stay the course. Steady as she goes. Continue our Mission.

"All Elks, One Lodge."

Again, Julie and I want to thank you for the support and love we have experienced throughout our Association. We will continue to represent our great Association proudly. It is so great for us all to be together this weekend. Thank you, Cape Henlopen Lodge # 2540.

Please make sure you say hello to Grand Exalted Ruler Paul and his 1st Lady Stacey.

Let us have some Fraternity, Fellowship and "FUN."

If you need any help or information, or want to chat. Please send me an email or give me a call.

Have an "Elkstanding" weekend, *Stu*

"Fishers of Elkdom"

"Shake a Veteran's Hand. Keep a Smile on your Face and a Song in your Heart"



join.elks.org



HELSEL MESSAGE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

to get them to pay up and, if dropped until May 31, to get them to reinstate. Hopefully, everyone is on board to eliminate this potential loss or at least dramatically reduce it.

Thank you once again to all the Elks who are working so hard for their individual Lodges, our Association, and our Order – know that you are making a difference. Best wishes to all those attending our Conference at Cape Henlopen #2540; hopefully, it will be an informative and fun-filled weekend.

Best wishes as well to our 37 Lodges for a most prosperous and successful 2021/2022 Lodge year.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Paul D. Helsel, PGER & Sponsor



First Lady's Corner

By Julie Burgoon, First Lady MD, DE, DC, Elks Assoc.
410-608-4573 | ejburgoon@yahoo.com

Finally, we see the world coming back to some kind of "normal," and "Today's Youth" is finally going back to school!! I know many of our friends and family members have been able to get their vaccines, and I have faith they will work so I can see faces again instead of masks everywhere. How wonderful that we are finally able to get together again and enjoy each other's fellowship. I have missed being with everyone. We will have an excellent turnout for our Past First Ladies Luncheon.

We have been able to get to several Lodges despite everything, and the generosity of our fellow Elks is fantastic. As many of you know, the William J. Jernick fund is near and dear to me. Between Severna Park Lodge #2482, Westminster Lodge #2277, and Bowie Lodge #2309, they have donated well over \$1,000.00 to the fund on our visits alone. I want to thank everyone for the hospitality and kindness that has been shown to us; it indeed has been amazing. It was great seeing old friends as well as making new friends this year. Our State Association is truly the best in all of Elkdom.

Today's Youth, Tomorrow's Future

Julie Burgoon





MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT-ELECT

Robert H. Raleigh, Jr.,
President-Elect
MD, DE & DC Elks Association
Chestertown Lodge #2474 | (410) 708-5098

Welcome, All to our Spring Workshop. Welcome, March!

We are still under this COVID-19 repression, but we are coming out a little at a time. It will be good to see everyone in person. Zoom is good, but it doesn't compare to a hug or handshake and a Hello. I hope all have stayed safe and well.

Since January, I have filled all of my State Officers and State Chairs that needed filling. I attended the State Soccer Shoot, made a visit to Camp Barrett, participated in two Advisory zoom meetings, two Public relations meetings, one ConCon, and one Scouting meeting. Public Relations is moving into the future with having information online for people to see what we are doing as Elks and ways to sign up to be members. My theme this year is not only to get new members but bring in the ones standing back. We have many members who only need to be asked to come out and help out.

I am hoping we can have the Camp Picnic this year. I have my usual volunteers anxious to go. Lou Schmeltzer and his committee have the Improvement Raffle ready to mail out. Please get your tickets to your friends and neighbors. I am hoping to see everyone soon.

Robert Raleigh



when you see new members come into the lodge make sure they feel comfortable and make introductions, make new friends, sit and talk to new members

ELKS SOCIAL MEDIA NETWORK

Bill L Moore/DIANEGLEASON

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **April 1st** —Postmark Deadline for All American Lodge Contest "A"
- **April 4th**—Easter Sunday
- **May 1st** —Next Newsletter Deadline
- **May 30th**—Family Picnic @Camp Barrett
- **May 31st**— Memorial Day
- **June 4th to 6th**—MD, DE, DC Annual Convention Holiday Inn, Solomons Island, MD
- **July 4th**—7th National Convention in Tampa

NOTE: Lodges, please refrain from scheduling conflicting events so key officers and members may attend all meetings.

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 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:

- ◆ Not anyone who is currently serving District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler
- ◆ Not anyone who is presently serving our State Association Vice President
- ◆ Not any Past State President

The thinking is that in the first two cases, they are doing their job and should not get special recognition for that. And in the case of the PSPs, 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. I prefer e-mail (mdrodman@yahoo.com) or Snail-mail (101 Leymar Road, Glen Burnie, MD 21060) but NOT by phone. 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.

Stuart A. Burgoon, Sr, President

Public
Relation

**Joe McGeeney, Essex
Lodge #1866**

www.MDDEDCElks.org /
MDDDEDCElks@gmail.com
https://www.facebook.com/
groups/550616341735007
Contact: 443-610-0935

QR CODE PROGRAM

What does this mean? QR CODE = QUICK RESPONSE.

Our State Public Relations Team is introducing a New Program as we move forward. This new program is the QR Code, which will allow for easy and quick access to our Web Site or a particular page or document file on our website.

It is commonly used on Mobile Devices – i.e., cell phones or tablets. Your device may be in camera mode, or you may download a free QR Reader (scanner) app for quick scanning. (Some laptops and desktops with a camera may also be able to read the code.)

If you choose camera mode:

Open your camera, and focus the code in your viewfinder.

A link will automatically appear on your screen.

Tap this link, and it will take you to the Website or Document for which it is built.

If you use a QR Code App:

Open your app.

Point your phone screen on the QR Code (you may see a red line going up and down, reading the code for a brief moment.)

