



# **YOUTH ACTIVITIES PROGRAMS MANUAL**

**OF THE  
GRAND LODGE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE**  
<http://www.elks.org/grandlodge/activities/>

**PUBLISHED BY GRAND LODGE  
BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE  
ORDER OF ELKS OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

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# STATE, DISTRICT AND LODGE YOUTH ACTIVITIES CHAIRPERSONS

**T**he suggestions, ideas and instructions in this manual are intended to guide you in promoting youth activity programs coordinated throughout individual communities, districts and your state, in accord with the guidelines of our Order's Grand Lodge Youth Activities Program. By no means are the various activities in this booklet meant to limit the dedicated Elks in your area to only these ideas. Rather, they cover the basics of Elkdom's nationwide program to aid in the character development of young people, recognize their many contributions to the functioning of our society, and encourage them in maturing into tomorrow's citizens and leaders. Lodges that sponsor Youth Activities Programs unique to their Lodge should share them with our Committee so we might assist other Lodges that may find your program right for their own situation.

Promoting activities within your Lodge can become instrumental in promoting your membership. With an active Public Relations

Program, your community image will be greatly enhanced by having various youth programs publicized in the media, which could attract new Members from both parents and the entire community. Examples of youth activities to consider can be found on Pages 2 & 3 of this manual.

Please study this manual thoroughly to find the programs that will fit the needs of your Lodge, community and state, and hopefully stimulate thoughts of new avenues in youth "boosting." Likewise, be sure to maintain records of your youth activities in the Monthly Records Book of Local Lodge Volunteer, Youth, Charitable and Community Service Programs. This will enable your committee to compile this information on the Annual Charitable Report and promptly return it to your State Association Youth Activities Chairperson no later than May 1. Those records are now required to be filed online at <http://www.elks.org/ChicagoLMS/>. (See sample, page 18)

***For questions or suggestions regarding programs, don't hesitate to contact your Local, District or State Youth Activities Committeeman. Contact information for your State Youth Activities Committeeperson is listed in the current year's Grand Lodge and State Associations Directory.***

***NOTE: Further information may be found at <http://www.elks.org>***

With your cooperation, the goal of all Elks to provide a wholesome and character-building environment for the boys and girls of every community within our influence, and to assist and safeguard America's young men and women during their passage into responsible

and rewarding adulthood will be assured, and our ORDER'S PROGRAM will be recognized across our Nation as the MOST BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE FRIEND OUR YOUTH COULD HAVE.

*Your Grand Lodge Activities Committee*

# PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS

- 1. MOST OF THESE PROGRAMS SHOULD BE CONDUCTED YEAR-ROUND.** The programs should be all-inclusive and should embody recreational, educational and social projects for children of all ages and stations of life. These programs will be judged not only on the number of children reached, which is important, but also on their real beneficial impact and effectiveness on the lives of children participating.
- 2. THE SUCCESS OF YOUR PROGRAM** will depend almost entirely on the selection of the right Committee Members: those who have demonstrated interest in youth and their welfare, who possess warmth, understanding and patience in working with them, and who are in a position to give of their time, talents and resources. Whether long-term or new Elks, the primary candidates would be teachers, athletic coaches, counselors, scouting leaders and any others whose occupational or leisure time activities involve frequent contact with youngsters and clearly show the needed and heartfelt personal commitment which brings results.
- 3. YOUTH PROGRAM BUDGET.** Sufficient funds should be made available to you, to promote and produce a program that will give convincing evidence to your own Lodge Members and to your community, that you are concerned about problems of Youth, and do regard Youth Activities as a major program in your Lodge and State Association. Remember that whatever your financial ability, the personal interest employed and actual results obtained are even more important than actual money spent.
- 4. CONSULT OTHER AGENCIES, AVOID DUPLICATION.** To avoid duplication of effort and arrive at programs that will be most effective, consult with your schools and recreational and child-care agencies. You will find them willing to assist you in best approaching existing needs. Juvenile Courts may also direct you into constructive opportunities.
- 5. SPREAD THE NEWS!** The greatest benefits for the young people of your community from your Lodge's youth activities can only be achieved through publicity in the media. Work hand-in-hand with your Lodge Public Relations Committee and the newspapers, radio and TV stations, including cable networks. Promote events and programs before they come up on the calendar, and let your neighbors know about successful functions after they take place. Remember, even though the primary purpose of Youth Activities is not to "pat ourselves on the back"; in today's world, one either cultivates a positive image in the mind of the public continuously, or their impression of the Elks will be that of an unknown organization, and their response will be lacking based on this. It's far easier to have your community thinking of the Elks as "the good guys" all along rather than build such a reputation on a moment's notice. And if your Lodge repeats the same activity around the same time next year, participation will be even better because of the "bandwagon effect": Everyone likes to ride with a WINNER!

## SPECIFIC YOUTH PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

Remember, you are at liberty to adopt Youth Programs that best address the needs of the youth in your area. These programs may be designed to fit within your Lodge budget and as your facility allows. Whatever programs you adopt, select activities that spread throughout the year, and be sure to see them through to completion. To really do a constructive job and make a real impact on the Youth of your community, it is

well to have continuous month-in and month-out programs. Many of these projects require very little expense, if any, and give opportunity for active participation by your Members. Get as many of your Members as possible into your Youth Program. By so doing, you will have a better Lodge and will build a higher regard and prestige within your community.

