



**Joe Antonishek, Jr**  
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*A Fraternal Organization*

To: All Members of the Michigan Elks Association  
Lodges of the MEA  
Past State Presidents, DVP's, DVC's & DDGER's

September 3, 2017

## *"We the People of the United States"*

These are the very first words of the preamble of the Constitution that we all live by. As members of the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks, it is our duty to promote the general welfare of all individuals of this Great Nation.

It is time now for the Michigan Elks Association to show our support for the flood victims of Hurricane Harvey in Texas. I'm proposing that the MEA raise funds through Lodge donations. The goal is to raise **\$25,000.00** for the relief fund. We have a membership of 19,471 which projects to **\$1.30 per member**.

Port Huron Lodge # 343 has already raised \$1,070.00 in one night. They have set a goal for themselves of \$1,500.00. This is a great start towards the \$25,000.00 goal! Which Lodge or District will be next?

Some of the ways you can raise money for the Texas Relief Fund are: have a special fundraiser in your Lodge one evening with 50/50 drawings, host a Spaghetti Dinner, a silent auction or simply pass the hat.

The District Meetings and Visitation are starting this month. Each Lodge at your District meeting will be receiving from Michigan Major Project and the Charitable Grant Fund (Gold Key) their Raffle tickets for the drawing in the Spring. The raffle allows each Lodge to earn \$1.50 per ticket sold. Your Lodge can earmark that \$1.50 and use it for the Texas Relief Fund. This is just another way of raising funds. If every Lodge sells 200 tickets, that will be \$300 to use for their Lodge towards the Relief Fund effort. 54 Lodges X the \$300.00 equals \$16,200.00 towards our goal of \$25,000.00

The Michigan Elks Association would like all members donation checks made out to their own Lodge. In the memo portion of the check write Texas Relief Fund. Each Lodge in the State will then forward one check on to the State Secretary Karen Cary for deposit into the Texas Relief Fund.

Finally, our goal is to be able to send a check for \$25,000.00 by October 15, 2017 to Grand Lodge in the name of all our Members of the MEA. This goal is very doable and with everyone pulling together and working hard, we can achieve this for the families, friends and Elks of Texas.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

*Joe Antonishek, Jr.*

Joe Antonishek, Jr.  
State President

**Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks – Grand Lodge**

**Elks Care - Elks Share**