

Maryland, Delaware and District of Columbia



Elks Association News

A Fraternal Organization
Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks
United States of America



www.MDDEDCELKS.ORG

January 2018



Sandy Brantner

Message from the State President

Happy New Year and welcome to Frederick Lodge, home lodge of our Grand Trustee Warren Johnson, for the Winter Conference of our Association! I hope that each of you had a wonderful holiday season with your families!

Welcome to our Grand Lodge Sponsor, PGER Paul D. Helsel and Jane; Grand Lodge Trustee, Warren Johnson and Debbie; and our special guest, Grand Lodge Public Relations Committee Member Pete Smith and his wife Sandi from the great State Association of New Jersey! Please take time to welcome them to our Conference this

weekend and show them some of that great MD, DE & DC Elks hospitality!

I want to thank you if you attended the Fall Conference in Ocean City. If you weren't able to attend, we had a great workshop full of presentations, training and lots of fun. The Saturday night dinner was the greatest, the entertainment was the best and the Halloween costumes were wonderful!!! What a great time that was had by all, in costume or not! A big "Thank You" to the Convention/Conference Committee for doing an excellent job to ensure that we all had a great weekend!!

Since we last met in Ocean City, I travelled right back to Ocean City the following weekend for the State Soccer Shoot. What a great program, but a very poor participation from our lodges. I have officially visited 15 lodges of our Association, attended Elks Camp Barrett meetings and State Trustees' meetings. What a pleasure it has been to visit the lodges in our Association! To hear the reports of the great works our lodges are doing, the support being given to the communities, youth and veterans' programs and the growth of membership, ensures me that we are heading for another great year in Elkdom. I know that we are recording and reporting all of those hours and miles! I want to thank each of you for the wonderful hospitality shown to Jim and me and the District Vice Presidents. Jim and I are so proud to be serving as your President and 1st Dude!

In November, Jim and I had the wonderful experience of visiting the New Jersey State Association Fall Conference in Long Branch, NJ. It was a wonderful weekend, and we were treated like family.

As we are nearing the end of the lodge year, nominations and elections in our lodges will be held in February. Now is the time to let your District Leaders know if you are interested in a District Committee. Strong leaders are needed in the lodges as well as in the District.

Remember, February marks the 150th Anniversary of our Order! Big things are being planned, and now is the time to plan to attend the Grand Lodge Convention in San Antonio, Texas where the celebration will be huge! This weekend, Pete Smith will fill us in on some ways to celebrate. Also, remember that the Anniversary Grant of \$1500 is available to all lodges. If your lodge hasn't applied yet, get on the website and secure that grant! I know that every lodge in our Association can assist your community with this one-time grant.

Thank you to Frederick Lodge #684 for graciously hosting us this weekend. Take a minute to thank the many volunteers, members and staff for their hard work and opening their lodge to us this weekend. Our next meeting will be in March at Glen Burnie Lodge #2266 when we host our GER Malcolm McPherson and his wife Pat.

Remember we are "Elks - Serving Proudly, Promoting Youth & Honoring Veterans".

Sandra Brantner
State President
MD, DE & DC Elks State Association



COMING EVENTS

February 3, 2018
Peer Leadership Program
Elks Camp Barrett

February 11, 2018
State Hoop Shoot
Chestertown, MD

March 3, 2018
Regional Soccer Shoot
Frederick, MD

March 11, 2018
Americanism Banquet
Westminster Lodge #2277

March 23-25, 2018
GER Visit / Spring Conference
Glen Burnie Lodge #2266

June 8-10, 2018
State Association Convention
Solomon's Island, MD

July 1-4, 2018
Grand Lodge Convention
San Antonio, Texas

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

**Maryland, Delaware &
District of Columbia
Elks Association News**
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**WINTER CONFERENCE AGENDA OF THE MD, DE & DC ELKS ASSOCIATION
FREDERICK LODGE #684, FREDERICK, MD**

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 2018

12:00 PM - 4:00 PM..... Registration
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM..... Lunch – Frederick Lodge #684
1:00 PM - ? :00 PM..... Advisory Meeting
5:00 PM..... State Trustees Meeting
5:30 PM..... Elks Camp Barrett Executive Committee Meeting
5:00 PM - 9:00 PM..... Dinner Buffet Available - Frederick Lodge

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 2018

7:30 AM - 9:30 AM..... Breakfast Buffet Available - Frederick Lodge
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM..... Registration
8:00 AM..... Elks Camp Barrett Representatives Meeting
9:00 AM..... Meeting Called to Order by State President Brantner
9:02 AM..... Introductions, Invocation, Pledge, Roll Call, etc.
9:30 AM - 11:50 AM..... **Training, Presentations and Committee Reports**
9:30 AM - 11:00AM . DD Clinic – DDGER presentations
11:00AM Elks Training – Trent Manson
11:20AM Social Media and How to Access – Danniele McKnight
11:30AM 150th Anniversary, GL Public Relations - Peter Smith
11:45AM Senator Young, Gaming Bill
11:55 AM Announcements – Recess until 9:00 A.M. Sunday, January 21st
11:30 AM - 2:00 PM..... Lunch Buffet Available - Frederick Lodge
12:00 PM - 12:30 PM..... **Senator Young Meeting with Lodges for Gaming Bill Information**
12:30 PM - 1:00 PM..... President & President Elect Meeting with VPs & Committee Chairs
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM..... President, President Elect & VPs Meeting with Exalted Rulers
1:30 PM - 3:30 PM..... PGER Paul D. Hesel Meeting with DDGERs & PSPs/District Leaders
1:30 PM - 4:30 PM..... Committee Meetings (as requested by State Chairs)
6:00 PM - 8:30 PM..... Dinner - Frederick Lodge
7:30 PM - 10:00 PM..... Entertainment in the Lounge