You will automatically be taken to the corresponding website.

The QR Code is usually black squares or maybe in color. You will see these codes appear on a TV screen, computer screens, or print in magazines and newsletters. It is an easy navigation tool for mobile users.

Try it now on each code below:



Rage Against Addiction



Make Rock Bottom the Foundation for a New Life

ARE YOU UP FOR A NEW CHALLENGE?

JOIN RAGE AGAINST ADDICTION VIRTUAL MEMORY WALK/RUN 2021!!!

When: APRIL 1st through APRIL 30th

Where: ANYWHERE

Log your miles and see how you stack up to the competition.

You can register as a runner/walker, and/or create a fundraiser.

Remember those lost to addiction.

Honor those in recovery.

Help those still struggling.

What better way to enjoy the fresh air and get active than to support a great cause?

REMEMBER, NO FAMILY IS IMMUNE!

Register at: <https://runsignup.com/rageagainstadddiction>

Remember to let them know you are an Elk member.

Any questions please contact Colleen Ford at jrelks_2011@yahoo.com.



Wear your TEAM ELK shirt and show your support by running, walking, collecting donations, and sponsors.

Make sure that you take photos to show others the Elks are serious when it comes to the war on illegal drugs and supporting others.

How many miles will you go to fight addiction?



By Donna Marks (Sheldrake) State Chair Americanism
Deale Lodge #2528
ladydmm46@yahoo.com 301-873-4767



Americanism: We all know about the Americanism poster and essay contest, which we will get to, but there is so much more to this program. Here are a few highlights to consider when you are planning activities in your Lodge throughout the year.

Community Activities: There are many local activities in which Elks can participate. Is there someone who provides outstanding services in your community? How about conducting a Veterans Remembrance Program? I know there are several suggested activities for Veterans, but this is also a proper Americanism activity. Participate in parades!! Set up a Heritage Corner at your Lodge.

Honor a Citizen for Outstanding Service: Has someone in your community, a member of the Elks or not, performed outstanding public service or displayed an act of exceptional patriotism? Nothing could be more worthwhile than to honor him or her at a public ceremony. Such an event would let our communities know

the Elks are always ready to recognize activities that honor our Country or our Flag. The ceremony could be a simple presentation during a Lodge meeting or perhaps tied in with a scheduled civic meeting such as that of the Chamber of Commerce, local business gatherings, or political events.

Law & Order Night for your Lodge: To demonstrate Elkdom's support of Law and Order, each Lodge should set aside a Law and Order Night to applaud those people in the community charged with upholding the law and administering justice. Feature a dinner, at which awards would be presented to police or other law officers for outstanding service to the community. Be sure to invite community organizations, including local and state legislative members, youth groups, churches, etc. Your speaker for the evening should be the most respected and outstanding public figure you can obtain, and be sure to invite the media.

Promote your program! Be proud of who you are and what Elks do. It is often said that being an American means sharing a commitment to a set of values and ideas. Share your successes, tell your story.

Finally, to the essay and poster contests: The newly formed Committee, which included a New Elk, a Veteran Elk, and a Non-Elk, has met to review and judge the posters and essays. The list of winners will be sent to the Lodges by the end of March.

The Americanism poster and essay contest will be closing at the end of the month. In total, 29 posters and seven

essays were received for final judging. An awards banquet will be held at the Glen Burnie Lodge on Saturday, March 27th, from noon until 2:00 p.m. for the winners and their families,. Invitations have been sent to winners and participating Lodges. The Essays have been sent to Grand Lodge for final judging.

I want to thank all the State Chairs who promoted this year's program. Special thanks to President Stu Burgoon and First Lady Julie for thinking outside of the box and having the youth from the soccer shoot prepare posters at the Glen Burnie Lodge. A great way to promote this program. The Americanism committee thanks everyone who participated in this contest this year.

We look forward to providing the awards to all the winners in a couple of weeks. I want to thank all of the Lodges that submitted entries and the District Chairs who managed their District programs. A special thanks to President Stu Burgoon and First Lady Julie for thinking outside the box and having the youth from the soccer shoot prepare posters at the Glen Burnie Lodge. We are a great organization, but even greater when we work together.

Many blessings and be safe,

**AMERICANISM AWARDS
BANQUET**

GLEN BURNIE ELKS LODGE
SATURDAY, MARCH 27TH
NOON TIL 2:00 PM
AWARDS AND LUNCHEON

Open to winners and their families
RSVP Donna Sheldrake –
Ladydmm46@yahoo.com



ACCIDENT PREVENTION REPORT WINTER OF 2020

"Lodge Safety Reports are Serious Business"



Mike Ford, NE State Chair Abington Lodge #2354

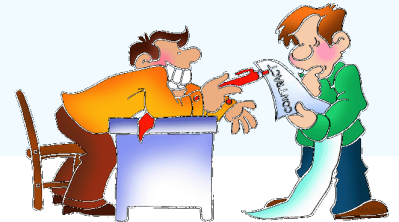
As we close out the old Elk year and start a new one, I would like to take a second to thank President Burgoon for allowing me to serve as your State Accident Prevention Chair, and State President Elect Raleigh for keeping me on. My job in construction and my certification of OSHA 30 gives me an advantage in the world of safety. Every Lodge should take the Lodge Safety Reports seriously! The width of that piece of paper is the only thing between your Lodge and a lawsuit. Please do not skip any of the boxes during your inspection. Test, evaluate,

and remedy all items on the checklist. Situations change, new equipment is introduced into the Lodge, and wear and tear can all contribute to an accident. Safety is not just your Lodge Safety Chairperson's responsibility, it's the job of every Elk member. If you see a safety concern, let the House Committee know and they will address the issue. It should be corrected in a timely manner and posted inside the Lodge. I wish your Lodge a safe and prosperous Elk year, and I will see you in Cape Henlopen. Here's the latest and greatest Grand Lodge Safety tips for you to inspect.

