



Maryland, Delaware and District of Columbia

ELKS ASSOCIATION *News*

A Fraternal Organization - Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks

www.mddedcelks.org

OCTOBER 2020



State President Stuart Burgoon
MD-DE-DC Elks Association



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STATE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Stu Burgoon

Maryland, Delaware, District of Columbia
State Elks Association,

"Holy Corona Virus"

As you read this front page, I was supposed to be welcoming you all to our October Fall workshop at the Princess Royale Hotel in Ocean City, MD. Unfortunately, it was not meant to be. This pandemic still has a grip on most of our nation and has affected many of our State Elks Associations. It's been a year since our own Great State Association has met live and in person. To say the least, it has been very challenging for all our Lodges. I know some have suffered more than others. With tenacity and determination, the Association remains strong and continuing our work for our Communities.

We were to host two of our neighboring State Association Presidents. Pennsylvania State President, from Tyrone Lodge # 212 Steve Lucas and his lovely 1st Lady Joan.

And, from Howell Lodge # 2512 New Jersey State President Peggy Glatz-Berry and her "1st Dude" Ryland. They were so much looking forward to being with us for our Fall workshop. Both shared that New Jersey Lodges and Pennsylvania Lodges are just opening as we did with limited capacity.

I also want to mention Dover Lodge's #1903 very own Past State President Connie DeYoung, has been newly appointed Grand Lodge Membership and Marketing Manager.

And Past State President Jim Stewart from Oakland Lodge #2481 is Grand Lodge Fraternal Committee.

And as always, our sponsor Past Grand Exalted Ruler Paul D. Hesel and his Grand 1st Lady Jane remain.

It is a very historic time. It is our 100th anniversary as an Association serving Elkdom. I'm sure we may have some of the Founding Fathers still with us today. *"Just kidding."*

This workshop was to be like no other. With new COVID-19 restrictions, masks, and social distancing, it certainly has changed the world as we once knew it. It would have been challenging to have so many of us together. Elks are huggers and social people. Fraternity and Fellowship are what our order was founded upon.

We are working on alternative plans to have a Winter workshop, possibly. I will have more details as we get closer. I will also ask to meet with each District Exalted Rulers, State Committee Chairs, and some of their District Committee Chairs. These will be informal round table discussions similar to how our Vice President, Trustee and State Officer's meeting occurred. I will try to schedule shortly at a host Lodge in each district.

Our Lodges are six months into our new year. With the COVID-19 we have lost a lot of opportunities to recruit members. However, we are trending slightly behind the national delinquency rate.

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MD, DE & DC ELKS ASSOCIATION NEWS OFFICIAL PUBLICATION 2020–2021

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AGENDA FALL CONFERENCE, OCEAN CITY, MD OCTOBER 2-4, 2020

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

We are sitting at 15.3% with 3000 members in arrears. I know we can do better. In the last couple of years, we have led the charge with an increase of plus one.

Have your Lodges started receiving scholarship applications? If not, it is time to get busy. With our schools not entirely open, think outside of the box and have parents, grandparents, and neighbors get our scholarship application out to the community. Spread the word. The same could be said for Americanism Essay, and Poster contests. Perhaps while the kids are virtual learning, we could get some face time with a couple of the classes or principals?

The Pearl Harbor Restoration drive has been extended until November 11th. As of August 31st, our State Association has donated \$14,823, with approximately 75% of our membership participating. We still have some work to do to meet the \$1 a member goal. I know there are still some money jars, and all donations have not been turned in. It's as easy as putting it on a credit card.

I am proud to say that our ENF donations are on the rise. Two Lodges have already hit the State President's goal of \$10.00 a member. Congrats to Essex

Lodge #1866 - \$12.07 and Kent Island Lodge #2576 - \$11.94. That's quite a shoot-out between the Lodges.

Shortly, I will be starting my official President's Lodge visits. Julie and I very much look forward to spending some time with your officers and members. The Vice Presidents from each district will be sending out the information concerning our dates.

This just in: On October 4th Our State President-Elect Robert Raleigh from Chestertown Lodge #2474 was elected in a small ceremony at Cambridge Lodge. Congratulations and good luck, Robert Raleigh, President Elect 2020-2021.

In closing, I ask you each to say a prayer that these pandemic conditions will soon be in the past. We look forward to all being together enjoying fellowship, Elk fun, and continuing to help in our local communities and support our Grand Lodge programs.

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

Have an "Elkstanding" day,

Capt. Stu

"Fishers of Elkdome"

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

- October is ENF Month
- Oct 23-31—National Celebration of Red Ribbon
- Oct 31—Halloween
- Turn your clocks back one hour
- Nov 15—**Most Valuable Student Scholarship Deadline**
- March 19-21, 2021 Spring Conference at Salisbury Lodge No. 817 with GER Visiting

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





MESSAGE FROM OUR GRAND EXALTED RULER

By Paul Ryan, Grand Lodge ER

HALF IS GOOD... WITH PARTS OF THE BUDGET

Is your Lodge only doing half with income? Well, it might be good but could be better. Is half where your expenses are? If it is, that is good, but less is better. This is the month where half is a target for your budget, but for everything else it is always good to give 100%.

I know it is hard to believe, but now is the time to take a serious look at your budget. I know the new Financial Reporting System (FRS) is informing your District Deputies and State Sponsors of what is happening, but it is you as a Lodge Member who should be looking at your budget and realize that your budget percentage should be at 50%.

Is something in your budget out of whack? Are you running way higher than 50%? Then your Board of Trustees/Directors should take a serious look at the budget and figure out what to do to make sure that it gets back in line, or how you will make it through the rest of the year. Now, if you are one of the Lodges that rely on your accountant to be doing this for you, then put someone in charge to have a conversation with your accountant and report back to the Lodge or your accountant.

So where is it good to give 100%? Membership! This year's GER Class should be based on the motto, Creating Momentum for the Future of Elkdom. Get out there and recruit Members. But, recruit with the following things in mind:

1) The future of Elkdom relies on the age of our Members.

2) The future of Elkdom relies on future leaders.

3) The future of Elkdom relies on volunteers.

4) The future of Elkdom is dependent on us to create new and future Members. Give 100% to the best GER Class ever.

Another place to give 100%: ENF. This is ENF Month and with the raise in the amount of my goal to \$4.80, this is a great time to give 100%. How about giving 100% more than you did last year? This is the year to have an event for ENF in order to recruit Members to become a part of the Fidelity Club. This is a club where a monthly donation is given to ENF. See how many Members are in your Lodge and then plan on doubling it—That is giving 100%.

This is the time for the Americanism Essay Contest. This year my goal is to get the Elks Magazine to publish the two winning essays. I've had many years of pressure from a Member in my state and I hope to achieve it for him. The student that writes it deserves the recognition, and we deserve to be able to read the winners.

Don't forget that Red Ribbon week is October 23-31. And now is the time to prepare for all of your veterans activities for the month of November. Lastly, our Hoop Shoot programs should now be ramping up and getting prepared.



MESSAGE FROM OUR STATE SPONSOR

By Paul D. Helsel, PGER & Sponsor
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MD, DE, & DC Elk Family and Friends:

I hope this message finds all our MD, DE & DC Elk family and friends well and successfully coping with these past five months of COVID-19 restrictions and shutdowns, both on a personal basis and as dedicated and involved Elks of the 37 Lodges of our Association. There is no question the challenges we've been forced to face now, and over the past five months or so, have touched every Elk member in our Association as well as every Elk member across our entire Order. Unfortunately, it has pretty much touched all of us in an unpredicted, unexpected, and negative manner.

