



MARYLAND, DELAWARE AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ELKS ASSOCIATION NEWS

A Fraternal Organization

BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS
United States of America



JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH, 2008 ISSUE

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

A MESSAGE FROM THE STATE PRESIDENT



Warren Johnson
President 2007-2008

Members and Guests

I welcome you to the Winter Meeting of the Association. I know from past experience that the Officers and members of Easton Lodge will work hard to insure that your visit here is a pleasant one.

We are honored this weekend to have our Sponsor, PGER Carlon O'Malley and his wife Kay, and SDGER Paul Helsel and his wife Jane with us. We also have Bill Hart and his wife Cecilia visiting from Texas. Bill is the Chairman of the GL Committee on Government Relations and will be addressing the members at our Saturday morning session.

On Saturday afternoon there will be several mini-meetings in session and I encourage you to attend one or more as time permits. This will be the last time opportunity to complete the Elks Training test as a group at a State function. Chairman Jim Stewart is working hard to build on the recognition we received from Grand Lodge last year, and he can do it with your help.

Since our last meeting, I have been on the road making my official visits, attending Camp Barrett and Trustee meetings, as well as attending the Bowie Lodge Charity Ball, Severna Park's 35th Anniversary dinner, the State Horseshoe Tournament at Chestertown, the State Soccer Shoot in Ocean City, and the Scouting Camporee at ECB.

As I make my visits, it is rewarding to see the great work our Lodges are doing as they show how they are "**Committed to the Community**". The warm reception and hospitality shown Debbie and I is greatly appreciated and further instills in me that Elks really are the Best People on Earth.

Debbie and I attended the Christmas Lighting Ceremony at the National Home, along with Paul and Jane Helsel and Ray and Mary Setler. It is impressive to see the decorations adorned with 65,000 lights. If you have an opportunity to attend, don't pass it up. We were able to visit with our members Charles Blumenauer (Frederick), Robert and Virginia Davidson (Kent Island) and Sheridan and Maxine Besoso (Cape Henlopen). All are doing well and expressed their thanks to the Association for the Christmas cards.

The time for nominations of the State Elk of the Year is approaching. I ask all Lodges to submit in writing the name of an Elk you believe is worthy of this high honor and the reason he or she should be selected. Nominations should be to your District Vice President by April 1st. The current Vice Presidents and District Deputies, as well as the Past State Presidents are not eligible for nomination.

Sincerely and Fraternally,



Warren

Coming Events

January 18-20, 2008
Winter Workshop
Easton Lodge No. 1622

February 16, 2008
140th Birthday B.P.O. Elks

February 16, 2008
State Hoop Shoot Finals
Whitter Recreation Center
Frederick, Md

February 24, 2008
Americanism Awards
Calvert Lodge #2620

March 7-8, 2008
Invitational Soccer Shoot
in Hagerstown

March 14-15, 2008
Regional Hoop Shoot in Frederick

March 28-30, 2008
Spring Conference
GER VISIT
Frederick Lodge No. 684

April, 2008
DD Clinics

May 25, 2008
Elks Camp Barrett
Family Bull Roast

May 30 - June 1, 2008
88th State Convention
The Wisp Resort, McHenry, MD

June 14, 2008
Flag Day

July 6-10, 2008
Grand Lodge Convention
Anaheim, CA

August, 2008
DD Clinics

October 3-5, 2008
Fall Conference
The Grand Hotel
Ocean City, MD

*Mark
your
calendar*

**MARYLAND, DELAWARE AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ELKS ASSOCIATION NEWS**
Official Publication

2007-2008

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PUBLIC RELATIONS

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Dover Lodge #1903
1 Patriot Drive
Dover, DE 19904
Phone: 302-674-5833
Email: conniedeyoung@juno.com

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NORTH CENTRAL
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Bowie Lodge #2309
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Gambriels, MD 21054
Phone: 301-621-9382

NORTHEAST
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23038 Deep Creek Road
Lincoln, DE 19960
Phone: 302-684-8515

SOUTH WEST
Kenneth W. Largent, PSP (Georgia)
1157 Severnview Drive
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Phone: 410-923-2529

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**Next Newsletter
Deadline...
March 1, 2008**

WINTER MEETING

**Of the Maryland, Delaware and District of Columbia Elks Association
Easton Elks Lodge #1622
January 18-20, 2008**



Friday, January 18, 2008

11:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M. Lunch Available
Noon-4:00 P.M. Registration
2:00 P.M. Advisory Meeting
1:00-5:00 P.M. Committee Meetings as requested by Chairpersons
6:00-9:00 P.M. Dinner (reservations requested through Lodge)
8:00 P.M.-Midnight Entertainment

Saturday, January 19, 2008

7:00-9:30 A.M. Breakfast
8:00 A.M. -1:00 P.M. Registration
8:00 A.M.-8:50 A.M. Elks Camp Barrett
9:00 A.M.-12:00 Noon Presentations and Reports
Government Relations-
William L. Hart Grand Lodge Chairman
Les Bishop-Maryland
Rich Reynolds-Delaware
Elks Camp Barrett-Carl Robinson/Stu Kerr
Scholarship—Joe Pallozzi
Soccer Shoot-Myron Morgan
Youth Activities-John Istvan
Americanism-David Smith
Drug Awareness-Joe McGeeney
Hoop Shoot-Jim McNitt
11:30 A.M.-1:30 P.M.- Lunch Available
Committee Meetings: Times and locations subject to change.
1:00 P.M. Business Practices-Maurice Dipoli, PDD
..... (Lodge Ballroom)
1:00 P.M. Elks Training Course-Jim Stewart, PDD
..... (Ladies of the Elks meeting room)
1:00 P.M. GER Fund Raising Campaign-Reg Maguire
PSP & Tom Rabickow, PSP (Members Lounge)
2:00 P.M. Lodge Membership Program Update-
Earl Schellman, PSP (Rathskeller)
2:00 P.M. Word Checkers Clinic-Dick Fleck, PDD
..... (Ladies of the Elks meeting room)
2:00 P.M. Lodge Activities Program-Carl Vogt, PDD
..... (Lodge Ballroom)
2:00 P.M. Trustees-J. Gordon Alexander, PDD
..... (Non-smoking dining room)
2:00 P.M. District Deputy Meeting-Paul Helsel, SDGER
..... (Trustees meeting room)
6:30 P.M. Dinner (advance reservation to Lodge by January 12th)
8:00 P.M.-Midnight Entertainment

Sunday, January 20, 2008

7:00-9:30 A.M. Breakfast
8:00-10:00 A.M. Registration
9:00 A.M. Call to order
Officer Reports
Committee Reports
Communications-Jim Harbour, State Secretary
Unfinished Business
New Business
Good of the Association
Closing and Adjournment



**NEXT MEETING - SPRING WORKSHOP
MARCH 28-30, 2008 - FREDERICK LODGE NO. 684**

**Fund Raising Activities
For the Paul D. Helsel GER Campaign Fund**

General Fund Raising Committee

General Co-Chairmen	Thomas Rabickow, PSP (302)537-9164 Rabickow@cs.com		Reginald Maguire, PSP (410)673-7405 rmaguire01@comcast.net
Secretary	Richard Burg, PDDGER (302)368-4754 rjburg@verizon.net	Treasurer	Terry LaGier, PSP (302)697-3592 talagier@aol.com
District Coordinators			
Northeast	Butch Morgan, PDDGER (302)422-7614 Myremorg@aol.com	Southeast	Dave Wolcott, PER (410)479-4877 davewolcott_21629@yahoo.com
North Central	Carl Robinson, PDDGER (301)604-4153 carl.robinson@msn.com	West	Sandy Brantner, PDDGER (301)334-1263 sbrantner@iceweb.net
Southwest	Darwin Leatherman, PDDGER (301)862-4857 fltengdarwin@verizon.net		

Pin & Coin Sales Committee

Co-Chairmen	Richard Burg, PDDGER (302)368-4754 rjburg@verizon.net		Terry LaGier, PSP (302)697-3592 talagier@aol.com
District Coordinators			
Northeast	Greg Adams, PDDGER (302)442-7274 gw.adams1@verizon.net	Southeast	Mae Fleck, PDDGER (302)436-5315 fleckcpt@hotmail.com
North Central	Larry Mathers, PDDGER (410)760-2634 lmathers@bobbell.com	West	Henry Rinta, PDDGER (301)845-6705 beaglebebe@comcast.net
Southwest	Mike Greene, PDDGER (410)551-9696 daniel.m.greene@jci.com		

Thanksgiving in St. Thomas Raffle Committee

Chairman	Bill Buttrill, PSP (410)968-2455 bestplumber@verizon.net		
District Coordinators			
Northeast	Bonnie Bussard (410)538-4497 lesbon50@hotmail.com	Southeast	Gordon Taylor (410)623-3613 cindycynt@aol.com
North Central	Bill Sapp (301)774-5625 sappland@aol.com	West	Tracy Harvey (301)387-2038 tharvey9@verizon.net
Southwest	Maggie Smith (410)741-0807 smimagg@verizon.net	Florida	Judy Spurgin (321)725-9777 jhspurgin@msn.com

Fund Raising Activities

Pin & Coin Sales – see committee listing

Basket Bingos – Carl & Beth Robinson (301)604-4153

January 26, 2008 Havre de Grace #1564

March 1, 2008 Cambridge #1272

March 2, 2008 Hagerstown #378

April 13, 2008 Annapolis #622

Spring Golf Tournament – Dave Wolcott (410)479-4877 – information available at January Workshop

Thanksgiving St. Thomas Vacation Raffle – see committee listing

Alaskan Carved Wooden Train Set Raffle – Bill Buttrill (410)968-2455

Americanism January 2008

REMEMBER:

1. All Essay and Poster Contest first place Lodge winners **must be in your District Chairperson's hands by January 15** for District Judging. Their addresses are:

-Michael O. Dietz, SE Chairman
207 S. Main Street
Bridgeville, MD 19933

-Wendy Goodnite, NC Chairperson
8098 Savage Guilford Road
Jessup, MD 20794

-William Mills, NE Chairman
4757 Cedar Neck Road
Milford, DE 19963

-Henry Rinta, W. Chairman
76 Sherwood Dr
Walkersville, MD 21793

-Mary Cardinal-Vogt, SW Chairperson
895 Leesburg Court
Huntingtown, MD 20639

District winners must be in my hands by February 15, 2008.