*Following is a list of suggested activities that might be incorporated into a meaningful Youth Activity Program for your Lodge:*

- HONOR OUR FLAG. Flag Day, June 14, should have special meaning for the Youth of America. The Grand Lodge Activities Committee urges each Local Lodge to promote programs bringing honor and respect to our Flag. Place more emphasis on the promotion of Americanism among our Youth!
- Initiate a Junior Golf Program in your Lodge.
- Whenever your Lodge marches in a parade, include recent winners from any of the various programs in this manual to give the youth, program and your Lodge valuable recognition.
- Sponsor Junior Athletic Teams, e.g., Little League Baseball, Junior Hockey Teams, Swimming Teams, Track Teams, etc.
- Organize boys and/or girls bands, orchestras, drum and bugle corps, and choral groups.
- Send Boys and Girls to various types of Boys and Girls State Summer Camps, if such are conducted in your state, or if no such programs exist, arrange for boys and girls to take over the local civic offices for a certain day.
- Provide and supervise teenage dances.
- Sponsor boys and girls dramatic societies, with public presentations.
- Sponsor local unit, of Boys and Girls Clubs of America.
- Initiate martial arts programs.
- Provide recreational camp and summer camping.
- Hold amateur talent nights for boys and girls and award prizes.
- Present flags to schools and other community institutions, with appropriate ceremonies in which children take part.
- Sponsor boys and girls debating societies and oratorical contests with debates and orations on timely subjects.
- Promote essay contests.
- Hold special programs on Mother's Day, Father's Day, etc., with boys and girls taking an active part in such programs.
- Sponsor bicycle registration with safety instruction and rodeo; driver instruction programs; fire prevention programs; conservation programs, etc.
- Provide summer camping for handicapped children. Sponsor summer hikes, picnics, etc.
- Engage in winter sports and outings.
- Promote swimming classes and contests. Promote art poster contests.
- Support the Elks Drug Awareness Program.
- Promote the Elks National Foundation "Most Valuable Student," "Technical Vocation" and "Emergency Educational Fund" Awards.
- Publicize and participate in the Elks National Hoop Shoot Free-Throw Program.
- Publicize and participate in the Elks Youth Activities Soccer Shoot Program.

# YOUTH AND AMERICA

## Community Projects

1. Youth 18 years old must now assume full responsibility as United States citizens. The Youth Activities Committee in Local Lodges can create an atmosphere for a cooperative endeavor resulting in the production of a booklet which, when used by students in the public and private schools, would increase their appreciation for the laws of our land. The formation of a study committee with

volunteers from schools, parent organizations, law enforcement agencies, Probation Departments, District Attorney's offices, Juvenile Court Judges, Bar Associations, etc. can determine the need in your community for a booklet or text on local laws affecting youth. Local Lodges provide funds for publication through fund-raising events or by working with other organizations to provide funds.

### *Suggested steps in pursuing such a project are as follows:*

- a. Determine the need in your community for a booklet or text on local laws affecting youth.
  - b. Contact agencies to become involved, e.g., schools, parent organizations, law enforcement agencies, probation departments, District Attorneys' offices, Juvenile Court Judges, Bar Associations, etc.
  - c. Select volunteers from above agencies to form a study committee.
  - d. Determine and select content of handbook or text, e.g., laws affecting:
    - Alcohol and liquor traffic
    - Loitering
    - Employment of minors
    - Entertainment
    - Teenage dances
    - Tobacco
    - Vehicles and bicycles
    - Morals
    - Weapons
    - Narcotics and drugs
    - Neglect and/or cruelty to children
    - School attendance
    - Financial responsibility
    - Juvenile Court
    - Malicious acts
    - Marriage and Parentage
    - Disturbing or disorderly conduct
  - e. Determine grade-level distribution or use. (*Quantity needed*)
  - f. Local Lodge provides funds for publication through fund-raising events or works with other organizations to provide funds.
2. Another significant activity in which to involve your youth and your community is the **Student/ Veteran Volunteer Program**.

# ANTLERS PROGRAM

The Antlers Program has been authorized by the Grand Lodge to, once again, become a Grand Lodge Activities Committee Program. The Antlers was initially organized more than 70 years ago by Elks Lodges nationwide to help Lodges in their service-oriented programs, as well as to develop this type of activity for youngsters ages 12-20 years old, to work on their own. The Antlers Program also is aimed at encouraging its young Members to become Elks Members upon reaching age 21.

When World War II broke out, the Antlers Program was unable to continue its active status, and was eventually terminated by the Grand Lodge in the early 1960s.

A number of Lodges showed renewed interest in the program and, by beginning their own Antlers Programs, were instrumental in convincing the Grand Lodge of its worthiness. Through the efforts of the former Grand Lodge Youth Activities Committee, this program was given preliminary approval at the Elks National Convention in Reno, Nevada, in 2002. The Antlers Program is now a fully functioning program of the Grand Lodge Activities Committee. Its major objectives are:

- To quicken the spirit of American Patriotism;
- To teach respect for parents and love of home;
- To inculcate the fundamentals of good citizenship;
- To aid in a worthy cause;



- To establish foundation of character;
- To promote the welfare and enhance the happiness of its Members; and
- That to respect the convictions of others in matter of worship and religion is true "Americanism."


A blueprint for establishing an Antlers program is available at <http://www.Elks.Org>. Go to the Activities Committee home page and click on "Antlers" on the right side of the page. Electronic files of bylaws, rules and regulations can be downloaded to provide all the framework a Lodge would need to start a program.

The only ingredient Lodges will need to supply is the desire to see the program grow. It can involve public relations, Lodge Activities, Membership, Americanism, Ritual and Youth Activities Committees in our Local Lodges and communities.

For more information, please contact the Grand Lodge Activities Committee Member in charge of the Antlers Program for your Area.

**PROPOSAL FOR MEMBERSHIP  
IN THE  
ANTLERS**

OF THE BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS  
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA




Sponsoring Member \_\_\_\_\_ under the obligation of the Order, proposes for membership. \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Member

**QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED BY APPLICANT**

1. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_
2. State the place and date of your birth. Born in the City of \_\_\_\_\_  
 County of \_\_\_\_\_, State of \_\_\_\_\_, on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ in the year of \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Grade you are in currently \_\_\_\_\_
4. Do you drive? Yes  No
5. Are you willing to assume an obligation that:  
 a. Will not conflict with your duties to yourself, your family, or your religious or political opinions, and that:  
 b. Will bind you to uphold the Constitution and Laws of the United States of America? Yes  No
6. Have you ever pleaded guilty to or been convicted of a felony? Yes  No
7. Give references of at least two members of this Order other than the sponsor.