LODGE RENTAL AGREEMENTS

The following should be included in all rental agreements:

- Follow pages 10-11 of the Liability Insurance Program
- Require a certificate of insurance naming the Lodge as additional insured;
- Include a provision for an indemnity agreement;
- Describe the area to be rented, indicate any restrictions on use;
- Indicate any limitations regarding capacity;
- State all rental fees and a clearly defined cancellation policy;
- Verify with the proper authority that the Lodge's liquor license allows service of alcohol to non-Members;
- Service of alcohol must be controlled by the Lodge, no outside alcohol is allowed;
- Self-service of alcohol and self-service kegs are not allowed;
- The Lodge will reserve the right to refuse service to anyone at the discretion of the servers;
- The renter's clean-up responsibilities/requirements should be clearly indicated;
- The Lodge must not sign an agreement assuming responsibility for hired security personnel;
- The Lodge has the right to stop inappropriate behavior;
- The Lodge has the right to shut down the event; and
- Consider having an attorney review the rental agreement.



IT IS THE START OF A NEW LODGE YEAR

Now is a great time to examine the Lodge's legal wellbeing:

- Where are the Lodge's legal documents located?
- Are state and local filings and registrations maintained?
- Become familiar with all Lodge contracts.
- The officers and trustees should know all Lodge obligations.
- Lodge officers and trustees must maintain proper records.
- Contracts should avoid a conflict of interest.
- Does the Lodge have written personnel policies?
- The Lodge should have written work rules for its employees.
- Does the Lodge have an attorney that can review contracts?
- Now is the time to diary important dates such as renewal of licenses and permits.
- Does the Lodge have service contracts with repairmen, plumbers, electricians, etc.?
- If so, such service contracts should provide the Lodge with indemnification.
- Indemnification includes the obligation to protect the Lodge from claims made by the contractor's employees.
- Service contracts should require that all contractors provide evidence of liability insurance.
- Service contracts should include contractual liability coverage.
- The Lodge should be named as additional insured on the contractor's insurance policy.
- It is unacceptable for the Lodge to indemnify other individuals or corporations.
- Are the Lodge's financial and business records properly filed for retrieval and provided with back-up redundancy?
- Has the Lodge prepared a rental agreement or contract to be signed by individuals or entities using the Lodge, according to the Laws of the Order?
- In these agreements, the entity using the Lodge should hold the Lodge harmless for activities and provide evidence of insurance coverage (see Pages 10-11 of the Liability Insurance Program booklet).
- Now is the time to review the Accident Prevention Manual and Liability Insurance Program booklet, which are posted on the Safety & Insurance page of the Elks website.

STATE ASSOCIATION DIRECTORY

Betty Hardin, Chairman, State Secretary
Havre' de Grace Lodge #1564
410-9605492 | bettwedg@comcast.net

I am glad many of us are able to come together this weekend to meet and to welcome our Grand Exalted Ruler Paul and First Lady Stacey.

Our March Spring Conference also means it is time to start working on our 2021-2022 State Association Directory. I apologize to those members who did not receive the 2020-2021 directory; COVID-19 affected the directories' distribution. Limited copies with changes will be available at the registration table this weekend.



All Lodge Secretaries have received my request for the information on their new Lodge Exalted Ruler, Leading Knight, and Secretary. President-Elect Robert Raleigh has provided his list of Officers and State Committee Chairs, and our District Leaders are finalizing the District Committee Chairs. Contact me if you have any suggestions for improving the Directory. The 2021-2022 directory will be available at our June Convention.

If you are listed in the Directory, I ask that you please keep me informed of any change in your information. Our Directory is a valuable tool for our leaders and members; therefore, keeping it up to date is essential. Stay safe, and hopefully, many more members will be able to meet in June.



Angela M. Meyer
Director of Operations Elks Camp Barrett
ecbsecretary@outlook.com
410-224-2945 (camp) | 410-739-5575 (cell)



COVID-19 has us all wishing for even the most mundane of days gone by. We have been thinking about the things we had taken for granted and hoping for an all-clear signal that tells us we are all going to be OK. At ECB, we are finding ourselves nostalgic for just a few years ago. Recalling the sound of the campers lined up by cabin groups competing to see which group would be the first to get into the mess hall. We are longing for campfire songs, glue sticks, and lightning bugs. We are missing simple things, like the noise. It might sound silly, but it's just too darn quiet at camp.

Unfortunately, the local government has not yet pulled back the COVID-19 restrictions for youth camps, leaving us no time to safely contract staff and plan for our traditional six weeks of residential camp. Our Executive Committee, in the best interest of the campers and staff, has made the difficult decision to cancel camp for the 2021 season. Although heartbreaking for many of us, this decision is the best decision that could be made under the circumstances. We thank the Executive Committee for keeping the camp as a whole, safe and fiscally sound during these challenging times.

While we are all disappointed to lose our "Elks Residential Camp" for another season, we refuse to throw in the towel on the many other services and events that ECB provides to the community. Barring any added COVID-19 restrictions, we are working on a series of smaller hybrid "virtual/one-day" camps where Lodges can send needy and deserving kids for a "fun day away." We hope to organize bus transportation by Districts so that the campers can come from almost every Lodge in

the Association. This plan is in the beginning stages, and we will let you know more as quickly as we can.

Some of our partner camps have also canceled this year, but others are planning to hold camp amid the restrictions (praying for those restrictions to lift in time). Two medically oriented camps want to camp at ECB this summer and are in negotiations with them. The county soccer teams will be on campus again this spring, and we are planning to have the pool open also this summer for members, their families, and guests.