2. The Annual Americanism Awards Program for Essay and Poster Contest winners will be held at the Calvert Lodge on February 24, 2008 at 2:00 PM. Lodge ER's will be notified if they have winners, and they will need to coordinate with their District Americanism Chairpersons to ensure that those winners are present at this Program. Winners are permitted to be accompanied by their parents, siblings, grandparents and teachers. A luncheon will be served at no cost to them. It is very important that the winners are present, and that excitement is created to see if they may have won on the Association Level. Certificates will be awarded to all winners, and prizes awarded. See this Newsletter/Bulletin elsewhere for further information.

3. Lodge Americanism Brochures (Scrapbooks) are due in the Grand Lodge Chairman's hands by March 31, 2008. His Address is:

BILL REYNOLDS,
Grand Lodge Americanism Committee
2460 E, Main, Lot B-22
Mesa, AZ 85213

See this Newsletter/Bulletin elsewhere for further information. PLEASE do not let our Association President down by not turning in a Brochure to Grand Lodge this year!

Submitted by Dave Smith, State Chairman

GRAND LODGE AMERICANISM LODGE BROCHURE CONTEST 2007-2008

What is an Americanism Lodge Brochure?

Some have said that this is a fancy name for a Scrapbook. In many ways, it is.

To make an Americanism Lodge Brochure, all you have to do is

-organize all of the **pictures** your Lodge has had taken during the year relating to Americanism

-organize all **flyers, articles and program booklets** your Lodge has put out during the year relating to Americanism

- compile everything into a Brochure (loose leaf notebook), not to exceed 8 ½" wide by 11" high and 3 ½" thick, **have your Lodge Secretary attest your membership, sign the cover sheet and affix your Lodge Seal** and send it to Grand Lodge postmarked on or before **March 31, 2008 to:**

ROY A. WORLEY,
Grand Lodge Americanism Committee
6741 Austin Bay Ct.
Sherwood, AR 72120-4063

-**notify me**, Dave Smith 410-741-0807, that your Lodge has entered, so I can give you the proper credit.

Refer to the Article titled "How to Assemble an Americanism Brochure" elsewhere in this newsletter for ideas. Things as simple as taking a picture of the "Heritage Corner" in your Lodge are included in the list of helpful ideas.

Remember, your Lodge can win this year! All it takes is an entry and some imagination.

As always, feel free to call me at any time at 410-741-0807 with any questions that you may have or any help that you may need.

GOD BLESS AMERICA!

Submitted by: Dave Smith, State Chairman



How to Assemble an Americanism Brochure

To help insure that each Lodge receives full credit for their Americanism Programs and to achieve the highest score possible in the Brochure Contest, we recommend that you use the following guidelines when you assemble your brochure. (These are in addition to the guidelines already printed in the Grand Lodge Americanism Supplement)

- Membership Certification letter should be the first page.
- Next should be an index page. When it comes to judging, this is by far the most important page in your brochure. Assemble your brochure in the exact order listed in the Americanism Manual Supplement starting with Flag Programs and ending with Other Americanism/Patriotism Programs.
- As an example:
 - Flag Programs
 - Fly Flag day and night
 - Flag Flying Calendar
 - Presented Flag to City
- If that is all you did in that category then that is all that should be listed in your index.
- Make tabs to separate Flag Programs from Community Image Programs etc.
- Page numbers would be helpful but are not required.
- Do not mix any of your "Other Programs" in with the "Flag Programs" or "Community Activities" etc. as the judges may not recognize it for what it is and you may not receive credit for it.
- Make a tab and list each of your "Other Programs" separately. Many "Other Programs" are very similar in nature and need to be separated to insure credit for each of them.
- Always keep in mind, too much information is not a substitute for the right information. Be as concise as possible without losing the content.
- Do not concern yourself that your Lodge does not do all the programs listed. A large percentage of the points earned in the brochure contest fall into the "Other Programs" category.



All Lodges are actively involved in Americanism programs and making a brochure to document that fact is a very important part of your Lodge History and, if for no other reason, one should be made for each and every year. If you agree with that, why not send it in and share your successes with the other Lodges?

G/L Americanism Committeeman

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!! ASSOCIATION AMERICANISM AWARDS DAY

WHEN: FEBRUARY 24, 2008
2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

WHERE: CALVERT LODGE #2620

WHAT: -ANNOUNCE AND AWARD ESSAY WINNERS ON THE ASSOCIATION LEVEL
-ANNOUNCE AND AWARD POSTER CONTEST WINNERS ON THE ASSOCIATION LEVEL
-PRIZES
-ENTERTAINMENT
-REFRESHMENTS
-FUN

WHY: LET'S SHOW OUR YOUTH THAT ELKS SUPPORT WHAT WE PROMOTE...WHY ELKS CARE, ELKS SHARE

JOIN US AS WE CHEER ON OUR DISTRICT WINNERS AND MAKE THE BIG ANNOUNCEMENT AS TO WHO WILL REPRESENT OUR ASSOCIATION AT GRAND LODGE FOR THE 2007-2008 ESSAY CONTEST

2008 ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS WILL SOON BE AVAILABLE

The 2008 Baltimore Entertainment Books will soon be available and can be used as soon as they are purchased. The cost of the Entertainment Book is not available at this time. **Remember**, the profit from the sale of the books goes to **ELKS CAMP BARRETT**.

The 2007 Entertainment Books expires November 30, 2007, so please get your new book as soon as they are available, so you do not incur any unnecessary expenditures, due to not having a 2008 Entertainment Book when you go out to dine.

If you wish to purchase a 2008 Entertainment Book, contact Lee Davis at 410-256-9691 or Larry Mathers at 410-760-2634.

Northeast District VP Report October – December 2007

Much has happened in the Northeast District since the Fall Conference in Ocean City.

Thank you to Chestertown Lodge for hosting the State Horseshoe Tournament and Dover Lodge for hosting the District Soccer Shoot. Also, thank you to Newark Lodge and Dover Lodge for holding events to support Paul Hesel's GER Campaign.

I attended the Fall Conference and the Camp Barrett meeting in October.

On October 23rd, October 25th and November 11th, I had the honor of accompanying our State President Warren Johnson on his official visits to Newark Lodge, Abingdon Lodge and Dover Lodge. I appreciate the fine hospitality we received and I am very proud of the many accomplishments listed for these Lodges.

I attended the District Soccer Shoot on November 4th with participants from Milford and Dover Lodges, which advanced to the State Contest. Congratulations to Deotis Richards of Dover, who won "Under 8 Boys" in the State and will be participating in the Regional Soccer Shoot in Hagerstown, Maryland on March 8th.

I had the pleasure of judging the Ritual Contests at District Deputy Pettit's Official visits to Chestertown Lodge on October 16th, Wilmington Lodge on November 5th, Newark Lodge on November 27th, Dover Lodge on December 6th and Milford Lodge on December 12th. As always, it was a pleasure to visit these Lodges and witness their fine rendition of the Ritual.

On November 20th, I made my first official visit to Chestertown Lodge. ER Raleigh and Leading Knight Smith welcomed my traveling partner, Susan Conlogue, and myself with a delicious Italian dinner. I enjoyed the wonderful hospitality of the members and I congratulate them on their many accomplishments this year.

As I write this report, I plan to attend the Official DD visit to Elkton Lodge on December 19th and will participate in the Ritual judging. I will complete my Official VP visits to Wilmington Lodge on December 17th, to Milford Lodge on January 9th and to Havre de Grace Lodge on January 17th. On January 6th, I will attend the NE DD Clinic and hold the NE District Caucus for election of Officers for 2008-2009.

The NE District is doing well embracing all of the Grand Lodge and State Association programs. I have traveled 803 miles and continue to look forward to attending many events and visiting the Lodges.

Fraternally yours,
Connie J. deYoung, SVP NE District

Grand Lodge Activities/ State Association Committee

2007 – 2008 Programs

The challenge of meeting the deadlines for the various GL contests is drawing near. Please check the GL Programs Brochure, which was provided to you at the Fall Conference in Ocean City, MD for the remaining contests and awards. Most contests have a March 15th deadline for participation. Now is a good time to put forth that extra burst of energy to insure that you, your Committee and Lodge will experience a fantastic year.

All this should culminate in your Lodge participating in the ALL-AMERICAN LODGE CONTEST - CONTEST "A"; by being the best Lodge statewide out of all the contenders in your membership division. This is no small accomplishment and I look forward and hope that your lodge will participate in this program.