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2018

7:30 AM - 9:00 AM..... Breakfast Buffet Available - Frederick Lodge
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM..... Registration
9:00 AM..... Workshop Called to Order by State President Brantner
9:02 AM - 11:30 AM..... **Training, Presentations and Committee Reports**
(9:05) Youth Activities – Colleen Ford
(9:10) Soccer Shoot – Gerald Morrow
(9:15) Scouting – Brian Westfall
(9:20) Convention/Conference Committee – Marilyn Ramsey
(9:30) Drug Awareness – Angela Meyer
(9:50) Elks National Foundation – Mary Cardinal-Vogt
(10:05) Peer Leadership – Kathy King
(10:15) Elks Camp Barrett – John Loftus
(10:25) William J. Jernick Fund – John Loftus
(10:35) Government Relations – Bonnie Howell/Corey Bradley
(10:45) Hoop Shoot – Basil Wadkovsky
(10:50) Membership – George Tunnickliff
(11:00) Veterans – Robert McIntyre
(11:10) Americanism – Margie McIntyre
(11:20) By-Laws – Jay Nave
11:30 AM BUSINESS MEETING: Secretary's Report – Minutes/Communications
Trustees Report – Gerald Morrow
Treasurer's Report – Jackie Phillips
Advisory Report – Jim Stewart
UNFINISHED BUSINESS
NEW BUSINESS
ANNOUNCEMENTS
GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION President - Grand Lodge Sponsor, Paul D Hesel
Grand Lodge Trustee - Grand Lodge Public Relations Pete Smith
Departed Members/Silence/Sickness & Distress
Elks Camp Barrett 50-50 Drawing
ADJOURN 12:00 PM
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Lunch Buffet Available - Frederick Lodge

**NEXT MEETING – MARCH 23-25, 2018: GLEN BURNIE LODGE #2266
GRAND EXALTED RULER, MALCOLM J. MCPHERSON'S VISIT TO OUR ASSOCIATION**

Next Newsletter Deadline: February 23, 2018



Grand Exalted Ruler
Malcolm J McPherson Jr.

Message From Our Grand Exalted Ruler

Forget resolutions: Set one Elks goal for 2018

The new year brings an opportunity to start fresh. We make resolutions to stop procrastinating, eat healthier, exercise more, act nicer to others, and so on. Yet many of us set unachievable expectations and are left wondering why we abandon our resolutions by February.

Let's resolve to get rid of resolutions this year and instead set goals that we can realistically attain. I challenge you to choose just one actionable goal that you can execute this calendar year within your Lodge, community, or the greater Order. Here are some ideas to get you started:

- Share your pride in being an Elk by recruiting and installing a new member.
- Volunteer to chair a committee or event within your Lodge.
- Run for an officer position within your Lodge this coming March.
- Seek out a new charitable initiative for your Lodge to support in your community.
- Master the Elks ritual process and help strengthen your Lodge's ritual performance.

I hope these ideas spark a desire to make a difference in your community and work together with fellow members. If we give ourselves realistic goals, then we're more likely to stick to them and ultimately become a stronger Lodge.

As Pat and I get back on the road again this month, another one of my goals for the remaining year is to promote our 150 years of Elkdom. As we get closer to our annual reunion in July in San Antonio, Texas, I challenge each of you to bring your great works of Elkdom into your local communities.

I look forward to hearing about the ways you are strengthening Elkdom as we continue this journey together.



Paul D. Helsel
PGER & Sponsor

Message From Our State Sponsor

January 20, 2018

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

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

This conference finds us almost 10 months into the 2017/2018 Lodge year and once again the final push is under way to make our goals and end the year

with positive results in terms of membership growth, financial stability, Elks Program participation, and community involvement. If each of our 37 lodges ends the year with positive results, the Association will once again have a great year.

Membership retention and growth continues as our number one priority, and as of the early December reports we still have much to do for our Association to end this lodge year on the plus side. We did it last year and we can do it again this year; but every Elk and every lodge of our Association must be a part of the effort – every lodge must work to reduce their delinquency level, initiate every candidate in the system and continue recruiting new applications and reinstatements. Your individual and collective efforts over the next two months will determine whether your lodge and our Association will again be on the plus side this year!!

February 16, 2018 is the 150th birthday of our Order, a milestone that few organizations, companies and even countries

ever have the opportunity to celebrate. It certainly speaks to the strength and determination of our Order and those Elks who have toiled over the years to make and maintain our Order as the premier Fraternal and Service organization in our great Nation. We are in the midst of a yearlong celebration that will end with major festivities at our National Convention in San Antonio, Texas in July – hopefully your lodge has planned or is planning local celebrations for this most important milestone. We need every lodge involved in this celebration in a manner that makes both our members and communities aware of who the Elks are (locally and nationally), what we do, and what we have done for the past 150 years. We have much to be proud of, and now is the time to tout our 150 years of service and accomplishments.

Thanks to all of you who have and are working for your lodge, our Association, and our Order!! You and what you are doing is a tribute to all those Elks and their efforts before you – it's your efforts today that will set the stage and ensure that our Order will endure for another 150 years!

Best wishes to all for a successful and enjoyable Winter Conference and a successful, rewarding, and prosperous 2018.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Paul D. Helsel, PGER & Sponsor



Message From the President-Elect

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season with a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! As your President-Elect, I have attended the Elks Camp Barrett Executive Board Meetings, the Elks Camp Barrett Reps Meetings, the Con-Con Committee Meeting and some of the Training committee conference calls.

The committee chair selections are going good. There are only a couple of committees to finalize. Thank you to all the wonderful, dedicated Elks who have decided to stay on as chairmen and to the new chairmen that have stepped up. I know you will give this your all. I am working on the State Association Officers for the 2018-2019 year and plan to have all positions filled by March for announcement to the Association.

On Friday, November 10th, I reported to Elks Camp Barrett for the Scout Camporee weekend. It was a very cold weekend, but the warmth of fellow Elks working together kept you toasty inside and out. It was an amazing event, and we hosted over 900 Scouts and their leaders. Kudos to Brain Westfall and his crew. They truly did a great job. If you have not experienced this event yet you should mark your calendar now for next year. You will have a great time and you will leave with an understanding that this is Elkdom.