NAME	HOME ADDRESS	PHONE

8. Would you like to be an Officer or Committee Chairperson? Yes  No
9. Parent or Guardian approval: Signature \_\_\_\_\_

The above blanks must be fully filled out by the Sponsor and the Applicant, and be accompanied by an  
 Initiation Fee of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ and Dues of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ or it will not be considered.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

**LET'S ALL WORK TOGETHER TO HELP GET THIS PROGRAM GOING!**

# THE DICTIONARY PROJECT

The nonprofit Dictionary Project, founded in 1995 by Mary French of Charleston, SC, has as its sole mission — which we, as Elks, share — is to distribute dictionaries to as many third-graders as possible in the 50 United States and our environs. In 1999, 10,295 dictionaries were distributed. Varying service clubs were the main thrust of sponsorship. In the 2004-2005 Lodge year, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks became involved. Dictionaries have been distributed in every State of the Union, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. More than 9,942,342 children have received a dictionary, thanks to the generosity of sponsors who have participated in the Dictionary Project.

The Dictionary Program is a wonderful community service project. Consider these motivations

## **HOW DO WE BEGIN?**

Once you have decided to participate in the Dictionary Project, determine the funds needed to sponsor the project, and decide how many dictionaries you can present within your budget.

## **WHERE CAN I GO FOR HELP?**

You can contact your Grand Lodge Activities Committee representative for the Project — he/she can get the necessary information and forms to you. Also, you can contact the Dictionary Project source directly at [www.dictionaryproject.org](http://www.dictionaryproject.org). This is the project's website and here you may review the different dictionaries available. You may also order sample copies by calling 843-856-2706 at a cost of \$15.

## **WHAT COMES NEXT?**

**STEP ONE:** Contact your local school principal(s)/administration(s) to explain the Project. From them (*after permission to continue the Project is granted*) obtain the total number of 3rd graders to be involved. Many communities contain Parochial Schools, private schools and Christian Academies in addition to the public schools. By involving these schools, you further our mission to present a dictionary to every 3rd grader in our country.

for your Lodge to become involved: *It is:*

- A wonderful literacy project;
- An opportunity to be involved in a hands-on project that does not require a great deal of time;
- Relatively inexpensive;
- An opener of doors into the schools of your community, paving the way for other youth projects — scholarships, essay contests, sponsorship of scouting, an Antlers Program, etc.;
- Lends itself to media coverage, to let the community know of the good works you do, of your concern for our nation's young people.

**STEP TWO:** Many Lodges choose to personalize the dictionaries with labels for names — and an Elks logo accompanying the name and number of your Lodge.

**STEP THREE:** *Points to make during your brief visit:*

Introduce yourself and make a brief presentation so the students know the dictionaries are being presented by your Lodge as a personal gift. If you do not personalize the dictionaries with name labels, have them write their names and addresses inside the front cover at that time.

Some dictionary editions, e.g., A STUDENT DICTIONARY, contain much valuable information that you can point out to the students for their use. This one contains, in addition to the dictionary, for example, a Table of Weights and Measures, the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, Maps of the Seven Continents, information on the 50 states, biographies of the 43 U.S. presidents, facts about the solar system as well as several other factual sections.

In closing, encourage the daily use of the dictionary.

Your visit should last 10-15 minutes — 3rd grade attention spans fall within this length of time.



**STEP FOUR:** Utilize media coverage, it is a great Project and media cooperation should be easily obtained.

### **INFORMATION AND SUGGESTIONS**

**Distribution:** select a distribution date that can be tied to an important literary event — e.g., the week of October 16 – Noah Webster’s birthday.

Be sure to order enough dictionaries to be able to present one to each classroom teacher. Also, to appear on the agenda at the local Board of Education meeting with a dictionary for each Board Member and Administrator present is invaluable “PR.”

Have a few extra dictionaries with you in case new students have enrolled.

A dictionary is perhaps the first and most powerful reference tool that a child could own. Its usefulness goes beyond the spelling, pronunciation and definitions it lists; it is a companion for solving problems that arise as a child develops his or her reading, writing and creative thinking abilities. Students benefit from an increase in self-reliance and resourcefulness inspired by the maxim “look it up.”

Most schools today have to struggle with rising day-to-day operating costs and are not financially able to provide dictionaries to individual students. The schools appreciate our help.

We hope every Elks Lodge in America and our environs will help in this united effort, proving once again that **Elks CARE — Elks SHARE!**



*For order forms and pricing information, please contact the Grand Lodge Activities Committee Member in charge of the Dictionary Program for your Area.*

# **“STUDENT OR TEENAGER OF THE MONTH” AND “STUDENT OR TEENAGER OF THE YEAR”**

This program is designed to recognize outstanding young men and women for their achievements in school and community life. Teenagers make wonderful contributions to all areas of endeavor, from agriculture to zoology. They excel in scholarship, citizenship, performing arts, fine arts, hobbies, athletics, club, school and community service, industry and farming. Their accomplishments, their activities and their contributions to society may be recognized and praised.

Our Local Lodges should seek out a Teenage or Student Boy and a Teenage or Student Girl each month and publicly reward them for their accomplishments. **Toward the end of the year,**

**a “Student or Teenager Of The Year” should be selected from those who have been named “Student or Teenager Of The Month.” All the monthly winners and their parents should be guests of the Lodge at a dinner at which the “Student or Teenager Of The Year” is announced. Business, school and governmental leaders should be invited, as well as the news media. Similar awards may be made for the younger teens of middle school age for the Junior Student/Teenager Boys and Girls.**

Your wholehearted efforts toward making this program a success will reap untold dividends for your community, our nation and the Order of Elks.

## **SUGGESTIONS ON HOW TO IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAM**

Selecting the “Student or Teenager Of The Month/Year” is the responsibility of the Local Lodge Youth Activities Committee.