I want to thank each and every MD, DE, & DC Elks for hanging in there and carrying on the efforts necessary to keep our Lodges operating and in the game. It's certainly not been easy, but because of your efforts, we continue to operate as individual Lodges and as an Association on behalf of the BPOE and its programs across our local communities. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!!!!

During these difficult times, it's certainly not been "business as usual" for any Lodge or individual Elk, and many are hurting in one way or another. However, it is certainly not all doom and gloom, and progress is being made daily as individual Elks and Lodges continue to "think out of the box" and do unusual/non-traditional things to cope with the situation and get the job done.

This 2020/2021 year is, and will continue to be, a most challenging year, but challenges are opportunities as well, and already individuals and Lodges are demonstrating there are many ways to get things done. In many respects and for some Lodges, we are in "survival mode." We are searching for and finding new ways to accomplish what needs to be done.

Two of the major ingredients for survival are membership and community relationship/involvement. Community relationship/involvement correlates directly to a Lodge's ability to attract and keep members. There are other factors required as well, but without sufficient membership and a community relationship, no Lodge can survive.

Over the past five months or so, it is evident many of our Lodges understand the community involvement component of being successful and have continued their community service programs and projects. Thankfully our ENF has continued to make CIP Grants available and, in some cases, broadened the scope of what they may be used for - all to help Lodges maintain their community involvement and presence, as well as

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STATE SPONSOR MESSAGE CONTINUED

help those in need in our communities. Hopefully, your Lodge, and every MD, DE & DC Lodge, is working on getting these grants to continue or start community programs/projects. If your Lodge has not done so yet, please do so now – it could be key to your long-term survival. An ENF CIP Grant certainly can't hurt your Lodge and, without a doubt, can help in its efforts to help others and/or to survive.

As I noted above, membership is one of the components necessary for the survival of a Lodge, and this year more so than any year in the past, membership retention is a significant issue. Since April 1, the statewide membership roles have increased by 200 members, with 310 candidates waiting for initiation – even under the current circumstances, a pretty dismal five months showing. We need to attract and initiate more members. On membership retention, with five months gone, we have 3,375 delinquent members. I don't need to tell you what dropping 3,375 members would do to the stability and longevity of many of our 37 Lodges. This potential problem can only be addressed and solved at the individual Lodge level.

Every Lodge must put a team together and start a campaign to convince every delinquent member that they are WELCOMED, WANTED, and most importantly, **NEEDED** if their Lodge and its important community work is to survive. Every Lodge needs the revenue a member brings to the Lodge in dues,

and goods and services purchased, as well as the potential manpower. Every member represents the possibility to fill positions of leadership and/or the workers needed to do the many things required for a Lodge to function. There needs to be a continual and ongoing effort to build and maintain a relationship with every member who keeps the member wanting to be a part of the Lodge, what it does, and what it stands for.

Many times, members are delinquent simply because of the Lodge billing system or lack thereof. Perhaps they would like to use a credit card for their bills and/or they are used to being routinely billed, which most Lodges don't or can't accommodate. Well, Grand Lodge now offers an optional Billing Renewal Program where a contracted third party (OSG) routinely mails invoices to members and takes payment via credit card, etc. The cost to the Lodge is \$0.32 per invoice mailed – less than the price of a stamp and no work for overworked Secretaries. Suggest all Lodges look at this optional service on the Grand Lodge website; there is a webinar and detailed information about the program. Only what a Lodge does in building a relationship with every member can possibly eliminate delinquency. However, this service is a tool available to the Lodge that will, at a minimum, lower delinquency at little cost and no effort by the Lodge.

Our Fall Conference was just around the corner when I wrote this message. By now you know it had to be canceled

based on the number of reservations and other factors.

The election of our President-Elect was conducted electronically via an email process and congratulations to Vice President Elect, Robert Raleigh of Chestertown Lodge #2474.

While the first five months of 2020/2021 have had its share of roadblocks and obstacles, I am confident that the hard-working and dedicated Elks of our 37 Lodges can overcome almost any situation, and once again we will have an outstanding year. I would suggest as we work our way through these difficult and challenging times, we will, in doing so, develop a new "normal" with new tools/processes/traditions and a better understanding of how to be successful as individuals and Lodges. As individuals, Lodges, and Order, we will be different, hopefully, improved, and ready to carry on our noble work of helping others.

Best wishes to each and every MD, DE, & DC Elk and their families for continued good health and prosperity. Best wishes to our 37 Lodges and their efforts to get through these troubled times and take the work of Elkdom into their communities. Hopefully, we will see you all soon as things return to our new normal in the near future.

Sincerely and fraternally,



Paul D. Helsel, PGER & Sponsor

ELKS CAMP BARRETT IMPROVEMENT FUND RAFFLE 2020

By Lou Schmeltzer, PDD, Chairman

This is the final report on the 2020 raffle: The gross receipts were \$59,455.00, and the expenses were \$23,694.86, which left a net profit of \$35,760.14.

The expenses include the printing, postage, the mailing list from The Elks Magazine, and the prizes. And all have been paid. This outcome was approximately \$9,000.00 less than last year due to the pandemic and the cancellation of the Family Day Picnic.

I want to thank all who participated in the raffle. Your generosity, as always, is overwhelming. As you know, this is the primary source of income for the Improvement Fund at our Camp. Without these funds, it would not be

the wonderful place that it is.

I'm quite sure the Executive Board of the Camp will find uses for some of these funds, which will create the need for replenishment next year.

I have been asked by our State President to head the raffle next year, and I have agreed and look forward to doing so. I am in hopes the crisis that caused the economic difficulties and so many cancellations will be only a memory, and the outcome will be more like previous years.

Lou Schmeltzer, PDD, Chairman



First Lady's Corner

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

In the midst of all of this COVID-19 mess, I wanted to give a shout out to all of the Elks spouses and significant others. Most of us don't have "zoom" calls as some of our committees have, and we sure have missed the comradery.

It was wonderful of Bonnie Howell, who started an email thread checking in on the Past First Ladies. It was so uplifting to hear from everyone and see how each of us are handling the stay at home orders. I also want to commend all of the men and women (mostly women) who dusted off their sewing machines and came to the rescue making masks for our veterans.

I particularly enjoyed going to various Lodges for drive-through dinners that volunteers tirelessly made to make some money for their Lodges. They are the glue that holds our Lodges together.

For any of you who are dealing with health issues during these trying times, know you are in our hearts and prayers.

Maybe when we finally get together again, we can have a mask fashion show with awards for most original, ugliest, funniest, etc., finding a way to have some fun with this pandemic.

I want to end by saying how much I look forward to catching up with everyone when I see them during Stu's official visits. See you soon!!!!

"Today's Youth, Tomorrow's Future"

Julie Burgoon



ELKS TRAINING

By Renee' Rivituso, PDDGER | State Chairman Elks Training
Hopefully, our newsletter finds everyone well. As you know, It has been a sad year full of cancellations. During these months of COVID-19, many Lodges have been using their time wisely and doing some Spring cleaning. Good questions arose like, "How long do we need to keep membership records?" or "How long do we need to keep tax information?"

