

Maryland, Delaware and District of Columbia



Elks Association News

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



www.MDDEDCELS.ORG

March 2018



Message from the State President

Welcome to the Spring Conference and thank you to Glen Burnie Lodge #2266 for hosting us this weekend. We are honored to have as our guests Grand Exalted Ruler Malcolm J. McPherson, Jr. and our First Lady of Elkdom, Pat. We also welcome our Grand Lodge Sponsor, Past Grand Exalted Ruler, Paul D. Helsel and our First Lady, Jane, along with Grand Lodge Trustee, Warren Johnson and Debbie.

Sandra Brantner

Thank you to Frederick Lodge #684 for hosting us in January. It was a great weekend and they did a great

job! I have completed my lodge visits, and I want to thank every lodge for the hospitality shown to Jim and me and also to the Vice Presidents as they visited and delivered my message.

As the current lodge year is ending, I know that the programs of our Association and our Order have been promoted, and we can celebrate their great success throughout the Association. Congratulations to the newly elected officers in the lodges for the fraternal year 2018-2019. May you continue the dedication to our many programs, promote our charitable works in the communities and continue to increase membership. I look forward to working with you the next few months.

Since we last met, I attended the Peer Leadership program held at Elks Camp Barrett on Saturday, February 3rd. The program was streamlined live from New Jersey and was enjoyed by all of us in attendance. I encourage all incoming officers to promote this worthy program to your members, and let's fill that hall next year with teens eager to participate and lead.

I also attended the wonderful 150th Birthday Celebrations held at Kent Island Lodge and the North Central District event at Glen Burnie Lodge. A great job was done at both events! Proclamations were presented and, at Glen Burnie, the Grand Lodge Celebration was streamed live. We were able to enjoy that great program while it was happening in California. I hope that every lodge in our Association got proclamations or certificates from your local and state officials recognizing our 150 years of community service and charitable works and celebrated our Order's 150th Birthday.

The State Hoop Shoot in Chestertown, the Regional Soccer Shoot and Regional Hoop Shoot in Frederick were outstanding events, and I commend our own Basil Wadkovsky, Gerald Morrow and Jim McNitt on jobs well done! I also attended the Americanism Banquet at Westminster Lodge and hats off to Margie McIntyre and Westminster Elks Lodge for another successful year for Americanism. Kudos to Trent Manson for the Elks Training held at Annapolis Lodge. It was a great jump start for the Exalted Rulers who will be starting their fraternal year on April 1st.

With the hard work that you are all doing for our Association, charity reports should be through the roof! It is not too late to get those reports caught up and to Bonnie Howell before the year ends. Our charitable works are important and vital to our survival as an organization. Please, let's have at least one month of 100% reporting!

This weekend we will be electing a President-Elect for 2018-2019. This person will be an apprentice for the next year, learning and watching with Mary while preparing to serve as your President in 2019. It is also that time of the year that the Vice Presidents will be holding their elections in April at the DD Clinics for Vice President, 2 Year Trustee and Elks Camp Barrett Executive Committee. Now is the time to take a district position. Let your District Leaders know what your interests are and if you want to be considered.

Our next meeting will be in Solomon's Island in June for our annual State Convention. It is hard to believe that this Association year will be over in 3 short months! What a great time it has been. Let's end this year with another gain in membership and a better knowledge of Elkdom while we are "**Serving Proudly – Promoting Youth & Honoring Veterans**".

Happy Easter to all of you.

May God bless our veterans and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

Your humble and proud President,
Sandra C. Brantner

COMING EVENTS

April, 2018
DD Clinics – All Districts

May 12, 2018
Youth Recognition Day
Elks Camp Barrett

May 27, 2018
Family Picnic
Elks Camp Barrett

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

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

Sept 28 - 30, 2018
Fall Workshop
Princess Royale, Ocean City, MD

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



**Maryland, Delaware &
District of Columbia
Elks Association News**
Official Publication
2017—2018

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SPRING WORKSHOP OF THE MD, DE & DC ELKS STATE ASSOCIATION
GLEN BURNIE LODGE #2266 – MARCH 23 – 25, 2018

FRIDAY, MARCH 23RD

11:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M. Lunch at Glen Burnie Lodge
12:30 P.M. – 5:00 P.M. Registration (Front Lobby of Lodge)
1:00 P.M. - ??? Advisory Committee Meeting
5:00 P.M. State Trustees Meeting
5:30 P.M. Elks Camp Barrett Executive Committee Meeting
6:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M. Dinner Buffet at the Lodge
8:00 P.M. – 12:00 A.M. Karaoke in the Lounge – FUN, FUN, FUN!!

SATURDAY, MARCH 24TH

7:30 A.M. – 9:00 A.M. Breakfast Buffet – Glen Burnie Lodge
8:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M. Registration (Front Lobby of Lodge)
8:00 A.M. – 8:55 A.M. Elks Camp Barrett Meeting
9:00 A.M. – 9:30 A.M. Meeting called to order, Introductions of Guests, Invocation, Pledge, etc.
9:30 A.M. – 11:55 A.M. Presentations by Committee Chairs
9:30 A.M. ECB Registration, Angela Meyer
9:40 A.M. Grand Lodge Chart of Accounts, Bill Simonds
10:00 A.M. Highlights of ER Training in Annapolis, Trent Manson
10:10 A.M. Scouting and Elks, Brian Westfall
10:30 A.M. Government Relations, Charity Reporting, Bonnie Howell
10:40 A.M. Directory, Betty Hardin
10:45 A.M. Jr. Elks Program, Colleen Ford
10:55 A.M. Elections/Results, Priscilla Schwab
11:15 A.M. Peer Leadership, Kathy King
11:25 A.M. Social Media, Danniele McKnight
11:40 A.M. By-Laws, Jay Nave
11:50 A.M. Announcements – Meetings, etc.

12:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M. Lunch at Glen Burnie Lodge
1:30 P.M. PGER Helse, GER McPherson meeting with DDGERS & PSPs
1:30 P.M. – 1:45 P.M. State President meets with Vice Presidents
1:45 P.M. – 2:00 P.M. State President meets with State Chairs
2:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M. State President, President-Elect meeting with Exalted Rulers
2:30 P.M. – 3:30 P.M. Convention/Conference Meeting
6:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M. Happy Hour
7:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M. Dinner – Presentations to GER; JR. Elks, Veterans
9:00 P.M. – 12:00 A.M. Live Entertainment in the Lounge

SUNDAY, MARCH 25TH

7:30 A.M. – 9:00 A.M. Breakfast Buffet – Glen Burnie Lodge
8:00 A.M. – 9:00 A.M. Registration (Front Lobby of Lodge)
9:00 A.M. Meeting called to order by President Brantner
9:05 A.M. ECB & William J. Jernick Fund, John Loftus
9:25 A.M. Con/Con Update, Conventions, Merrillyn Ramsey
9:35 A.M. Elks National Foundation, Mary Cardinal-Vogt
9:50 A.M. Scholarships, Lynne Evans
9:55 A.M. Hoop Shoot Results, Basil Wadvosky
10:05 A.M. – Business Meeting Secretary's Report, Gerald Morrow, Trustees (Budget Presentation),
Treasurer's Report, Advisory Report

Unfinished Business/New Business (Elections), Announcements

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION – Comments, President-Elect, President, GL Trustee, GL Sponsor, GER McPherson, Jr.
Departed Members/Silence/Sickness & Distress - Adjournment by 12:00 Noon.

12:00 P.M. Farewell Lunch at Glen Burnie Lodge available

Next Meeting – State Convention at Solomon's Island – June 8 – 10, 2018
Memorial Service/Installation of Officers for 2018 - 2019

Next Newsletter Deadline: May 4, 2018



Grand Exalted Ruler
Malcolm J McPherson Jr.

Message From Our Grand Exalted Ruler

For many, March is a time of change. It begins in the darkness of winter but ends with the first signs of spring. It's also a time of change for Elks, when Lodges across the country host installations to welcome a new slate of Officers for the 2018-19 fraternal year. Whether you are taking on a new office, reprising a current position for another year, or retiring from your leadership role, you are the future of your organization. How will you march your Lodge forward this month and year?

Officers and Members, as you work together to plan your year ahead, I hope you'll recognize an important date in our 150-year history: March 12, 1871, when the first Elks Lodge opened in New York City. Now with nearly 2,000 Lodges across the country, this milestone is a testament to the power of our great organization and an inspiration for the future as we continue to spread our values of Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love, and Fidelity that our founding Members set forth.

I urge you to use this month to evaluate your Lodge. Think about what has worked and what hasn't, what your goals are (such as membership growth, charitable events, youth programs, etc.), and who the right people are to execute them. There are endless ways to strengthen Elkdom and your Lodge, many of which I have already witnessed firsthand on this journey. If you keep seeking out what your community needs and uniting as Elks to give back, you will be on the path to success.

Lastly, since this month also marks the celebrations of St. Patrick's Day, I'd like to leave you with an Irish blessing: May your troubles be less, your blessings be more, and nothing but happiness come through your door. Cheers and see you on the road!

MALCOLM J. McPHERSON JR.



Paul D. Helsel
PGER & Sponsor

Message From Our State Sponsor

March 23, 2018

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

Welcome to Glen Burnie Lodge No. 2266 and the Spring Workshop of the Maryland, Delaware and District of Columbia Elks Association. The Glen Burnie lodge and our President have planned a full weekend of fun and fellowship for your enjoyment, with a bit of business sprinkled in. It promises to be a great weekend, and Jane and I look forward to enjoying the fellowship and visiting once again with each of you.

Also this weekend we are honored to have our Grand Exalted Ruler Malcolm J. McPherson, Jr. and his lovely wife Pat with us. They have visited us before, but not as the Grand Exalted Ruler and First Lady of our great Order. I know they too are looking forward to seeing you all again. Please take a few minutes to greet them personally and explain to them how your lodge and our Association are "Strengthening Elkdom through Community Awareness"!!!

Once again a good portion of this workshop will be devoted to training and providing needed information to individual officers (leaders) and members so they are better prepared to handle their specific lodge operations and Elk Programs in their local communities. Please participate in the activities planned, learn, and take what you learn back to your lodge and apply it – hopefully helping to make your lodge a more involved and stronger lodge!!!

Our number one priority is still membership retention and growth, and we have but one week remaining to pull in those who are still delinquent for the year and one week to get those new candidates who are in waiting initiated. All indications are that we should have a gain again this year, but it will not happen unless we all do our part and get everyone, delinquents and new candidates, back and/or initiated by March 31, 2018 (8 days from now). I'm counting on you all to get it done – you did it last year, you can do it again this year!!!