The ALL STATE ALL AMERICAN LODGE AWARDS will be presented at the State Convention in June at Hagerstown. I encourage you to complete and get Contest "A" Certification to your District Deputy by March 15th.

All District Deputies must get their lodge winning inputs to me No Later Than April 1, 2008.

I am certain that with your support and encouragement, your Lodge and our State Association will achieve our common goals of insuring that "Elks Care...Elks Share". Please do not hesitate to contact me for any assistance that you may need. Further, I encourage you to actively seek advice from your District State Vice Presidents, who are there to help you in these programs.

In closing I wish each of you success in your remaining months in office and I look forward to seeing you all at Winter Workshop at Easton Lodge. Lastly, let me remind you that we all can accomplish, "Success Through Teamwork".

Sincerely and fraternally,

Carl F. Vogt, PDDGER, PSVP, PER,
State Lodge Activities Chairman

SE District VP Report

Belated Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Southeast District!

I would like to start by saying that I hope everyone had a blessed and happy Holiday season. As Elks, I am sure that we all did. Since our Ocean City Meeting, I had a very busy schedule between my visits as Vice President and assisting the Southeast Ritual Judging team. I attended all of President Johnson's visits to Salisbury, Selbyville, Cape Henlopen, and Easton. We were treated royally at each location, and I thank those lodges for their hospitality. In addition, I visited Seaford, Ocean City, and Crisfield, and I would like to thank those Lodges and Exalted Rulers for the hospitality that they extended.

As far as ritual judging, I participated with Seaford, Selbyville, Salisbury, Kent Island, and Easton. All of the lodges put forth their best efforts and I congratulate them. I especially congratulate Easton #1622 as they won the Southeast District and will go on try and defend the State Title in Annapolis. Good Luck, Easton! I look forward to seeing the district All-Stars perform at the District-wide Initiation in Easton on January 26th. I also was honored to participate as Chaplain in the Memorial Service at Easton Lodge, and all of the Officers did a fantastic job!

Finally, by the time that you read this, I will have conducted the Caucus for the Southeast, during which time, we will have two candidates for President-Elect for 2008-2009. There are three qualified candidates in Stu Kerr, Dick Fleck and Art League, and, at this time, I do not know which will advance, but I congratulate all three for the fine things that they do for our State Association. As always, the Southeast District continues to be one of the strongest in our association and I can only ask the lodges to keep up the good work

William Redmond
South East Vice President 2007-2008

MEMBERS OF MARYLAND, DELAWARE AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ELKS ASSOCIATION

First and foremost we are an important part of a fraternal organization.

We pledged to "support the rules and regulation of the Order and the by-laws of our Association." Unfortunately this is not always the case. Attending quarterly meetings, although not a requirement, ought to be something that we want to do. There are those that feel the information at these meetings is redundant and this may be the case. Until you have the knowledge and are able to practice what is preached you have not learned what is being taught.

We have the privilege to support one of our own to be the next GRAND EXALTED RULER, or national president of The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He is Paul D. Hesel of Newark Lodge #2281. Since 1921, when our Association was formed, we have not had this opportunity. There are many ways to be involved. A few are listed below:

1. Purchase of campaign pins and coins
2. Purchase raffle tickets, which include a weeks' stay at Blue Beards Castle, airfare and \$1,000.00, expense money.
3. Participation in the Basket Bingo scheduled in various Lodges.
4. Proceeds from any project, such as, spaghetti dinner, sale of extra boards at bingo.

Each Lodge in our Association has been asked to contribute a minimum of \$500.00.

In some cases this has been exceeded many fold. Keep in mind that if every Lodge made this initial contribution this alone would generate \$20,000.00.

Let us not shirk in our commitment to our Order. To say that we are indeed a participating member of the Maryland, Delaware, District of Columbia Elks Association and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, says it all.

Submitted by: Reggie Maguire, PSP

2008 GRAND LODGE SESSION

ANAHEIM, CA

JULY 6-10, 2008

PAUL D. HESSEL, PSP, NEWARK LODGE NO. 2281

FOR GRAND EXALTED RULER 2008-2009

MAKE PLANS NOW TO JOIN THE CELEBRATION

South West District VP Report

Greetings from the South West district!

We hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. The holiday season is such a fun time when spending time with family, extended family, and friends. It is also a busy time in the State Association.

The State President is well under way with his visitation schedule, as is the District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler. One of my roles as Vice President of the South West district is to accompany the State President during his South West district visits. I accompanied our State President to my own lodge, St. Mary's County lodge #2092 last quarter, and Waldorf lodge #2421 this quarter.

Another Vice Presidential role is to visit all lodges in our respective district in the absence of the State President. It is typical for the State President to visit 3-4 lodges in each district each year. It is also typical that the current State President reviews their predecessor's visitation schedule for several years previous before scheduling their visits. This gives the State President a chance to visit lodges that have not been visited in several years.

This year it is my privilege to visit Camp Springs lodge #2332, Deale lodge # 2528, Prince Georges County lodge #1778, and Calvert lodge #2620 as the State Presidents official representative. To Exalted Rulers Horace Chandor, Ted Keen, and Amy Eizeldin, thank you for your hospitality and warm receptions. To Exalted Ruler Robert "Speedy" Scheel, I will see you in February. All of the visited lodges have separate strengths and weaknesses, but the one similarity that I noticed was that they all had a tight knit core who seemed to enjoy each others company. The key to our organizational success is how we expand that core to include more and more members. It is extremely important and necessary to create and maintain the synergy that helps make our lodges successful.

This quarter I have driven 920 miles adding to the mileage last quarter of 1128 miles for a running total of 2048 miles driven for Elkdom!

God Bless!
Fraternally,
R. Trent Manson
VP-SW

VP WEST DISTRICT REPORT

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a safe and joyous holiday season.

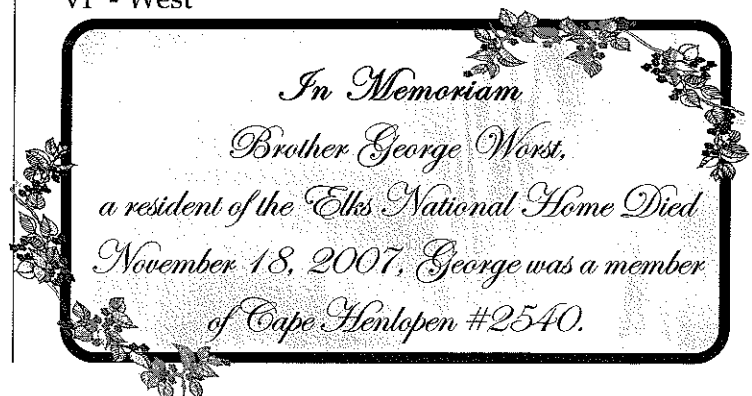
Since my last report I have completed 4 lodge visits, Westminster, Hagerstown, Frederick and Frostburg. All lodges are to be commended on their work in Elkdom and the communities they serve.

Frederick Lodge #684 is a shining example of how the lodges within the State Association should be involved in their communities. Frederick Lodge participates in National Night out and makes use of the drug awareness trailer at various locations including Frederick's "In the Street" celebration. They sponsor the Power of One motivational presentation at Frederick's High schools. As well they sponsor a variety of youth activities and teams. I had the honor of attending Frederick's annual Charity Ball where they made donations to 11 charities totaling approximately \$25,000. Frederick lodge is also very active in their Veterans Programs. The Officer's and Members clearly work very hard. I urge each lodge in the Association to take a close look at their community activities and see what else can be added.

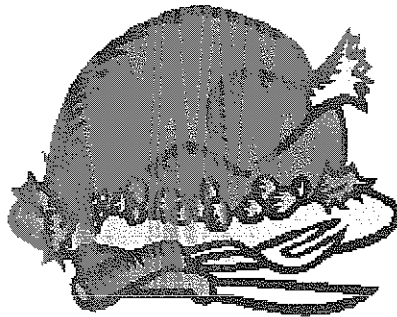
By the time you read this I will have made my official visit to Oakland Lodge and will have accompanied President Johnson on his trip to Cumberland Lodge. I have also attended the Camp Barrett Executive committee meetings and the District Soccer shoot. I will be attending the District Hoop Shoot in January.

The West District caucus was held and announcements regarding the outcome will be made shortly. I have enjoyed working with all in the District and State Association over the last 6 months and thank everyone for the hospitality they have shown. I look forward to working with each of you in the final 6 months of my term.

Fraternally,
Scott Wishard
VP - West



THANKSGIVING IN ST. THOMAS



Spend Thanksgiving week in the famous *Bluebeard's Castle located in the beautiful Virgin Islands.**

St. Thomas is a world-renowned vacation destination and *Bluebeard's Castle* is a 3-Star rated hotel.

Your week includes your choice of either a Hotel Unit in the Castle during Thanksgiving Week (Saturday to Saturday)

—OR—

A One-Bedroom Condominium Unit two weeks later. Both at *Bluebeard's Castle on St. Thomas, US Virgin Islands.**

This prize includes:**

- Round-trip air fare for two.
- \$ 1,000 spending money.
- Unlimited use of the hotel facilities for the week.
- Can be used in either 2008 or 2009

* www.bluebeards-castle.com

** Retail value of this prize estimated at \$4,500. Need not be present to win. Not a taxable donation. Proceeds to benefit Paul D. Helsel G.E.R. Campaign Fund. All taxes are the responsibility of the winner or winners. Either option can sleep 4 people. Drawing to be held July 9, 2008.