Recently, I sent an email to Lodges asking for Lodges to volunteer to host the winter workshop or spring workshop in January and March of 2019. This represents a great opportunity for a Lodge to share its hospitality with the members of our Association. Your Lodge will always have these cherished memories. I will need your signed proposals back to me if you are interested so we can make these important selections. Thank You Frederick for hosting this workshop. Happy Birthday, February 16th 2018, to Our Great Order. Spread the word as to how you will be celebrating.

I would like to thank the lodges that are sending me their newsletters. Lodges: If you haven't put me on your list yet please do so. Thank you to the Vice Presidents for copying me on their reports. I would also like to thank Our President Sandy and First Dude Jim who have kept Carl and I informed of their travels and itinerary.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone in March at Glen Burnie Lodge when we host our GER Malcolm J. McPherson, Jr. and his lovely wife Pat.

**Fraternally,
Mary E. Cardinal-Vogt**



Protocol

The "Star Spangled Banner" is the National Anthem of our Country. To honor our National Anthem when played, we stand (if able), remove our hats (if not active military), and place our right hand over our heart. Active or retired military may give the military salute. "God Bless America" and "America the Beautiful" are wonderful patriotic songs. However, they are NOT our National Anthem and as such are NOT entitled to those honors. Please refrain from doing so.

More Protocol

GLS 1.140, opinion 02: "A P.E.R. who transfers to another lodge does NOT become a P.E.R. of that lodge" Therefore, during the opening ceremony when the Exalted Ruler asks all Past Exalted Rulers to please stand, that invitation is to the Past Exalted Rulers of THAT lodge ONLY and all other Past Exalted Rulers should remain seated. UNLESS the Exalted Ruler *specifically requests* that Past Exalted Rulers of ALL lodges please stand. Only then is it acceptable.

Reese Hickman Triple Play

The following is a portion of a letter received from Jim O'Kelly, Director of the Elks National Foundation:

"We received nearly \$3,500 in memory of Reese Hickman. He must have been quite a person."

You can still make a "triple play" with your donation to the Elks National Foundation. On the memo line of your check, simply put "In Memory of Reese Hickman." You get credit, your lodge gets credit and Reese's Memorial Fund grows. That is the best triple play in the book. Our goal is to reach \$10,000 in Reese's honor.

Thanks for your help.

Bill Buttrill, PSP

North Central District

Michael Greaver, VP

Essex Lodge No. 1866 ♦ mikegreaver@comcast.net



Good Day North Central!

I would like to thank you all for giving me the opportunity to visit your Lodges. It was so exciting to see what each Lodge has been doing for our Vets and our communities.

If you would just take a moment and imagine what your Lodge is doing and then multiply that by all the Lodges across this great country of ours you would say "WOW"!

I am so proud to be a member of this Great Organization.

Lets' remember North Central Rolls! I hope to see all of you at the Elk Celebration - 150th Birthday Party.

Thank you and God Bless.

Fraternally,

Mike Greaver



Essex Lodge

Celebrated Veteran's Day by remembering those who have protected our freedom.



Start planning now for the All American Lodge contest

By RICHARD C. CONWAY
Committee Member

March 15, 2018, is a very important date to remember: It's the deadline to mail your All American Lodge—Contest "A" entry form to the District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler.

The winner of the contest, which recognizes Lodges that have best administered Elks Programs throughout the year, is determined by a score that counts participation in 40 activities. Each activity has a designated value between 5 and 100 points. Activities include observing Flag Day services, sponsoring a new Lodge, increasing membership, and participating in Elks programs such as Antlers, Hoop Shoot, and the Americanism Essay Contest.

Prior planning prevents poor performance, so start planning now if you're not doing so already. Begin by appointing a chairman knowledgeable in Lodge activities (perhaps a Past Exalted Ruler) and schedule a meeting with the Lodge Secretary, Treasurer, Auxiliary, PERs, and all committees, including those unique to the Lodge. Provide each with a copy of the contest entry form and, if available, the Lodge's entry form from last year that shows past contest information.

Some of the activities that earn the most points involve action by more than one Lodge committee, so it is important that all attendees review the entry form and provide the required information to the contest chairman.

Previous contest winners take advantage of activities with designated maximum points that require specific listing in the attachments. Provide as much info as possible, not just enough to make the quota. The best idea is to "overkill," just in case your competitors have a similar number of activities. Potential sources for obtaining activities numbers include a Lodge's expenditure reports and newsletters. Have all designated committee members update their provided information the first of each month.

Lastly, keep in mind that winners are determined by membership category—your Lodge is competing against only Lodges of a similar size.

North East District

Mike Ford, VP

Abingdon Lodge No. 2345 ♦ sprinklergod26@yahoo.com



Good day fellow Elks and welcome to this year's Winter Workshop in beautiful Frederick, Md. I know the holidays are a very busy time for us Elks, and I hope you had time to relax and enjoy the season with family and friends.

Since my last transmission, I have made my visits to Chestertown and Havre de Grace Lodges and had the honor of escorting President Brantner to Newark and Dover Lodges. I must say that hearing the passion and emotion in her speech is very inspiring and motivational. I know that the North East has heard her call and is working hard to achieve our State

goals. With that being said, let me give you the run down on the "Beasts from the North East".

Newark Lodge has been sending Birthday wishes to deployed troops, hosting monthly pizza parties and events for Victory Village. They have hosted a VA Homeless Summit and donated their Lodge as a place for the National Guard to decompress after their weekend drills. They have also been out and about in the community supporting our Drug Awareness Program with Elroy entertaining the kids.

Milford Lodge has adopted a Boy Scout Troop in addition to their Cub Scout Pack 911. They have also started a new Young Athletes Program which has really taken off. They have taken great steps to be visible out in the community and have attended The Riverwalk Festival, Milford Parade, and The Special Olympics Truck Convoy. Milford has been using our Drug Awareness trailer and Elroy to spread the message to the surrounding neighborhood children. They are continuing to support our Veterans with hospital visits and in Lodge events.