New lodge officers are in the process of being installed across our Association and our Order. Best wishes to each of you taking on leadership responsibility. It's now your turn to build on the strengths of the past, as well as to correct and/or improve on any shortcomings of the past. Always remember you are not alone in this effort to make your lodge the best it can be. There is a multitude of Elks out there that want you to succeed, want your lodge to be the best that it can be – there is a wealth of knowledge and know how out there waiting to help you, should you need it. Don't ever hesitate to ask for information, guidance, assistance, etc. that will help you do your job, perform your duties, and move your lodge forward.

Best wishes to all for a most enjoyable weekend and a most successful 2018/2019 lodge year.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Paul D. Helsel , PGER & Sponsor



Message From the President-Elect

I hope everyone enjoyed their visit to Frederick Lodge for our January workshop. I, for one, had a great time. Thank you so much ER Jack Boehmer and all your members for the great hospitality shown to Carl and myself.

Congratulations to all the newly elected Lodge Officers and Lodge appointed Chairmen. I wish you all a very successful year and hope that you will meet all

the challenges that come with your new positions. Remember we, the association, are here for you. Please ask if you need help. As President-Elect, I am looking forward to working with all of you in the next few months.

Welcome to Grand Exalted Ruler Malcolm J. McPherson, Jr. and First Lady Pat. We are so honored to have you with us this weekend. You can count on us to show you a great time.

Since our last meeting, I attended the Peer Leadership Meeting at Elks Camp Barrett. Kathy King and the drug awareness committee did a great job on the presentations and all the technical support. There was great food, but we were just short on children.

They worked very hard to present a great program for the youth of our association which they did. We need the lodges to step forward and promote this in their communities. Lodges it is up to you.

I gave testimony in both the House and the Senate in Annapolis on February 7, 2018 supporting our gaming bills for fraternal organizations.

On the 10th of February, Carl I had a Rocking good time at the Kent Island Elks 150th Anniversary Party and the food was fantastic. It was then off to the Hoop Shoot in Chestertown the next day. It was a very nice affair and a great job by State Hoop Shoot Chairman Basil Wadkovsky and the Chestertown Elks Lodge. I can't wait for the regionals.

As I continue to travel, I look forward to the year still ahead and the path we will all walk together.

Carl and I both look forward to seeing all of you in Solomon's Island.

Fraternally,
Mary E. Cardinal –Vogt
President Elect



Happy Sesquicentennial

Greetings Members and Honored Guests,

As you know, February 16, 2018 was the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks' 150th Anniversary. Did everyone already have party? If not, you can still have a belated party.

Please go to the Elks.org website and click on the Membership Tool Kit button to discover all the wonderful ways to recruit new members and advertise your Lodge on multimedia and social networking. Look for ways to promote your Lodge throughout your community. What a great way to reach out to potential new members, a few Stray Elks or some delinquent members. You will also find on the website printable posters, banners and table tents. There is also a list of 50 Recruitment Ideas to help your membership committee.

Show the community just what your Lodge is doing on your Lodge website, your Facebook homepage and in your Newsletters. Be **Loud** and **Proud** of what your Lodge is doing for your Community. Think of ways to promote new membership in your Lodge. Have daily drink specials for members who bring in a new guest or even dinner specials. Be creative and have some fun with this. After all, didn't you join the Elks to have Fun? Then invite your new guest to join.

The Initiation of New Members can be done by an Initiation degree team to help the officers out from time to time. Any member in good standing can be part of the team that initiates new members. Just keep it impressive. Please try your best to do the initiations on the weekends. Most people have more time on the weekends and will stay at the Lodge longer. They will have the time to enjoy their new Lodge and its members. The end of the initiation ceremony is just the beginning for these new members. March 31st is approaching quickly, so please initiate as many new members as possible. Keep Moving Forward.

Try to keep your Lodge open as much as possible because A Closed Elks Lodge, won't Save Money while Closed, won't make Money while Closed, won't Add any New Members while Closed, may lose Members while Closed, and the Members will have No Fun while the Lodge is Closed.

On the other hand, an Open Elks Lodge can Make Money While Open, can Add New Members to the Lodge's ranks While Open, can Keep the Members from Transferring to another Lodge While Open and can Keep Members Happy and Active and coming back for more.

Together, Elks Add Members!

Membership District Chairs

Mary O'Brien	NC
Danniele McKnight	W
Frank Bailey	SE
Mike Greene	SW
Patti Gray	NE

Fraternally,

George Tunncliff
State Membership Chairman



North Central District

Michael Greaver, VP

Essex Lodge No. 1866 ♦ mikegreaver@comcast.net



Greetings North Central!

At this time, all of the current Exalted Rulers are finishing up their terms. I would like to say thank you for your service, and I hope that you might consider a position with our State Association! To all of the Exalted Rulers who will be installed for a second or third term, thank you for your Passion and Service.

I would also like to thank all of the Lodges that I have visited this past year

and give a special thank you on behalf of our Great State President, Sandra Brantner, for the Hospitality that was extended to Sandra, Jim and me during our visits.

Also, thank you to Glen Burnie Lodge #2266 for hosting the North Central 150th Anniversary Celebration. It was truly a great evening.

North Central Rolls!