Traditions

It is completely appropriate that an organization that is over 138 years old should have many rich and varied traditions. Our Ritual is the first example that comes to mind. It is also understandable "that as time runs on" many of those traditions may change or be lost entirely.

The tradition that I want to talk about is the tradition of "Goin' Elkin.'" For many of our younger members, Goin' Elkin' is not even a blip on the radar screen of memory. For others it evokes many warm memories. Goin' Elkin' in its simplest form is simply visiting another Elk Lodge. "Back in the day" the occasion of the State President or the District Deputy visiting a lodge was an event of some importance. Dinners were planned, invitations were sent and Elks from other lodges would attend the event. Goin' Elkin.'

Some lodges would not wait for the advent of a special occasion to prompt them on their journey. The members would be told that there was a "Mystery Trip" planned, to be at the lodge by such-and-such a time, the appropriate attire, and off they would go. And, depending on their "means," some lodges would support the event with a bus and refreshments for the trip. Not all lodges can afford that but it should not stop you from making the trip; car pooling is just fine.

In any event, the standard rules of etiquette apply: if there are only two or three members traveling, advance notice to the host lodge is not necessarily a requirement. More than that would logically suggest that a phone call to the host Exalted Ruler would be in order. Initiation nights are particularly appropriate: a) it gives the new member a sense of "belonging" knowing that other members would travel to see them installed, b) it intensifies the performance of the host lodge, and c) you never know what you may learn that will help you in the performance of your duties.

"Mid swiftly changing scenes that mark the action of the play, we by each other oft may be aided in our part, or from each other catch inspiration for a high resolve; and to this end exists the Brotherhood of Elks."

Goin' Elkin' — Try it: you might like it. (And don't be afraid to stretch your imagination: get out of your district. Better yet, get out of your state.)

Bill Buttrill
Past State President

VP North Central Report

I would like to take this time to thank everyone for all the get-well cards and prayers while I was down and in the Hospital. My surgery went better than they planned and I bounced back with in a few days.

Since our October meeting in Ocean City, Md., I have attended the following events; All Camp Barrett meetings; Charity Ball with Paul Helsel and Warren Johnson and their wives at Bowie Lodge #2309; Veterans Dinner at two Lodges; Scout Jamboree at Camp Barrett.

It was my pleasure to escort our State President Warren Johnson to my lodge, Bowie # 2309, for his office visit.

At this point, I have completed most of my Official visits as Vice President of the North Central District, having visited five lodges. I have traveled a total of 560 miles, with 20 hours of travel time.

Fraternally yours,
Richard L. Hasson V.P.N.C.
1048 Springhill Way
Gambrills, Maryland 21054

PRESIDENT'S GOALS 2007-2008

1. Elks National Foundation
Increase in the number of Lodges that reach the goal of \$9.00 per member.
2. William J. Jemick Fund
Goal of each Lodge reaching \$1.50 per member and an increase in the number of children we help.
3. Membership
A gain in every Lodge of new members, along with a reduction in lapsation.
4. Drug Awareness
Increase participation in the DAP, within the Lodges and the community.
5. Youth Programs
Increased participation in the Hoop Shoot and Soccer Shoot programs.
6. Every Lodge adds 1 new Youth Activity Program.
7. Communications
Improved communications between Officers, Chairmen and the Lodges. Remember, communications is 2 ways.
8. Elks Camp Barrett
Increased support from the Lodges through campers, donations, and attendance at Camp fundraisers.

COMMITTED TO THE COMMUNITY

Why send Paul to Anaheim?

Let me tell you a story, which was told to me by DDGER Jim Estep, VA North District 9100, who is a PER from Alexandria Lodge in Virginia.

In November of 1867, a young English entertainer disembarked his ship in New York City, hungry and thirsty. He quickly found a job in a restaurant which allowed him much free time at the bar where he made many friends—several of whom were entertainers or actors like he was.

The fellow's name was **Charles Vivian** and he brought with him from England a drinking game called "the Cork." The way it worked required two confederates and a victim. The confederates were "Cork 1" and "Cork 2," and the victim was "the Mark."

The three would be amiably drinking at the bar when Cork 1 says, "Hey! I got an idea! Why don't we play the Cork Game?"

"Great idea," says Cork 2, "How do we play?"

"Yeah," says the Mark. "How do we play?"

"Well," says Cork 1, "first we all get a cork from a bottle, set it in front of us at the bar, and when I say Go, *the last one to pick up the cork buys a round!*"

"All right!" says Cork 2 and the Mark.

So they all get set, poised with their hands over their respective corks when three things happened:

1. Cork 1 says "Go."
2. The Mark quickly grabs up his cork.
3. And Corks 1 & 2 pick up their drinks, without ever picking up their corks!

Of course, this means that *the last one to pick up the cork* was in fact the Mark, since he was the only one to pick up the cork and he was honor bound to buy a round. Of course, human nature being what it is, and the Mark having just become Cork 3, he looked for another confederate and another Mark. And so a group of friends developed in the winter of 1867 in New York City. After a while, one of them, **George MacDonald**, named the group, **The Jolly Corks**.

Why tell you this story? Because that is how the Order to which we all belong began—a group of entertainers in a social setting who became friends. And the next story gave them a purpose. One of their members died, and after the wake, on the way back to their boarding house, they began a performance in the street, miming and making jokes, and asking passersby for money for the widow of the deceased. And so the charitable function began.

As they say, the rest is history. Each of the 40 lodges that belong to our state association is unique, but all are united in the common cause of charity. We gather together as friends in our lodges to raise the money for our causes—for our youth through sports, drug awareness, scouting, and scholarship; for our veterans, active and retired, at home and abroad; for those in need of whatever nationality, religion, or race. We raise the money—a dollar here, five dollars there—in our lodges, for our Elks Camp Barrett, and for the Elks National

Foundation, which gives it back with interest.

Modeled on our government, our local lodges are like local towns and counties, our Maryland, Delaware, and District of Columbia Elks Association is like a sovereign state, and our Grand Lodge is like our nation. We have Exalted Rulers leading our lodges, presidents leading our state associations, and Grand Exalted Rulers leading our Order.

Next year, the 40 lodges in this association will be part of living history. For the first time, the association, which was founded in 1921, will have a Grand Exalted Ruler, Paul D. Helsel. Paul is a PER from Newark Lodge 2281, he was our state president in 1981-82, and he has served the Grand Lodge in the years since then. Last July, he was selected by the Grand Lodge Advisory Committee, which consists of all living Past Grand Exalted Rulers, just as our own association's Advisory Committee consists of all our Past State Presidents.

Most everyone in Elkdom will tell you what an honor it is to have a Grand Exalted Ruler—sort of like having the U.S. President come from your hometown—but some naysayers will respond, so what? To them I say, stand up and be proud. This is big, this is huge, this won't happen again in your lifetime. This is our opportunity, as Elks from Maryland, Delaware, and D.C., to let the rest of Elkdom discover how dedicated we are, to get to know us and honor us for our efforts.

How? Get on the bandwagon, or more accurately, the train, the one in the picture. You may remember that last October, we raised \$1,600.00 by auctioning off the carved wooden train which was made and donated to us by a member in Alaska. Well, Mr. Johns carved another train set, which he says turned out even nicer, and sent it to Past State President Bill Spurgin in Florida. PSP Bill wants to raffle this one, and he wants the winning ticket drawn at the June 2008 convention. So, the tickets are being sold, as always with the help of our spouses. The cost is \$5.00 each, three for \$10.00, and ten for \$20.00. The proceeds of course will go to the Helsel GER Fund.

Now to answer the question, why send Paul to Anaheim? For the same reason your lodge sends the Exalted Ruler to the Grand Lodge convention. We are not just members of our lodges, we are 25,000 strong as a state association, and Anaheim is our chance to showcase our association—to make our name one to be remembered by the 6,000 or so Elks who attend Grand Lodge.

So here is a plan. Start to prepare right now to take your annual vacation in Anaheim next July right after the Fourth. Be part of the grand demonstration on the convention floor after Paul is nominated. Join him at the reception that night at the Grand Lodge hotel. Experience the excitement of this moment in living history. And you can be there. I hope you will be.

By Priscilla Anne Schwab
State President-Elect

Fund Raising Activities for the Paul D. Helsel GER Campaign Fund



We are on our way to Anaheim, California with a new Grand Exalted Ruler. This wonderful endeavor is estimated to cost about \$250,000. Several Lodges in our State Association have generously donated to Paul's campaign fund. We still need every Lodge, to

make every effort, to help raise money to meet our obligation. Also, as a member of this wonderful State Association, please support the many "Fund Raisers" listed below. For additional Fund Raising Event Information, go to our State Website 'Paul Helsel for GER' or contact the sponsoring Lodge.

Basket Bingo

January 26, 2008

Sponsored by:

Havre de Grace Lodge # 1564

March 1, 2008

Sponsored by: Cambridge Lodge #1272

March 2, 2008

Sponsored by: Hagerstown Lodge #378

April 13, 2008

Sponsored by: Annapolis Lodge #622

Golf Tournament

At Salisbury Lodge #817

Saturday, May 3, 2008

Two separate start times A.M. and P.M.

Shotgun Start

Information Contact: Dave Wolcott

(443)786-9356

**Send your Fund Raising Event
information to Scott Wishard at
swishard@elks378.org**

RETIRED? THIS MESSAGE IS FOR YOU

Did you spend the holidays alone? Wouldn't you have enjoyed the companionship and cheerful atmosphere of our retirement community? Learn how you can make the Elks National Home *your* home.