Membership records must be retained for all Lodge members, active and inactive. Membership records are kept for members within CLEMS, but hard copies are also necessary, especially for those members prior to the existence of CLEMS. Other permanent records include records of deeds, mortgages, member bonds, purchases of fixed assets, and depreciation records. All records outlined above should be kept indefinitely.

The Internal Revenue Service specifies minimum retention periods for certain records. Payroll Records must be retained for four (4) years. Income Tax Returns and Supporting Records must be kept three (3) years after the return is due or filed. Forms 990 and 990EZ must be kept for three (3) years for public inspection upon request. Be sure to check with your individual states regarding their retention periods.

More information on Record Retention can be found in Chapter 7 of the Auditing and Accounting Manual. Please be sure to use all the useful manuals provided to your Lodges. Digital copies of Elks Manuals and Statues can also be found on Elks.Org. Training Clinics will be available for all those in Lodge leadership positions in the month of November. Details will be sent out soon. If I can be of any assistance, please feel free to reach out to me at RRivituso@Hotmail.Com or 240-508-8636.

Grow With the Elks,

Renee'

RED RIBBON WEEK FALL FESTIVAL AND SALUTE TO FIRST RESPONDERS

By Angela Meyer

Let's do our best to hold a Red Ribbon event in our communities to recognize Red Ribbon Week and our Elks Drug Awareness Program again this year. It was a great event last year and we are hoping for the same this year.

We will honor our Camarena winner from 2019-20 at this event since he didn't get his day at the State Convention. Look for the flyer on the State, ECB webpages, and Facebook, and see it here on page 17 of this publication.

So far, 6 out of 37 Lodges have told me they have scheduled a **drug take back day**.

Encourage your Lodges to hold this activity. Remember, all 4 of our **Elroy's** are available. Call to schedule. Call Angela if you need more materials for your events. A series of three **"Sober Rock Music Festivals"** will be held in October and November. Look for those flyers too. The music Festivals, like our sober swims, were planned for the recovery community, but are open to all families looking for a drug and alcohol-free family event.

With all our DAP events, Social distancing and CDC guidelines will be followed.

See Flyer on page 17.

AUDITING AND BUSINESS PRACTICES

Debbie Price, NC State Chair
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As most of you know, Bill Simonds (PER Kent Lodge #2576) has retired from his position as State Chair of Audit and Business Practices. He graciously agreed to stay as the State Coordinator-Financial Reporting System. He and his wife Laura have relocated to Florida, but Bill will continue his work with our State Association and Lodges for FRS.

The change to FRS has been a substantial undertaking for our Lodges, and Bill has been there to answer any questions and guide our Lodges through any issues. He has complete knowledge of the FRS and is a most

valuable liaison for the project. Please join me in thanking Bill for his contributions to our State Association and Lodges!

I would like to thank everyone who has put the time and effort into becoming FRS compliant. It is a major project that has had an easier transition due to Bill Simonds and the Lodges working together!

We will continue forward in our efforts to assist Lodges in their reporting and solving any issues that arise. Please feel free to reach out to your district chair also. Our contact information is in the directory. I'm looking forward to meeting or speaking with you in the near future.



ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION, INC.

By Margie McIntyre, State ENF Chair

Catching up on Awards!

Congratulations are always in order! And even though we were not able to officially present some awards at the end of the 2019-2020 fiscal year due to the current pandemic, I say it is "never too late"! So, please join me in congratulating the following Lodges for the excellent job they did last year with their contributions to ENF:

Frostburg Lodge #470	1 st Place in the W District	\$ 9.86 per Member
Essex Lodge #1866	1 st Place in the NC District	\$14.17 per Member
Washington-Rockville Lodge #15	1 st Place in the SW District	\$17.00 per Member
Kent Island Lodge #2576	1 st Place in the SE District	\$19.20 per Member
Abingdon Lodge #2354	1st Place OVERALL	\$21.34 Per Member

In addition to those Lodge Awards, I would also like to mention a very special Lodge ENF Chair who is the recipient of the MD, DE & DC Elks Association ENF Chair Challenge Award. That Award goes to Mr. John C. Stokes, Sr. from Severna Park Lodge #2482, who achieved a score of 733,000 Points. Congratulations John, and thank you for the great job you did promoting the Elks National Foundation in your Lodge! I hope to be able to present all of these Award plaques in October at the Fall Conference.

Last year, the GER Goal for per member giving was \$4.75, and 33 of the 37 Lodges in our Association achieved that goal. We also had 14 Lodges that reached our State President's goal of \$10.00 per member, and our State Association placed 20th nationally. Congratulations to all!

This year, our Grand Exalted Ruler Paul

Ryan has raised the bar a little higher, and he has set his goal at \$4.80 per member. President Burgoon has decided his goal will remain at \$10.00. With the conditions we are dealing with concerning the current pandemic, some Lodges may be finding it difficult to accomplish their fundraising with shortened hours or closed doors.

As of September 1, 2020, our State Association is ranked 22nd nationally. This is a little lower than we usually sit, so I am hoping that all Lodges will have some great fundraising ideas for October. Right! October is ENF Month...let's make it Elkstanding!

HELP! Each year, every Lodge and every District must have a **registered** ENF Chair with Grand Lodge. Even if you were registered as the Lodge Chair last year, you must still register again this year. We currently have 14 Lodges that

do not have an ENF Chair registered with Grand Lodge. Exalted Rulers, I am asking for your help in making sure that your Lodge has an ENF Chair and that your Chair is registered on the Grand Lodge website. This will guarantee that you are receiving the most up-to-date information concerning all that ENF has to offer. If anyone needs help with this, please contact me.

Thank you to all the members of our Association for all that you do to help and promote ENF. Remember that the ENF also offers many Grants to assist your Lodge in its charitable works. Check out the Community Investments Programs page on Elks.org to see all that is offered.

I am praying that we will soon see an end to these difficult times we are now facing.

Be Safe and Stay Healthy!



Mike Ford, NE State Chair
410-977-8230
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ACCIDENT PREVENTION REPORT

DON'T BECOME MAYHEM LIKE ME



Good Morning Members of the Maryland, Delaware, and DC State Association. It's my honor to serve as your State Accident Prevention Chair for the upcoming year.

I will be submitting my reports to our Newsletter and sending out

occasional Safety Tips throughout the year.

Lack of Preventative Maintenance is the number one cause of accidents. By being proactive, we can reduce the number of claims and reevaluate our insurance coverage.

Example: It's now hurricane season, and if you have trees

around the Lodge, they should be inspected for disease and rot and should be removed by a licensed and bonded contractor. If they are around power lines, you need to call the power company, and they will take them down for you. This will prevent many things from occurring, loss of power to the Lodge, loss of any computer components being fried when power returns, and any loss of perishables.

Establish as many contingency plans as possible for your Lodge. Take the monthly inspection reports seriously and expand on them.

Protect your Lodge from Mayhem, like Me!!

Mike Ford

LODGE ACCIDENT PREVENTION MANAGERS

Each Lodge shall establish an Accident Prevention Program in compliance with the Laws Of The Order, Section 12.070. A Trustee shall be appointed as the Accident Prevention Manager.

- Lodge Accident Prevention Managers must be involved in Lodge safety reviews.
- Lodge Accident Prevention Managers should be engaged in their Lodges' day-today operations.
- Lodge operations and safety reviews must not be delegated to employed managers.