Fraternally,

Michael Greaver



IN MEMORIUM
Scott McKnight
 July 28, 1949 - January 28, 2018
 PER - Frederick Lodge #684
 PSVP – West District
 State Public Relations Chairman

To All members of the MD, DE and DC Elks Association:
 I would like to thank all of you who called, emailed, sent a card, attended the service or said a prayer on behalf of my mother, Past First Lady Millie Pingitore. The greatest comfort during our time of sorrow was the expression of your sympathy conveyed to us in many ways. I deeply appreciate your thoughtfulness and thank each and every one of you from the bottom of my heart. Mom loved each of you and I hope you will all keep her in your memories and your prayers.

Sincerely,
 Vince Pingitore, Jr., PSP, PGLC

IN MEMORY OF

MILDRED M. PINGITORE, PAST FIRST LADY
 JUNE 19, 1928-----FEBRUARY 7, 2018

*We shall meet, but we shall miss them, There will be the vacant chair,
 But though we no more possess them, Still our hearts their memories bear,
 But a while ago we gathered, Friendship beaming in each eye,
 Now the golden cord is severed, They have passed to realms on high.*

North East District

Mike Ford, VP

Abingdon Lodge No. 2345 ♦ sprinklergod26@yahoo.com



Good morning all and welcome to our 2018 Spring Workshop in sunny Glen Burnie!! On behalf of the Northeast District, I would like to welcome our Grand Exalted Ruler Malcolm McPherson and First Lady Pat to our great State Association.

I would like to thank our 2017-2018 Lodge Officers for their service to the Order and encourage you to take an active role in the District and State Committees/Chairs. To the new Exalted Rulers and your Officers, remember that your PERs, State and District Chairs are here at your disposal to help make it another

great year in the Northeast. Please familiarize yourself and your Officers with the requirements for the positions you have just assumed. All the manuals are at Elks.org for your perusing pleasure.

With the new Elk year just a week away, let me tell you what's going on with "The Beasts of the Northeast".

Abingdon #2354: Will still be using their Anniversary Grant at the Welcome One Shelter in Belcamp. They are adding more events for the Perry Point Veterans and they are working on a Veterans sponsored Poker run between Districts.

Havre de Grace #1564: Will be using their Beacon Grant for their annual Fishing Day and their Gratitude Grant will go to the Havre de Grace Police Kids Safety Camp.

Milford #2401: Will be celebrating a milestone this year so be sure to wish them a "Happy 50th Birthday". They are amping up their Youth Athletics Program and Cub Scout Pack 911 has grown out of control. They initiated 24 new members in one night!

Dover #1903: Has once again (3yrs in a row) received the Impact Grant!! This Grant supports Dover's homeless and their Elks Pantry. In the winter months they work closely with Code Purple giving out supplies that the homeless cannot get at the shelters.

Newark #2281: Continues to support their Breast Cancer Walk, Pleasantville Food Pantry, and many of their Veterans Programs.

Chestertown #2474: Working on partnership with Helping Our Youth Attain Success Program (Hoyas) and working with local children's rehabilitation center.

Wilmington #307: Has continued to support the Wilmington VA Hospital and has held several ENF fundraisers.

As my days are numbered as your Vice President, I want to thank you for the support you have shown me, and I can only hope that I have helped you the same. Hopefully in the future I will have the opportunity to serve you again.

Having fun promoting youth and honoring our Veterans,

Mike Ford

ABINGDON LODGE

With the use of the ENF Gratitude Grant, Abingdon Lodge is funding the start-up of a local chapter of **Pets for Vets**, as well as working alongside the organization with dog training and foster care. They are also providing "New Home" care packages which include food, crate, toys, and first year of vaccinations/veterinary visits. The non-profit organization pairs shelter animals with Veterans suffering from PTSD and other emotional and physical disabilities, giving both the Vets and Pets a second chance at a healthy and happy life together.



MILFORD LODGE



Milford Lodge honored two first responders at their Sweetheart's Dinner on February 16, 2018. Pictured on the left is Firefighter Charles Fanaman of the Carlisle Fire Company and on the right is Sgt. Robert Masten of the Milford Police Department. Also pictured are Cyndee Sammons, Milford Lodge Secretary and Mary Rybicki, Leading Knight.

NEWARK LODGE



In January, Newark Lodge #2281 partnered with local scouts, businesses, and schools to send a little love to 25 soldiers currently deployed overseas. "Cookies for our Troops 2018" sent 28 boxes packed with cookies, socks, dog treats, Valentines, notes and artwork from local students. Total weight was 682 lbs.



South East District

Lloyd Barron, VP

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



Hello once again,

I hope everyone had an enjoyable Holiday Season.

Seaford Lodge #2458 – On January 18th, I finished my Lodge visits at Seaford. I'd like to thank them for the great Reception and Hospitality I received from the lodge, officers and members. It was really good to see how well a small lodge like Seaford works. They have done a great job making lodge improvements and renovations. Good Job Seaford.

Salisbury Lodge #817- Congratulations on your renovation approval from Grand Lodge. I'm very excited to see the end result, as the concept drawing looks fantastic. Let us all know when the Lounge warming party is. Can't wait!

Kent Island Elks Lodge # 2576 - On Saturday February 10th, Kent Island threw their 150th Elks Birthday Bash and what a bash it was! We had great food prepared by a guest Chef and he did an outstanding job. We ended the night with live music by South Mill Road Trip. A lot of fun was had by all into the wee hours of the morning. I hope all our Lodges had great Elk Birthday Celebrations.

