



# Under the Spreading Antlers

Indiana **Elks** State Newsletter

APRIL 2008

## From the State President

To The Best People On Earth

I have some exciting news! I received a call from the Elk National Magazine that they want to do a special article about our State Major project. I had a long talk with Anna Idol explaining how our donations are being used to help not only people in Indiana but people all over the world. She was very impressed and was happy that she had selected Indiana for the story. I am currently working with Amber Senseny from the Indiana University Cancer Center and the reporter from the magazine setting up dates that fits everyone's schedule. The plans are to go to the I U Cancer Center in the morning so the reporter can interview some of the Doctors and visit the research area. In the afternoon we will travel to the Purdue Research center for more interviews. The magazine circulation is over one million so it will be nice to see Indiana recognized for being a great State Association.

April 5th Laquata and I attended the awards ceremony at the Alexandria Elks. Plaques and financial donations were made to the local Fire Department, City Police Department, and the Sheriffs Department. Past ER for the 6th time Carroll McCune was given a plaque from the members in appreciation of his leadership and dedication to the lodge and to the Elks. The lodge led the District in per capita donations for National Foundation and was 9th in the State. They made a nice donation to Cancer Research and had an increase of 35 in membership. I am proud to have them as part of the East District.

I have traveled to several lodges to help ritual teams prepare for the State Ritual Contest. I would have liked to have more teams participate but I am proud of the ones that did. The losers are the ones that will not take the time to learn parts and put on an impressive initiation.

The State Directors had a meeting in Lafayette April 12th to discuss budgets for the coming year. It has been a challenge but they have done a good job of trimming the fat to overcome potential loss of membership and keep Indiana State Elks Association solvent.

My lodge New Castle held a State Presidents night to honor Laquata and I as our year winds down. We were very touched by the attendance of over 75 out of town guests in addition to the many New Castle members. There was a free meal for everyone and nice gifts for Laquata and I. They had dancers, a comedian that tried to embarrass me and she did a good job of it. There was also music for dancing.

I was a member of Muncie Lodge for 25 years and only transferred to New Castle 3 years ago so Laquata and I appreciated New Castle doing this since I had been a member for such a short time.

April 23rd I attended the PER night at Indianapolis Lodge #13. We had a great meal and I heard many interesting stories from the PERs of the great history of Indianapolis lodge. At one time they were among the best Ritual Teams in the Nation. Many of their members won All American plaques at the Grand Lodge ritual contest. I felt honored to be among so many Icons of Elkdom.

April 28th I attended a drug awareness program set up by ER Lance Winings of Elwood Lodge # 368. Two State Police Troopers that belong to Elwood put on an outstanding presentation for over 500 students and faculty. One of the State Police Troopers is the K9 Officer. He brought his German Shepard dog named Colt to demonstrate how he sniffs out drugs and how he captures criminals.. One of the officers put on a padded sleeve and acted as if he was running away and the other officer released the dog. The Students really enjoyed that demonstration. The K9 officer talked to the students in a down to earth way that they could understand about saying no to drugs and not let peer pressure cause them to try them. After the demonstration we all stood by the door as the students left the gym. They were giving us high fives as we reminded them to Say No To Drugs. Many of the students hugged the officers as they left and promised to never try drugs. One main point! that the officers made was not to be afraid of the police. They told them they were not just looking for people to arrest but wanted to help people so they would not be arrested. Once again I was proud to be an Elk.

We have another school scheduled to go to in May and I will give a report next month on that visit.

THE BEST EXERCISE FOR THE HEART IS WHEN YOU BEND DOWN TO HELP YOUR FELLOW MAN.

Fraternally, and GOD BLESS

Jim Warren  
State President

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### **NEWS FROM THE NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT**

The Wabash Elks Lodge #471 celebrated Earth Day with the planting of eleven trees. The tree planting shows the Elks' commitment to helping our planet. Ten of the trees, planted with the assistance of Wabash City Parks, are located at Paradise Springs. The eleventh tree, symbolizing the Elks' Eleven Hour Toast, is a Flowering Cherry Tree that was planted near the playground at Wabash City Park.