Residents of the Elks National Home enjoyed numerous parties, visitors, and other activities throughout December. Although things will slow down somewhat into the first of the year, they will continue to take part in many activities, such as shopping trips, sightseeing trips, birthday parties, plays, visiting entertainment, golfing, card games, and much more. Add that to enjoying the company of friends at mealtimes and on other occasions and you can see why our residents are happy and enjoy life. Don't let another year go by without at least checking into this excellent retirement option. Call 1-800-552-4140 to get detailed information or to make a reservation for a visit. Any Elk may visit here for up to five days in any month for only \$55.00 per night, including room, meals, and tax. You can also get information on our website at www.elkshome.org.

The residents and staff at the Elks National Home look forward to hearing from you!

Look **DIRECTORY** CHANGES...

- Page 4- VP R. Trent Manson -
Add Phone and E-mail Address:
301-904-4131 cell
301-995-6565 work
richard.manson@navy.mil
- Page 18- William H. Spurgin (Judy)- Revise email address:
Bill: wspurgin@cfl.rr.com
Judy: jbspurgin@cfl.rr.com
- Page 33- Public Relations - Connie DeYoung-
Revise email address:
cdeyoung@schmittrod.com
- Page 22- Doris Nowotnick- Revise address:
3753 Eightpenny Ln.
Bowie, MD 20716-3374
- Page 6- Richard A. Kennedy- Revise email address:
Richard_Kennedy@comcast.net
- Page 11- NE District Edward Pettit- Revise email address:
ed2401de@aol.com
- Page 8- James "Tater" Schaubert - Revise email address:
tater@baybroadband.net
- Page 5- VP Richard Hasson- Revise email address:
rhasson12@comcast.net
- Page 15- Levin Barker- Delete email address.

ELKS NATIONAL VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION

HOMELESS VETERANS

As we begin the New Year, it is appropriate that we dedicate ourselves to our Elk commitment: "So long as there are Veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them".

One group of Veterans who need our help more than ever before in our history, are our *Homeless Veterans*. Studies show that fully one *fourth* of all the homeless people in America are Veterans. The VA has compiled interesting statistics regarding our homeless Veterans:

All but 4% are male, the vast majority are single and most come from poor, disadvantaged communities;

45% suffer from mental illness of some sort and half have substance abuse problems;

Although America's homeless Veterans have served in all wars and military actions since World War II, 47% served during the Vietnam era. More than 67% served our country for at least 3 years and more than one third served in a war zone.

Estimates of homeless Veterans total nearly 200,000 on any given night and nearly 400,000 experience homelessness over the course of a year. (Source: U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs)

Unfortunately, the VA can only reach about 25% of those homeless Veterans who need services. This leaves a void which is currently being filled by local government agencies and *service organizations* in our communities. Rest assured that we, as the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks are doing our part to fill the void. Our VAVS Representatives and their teams of volunteers are working tirelessly to bring needed assistance to our homeless Veterans. If you serve in any capacity to help our homeless Veterans, the Elks National Veterans Service Commission offers you our heartfelt thanks; if you don't serve, would you consider volunteering at your Lodge to help homeless Veterans in your community?

Fraternally,
C. Valentine Bates, PGER
Secretary/Treasurer

3 Months To Reach Our ENF Goal Where Is your Lodge?

When our State President, Warren Johnson, was installed in June, he wanted us to strive to make more donations than in previous years and to shoot for the Number 1 spot in the Elks National Foundation. Many lodges are almost at their same donation level as last year. However, some lodges have many dollars to contribute to maintain the level they achieved last year. **Please ask for help if you need ideas for your lodge program.**

Using statistics as of November 30 (the most current before the printing of the newsletter), the Maryland, Delaware, and District of Columbia Elks Association was at 17th place with \$106,768.63 in total contributions and \$4.250 per capita. We have made the GER goal of \$4.25 per capita. At the same time last year, we were in 8th place and our contributions were \$ 116,081.25 with a per capita of \$4.762. By March 31, 2008, our Association will have to contribute over \$112,000 to maintain our amount of \$218,504.17 raised in 2006-2007.

PLEASE NEVER FORGET THAT MUCH OF THE MONEY THAT SUPPORTS OUR STATE PROGRAMS IS PROVIDED THROUGH ENF.

Every lodge needs to do their part in this state initiative. Each member of our association needs to be aware of the contributions from their lodges and the programs that ENF supports.

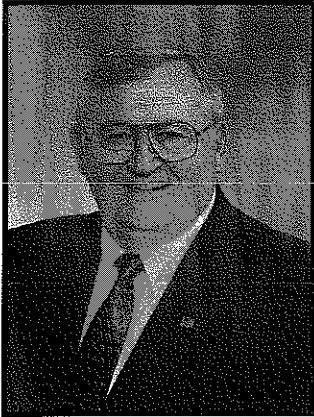
At our January Workshop, I am sure I will be reporting on increased amounts from all lodges. I look forward to our Parade of Donations.

Fraternally,
Claudia Finley-Bryant
Elks National Foundation, State Chairman

*Thanks Members
I would like to thank the members
of the Association for electing me
as your secretary.
If needed, I can be reached
at jhwalrus@dmv.com.
Again, Thank You.
Jim Harbour*

**Maryland, Delaware & District of Columbia
Elks Association
to get first Grand Exalted Ruler**

By now you should all be aware that the Grand Lodge Advisory Committee, at its meeting in Charlotte, endorsed Paul D. Helsel, a Past State President and dedicated member of our Association, as the candidate for Grand Exalted Ruler for 2008-2009. Paul will be installed to this highest position in all of Elkdom at the next Grand Lodge Convention to be held in Anaheim, California, July 6 through July 13, 2008.



**Paul D. Helsel, SDGER
Candidate for GER**

This is a "once in a lifetime" event and a tremendous honor for our Association to have one of its own serve as Grand Exalted Ruler of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. With Paul's assent to this high position our Association must assume funding obligations for certain aspect of the ceremony and pageantry associated with his election and installation. A Committee set up in late July to handle the fund raising necessary to cover these obligations estimates that about \$250,000 will be needed over the next 24 months. That equates to about \$10 per member of our Association. In addition to fund raising in our own Association, it is expected that we will receive help in this effort from neighboring State Associations.

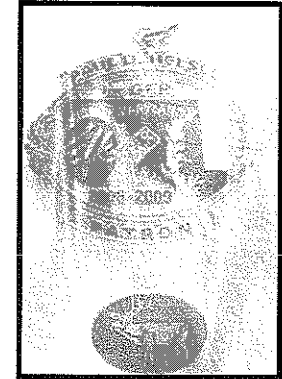
Under the guidance of the Committee the fund raising effort is off and running. All Lodges of our Association have been requested to make at least a \$500 initial donation to the fund, as well as various fund raising efforts have been endorsed and are under way. It is expected that individual Lodges will participate in the current initiatives now under way, as well as do their own thing to help raise the needed funds. The goal of the Committee is to get all 25,124 members of our Association involved in this effort.

The committees and fund raising initiatives are and will be listed in this Association News under the heading of Fund Raising Activities for the Paul D. Helsel GER Campaign Fund.

**Paul D. Helsel for Grand Exalted Ruler
2008-2009
Fundraising Pins**



1 1/4" Lapel Pin:
\$100.00



1 1/4" Pendant:
\$100.00

Both "Patron Lapel Pin and Pendant", can be purchased together if a couple would like, at a combined cost of \$150.00.

With the purchase of a "Patron" lapel pin or the combination you are eligible for an invitation to the "Monday Night GER-Elect Reception" in Anaheim. Make sure to completely fill out the "Pin Reservation Form" so that we can send you your invitation for the Reception, that is, assuming you will be attending the 2008 Anaheim Grand Lodge Convention.

If the cost of the "Patron" pin is not in your price range, below is Paul's "Pal" lapel pin that is also available.



1 1/8" Lapel Pin: \$20.00

To purchase these pins or pendant see your Lodge pin salesperson, your District Pin Sale Coordinator, or contact Richard J. Burg (302) 368-4754 or (302) 438-4874 or rjburg1@verizon.net

Make checks payable to; Paul D. Helsel GER Campaign Fund.

IN GRATITUDE

For gifts to the William J. Jernick Memorial Fund
June 1, 2006 - May 31, 2007

INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS \$975.00

Joyce M. Bailey
Edward M. Willis
Reese H. Hickman
Carl W. Riffle
Connie Wolcott
Tom Rabickow
Darwin Leatherman
Charles O. Donaldson
HON. Arthur Frost, GER
David Pugh

ELKS CAMP BARRETT METTINGS \$663.00

HALL of FAME-STEAK & ALE \$32.00

DISTRICT DEPUTY CLINICS \$649.00

SOUTHEAST
SOUTHWEST
NORTH CENTRAL

LADIES of the ELKS \$600.00
ESSEX OCEAN CITY

IN MEMORY of ODETTA I. HICKMAN \$275.00

JOYCE M. BAILEY
GREGORY A. WILKES
REGINALD A. MAGUIRE, JR.
SARA LEE THOMAS
ROBERT N. GABLE

SUBORDINATE LODGES \$18,144.00 EASTON # 1622 CAPE HENLOPEN # 2540

ESSEX #1866
CRISFIELD#1044
CAMBRIDGE # 1272
DOVER #1903
OCEAN CITY #2645
HAVRE de GRACE # 1564
ABINGDON # 2354
SELBYVILLE#2173
WASHINGTON / ROCKVILLE # 15
SALISBURY #817
MILFORD # 2401
SEAFORD # 2458
WESTMINSTER #2277
HAGERSTOWN # 378
WALDORF # 2421
NEWARK #2281

The William J. Jernick Memorial Fund
Board of Directors extends our heartfelt thanks for all
donations in any amount.

