



Elks respond in crisis



COPPER COUNTRY ELKS LODGE #404

Lodge assists with disaster-relief effort

On July 17, 2018, the Copper Country experienced a devastating flood. June 20th, the Copper Country Elks Lodge helped with the local disaster relief effort.

We became eligible for a new Community Investment Grants starting on July 1st, reported ER, Amy Tarvis.

Amy called the Elks National Foundation office in Chicago to ask special permission to use money today that we would be eligible to receive in July.

She sent in pictures and details of what our area is going through. They agreed to make an exception.

We will receive \$1,500 as an Anniversary grant for relief efforts. Amy ordered 10 dehumidifiers, which were in great need, contractor trash bags and work gloves. They were picked up today at Walmart by volunteers working at the volunteer headquarters in Houghton. Volunteers are needed for sure. Thank Amy for your quick action. Elks Care Elks Share!



MANISTEE ELKS LODGE # 250

Flag Day ceremony held

Manistee Elks Lodge No. 250 held a Flag Day Ceremony on the Riverwalk behind the Lodge emceed by Exalted Ruler Amy Loftis.

They were assisted by several area organization in conducting the ceremony, including: The American Legion, VFW Walsh Post No. 4499, Disabled American Veterans, Catholic War Veterans, Knights of Columbus, Boy Scout Troup 167 and Rolling Thunder Michigan

Chapter No. 1. During the ceremony the VFW provided a demonstration of how to properly fold an American flag, with explanation of what each fold in the flag meant.

The ceremony included a detailed history of the American Flag, delivered by PER Craig Schindlbeck as example flags of its evolution were introduced by the Boy Scouts of America Troup No. 167.

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NEWS AND NOTES

New flag certificate lets Lodges connect with communities

The Grand Lodge Fraternal Committee has launched its newest Americanism program, "Certificate of Honor for Properly Flying the United States Flag." The purpose is for Lodges to interact with and honor local businesses for proper display of the United States Flag during the day, and at night with illumination. This program will increase the Elks' presence in our communities and influence growth and survival.

The program is available on the Grand Lodge web site. Lodges can print the certificate, which is a downloadable and fillable PDF document.

Use the following procedures to complete your award document. Go to www.elks.org/grandlodge/fraternal/ and in the Currently Featured Contests/Programs section is a link for the "Fly the Flag Program & Certificate (PDF)."

Page 2 contains a fillable certificate. It can be filled out in the web browser or in your PDF reader (such as Adobe Acrobat), or it can be printed out and filled in by pen. Include the recipients' business name and address and the date of the presentation. Have your Exalted Ruler and/or Americanism Chairman sign the certificate.

Print the document in a "landscape" (horizontal) orientation. For the most impressive look, use No. 67 off white card stock in lieu of regular printer paper.

There is no limit as to how many you can award as long as recipients qualify. Deliver the awards any way you want: You can hold a formal ceremony, or just go to the business location and present it personally. As always, media invitations for publicity are welcome. Keep records for your Lodge of the number of certificates you award for reporting purposes.

Let's increase our footprint in our communities with these presentations. We can prove that "Elks Care – Elks Share" and show that we are Working Together to Make a Difference.

— Duncan P. Thompson,
Committee Member

PGER b-days exemplify mathematical concept

Here's a good fun fact: Two living Past Grand Exalted Rulers, F. Louis Sulsberger and Michael F. Zellen, share the birthday of April 24. What are the odds?

It turns out, there was a better than 50 percent chance of that happening.

Seems a little crazy, right? There are 366 possible birthdays (counting February 29), and there are only 24 living PGERs.

But it's true! In probability theory, this is known as the "birthday problem." If you take a group of 23 people, there's a 50 percent chance that two of the individuals share a birthday. With 24 people, in the case of the PGERs, there is a 53.9 percent chance two of them share a birthday. From there, the probabilities escalate quickly, rising to a 70 percent chance with a group of 30, 90 percent with a group of 40, and 97 percent with a group of 50.

Feel free to delve into the detailed mathematics—which includes terms such as the pigeonhole principle, binomial coefficient, and permutation—on your own. There's a 6,000-word Wikipedia page and everything.

— Mike Chamernik, Publications
Coordinator

Lodge provides bicycles

■ On Wednesday, Sept 12, Gaylord Area Lodge hosted the information booth at the Thunder Over Waters boat race in Waters, Mich. The lodge gave 26 bikes to area children valued at \$1,200. Information was provided concerning drug awareness, scholarships and charitable giving programs.

■ On Wednesday Aug 29 Gaylord Area MI, Lodge held the August veterans luncheon with 40 veterans attending

■ On Tuesday, July 31 Gaylord area, MI Lodge sponsored the N.E. DISTRICT GOLD KEY GOLF OUTING. We had 74 golfers participating and raised \$6372 for the gold key program.

Filing date nears

November 5 is the automatic filing date of our semi-annual Membership Report via CLMS2Web. Lodge Secretaries must ensure Lodge CLMS2 membership records are current by that date.

A Lodge with a discrepancy in its membership total must file the November Membership Report before a temporary correction can be made. If you have an "ACTIVE" membership total higher than "CLMS," our system will automatically add the difference needed to line 4, Reinstatements.

Also, if you have an "ACTIVE" membership total lower than "CLMS," you must submit the report and send the Grand Secretary's office a copy of the last page of the Active Membership Roster showing the correct number of Lodge Members on the day the report was filed. The Secretary must circle this total and sign the document to certify the correct membership total. Once received, staff will make a manual adjustment to line 6, Dropped for Non-payment, thus lowering the membership total.

All temporary corrections must be submitted to the Grand Secretary's office on or before November 21. No permanent corrections can be made to the Lodge membership total until after the Annual Membership Report has been filed on April 1, 2019.

— Bryan R. Klatt, Grand Secretary

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Get Published in the Michigan Elks News!



Send us your articles and pictures and show us what you're proud of at your Lodge!

E-mail address: meanewsletter@mielks.org. Articles and hard copy photos may also be mailed to Karen Cary, Advantage Printing, 68838 Broadus, Suite A, Sturgis MI 49091.

Deadlines for submissions:

March 15 for April publication; June 15 for July publication;
Sept. 15 for October publication; Dec. 15 for January publication

STATE OFFICER MESSAGES

Many miles and numerous productive visits

Where did the summer go? I know for Cheryl and me, it went too fast! By the time this article makes the press, we will have traveled nearly 6,000 miles visiting Lodges about the State, played in all Gold Key golf outings, attended the Indiana State Convention, Grand Lodge Convention and the Ohio State Convention.

Our visit to Indiana was a lot of fun as we were able to travel with PGER Malcolm McPherson, his wife Pat, along with then State Co-Sponsor Jim Varenhorst, and State Officers to the Indy 500 Race Track where we were given a lengthy tour of the museum, the Pagoda including the control centers for broadcasting and the track itself. We also visited the University of Indiana Cancer Research Center where we saw the research labs where actual work was being conducted before our eyes. Cancer Research is the Indiana Major Project with research centers at both U of I and Purdue University. During the convention, each University was presented with a check for \$130,000.00 to continue their work. We also were present to see the installation of their new State President, Randy Snellenberger.

At the National Convention in San Antonio, it was my honor to represent the Great State of Michigan and carry our State Flag across the stage during opening ceremonies. Since we arrived a few days prior to the opening of the convention, we had several days to take in some of the sights around the area. Several trips to the Riverwalk which included a river



STAN CHUBINSKI
President

cruise and of course we had to visit the Alamo. The Michigan hospitality room was outstanding and a big thank you goes out to Chuck, Debb, Jerry and Stephanie for all the work put in to make it another success.