South East - Let's never forget our Veterans here at home and those serving abroad. Keep them in your thoughts and prayers every day. Also, keep working on membership. Let's all make a big push to the finish line. If necessary weekly initiations to get it done.

Mark your calendars for April 8th. Kent Island Elks Lodge 2576 will be hosting a **District Deputy Clinic, which will begin at 9:30 AM sharp**, as well as the **South East District Caucus for District Vice President, 2yr. Trustee and a 2 yr. Camp Barrett Rep.** Looking forward to seeing everyone there.

Fraternally,

Lloyd Barron



Kent Island Lodge held their Youth Hoop Shoot. A big thank you to all who volunteered to make it successful.



CRISFIELD LODGE



Crisfield Lodge had a great turn out for their Soccer Shoot!



South West District

Robert Broom, VP

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



Howdy Y'all,

Well folks, we are in the home stretch. This time of year provides such excitement within our Order! Local Lodge nominations and elections have occurred and new life and promise is infused within the lodge leadership. To those of you who are elected into new positions of leadership, I say congratulations. Know that as April approaches, we are here to assist you with whatever you may need.

During February, we celebrated 150 years of service to our veterans and our communities! I know there were several events planned, and I hope that each of you had the opportunity to attend a function and enjoy an evening of pride and fun in what we have accomplished. I know I was fortunate to participate in my home lodge's celebration – we PERs cooked some mighty fine gourmet burgers and brought in live music. I am sure each lodge that hosted an event has a great story to share, and I look forward to hearing them all.

The apparent conspiracy with the map issue has been put to rest. However, I seem to have uncovered something new. My given name is Robert and growing up in the South, I went by that name. As life brought me to Maryland via the Navy, Robert has been truncated to Rob - although my Mother still calls me Robert. Now that I've begun service in the State Association, there are further truncations occurring. I've heard Bob and Bobby mostly but I find I must not succumb to these aliases....Robert or Rob will do nicely if you please!

As we close out our Elk lodge year and enter the last quarter of our State Association year, I'd like to say thank you to the lodges in my district. You were gracious in hosting the state meetings (minus a missed goose hunt in Deale) and highlighted the great things each of you are doing in support of your communities. It was an honor to visit your lodge, but just as importantly, it has been a great joy getting to know you and building friendships with you.

Fraternally,

Robert Broom



CAMP SPRINGS LODGE

Camp Springs Elks Lodge #2332 has partnered with a housing facility known as Access Housing Inc., located in Washington, DC. Access Housing is a 501(c) (3) community-based organization committed and dedicated to the principle that everyone, regardless of income or socio-economic status, has a right to decent, safe and affordable housing. Access Housing is the first program in the greater DC metro area to focus on housing for homeless veterans and works in partnership with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Access Housing reached out to the Camp Springs Elks Veterans Committee in January 2018, and informed us of the urgent need for supplies for six veterans who were scheduled to move into available housing at the Access Housing facility. None of them had the necessary furnishings or items needed to make a comfortable home. Our Veterans Committee members took immediate action and purchased beds, mattresses, mattress covers, sheets, pillows, shower curtains, night stands, small dinette sets and personal items that the veterans needed to establish their new homes.

Camp Springs Lodge was able to provide the veterans with life enhancing items and has developed a continuing relationship with Access Housing Inc. to provide additional housing items for other veterans, as needed.

Funding for this project was made possible by the Welcome Home Grant received from Grand Lodge.



DEALE LODGE



Deale Elks Lodge# 2528 is so grateful to have been able to strengthen Elkdom in our Community. All of our Community Investment Program Grants, together with fundraisers in our Lodge, have provided funding for our projects that have touched our Churches our Elementary Schools, Middle Schools, High Schools and even our Pets. Many Thanks for this opportunity to make a difference in our Community.

Deale Elks Lodge# 2528 - "Making a Difference"
Grants Chair/Committee: Donna Marks and Joanne Riley

Elks Care - Elks Share

West District

Eric Sines, VP

Oakland Lodge No. 2481 ♦ ess2801@hotmail.com



Greetings West District!

I would like to start by saying how great it is to be a small part of a small District that is doing so much for our children, our veterans and our communities. I want to extend a Big thank you to Frederick #684 for not only hosting the Winter Conference but also hosting the West District Hoop Shoot. They did a great job with both.

It is exciting to hear about all the hard work Hagerstown #378 is doing with their youth and drug awareness. Hats

off to Frostburg #470 for their amazing work for ENF. Thanks go out to Westminster #2277 for hosting the Americanism Award Banquet again this year.

I look forward to seeing you all in Glen Burnie for our Spring Workshop.

Fraternally,
Eric Sines



CAPE HENLOPEN LODGE



At a luncheon held at Cape Henlopen Elks Lodge #2540, Delaware Toys for Tots (TFT) presented Exalted Ruler, Lynn Clougher, with a Certificate and letter of appreciation. In the TFT campaign, which was conducted from October through December 2017, Cape Henlopen Lodge collected over 1,000 toys, the most toys in all of Sussex County. TFT volunteers picked up toys at the Lodge an average of twice a week. The TFT Delaware campaign distributed over 4,370 toys to needy children in Sussex County. All TFT volunteers are retired Marines.