SEVERNA PARK LODGE HONORS VETS

The Severna Park Lodge expressed its gratitude to our service men and women on Veterans Day with a luncheon. The oldest vet attending was 93, the youngest 24. In addition, a check was presented to JJ McBee, the three-year son of an active duty Army sergeant. JJ suffers from multiple physical problems, including autism. The state association's Jernick Fund (JF) and the lodge's combined contribution amounted to \$3000. The money will be used to obtain a trained "companion dog" for JJ who requires constant attention.



Front Row: Larry Mathers, District JF Chairman, Roy Shiflett, Lodge Trustee, Sgt. Neil McBee, JJ, Mary McBee, Monica Smith, Guest Speaker, Earl Christian, Affair Host, Bob Hearn, Lodge JF Chairman
Rear: Jim McCormick, Host and Lodge Veterans Committee. Chairman.

MD, DE, DC ELKS RESIDENTS OF ELKS NATIONAL HOME

Name	Lodge
Maxine Besosa	Cape Henlopen, DE #2540
Sheridan Besosa	Cape Henlopen, DE #2540
Charles Blumenauer	Frederick, MD #684
Robert Davidson	Kent Island #2576
Virginia Davidson	Kent Island #2576

Elks-Care **Elks-Share**

**EULOGY TO PAST STATE PRESIDENT
HERCULES P. ESIBILL**

The passing of one of our Members into "The light which is beyond the valley of the shadow of death" has always held great significance in the Order of Elks.

Today it is my sad duty to bring special attention to the passing of our Brother and my personal Friend, PSP Hercules P. Esibill, whom we lost on the 4th of December 2006 after a lengthy illness.

Herk had been a member of the Order for 60 years, originally joining Millville, New Jersey Elks Lodge in 1946, later transferring his membership to become a charter member of Catonsville Lodge #2323, where he served as Exalted Ruler for the Fraternal year 1969-70, and further transferring his membership to Towson Lodge #469, when Catonsville relinquished its charter. During those years Brother Herk was quite active within his lodge, our State Association and the Grand Lodge, Serving as State President 1972-73, District Deputy North Central 1989-90, and had the distinct honor to serve as Grand Inner Guard 1999-2000.

In his personal life our Friend Herk was born in Millville, NJ on July 13, 1925, and joined the U.S. Merchant Marine in January 1942 at the age of 16, where he served on two ships that were sunk from German attack, he was wounded, and earned two combat stars, while serving in all three theaters of war, the Atlantic, Pacific, and Mediterranean, He served until after the Korean Conflict, and left the sea in 1953. In civilian life he became a top Salesperson for Anderson Chevrolet for over 20 years, leaving Anderson in the mid seventies to start his own leasing/export business. Herk was a founding member of Colts Corral #4, and served as President of the Catonsville Optimist Club in 1964-65, In 1992 He became an active volunteer on the restoration of the WWII Liberty Ship. SS John W. Brown, and became the Secretary of the project, and also served as Purser aboard the ship when it was at sea, until his failing health forced him to give up these duties in April of 2006. But, of all of his accomplishments, his best was when he married his lovely wife Karen on July 8, 1967.

I will close by reminding you that Friendship is a golden chain that strengthens with the passing years. It is not lost with death, but lives on forever in the exact quality and quantity we have given it. Herk's ship has sailed to a distant shore, night nailed to its mighty mast, with shining stars of hammered gold, so my Friend, until the tolling of Eleven Strokes, the passing moment is ours until we meet again.

Eulogy presented by PSP Earl W. Schellman

DID YOU KNOW?

- Years ago to raise funds for special needs at ECB the Building Committee would sponsor dances at the camp during the winter months.
- Our first goal to raise funds was to purchase tables and chairs for the Dining Hall. Next we raised funds to purchase benches for outdoors.
- In 1969, a group of Elks generously volunteered their time, talent and funds to build a Caretaker's House. It was completed in 1970, Ed Gore was the President of the association.
- Paul Helsel - Endorsed for Grand Exalted Ruler! Our Lodges, Elks Camp Barrett and the Association will benefit. The Maryland, Delaware and D.C. Elks Association has never had a person endorsed for Grand Exalted Ruler. It is a wonderful experience for us to have Paul endorsed for this position. The prestige of having one of our members endorsed is enormous. Let us all get behind Paul and support him for the good of all Elks. Good Luck, Paul and Jane.

Submitted by: Kenny Largent, PSP

To be continued in March
"Remember to sponsor a child"

LAUREL LODGE HOSTS VETS

On Saturday, Sept. 29, 2007, Laurel Elks Lodge #2283 hosted a Dinner at the Lodge for Veterans from Baltimore VA Medical Center and Perry Point. At the Lodge, along with the dinner, there was a Corvette Car Club car show. Also, other cars decorated for the Military were there. After dinner the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #648 from Easton, MD put on a very moving & solemn service.

There were 91 people in attendance. It was a very wonderful day - A good meal - And lots of great fellowship enjoyed by all who attended.

George E. Larkins, PDDGER

District VAV's Rep. N/C



Eulogy Carmine Pisapia

Brother Carmine Pisapia was born in New Jersey on May 15, 1915. He was a charter member of Dover Lodge 1903, a six time Past Exalted Ruler of Dover Lodge, twice Vice President of then East District, District Deputy of the East District, State President and Grand Inner Guard.

Brother Carmine came to Dover in the late 40's and opened a barber shop on Governor's Ave., which he ran until the early 90's. Although retired, he continued to cut hair for the sick and infirmed. When I was recovering from a heart attack in 1994, he showed up with his tools and the kitchen floor soon looked like a barbershop. On another occasions, he went up to Cheswold, DE to cut PSP's Gerome Stegman's hair. Many of us knew Carmine as stubborn and a bit cantankerous, but, underneath was a caring person.

When one thinks of Carmine you always remember his wonderful wife Josie (Josephine). Josie was a marvelous cook and many of us had the privilege of gorging ourselves with her delicious meals. Why Carmine maintained a good healthy weight is an unsolved mystery. They had six children: four boys; Victor, Ralph, John and Carmine Jr. and two girls; Joanne and Theresa and all are successful. Victor is a restaurant owner in Australia, Ralph retired from Civil Service, John is a Dean at a Florida College, Carmine Jr. is a successful business man, Joanne is retired and Theresa is a school teacher.

Carmine was a charter member of Dover Lodge and he and 104 men made up the initial class. They were initiated on April 15, 1953 by Wilmington Lodge 307. Carmine became the Lodge's first Esquire, went thru the Chairs and became Exalted Ruler, for the first time in 1955. He subsequently became Exalted Ruler five more times. When there was no one to do the job you could always count on Carmine to step up. Carmine loved the limelight and enjoyed being in charge (perhaps this had something to do with Jose ruling the roost at home), most likely, it was his dedication to Elkdom. Although he had a reputation for being a bit stubborn, willful, and somewhat unforgiving. Carmine always had the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks on page one of his agenda.

Carmine was Elected Vice president of the East District in 1970-71. There is a story that Carmine did not want the individual, who was running to replace him as Vice President to win, so, he decided to run for a second term. At the caucus, the other candidate was passing out campaign hats and banners, and glad handing all. Much to that individual's surprise, Carmine won. The story goes that that individual was so upset he threw his campaign hat on the floor and jumped up and down on it. Much to Carmine's delight I am told.

Carmine loved to travel to Elks Lodges and meet-

ings and I don't remember him missing any until health forced him to stop. Despite his declining health, he kept track of meetings and wanted to go. On one of the last occasions he attended an Advisory meeting I had to talk his care giver into letting him out. I think it would have been easier to get a teenage girl out on her first date. An invitation by a lodge to come to a function or asking him for advice was something special to him, he was always; so pleased and eager to help.

Carmine was appointed District Deputy East in 1973-74, became State President in 1976-77 and was further rewarded for his dedication to Elkdom, when he was appointed Grand Inner Guard in 1986-87, by Past Grand Exalted Ruler Homer Huhn. In this regard, Carmine was a stickler for protocol. It didn't matter where you were, if you didn't follow protocol Carmine would put a flea in your in ear and, heaven forbid, if he felt snubbed that flea turned into hornets nest.

One of Carmine's joys in life was golf and he was a good player. He played every opportunity that he could and I enjoyed many a game with him. I might add, he enjoyed seeing a good shot, almost as much, as he relished beating you for a couple of dollars. He further enjoyed the stories and camaraderie that occur on the course. Carmine did have one small fault, he thought the ball should always be sitting perfectly and was somewhat distraught when it wasn't, especially if it was behind a tree, in a hole; or heaven forbid, lost. He was delighted when, in the fall or winter, we set the ball up. I recall one day, when we were playing with, his son Carmine Jr. We were playing winter rules and Carmine hit his ball well into the woods, thus, he could set it up. Well, there's a club length, there's a club length by the Jolly Green Giant and then there's the distance Carmine moved his ball. Who says that justice doesn't prevail, Carmine miss hit his next shot and hit it into the water. I had to hide behind the golf cart I was laughing so hard. Better yet, I had to explain to Carmine Jr. what I was laughing about.