My Vice-Presidential visits started at Chestertown Lodge on November 7th. I like to call them my "Good Old Lodge". They almost had me when they said the meeting dress code was camouflage blazers. Chestertown is using their Anniversary Grant to support The Samaritan Group and The Community Table to supply meals to the homeless and less fortunate. They have continued to send campers to Elks Camp Barrett and support the Camporee. Members spent a day cleaning the grave stones of Veterans in Chestertown Cemetery and have also established a drug drop box with the Chestertown Police.

My visit to Havre de Grace Lodge was on November 16th with our lovely State Youth Chair, Colleen Ford. I would like to thank Havre de Grace for hosting this year's District Soccer Shoot. It was a big help. Members were busy with fundraisers for the holiday season and sponsored several events for the Perry Point Veterans. Their Drug Awareness Program sponsored a booth at the Rage Against Addiction Community Outreach, where Bill Martin, the Mayor of Havre de Grace, heard all about our Drug Awareness Program. He is looking forward to working with the Elks in the future.

During my travels throughout the North East, whether for visitations or fun, I have been able to gain a better appreciation for the different things our Lodges do at the local level. I am pleased to report they are all working hard to support our Grand Lodge programs and the goals set forth by State President Brantner.

We are fast approaching the home stretch of our 2017-2018 fraternal year, and it's time to continue our charitable work and end up with another rewarding and successful year. So, let's make sure we have applied for all our grants, meet our ENF and Jernick Fund goals, continue to honor our Veterans and promote our youth.

Yours in service,
Mike Ford

Newark Elks 2281



Worked on behalf of Veterans during November, sending birthday cards to deployed soldiers, hosting a pizza party at the VA Hospital and giving gift cards for Thanksgiving. Several members worked together and cooked a Thanksgiving feast with all the sides for Homeless Veterans currently living at Victory Village. Pictured are Valerie Huot (ER), Lynn McConnell and Margaret Harrity. (Not pictured Mary Ann Izzo and Judy Brown who also cooked.)

Abingdon Lodge 2354

Has been very busy since our last Workshop. With the assistance of the Anniversary Grant, we have sponsored and become monthly volunteers at Welcome One Shelter in Bel Camp, MD, serving meals to the homeless. We also used funds from the Beacon Grant and donations from members to sponsor needy families at both Thanksgiving and Christmas. And we just hosted a very successful Children's Christmas Party at the Lodge benefiting children within the community.

Should anyone ask, "Who are the Elks?"

Elks are community.

No matter where you go in the country, an Elks Lodge is right around the corner. With more than 850,000 members and 2,000 Lodges nationwide, Elks are providing charitable services that help build stronger communities.

South East District

Lloyd Barron, VP

Kent Island Lodge No. 2576 ♦ lbarron57@gmail.com



Greetings!

Let me start with a huge "Thank You" to the Lodges I had the pleasure and honor of visiting. In September, I visited Cambridge Lodge. Then with the State President Sandra Brantner & Past State President Jim Stewart I had the privilege of visiting Cape Henlopen Lodge, Ocean City Lodge, Salisbury Lodge and Easton Lodge. These are visits that I will never forget for the brotherhood and hospitality was superb. Then it was back to Ocean City for the State Association Workshop. Another good time with old and new friends. A lot was

offered as far as training and a lot of good information was shared.

In October, Ocean City Lodge hosted the Soccer Shoot for the South East District. I had the pleasure of helping and had a lot of fun doing so. Also, "Thank You" to Ocean City Lodge for hosting the awards ceremony afterwards. Later on in October, I had the pleasure of visiting Crisfield Lodge and Pocomoke City Lodge. They made arrangements for me to bring my motor home. I could not have asked for anything more from these Lodges. They welcomed me with open arms and friendship.

November was my visit to my home Lodge, Kent Island. As in all the others, the warmth and friendship was special. I was able to actually sit and watch my own Lodge from the viewpoint of a visitor as they performed the Initiatory Ritual, aka "the long form". I must say it was quite different to see it in that capacity. Thank you Kent Island Lodge.

Now I want to talk about our South East District Lodges as a whole. From the Lodges I have visited I can only say WE have some very committed Lodge Officers, Members and Volunteers. Period. Our Lodges are very youth oriented from youth sports activities to family parties. The Lodges in the South East District are also deeply involved in our Veterans' programs, whether it's hosting a Veterans' Picnic, holding a Veterans' Turkey shoot, providing furniture for a vet in need, hosting a Veterans' Dinner for them and their families or teaming up with an American Legion and doing what needs to be done for our Veterans. "South East Rocks".

We all still have work to do. We never say, "that's good enough". We keep this train a-rollin, leading into membership and delinquent memberships. We all have work to do. The good thing is that we still have time to get it done and have fun doing it. So with that I shall say I will be seeing you soon. I am so Proud to be a part of the South East District, thank you for that. Good job South East. Keep it rolling.

Fraternally,

Lloyd Barron

Cape Henlopen Elks 2540



Contributed \$5,000 to the George family, through the District's Jer-nick Fund. The money will be used to help defray some of the medical expenses of Zach and Nicole George. This is another example of Cape Henlopen Elks' commitment to the community.



Cape Henlopen Lodge 2540



Participated in trunk-or-treat and gave candy and drug awareness materials to over 300 children at Conley's United Methodist Church on Halloween, October 31st. Included in each bag given out by Elroy and his helpers were drug awareness coloring books, crayons, a pencil, bookmark and lots of candy which was generously donated by Lodge members. Conley's Church is located in Lewes, DE.



South West District

Robert Broom, VP

St. Mary's County Lodge No. 2092 ♦ robert.broom72@gmail.com



Howdy Y'all,

I want to say first and foremost that I hope each of you had a wonderful holiday season. Giving thanks for all that we have, coupled with celebrating the birth of Christ, offers a truly remarkable time to reflect on faith and family. I know that I have spent time doing just that - I realize just how fortunate I am to be surrounded by family and friends whom I cherish with every fiber of my being and a fraternal Elks family

that, for me, is very much blended with my "family". It is an honor to be associated with this great Order – serving our communities and our Veterans.