Planning for the family picnic on Memorial Day Sunday continues, and we hope to hold the Youth Day event on May 1st. The Drug Awareness Family Festival in the Fall, Scout Camporee, Adult Camporee, and "Picking for Troops" are hopefully still in our future.

None of these things can be accomplished without the help of generous Elk members. We will not have paid counselors this year, so we will need volunteers to serve as instructors, guides, janitorial, grass cutting, and a slew of other jobs. Call Angela at the camp if you can give any time to the cause. It may not be camp as usual, but it is still camp. Our State Major project - doing what is our mission, serving youth and the community.

E.C. the Bee, and The Camp Staff are so grateful for all the support over the past year. Thank you for all you do, keeping ECB at its best and doing what Elks do best.



U + ME @ ECB = A GR8 Place 2B!



WEST DISTRICT

By Marion Davidson, Jr. W VP
Westminster Lodge #2277
C) 443-375-7168 or H) 410.857.8085
madavidsonjr@gmail.com

Greeting Elks Family and Friends,

It is hard to believe that the 2020-2021 Lodge Year is almost over, and it has been a year that the COVID-19 Pandemic has been with us. Congratulations to all the Lodges in the MD, DE, DC Elks Association for their continued support of their Communities and their dedication to their Lodges to make it a successful year. A special thank you to the Grand Lodge and the Association for their financial support during the Pandemic. Congratulations to the newly elected Officers of the West District, and best wishes for an outstanding Lodge Year.

I am happy to report all the West District Lodges applied for and received Spotlight Grants and Beacon Grants from the Elks National Foundation. Frederick Lodge received a Freedom Grant, and four of the West District Lodges that were eligible received Gratitude Grants. Great work was done by all the West District Lodges in helping their Communities with these Grants. A reminder it is not too late to donate to ENF and meet the Grand Exalted Ruler's goal to be eligible for next year's Gratitude Grants. Three of the West District Lodges have already met that goal and are closing in on the State President's Goal. Lodges have until midnight on March 31 to make their last donations for this Lodge Year.

Congratulations to Frederick Lodge for showing a gain in membership for this Lodge Year. Lodges, please examine your delinquent list and have your Standing Relief Committee approve help for members on the list that may need assistance with their dues. If your Lodge has not enrolled in the New Billing Program, please consider doing so. Please do

not give up on your delinquent members we still have time.

In Closing, the West District Lodges and I would like to Welcome Grand Exalted Ruler Ryan and his wife, Stacey. We hope you have an enjoyable time visiting with the MD, DE, DC, Elks Association.



The Frostburg Elks Lodge #470 recently applied for and received 3 grants from the Elks National Foundation Community Investment Program. This year the Foundation allocated \$14.6 million to fund 4,000 grants to local Lodges to support projects in their communities.

Frostburg Lodge chose the Frostburg Fire Department to receive \$1,500 of a \$2,500 Gratitude Grant and were approved to combine a Beacon Grant and a Spotlight Grant totaling \$5,500. The funds will be used by the Fire Department to help offset the cost of purchasing 28 Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (shown above) to replace units which have reached the end of their service life. The Frostburg Fire Department is a 100% volunteer department chartered since 1878.

Above: Pictured (L-R) are Jim Myers PER, Elks Treasurer; Dayne Lancaster, FFD Treasurer; Bill Devore, Elks Exalted Ruler; Jake Logsdon, FFD Captain; Rob Rephan PER, Elks Esquire.



DISTANCE VIRTUAL LEARNING LESSONS

The Elks Teen zone website is new and improved. Included on the website are online lessons which can be used independently or incorporated in Distance Virtual Learning lessons. These DVL lessons can be created by teachers, youth leaders, and parents. The materials in these online lessons are designed to provide teens with facts and engage them in critical thinking about how drugs affect their lives, behaviors, and

different parts of the body. Currently, there are six (6) lessons that have been developed. Topics covered include General Drug Information, Decision Making, Alcohol, Marijuana, Tobacco, and Bullying.

We invite you to share this new program with members, parents, teachers, youth groups, and churches in your area. Use the capabilities of the Lesson Plan Creator to create Online Distance Virtual Lessons to provide support to children in dealing with these issues.

These lessons are intended to promote healthy lifestyles through sound decision-making practices. By completing our online lessons, students will understand how specific drugs can affect the

brain and body, possibly causing lasting physical or mental problems, including addiction. They will also learn how an individual's drug abuse can affect friends and family and have a lasting effect on their future. To access the program go to Elksteenzone.org and register. Let us know what you think about this new resource. Email Angela with your comments and critiques. Thank you to All MD, DE, DC Elks for working so hard to protect our youth from the ravages of drug abuse. Please contact me if I can help in any way.

U + ME Drug Free A GR8 Place 2B!
Angela M. Meyer, State Chairperson

MD, DE, DC Elks Association
Drug Awareness Programs
ecbsecretary@outlook.com 410-739-5575 (cell)



NORTH EAST DISTRICT

By Jessica Todd, NE VP
Havre de Grace Lodge #1272
410-598-4995 jessigirl901@aol.com

Happy Spring, Everyone!

It is hard to believe spring is upon us, and it has been a year since we all had to start to adapt to the COVID-19 situation. I continue to be amazed at the Lodges that have all been able to adapt and remain successful throughout the Lodge year with drive-thru dinners, dinner reservations, and socially distanced trivia nights.

I enjoyed attending a Tacos and Tequila night at Havre de Grace in January and a couple of socially distanced trivia nights at the Abingdon Lodge. If your Lodge has any upcoming events, please let me know. I would love to attend and support your Lodge if possible.