On a serious note, Carmine took the lead in getting this Association to participate in the Tournament of Champions. He took kids from Dover Lodge to Seven Springs, PA to compete, the first time that we were asked to participate. He then did this until his health prevented him from going. Carmine had a reputation for being a bit frugal, yet, he never asked the lodge to reimburse for the cost of attending. He considered it an honor to be there.

There are many more stories that can be told about this dedicated Elk. It was a sad day, December 10, 2006 when we lost him. The loss of a: Good Father, good husband, good friend and good Elk is always a sad day.

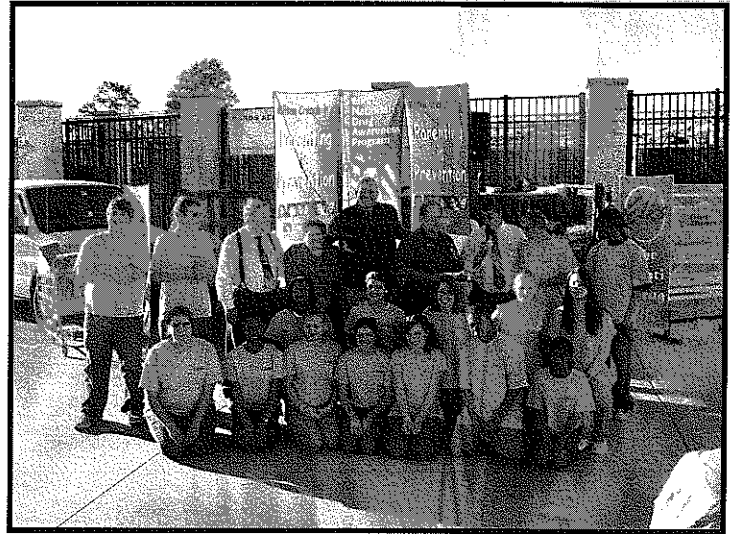
Eulogy presented by: PSP Terry Lagier

“HANDS ACROSS THE BORDER”

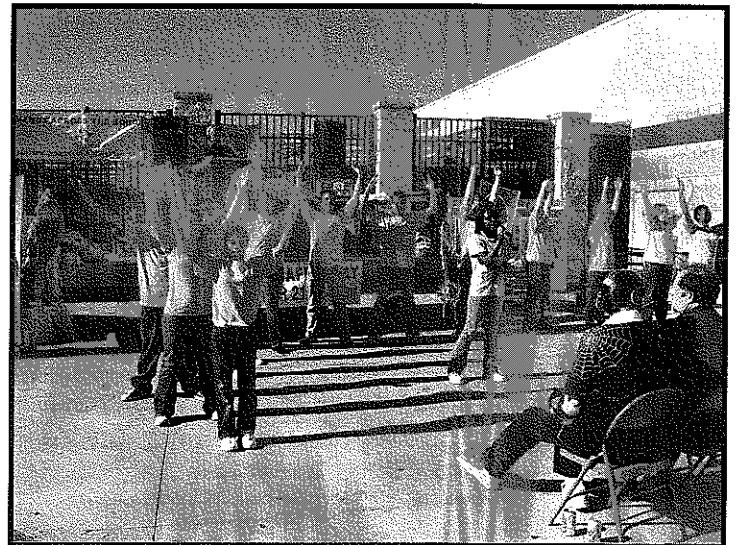
On Sunday, October 21, 2007 from 2:00-6:00 P.M., the annual “Hands Across the Border” Program for the MD-DE-DC Elks Association - Drug Awareness Program partnered again this year with the WAL-MART - Safety Day Event, & was held in Rosedale, Baltimore County, MD. This event was sponsored by the Elks & Wal-Mart in efforts to involve communities in unity against Drugs & Alcohol Abuse in our neighborhoods! On this special day, each year, at 4:00 P.M. (EDT [3:00 CDT - 2:00 MDT & 1:00 PDT]), all in attendance joined hands on a large Satin Red Ribbon, as we joined many other Elks across the nation in this Celebration to kickoff the annual Red Ribbon Celebration that is recognized by many Drug Prevention & Education Organizations. At 4:00 P.M. - a Red Balloon Release, [77] in total which signified; all [23] Maryland Counties, [3] Delaware Counties, District of Columbia, & the [50] States, followed by a moment of silence for special recognition to “Enrique Camarena” and for all victims of Alcohol & Drugs, then all joined hands on the satin red ribbon & united in singing “God Bless America”, followed by our Special Guest Speaker; Milton Creagh - “Big Milt”, a nationally known Motivational Speaker and PRIDE Youth Programs National Spokesman. Then, on behalf of our Drug Awareness Program, our State President, Warren Johnson, presented a \$1,000 Check as a Donation to the Chesapeake, VA. - PRIDE Youth Program. It is estimated that there were approximately [800] people that attended this event throughout the day.

There were many displays presented, including; our Elks Drug Awareness Trailer, FBI, DEA, MD National Guard - Demand Reduction Unit, MTA (MD Transit Authority) Police Dept - K-9 Unit, Baltimore County Fire Dept - “Fire Safety House”. & several Fire Dept Equipment/Apparatus’, MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving), SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions), Chesapeake, VA. PRIDE Youth Group, and others. All provided educational materials and giveaways for the kids. Activities for the kids included; a Moon Bounce, Face Painting, PRIDE Youth presentations on stage, “Island Entertainment” DJ Music, & Refreshments were provided at no cost, including; Hot Dogs, Potato Chips, Popcorn, sodas, water.

Thanks to all Volunteers that made this date a huge Success!! A special Thanks to Bernie Tomardy, PER - “Island Entertainment” (Kent Island Lodge #2576) for providing the DJ Music with his little helper Ben Stone, PER. Also, a Special Thanks to: Darwin & Marilyn Leatherman (St. Mary’s County Lodge #2092), who provided the Popcorn & transported our Drug Awareness Trailer from Elks Camp Barrett.



(Photo Below, background)
Bernie Tomardy, PER, Kent Island Lodge #2576, of
“Island Entertainment” Provided Music for
“Pride Team”



“2007 SCOUT CAMPOREE”

Maryland, Delaware and District of Columbia Elks Association and
U.S.N.A. (United States Naval Academy)

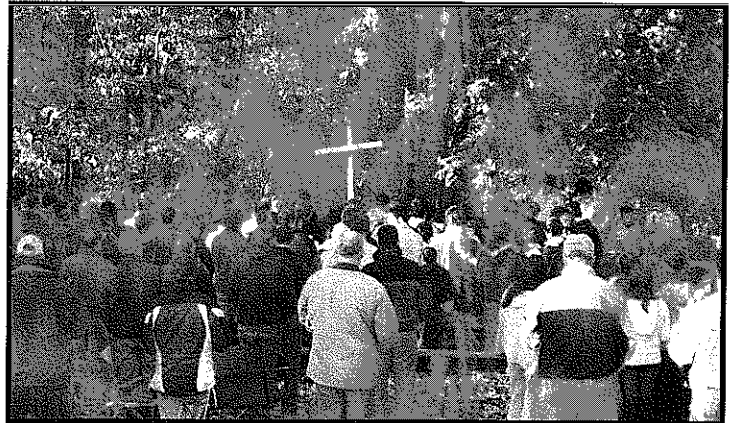
~ The MD-DE-DC Elks Association presented a Scout Camporee at our Elks Camp Barrett (ECB -State Major Project), during the weekend of November 16-18, 2007. [30] Elk Volunteers from our State Association presented another very successful “Scout Camporee” in conjunction with the United States Naval Academy — “Scout Day Festivities”. [40] Scout Troops (36 - Boy Scout Troops/1-Girl Scout/2-Cub Scout Packs/1-PRIDE Youth Group), totaling [1,073] Scouts & Leaders, arrived Friday afternoon and throughout the evening at ECB, to set camp for the weekend festivities. They were provided with a continental breakfast on Saturday morning before traveling a brief [10] minute drive to the U.S. Naval Academy where Eagle Scout Midshipmen provided a guided Tour of the United States Naval Academy grounds & facility. They were then provided lunch back at ECB and a Tailgate Party at the Navy-Marine Corp Memorial Stadium with kickoff at 3:30 P.M. of the Patriot League College Football Game; USNA Midshipmen vs. Northern Illinois University. The Elks provided Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, & soft drinks to all Scouts and Leaders through Halftime festivities. The Elks Drug Awareness Program Trailer was setup next to the Navy-Fest tent with literature, bookmarks being provided to all. The Navy Football game had an attendance of nearly [35,000] people, many that visited the Navy-Fest area where a “Kids Zone” was provided, they then watched the Parade of the USNA Midshipmen Brigade as they marched into the main gate just past our Elks Tent and trailer.

~ After the game, the Scouts returned to ECB for soup and sandwiches before the Saturday evening Drug Awareness Program show presented by the Chesapeake, Va. - PRIDE Youth Program. The PRIDE team gave a fantastic show of choreography song & dance presentations with skits. The entire program gave the Scouts and Leaders a continued Drug Awareness Educational experience. The Saturday evening activities were capped off with a large bonfire where the Scouts presented skits of their own.