REPAIR WORK AT LODGES

Repair work at Lodges Issues to be addressed when there are repairs or construction at a Lodge:

- Get references from customers of the contractor.
- Check the contractor's past performance by contacting the Better Business Bureau or similar resource.
- Every contractor must provide proof (an insurance certificate) that the contractor has liability insurance
- Every contractor must prepare a written contract that will indemnify the Lodge from any claims arising out of the work.
- Projects involving extensive repairs and renovation require that the contractor name the Lodge as additional insured under its general liability policy.
- The Lodge should never take on the role of general contractor.



- Volunteers should not be performing repairs.
- No one from the Lodge should act as a construction manager/coordinator.
- Any Member that is a contractor must also have proof of insurance and prepare a written contract.
- When constructing a new building, putting on an addition, or making substantial renovations, the Lodge must contact Aon Affinity Services at 1-800-421-3557 to make sure proper coverage is obtained.

FALL MAINTENANCE

Fall maintenance accident prevention also involves maintaining property when the seasons change:

- Securely store deck/patio furniture for the upcoming seasons.
- Make sure that smoke detectors are working and replace if necessary.
- Lodges that heat with gas/LP/oil need carbon monoxide detectors.
- Remove leaves from roofs, gutters, walkways and parking lots.
- Drain and store garden hoses for the winter season.
- Lawn sprinkler systems need to be blown free of water to avoid frozen pipes in the winter.
- Have chimneys and flues inspected and cleaned if necessary to reduce the risk of fire.





New Member Orientation

By Bill Buttrill, PSP
Seaford Lodge #2458
bestplumber@verizon.net

By a show-of-hands, how many people can give me a definition of "sectarian character?" No?

Let's try this: by a show of hands, how many people had even heard of "sectarian character" before becoming an Elk? No again? Well, if that is the case, why would you purposely embarrass your new candidate by asking him/her to say the words in the Obligation when they have never heard it before? Every one of you can recall a moment when the Exalted Ruler has been reciting the Obligation and has had to back up – at least once – to get the class through this particular stumbling block.

There is a very simple solution: make the reading and understanding of the Obligation a part of your Orientation. After all, this is a *promise* that the candidate is making to abide by the rules of being an Elk. Don't you read through a contract before you sign it? This is the candidate's contract with the Elks. Copy the Obligation, enlarged to 8 ½ x 11, and give every candidate a copy to keep.

During Orientation, practice the hard parts. You don't have to do the whole thing but provide them with an idea of what is coming. Same with the two questions: "Do you believe in God?" And "Are you willing to assume such an Obligation?" This is not rocket science. Make it easy for both you and the candidates to relax and enjoy the Initiation.

Speaking of Orientation, how many of you make a tour of your Lodge building a part of the Orientation process? After all, aren't you introducing the candidates to what it means to be

an Elk? And, isn't this going to be their new "home-away-from-home?" (Hopefully.)

How can a new Elk help with the Friday night dinners if they do not know where the kitchen is? How can the new Elk help with a "clean-up on aisle 3" if they don't know where the mops are kept? If it is true that "mi casa es tu casa," they must know their way around their new home.

How about the ballot box? During Orientation, the ballot box should be brought out and explained. Sure, the Exalted Ruler has a set monologue that goes with balloting on new members but how many people – hearing it for the first time – know what he/she said?? What does a black cube look like?

The idea of Orientation is to make the new members as comfortable as possible in their new role as "Elk Members." If you are only showing the candidates the video during Orientation, you are setting yourself up for a delinquency a year from now. Included in the Orientation should be a short oral history of our Order, how old we are, why we are so proud, and why the Lodge leader is called an Exalted Ruler. Are we the Knights of the Round Table? No. But the character of those knights is what inspired the Knights of Elkdom. Be proud of our history, not embarrassed by the titles.

In short, think of Orientation as a conversation you are having with your best friend about all of the reasons to become an Elk. You wouldn't set your best friend up to fail, would you?

"One Flag, One Nation Under God"



WEST DISTRICT

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

It is an honor to serve as West District Vice President under our President Stu Burgoon.

It has been a challenging first six months since the start of our new Lodge Year. All of the West District Lodges were finally able to open on a limited basis in June. Most Lodges are operating now with limited staff and Member Volunteers.

I would like to thank all of you for your hard work and dedication during this Pandemic and I would also like to thank Grand Lodge and The State Association for their financial support to all of the Lodges.

Our biggest challenge this year will be Membership. Each Lodge's Membership Committees will need to make personal contact with delinquent members to bring them back to the Lodge. We will also need aggressive membership drives to recruit new members. If you need help or ideas with your recruitment, contact Rick Gathen at Elks.org, or go to join-elks.org for the new recruitment campaign.

It is also especially important each Lodge applies for the different Grants through the Elks National Foundation. Communities need our help more than ever this year. All-Volunteer Organizations have experienced financial hardships and are unable to help as they have in the past. Schools are not opening, and needy children may not receive their free lunches. This is where we can help with Grants from the Elks National Foundation.

In closing, let me again thank all of the Members for their continued dedication and hard work. I hope to see you during the State President Visits. If I can be of help, please do not hesitate to contact me. STAY SAFE!



NORTH EAST DISTRICT

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

Greetings Everyone!

I am excited and honored to serve as the North East Vice President this year! I look forward to representing our State President Stu Burgoon and communicating his goals for this year. I also look forward to visiting all of the Lodges, to hear about all of the great work you have been doing. While the Lodge year may not have started off in a traditional way, I hope that as states open back up, we can get back to and continue the great work of the Elks.

On June 13th I was able to attend the Flag Day ceremony at Abingdon Lodge #2354 along with State President Stu Burgoon and First Lady Julie Burgoon. Abingdon hosted a picnic after their Flag Day ceremony to raise money for the Elks National Foundation. A great time was had by all.

I also had the pleasure to attend the Flag Day ceremony at Havre de Grace Lodge #1564 on June 14th.

It was wonderful to see how the Lodges adapted to hosting Flag Day while adhering to the new safety guidelines.

In July I attended a delicious Clam Bake at Newark Lodge #2281 as well as attended the Christmas in July event at Abingdon #2354 to help raise money for Lodge improvements.

In August I attended a very informative District Deputy Clinic ran by our new NE District Deputy John Opitz at Havre de Grace Lodge #1564. I look forward to visiting more Lodges in the future.

Please be on the lookout for the President and Vice President visitation schedule. I know that we all are excited to see the great work the North East District has been doing and will continue to do.

If you have not already, please add me to your Lodge newsletter distribution list and keep me informed of upcoming events. While I know times are challenging, please continue to do the great work of Elkdom.

Fraternally, *Jessica Todd*



Above: Dover Lodge: #1903 partnered with The City of Dover to provide lunches and dinners for the Veterans and first responders volunteer group Team Rubicon. They volunteer their time and talents to help wherever they are needed. They had come to Dover to help with the clean up of the damage from the tornado that swept through Dover leaving massive amounts of downed trees, condemned homes, and thousands without power.

In the photo: Members preparing a lunch: Patti Stanley ER, Joanne Zajac, Sharon Cook, Donna Wingard, and Carolyn Courtney. They were also treated to a delicious dinner at the Lodge. It was great to meet them in person.