I want to congratulate the Lodges in the

North East who made it into the Elks Magazine's latest edition. Excellent work by all! I also want to commend the Lodges who have already met the State President's goal of \$10 per member for Elks National Foundation. Congratulations, and keep up the hard work! There are quite a few Lodges in the district that are very close to meeting this goal; I ask that you please make one last push in the last few weeks of the Lodge year to meet the State President's goal.

As the Lodge year is coming to a close, I want to thank all of the Lodges officers from 2020-2021 Lodge year. I know it was probably a different year than you all imagined, but we all go through it, and your hard work should be commended.

I want to wish the new Lodge officers for the 2021-2022 Lodge year; good luck!

And in closing, please do not forget to submit the necessary Lodge information to the state directory chairperson so the state directory may be completed and distributed on time.

I can't wait to see everyone in Cape Henlopen!

Jessica Todd



Left: Wilmington Lodge #307 ER Stan Stumbers presents the Spotlight Grant to Food Bank of DE's Chief Development Officer, Larry Haas. This grant, along with donations from Members to the Lodge's Virtual Food Drive program, has provided to date close to \$6,000 of funds and food supporting the Food Bank of Delaware's community programs".

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Grand Lodge Government Relations Committee
By GLENN E. Foster Committee Member



LET'S UNITE AND HELP THOSE IN NEED

Last year was quite a contentious year. Wouldn't it be great if every American would have to abide by our membership obligation, "I will not permit any political..." If this rule was followed by everyone, imagine how great this country could be. Whatever your thoughts and beliefs are, this author hopes we can all get along for the common good and we can continue to live by the US Constitution, as written and approved by our founding fathers long ago.

With the pandemic continuing to wreak havoc on everyone worldwide, we as Elks must not forget our goals to help our communities. An increasing number of people need assistance. I am sure many Lodges are struggling, but we must not forget why we joined our Order. I hope one reason was to help our communities—not just because the Local Lodge has good food and good prices. Fundraising should be a key activity for any Lodge, both to keep the doors open and for the good of the community.

This Lodge year is almost over. We must not forget to report all of our charitable giving. I am sure the donation numbers will be lower, with many activities having been canceled. If your state allows functions to be held, why not

plan an end-of-the-year event at your Lodge, with all proceeds going to your State Association's major project. I am sure the funds raised will be much appreciated.

Also, now more than ever, we should count everything every Lodge has done: all volunteer work, miles driven, dollars given, hours worked, from both Members and non-Members. The value of any and all items donated should also be reported. To the outgoing Lodge Officers, a big thank you for your year of service and dedication. For the incoming Lodge Officers, good luck, and thank you for stepping up. Hopefully, the year ahead will be smoother sailing than the previous one.

May God Bless America and our Elk Members.



Winter Conference by Zoom



NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT

Matthew Briggs, PER, VP NC
Bowie Lodge #2309
443-837-8111 | matthewbriggs7@yahoo.com

I hope this letter finds everyone safe & healthy!

Congratulations, newly elected Exalted Rulers and Officers!

I encourage all Officers, especially first-time ER's & Officers, to review the Manuals on Elks.org that pertain to your elected position, and know your Lodge By-Laws! As our District Deputy Corey Bradley has stated at his DD Clinic, "know your role!" Not only will the information guide you through what you are responsible for, it is just as helpful in letting you know what may not be your immediate concern, which is also very important!

I want to thank all of the Lodges in North Central for continuing to do charitable works regularly! I am so humbled to see some of the work being done by our Lodges, especially in this unfamiliar, unprecedented COVID-19 era. Please keep up the great work!

It's almost time to gear up for Spring cleaning at Camp Barrett! Whether or not we have an actual camp this year for the kids, the cabins need ongoing maintenance. Please take some time to take a look at your cabin and see what is needed. Angela Meyer or Steve Williams may be contacted easily by email or cell phone (numbers are in the State Directory) to make an appointment to be on the grounds. Let's show them how North Central Rolls! June will be before you know it!

I am so looking forward to seeing many of you at Cape Henlopen for the Grand Exalted Ruler's visit. It's been a long year; we deserve to see each other! Stay safe!



ELKS NATIONAL VETERAN SERVICE MISSION

By Bob McIntyre, NE State Chairman, ENVSC
Newark Lodge #2281 302-478-0406 bobbymac72@yahoo.com

As Chairman of the MD, DE & DC Elks Association ENVSC Committee, I would like to welcome GER Paul R. Ryan and First Lady Stacey to our Spring Conference in Lewes, Delaware, a scenic resort town located where the Delaware Bay meets the Atlantic Ocean and home to the Cape May-Lewes Ferry, which connects lower Delaware to Southern New Jersey, along with the beautiful beaches and Cape Henlopen State Park.

Sadly, it has been a challenging year for our veterans living in the Community Living Centers at the VAs and in our State Homes due to the pandemic. The residents at these facilities have been unable to visit with family, friends, and volunteers. It has been reported that these veterans have experienced depression due to the isolation of the pandemic shutdown. However, there is good news as the COVID-19 vaccine is now being administered to all the staff, patients, and volunteers at the VAs and State Homes. Once the vaccinations are completed, it will only be a short time before our VAs and State Homes will be able once again to welcome visits from family, friends, and volunteers back to the facilities. Although unable to visit with our veterans at the facilities, thank our VAVS Representatives for living up to our motto of "never forgetting our veterans" by continuing to support them by donating gift cards, canteen coupons, hygiene, and

comfort items, clothes, protective masks, a gaming table, and a Jukebox, all for the enjoyment and comfort of our veterans.

Not only have our VAVS Reps continued to support our veterans, but many of our State Lodges have done so also. Published in the February edition of the Elks Magazine, ENVSC recognized Easton Lodge for their Freedom Grant donation to Perry Point VA Medical Center to provide therapeutic items for veterans being treated for PTSD and depression.