The Elks will officially commemorate the Eleventh Hour Tree during a ceremony during Strawberry Fest with a permanent plaque.



Wendy Frazier, Esteemed Knight Shelly Bayliss Carl Bayliss  
Exalted Ruler Alan Stewart

The Wabash Elks Lodge #471 received the honor of being selected as the Fraternal Lodge of the Year by the residents of Wabash in an annual poll taken by the Wabash Plain Dealer. This is the second year in a row for the Elks to be acknowledged by the community for their charitable works and their local participation.

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## **NEWS FROM THE NORTHWEST DISTRICT**

Congratulations to the Northwest District for being 100% in submission of State Americanism forms. That adds yet another perfect year to the long precedent set by the late PDDGER Martin Tintari.

Also, we are proud to have seven out of seven lodges participating in the ritual competition. Some teams used subs from other lodges to fill out their teams, but that gave officers who wanted to participate, but otherwise couldn't, a chance to show their stuff. PER Jeanie Kozlowski filled in on three teams, as well as competing on her own, so she was quite busy. PER Frank Kozlowski, PER Jim Luttell, and I also got around a bit.

Our lodges have pretty close to full staffs of officers and hopefully will finish filling the vacant positions soon. Esquire seems to be the tough one to fill, but really, it's a great chair. We do have two sisters who are both Exalted Rulers; Carol LaCrosse at Hammond and Helen Chapman at Whiting. Full staffs or not, they are all underway doing the great charitable work of Elkdom.

On behalf of State Vice-President Ed Boyle, Myself and the officers and members of our Great Northwest District family, we welcome you if you come up this way and hope that you will pay one or more of our seven lodges a visit. We also have many non-Elk attractions ranging from gaming ( five casinos) to great shopping to historic sites and convenient rail transportation to all of Chicago's many attractions with reasonable lodging here in Indiana. We look forward to seeing many of you in the fall!

Jim Allen DDGER

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## **News from the Southeast District**

The new Lodge year has begun, the new officers are settling into their positions. Hope is high for a great Lodge year. Just like the weather, more sun and warmer days, the horizon looks good.

One of Connersville 379 fundraisers will be their Charity Brunch on the 20th. Great day to enjoy a brunch buffet, cards and games for all members.

The Jeffersonville 362 and Rushville 1307 members are extremely pleased that the days are warmer and with more sun so that they can get out and enjoy their golf courses. The season has finally arrived. Good luck, hope everyone's game survived the winter.

Seymour 462 has really gotten back to being an Elks Lodge raising money for their various charities and Elks programs. They donated 581 dictionaries to 3rd grade students in Jackson County. They even donated some Spanish to English dictionaries. Fabulous job.

Keep up the good work. Remember Elks Care Elks Share  
Fraternally,  
John W. Sauer  
Vice President

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Kokomo Elks Lodge awarded another Medal of Valor Friday night. We had the honor of presenting the medal to the parents of PFC David Neil Simmons who lost his life in Iraq.

Pictured is Mr. and Mrs. David Simmons Sr. Kokomo's ER Lloyd Land and Per Belva Yocum, NS Chair

The Lodge presented the Grand Lodge Medal of Valor to Maureen Frigo The Mother of Spc. Nathan Frigo who was killed in Iraq. The Lodge hosted a dinner for the family and presented the medal.

Saturday April 19 the Bluffton Elks held their annual Appreciation dinner.

Angela Sheets was presented "Elks Distinguished Citizenship Award" from the Bluffton Elks Lodges 796 and the Grand Lodge for Outstanding and Meritorious Service to Humanity. Angela was recognized for her dedication to the Dream Team for kids with disabilities.

Kevin Poling was honored as Elk Officer of the Year.

Tara Johnson was honored as Elk of the Year.