In the spirit of honoring our veterans, I would be remiss if I did not take a moment to share something special. At my home lodge of St. Mary's County, we are fortunate to host Veterans from the Charlotte Hall Veterans' Home twice a month for pizza and steak. There is a WW II Veteran named Mike (stormed the beaches at Normandy) that celebrated his 93rd birthday on November 13th. A few of us

have built a bond with Mike, and we decided to get a cake for him and the other veterans to enjoy at our November 10th pizza night. So with balloons, cake and hearts of gratitude, we served Mike and the veterans. He was in awe and could not believe what we had done for him....hard to compare his sacrifices to our simple gesture. Mike has taught us much, and I wanted to share his story with you.

I am sad to report that there was no apparent conspiracy with regards to my home lodge being left off the initial directory map. Sandy and her merry band of cartographers have assured me it was a simple mistake. While I hold my reservations, Sandy is my state "Elk boss", so I feel compelled to accept her statement on the matter. Case Closed.

As we complete the first half of the association year, I hope that all of you have enjoyed your visits by our State President. I know that I have enjoyed attending visits with Sandy and meeting new Elks. Keep fighting the good fight, serve proudly, get your youth involved, and always help a Veteran.

Fraternally,
Robert Broom

St. Mary's County Lodge

Hosted a 93rd Birthday Celebration for Mike, a veteran who resides at Charlotte Hall Veterans' Home during his visit to the Lodge on November 10, 2017.

Salute!

St. Mary's County Lodge

At their 59th annual Charity Ball, St. Mary's County Lodge presented a check for \$6500.00 to ACTS – A Community That Shares. This organization provides medical equipment free of charge on loan to residents of St. Mary's County.

Deale Lodge 2528

Raised \$4,060.00 at their annual Crab Feast and presented a check for that amount to Principal Geoff Casey to benefit Shady Side Elementary School. Also pictured are member Ginger Johnson and ER Larry Sheldrake.



West District

Eric Sines, VP

Oakland Lodge No. 2481 ♦ ess2801@hotmail.com



Members,
I hope you all had a safe and happy holiday!
I want to say how proud I am to be a small part of a District that is doing such an amazing job supporting their local projects in the community and working hard supporting our veterans. Keep up all the great work and keep striving to meet our ENF goals for this year. I would like to extend a big "thank you" to all

who attended the Camp Barrett meeting. It was great to see every lodge in the West represented.

I will have my visits scheduled in the very near future and look forward to seeing you all in Frederick.

Fraternally,
Eric Sines



Washington Rockville Lodge 15



Used their \$1500 Anniversary Grant to help Inwood House with holiday baskets that are distributed to residents. The lodge historically does a canned food drive for the house that is home to over 100 low income adults with disabilities. Along with the check from the Anniversary Grant, lodge members collected about 110 pounds of canned food and dry goods for the home.

Pictured are Lodge member Pam Simms and Melisa Bell, Administrator & Community Manger for Inwood House



Camp Springs Lodge 2332



**Retired Chief Warrant Officer Betty J. Brown
(Current State Commander DAV)**

Held its Annual Veteran's and Special Needs Charity Event Dinner on November 11, 2017. Pictured are two of our honored guests who shared their knowledge and experiences as Veterans.

In addition to a very patriotic atmosphere and a meal worthy of our heroes, we held a silent auction of edible goods. We were joined by our guest speakers and Veterans and their families from the surrounding community. Every year, we make it a point to invite and provide transportation for some of our veterans who reside in Veteran's Homes in adjoining counties.

As Elks, we were honored to be able to salute and pay tribute to those who have served our country (and those who continue to do so) to make sure that we all remain free.



**Past Deputy Secretary Wilbert Forbes
(Maryland Department of Veteran's Affairs)**

AUDITING & BUSINESS PRACTICES

Per the State By-Laws, the Auditing and Business Practices Committee will provide advice, counsel and guidance in financial matters of the Association and to the member Lodges upon their request. Over the last six months, the Committee provided advice to Lodges across the State. In addition to answering requests from Lodges, the Committee has provided training and training material, briefed at DD clinics, created workbooks for event and House accounting, advised Lodge Auditing and Accounting Committees, and submitted information to update the State website.

If you or your Lodge has any questions that this Committee might be able to help with, please let us know. Some of our workbooks and briefings are on the State website already and more will be placed there as they become available. If you have any difficulty using these or have something else you want to see, drop me an email and I will look into it. This committee is here to help, you only need to ask.

This committee often works quietly and behind the scenes so I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the members and thank them for their support in this important activity. In the West we have Gerald Morrow of Hagerstown Lodge and in the South West we have Renee' Rivituso from the Waldorf Lodge. North Central is represented by Robert Riggins of the Annapolis Lodge. In the North East we have Donna Moloney of the Chestertown Lodge, and in the South East we have Lisa Travis from the Cape Henlopen Lodge. Thank you for your work on this committee so far and the work you will continue to do this year. It is very much appreciated.

**Fraternally,
Bill Simonds
State Chair**

Government Relations**Making the Most of Charitable Reporting**

As Elks we strive for 100% reporting on all charitable works such as, but not limited to, community donations, attendance at meetings, scholarships, Hoop Shoot and ENF donations. While we have improved over last year, we still have more ground to cover. Rule of thumb is all works performed such as charitable, patriotic, civic-minded or community-related should be reported accurately and timely using the forms provided in the Government Relations Manual and the Charity Records Workbook.

We can only get to 100% once all Lodges have committed to 100% reporting in house. This means as an active member of the State Association you should consider discussing charitable reporting at a Lodge meeting or with the Board of Directors because charity is why we are Elks. A great example of lack of reporting was following the Tornado that struck Kent Island last the summer. Numerous Elks and Lodges made donations, but we may not have accurately captured and reported all that was done.