Also recognized was Kent Island Lodge for a gift of \$1,000.00 to the transition home, Warriors Helping Warriors, and another \$2,000.00 to help sponsor a fishing tournament for disabled veterans.

Ocean City Lodge members took part in the Semper Fi Bike Ride and raised \$1,700.00, which together with a Lodge donation of \$500.00 was given to the Semper Fi & America's Fund. The Fund provides assistance to wounded veterans and their families.

Salisbury Lodge was recognized for a donation of nearly \$11,000.00 to the Wreaths Across America and coordinated the nationwide wreath-laying ceremony held in honor of veterans. Havre de Grace Lodge was recognized for presenting handmade quilts to two members who served our country in Vietnam. All did a great job!

The Army of Hope and Welcome Home Project continues to receive requests for veteran assistance. The most recent Army of Hope requests were for rental and utility assistance. The Welcome Home Project received requests to assist five homeless veterans with bedding and furniture as they transition into new housing. Please remember both the Army of Hope and Welcome Home Project relies on donations to serve our veterans, and any donations are much appreciated.

Welcome back to the MD, DE & DC Spring Conference. Enjoy the weekend and take time to view the beautiful beaches and the Atlantic Ocean.

The History of the Elks National Veterans Service Commission

Our story is long; our work is humble; our history is proud.

1918: The Elks built a 700 bed hospital in Boston and donated it to the federal government, creating the precursor to today's VA Medical Centers.

1946: The Elks National Veterans Service Commission is established, with the goal of serving hospitalized veterans.

1951: In response to a plea from the Secretary of Defense, Elks help collect over half a million pints of blood.

1997: The Elks again partner with the VA to support Adaptive Sports Events to help recovering veterans and veterans with disabilities stay healthy and active.

2016: The Elks launch the Welcome Home program to help end veteran homelessness.

1917: Elks established a War Relief Fund to care for the sick and wounded on the battlefields of France. Elks also organize and equip the first two base hospitals in France.

1918-1924: Elks make 40,000 rehabilitation, vocational and educational loans to veterans with disabilities. A program so successful it inspires the government to establish the GI Bill.

1948: The Veterans Leather Program begins, providing free wheelchair gloves and rehabilitation materials to veterans.

1955: The Elks join the Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service Executive Committee, and hundreds of Elks begin to volunteer at VA facilities.

2011: The ENVSC begins to offer Freedom Grants to help Lodges serve veterans and military members in need in their communities.

What are the Elks up to today? Visit www.elks.org/vets to find out.

AUDITING AND BUSINESS PRACTICES COMMITTEE

Debbie Price, Chair | Essex Elks #1866 NC
410-375-9133 | dprice58@comcast.net



During the Spring State Conference, there will be a short presentation for the Financial Reporting System (FRS) that will be given by our state training committee. If you have any questions after the presentation, I will be happy to answer them at the conference, or you may contact me via email.

I have been contacted by one of our Lodges for assistance with the FRS. The district chair and I are in the process of making arrangements to visit the Lodge to get them up to date on FRS. We are here for your Lodge, too. Please contact your District Chair or me if you need assistance. We're happy to help!

FUNDRAISER TO COVER MEDICAL EXPENSES FOR BRANTLEY THE BRAVE



DONATE NOW

3 YEAR OLD BRANTLEY HESS WAS DIAGNOSED WITH B-CELL ACUTE LYMPHOBLASTIC LEUKEMIA AND HAS BEEN IN AND OUT OF JOHNS HOPKINS HOSPITAL FOR TREATMENT AS WELL AS A KIDNEY STONE SURGERY. HE WILL NEED CONTINUING TREATMENT.

BRADLEY'S PARENTS ARE MIKEL AND HOLLY HESS OF WESTMINSTER. MIKEL IS A FIREFIGHTER WITH THE WESTMINSTER, UNION BRIDGE AND REESE FIRE COMPANIES.

HOLLY HAS TAKEN A LEAVE OF ABSENCE FROM HER JOB AS AN ASSISTANT WITH AN ORAL SURGEON TO BE WITH BRANTLEY.

A SPECIAL ACCOUNT HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED FOR DONATIONS TO HELP WITH THE MOUNTING MEDICAL BILLS AND OTHER RELATED BILLS.

To Donate: Online—carrollcommunityfoundation.org
Community of Compassion, Brantley the Brave

Checks payable to: Carroll Community Foundation for Brantley the Brave

Mail to: Community Foundation of Carroll County
255 Clifton Blvd., Suite 313. Westminster, MD 21157
410-876-5505 11:00 am to 3:00 pm

DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

GRAND LODGE FRATERNAL COMMITTEE AREA 2

James E. Stewart Oakland Lodge #2481
301-334-1880 | jimstewat11@verizon.net



As the Lodge year is winding down to a close, I would like to remind you of a few of the Grand Lodge Fraternal Committee programs.

The All-American Lodge Contest A is a way to highlight your Lodge's accomplishments throughout the year. This form is available to you online and should be completed and sent to the District Deputy no later than April 1, 2021.

There are numerous awards and certificates that may be obtained to showcase the outstanding works of members and officers in your Lodge. These awards are an excellent tool available to honor and thank those who have helped demonstrate community pride and dedication shown by them to help possibly build your Lodge membership.

Grand Exalted Ruler Awards for your Lodge and Outstanding Members may be requested through your GL Fraternal Committee Area 2 Member, which is me. Please have those to me by no later than March 31.

Grand Lodge Awards for Elks of the Year, Officer of the Year, and Citizen of the Year are obtained from the Grand Secretary's Office. You can request certificates only or a framed certificate.