Harry Oliver Jr. was honored for Outstanding Service Harry Mosure for 100% attendance at Lodge meetings

Thank you  
John Barnes PER

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### **Columbia City Lodge #1417 Certificate of Appreciation award**

The Columbia City Indiana Elks Lodge #1417 recently held their yearly awards presentation. During the awards night, Blake Ruest of Columbia City was given a "Certificate of Appreciation" award for his assistance with the Columbia City Elks Lodge's Needy Family Christmas program. During this program Blake assisted the Elks with the delivery of Christmas gifts, presents and food to several needy families in the Columbia city area. The officers and members of the Columbia City Elks Lodge #1417 want to thank Blake for the assistance to their Lodge and the local community.

### **Columbia City Lodge #1417 Citizen of the Year award**

The Columbia City Indiana Elks Lodge #1417 recently presented their "Citizen of the Year" award to Martha Acres of Columbia City, Indiana. Martha is the Secretary for the Mayor of Columbia City. This award is given to a person in their community who the Officers and Members of the Columbia City Elks feel goes "**above and beyond**" their normal duties to help others.



## **COLUMBIA CITY INDIANA ELKS LODGE #1417 HONOR GIRL SCOUTS**

Columbia City Indiana Elks Lodge #1417 recently honored nine Girl Scouts for their achievements in Scouting.

The **Gold award**, Girl Scouting's highest award for senior Girl Scouts, was presented to: Melissa Didion of Girl Scout Troop 333 from Columbia City, Indiana, and Laura Gray of the Juliette Girl Scout Troop from Ligonier, Indiana.

The **Silver award**, Girl Scouting's highest award for cadette girl scouts was given to: Amanda Arbaugh, Christina Arbaugh, Ashley Holdread and Ashley Wine of troop 197 from Elkhart, Indiana, Shannon Kuznar and Cassandra Petrie of Troop 850 from Churubusco, Indiana, and Eva Hanft of troop 850 from Warsaw, Indiana.

The Columbia City Elks Lodge presented each young lady with a certificate of accomplishment along with the American Flag during an awards ceremony hosted by the Indiana Lakeland Girl Scout Council at the Bethany Church of the Brethren in New Paris, Indiana. The officers and members of the Columbia City Elks Lodge #1417 have supported the Girl Scouts of America for many years, as well as many other youth organizations in their communities.



Deputy Todd Cook, Exalted Ruler Phyllis Gates, Sheriff Mark Hodges  
**COLUMBIA CITY ELKS LODGE #1417 K9 DONATION**

The Columbia City Elks Lodge #1417 recently made a charitable donation to the Whitley County Sheriffs Department. The Whitley County Sheriffs department is raising funds to purchase two additional K9 officers (dogs), have them trained, and all associated equipment. There is currently only one K9 unit in Whitley County and has enough work that at the end of every day you could say he is "Dog" tired. The Columbia City Indiana Elks Lodge#1417 has supported the Police and Sheriff's departments over the years by assisting with the local D.A.R.E. program, the Red Ribbon program, and many other community programs.

### **Columbia City Indiana Elks Lodge #1417 High School Football Team Fund Raiser**

The Columbia City Elks Lodge #1417, along with the Columbia City High School Football boosters, recently held a fund raiser at the Columbia City Elks Lodge. The evening's festivities included an Elvis impersonator and finger food, followed by a "Vegas" style casino night. The proceeds from the evening's festivities will assist the High School Football team with their upcoming season. The officers and members of the Columbia City Elks Lodge have assisted their community through various fundraisers and programs through out the years.

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## **NEWS FROM THE SOUTHWEST DISTRICT**

On Monday April 7<sup>th</sup>, 12 Elks from Bedford Lodge #826 donated their time and talents to provide dinner to 44 boys and 11 coaches from the Thornton Memorial Boy's Club. Twice a year the Lodge donates their dining room and hosts the Boy's Club Award Banquet. This is the Boy's Club opportunity to recognize individual boys and present trophies and awards for outstanding athletic achievements. The banquet's pinnacle being the presentation of the Boy of the Year Award.