Ohio was another great visit where we were able to meet again with State President Nevin "T" Taylor and wife Deanna. That weekend we also met our new GER Michael Lahr and wife Barbara, who will attend our Fall Convention. Their Friday Fun Night was a relaxing time with entertainment provided by a member who impersonated various artists and included karaoke for those who wished to partake. The Grand and wife Barbara were even helping sell raffle tickets. During the convention we attended a fund raising party to collect funds for their Major Project Cerebral Palsy.

The event brought in over \$23,000 that night. I also found it interesting that at the State level, in addition to College Scholarships, they grant 36 Vocational Scholarships. Six for each of their six Districts. National Membership & Marketing Chair, Rick Gathen also put on a great workshop for those at the convention and had a large group in attendance to learn about

all the items available to assist recruitment and how to educate the public about the contributions we make to our communities. We did find it interesting the different formats that each of our three states use in conducting our business.

Now on to our Association. By the time we reach the State Convention in Kalamazoo our DVP's, DVC's and DDGER's should be well into their visitations. Reports should be filed within several days following those visitations. It is extremely important to the Association to keep current on the operations of our Lodges and address any possible short comings as soon as possible. I ask you to be diligent in performing the duties of the positions you have been elected to.

Last spring when I took office, I presented my theme for this year, which is to Build Foundations through Indoctrination, Education and Involvement. These ideas were also addressed by GER Luhr at the Ohio Convention. So, if I'm going to talk the talk, I must also walk the walk. Each Lodge will be given an Indoctrination Outline with facts and some verbiage which can be used when doing orientation of new members prior to initiation. It is not meant to be a script, but information to be covered in your Lodges own way. You can add to or take out various sections to fit your needs. I have also asked State Membership Chairman, Ken Hines, to review the document prior to it being handed out. Ken will also be putting on a workshop on Saturday afternoon to

cover Membership and Orientation. It is our intent to help give you the tools to Build the Foundation of your Association.

We will also have Brian P O'Neill, Risk Manager at Grand Lodge, to present information regarding insurance coverages for your Lodge and Lodge Officers at the Member Luncheon following the General Session on Saturday. If your Lodge has questions regarding insurance, this is the time to be present and ask those questions and educate yourselves on what is available and the coverage provided.

As Elks we believe Charity is the Crowning Virtue of our order, and in fact, it was the sole reason this Benevolent Organization was formed. Some Lodges wish they could do more for their communities, but don't have the funds to do so. Yet it was reported last spring that \$99,000 in Grant Funds were left on the table by Michigan Lodges that could have been used to help Communities with various projects. I sincerely hope that ALL Lodges take advantage of the grants available and apply for them. With the proper local news coverage of how the Elks have used these grant funds, they become recruiting tools as well as providing for the public good. By supporting ENF we help build the financial backbone of the Organization which returned to Michigan an amount equal to \$2.58 for every dollar invested last year.

In closing, let us remember: "The Heritage of the past is the seed that brings forth the Harvest of the future."

Travels take us to many parts of the state

Our travels have taken us all over the State so far this year, and the hospitality has been great. We will be playing I the last Gold Key golf outing in September in Muskegon; all the outings have been great fundraisers and the people that volunteer deserve a great big Thank you.

Bay Cliff health camp was one of our visits this year. Wow what a tremendous facility and the work they do for our Special needs children in awesome. Michigan Major Project donated a large sum of money to Bay Cliff, so fill your pink banks so this program can keep being funded.

Fast approaching is the State convention in Kalamazoo. We will be welcoming our Grand Exalted Rule Michael Luhr and his wife Barbara, along with new State Sponsor PGER Ron Hicks and wife Nancy.



CHUCK OATTEN

1st Vice President

Many thanks go out to our past State Sponsor and mentor to many, the Honorable James C. Varenhorst, for his many dedicated years to the membership of the Michigan Elks Association.

Debb and I are looking forward to your upcoming events that we will soon be attending.

Look back at summer, ahead to convention

Traveling has made this summer fly, another summer in the books.

Stephanie and I were very busy assisting Chuck and Debb at the National Convention in San Antonio this past July. If you weren't there you missed one of the best. Imagine 150 year anniversary of our organization.

Our entertainment was top-notch and we thank Gary Sinise for putting on a great show.

We started last November with a trip to San Antonio with Chuck Oatten to check out the area and meet with the staff at the LaQuinta Hotel. Michigan's hospitality room rocked. There were Elks from all over the US in our room. It was a lot of fun making new friends and memories that will last forever. I would like to thank everyone who helped run the drawings and the distribution of beverages. We are now looking to next year.

We had the opportunity to visit Bay Cliff for the first time. Let me tell you if you ever go there you will never forget the great things the Elks sponsor, and how much our organization has helped the children.



JERRY ALEXIE

2nd Vice President

They appreciate everything the Elks do for them and were extremely happy to show us their camp. Try to take a trip there someday. You won't be disappointed.

I golfed in the Gold Key U.P. outing with 1st Vice Chuck. It was held in Negaunee and we froze our butts off in July. Also in our travels was Ishpeming and Marquette Lodges. Stephanie and I will be going back across the bridge later this month to Newberry Lodge for their U.P. District meeting. We have made it to a few other Gold Key outings: Metro District in Port Huron and Southeast Gold Key in Plymouth/Ann Arbor.

Both were very well-organized, profitable and enjoyable.

This year our National Convention will be held from June 30th to July 3rd at the America's Convention Center in St. Louis. Please save the date and mark in on your calendar. I can promise you a great time. St. Louis is drivable and I hope to see you there. Unfortunately, I do not know what hotel we will be staying at until the Grand Lodge assigns it to us.

As soon as we find out Stephanie and I, along with the Rowlands will take a trip there to start arranging our stay. We will meet with the Hotel Manager and check out the area.

This is what I do know about the convention. Grand Lodge Headquarters hotel is the Marriott St Louis. Opening Ceremony will be Sunday June 30th from 3 pm to 7 pm. Business session is Monday and Tuesday 8 am -12 pm and Wednesday 8 am-11 am.

I will keep all Lodges informed thru email as to which hotel and the cost, as soon as it becomes available to me. Room reservation forms will be available on our website when hotel is finalized.

GRAND LODGE

October is a month of activity as deadlines loom

As we enter the month of October, we begin to reap the rewards of our September preparations. Patriotism Week, held this year from September 10-16, is the perfect time to start to introduce the Americanism Essay Contest to your local schools. It is due to your Lodge by December 15 but NOW is the time to ask schools to get it into their curriculums. Make sure to pass this message on to your Americanism Chairperson.

Have all of your Lodge Officers donated to ENF, and have you discussed ideas for this year's grant opportunities? If not, make ENF part of your next meeting agenda and get it done. If you're having trouble coming up with grant ideas, why not host a Drug Free Kids Halloween party to fulfill an ENF Promise Grant?

October is also the month of the new GER's "Class," so make every effort to initiate new candidates for membership before November 1. Make this initiation a special night, one that accommodates the schedules of new and established Members alike.

During the last meeting of October, be sure that your secretary and trustees submit their reports to the Lodge. This is also a great time for Exalted Rulers to report on their Grand



MICHAEL T. LUHR

Grand Exalted Ruler

Lodge experience. Remember that all these reports should be in written format and included in your meeting minutes.

Your Auditing & Accounting Committee is also required to offer their report at the end of the month. Your A&A Committee should plan to meet with the secretary and treasurer to review all finances, ensure budgets are revised, and check that records are being maintained according to statute. The importance of this committee's work cannot be overstated, and every effort should be made to swiftly accommodate requests.

Red Ribbon Week runs from October 23-31. This is an opportunity for your Lodge to support the Elks Drug Awareness Program while procuring some positive exposure in your community. Ask local school officials and law enforcement personnel how your Lodge can help spread the word about the dangers of drugs most prevalent in your community.

I would like ask every Exalted Ruler to take a look at the Members of your Lodge who are "Working Together to Make a Difference." Recognize their efforts by awarding them my Special GER Award. It's a small gesture that shows them just how much you and I both appreciate their hard work. Please take the time to thank the Members who are making the Elks stronger because of their selflessness. See page 37 of the Grand Lodge Program book for more information.