Grand Lodge Fraternal Committee Award Pin is obtained by filling out the Request form and returning it to me to receive a pin.

There is also a certificate available to the Lodge to recognize local businesses and merchants for proper display of flying our United States Flag during the day and at night with proper illumination. This certificate is a "fillable" PDF for you to type in the required information and print it out for presentation.

The Americanism Essay Contest for this year was "How can Patriotism be Demonstrated," and the deadlines surpassed.

I hope that your Lodge takes advantage of these great opportunities and requests these prestigious awards and certificates. Recognition of hardworking, dedicated members in your Lodge is vital to the survival of our Lodge and our membership!

If I can be of any assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me. All forms are available on the elks.org website under Fraternal Committee Contests and Forms.



FROM THE GRAND LODGE FATERAL COMMITTEE AREA 5

BY ANTHONY J. DARDANO, COMMITTEE MEMBER

Thank you and congratulations to the State Association webmasters who placed entries into the Grand Lodge State Association Website Contest.

As the internet continues to evolve as the go-to source of information, it is increasingly essential to have a great

website to tell the story of Elkdom. The good work of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks has been a secret for too long. Websites enable us to tell our stories Lodge by Lodge and State by State.

This year's 5-Star Winners are: Arizona, Connecticut, Florida, **MD-DE-DC**, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Jersey, Ohio.

Go to <https://www.elks.org/states/> to find links to every State Association's website, plus a map of every Lodge in each state.



WELCOME TO TAMPA! JULY 4 - 7, 2021

The Elks National Convention Commission is working closely with the Tampa Convention Center and Visit Tampa Bay to plan for a safe and healthy Elks National Convention. Safety measures and plans are evolving, but are likely to include social distancing, attendee occupancy management and personal mask use which is currently required in Tampa.

Pre-registration opens online April 1st with new procedures being implemented. This will be the best way to avoid lines and safely receive your credentials and other critical attendee information. The web page is: [elks.org/convention/prereg.cfm](https://www.elks.org/convention/prereg.cfm) It will be updated with more information as Convention approaches. See you in Tampa!

Planning to attend? Let us know, and be sure to checkout your fellow [elks.org](https://www.elks.org) users in attendance.



ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION, INC.

ENF CUMULATIVE RECOGNITION LEVEL UPDATE

By Margie McIntyre, State ENF
Chair Newark Lodge #2281

C) 302-354-5405 mcintyrem22@yahoo.com

On March 31, 2021, ENF will be making the most significant change to the cumulative recognition program since 2001. On that day, they will discontinue the three cumulative recognition levels below \$1,000: the Participating Member (\$100), the Sustaining Member (\$250), and the Distinguished Member (\$500).

This change will align the recognition efforts to emphasize annual giving and encouraging donors to join the Fidelity Club for recurring giving. With the rising cost of postage and materials, it now costs more than \$6.25 to mail each pin, and that doesn't include staff processing time. Many donors achieve these levels with a gift of \$10. Recognition eats up 62.5 percent of that value. Further, consider the Participating Member program began in the 1930s. A \$100 donation in 1935 is equivalent to a \$1,875 donation today. It simply does not make sense to continue recognizing cumulative giving at these levels.

Donors who wish to attain one of these levels will have until March 31, 2021, to do so. ENF will then mail recognition for those levels for the last time, with each qualifying donor receiving a pin for the highest level attained.

While the \$100 cumulative pin is going away, ENF is proud to offer donors the opportunity to earn a pin for making their first 12 recurring gifts, which may be achieved for as little as \$60 in one year. Keep in mind the Elks National Foundation is a public, non-profit, tax-exempt corporation as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Tax Reform Act of 1959, and therefore all donations to ENF are tax-deductible. Learn more about the Fidelity Club at [elks.org/enf/fidelityclub.cfm](https://www.elks.org/enf/fidelityclub.cfm)

Please remember for any donation to be counted for the 2020-2021 fiscal year, it must be received by the ENF office by March 31, 2021.



DOVER LODGE #1903 held a donation drive for Holidays for our troops. We sent 10 boxes of various food items and essentials to a unit in Kuwait where a member's son is stationed.

HAPPINESS IS



...giving to charity.



SOUTH EAST DISTRICT

By Dan Kane SE District VP
Cambridge Lodge #1272
dan.kane1071@outlook.com

Think Spring and a new Fraternal Year. While many of the Lodges have recently, or will be, installing new Lodge Officers, let us all take a minute to wish them the best in carrying out their duties and responsibilities.

Since my last submission, we had a handful of Lodges yet to visit and will be wrapping up soon. Many visits had to be postponed due to our nemesis the dreaded COVID-19, you know that thing that has not paid its dues to our Lodges but has taken a lot of our fun away this last year.

Not much has happened on the official visit front for the South East due to Lodges taking precautions to stop the spread and voluntarily closing their doors, and taking advantage of resets or deep cleaning their Lodges.

While we are thinking of our new fraternal year within our local Lodge, let us not forget about our State Association positions. Yes, it is that time of year for our State positions as well. It is a great way to put your local leadership skills to work within the State Association. We will be holding our South East District Caucus for District Vice President, Elks Camp Barrett Executive Committee, and State Trustee in April at the District Deputy Clinic at Kent Island Lodge #2576. The only requirements are, you are in good standing and a Past Exalted Ruler, except for the Camp Barrett Representative. Each Lodge will be receiving communication from me with each Lodge's total votes in the next coming weeks.

As you are reading this newsletter, we will conduct business and provide reports to the Association in Cape Henlopen. I look forward to seeing you in the Cape.

In closing, I am proud and honored to have been your District Vice President, and what an excellent district we have. If I could hit the reset button and do another year in a year when all the Lodges were fully open and going 110%, I would.