Picture Caption:

Shown L-R: Chuck Sewell – TFT Volunteer, Tom Clougher – Loyal Knight, Lynn Clougher – ER, Ted Befficoff – TFT Sussex County Coordinator, Tom Terrell – TFT Volunteer, and Peggy Sanders – Lodge Americanism Chair.

SEAFORD LODGE



Seaford Lodge #2458 held their local Hoop Shoot on January 27, 2018 at the Boys and Girls Club. Martin Vandegrift, Hoop Shoot Chairman, did an outstanding job during this event. After competition Seaford hosted a dinner at the Lodge. All children and their families were invited back for a great meal, and awards were presented by Mr. Vandegrift and Exalted Ruler Dawn Eskridge. Also present was Drug Awareness Chair, Debra Clark, who distributed lots of goodies for drug awareness to each child. This was a very successful event for Seaford Lodge.



WANTED

A Few Good Members

At the June Convention I will announce the recipient of the Maryland, Delaware and District of Columbia Elks Association Elk-of-the-Year Award. I need your help in finding this person. The criteria for this award are very much like your Lodge Elk-of-the-Year Award. It is someone who has shown exemplary efforts in furthering the work of Elkdom, but on the State Association level. This is someone who has gone "above and beyond" in performing their duties. And to that end, there are a couple of classes of our members who are NOT eligible this year: any currently serving District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler, any currently serving State Association Vice President, and any Past State President. The thinking being that in the first two cases, they are basically doing their job and should not get special recognition for that. And in the case of the PSP's, well this is a group of Elks who have "been there, done that" and have already been recognized for their efforts.

Your nomination for Elk-of-the-Year must be sent to me in writing. It can be by snail mail (1157 Old Crellin Road, Oakland, MD 21550), or e-mail (sbrantner@verizon.net), but **NOT** by phone. ***I would prefer e-mail.*** It does not have to be elaborate. Not how long they have been an Elk or a list of all their past positions. Just a simple "who" and "why".

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

Sandra C. Brantner,
President

Government Relations

Charitable Contributions Help To Tell the Elks' Story

By JAMES W. MARTSFIELD

Committee Member

Congratulations!

You are a newly elected Exalted Ruler, Trustee, Lodge Officer, Committee Chairman, or a Member waiting for the installation of officers and the beginning of your new Lodge year of 2018-19. All of your committees have been appointed, and all of your plans have been laid out for the direction of your Lodge. With the support and help from your PERs and membership, you should have a pretty good idea what's required of you and where you are going. It is important that you become familiar with all the Grand Lodge manuals, especially the Government Relations manual. These manuals should be read by all of your officers and committee chairmen. They will help you and your officers carry out your responsibilities and duties for the coming year.

I would like to inform you of one of your first duties. On May 1 of each year, the Elks make a tremendous effort to gather and publish the charitable activities of every Lodge (including each Committee and Ladies' Group) and State Association in the Order. It is important that you keep an accurate account of everything you do in your Lodge. There was a time in our history when we did not distribute this kind of information outside of our organization. But, we can no longer afford the luxury of hiding what our Order stands for. We must tell our story all over America to everyone who will listen. And, what a story it is. We give generously of our time, our money, and talent to everyone who needs a helping hand, from children to aging veterans. Last year that amounted to more than \$334 million. It is very important that this information be presented to all our Members. How do you do that? By printing charitable contributions in your Lodge bulletins and State Association newsletter. Then take it a couple steps further by getting this information in the hands of your local government and state officials. Some of you may feel that what you have donated this past year is just a drop in the bucket, with no need to report. Every little bit adds up, though, so please report whatever you have. We will not know what we have accomplished this past Lodge year until all of you tell us. Reporting serves as a great recruitment tool, and also helps our Order maintain its current tax status. It is a part of our story that should be told to everyone you know. We're wishing all of you the best in accomplishing your goals for this upcoming 2018-19 year. I also wish to thank those of you who are going out of office for your dedication to Elkdom this past year. Always remember: "Elks Care-Elks Share!"

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

The 2018 Most Valuable Student (MVS) Scholarship state judging ended on February 26, 2018. The winners will be announced at the Spring Workshop on Sunday, March 25, 2018. In addition, the Career & Technology applications will be evaluated at the end of March. The deadline was March 15, 2018.

LODGE ELECTIONS

An oft overlooked item during the election of lodge officers is the election of an alternate representative to the Grand Lodge Convention in the event the Exalted Ruler cannot attend (GLS Section 12.120 decision 02). This is handled in the same manner as the nomination and election of the other officers of the lodge. Only a Past Exalted Ruler is eligible for this position (Constitution Art. III, Section 4). If you may have overlooked this during the elections in your lodge, make it the first item under New Business at your next lodge meeting. (Thanks to DD George Tunnicliff for helping me research this information).

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Buttrill, PSP



On behalf of the ENVSC and the VAVS Reps, I would like to welcome our Grand Exalted Ruler, Malcolm J. McPherson Jr, and First Lady Pat to our Spring Workshop at Glen Burnie Lodge #2266.

I congratulate the newly elected Exalted Rulers and incoming Lodge officers who will be installed for the fraternal year 2018-2019. Grand Lodge requires that each Lodge submit a Committee Chairman Report, which lists the chairman for each Committee, by April 15th. Appointing knowledgeable Chairmen for your Commit-

tees is the first step in assuring that your Lodge will have a successful year performing our Elks Programs. Please keep this in mind. The success of the ENVSC and all the Committees of the MD, DE & DC Elks Association starts at the Lodge level.