With the cooperation of school authorities, a student nominating committee could be named to screen “Student or Teenager Of The Month” nominees in a school. If more than one school exists in the area served by a Local Lodge, an area committee would have to be appointed to further screen the nominees. On the other hand, it might be desirable to name a “Student or Teenager Of The Month” from each school within the jurisdiction of each Lodge, thus eliminating an area committee. Or, the Youth Activities Committee of the Local Lodge could make the selection. Lines of communication with schools and other agencies would have to be established, probably through personal contact. School and community publications could help committee members in making nominations.

The important point to remember is that the underlying purpose of the program is to seek out youth whose accomplishments deserve public recognition. To accomplish this, the nominating process may be modified to accommodate conditions as they exist in your community.

The Grand Lodge Activities Committee has the certificates, guidelines, nomination forms, posters and news releases available to all Local Lodge, District and State Youth Activities Chairpersons to download at <http://www.elks.org/grandlodge/activities/>. Beginning in 2013, State Youth Activities Chairpersons were no longer being asked to place orders for the certificates and the other material. In addition, the Elks National Headquarters in Chicago no longer stocks the items.



Grand Lodge Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks  
of the United States of America



presents this

# STUDENT OF THE YEAR

## Certificate of Achievement

To: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_

type sig OR delete/print  
Exalted Ruler



Grand Lodge Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks  
of the United States of America



presents this

# STUDENT OF THE MONTH

## Certificate of Achievement



Grand Lodge Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks  
of the United States of America



presents this

# TEENAGER OF THE YEAR

## Certificate of Achievement

*A. Davis*  
Activities Committee Chairman

To: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_

type sig OR



Grand Lodge Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks  
of the United States of America



presents this

# TEENAGER OF THE MONTH

## Certificate of Achievement

To: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name and Number of Lodge

Month Year

type sig OR delete/print/sign  
Exalted Ruler

*Steven A. Davis*  
Grand Lodge Activities Committee Chairman

## SUPPORT YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

We stress and urge your active participation and cooperation with such organizations as the Boy and Girl Scouts Programs, Boys and Girls Clubs of America, Campfire Girls and the Big Brother movement. Our Order has always made a

creditable showing in these activities. We should review and expand our efforts and cooperate with these very effective national organizations and their local councils, as a part of our overall Youth Program, and do all we can to advance the aims.

## ELKS AND SCOUTING

Our Grand Exalted Ruler urges all Lodge and State Activities Chairpersons to accept the leadership role the Scouting Program demands. On Pages 11 and 12, sample certificates, issued by the Grand Lodge Activities Committee, are displayed. If your Lodge is not among those that support Scouting, you should consult with your local Scout executives immediately.

All Lodges are encouraged to support scouting for the disabled, either through a troop for these boys and girls or by mainstreaming them into existing programs. Because Elks believe in providing opportunities for all, a program set up for the physically and mentally disabled would go a long way towards developing the self-esteem of these young people.

For several decades, the Boy Scout Program has been successfully used by Elkdom as an effective method of preparing boys to become good citizens. Involvement in Scouting has taken the following forms:

➤ Unit operation — a Lodge provides leadership, a place to meet, and program supervision for

one or more Scout units. These units illustrate Elks' concern for youth every week of the year.

➤ Individual Elks serve as administrative leaders in local Boy Scout councils and districts.

➤ Elks with a wide range of business and professional skills and talents have aided in enlarging and enriching local Scouting Programs.

➤ Many Elks Lodges formally recognize the Americanism training of Eagle Scouts by the presentation of a certificate and an American Flag.

➤ Elks have been in the forefront of efforts to meet both the operating and capital funding needs of local Scouting.

➤ Recipients of the Boy Scout Eagle Award, Girl Scout Silver and Girl Scout Gold Award will receive a Letter of Congratulations from the Grand Exalted Ruler.

➤ For additional Scouting information and contacts, log onto <http://www.elks.org/grandlodge/activities/>, then click on "Scouting," which is listed on the right side of the page.

## EAGLE SCOUT RECOGNITION

### ***MAKE THIS AN ALL-YEAR PROGRAM***

This program recognizes the fine young men who have reached the outstanding rank of EAGLE, and it gives your Lodge an excellent opportunity to improve the IMAGE OF ELKDOM in your community. All news media, the Scout organization and other groups will be anxious to join with you in recognizing the future leaders of our country.

Local SCOUT EXECUTIVES have the names of Eagle Scouts and they are anxious to assist in

this program. The program is easy to implement, with very gratifying results. Scouts hold an Eagle Scout Court of Honor to recognize those who attain the rank of Eagle. This should be strictly a Scout function, and not infringed upon by Elks, except to be in attendance. Elks should hold their own Eagle Scout Recognition affair. The Awards should be strictly Flags and Certificates, not any type of medals or pins, which detract from the Eagle Medal and Badge presented by the Scouts.



Presented to \_\_\_\_\_

**Eagle Scout**  
OF  
TROOP NO. \_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_ LODGE NO. \_\_\_\_\_ OF

**the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks**  
A FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION

TAKES PRIDE IN PRESENTING TO YOU AN AMERICAN FLAG BECAUSE YOU HAVE DEMONSTRATED THAT YOU DAILY PRACTICE THE TEACHINGS OF DEMOCRACY. WE ARE PROUD TO CALL YOU OUR FELLOW CITIZEN BECAUSE YOU HAVE WORKED HARD TO PROVE THAT YOU BELIEVE IN THE UNITED STATES AS ONE NATION UNDER GOD, WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL. AS THE RED, WHITE AND BLUE COLORS ON THE CLOTH BLEND TO MAKE A BEAUTIFUL FLAG SO THE SKILLS YOU MASTERED HAVE BLENDED TOGETHER TO MAKE YOU AN OUTSTANDING CITIZEN.