Let us all look forward to a prosperous fraternal year in 2021-2022 for the South East District and entire Maryland, Delaware, District of Columbia State Association. As our own Past State President, Bill Buttrill, would say SOUTHEAST!!

POCOMOKE LODGE #1624 – Demand for the COVID-19 vaccine remains high but local officials say they're doing the best they can with what they're getting from the state.

The Worcester County Health Department hosted a COVID-19 vaccination clinic at the Elks Lodge in Pocomoke with the assistance of the Maryland National Guard. While officials there praised the health department's efforts, they said Worcester County should be getting more vaccines.

More than 100 people received their first dose of the Moderna vaccine at a Friday clinic, and the Elks provided space to the county at no charge. Attendees checked in, received their shot, and were directed to a seating area for 15 minutes before departing. Members of the Maryland National Guard were present to assist in the clinic's organization and traffic flow.

According to E.R. C.L Marshall, *"This is a wonderful example of how our local Elks Lodge can make an impact on the local community. We are pleased to partner with the Worcester County Health Department to provide this space for educators and others desiring to have the vaccine to do so."*

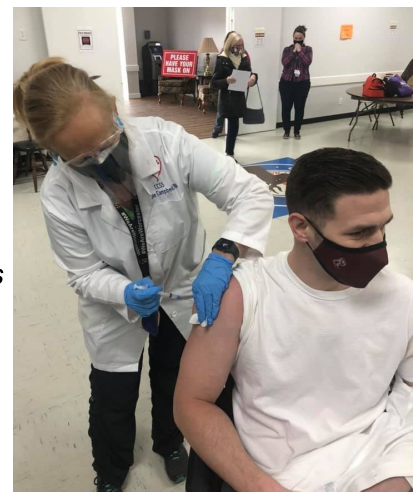
"We're showing the community the National Guard and the Pocomoke Elks are here to support them," said Jarvis Fosque of the Maryland National Guard's 1229th Transportation Company.

Throughout the pandemic, Fosque's company has assisted in various ways, delivering critical items such as food, PPE, and medical equipment where needed. Fosque said he was happy to help out with a vaccine clinic. *"This is hope," he said. "We're fighting to get everything back to how it used to be."*

Worcester County Commissioner Chip Bertino praised the National Guard, the health department, and the Elks Lodge for the smooth operation of Friday's clinic. He said that as of Friday, Worcester County topped the state in terms of the percentage of its population who had received the first dose of the vaccine.

Marshall commented, *"Unfortunately, COVID has wrecked our plans for Charitable Donations in monetary form, but there's so much more that we can do when the collective power of our membership is harnessed. This is just one example."*

Submitted by Carroll Marshall



SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

By Lynn Evans, State Scholarship Chairperson
Kent Island #2576 410-598-1225



In the summer of 2020, 46 graduates within our State Association were awarded \$151,500 from the MVS Scholarship Program and the Legacy Scholarship.

In addition, individual Lodges awarded scholarships. Seventeen Lodges responded that they gave a total of \$83,700 to 74 students. This makes a grand total of \$235,200 that helped 120 students achieve their college goals.

This years MVS Scholarship Contest just concluded and the winners will be announced in the June State Newsletter.

The State Association Skilled Trades Scholarship information and application is available on our state website at www.mddedcelks.org. This scholarship is open to high school graduates who graduated from 2017 – 2020 or will graduate in 2021.

There are over 200 trades with jobs in great demand. Trades in health care, technology, construction, automotive, plumbing, electrician, welding, cosmetology, and many, many more. The application deadline is April 15, 2021.

TRAINING

Renee' Rivituso, PDD
Elks Training Chairman
Waldorf #2421
240-508-8636
rrivituso@hotmail.com

Congratulations to all incoming Lodge officers. Your Elks Training Committee is here to help you make the 2021-2022 year successful and harmonious. Exalted Ruler Elects, your first step in having a successful year is to sit down with your Lodge leadership to plan out your year. Decide activities you would like to have during the year and get them on the Lodge calendar. There are some mandatory events you must have as an Elks Lodge, for example, Flag Day and the Elk's Memorial Service, to name just a couple. An organized and well-planned year will ensure the success of your Lodge.

If at any time your District Chairman or I can be of assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Grow with the Elks.

ELKS CAMP BARRETT IMPROVEMENT FUND RAFFLE 2021

By Lou Schmeltzer, PDD, Chairman
Annapolis Lodge #622
410-627-5179 louschmeltzer@gmail.com



The tickets should have been mailed and received by the time you read this. If you haven't received your tickets or would like some additional ones, please contact me. My e-mail address & cell phone number are above in the heading and in the directory.

We are, again this year, offering the tickets for \$10.00 each or 6 for \$50.00. We ask that every Member purchase at least one ticket and sell the rest to neighbors, co-workers, friends, family, etc. Of course, if you can buy all six, then we thank you very much.

We hope this year will be another successful raffle, but it can only happen with your help. Please be as generous as you can to help our outstanding Major Project remain as beautiful and well-maintained.

The raffle will be on May 30th, even if the Picnic is again canceled. I certainly hope the Picnic will take place, but I want to assure you the raffle will be held, regardless.

I look forward to having a very favorable report for you in the Fall. Unfortunately, the deadline for the June newsletter is prior to the picnic/ drawing, so there will not be any final figures at that time.

I look forward to opening a lot of envelopes and seeing everyone at the Family Picnic.

Lou Schmeltzer, PDD, Chairman



Severna Park Elks #2482 delivered printers and toner to McVets, for homeless Veterans. Jim McCormack, Celine Wachter, Rich O'Hara and Skip Stokes made the trip. Well Done!!