Government Relations is responsible for tracking and keeping tabs on current legislation and laws that may have significant effects on the Elks as a whole as well as our State Association. We should all take time to become subject matter experts on what's going on in our community.

Reporting charitable works gives Elks a voice. It's been said we should be "Loud & Proud". We can only do that by reporting our good deeds and showing appreciation to other Elks. Please take time to report all your good works accurately and timely.

Remember all work performed for charitable, patriotic, civic-minded or community-related purposes should be reported.

**Corey Bradley
Co-Chairman**

TERRI LYNN NUT CAMPAIGN

I would like to thank everyone who purchased nuts this year to benefit Elks Camp Barrett. This is a new campaign for the Elks and hopefully it will grow through word of mouth. This year we sold 322 bags of nuts giving us a profit of \$814.76 for Elks Camp Barrett. Hopefully we will do this again next year. Thank you one and all for your participation.

Sincerely,
Hilda Davis



On behalf of the ENVSC, I would like to welcome everyone to Frederick for the Winter Workshop. I want to thank all of our Lodges and our VAVS Reps for remembering our veterans during the Holidays and for all their hard work throughout this past year.

The Elks National Veterans Service Commission Annual Report for 2016-17 stated that volunteers provide direct service to veterans in more than 330 facilities each month. Through our grants to Elks Lodges, we connect with veterans and military members in our communities providing them with services where they live. We help veterans rehabilitate and thrive through adaptive sports programs and therapy kits. And our Welcome Home initiative is reaching out to some of our most

vulnerable veterans, those who are experiencing homelessness. In the report, the ENVSC states that 138,294 Elks gave 1,072,471 volunteer hours of service to our veterans, the Elks supported 19,682 military families through the Army of Hope, and through friendship and support, the Adopt-A-Veteran program helped 38,342 veterans. The ENVSC estimated Elks service to be valued at \$40,815,147.00. I am proud to report the MD, DE & DC Elks Association contribution for 2016-2017 as follows: The MD, DE & DC Association VAVS Reps serviced 9 facilities which include State Veterans Homes, VA Hospitals, USOs and a Fisher House. There were 3,692 Elk volunteers and helpers logging in 3,784 hours, traveling 14,302 miles and contributing both cash and non-cash donations of \$13,068.00. As we come closer to the end of our Elk year, I am sure we will exceed last year's contributions and hours.

The MD, DE & DC Elks Army of Hope is up and running. We have helped veterans in need with rental assistance and electric bills. We have assisted with construction of handicapped ramps and purchased furniture for a veteran who lost his home in a fire. Recently, there was a call for assistance from a social worker and the HUD-VASH Director at the Wilmington

VA. The social worker and HUD-VASH Director heard of the Army of Hope and the Welcome Program and were referred to me. There was a veteran living in a motel waiting for an apartment who was out of funds and could no longer pay for the motel rent. Without assistance he would become homeless until his apartment was ready for occupancy. The Army of Hope assisted the veteran by paying for the motel rent until the apartment was ready. Upon doing this the Elks were the talk of the VA! So much so that a VAVS Intern wanted to be a part of our organization so she joined the Elks!

The Army of Hope is funded through donations and fundraisers. At the Ocean City Fall Conference Jack Boehmer offered to shave his beard if the Army of Hope raised \$2500.00 before the Winter Conference. He also offered to shave his head if the Army of Hope raised \$5000.00 before the Spring Conference. With this challenge in mind, I will be asking for donations for the Army of Hope. Let's give Jack a shave!

**Fraternally,
Bob McIntyre, Chairman**

VETERANS' WELCOME HOME PROGRAM

Since the State Fall Conference in September, the Welcome Home program has continued to aid veterans in need in the Washington, DC Metro area as well as slowly expanding to the Baltimore Metro area.

Robert McIntyre and I sponsored a one hour breakout session at the Fall Conference on Saturday September 30, 2017 from 1-2PM. To say that we were disappointed is a gross understatement. Please consider attending the next one. We hope to try again in January 2018 in Frederick.

On November 27th, the VA Homeless Veteran Outreach office invited the Elks to visit a housing complex that they operate in SE Washington, DC just off Southern Ave. The VA has just completed a rehab of this 42-unit facility. Half of the apartments are for temporary patients/veterans and the other half is for permanent residents. The VA has set aside six apartments for permanent veteran residents. The VA has asked our State Association if we could assist them in some way. I passed the request on to the State Veterans Committee Chair and our State Sponsor. The six apartments are efficiency sized. There is no cooking setup in the apartments as there is an on-site dining facility.

It was a great tour and the Elks of MD-DE-DC should be proud that the VA is reaching out and asking for our assistance. It reflects the Elks commitment to helping our Veterans.

If you have any questions, please contact Bob McIntyre or myself. Our contact info is in the directory.

**Fraternally,
Carl Robinson, Lead Coordinator**
Elks Welcome Home Program
Washington, DC Metro Area
MD-DE-DC Elks Association





MD, DE & DC ELKS STATE ASSOCIATION



Americanism Banquet

will be held at

Westminster Elks Lodge #2277

Sunday, March 11, 2018 at 1:00 P.M.

Winners of the Essay and Poster Contests
will be recognized and presented awards for their
achievements.

Please make every effort to have a representative from your
Lodge present for the event.



Questions can be directed to your District Chair or to me,
Margie McIntyre, State Chair
302-354-5405



*** OUR STATE ASSOCIATION WEBSITE ***

www.MDDEDCElks.org

AND OUR

~ STATE MAJOR PROJECT – ELKS CAMP BARRETT ~

www.ElksCampBarrett.org

(nearly a dozen Pages of Information... with more to come!!)