DATE \_\_\_\_\_ PLACE \_\_\_\_\_

*type sig OR delete/print/si*  
Exalted Ruler

*Steven A. Davis*  
Grand Lodge Activities Committee Chairman

**For information, the Elks contact is:**

**Michael T. Ohren**  
*Scouting Coordinator*  
**Grand Lodge Activities Committee**  
**914 Claudine Avenue**  
**Papillion, NE 68046-2936**  
**O (402) 294-2582 • C (402) 660-0709**  
**white-tail@cox.net**

## GIRL SCOUT RECOGNITION

### MAKE THIS AN ALL-YEAR PROGRAM

This is another Grand Lodge All-Year Program. Each Local Lodge is urged to adopt this activity by contacting your local Girl Scout Council and working with them to honor these outstanding young Americans. The Program is easy to implement, with gratifying results, both to Girl Scouts and Elks.

The Girl Scout Gold is the highest achievement in Girl Scouting (*similar to Boy Scout's Eagle Scout Award*). A Girl Scout must be at least 14 years old or a Senior Girl Scout and have successfully completed demanding prerequisites to work toward her Gold Award. A period of one to two years is needed to complete the program. You may also award the Girl Scout Silver Award.

The Girl Scout must have completed all of the prerequisites as set forth by Girl Scouting to receive this award. Local Scout executives will assist you in finding qualifying recipients in your community.

Two beautiful certificates have been prepared for use in the Elks Program. These certificates are available from the Grand Secretary or the Grand Lodge Committeeman in charge of the program.

Elks should hold the Gold and Silver Award Recognition Affairs to recognize these outstanding young American women. By honoring the future leaders of our country, Elks will increase the Respect of your communities and improve the Image of Elkdom.

Certificates for the Eagle Scout, Girl Scout Silver & Girl Scout Gold Programs have been prepared for use in this program free of charge. Certificates are available from the Grand Lodge Committeeman in charge of the program as listed in the supplement to the Activities Committee Manual.

*(The same miniature American Flag used in the Lodge Initiation Ritual is suggested to be presented to the Eagle Scout or Girl Scout receiving the Award. Many Lodges arrange to have either the Certificate alone or both the Certificate and Flag mounted on a plaque or framed to preserve these cherished mementos for the outstanding young man or young woman who merits this distinguished award.)*

 **Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks**  
Honors 

OF TROOP NO. \_\_\_\_\_

FOR HER ACHIEVEMENT IN EARNING THE  
**Girl Scout Gold Award**

TAKES PRIDE IN PRES  
PRACTICE THE TEACH  
WORKED HARD TO PRO  
AND JUSTICE FOR ALL  
SO THE SKILLS YOU MA

Date \_\_\_\_\_

type sig OR \_\_\_\_\_

 **Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks**  
Honors 

OF TROOP NO. \_\_\_\_\_

FOR HER ACHIEVEMENT IN EARNING THE  
**Girl Scout Silver Award**

TAKES PRIDE IN PR  
PRACTICE THE TEAC  
WORKED HARD TO P  
AND JUSTICE FOR AL  
SO THE SKILLS YOU !

Date \_\_\_\_\_

type sig OR \_\_\_\_\_

 **Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks**  
Honors 

OF TROOP NO. \_\_\_\_\_

FOR HER ACHIEVEMENT IN EARNING THE  
**Girl Scout Bronze Award**

Lodge No. \_\_\_\_\_

TAKES PRIDE IN PRESENTING YOU AN AMERICAN FLAG BECAUSE YOU HAVE DEMONSTRATED THAT YOU DAILY PRACTICE THE TEACHING OF DEMOCRACY. WE ARE PROUD TO CALL YOU OUR FELLOW CITIZEN BECAUSE YOU HAVE WORKED HARD TO PROVE THAT YOU BELIEVE IN THE UNITED STATES AS ONE NATION UNDER GOD, WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL. AS THE RED, WHITE AND BLUE COLORS ON THE CLOTH BLEND TO MAKE A BEAUTIFUL FLAG, SO THE SKILLS YOU MASTERED HAVE BLENDED TOGETHER TO MAKE YOU AN OUTSTANDING CITIZEN.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Place \_\_\_\_\_

type OR delete, print out & sign \_\_\_\_\_  
Exalted Ruler

  
Grand Lodge Activities Committee Chairman

**For more information, contact:**  
**Girl Scouts of the USA**  
 420 Fifth Avenue  
 New York, NY 10018-2798  
 PHONE: (212) 852-8008  
 FAX: (212) 852-6515  
 WEB SITE: [www.girlscouts.org](http://www.girlscouts.org)

# MARVIN M. LEWIS AWARD

## The Significance of the Marvin M. Lewis Award

In recognition of Elks contributions to America's future, the Boy Scouts of America established the Marvin M. Lewis Award. It recognizes Elks in good standing who have contributed significantly to the youth of their communities by volunteering in the programs of the Boy Scouts of America. The award is named for Marvin M. Lewis, PGER, one of Elksdom's strongest proponents of Scouting over the years.

Approved by the Grand Lodge and introduced in 1998, the Marvin M. Lewis Award includes:

- One medal and ribbon, boxed
- One framed certificate
- One lapel pin
- One square knot



## Applications and Selection for the Marvin M. Lewis Award

Marvin M. Lewis Awards will be presented annually at the Grand Lodge Convention only. Winning applicants will be notified by mail in ample time prior to the Grand Lodge Convention. In addition, after the Grand Lodge presentation, a local presentation can be made at an event such as BSA local council or district function, or a Local Lodge awards dinner.

Each Local Lodge may nominate one candidate to be considered for this award. A Grand Lodge

Selection Committee will review the candidates and choose **four** winners. The decision of the Selection Committee will be final. Applications may be obtained from the Activities Committee Member on Scouting for the year submitted or by logging onto <http://www.elks.org/grandlodge/activities/MarvinLewis.cfm> to download a current Marvin M. Lewis Award application. Applications are due by March 1.