My last reminder is an important one: Start planning your Veterans Day program now.

Our veterans sacrificed so much on our behalf, and they deserve all the recognition we can bestow upon them. Let's honor veterans in a way befitting of their service to our country as well as remind them that the Elks will never forget them.

STATE NEWS



Golf scramble raises money for Gold Key Charitable Grant Fund

Elks members and friends may have been at the Gentz Homestead Golf Course Sunday, July 22, but it felt more like Open Championship weather while they were playing for a good cause.

It's all part of the Michigan Elks Association's Gold Key Charitable Grant Fund, with the mission of raising funds to provide scholarships for special needs students in the Upper Peninsula and throughout Michigan who want to further their education past high school.

32 golfers participated in the fun, charity scramble, and more than 20 hole sponsors also contributed to the cause, as one of the Elks' largest fundraisers.

As Negaunee Elks member Mike Ilmonen says, it's for the students.

"I have been an Elk for 43 years and that's what we do, and that's why we are involved in this. We just give back in this way and of course that makes everybody feel good," explains Mike Ilmonen, the Upper Peninsula Commissioner of the Michigan Elks Association's Gold Key

Charitable Grant Fund.

The golf outing has raised up to \$5,000 in past years for the Upper Peninsula's Gold Key Charitable Grant Fund. Last year, eight scholarships were awarded in the U.P. at \$2,000 a piece, which can be renewed annually for three additional years.

This year, scholarship applications are due in December and scholarships will be given out in February. If you know someone worthy of a scholarship, please visit <http://mielksgoldkey.org> for more information.

Struggling with mielks email? Ask for help

By **Bruce A. Stark**
Webmaster

Are you still having trouble using your mielks email address? President Stan has said all State Association news will be sent to the Lodges by the mielks email addresses only. It's very important for you to access this email in a timely matter.

If you still can't get into it, call me at 313-909-0981 and I can walk you through it.

There is a way to have all your emails from the mielks address to whatever email address you choose. That way, when Stan sends something, it will end up in your usual inbox at your own email.

First, you have to access the mielks box though and if you're having trouble doing that you need to let me know. I can change passwords, and help direct your emails to your inbox but I can't do it unless you let me know you're having trouble. Call me!!! That number is my cell phone and if you call when I'm not home we can at least set up a date and time for me to

call you back and we can get it done. You need these emails

Is your Lodge having a fundraiser? A golf outing for a charitable cause. Send me a PDF Flyer about your charitable event and it can be posted online. To see these posts click on Happenings in the blue column then click on Lodges. Lodge flyers are posted here

Another overlooked feature of the webpage is the Google Calendar President Stan wants this feature to be used for all Lodge, District, and State functions. Click Calendar in the blue column to access the calendar If you wish to post something on this calendar send it to calendar@mielks.org and it will be posted Let other Lodges know "What's Happening" at your lodge

By the way, I've just recruited you all as webpage watchers so if you see something incorrect or out of date on the webpage, drop me a line and I will correct it as soon as possible. The pay is the same as last year. A hearty Thank You for all tips and input.

See you at the Lodge.

STATE NEWS

AMERICANISM

Fall report: Essay and coloring contest information online; date set for Field of Honor

By Randy Boudreau
MEA State Americanism Chair

I hope all of our Lodges had an impressive Flag Day Ceremony and Patriot's Appreciation Night and invited their communities to witness that we as Elks are proud of our Flag, Firemen, Policemen, First Responders and Our Country.

The Americanism Essay and Coloring Contests information is now available online at mielks.org under Programs then under Americanism. If you have any questions, please contact me. Make sure your Lodge participates in these contests and delivers the info to your area schools as this is one of the few opportunities Elks have to interact with young children and their parents and introduce them to Elkdom and our commitment to our programs.

The Dedication of the 15th Annual Field of Honor at the Alma Elks Lodge will be September 8, 2019 at 2 PM. This will coincide with Alma Lodge's 100th Anniversary and Chuck Oatten's year as Michigan Elks Association State President. The Grand Exalted Ruler will visit Alma Lodge on his way to our State

Convention in October and the Michigan Elks would like him to view this magnificent event before it is dismantled on October 22, 2019. Vietnam Veterans will be our special honorees. I would like every Lodge in Michigan to be represented by a flag purchased by them to be placed in the "Field". We are looking forward to this event being named the Michigan Elks Field of Honor at Alma Lodge. Our goal is to have over 500 flags fly in this Field every year and be a State event to impress all who view it or hear about it. Flags and poles with an information tag attached will be \$20 for each Lodge and \$25 for all others. All purchasers can pick up their flags and poles and tags after the dismantlement on October 22, 2019. Order forms for the Field of Honor will be available online at mielks.org under Programs then under Americanism. They will also be available at the Americanism table at our Conventions.

If you have never attended this event, please try to attend to experience the emotions created by this event.

Be Proud to be an American and God Bless the U.S.A.!

RITUAL

Ritual team benefits: Believe it and live it

By Patrick R Morgan
State Ritual Chairman

Our pledge to bring in a Ritual Team for you Officers to see and ask questions of is real. It can happen quickly and is a lot of fun for us to do. Just ask!

We keep telling the story about the benefits to your new members and the team building

in the Officer Corp. Believe it and live it.

We are at your service, by phone, email and in person. You have choices. Two ways, every day!

State President Stan and his entourage of VP's will be proud to watch you all perform, come the Ritual Season of 2019. Let's get to work, together!

BUSINESS PRACTICES

Cyber crime and the Elks

By Rich Wlosinsky
Business Practices Chair

Usually our articles talk about how to make money or save money. This time it's about how to protect our money from cyber criminals who are trying to get it from us.

If you didn't hear about it, in the last month there have been at least three separate attempts at getting Lodges or Lodge officers to send money out of the normal routine we use to pay bills. No money was sent, but the ER of one Lodge believed a disgruntled former officer was using identity theft (a felony) impersonating her and trying to get the former officer to send in fake vouchers for \$2500 (a felony).

What really happened was the former officer was targeted by the cyber criminals, acting like the ER, to either have the Lodge wire money, send USPS money orders, or cash to them.

One e-mail actually said, "if you can't get the money from the office tonight, just send your money and I will see you get paid back." Another attempt involved criminals impersonating the Ohio Elks Association State President!

Today's cyber criminals are nothing like the Nigerian scam artists of the past decade with their "A gracious good afternoon mister miss...."

These people can communicate in today's American English; understand that we use a voucher system, know our names and titles and unfortunately, know too many of our Lodges do not follow the voucher system and the correct way to process a bill against the Lodge.

Clues to look for if you think the email is fake:

1. Check the email name. The fake email may come from "John.Public" or "John.Q.Public" when your E.R. has an email that shows up as John Public. Ask them to send you a test email and print it out to use as a comparison if you suspect you got a fake email.

2. Check the email address. All three attempts came from

President####@gmail.com . It would be reasonable for a State President or even an E.R. to have an email address starting with President. Here again, check the email address against a confirmed true email from that person.

3. Urgency in the email. "...you have to get the money out to the vendor tonight...", "...can you have the bank wire the money...", "...if you don't have the money in the safe, use your money and I will see you get reimbursed...". All legitimate business' know that a business is not going to be able to pay them immediately. Even in emergency situations (burst pipe and building flooding, sewer back up...), they will be standing in front of you with a bill or P.O. and will expect payment in 3-5 business days.

4. The message makes you think you forgot to do something. "Hey, why haven't you sent that check to the vendor like I asked? They need to get the money by tonight!" Once you respond with "I don't know what you're talking about", they know they have a live one and will put the pressure on to get you to get the money to them ASAP.

5. Want you to use "bearer instruments." Cash, money orders, USPS postal checks, bank wire services are all examples of "bearer instruments." Anyone with those in their hand can get the money with virtually no questions asked. They are almost totally untraceable after they are cashed and cannot have a "stop payment" put on them. NEVER EVER USE THEM!