**** Check out our State Website with over [101+] Pages of information currently available. Every Committee has a Web Page built to better communicate timely information to our customers, You!!**

**** Every District & every Lodge has a Web Page with Contact Information and any information that a Lodge wishes to submit onto their Web Page!!**

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

PLEASE REFER THEM TO OUR STATE WEBMASTER: Joe McGeeney, PDD – Essex Lodge #1866

Cell: 443.610.0935 / Email: joemcgeeney58@gmail.com / State Email: MDDEDCElks@gmail.com

ANNOUNCEMENT



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



On October 7, 2017 we held the State Soccer Shoot in Ocean City MD. Let's start with the good news first: We ended up with 7 winners in 8 categories. Here are your MD-DE-DC Elks State Association CHAMPIONS for Soccer that will be representing you at the Regional Soccer Shoot in March 2018:

AGE GROUP	GIRLS	BOYS
U7	Alliana Raad	Cooper Thomas
U10	Delaney Rinard	A.J. Applegate
U12		William Nagle
U14	Casside Bramble	Michael Ryan

Congratulations to all our shooters. They need your support by taking out an ad in the program booklet for the Regional Soccer Shoot. Also, you can do a Booster Sheet and submit it to the Regional Committee with the money for each person who signs up as a Booster. Their names and the Booster List will appear in the Program Booklet. They need your support! They represent you and ALL the Lodges in the State Association not just the sponsoring Lodge.

Now the bad news: Even though we had a Shoot, it was poorly supported by the Lodges in the State Association. At the State Shoot we barely had one shooter in each age group attend; and only 3 Districts sent shooters. This is one of the easiest programs to set up and run. The hardest challenge is getting the word out to people in your area that your local Lodge is holding a soccer shoot.

We had lots of helpers to set up, keep score, shag balls, and even had the State President doing registration. Wow!! I thank each and every one of you that showed up and helped. It is appreciated. I would be amiss if I didn't put a shout out in here to Ocean City Lodge for all their support and effort in coordinating with the rec center, supplying water at the site and then serving a wonderful kid-friendly meal at the Lodge. Super Job OC Elks, thank you!!!

Regional Shoot---March 3, 2018 at Frederick MD. More information and details later in email blast and on web site.

Gerald Morrow
State Chair



WORLD'S FINEST CANDY BAR CAMPAIGN

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

Essex Lodge has success selling them by walking around the bar and during bingo and by letting people know the profit goes to Elks Camp Barrett. The VAVS Representatives from Essex, Calvert and Laurel Lodges purchased them for the Veterans. Some Lodges such as Price George's and Easton just put them behind the bar and sell them that way. These are just a few examples of how Lodges are selling the candy bars.

This year there is a new box configuration. Each box contains 60 \$1.00 candy bars, 12 milk chocolate almond, 12 dark chocolate, 12 solid milk chocolate, 12 crisp and 12 caramel bars. I was able to change the configuration of the box if I purchased 100 boxes (which is the amount I have always ordered in the past). Please place your order to help our Elks Camp Barrett.

Thank you for your time and participation.

Sincerely,
Hilda Davis



We Don't Need Hot Weather to Have a Bustling Camp!

The camp office was a frigid 42 degrees when I got in this morning! Fortunately, it doesn't take long to warm things up. We tend to think that after camp season when the weather cools off all things just stop, but the opposite is true. There is a winter hustle and bustle at 1001 Chesterfield Road, and while the pool is covered, and the plumbing is winterized, a lot of work is getting done. We had a wonderful Scout Camporee in November with over 900 scouts on the grounds. Thank you to Co-Chairmen Brian Westfall and Ben Stone along with all the hardworking volunteers who made this Camporee one of the smoothest running ever. Many a thank you and compliments came from the attendees. As always, the volunteers had a great time too.

The camp was rented for a November wedding. This makes the third one in a year. Having brides choose ECB for their venue seems to be an increasing and an exciting thing for our camp. We've had three large weddings this year, not counting that our Caretaker Karl Hoelzl and his partner Janet tied the knot a few weeks ago too! Remember to congratulate them when you see them next.

Our environmental leadership class is still going strong and enjoying learning opportunities on our campus. This is their second full year, and they average about 30 students a week. The Drug Awareness Program held one of its 5 DAP District trainings in the dining hall. ECB Executive and Representatives and the State Association Trustees held their December meeting here. Six local scout troops had weekend camp outs through the fall and the Navy Chief Petty Officers Association gave community service time to clean up some downed wood and stock the wood boxes.

The future is looking busy too. We are getting ready to install 2 new HVAC heat pump systems to replace our failing units that are well over 20 years old and a new online summer camp registration system. We are beginning ACA standards accreditation, and the arts & crafts building will be getting a face lift donated by a kind benefactor. ECB will be hosting the Peer Leadership program on Saturday February 3rd and the Grand Exalted Ruler in March. We will be hiring our camp staff, and planning our camp program. Then on to our annual Spring and Summer activities. Whew!

Summer Camp is still in need of a Summer Camp Director, Camp Cook and possibly a Camp Nurse. If you know of a worthy candidate or would like to see the job description, contact Angela Meyer at the camp. This is a great summer job for an educator, retired teacher, retired military, or any number of people that have experience working with youth and a love for camping. Please put out the word at your Lodges.

This is a very important time of year for our Camp. Most everything that happens through the year is planned during these cooler months. ECB needs our representatives to attend meetings and offer to help around the camp to get us ready for another great summer camp season. If you can spare a few hours to help at the camp, please call Angela. We always say, "Great Things Happen at Camp Barrett"! Thank you for supporting our successes.

2018 Summer Camp Dates

June 11 – 15	Staff Training	June 18 – 22	Girls Week 1
June 25 – 29	Boys Week 1	July 2 – 6	Girls Week 2
July 9 – 13	Boys Week 2	July 16 – 20	Girls Week 3
July 23 – 27	Boys Week 3	July 28 – 8/4	Camp Sunrise
August 6 – 10	AACS Band Camp	August 13 – 17	Camp Kessem

Angela Meyer
Director of Operations
Elks Camp Barrett



Camporee Tailgate Volunteers

**ELKS CAMP BARRETT
 50/50 RAFFLE**

The winner of the ECB 50/50 Raffle at the Fall Workshop held in Ocean City on October 1, 2017 was Betty Hardin from Havre de Grace Lodge No. 1564. Betty generously donated \$72.00 back to the Camp.