Submitted by Patricia Stanley, ER Dover Lodge



Dover Lodge #1903 presented a \$1,000.00 check from a Gratitude Grant to Calvary Food Pantry to help families in crisis. Presenting the check from left to right are: members Joanne Zajac, Sharon Cook, Director of Calvary Pantry Margaret Young, Patti Stanley ER, member Stephanie McGlumphy

Submitted by Patricia Stanley, ER Dover Lodge



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On your first visit to AmazonSmile, you will be prompted to

select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. Choose Maryland Delaware and District of Columbia Elks Association Inc. They will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make on AmazonSmile will result in a donation.

Thanks to customers shopping at [AmazonSmile](https://www.amazon.com/smile), your everyday purchases generated to date:

\$1,088.69 to Maryland Delaware and District of Columbia Elks Association Inc. and \$215,721,458.97 to all charities worldwide.



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



It is usually in our winter report when we say the EC Bee has been very lonely and misses his camper friends. Sadly, none of our Summer camps or our partner camps could participate this year due to the virus. The campus has been downright gloomy with no children on sight all season.

The Fall picnic (rescheduled from the spring) is canceled, and there will be no Scout Camporee this year. We've always said the campus is happier and functions better when we have children on the grounds. Hopefully, we can get back to normal soon and see the campus happy again.

EC enjoyed all those Elks Families and friends who came out for the Open Pool Days and the Sober Splash events.

Everyone had a great time, and the camp made some income from donations and concessions. Thanks to all who came out and especially to those Elks who volunteered to work the concession stand. The pool remodel is beautiful, and we are so happy it could be enjoyed, albeit in an abbreviated fashion.

For the past few months, your Executive Committee has been working hard managing the business of the camp, finding new and better ways to communicate and accomplish things at Camp Barrett. Both the Executive Committee and the Camp Representatives held most of their meetings via zoom or a hybrid of in-person and zoom. Thank you to all for continuing to attend the meetings even with the hurdles.

With fall approaching, we would love to see more Elks come out to work on their cabins, volunteer to work on the grounds, or in the hall. The camp stills needs maintenance under the loving care of all Elks.

EC Bee: The ECB Executives, & Representatives, as well as the ECB Staff, thank you for remembering our camp, giving generously of your time to help our camp continue to survive and grow.



Angela M. Meyer, State Chairperson
 MD, DE, DC Elks Association
 Drug Awareness Programs |
 ecbsecretary@outlook.com
 410-224-2945 (camp) 410-739-5575 (C)

The pandemic has caused hardship throughout the nation, and those suffering from addiction are even more vulnerable. Increases in deaths due to suicide and overdose are widespread. Our work at prevention is even more critical now than ever.

This year our District Training will be done virtually by the district via Zoom. Dates and links will be available soon. While mainly for the District Chairs, any Lodge DAP chairperson is encouraged to join in. District Chairs will receive a package via snail mail with materials for the season. These items should be made available to all of your District Lodges. Great news about our NEW online portals for use by classroom teachers will be introduced.

The Camarena Award application is the first program on our 20-21 Calendar, and all Lodge winners should be sent to the State Chairperson by December 1, 2020. Applications and guidelines are available on the state webpage, and District Chairs will have copies. We had the National winner last year so let's try to do it again.

U + ME Drug Free = A GR8 Place 2B!

OUR 2020-21 FALL/WINTER DAP HIGHLIGHTS

- [Lodge Poster, Video and Essay Contest](#) Winners due to Lodge Chairman March 1, Lodge winners due to District chairs March 10, District Winners due to the State Chairperson March 20, 2021. The suggested theme is "Drug Abuse, No Excuse!" Forms available on DAP website
- [Camarena Award](#) Lodge winners due to State Chairperson by December 1, 2020. Contact Angela Meyer
- [National Drug Take-Back Day](#) is October 24, 2020. Every Lodge should be holding an event. Contact your local sheriff department. For more information, go to <https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drugdisposal/takeback/>
- [DAP District Training by the district via Zoom](#)-Dates to be announced
- [State Youth Recognition Day](#) at Elks Camp Barrett is May 8, 2021. Join in the planning for this spring event. Recognize youth from all over the state with a day of food, friends, and fun. Contact Colleen Ford or Angela Meyer
- [Second Annual Red Ribbon Week Fall Festival and Salute to First Responders](#) Saturday, October 24. This is a State DAP Event. Please send families and first responders to enjoy a great family day at the camp. All Elks encouraged to attend. Food, Games, Speakers, and Fall Family Fun.
- [Lodge DAP QTR Reports Due](#) to District Chairs January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1. All District Chair Reports due to State DAP Chairman January 15, April 15, July 15, October 15.



SOUTH WEST DISTRICT

By Stephen Bradley, Sr. SW VP
Prince George's County Lodge #1778

I would like to begin by first saying thank you for choosing me as your Vice President. I truly look forward to working with you as we serve our great communities.

We all know this year has been a crazy time for our Elks' family and people all over the world. Take this time to think of all the major trials and hardships of the past, and how we as Elks pushed through and became stronger.

Let's also look forward and focus on the great times we have to look forward to. Continue to show our communities how we bounce back. We are truly there for our members, their family, and friends.

ER's, I ask you to speak to your members and let them know they are not alone, and they truly have their Elks family behind them. We will stand strong like the mighty Elk that we represent! South West, we will FLY HIGH.

I look forward to visiting our Lodges and learning about your plans. We have to continue our outreach and help when we can. Please take advantage of the grants and programs created to help us along this time.

Let's make sure we maintain safety while opening our doors. There are Lodges opening slowly, but surely, they are offering dinners and small events they can control. I am so happy to hear some of our Lodges have created hubs for COVID-19 testing and have sought out ways to help in this unprecedented time. Let's keep our minds open and think out of the box. Let's turn this year around and make the best of it.



NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT

Matthew Briggs, PER, VP NC
443-837-8111 matthewbriggs7@yahoo.com

What an unusual Elk year this is has been so far!

With having to cancel just about all of our annual conventions and conferences due to COVID-19, we were however, blessed to have been able to proceed with a few enhanced rituals, clinics, and swearing-in ceremonies.

With that in mind, I would like to congratulate North Central's own Capt. Stu Burgoon, for being sworn in as State President of the MD, DE, DC Elks Association for the 2020-2021 Elk Year. Also, congratulations to Corey Bradley as District Deputy for NC, and Ken Chapman as State Trustee, serving alongside State Trustee Mary Underwood. Congratulations to all!

Last but certainly not least, I'd like to thank PSVP Mark Walp for his work as VP last year and especially for all the guidance he has given me to prepare for this position!

While dealing with COVID-19, North Central's Lodges have adapted amazingly to the USA's new restrictions! Many Lodges have reopened and have carried on with as much normalcy as possible.

Severna Park Lodge #2482 has been making Friday night carry-out dinners. They have served lunch and dinner to the Firefighters at their local firehouse multiple times. On Flag day, they had over 40 in attendance at their ceremony while having a Cub Scout to Boy Scout Crossover Ceremony in their parking lot. There was a

blood bank with 32 donors, and they used Impact Grant money to fill the coffers of SPAN Foodbank. Since June, they have had two initiations of new members!

Glen Burnie Lodge #2266 has been very busy hosting State President meetings, parking lot events, Sunday Breakfasts, Wednesday and Friday night dinners, Bingo in the hall, and initiation of new members. They presented \$2,000 to a family in need from the Jerrnick Fund and are on their way to meeting or exceeding expectations for ENF donations. Also, a member made and donated 150 face masks to the Veterans of Charlotte Hall.