6. Bypass the usual routine for bill payment: "Don't worry about the signatures, I will take care of them," "Just send the money, I will talk to the secretary tomorrow about the voucher," "if anyone questions why, just say the E.R is authorizing it, go talk to them." These cyber criminals know our system sometimes better than us. They know how to put cracks in the armor and will exploit us.

So what is a lodge to do when they get an email from our State President: Donny.J.Trump

(President44@gmail.com) asking all lodges to wire him \$1,025 for a special charity project? First, confirm that really is our President and that really is his email address. If you have to email him at his mielks.org email address, do it. Or call him and ask about his "special charities." Do that with fishy emails from the ER, Secretary, Treasurer or any other Elks official or chairman asking for money. Don't hit "reply". You just told the criminals that you are a live person at the other end and can be exploited by them. Use an alternative confirmed email or phone number to contact them.

The most secure method to prevent cyber theft on our lodges to use the Voucher system correctly:

■ Request or bill presented to Lodge secretary

■ Secretary creates voucher with bill/request attached

■ Goes to treasurer for verification of budgeted moneys and account it's coming from

■ Goes to ER for signature approval

■ Goes to Board of Directors/Trustees for approval of all members

■ Once all signatures are present, goes to treasurer to be presented as "Bills against the Lodge"

■ Lodge will hear the request for payment and approves or disapproves payment.

■ Upon approval, treasure creates check and receipt for secretary for payment

■ Secretary sends payment and files voucher and receipts in lodge files.

Yes it is long and involved, but it also has multiple checks and balances to prevent the lodge from having money stolen from them.

If you have any questions about the voucher system, how to set one up or get your present one on track call Business Practices. If you have received emails that seem fish, contact us, and your local police. Our REAL email is businesspractice@mielks.org.

And I promise, we will never call or email you for money.

LODGE NEWS



Kids' Day held

Negaunee MI Lodge Drug Awareness Chair Karen Palomaki (red shirt) along with Negaunee D.A.R.E. officer Jay Frusti greeted 350 children plus 250 parents and grandparents as they came into the Negaunee Elks KIDS DAY on July 11, 2018. Karen and Jay passed out Drug awareness bags and material to every child. The Elks Kids Day is designed to connect care takers of children with organizations that offer services for special needs children. The annual Kids day is partially funded by the ENF Promise Grant.



Children's fishing derby

A great day at Copper Country Lodge's 14th Annual Kids Fishing Derby at the Swedetown Ponds. Saturday, July 21st, Elroy the Elk and his trusty volunteers participating at the annual kids fishing derby, in Calumet. The lodge held a drug awareness booth for the kids that came to fish.



Sponsor of the Year

Marquette Elks Lodge #405 was honored this year as sponsor of the year by the South Shore Fishing Association during their annual fishing tournament which took place in Marquette's lower harbor on Saturday, August 26. Over 70 businesses and individuals sponsored this year's tournament. Lodge 405 provided the venue for the Friday Night Captain's registration where a dinner and raffles also took place. The SSFA donates proceeds from their fundraisers to local charities including veterans at the Jacobetti Veteran's Hospital in Marquette. From left, Russ Ransom, Vice President SSFA, and Lori Ransom, Secretary SSFA.



Grant supports pool renovation

Elks Lodge 323 used its Gratitude Grant to support the repair and remodel of the Grand Traverse Easling Pool. From left, Nora Socks and Easling Pool Community Campaign Director, Kristine Ericson.

STATE NEWS

ENF | GRANTS

Deadline for ENF grants is December 31, 2018

By Brad Saegesser
State Chairperson

ENF changed the deadline to apply for Community Investment Program (CIP) Grants this year. All CIP Grant applications must be submitted by December 31, 2018. Don't miss this deadline and miss out on FREE MONEY from the Elks National Foundation.

As of September 14, 2018, Elks Lodges in Michigan have been approved for 54 CIP Grants totaling \$103,500. Congratulations to the following four Lodges that have been approved for more than \$8,000 in ENF CIP Grants:

1. Clawson-Troy Elks Lodge #2169 – \$10,000
2. Muskegon Elks Lodge #275 – \$8,500

3. Gaylord Area Elks Lodge #2544 – \$8,000

4. Charlevoix Elks Lodge #2856 – \$8,000
Don't forget that 2018-19 ENF Gratitude Grants are already available to Lodges that met the GER's per-member giving goal last year. 45 of the 53 Elks Lodges in Michigan are currently eligible for a 2018-19 ENF Gratitude Grant, but only eight of them have submitted an application. What are you waiting for?! Don't pass up this opportunity for FREE MONEY!

Every single Elks Lodge in Michigan is eligible for a \$2,000 Beacon Grant – no strings attached. You don't have to meet the ENF per-capita giving goal. All you have to do is come up with an idea and the ENF will help your Lodge become a Beacon of Hope to your community. And, for the second year

in a row, you can SUPERIZE your Beacon Grant (or any other ENF Grant) by adding on the \$1,500 Anniversary Grant, which celebrates the 150th anniversary of the Elks. The Beacon Grant application is very easy to complete and you just check a box to add-on the Anniversary Grant.

What are you waiting for? Are you going to pass up the opportunity to bring \$3,500 to your community?

I know, you are sitting there in your recliner thinking, "but to apply for a Beacon Grant, I have to come up with an idea for the project. That sounds like work." You couldn't be more wrong. ENF has provided information on the Elks website for InstaGrants — five projects that other Elks Lodges have done in their communities with Beacon Grants. ENF has practically written

the Beacon Grant application for you if you try one of these projects.

Check out InstaGrants at http://www.elks.org/SharedElksOrg/enf/files/InstaGrants_Beacon.pdf and a simplified Beacon Grant application at <http://www.elks.org/SharedElksOrg/enf/files/BeaconGrantApplicationBreakdown.pdf>.

There are 53 Elks Lodges in Michigan. As of September 14, 2018, only 13 Elks Lodges in Michigan have been approved for a Beacon Grant and only 14 have been approved for an Anniversary Grant.

That means 40 Elks Lodges in Michigan are passing up \$138,500 in FREE MONEY!

If you have any questions or would like help writing an ENF Grant application, please don't hesitate to contact me at ENF@MIElks.org or 989-820-7171.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Information about organ donation

By Kimberly Deckard
Special Evens/Community
Welfare/Organ Donor chair

On average, 95 transplants take place each day in the U.S. Even though 95% of Americans are in favor of being a donor, only 57% are registered organ, eye and tissue donors.

This discrepancy exacerbates the current organ shortage in America, which leads to 22 deaths per day. Only 3 in 1,000 people die in a way that allows for organ donation.

■ The total or transplants performed from Jan 1 - May 15, 2018 is 11,490 – of which 9,399 transplants came from deceased donors and 2,091 from living donors. All these organs came from 5,534 donors, as one person can donate up to 8 lifesaving organs.

■ 114,922 men, women and children await lifesaving organ transplants as of May 16, 2018. Of those, 74,911 people are active waiting list candidates.

■ 58.3% of patients

awaiting lifesaving transplants are minorities. Although donation and transplantation can take place successfully between individuals from different racial or ethnic groups, transplant success is often better when organs are matched between people of the same racial or ethnic background.

■ Another person is added to the nation's organ transplant waiting list every 10 minutes.

■ 82.9% of patients waiting are in need of a kidney. The average waiting time for a kidney from a deceased donor is 3 to 5 years. A kidney from a living donor offers patients an alternative to years of dialysis and time on the national transplant waiting list.

■ 12.3% of patients waiting are in need of a liver. Living donation of part of the liver is an option for these patients; the remaining portion will regenerate and regain full function. Partial lung, intestine and pancreas living donation are possible as well.