Sadly, I would like to report to the membership that Barbara Higgs, VAVS Rep for the Washington DC VAMC, has resigned her position. I want to thank Barbara for her time, loyal service and steadfast dedication to our Veterans at Washington VA. On the other hand, it is with great pleasure that I inform you that Hazel Gross, from Washington-Rockville Lodge #15, has been appointed to replace Barbara. Welcome Hazel!

In other news from the ENVSC, there will be 300 Freedom Grants available this year, that's an increase of 100 over last year. The Grants will be awarded on a first come, first served basis so start planning now! Freedom Grants help Lodges with projects that serve veterans and active-duty military members. The application process opens on July 1st, 2018. We had six Lodges who were recipients of the Grant last year. Great job! The Grants were used to serve dinners, provide furni-

ture and clothing for our homeless veterans and taking Veterans fishing. Hopefully, we will have continued success in applying for the Freedom Grant to the benefit of our Veterans.

It is hard to believe that it has already been one year since the MD, DE & DC Elks Association implemented the Army of Hope. Last year at our Spring Workshop in Kent Island, I announced that through our Car Raffle, and donations from Lodges, individuals and other organizations, we had raised \$50,000.00 to start this program. This past year the Army of Hope has assisted Veterans with rent, handicap access ramps and bathrooms, funeral expenses, and furniture for a family who lost their home to a fire. Thank you to all who have donated and continued to donate to the Army of Hope. Also, thank you Jack Boehmer for offering to get a shave and a haircut for the benefit of raising money for our Army of Hope! Looking forward to that part of the weekend!

Please have a Safe and Enjoyable Weekend!

**Fraternally,
Bob McIntyre, Chairman**

***** 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.**





Elks Camp Barrett is all a buzz as E.C. the Bee begins a new project updating the Art Shack. Thanks to Mr. Don Kirk and Windsor Electric Contractors, our campers and all the great campers from Camp Sunrise will have a new fun place to work on their arts and crafts projects! The shack renovations include new roof, a new ceiling and lighting, repairs to walls, repair of under floor sill leakage, new doors and new windows. New shelving will be installed and a nature corner will be added where things that are found on the campus can be researched and viewed. We already have an abandoned wasp nest, owl pellets, bird skeletons, and some snake sheds to get things started. We will have some before and after pictures at the next meeting.



The winter Natural Leadership Program is going full speed. Do you know how to make a berry basket from tree bark? Can you find your way out of the woods blindfolded? These kids can! Every class is lead and organized by a student and one class is better than the next. We are proud to host this fun group.

We are happy to report that we have a new Family Picnic Chairman, Robert Raleigh, PER from the Chestertown Lodge. Robert has already jumped in and planning has begun. Flyers are available so you can spread the word. A special thank you to Mike Greene, who served as chairman for the past 3 years and did a fabulous job with this special event. Mike continues to help as a consultant to Robert and Angela at the Camp.

The camp staff has been working hard on the online registration process, and things should be up and running by the State Meeting in Glen Burnie. We are so happy to say that, once again this year, our camp has received accreditation from the American Camp Association. Thank you to all who helped get our annual AAR finished. As we've always said "Our camp is happiest when there are children on the grounds", so please begin seeking out needy and deserving youth to come and enjoy this fantastic place. Details on registration will be discussed at the workshop. Also, we are still looking for volunteers to serve as "train the trainers" to teach our staff. So if you have a skill you can share and teach to our staff that we can then share with the campers, we would love to hear from you. Just call E.C. the Bee or his personal secretary Angela at the camp. We always love visitors so come out and say hi and check out all the great things going on at Our Camp. You + Me at ECB = a Great place to be!



**ELKS CAMP BARRETT
IMPROVEMENT FUND RAFFLE**

I would like to let you know that the tickets should be in the mail by the end of the month, if not already. If you don't receive your tickets or would like some additional ones, please contact me. My e-mail address is in the directory as well as my cell phone number.

This year, we are again offering the tickets for \$10.00 each or 6 for \$50.00. We are asking that every Member purchase at least one ticket and sell the rest to neighbors, co-workers, friends, family, etc. Of course, if you can purchase all 6, we thank you very much. We are hoping that this will be another great Camp Barrett Raffle, but it can only happen with your help. Please be as generous as you can to help our wonderful Major Project remain as beautiful and well maintained as it is currently.

I look forward to having a very favorable report for you in the Fall. Unfortunately, the deadline for the June Newsletter is prior to the picnic, so there won't be any final figures at that time.

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

**Lou Schmeltzer, PDD
Chairman**

ELKS CAMP BARRETT 50/50 RAFFLE

The winner of the ECB 50/50 Raffle at the Winter Workshop held at Frederick Lodge #684 on Sunday, January 21, 2018 was Essex Lodge #1866. The total intake from the Raffle was \$720.00, and Essex Lodge generously donated their winnings back to the Camp, which means the Camp got the whole \$720.00!

Thank you to Essex Lodge and everyone who purchased tickets. Please purchase your tickets this weekend to help support the operation of our Elks Camp Barrett.