## Procedure for Selecting a Candidate for the Marvin M. Lewis Award

The Grand Lodge invites all Local Lodges to submit one candidate for the Marvin M. Lewis Award. Candidates must have their Local Lodge recommendation to be eligible. When selecting their candidate, Lodges should consider Elks who:

- A. Have brought Scouting to more youth.
- B. Have assisted local Elks Lodges in forming Scouting units.
- C. Are fully trained in the skills of Scouting and are outstanding role models.

- D. Have contributed significantly to Elks and Scouting by bringing the two movements together to serve the community.
- E. Have offered Scouting to all youth regardless of race, creed, or income level, and have been instrumental in organizing Scouting units, especially in inner-city or other low-income communities.

**NOTE:** Work accomplishments and dedication, rather than a specific number of years in Scouting, should be the criteria by which candidates are selected.

## ELKS NATIONAL SOCCER SHOOT PROGRAM

As Elks, we have a perfect opportunity to interact with our youth in the Elks Soccer Shoot Program. By coordinating our programs on the local, district and state levels, we can promote this program and assuredly receive resounding success. As with our Hoop Shoot Program, planning – organization and execution of the program must be achieved to obtain the highest levels of participation.


Therefore, we must promote our program on various levels. It will need the support of your local media – newspapers, radio, etc., your school systems, parents, coaches and most of all the youth in your communities.

It is important that there be appointed Soccer Shoot Committees at all levels, Members who are interested in promoting the sport, our organization and our youth. On all levels—local, District and State, committees utilizing those who

have participated in this sport are vital. Also, try to incorporate coaches or physical education personnel into your committee. Utilize people that kids know and can relate to.

Most of the current Soccer Shoot Programs are currently run in the late summer and into the fall. Every Exalted Ruler should appoint his or her Soccer Shoot Chairperson at the beginning of each new Lodge year. The appointee's name, along with address, zip code and telephone number, should be submitted to your District and State Chairman for your Local Lodge to receive program information needed to run the complete program.

Additional information regarding goal construction, contest rules, and other relevant **ideas for implementing this innovative program** are available through your State Association Soccer Chairperson.

**Make Soccer**  **Your Goal!**

**For more information, contact:**

**Your State Association Soccer Chairperson**



# ELKS NATIONAL HOOP SHOOT FREE-THROW PROGRAM

The Elks National Hoop Shoot is a free throw contest for youth ages 8 to 13. Since 1974, the



Hoop Shoot has been fully funded by the Elks National Foundation and has grown to serve more than 2.5 million youth each year. The program is free to all participants and provides youth an opportunity to compete, connect and

succeed. Through hard work and healthy competition, Elks Hoop Shoot contestants build character and develop skills that aid them in achieving school and life success.

Contestants advance through local, district, state and regional competitions. In the end, 72 finalists compete at the National Finals in Springfield, Mass. One boy and one girl from each age group wins a national title and has his or her name permanently inscribed in the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.

The Hoop Shoot provides Elks Lodges with a great opportunity to connect with their communities and serve youth in a meaningful way. Lodges can work with local schools to host contests and form partnerships that develop an

Elks presence in the community. Through the Hoop Shoot, Elks can build relationships with families and inspire Hoop Shoot parents to become members.

The Hoop Shoot isn't about numbers—it's about a quality experience for youth. This is an opportunity for the Elks to make a great first impression. To do so, emphasize the following at your Hoop Shoot contest.

- ✓ Ensure that youth are being engaged and interacting with Elks.
- ✓ Promote values such as hard work, good sportsmanship and family involvement.
- ✓ Increase the Elks visibility and inspire parents to learn more. Connect with families and let them know who the Elks are and what we're about. We want to inspire parents to become involved and, eventually, to join the Order.

Spread the word about your Hoop Shoot to local elementary and middle schools, and community youth organizations. Community youth organizations, e.g. the Boys & Girls Club or YMCA, are more than likely willing to partner with the Lodge to hold a successful contest. Be sure to promote the contest to local newspapers and radio, and through your Lodge's website and social media.

**For complete program details, visit:**

**Elks National Foundation, Inc.**

**2750 N. Lakeview Avenue • Chicago, IL 60614**

**(773) 755-4978**

**hoopshoot@elks.org • www.elks.org/hoopshoot**



**Elks  
National  
Foundation, Inc.**

# THE KEY TO DRUG-FREE CHILDREN...

ALTHOUGH NOT UNDER CONTROL OF THE GRAND LODGE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE, THIS PROGRAM DEFINITELY SHOULD BE AMONG THE ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED BY YOUR LODGE FOR THE YOUNG PEOPLE IN YOUR COMMUNITY.



## ELKS DRUG AWARENESS PROGRAM

The abuse of drugs and the recent efforts to downplay the seriousness of marijuana, poses today's greatest threat to our country's most precious resource: its youth! Drug abuse destroys the potential of tomorrow's leaders before it can develop.

The Grand Lodge Drug Awareness Program calls for each Lodge to conduct its own program with training, guidance and materials provided through assigned State Association Chairmen and directed by Lodge Drug Awareness Chairmen.

The program is designed to stop drug abuse before it starts. The target is youth in the fourth through ninth grades whose attitudes and behavior can still be influenced. The objective is to increase their awareness through dedication of the adverse consequences of drug abuse, so that they decide for themselves to avoid drugs.

Our program is communicating Awareness; to make every Elk aware of the drug problem; to alert each parent to the drug problem; and to assist each teacher in dealing with the drug problem in the classroom.

Our direction is two-fold. First, to support fully any program to combat drugs that may already exist in the community and to direct our efforts toward Prevention — Education. Second, if no drug program exists in the community, then each Lodge is urged to help the community in the

establishment of a successful Drug Awareness Education Program through the utilization of the step-by-step guidelines provided in the Grand Lodge Drug Awareness Manual.

The goal of the Grand Lodge Drug Awareness Program is **PREVENTION**: to stop drug abuse before it starts. The target drugs upon which we will place our emphasis are marijuana, tobacco, cocaine, LSD, inhalants, steroids and alcohol; drugs very easily obtained by our school children.