■ More than 33% of all deceased donors are age 50 or older; more than 5% are age 65 or older.

■ Each year, there are approximately 30,000 tissue donors and more than 1 million tissue transplants; the surgical need for donated tissue is steadily rising. A single tissue donor can help more than 75 people.

■ 48,000 patients have their sight restored through corneal transplants each year.

■ More than 7,000 candidates died in 2016 while on the wait list, or within 30 days of leaving the list for personal or medical reasons, without receiving an organ transplant.

Sadly, 8,000 people die each year on average – because the organs they need are not donated in time. The solution to his health crisis is to continue educating the public about the lifesaving effects of donation and transplantation and to encourage them to register their decision at <http://donatelife.net>.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE

Details about upcoming conventions

By Howard Diehl
Director

The Michigan Elks Fall 2018 Conference will be held at the Radisson Plaza Hotel, Kalamazoo – October 18-21, 2018. This 5-Star Hotel has been completely updated, and is located in the middle of the downtown bar, restaurant, and shopping district. We are sure you will enjoy your stay.

All Room Reservation Information and Banquet Forms are available on the Michigan Elks website, mielks.org, Conventions, State.

Be sure to attend the Friday Night MEA sponsored Member and Guest Reception, 8-11pm, at the Registration/Committee Display area. Meet with old friends and gain new friends while visiting the State Committee Displays showing successful

programs that have been held throughout Michigan.

The Saturday, Member/PSP Luncheon is a must for every member to attend. Elks Grand Lodge Insurance updates and coverage information will be presented by Guest Speaker, Bryan O'Neil, from Grand Lodge.

Upcoming Michigan Elks conventions will be held at the following locations;

Spring 2019: May 16-19, 2019, Kewadin Resort, Sault Ste. Marie.

Fall 2019: Oct. 17-20, 2019, Bavarian Inn Lodge, Frankenmuth.

Spring 2020: May 14-17, 2020, Kewadin Resort, Sault Ste. Marie. One week earlier than the third full weekend in May (including Thursday) as stated in our State By-Laws due to Memorial Day Holiday.

Fall 2020: Oct. 15-18, 2020, Radisson Plaza Hotel, Kalamazoo.

Spring 2021: May 20-23, 2021, Kewadin Resort, Sault Ste. Marie.

Fall 2021: Oct. 21-24, 2021, Shanty Creek Resort, Bellaire.

Future Convention Locations are always being investigated.

Room reservation and banquet facility availability, and pricing, to fit the needs and price range of our delegation are always our foremost concern. Please contact one of the Convention Committee Members should you have questions or suggestions for future planning of convention sites. I would like to thank the members of the Convention Committee who spend endless hours in preparation for these conventions;

George Sermon, PSP, and his wife Shelley; our new member, James Rowland, PDDGER, and his wife Joan; and of course my wife, Jeanne.

STATE NEWS

MAJOR PROJECT

Help to brighten and strengthen the future of a child in your community

By Diane Dusendang
Executive Director

What's cooking at your State Major Project so far this year? A TON! We attended the Grand Lodge Convention in San Antonio Texas, representing the Michigan Elks Association in July, and what a great time we had meeting thousands of Elks from across our country. I was able to attend a meeting for Executive Directors, along with our Treasurer, SW District Commissioner Scot Burns of the national State Major Project's. It was a very interactive meeting with people just like me that do this job! Excellent ideas and suggestions from the 20-plus other folks who attended!

We had an excellent spot in the convention hall, and traffic was HEAVY! My thanks to UP Commissioner Bob Anttila, Metro District Commissioner Gary Goodin, NE Commissioner Elaine Helman-Boudreau, SW Commissioner Scot Burns, ER Sue Murtland from Grand Rapids Lodge No. 48, Dave Dusendang who not only did all of the driving to San Antonio and back but worked every hour of every day with me! Additionally, thank you to Bill Mascaro of the Flat Rock Elks No. 1731 for all of your help with set-up!

We were fortunate to have been interviewed by Grand Lodge and they prepared a video (thank you to Gordon Daniels for your expertise!) – if you haven't had a chance to check it out, you can view it on our Facebook page at "Michigan Major Project."

Our "passive giving" programs are going extremely well...my hope is that by the time this is published, we will have reached our first goal for our 1st \$1,000 check from the Spartan Nash receipts (yay!) and we are approaching \$800 so far in our Kroger Community Rewards program. Passive giving is a simple way to help raise funds for Major Project with little or no effort on your part. Talk with your Lodge Chairman for details and watch for the flyers coming to your Lodge. These are EASY to do, with little or no impact! We are also participating in the Amazon Smile rewards program; Michigan Elks Association Major Project Commission. So, shop and help us to help special ability children.

The annual fundraising appeal letter is scheduled to hit your mailboxes in October! We ask you to consider a donation to Major Project and join with your fellow Michigan Elks to maintain (and grow!) our program. The more dollars we raise together, the more special needs children will be provided opportunities. Remember: all of your donations are tax deductible, but more

importantly, impact the kids in tremendous ways! At this writing, we have approved 28 individual cases with a total financial commitment of \$30,655.74 – more than half of our annual budget. Camps are all but wrapped up, and we are waiting on invoices from a final few, but to date \$134,345.00 has been paid for 264 children to attend summer therapy camps out of our \$190,000.00 budget! Additionally, two Emergency Fund Grants of \$2,000 each have been awarded.

If you need a "fix" on what your donations do, check out our "Ten Minutes of Happy" posts on Facebook (they are always a great read and will make you feel proud of the work we do together to make a difference!). Also, as we are wrapping up the summer Camp season, be sure to check with your Lodge Chairman to see if children in your Lodge jurisdiction were able to attend a special needs camp because of the Major Project.

These emails are sent to the Lodge Chairman (or ER if no Major Project Chairman has been appointed) upon payment to the Camps. If children in YOUR Lodge jurisdiction attended a camp, we let them KNOW!

Remember that together WE are the Michigan Major Project – more than 20,000 STRONG (thanks to our Lady Elks and spouses). Every Lodge has ownership in this and we hope that our increased communication, story-telling and pictures are reaching YOU, the Members. While Lodge members contribute a minimum of \$1 per member with their dues each year to help us start out our year, it is only through the ongoing efforts by members to promote, share, discuss, hold events and more that keep the momentum going.

All of us at the Commission wish that the "need" for the Major Project no longer existed.

But the reality is that the need continues. Help to brighten and strengthen the future of a child in your community by spreading the word that the Michigan Elks stand ready to be of help!

Tim Bennett, the now retired Camp Director of Bay Cliff Health Camp, said the following recently in an interview with the Mining Journal: "We stand on the shoulders of the people that came before us. We have to have a deep commitment to the groundwork that has been laid. We've grown it, expanded our programs to meet the needs with the core belief that all kids are important, nobody is disposable, that they are all valuable. That child with a substantial disability is just as important as anybody else"

I think everyone can agree that Tim stated it beautifully.

GOLD KEY

Golf outings raise substantial funds for special-needs students

By Geno Grabinski

Southeast District Gold Key Commissioner

Summer is over and the golf clubs are put away. But before those clubs were put away, they were put to good use. The great heart of Elkdom was just a drive and a putt away. This year, the Gold Key Golf Outings (one in each district) raised quite a bit of money to help special needs students to have an opportunity to further their education. It is because of you, the members, that this is possible.

At the fall state convention in Kalamazoo, each lodge will be receiving the new Gold Key donation containers that can be distributed to your membership and displayed in your lodges. As our golf outings are getting smaller we need to find alternative options to help fund our program. Don't forget you can also be a part of our donor program. Information is on the back of our Tri-Folds and online.

We have sent letters to every high school in the State of Michigan notifying the Special Education Departments that the Gold Key Scholarship is available for qualifying students. This was very successful for us last year, as we received the most applications we have ever received in a year. We hope this year there are even more so we can help a larger number of students have a chance to further their education.