Fraternally,
H. Lee Davis, PSP

2018 CAMP BARRETT CAMPER SCHEDULE

Staff Week	June 11 – June 15
Girls Week #1	June 17 – June 22
Boys Week #1	June 24 – June 29
Girls Week #2	July 1 – July 6
Boys Week #2	July 8 – July 13
Girls Week #3	July 15 – July 20
Boys Week #3	July 22 – July 27



Elks National Foundation Donation Deadline Draws Near

The Elks fiscal year comes to a close this month, which means it's time for Lodges to tie up the loose ends and send in their final donations to the Elks National Foundation. All donations must be received no later than March 31, 2018, to count toward the 2017-18 fiscal year. The ENF will be closed on Friday, March 30, for Good Friday, but donations in the ENF's mailbox by March 31, will count. Be sure to plan ahead to avoid last-minute issues.



Check your total giving this fiscal year online at My ENF. There's still time to reach your personal giving goal—aim to reach toward the next level in Foundation Fellowship. Visit enf.elks.org/MakeAGift to donate online.

Promoting the Elks National Foundation at Orientation

Start the New Members out on the Right Foot:

Prepare a brief presentation about the mission and explain why members should contribute. Remember, new members hear a lot of information, so keep it short and simple, and remind them to read through the material you have provided. You could play the ENF DVD. It is a great introduction to ENF, making Orientation an ideal time to show it. Let the new members know the different ways they can volunteer with the ENF programs your lodge supports like the Hoop Shoot, Scholarships, Americanism or helping with your Community Investments Program grant projects. Many lodges ask for a \$10.00 donation to start the new member's pledge of \$100.00 with ENF. Remember to explain that they would continue to donate each year until completing the pledge. Make sure they know this will be put in their name and that they will be receiving correspondence from the ENF office. Make yourself available after orientation to answer any questions new members have regarding the ENF and how to donate. Let them know how to contact you if they have any questions in the future.

Mary Cardinal-Vogt
MD-DE-DC State Chairman

Convention-Conference Committee Update

We are busy taking reservations for the Grand Lodge Convention – please get yours in as quickly as possible. We will give an update on our pre-visit to San Antonio this weekend, and an information packet will be available during the June Convention for all those attending Grand Lodge.

The June Convention reservation form is included in this Newsletter – we know, one on top of the other. The theme for dinner is “Nautical” so get those costumes ready! We are looking at some special entertainment for this and will keep you posted.

New merchandise is available, especially pieces highlighting the 150th Anniversary, so check them out.

As always, we appreciate your support and look forward to some exciting times in June and at Grand Lodge.

Merrilyn & John Ramsey

CONVENTION PROGRAM

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

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

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

Mary E. O'Brien, PER
Con-Con Committee Member

Hoop Shoot 2018

The State Hoop Shoot was held on Sunday, February 11, 2018, followed by an Awards Ceremony and Banquet at Chestertown Lodge. The winners now go on to the Regional competition in Frederick, Maryland on March 10th. They will compete against winners from North Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia State Associations.

Chestertown, Deale, Frostburg, Hagerstown, Severna Park and Waldorf Lodges sponsored winners to attend the Regional Shoot. Good luck to all!

I would like to thank all members who helped out in both the Local Shoot and the State Shoot. Also, thanks to Matt McCabe and his crew who provided the kitchen help for the banquet.

Basil Wadkovsky
State Chair





REGISTRATION FORM

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

June 8 - 10, 2018

Holiday Inn Solomons, 155 Holiday Drive, Solomons, MD 20688

- WEEKEND ACCOMMODATIONS PACKAGE:** Includes hotel room for two (2) nights on June 8th and 9th, Saturday Night Dinner Buffet (Honey Ham, Chicken Marsala, Top Round Carving Station) Awards, and Breakfast Buffet Saturday and Sunday.
 Single Occupancy: _____ \$350.00 (King _____ or Queen _____)
 Double Occupancy: _____ \$432.00 (King _____ or Double Beds _____) TOTAL: _____

**HOTEL RESERVATION DEADLINE - May 13th, MEALS ONLY DEADLINE - May 25th
(OUR BLOCK OF ROOMS WILL BE RELEASED AFTER MAY 13th)**

- Individual Room ONLY:** 1 Night : _____ \$135.00 OR 2 Nights: _____ \$270.00 = \$ _____
- Breakfast ONLY:** \$18.00 per day Saturday: _____ Sunday: _____ = \$ _____
- DINNER ONLY @ \$45.00 per person:** (**Advanced Reservations only – no tickets will be sold at the door**)
 Number requested x \$45.00 = \$ _____

THEME FOR DINNER -W/ENTERTAINMENT - IS NAUTICAL – GET SAILIN'

- REGISTRATION FEE:** PER ATTENDEE IN ADVANCE OR AT THE DOOR = # x \$5.00 = \$ _____
- TOTAL AMOUNT DUE BASED UPON OPTIONS 1, 2, 3, 4 AND 5 REGISTRATION = \$ _____**

Make payments to MD, DE and DC Elks Association.

Print & Mail with payment to: John & Marilyn Ramsey, 152 Hickory Ridge Road, Smyrna, DE 19977.

**For Special Accommodations and/or Questions: Call: 302-242-1117 (John – C),
302-382-0288 (Merrilyn – C) OR 302-659-0659 (H)**

Name: _____ Lodge : _____

Spouse/Roommate(s): _____

City/State/Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Badge #1: _____

Badge #2: _____

Badge #3: _____

Badge #4: _____