Thanks to everyone who purchased tickets and please purchase your tickets this weekend to help support the operation of our Elks Camp Barrett.

Fraternally,
H. Lee Davis, PSP





ENF & the Anniversary Grant

The ENF Goal of the MD, DE & DC Elks State Association is that all 37 lodges receive this wonderful gift. Congratulations to the lodges that have already applied and have been approved. For the lodges who have not applied yet, please make this a priority. Below are the requirements.



Lodges have the option to apply for the Anniversary Grant **one of two ways:**

Fill out an Anniversary Grant application for a new and/or separate charitable project. This option comes with its own Final Report Form requirements. **If the Lodge chooses this option, the Lodge is not eligible to supersize a Beacon or Gratitude Grant.**

Supersize another grant project. Your Lodge will have the option to add on the Anniversary Grant to your Beacon, Promise or Gratitude Grant budget when you apply. \$1,500 will be added to the grant check, and the Lodge will report on the full amount granted on the Final Report Form. **If the Lodge chooses this option, the Lodge is not eligible to submit a separate Anniversary Grant application.**

One-Time Only: The Anniversary Grant is only available during the 2017-18 CIP Grant cycle.

Dates: Anniversary Grant applications close March 31, 2018. All 2017-18 Grant funds must be used by July 31, 2018. This includes Anniversary Grant funds being used to supersize other grant projects, or separate Anniversary Grant projects.

Final Report Forms: After the grant has been used, mail in the Final Report Form, along with all grant-related receipts. Please email **photos**. *Lodges that do not complete this required form will not be eligible to apply for ENF grants the following year.*

Mary E. Cardinal-Vogt 301-706-7051 maryecardinal-vogt@earthlink.net

Convention-Conference Committee Update

Firstly, a big thank you to all who helped in so many ways in the Hospitality Suite for the Fall Conference. You made it work, even with a few glitches. But that's what Elks do. We are actively working on plans for the San Antonio Hospitality – so give us your feedback.

UPDATES:

Credit Card Payments for Rooms: Yes, it is here now – thru Flagship Merchant Services at 1.98 %, which could be lower with volume. You will have the ability to swipe your card directly with us or via phone.

June 2018 Convention (June 8 – 10) - We are going back to Solomon's Island and are raffling off a suite for that weekend. See Charlie Spadone this weekend or a Con/Con member.

San Antonio GL 2018 - This convention and the 150th Celebration of Elkdom will be a big one. The reservation form is included in this newsletter – deadline is Monday, May 7th. PLEASE, PLEASE, plan early as we have 55 rooms guaranteed and GL has asked that all states be conservative. Again, there is no State Association Dinner this year as there are many other activities planned. Stay tuned for continuing updates as we get them. Note once registration begins you can go on GL site and see other Elks who are attending; there is also information on getting mobility assistance. AND, look for new merchandise to help you celebrate the 150th.

2018 Fall Conference - **dates have changed to September 28 – September 30th** and are on the State website. Please mark on your calendar. We will be at the Princess Royale again this year (the 3rd year of a 3-year contract) and will be exploring other venues for the future as well. Let us hear your preferences and/or recommendations.

It is the Committee's goal to make your convention/conferences experiences positive and we want to hear "the good, the bad" and the ugly" to help make that happen. AND we welcome volunteers!

Merrilyn & John Ramsey



The MD DE DC Elks Association Hoop Shoot will take place on Sunday, February 11, 2018 at Washington College in Chestertown, Maryland. This event will bring together winners from the District Hoop Shoots throughout the State Association in the boys and girls categories of 8-9, 10-11 and 12-13. The winner of each gender and age category will advance to the Regional Hoop Shoot in Frederick, Maryland. An Awards Banquet will be held at Chestertown Lodge #2474 following the State Hoop Shoot. Contact Basil Wadkovsky, State Hoop Shoot Director for further information at basilwad36@gmail.com or 410-778-4573.

**Maryland, Delaware and District of Columbia Elks Association's
Convention/Conference Committee Invites You to Attend the
154th Grand Lodge Convention
July 1 - 4, 2018**

**Grand Hyatt San Antonio
600 E. Market Street
San Antonio, TX 78205
www.grandhyattsanantonio.hyatt.com**



We are fortunate to be staying in the Grand Hyatt San Antonio (the GL Hotel) on the Riverwalk and it is AWE-SOME! The Convention Center makes a U around the hotel so it is within walking distance. There is *NO State Association Dinner* – there will be plenty of activities to enjoy for Elkdom's 150th Anniversary!

Expected attire for all at the Grand Lodge Opening Ceremony and Business Sessions is State Association Coat and Tie or Business Attire. Let's show them how sharp we are!

Reservation Deadline: Monday, May 7, 2018. We have an allocation of 55 rooms at the Grand Hyatt – first come, first served. Late reservations may cause you to be housed in an overflow hotel.

Occupancy Rates: (Circle One)	Single	Double	Triple	Quad
Four nights	\$560.00	\$600.00	\$760.00	\$ 800.00
Five nights	\$700.00	\$750.00	\$950.00	\$1,000.00
Six nights	\$840.00	\$900.00	\$1,140.00	\$1,200.00
Seven nights	\$980.00	\$1,050.00	\$1,330.00	\$1,400.00

Enclose payment with this form and make checks payable to MD/DE/DC Elks Association and send to John & Merrillyn Ramsey, 152 Hickory Ridge Road, Smyrna, DE 19977. **Amount Enclosed:** _____

Arrival: ____/____/____ Time: _____ Departure: ____/____/____ Time: _____

Type of Room  Yes ___ No ___ Single ___ Double ___ **NO QUEENS** King ___

Name(1): _____ Name (2) _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: (____) _____ Email: _____

Lodge: _____ Special Needs: Wheelchair ___ Walker ___ Scooter ___

Other Needs: _____

For additional information/questions or CREDIT CARD purchase, call the Ramseys at 302-659-0659, 302-382-0288 or 302-242-1117.