Please check our website, www.mielksgoldkey.org, for this year's scholarship applications. Applications are now available online. Students now have to complete these forms out completely online. Applications will not be accepted online unless they are completely filled out. Deadline for the applications to be completed and filed online is December 1st. They will then be reviewed and judging will take place in February. Winners will be contacted by March 1st.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your lodge gold key chairman or district commissioner.

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

The importance of documenting charitable activities

By Don Smith

State Government Relations Chair

Fall and winter months are approaching and with that comes many charitable activities centering around the holidays.

I am reiterating how important it is to report all time, mileage, donations and money spent on all Lodge charitable activities. Please discuss this at your lodge meetings so members are reminded what can be reported. Some examples are children's Halloween and Christmas Parties, parades, veterans' events, ENF fundraisers like the polar plunge or garage sales, food basket donations, etc. Each lodge has its own projects and it important to document all time spent from the planning process through completion.

Other things that can be reported are grant writing and reporting, attendance and mileage for district meetings, anything related to Michigan Major Projects, to name just a few. I have provided District Chairpersons with a list from Grand Lodge detailing what items can be reported. If you have not received this, please let them know. You can also refer to the Elks Government Relations Manual, which all lodges receive, for any necessary clarification.

This would be a great time to get involved with local government relations activities. An example would be to invite some local officials to a lodge holiday dinner event to show them your lodges and the contribution they make to their communities.

Please feel free to contact me anytime with any questions or concerns you may have.

Elks Care - Elks Share

STATE NEWS

SCHOLARSHIP

Most Valuable Student Scholarships

By Jack McClelland
State Scholarship Chairman

The Most Valuable Student (MVS) scholarship program started this year on August 15, 2018 applications are available Only on line . Inform those that are concerned that applications are available for downloading by visiting enf.elk.org/mvs. Applications are due on line, to the Grand Lodge by November 15, 2018. The Elks National Foundation has collaborated with industry leader International Scholarship and Tuition Services, Inc. (ISTS) to administer the 2019 MVS contest.

The Lodge Secretaries needs to register the Lodge Scholarship Chair on CLMS (CLMS2Web) and made the assignment as the Lodge Scholarship Coordinator, the lodge chairperson will have full access privileges the next time he or she logs into elks.org. The chairperson needs to be onboard to get to the scholarship dashboard at the Grand Lodge for the lodge judging process.

When your lodge chairperson contact the schools or counselors in your jurisdiction inform them to notify the students to select your lodge in the applicants. Now, applicants can choose from a drop-down list of the five closest Lodge in your area.

This year, the Elks National Foundation will again award 500 Most Valuable Student, who are high school seniors and are U.S. citizens, scholarships worth \$2.44 million. For details on these four-year scholarships, which range from \$4,000 to \$50,000 visit enf.elk.org/mvs.

After the MEA State Scholarship judging, we will send 15 boys and girls students application to the Grand Lodge for judging. The MEA will also award 31 girls and 31 boys with \$1,000 one-year scholarships.

Legacy Awards

Eligibility for the 2019 Legacy Award contest, is for any child or grandchild (or stepchild, step-grandchild, or legal ward) of a dues paying Elk. The ENF will fund 300 four-year scholarships worth \$4,000; Michigan will receive five of those allocations.

Some important date to put on your calendars

- Aug.15, 2018 MVS application available on line
- Sept. 1, 2018 - Feb.1, 2019 11:59 pm Legacy Awards contest

■ Nov. 15, 2018 MVS applications due to Grand Lodges

- Dec. 4-20, 2018 Lodge MVS Judging
- Jan.3-14, 2019 District MVS Judging
- Feb. 7-25, 2019 State MVS Judging

These scholarship programs would not be possible without dedicated volunteers and contributors to the ENF like you.

We are looking forward to hearing from and visiting with the 2018-second place MVS national winner Aleah Hahn during our business meeting at the fall Elks Convention. Aleah is from West Olive, MI and Holland Lodge #1315 was her sponsor. Do not miss out listening about her experiences during her Grand Lodge visit with all the finalists. Learn about her plans now and in the future.

VETERANS

Compelling events to help veterans

By Ruth Hall
State Veterans Chair

Amazing events are taking place here in Michigan for the Veterans.

When we gathered for the Spring Convention in the Soo, a Silent Auction was held at the Veterans display. Items donated from many sources, including the Prison Build Program at Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility in Ionia. The prisoners constructed a play barn complete with a hay mow and moving gates, a beautiful Home sign and an inspiring United States flag.

Other contributions included a calligraphy frame and a photograph of fireworks celebrating the 4th of July. Generous contributions and bidding helped raise over \$400 for MEA Veterans Committee.

Proceeds from this adventure will help with future activities. Early June saw the Veterans from the Jacobetti Veterans Home in Marquette enjoy a boat tour of Picture Rocks in Munising.

ReCreation, the traveling talent show of about a dozen 20-25-year old, graced the stages at Saginaw, Ann Arbor, Detroit, Grand Rapids and Battle Creek

VA Facilities. The opportunity to see the shows were enjoyed by many Elks and Veterans of the area. In between shows the Elks Lodges close by provided hospitality and fellowship to the troupe. ReCreation enjoyed some time with the members of Bay City#88 Elks and later enjoyed dinner at a popular restaurant on the river.

Anyone interested joining the VAVS hospital chair for the Detroit VA hospital or District Chair for the Southeast District please contact Ruth Hall at veteransservice@mielks.org. If your Lodge is having an Veterans activity, let us know so we can help.

ENF | GIVING

ENF throw-down challenge to leadership

By Brad Saegesser
State Chairperson

The mission of the ENF is to help Elks build stronger communities. We fulfill this pledge by investing in communities where Elks live and work. We help youth develop lifelong skills, send students to college, meet the needs of today's veterans, support the charitable work of the state Elks associations, and fund projects that improve the quality of life in local Elks communities.

It is our donations to the ENF that support these activities. Our new Grand Exalted Ruler, Michael Luhr from Alaska, has set the Elks National Foundation per-member giving goal for 2018-19 at \$4.75, the same as last year. As of September 6, 2018, Michigan is at \$2.40, based on \$46,295 in donations to the ENF. Congratulations to the following ten Lodges that have already exceeded the GER's goal:

1. Muskegon Elks Lodge #274 –

\$9.04

2. Cadillac Elks Lodge #680 – \$8.81

3. Albion Elks Lodge #1798 – \$8.45

4. Lapeer Area Elks Lodge #2567 – \$7.26

5. Allen Park Elks Lodge #2194 – \$6.48

6. Bay City Elks Lodge #88 – \$6.01

7. Ferndale Elks Lodge #1588 – \$5.03

8. Dowagiac Elks Lodge #889 – \$5.03

9. Alma Elks Lodge #1400 – \$4.82

10. Ishpeming Elks Lodge #447 – \$4.78

I am issuing a “Throw-Down Challenge” to the leadership of the Michigan Elks Association. If your name is listed in the State Directory for the 2018-19 Elks fiscal year, I am challenging you to raise at least \$100 for the ENF. You can do that by donating \$100 yourself or by donating \$10 and getting nine other Elks to donate \$10 each. Ideally, if you encourage other Elks to donate to the ENF, you are getting new donors – Elks

that have never donate to the ENF before.

Donating to the ENF is easy.

Just go online at <http://www.elks.org/ENF/supportENF>. Or, better yet, join the ENF Fidelity Club by signing up to make an automatic monthly donation of just \$5 a month. The ENF can automatically debit a donor's bank account or charge a credit card on a recurring basis for a set donation amount. There are no checks to write or coupons to mail. It's safe, reliable, and allows the ENF to spend less time on administration and more time on our charitable mission. Save time, stamps and even check charges by joining the ENF Fidelity Club today.

Last year, during the 2017-18 Elks fiscal year, the members of the Michigan Elks Association donated a total of \$128,871 to the ENF, for a per-member giving of \$6.53.