Essex Lodge #1866 has also been very busy! Mother's Day Pitt Beef event was a huge success. They have been preparing carry-out dinners, and now have the outside deck opened. Their first time holding a Father's Day ceremony was also a huge success with over 30 people in attendance. Over 70 people attended the Flag Day Ceremony, Bingo is now back in session, as well as a carhop movie night, new member initiations, and more!

Bowie Lodge #2309 had a very successful and well attended Flag Day Ceremony. They have been busy organizing and preparing for a new Antlers program, distributing the Impact Grant money received in the community very soon, has had initiations, and is planning several events for fall and spring, including a socially distanced oracle Dance!!

On a personal note, I would like to thank my fellow Elks in NC and surrounding districts for the outpouring of support in July when my younger brother was killed in a motorcycle accident. I just don't have the words to show my thanks. My family and I are forever indebted!

Essex Lodge #1866

Submitted by Hilda Davis

MASKS FOR OUR VETERANS

Veterans committee has stepped up during this pandemic. The committee donated 400 disposable masks to Lock Raven VA. Marie Cavey, VAVS Deputy Representative donated an additional 100 hand-made masks funded by Judy Numbers.

Following, the Loch Raven VA asked for volunteers to make masks with materials supplied by the medical facility.

To date, Marie Cavey has made over 1,000 masks and Tammy joined the project and has made an additional 400. Both ladies are still making them.

Thank you ladies, for your outstanding work for our veterans.



Marie Cavey with her masks

Below: Marie Cavey & Tammy give masks to the VA representative, Susan.



Severna Park Lodge #2482

Lynne Bailey, Public Relations

PER Celine Wachter, Jim McCormick, and ENF Chairman Skip Stokes on their first delivery

As recipients of an ENF Impact Grant, the Severna Park Lodge 2482 donated \$2,500 of fresh food to Serving People Across Neighborhoods (SPAN), located in Severna Park.

ENF Chair Skip Stokes and his committee bought food every week for five weeks and delivered it to the food bank during a crucial time of hunger in the community. They requested fresh vegetables, such as potatoes, tomatoes, and fruit, such as oranges and bananas, along with frozen dinners, not just the usual canned goods that we associate with food banks.

A nice note of thanks was received from a volunteer at the SPAN Food Bank.

Caring and Sharing with Local Firefighters

May 31, we held a pit beef/pit ham dinner. We invited Earleigh Heights Fire Company and donated 12 lunches of their choosing. They were genuinely appreciative, and we received a thankful letter for all our efforts.

On June 5, we included the Jones Station Fire department in our Friday Fried Chicken Carryout Dinner. They arrived with their fire truck. We enjoyed seeing these young men who are part of the first responders in our county.



Jones Station Fire Truck 23 joined by our ER Bob Boggs and House Committee Team

STATE ASSOCIATION DIRECTORY

CHANGES & CORRECTIONS

By Betty Hardin, State Chair | bettwedg@comcast.net

Please make the following changes to your directory:

- Page 6, President-Elect: Add Robert H. Raleigh, Jr. (Jackie Phillips), Chestertown Lodge No. 2474, 6181 Quaker Neck Road, Chestertown, MD 21620; Phone: 410-708-5098 (C); Email: robertraleigh7@gmail.com
- Page 8, Trustees and Page 35 Ritualistic: Change email for J. Gordon Alexander to gordondoc@comcast.net
- Page 9, ECB Exec Committee: Delete all info for Dan Kane and replace with Matthew S. Briggs, NC, VP Representative, Bowie Lodge No. 2309, P.O. Box 3981, Crofton, MD 21114; Phone: 443-837-8111 (C); Email: matthewbriggs7@yahoo.com
- Page 12, DDGERs SW District: Larry M Sheldrake, insert (Donna) before SW; change email to larryshel1953@gmail.com
- Page 20, Americanism: Donna Marks, SW, change to Donna Sheldrake (Larry), SW
- Page 22, CLMS Coordinators: Delete all info for John Mackenzie and replace with Paula Boyd (David), SE, 8000 Dividing Creek Road, Pocomoke City, MD 21851; Phone: 717-968-1826 (C); Email: pelks1624@yahoo.com
- Page 23, Con/Con: Delete all info for Eileen Loftus
- Page 27, Washington D.C. VAMC: Delete all info for Barbara Higgs and replace with Judith P. Black, Washington-Rockville Lodge No. 15, 10805 Mazwood Place N., Bethesda, MD 20852; Phone: 301-802-6052 (C); Email: jblk452@icloud.com
- Page 27, Perry Point VAMC: Delete all info for Mike Ford and replace with Katherine L. LaMartina, Abingdon Lodge No. 2354, P.O. Box 200, Abingdon, MD 21009; Phone: 443-474-4707 (C); Email: klamartina@comcast.net
- Page 28, Delaware Veterans Home: Delete all info for Ed Pettit and replace with Eugene Rossi, Milford Lodge No. 2401, 3502H S. Sagamore Drive, Milford, DE 19963; Phone: 302-396-1316 (C), 302-481-4888 (H); Email: erossijr@gmail.com
- Page 32, Membership/Lapsation: Change email for Edward H. Pettit to ed.pettit@dentsplysirona.com
- Page 33, Membership/Lapsation: Larry M. Sheldrake, SW, change to Larry M. Sheldrake (Donna), SW, add 202-359-4251 (C) and change email to larryshel1953@gmail.com
- Page 42, Broadneck Lodge No. 2608: Change meeting time to 7:30 p.m.
- Page 44, Towson Lodge Exalted Ruler Peter Cline: Change email to clinep33@yahoo.com
- Page 51, Crisfield Lodge Secretary: Delete all info for John Mackenzie and replace with Janice M. Mekovsky (David), 26508 Old State Road, Crisfield, MD 218176; Phone: 667-221-2482 (C); Email: secretarycrisfieldelks1044@gmail.com

Please contact me with any other changes.

Rev 10/7/2020

CAMP SPRINGS #2332

By Shelva B. Redd, Trustee/Public Relations Chair
Camp Springs Elks Lodge #2332
(301) 599-1895/(301) 399-9233

On August 15, 2020, Camp Springs Elks Lodge #2332, participated in a Shred Day and Food Drive Event sponsored by the Camp Springs Civic Association (CSCA). Several Lodge members supported this effort by picking up boxes of documents from the Lodge that needed to be shredded and delivered them to the First Baptist Church of Camp Springs. In exchange for no-charge shredding, we were asked to donate non-perishable food items that will be distributed to local food banks. As usual, our members showed up and donated. Our Lodge considers CSCA to be one of our partners in this community, and we do what we can to support our respective organizations. Thank you to all of the Officers and Lodge members who participated.

WASHINGTON-ROCKVILLE #15

By
Judith Black

Jason Smith, retired Army veteran, presents a sample of honey and fresh vegetables to Judy Black, grants coordinator in the photo below. The Impact Grant pays a mileage allotment to Jason to transport fresh vegetables weekly to local military families from Farms 4 Valor farm in Brandywine, MD. Jason meets volunteers every Saturday who will deliver the individual packages. Farms 4 Valor is a non-profit farm started by another retired Army veteran, Peter Scott. The Impact Grant also purchased cooler bags and ice packs to provide a fresh delivery. This program expects to provide 30 veteran families with approximately \$1,200 worth of fresh vegetables, eggs, nuts, and honey during the growing season.