The Drug Awareness Manual has been prepared to provide a general background on the drug problem among the youth of our country; to describe in detail how every Lodge can conduct an effective Drug Awareness Education Program; to serve as a valuable reference for the Lodge Drug Awareness Chairman; to list sources for additional information and materials which are available. The handbook will help the Lodge Chairman to understand the marijuana, cocaine, steroids and alcohol problem, find the experts in each community, and suggest how to create opportunities for them to reach the target audiences — school children, their parents and their teachers.

We urge every Elk to give this important program wholehearted endorsement and support. Through this program, each Lodge can effectively fight one of America's leading social problems... **DRUG ABUSE!**

**For additional information, contact your State DAP Chairman or:**

**Kent D. Gade, National Director  
DRUG AWARENESS PROGRAM**

**407 E. 22nd Street, Atlantic, IA 50022-2811**

**PHONE: (712) 778-2683; FAX: (712) 778-2687; E-MAIL: [kentgade@gadeinsurance.com](mailto:kentgade@gadeinsurance.com)**

**William J. Bryan, Assistant National Director  
DRUG AWARENESS PROGRAM**

**366 Vermont Route 313W  
Arlington, VT 05250-8941**

**PHONE: (802) 375-5411**

**E-MAIL: [winkbryan@comcast.net](mailto:winkbryan@comcast.net)**

**Frank J. Burr, Assistant National Director  
DRUG AWARENESS PROGRAM**

**1S175 Highland Avenue  
Lombard, IL 60148-4553**

**PHONE: (630) 424-0280**

**E-MAIL: [fjburr@speakeasy.net](mailto:fjburr@speakeasy.net)**



Elks National Foundation Programs are not under the control of the Youth Activities Committee, however they do reach the youth of our Nation. Therefore, Members involved in Youth Activities at Subordinate Lodge, District, State Association and Grand Lodge levels often receive questions about the ENF-funded programs.

The Foundation provides more than \$3.6 million in college scholarships each year. For more information about them, including eligibility and deadlines, please visit <http://www.elks.org/enf/scholars>. The scholarships include:

**MVS** — The Elks National Foundation awards \$2.296 million to 500 Most Valuable Student Scholarship recipients annually. Any high school senior who is a citizen of the United States is eligible to apply. Scholarships are based on academics, leadership and financial need. For more information about the Most Valuable Student scholarship program, including eligibility and deadlines, please visit <http://www.elks.org/enf/scholars>.

**Legacy Awards** — Legacy Awards are four-year, \$4,000 scholarships for the children and grandchildren of Elks. The Foundation will offer a total of up to 250 awards. If you know an Elk

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child who is a high school senior, encourage them to visit <http://www.elks.org/enf/scholars> for information, including eligibility and deadlines.

**EEG** — The Emergency Educational Grant program provides financial assistance to children of deceased or totally disabled Elks, who wish to obtain or further their college education. Grant amounts range up to \$4,000. If you know an Elk child who may be eligible to receive an Emergency Educational Grant, encourage them to visit <http://www.elks.org/enf/scholars> for information, including eligibility and deadlines.

In addition, the Elks National Foundation sponsors many other philanthropic programs which are youth-related, i. e. Hoop Shoot and the Elks Drug Awareness Program. Also, Promise Grants are available to the first 250 Lodges that pledge to host an event that builds the character and competence of local youth. Promise Grants are worth up to \$500 in reimbursement. Talk to your Exalted Ruler about how your Lodge can use one.

**For additional information, contact:**

**James W. O'Kelley III, Director**

**ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION, INC.**

**2750 N. Lakeview Avenue • Chicago, Illinois 60614-2256**

**PHONE: (773) 755-4728 • FAX: (773) 755-4729**

**E-MAIL: [enf@elks.org](mailto:enf@elks.org) • WEB SITE: <http://www.elks.org/enf>**

# ELKS NATIONAL YOUTH WEEK

## *Conducted the 1st week in May, each year*

As another part of this program, our Grand Exalted Ruler requests all Local Lodges in the Order, set aside the first week in May {1-7}, dedicated to the Youth of the country, and plan special ceremonies, celebrations and events that will be attractive, interesting and beneficial to our boys and girls.

Special planning is necessary for this program since it occurs so soon after the election and installation of new Lodge Officers and Committeemen. To be conducted properly, the same Youth Activities Committeeman should be retained from year-to-year if he is performing satisfactorily, and in his hands the planning can successfully straddle the two Local Lodge years without a break in the follow-through. In any case, the budget and publicity considerations must also conform to the same dual-term schedule.

Governors of States, Lieutenant Governors, Mayors and other prominent elected officials should be asked to proclaim Elks National Youth Week or at least issue a special message to the citizens relating to this program. This is a job for State Associations through their President or Youth Committee.

Exalted Rulers or local Youth Committees should seek a similar proclamation or endorsement from Mayors of the cities and communities. We usually have Elks on City Councils, Boards of Aldermen, or the legislative body, whatever its name. Resolutions of endorsement of Elks National Youth Week will likely be easy to pass in such governing bodies, if the same are sought in proper fashion.

Publicity resulting from such activity, to the Local Lodge and the Order generally, cannot be overestimated.

In many communities, it may be possible for selections of outstanding boys and girls to be designated as Honorary Mayor, City Clerk, Police Chief, etc., to sit with the regular City Officers

during a day and thus learn the mechanics of local government firsthand. Again the publicity value is extraordinary.

Possibly your Lodge might like to use time during Elks National Youth Week to recognize publicly, the Youth leaders of your community. It would be an excellent occasion to honor these young people with a banquet or some program to which the clergy, school personnel, public officials and others interested in youth and community betterment are asked to attend and participate. Maybe you would like to add a festive finale to the activities with a supervised Teenage dance.