Let's see if we can get that to \$10 in per-member giving for the 2018-19 Elks fiscal year.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Spread the word about good works

By James D. Rowland
State Public Relations Chair

Have you submitted an article to the State Bulletin, National Magazine, Local Paper? If not, why not? Your Lodge has done a lot good works for the community. The dollars given back both in real money and donated time is worth talking about. You have probably had a fund raising golf

outing this summer, been in parades, held events for the Veterans or the children of the community. You need to spread the word.

Submit an article in a timely manner, clearly give the who what and when and where info, give contact info. Check online submission forms for the local paper or news. If sending to the Michigan Elks Bulletin, get the info in before the

15th. Follow up by submitting the same info to the Elks Magazine. If you are including photos please do not include check pictures, the Elks Magazine will not use those.

Also no photos including alcohol or cigarettes, we are try to keep a clean image. Above all else, PLEASE GET YOUR LODGE NOTICED. We are “Working together to make a Difference.”

STATE NEWS

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Time for Student of the Month, Year

By Diana Armstrong
Youth Activities Chair

It is the time of the year when the kids are back in school and we need to start thinking about all the Youth Activities the Elks Sponsor.

This is a great time to talk about the “Teenager and/or the Student of the Month and Year Programs.” There are many ways to conduct these programs that recognize outstanding young men and women for achievements in their schools and communities. At the local Lodge level, you can give away awards to these youth. The program needs just a little work from your Youth Activities Chair and committee to meet with school authorities and put a “Student of the Month/Year into place! It is up to you to decide what the nominating process can be, but the important aspect is to get involved with the schools and provide a means for the educators to choose outstanding young people and to recognize them. Thus, showing them that the Elks care about Youth and we want to publicly recognize them! When the kids hear about this program it allows them to compete and have their accomplishments rewarded. At the end of the school year, you can provide a dinner or awards presentation bringing them into your Lodges. This is a great way to have community involvement!

Youth Activities Chairperson’s should look at the Youth Activities Grand Lodge Manual to help give you ideas about how you can recognize youth in your communities.

Don’t forget the scouting programs and if there is not a troop in your Lodge, consider sponsoring one! The BPOE certificates for Eagle Scout, Girl Scout Gold Award, Girl Scout Silver and Bronze Awards are available online. These are impressive forms and it is nice to hand them out in a awards presentation to the well deserving Scouts.

If you need help with the Dictionary Project, please let me know as this is dear to my heart and I love to see the kids when they are presented with their own dictionaries. Label the dictionaries at the Lodge and make it a Lodge event. Ask the members to participate and make goody bags to bring to the schools.

There are many youth activities that are sponsored by the Elks and please don’t hesitate to ask for help!

Thanks for the opportunity to share news about BPOE Youth Activities and always remember that the Youth of Today are the Elks of Tomorrow!!!

LODGE NEWS



NEGAUNEE ELKS LODGE #1116

Lodge members take Big Brothers Big Sisters to Pictured Rocks

Negaunee Elks Lodge #1116 treated Big Brothers & Sisters to the Pictured Rocks boat tour on Saturday Sept. 8th in Munising Michigan. The group also visited 2 waterfalls and received lunch. Funds for the event were provided by an Elks National Foundation Beacon Grant. Four

Elks attended the event with children that are waiting to be matched with a BIG. At any point in time there are 100,000 children in the U.S. waiting for a Big Brother or Sister.

Current statistics indicate that youth who have a least one adult, such as a

mentor, in their lives are:

- 45% are less likely than their peers to begin using illicit drugs
- 59% do better academically
- 73% set and attain higher life achievement goals than other kids their age
- 52% less likely to skip school

CADILLAC ELKS LODGE #680

Veterans committee visits VA medical center

Cadillac Elks Lodge #680 Veterans Committee annually visits hospitalized Veterans in the Saginaw VA Medical Center during the Summer and Fall of each year.

These visits have been ongoing for the past 15 years and are part of the lodge’s veterans outreach program. During the past seven years, some of the many donations to the hospitalized Veterans have come from ENF grants, however most of the hundreds of donations have come from the generosity of Elk members. We are proud to say that the Cadillac Veterans Committee and Outreach Program put meaning into the expression of “Elks Care and Elks Share.”



Veterans committee members Elk “Mick” McDonald, VA Chief of Voluntary Service Jeff Wendt, PER Colin Campbell and Elk Harold Carson.



Care packs for children

Traverse City Elks #323 Lodge #323 used a \$10,000 CIP Impact Grant to partner with their adopted elementary school to provide Care Packs for Kids throughout summer break. A book mobile distributed the food bags, dictionaries and books to the children in their neighborhoods.

MANISTIQUE ELKS LODGE #632

Lodge sponsors youth events

Manistique #632 has recently sponsored several youth events. A Beacon Grant was used to support the Manistique High School Robotics team. The team competed well this year and was chosen as the most congenial team in the competition. The Lodge also sponsored a Junior High Track meet using \$500 of a Gratitude Grant. In addition, the Lodge sponsored a local Little League team and helped support the Manistique High School Varsity softball team with a donation of \$350.

Manistique #632 used Gratitude Grant money to purchase \$500 worth of gift cards to a local grocery store which were given to local veterans in need of help purchasing food. Working with the local VA, the Lodge made sure that the cards were given to veterans who either were unable to travel because of health or financial reasons.

MICHIGAN ELKS ASSOCIATION

62nd Annual Fall Convention

Kalamazoo, Michigan
October 19-21, 2018

Agenda and Program

Friday, October 19, 2018

Registration 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
George Lascu, Chairman 2:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Pre-KAC

PSP Meeting **9:00 am - Noon**
Ron Zimmerman, President Great Lakes 1

Board of Trustees Meeting **9:00am – 5:00 pm**
Terry Greer, Chairman Great Lakes 2

Major Project Commission Meeting **12:00 pm – 4:00 pm**
Tom Harder, Chairman Great Lakes 4

Charitable Grant Fund Meeting **12:00 pm -5:00 pm**
Geno Grabinski, Chairman Great Lakes 5

DDGER Meeting **1:00 pm - 3:00 pm**
Ron Hicks, PGER Great Lakes 1

Past State President's Dinner Social 6:00 pm
Dinner 7:00 pm
Joe Antonishek, PSP Meadows

Welcome Reception by the MEA.....**8-11 pm**
Pre-KAC

Saturday, October 20, 2018

Registration **7:00 am – 9:00 am**
George Lascu, Chairman Pre-KAC

Business Session **8:00 am – 11:30 am**
Stan Chubinski, State President Arcadia Ballroom

Ladies' Breakfast **Doors Open 8:30 am**
Joann McKenzie, Master of Ceremony Breakfast 9:00 am
Meadows

Member/PSPLuncheon.....**12noon–1:30pm**
Grand Lodge Ins. - Guest Speaker
Brian P. O'Neill, J.D. Prairies 4-6

Member-Orientation Workshop**1:30 pm - 3pm**
Ken Hines, Membership Chair Glens 1

ENF Grant Writing **2:00 pm - 3:00 pm**
Brad Saegesser, ENF Chair Glens 2

DVC–DVP-State Comm. Chrm.....**2:00pm-4:00pm**
Stan Chubinski, State President Petoskey-Mackinac Room

PGER/Special Rep. Meetings **2:00 pm – 4:00 pm**
Ron Hicks, PGER Great Lakes 1

President's Banquet **Cocktails – 6:00 pm**
Mike Bowman, Master of Ceremonies Dinner – 7:00 pm
Arcadia Ballroom

BUSINESS SESSION PROGRAM

Arcadia Ballroom

Saturday, October 20, 2018

Call to Order 8:00 a.m **Stan Chubinski**
President, Battle Creek #131

Introduction of Grand Lodge
Officers and Guests..... **Bert Knickerbocker**
Sergeant-at-Arms, Howell #2168