~ Sunday morning the Elk Volunteers presented a hot breakfast for all that was followed by a Scout led Sunday Worship Service (Non-Denominational) on our ECB Hillside Chapel (Scout built). The Scout Troops then began to break camp and head for their homes from states along the Atlantic Coast, including MD, DE, DC, VA, WV, PA, NJ, NY & CT. A Sunday Service collection was taken by the Scouts, whereas the total of \$222.00 collected was donated to the Chesapeake, Va. - PRIDE Youth Program.

~ Finally, a DVD Movie (old or new) Drive was asked by the Scout Troops for shipment to our U.S. Troops in Baghdad, Iraq. This weekend drive brought in over [110] DVD Movies for our Troops!!

Submitted by: Joe McGeeney, Scout Camporee Chairman



DID YOU KNOW??

We accomplished the following using the Improvement Fund in the 90's:

- Put pipe from in front of Dining Room to the Well House for electric.
- Put pipe from Well House to the first cabin for future electric line.
- Built a walk-in box on the Pavilion.
- Replaced old flag pole and base.
- Installed two septic tanks. One for the cabins, dining hall and the counselors cabin, another for the bathhouse.

The caretaker's house has its own tank.
THANK YOU to all the brothers who volunteered their time to accomplish all of these projects and to everyone who give so generously of their Time, Talents and Gifts over the years to make our Elks Camp Barrett the best it can be!

Submitted by: Kenny Largent, PSP

“Remember to sponsor a child”

Shown with Scout Troop #241 are far left: Carl Robinson (Vice Chair) and Joe McGeeney (State Chair), Drug Awareness Committee; far right: Warren Johnson (President) and Priscilla Schwab (President-Elect), Maryland, Delaware and District of Columbia Elks Association. Troop #241 from Knauers, PA was responsible for the Sunday Service and helped with DVD Movie Drive.





Getting Campers

*Now is the Time to Plan for Elks Camp Barrett
Prospects and the Campaign*



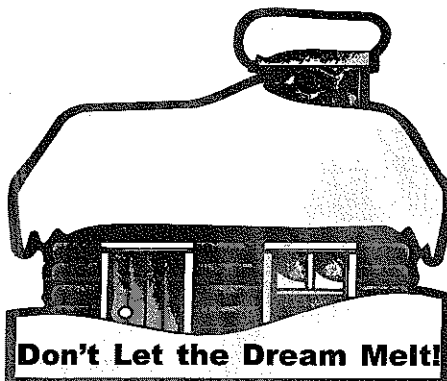
Personal Contacts

Anyone, - your next door neighbor, your best friend, the cashier at the supermarket, all living relatives, the nurse in your doctor's office, your co-worker, the postman and now you see anyone and everyone may know of a child that would be eligible to attend our camp.

Ask.

**Leave no stone
unturned.**

We must fill the camp.



**When the Snow
Melts
Your Lodge Will Be
Ready.**



How to be Successful

The first thing you need is a strong, effective program. The first thing to do is **PLAN**.

Select a Committee

Five members including the Youth Activities Chairmen and your Lodge Elks Camp Barrett Representative. It will be their duty to contact all prospects. They should also contact other members and make them aware that our lodge is looking for campers. The committee should report all contacts.

Set a Goal

You can set a Quota and remember to include it in your Lodge's Annual Budget. \$100.00/child.

Letters

Could be mailed to community organizations that partner with us such as the Boy Scouts, the Girls Scouts, the Little League and your local 4-H club. They know many deserving children that would like to attend our camp. Also, by recruiting their members to help us it shows that "Elks Care and Elks Share".

Compile a List

List should be set up to contain names and addresses of all current schools that have children of camping age. Each member of the committee should know who is assigned to contact who so no one slips through the cracks. Reward children who entered the Americanism essay contest, the Hoop or Soccer Shoots. Discuss how you plan to make the contacts, letters, phone or perhaps in person.

Publicize Your Efforts

Use your Lodge's Newsletter to keep your members aware of all the activities for campers. Use the same Newsletter to promote the fundraisers such as candy sales, raffles, dinners, and requests for donations. Use this Newsletter again to ask members for help in finding children to send to camp. Advise the membership of your progress.

**Camping
Applications are
Available Now!**

*Mary Cardinal Vogt
Camp Barrett Public Relations
Committee Chairman*

2007 Year End Membership Report [Through November 2007]

As of December 11, 2007 (based upon the November reports received to date) our current membership is 25,586 members. This seems like a good improvement, however when the lapsation of 1971 members is taken into consideration, then our effective membership is only 23,615 members. To give you a better look at where we are today I have provided the statistics for the past 5 years for November for comparison.

	<u>2003-2004</u>	<u>2004-2005</u>	<u>2005-2006</u>	<u>2006-2007</u>	<u>2007-2008</u>
Starting Membership	24,791	24,736	24,927	25,005	25,124
Initiated	934	923	992	951	850
Increase*	1,253	1,127	1,212	1,149	1,020
Decrease**	680	571	572	480	558
Net Gain	573	556	640	669	462
Current Membership	25,364	25,292	25,567	25,674	25,585
Lapsation	1,254	1,391	1,464	1,931	1,971
Effective Membership	24,110	23,901	24,103	23,743	23,615
Gain/Loss for year	-681	-835	-824	-1,262	-1,509

*Includes: Initiated, Demit in & Reinstates, **Includes: Stricken, Expelled, Demit Out, & Deaths

The last two rows represent our membership and gain-loss for the year if it were to end now dropping those on lapsation. As can be seen from the data, lapsation is always a major problem and must be continuously worked by the Membership/Lapsation Teams in our Lodges.

The data is somewhat skewed due to the reporting by the Lodges. I have included the data for reporting for the last three months and the Grand Lodge reports for the same years as above.

{No. of Reports Received}

September	30	29	29	34	25
October	28	27	27	22	21
Grand/Lodge	32	31	33	30	29
November	28	25	21	28	19

Again, as can be seen from the number of reports, only 19 have been received to date for November of this year. This probably accounts in part for why our Lapsation is higher this year compared to most previous years. This also points out why we need better reporting by the Lodges - 19 out of 40 is not a good representation. The data does, however, include the last report from each Lodge - regardless of which month it was for.

Chuck Donaldson
State Membership Chairman

RITUAL REPORT

We have had four Ritual Clinics so far this year. Easton, Prince Georges County, Newark and Frederick. We still need to schedule one in the North Central District. The annual Word Checker Clinic will be held at this meeting on Saturday afternoon. This should be at 1:00 P.M., but check the posted schedule.

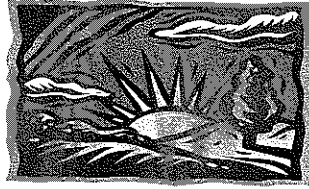
The annual District judging is completed. I want to thank all the lodges for their participation. The winning teams and highest scoring officers are:

<u>District</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Officer</u>
Southeast	Easton	Connie Wolcott, Lect. Knight, Easton
West	Frederick	Tammy Guttery, Esquire, Frederick
North Central, Southwest, Northeast - Not Available at Press Time		

The committee congratulates all the winners and we look forward to a very good State Contest. This year, we will have judges from Virginia. The contest will be held at Annapolis on Sunday, March 2. The schedule will be determined by draw this weekend. Good luck to all the teams.

Dick Fleck, Ritual Chairman

**MARYLAND, DELAWARE AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ELKS ASSOCIATION
June Convention Reservations**



**WISP Mountain Resort and Conference Center
290 MARSH HILL ROAD
McHENRY, MD 21541
MAY 30TH - JUNE 1ST, 2008**

Reservation Deadline: Friday, April 25, 2008 – Unfortunately, NO Exceptions

Check the for reservations. Select complete weekend package (option #1) or Lodging (option #2) and/or Saturday State Association Dinner (option #3).

Option #1 Weekend Package

Includes two nights accommodations on May 30 and May 31, Saturday Evening's State Association Dinner (choice of Char Grilled New York Strip Steak {medium rare to medium ONLY} with Caramelized Onions or Chicken Breast Stuffed with Crab in White Wine Sauce) and Breakfast Buffet on Saturday and Sunday mornings.

Double Occupancy: \$320.00 New York Strip # _____
Single Occupancy: \$255.00 Stuffed Chicken # _____

Option #2 Individual Room Rates

One Night \$95.00
Two Nights \$190.00

Option #3 Dinner Only

One person \$35.00 New York Strip # _____
Two persons \$70.00 Stuffed Chicken # _____

Dinner Advanced Reservations Only - No tickets will be sold at the door

Total amount due this reservation based upon above selections: \$ _____

Non-Smoking Smoking  One Bed Two Beds

Enclose payment with reservation and check payable to MD, DE and DC Elks Association:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Lodge: _____

**MAIL TO:
Gregory A. Wilkes, PSP
6134 W. Denney's RD
Dover, DE 19901
302-674-4157**

State Soccer Shoot Finals



The MD, DE, D.C. Elks Association held their state soccer shoot on November 10, 2007 in Ocean City, MD. Shown with winners are: Left: Warren Johnson, President and State Chairman, Butch Morgan, Far Right. Participants were:

Front Row: Johnathon Bishop(U-10), Kayla Opsahl(U-10) Deottis Richards(U-8), Natalie Jack(U-8)

Second Row: Conner Troxwell(U-14), Masiel Guevara(U-14), Avery Zuber(U-12), Bridgett Townsend(U-12)

**MARYLAND, DELAWARE and
DISTRICT of COLUMBIA
ELKS ASSOCIATION**



A Fraternal Organization

George W. Hamilton, PSP
14172 Shelby Circle
Hagerstown, MD 21740