State Associations are urged to become active in Youth Week Program promotion on a statewide basis, with Local Lodges coordinated and cooperating, which makes for big-scale publicity. Several State Associations do an outstanding job each year and are able to enlist the cooperation of radio and TV stations and newspapers, resulting in mass participation on the part of a number of organizations. This sort of promotion is of tremendous value to the Local Lodges in a state, builds public acceptance and appeal, and creates good will for our Order on the national level.

Our Committee strongly recommends that consideration be given by State Association Youth Committees to programs of this type, which necessarily require much early planning and organizational work. The time to start is now.

Detailed information on the Youth Week Program is distributed annually to all Lodges and State Youth Chairmen well in advance of May 1st. The important thing to do now is to start with your planning. Assign the project to a special committee and suggest that they organize months in advance and work up to a glamorous climax by going all out for Elks National Youth Week.

# JUNIOR GOLF PROGRAM

A Junior Golf Program can be one of the most successful and visible programs which falls under the auspices of the Youth Activities Committee. We are encouraging each Lodge and/or District/State to sponsor a Junior Golf

Program or Tournament during this coming year.

The following will elaborate on the two categories suggested above for your consideration:

## JUNIOR GOLF PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

- Sponsor a Golf Day for Jr. golfers at your local course, perhaps rotating among courses in your area;
- Arrange for time at the driving range or on the putting green for practice; Provide lesson(s) on a one-time or an ongoing basis for youth;
- Invite a professional or trick-shot artist to demonstrate his/her skills;
- Inquire about program dollars for Jr. Golf from your local or regional PGA; Have local members or course professional give lessons on golf etiquette and rules;
- Sponsor a golf camp with a structure similar to a baseball or basketball camp with a duration of 1-2 days;
- Sponsor a 2-4 week league season (*with teams*), varying the type of play (*Best Ball, Alternate Shot, or Individual Play*);
- Give some type of recognition or award at the end of any of these activities, i.e. hats, T-shirts or other prizes.

## JUNIOR GOLF TOURNAMENT

- Sponsor a local tournament for the Jr. golfers within your jurisdiction;
- Sponsor a District tournament for the Jr. golfers within that jurisdiction; and/or
- Sponsor a State tournament for the Jr. golfers in your state.



# GRAND LODGE LEAVES IT UP TO LODGES, DISTRICTS AND STATES TO SPONSOR AWARDS

**PLEASE NOTE:** As of the 2012-13 fraternal year, Grand Lodge no longer sponsors a Youth Week Contest of the best and most constructive Youth Week Program. Grand Lodge sponsorship of awards of the Best Youth Programs of Lodges and State Associations also have been discontinued,

in addition to the Junior Golf Program Brochure Contest.

Local Lodges, Districts and States may decide on whether to sponsor these or any other Youth Awards.

## WHEN TO MAIL REPORTS

	<u>Deadline</u>
<b>1. Annual Report – Page Two</b> (Referred to on page 18)	<u>Must be received</u> by the Office of the Grand Secretary no later than . . . . . May 1

## CONCLUSION

The Committee fully realizes that the success of these Youth Programs depends on the measure of cooperation received from Local Lodges and State Associations. We feel confident of this cooperation, and pledge again the assistance of our Committee in every possible way. In summarizing the programs and objectives, we earnestly request that you:

- Plan and carry through a sound, well-balanced and year-round Youth Program that touches the lives of children of all ages and stations of life.
- Enlist your community's young people in your Lodge's efforts to care for and brighten the lives of America's Veterans, and learn to appreciate those who sacrificed to make the future possible for them and all of us.
- Conduct expanded Student or Teenager of the Month/Year Programs with proper recognition to those who are selected to be honored for their outstanding achievements.

- Encourage good citizenship among young people through programs designed to increase knowledge of and an appreciation for law enforcement.
- Make Elks National Youth Week an outstanding Youth observance and an event to be remembered in your Lodge and your community.
- Provide a safe meeting environment for Scout Troops/Units in our Local Lodges.
- Give the elementary school boys and girls a chance to participate in an "Elks Soccer Shoot."

### And finally:

- Remember which AREA your Lodge and State are in (*listed next page*).
- Contact your Grand Lodge Activities Area Committeeman for answers to any questions you may have, for advice and counsel.
- Your active participation in promoting the Youth Activities Programs will help our Youth meet the challenge of tomorrow.

# LOCAL LODGE CHARITABLE ANNUAL REPORT

At the end of the Lodge fiscal year, every Local Lodge must file its Youth Activities figures in the online Annual Report form by May 1. To submit their Charitable Report, Lodge Secretaries should click the link labeled “Update Charitable Giving Data” in the Grand Lodge Submissions section of the CLMS2Web Roster Control Panel: [http://](http://www.elks.org/clms2web)

[www.elks.org/clms2web](http://www.elks.org/clms2web). No longer is the Grand Secretary accepting completed copies of the Charity Records Booklet. The Charity Records *Workbook* sent annually to Lodge Secretaries is simply an aid to assist in compiling the figures for the online filing.

## 20XX / 20XX Lodge Year

Program ID [Click to Edit]	Head Count of Participants (B)	# Elks (C)	# Helpers (D)	Elks Hours (E)	Helpers Hours (F)	Elks Miles (G)	Helpers Miles (H)	Non Cash (Est. Value) (I)	Cash (J)	
1001 - Hoop Shoot	120	8	6	64	36	138	31	200	0	[Delete]

## GRAND LODGE AREAS

- Area 1:** Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont
- Area 2:** Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania
- Area 3:** Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, Panama, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee
- Area 4:** Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Virginia, West Virginia
- Area 5:** Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Wisconsin
- Area 6:** Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Louisiana, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas
- Area 7:** Arizona, California, Guam, Hawaii, Nevada, Philippines, Utah
- Area 8:** Alaska, Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Washington, Wyoming



**FOR THE RECOGNITION OF YOUTH  
THROUGH LOCAL LODGE  
AND STATE ASSOCIATION  
YOUTH PROGRAMS**