Invocation.....**Dennis White**
Chaplain, Gaylord Area #2544

Pledge to the Flag **Jerry Alexie**
2nd Vice President, Warren-Sterling Heights #2292

Vocal **Daniel Stewart**
Soloist, Muskegon #274

Organist **Les Thornburg**
Traverse City # 323

Welcome and Convention Report **Howard Diehl**
Convention Director, Bay City # 88

Roll Call of Lodges □.....□□□□ **Karen Cary**
Secretary, Sturgis #1381

Roll Call of Officers **Karen Cary**
Secretary, Sturgis # 1381

Minutes of Previous Session **Karen Cary**
Secretary, Sturgis # 1381

Secretary's Report/ Communications **Karen Cary**
Secretary, Sturgis # 1381

Treasurer's Report **Walt Muellenhagen**
Treasurer, Traverse City # 323

Introduction of Past State President **Ron Zimmerman**
President-PSP, Sturgis #1381

Introduction of District Deputies **Ronald Hicks, PGER**
Michigan State Sponsor, Fredericksburg VA #875

Introduction of Grand Lodge Guests **Ronald Hicks, PGER**
Michigan State Sponsor, Fredericksburg VA #875

Remarks **Michael T. Luhr, GER**
Lyndhurst, New Jersey #1505

President's Report **Stan Chubinski**
Battle Creek #131

1st Vice-President's Report **Chuck Oatten**
Alma #1400

2nd Vice-President's Report **Jerry Alexie**
Warren-Sterling Heights #2292

Trustee's Report **Terry Greer**
Chairman, Kalamazoo #50

Announcements **Karen Cary**
Secretary, Sturgis # 1381

Committee Reports

2nd Vice President **Jerry Alexie**
Introduction of Metro and Southeast DVP and DVC

Call for reports from:
Americanism.....**Randy Boudreau, Chairman**
Alma #1400

Business Practice**Rich Wlosinski, Chairman**
Pontiac Waterford #810

Drug Awareness **Kathy Stratton, Chairman**
Ishpeming #447

Government Relations **Don Smith, Chairman**
Battle Creek #131

Lodge Activities / Star Lodge Award..... **Bill Mascaro, Chairman**
Flat Rock #1731

Ritual **Pat Morgan, Chairman**
Dearborn #1945

Youth Activities **Diana Armstrong, Chairman**
Pontac-Waterord #810

Major Project Commission **Tom Harder**
Chairman, Flat Rock #1731

Charitable Grant Fund Commission **Geno Grabinski**
Chairman, Livonia #2246

1st Vice-President **Chuck Oatten**
Introduction of the Upper Penninsula and Northeast DVP and DVC

Call for reports from:
Accident Prevention **Doug Mikkelsen, Chairman**
St. Joseph-Benton Harbor #541

Adopt-A-Veteran.....**Stewart Israel, Chairman**
Plymouth-Ann Arbor #325

Hoop Shoot **Robert Spelde, Chairman**
Muskegon #274

Membership/Retention **Kenneth J. Hines, Chairman**
Plymouth-Ann Arbor # 325

New Lodge Development .. **PSP Edwin Geishert, Jr, Chairman**
Coldwater Lodge #1023

National Foundation **Brad Saegesser, Chairman**
Tawas #2525

National Veterans Service **Ruth Hall, Chairman**
Alma #1400

Scholarship **Jack McClelland, Chairman**
Bay City #88

Special Events/Community Welfare/ Organ Donor Program..... **Kimberly Deckard, Chairman**
Pontiac-Waterford # 810

President..... **Stan Chubinski**
Introduction of the Southwest and Northwest DVP and DVC

Call for reports from:
By- Law □□.....□.....□□□. **Chris Ferguson, Chairman**
Rochester-North Oakland #2225

Convention.....**Howard Diehl, Chairman**
Bay City #88

Registration **Geoge Lascu, Chairman**
Royal Oak-Detroit #34

Law **Paul Robinson, Chairman**
Flat Rock #1731

Public / Member Relations **Jim Rowland, Chairman**
Traverse City #323

State Publication Michigan Elks News **Karen Cary, Publisher**
Sturgis # 1381

Web Master. **Bruce Stark, Chairman**
Plymouth-Ann Arbor # 325

Resolutions **Doug Mikkelsen, Chairman**
St. Joseph-Benton Harbor #541

Unfinished Business
New Business
Good of the Order
Benediction **Dennis White, Chaplain**
Gaylord Area #2544

Adjournment

LODGE NEWS

Constructive collaboration

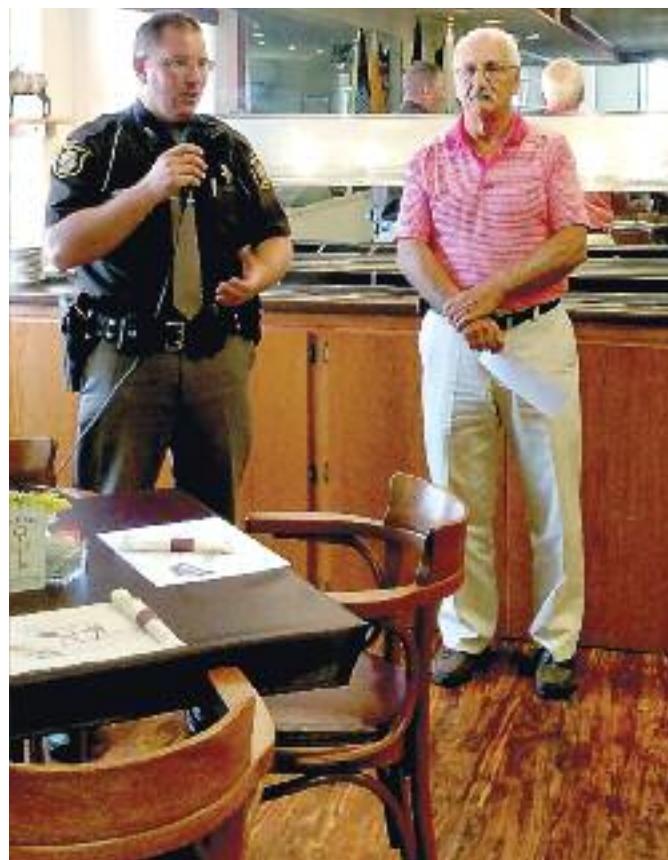


Help for team

Recently, John Thomas, Exalted Ruler of Negaunee Elk's Lodge #1116 left, presented a check for \$260 to Randy Carlson, head coach of the Negaunee High School girls' varsity softball team. The two organizations partnered during Pioneer Days in Negaunee this year for a pig roast. The two groups plan on making this an annual event at the Lodge during Pioneer Days. The Elks are always looking for new ideas to help out the Community and are always looking for new members. Please stop at the Lodge for more information.



Members of Tawas Area Elks Lodge #2525 and youth from the Iosco County Family Court's Juvenile Enhanced Accountability Program collaborated for a boat-building project this year. This is the boat during construction.



Donation for DARE

At a wet burrito dinner, Cadillac Elks Lodge # presented Deputy Corey Lipar with \$1,000 for the Wexford Co Sheriff's DARE program. He informed the lodge that the DARE program is now reliant solely on donations. Federal and state funding is no longer available. Cadillac Elks have been contributing to the DARE program for the past six years. These donations are part of our ENF Gratitude Grant program.

TAWAS AREA ELKS LODGE #2525 Lodge joins Jeap youth for boat-building project

Since February, members of Tawas Area Elks Lodge #2525 have been building a boat alongside youth from the Iosco County Family Court's Juvenile Enhanced Accountability Program (JEAP), which is for troubled youth that need to complete court-mandated community service.

The boat christening celebration was held August 7 and the boat quickly went into service as the safety boat for a sailing camp offered by Heritage Coast Sailing and Rowing, a non-profit in the Tawas area.



At the boat launching celebration.