"Sharing food has always had a central place in civilized societies; it's no accident so many of our cultural, religious and patriotic rituals are involved with eating."

-Ruth Reichl

ELKS NATIONAL VETERAN SERVICE MISSION

By Bob McIntyre, Chairman, ENVSC



I am glad that we are finally able to come together as a group once again, after our extended hiatus due to the current pandemic. I have missed our gatherings and hearing about all the great works being accomplished by our members. I hope that everyone has been staying safe and healthy.

On the other hand, I am sad to report that our Veteran Affairs Voluntary Service Representatives have not been able to visit our sheltered veterans at the VAs and State Homes due to COVID-19. Every facility is in lockdown, which is necessary to protect our vulnerable veterans from exposure to this terrible virus.

Our Service Reps have stayed in contact with our VA Volunteer Directors. They are delivering comfort kits, toiletries, canteen coupons, and personal comfort items to the VAs who then disburse the things to the veterans as needed.

I would like to recognize and thank Lock Raven VA Deputy Representative Marie Cavey from Essex Lodge 1866 for personally making and delivering over 1,000 face masks to the Lock Raven VA and also PER Cindy Sammons from Milford Lodge 2401 for making and delivering over 500 masks to the Delaware Veterans Home and the Wilmington VA. These two ladies, along with other members and non-members, answered the call when the VA asked for the masks and other PPE equipment. At the Wilmington VA, volunteer organizations, including the Elks, provided 5,734 face masks.

As the ENVSC Chairman, I would like to welcome Judy Black from Washington-Rockville Lodge #15, Eugene Rossi from Milford Lodge #2401 and Katherine Lamartina from Abingdon Lodge #2354 to our VAVS family. Judy has been confirmed as the VAVS Rep for the Washington DC VAMC, Gene has been confirmed as the VAVS Rep for the Delaware Veterans Home, and Katherine will be confirmed as the VAVS Rep for the Perry Point Veterans Hospital.

These three new Reps are replacing Barbara Higgs, Ed Pettit and Mike Ford. I would personally like to thank Barbara, Ed, and Mike for the fine job they did representing the Elks for so many years and their many hours of service and dedication to our hospitalized veterans at these facilities.

Since we were not able to meet in June for our annual Convention, I'd like to catch up on some Awards. As Elks, we are proud of the work our members perform with our veterans. The State Association permits ENVSC to honor two Elks each year who have given extraordinary service to our nation's veterans. Last year's recipient of the Male Veteran Volunteer of the Year Award was Thomas M. Volatile from Cape Henlopen Lodge #2540. And the recipient of the Female Veteran Volunteer of the Year award was Mary C. Onley from Frederick Lodge #626. Congratulations to Tom and

Mary for their outstanding service, and thank you for all that you do for our veterans.

This year with relaxed restrictions due to COVID-19, ENF approved Freedom Grant Applications in the amount of \$2,500.00 to 14 Lodges within our Association. That equates to \$35,000.00 available for assisting our veterans throughout MD, DE & DC. Congratulations to all the Lodges that received the Grant. This was an excellent showing for our State Association!

The Army of Hope/Welcome Project continues to receive requests for veteran assistance. The Welcome Home Project received requests to assist seven homeless veterans with furniture and bedding as they transitioned into HUD-VASH Housing. The Army of Hope continues to receive requests for assistance with delinquent rent and utility bills. We were also recently able to assist a veteran in the DC area with funds for bus tickets so she and her daughter could travel to North Carolina to visit her mother, who had suffered a stroke.

Also, a member from Newark Lodge #2281, Richard Mayes, donated and installed a window air conditioning unit in the house of a veteran who was being released from the Wilmington VA during one of our summer's heatwaves.

I mention these two recent requests because I feel they exemplify the true meaning of Elksdom. As you can see, the Army of Hope and Welcome Home Project are making a difference by assisting our veterans.

Please have a safe and enjoyable weekend. Thank you all for continuing to serve our Veterans!



(Right) Mr. Thomas M. Volatile received the 2019-2020 Male Veteran Volunteer of the Year Award from ENVSC Chairman (Left) Bob McIntyre on August 18, 2020 at Cape Henlopen Lodge.



SOUTH EAST DISTRICT

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

For my first article, I was hoping by now to have visited every Lodge in the Great Southeast district to thank them for their support. However, due to the continuing saga of COVID-19, it has been a challenge for all.

From the bottom of my heart, I want to thank everyone for having the faith and confidence in me to fulfill this position. It's an honor to serve as your Southeast District Vice President for this term, and I look forward to working closely with our State President, District Deputy, and all Lodges. It is humbling to have such a great group of mentors who have supported me over the years of my growing and gaining knowledge of Elkdom. Leaders such as Reginald Maguire, David and Connie Wolcott, John Loftus, Bill Buttrill, Carl Vogt, Connie DeYoung, Bill Kummer, Charlie Herbert, and yes, even Stu Kerr had a hand in there somewhere. There are times when I sit in the Lodge in Cambridge, and I can still recollect hearing Reggie's deep voice saying, "Now Dan, don't get ahead of yourself, sit back and let's talk about it, but before we do, get my rocks glass with a little bit of ice and my Crown Royal."

So, what has been going on since I have officially taken over as your Vice President? Crisfield #1044 is doing great things. I have been there for steak night (perfectly cooked, I might add), and their dinner cruise to Tangier was attended by many. Exalted Ruler Erik Emely, the Lodge Officers and volunteers are doing amazing things down there.

Bill Kummer, and his lovely wife Susan, invited my lady, State Chaplin Carrie Jones and me down to attend their Installation of Officers and Awards ceremony at Salisbury #817. Many hardworking Officers and Citizens were presented awards to recognize their hard work and dedication to the Lodge and their community.

Easton #1622 has welcomed us a few times for Chef Lisa's meatloaf, crab cake, or prime rib and shrimp dinners.

Recently, Easton (member) and Cambridge (associate member) lost a valuable brother Mr. Earle B. Wood IV (Peter), age 22, to the battle of Prader-Willi's syndrome. The Officers of Easton and Cambridge rallied together at the water's edge by the dock in Cambridge, which was one of Peter's favorite places to hang out with his Dad (Roo) to conduct an Elk's memorial service for the family and friends of Peter.

So many great events are being planned within our

District. I encourage all members to share information through emails and social media. Post your activities on your Lodge Facebook pages. Whenever your Lodge does a presentation, initiation, donation, or any other special event, post it on the MD, DE, DC Facebook page, and share the accomplishment.

For the Lodges I have not visited yet in an unofficial capacity, you will see us very soon.

My vision for this year is to personally fulfill more than the required duties as Vice President representing the State President and his accomplishment agenda goals, is to keep the SOUTHEAST district strong and to build unity amongst the ten Lodges. Many of you witnessed the unity first hand in the bus trip to Cambridge that Easton arranged back in the fall of 2019 when we visited Salisbury, Crisfield, Onancock, and Pocomoke. The Lodges we missed were on the trip scheduled before COVID-19. Seaford, Selbyville, Cape Henlopen, and Ocean City are still planned whenever they lift the restrictions.

So, let's talk to each other, share information, and visit each other's Lodges whenever possible. Participate in other Lodges' events, but if you find you do not connect with what they have, there is another Lodge within a short drive that needs your business. Endorse and promote each other. Ask a neighbor to join you at the Lodge, and let's together build the Southeast District with growth, success, unity, and prosperity.

Soon the Lodges will be receiving my official visitation letter. Thank you and see you soon around the District.

Pocomoke City Elks Lodge #1624

By Carroll Marshall, ER

Members of the Pocomoke City Elk's Lodge #1624 haven't let the circumstances dictate the amount of shared brotherhood of late. The members have been most creative in operating within mandated rules to provide our community with a variety of activities.

At the height of the pandemic, Pocomoke's officers banded together to do a series of eight weeks of Back Door Cash and Carry Dinners featuring entrees ranging from cheesesteak subs to seafood platters. It was such a hit with our members we've elected to add it to our standard operating policy. Currently, it comprises 25% of our food service orders. It also proved an excellent tool for recruitment.

On July 4, we held a Chicken BBQ with intentions to sell 900 halves of chicken on a carryout basis only. It made for a long day as the first chickens were placed on the grill just before 6 am, and the last of the lot leaving the door at just before 4 pm.

Continued on page 16

Pocomoke City continued from page 15

Though we fell just short of our goal, the brotherhood and good times built tremendous goodwill throughout our community.

August kicked off with our annual Beach Party held at Assateague National Seashore. Members and their guests reveled in a gorgeous sunset over Chincoteague Bay and feasted on grilled foods and S'mores as the moon rose over the tranquil Atlantic. Away from our Lodge, it provided an excellent opportunity to educate prospective members on what Elks do in our community and how they can become part of it.

The highlight of our August was undoubtedly the Elks' 2nd Annual Pocomoke River Poker Run. Indeed, the most attended event in Pocomoke over the summer season, the event provided players from all across Delmarva to enjoy what Pocomoke has to offer.

Operated much like a traditional poker run, clues were provided to five stops scattered along the Pocomoke River. Captain's navigated the river to each of the stops where they were greeted by Elk's volunteers, who hosted a variety of games, food, and other River associated activities.

Forty-five boats and nearly 175 participants enjoyed a great day on the water, ensured the event was a success. Pocomoke's Loyal Knight John Boston II bested the field with a hand of four deuces.

We look forward to a full slate of creative fourth quarter events.



Elks Care - **Elks** Share

AMERICANISM



By Linda Vibbert
State Chair Americanism
Lindagv12@gmail.com

Hello everyone, I am very excited to start this year's Americanism program. With the current circumstances in our country, Americanism is needed more than ever before. We need and want to get our children to discuss Americanism, Patriotism, and love for our Great Country.

This year's Americanism essay contest is "How Can Patriotism be Demonstrated?" The State Poster Contest is to draw "Your Favorite American Building." The forms may be downloaded from the State and the Grand websites.

I am looking forward to seeing all the creativity the children come up with this year. The state website is updated with all the forms for both contests. I have sent out packets to all the District Chairman of Americanism for their use in distributing the information to the Lodge Chairman. I am available for anyone who has any questions or concerns anytime. I look forward to us having our best year yet.

STATE SOCCER SHOOT



By Dolly Broom, SW State Chair

Thank you to our returning District Chairs. **NE: CP King, SE: Dave Tyler, SW: Mike Palmer, W: Barrett Fitzwater, NC: Vacant** (If interested, please contact me). Your hard work last year was very much appreciated. Let's have another great year! If you have any questions, please reach out to your district chair. The Soccer Manual has been updated and can be found at <https://www.elks.org/grandLodge/activities/manuals.cfm>

The Mid-Atlantic Soccer Shoot has been scheduled for March 12-14, 2021, in York, PA. Last year was our first year at this venue, and it was a great success. The State Shoot will be in January with the location to be determined. Please check with your District Chairs for the date of the District Shoots so you can complete your local shoots prior.

Age Groups are as follows:

- U-8** Age 7 and Under
- U-10** Ages 8 and 9
- U-12** Ages 10 and 11
- U-14** Ages 12 and 13
- U-16** Ages 14 and 15

Age is determined by the age of the contestants as of January 1, 2020

Most Valuable Student Scholarship Deadline: November 15, 2020—enf.elks.org/mvs—Open to all high school seniors, who are citizens. Applications must be submitted online. Applications are judged on scholarship, leadership, and financial need.

Red Ribbon Week, October 23-31



Red Ribbon Week is the nation's oldest and largest drug misuse prevention awareness program.

Red Ribbon Week started after the death of DEA Special Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena, who in 1985 was brutally tortured and murdered by drug traffickers he was investigating in Mexico. After Kiki's death, people started wearing red ribbons to honor his sacrifice.

Today, millions of people celebrate Red Ribbon Week by wearing red ribbons, participating in community antidrug events, and pledging to live drug-free lives.

For more information and to access the Red Ribbon toolkit, visit www.dea.gov/redribbon.



St. Louis Wheel Union Station
St. Louis, Missouri



Arizona Coyotes, NHL, Gila
River Arena, Glendale, Arizona



Cuartel de Ballajá
San Juan, Puerto Rico

**Go Red for
Red Ribbon
Week!
October 23-31**

**Support a drug-free
life by lighting up
buildings,
landmarks,
businesses, and
bridges in red!**

**Post a photo on
your social media
platforms, and tag
#DEARedRibbon and
#GoRed4RedRibbon**



Big Four Bridge, Louisville, Kentucky



Houston City Hall, Houston, Texas



The Lenny P. Zakim Bunker Hill Memorial
Bridge, Boston, Massachusetts



FROM ANGELA MEYER

Drug Awareness Programs



Let's do our best to hold a Red Ribbon event to recognize Red Ribbon Week and our Elks Drug Awareness Program in our communities. As we did last year, we are still holding our "RED RIBBON WEEK FALL FESTIVAL and salute to first responders."

It was a great event last year, and we are hoping for the same this year. We will honor our Camarena winner from 2019-20 at that event since he didn't get his day at the State Convention. Look for the flyer on the State and ECB webpages and on FaceBook.

So far, 6 out of 37 Lodges have told me they scheduled a drug take-back day. Encourage your Lodges to hold this activity. Remember, all 4 of our Elroy's will be available. Call Angela to schedule or request additional materials for your events.

A series of three "Sober Rock Music Festivals" will be held in October and November. Look for the flyers. Like our sober swims, the Music Festival was planned for the recovery community but is open to all families looking for a drug and alcohol-free family event.

With all our DAP events, Social distancing and CDC guidelines will be followed.

Camp Springs Elks Lodge #2332

Shelva B. Redd
BOD Chair/Public Relations Chair (301) 599-1895/(301) 399-9233

From University of MD PG Hospital Center: "On behalf of the Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Center (DV/SAC) at UM Prince George's Hospital Center I would like to thank you for your very generous donation of \$50 gift certificates totaling \$1,250 for the victims/survivors of sexual and domestic violence who receive services at our center.

As you know, people come to us in crisis, having experienced

sexual or domestic violence. We provide medical services for them, as well as counseling and victim advocacy, but sometimes they really need more. Your gift certificates will help us fill in the gaps for our clients."

Camp Springs Lodge #2332 was fortunate to have applied for, and received, a Gratitude Grant for \$2,500. Half of the Grant (\$1,250) went to this Domestic Violence organization in the form of gift cards.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, our Lodge decided to split our grant between two organizations we supported in the past, the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Center as mentioned, and Veterans at the Washington, DC VA Medical Center.