Betty Feather, Leading Knight Bob Evans, Exalted Ruler Bob Nail

**Bedford** – On April 3<sup>rd</sup>, Bedford Elks Lodge No. 826 installed its lodge officers for the 2008-2009 Lodge Year. Officers are: John Reed, Secretary; LC Kern, Chaplain; Bob Evans, Leading Knight; Drema Nail, Tiler; Bob Nail, Exalted Ruler; Jeff Williams, Esquire; JW Elliott, Loyal Knight. (Second Row) Rob Mowry, Treasure, Tim Turner, Lecturing Knight; Nicol Meister, Bob Herr, and Joseph S. Elliott, Trustees, and John Cobb, Inner Guard.

On April 22nd, Bedford Lodge participated in the Lawrence County School's annual Scholarship Awards program and awarded a \$500 Scholarship to Senior Elizabeth Day.

On Saturday, April 26th Bedford Lodge held their long standing "Annual" including a dinner and dance with honored guests; Bedford's Mayor, Shawna Girgis, and District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler Richard Dunbar of Bloomington Lodge #446.



Mayor Girgis and her husband Dr. Girgis



DDGER Dunbar and his wife Kara

Thanks,  
Bob Nail - Exalted Ruler

### **Bicknell Lodge #1421**

What a busy month! Bicknell started the month with the Installation of new Officers for the 2008-2009 Lodge year, with a dinner and Awards presentation. We had 12 members qualify for 50-year pins.

New Officers are ER Bob Willsey, Leading Knight Bob Kluesner, Esquire Dick Ramey, Secretary Ed Hagemeyer, Treasurer Max Kixmiller, Trustees Bob Lumbrix, RR Willsey, Mike Harrell, Inner Guard Joe Smith, Tiler Bill Schroeder, Chaplin Terry Perkins, and Organist Merlin Anderson.

The Elks Citizen of the Year award was given to Rod Mullins, Elks Officer of the Year Ed Hagemeyer, and Elk of the Year to Tom Worland.

Two special Certificates of Appreciation were given to Bob Kluesner, and Bill Schroeder.

The House committee prepared and served over two hundred people for Edwardsport Alumni and then on Sunday celebrated the 100 Anniversary of St Phillip Neri Church at our lodge.

We attended the DD Clinic at Bedford and the wedding of Rev RR and Phyllis Willsey's daughter Jessica. RR Willsey gave the bride away and also married them. Reception was here at the lodge.

Traveling bowling league finished up the season with dinner and awards presented here at the lodge.

We donated the use of the building to the North Knox football team for their annual Fried Chicken dinner and Auction. It was a big success.

### **Boonville #1180**

Boonville held their Awards Night and Installation of Officers on Apr 3, 2008. Andy thanked everyone who helped and supported him during this past year. The next dart tournament will be Apr 11<sup>th</sup>. We are planning on new carpet, so come visit us. The Elks Ladies met and elected new officers. They will not meet until October, but will be busy planning for the centennial celebration.

### **Vincennes #291**

The new officers start the year in a busy way. ER Mark Wehrheim reports external accounting firm of Mangin & Carter will be working with Treasurer George Letts and Dale Wilkes to bring the accounting up to date.

House committee is installing computerized cash registers in pro shop and lounge.

Golf chairpersons Pat & Joanne Bahr are organizing golf outings, etc, and the Vincennes Elks has their own website. It can be viewed at [www.vincenneselks.com](http://www.vincenneselks.com). All elk's activities will be featured.

Our swimming pool will open on Memorial Day week-end.

Finally, he stresses the only way to make our club better is to get involved.

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## **FROM THE NORTHEAST**

Bluffton #796 Ritual team placed second in the District contest. Also, Keith Krider placed second in the 11 o'clock toast. We had a busy day on Apr 19<sup>th</sup>. It started with a wine tasting party at 3 pm, and grilled hamburgers and hot dogs for the Appreciation dinner at 6 pm. The Officer and Elk of the Year and the Citizenship awards were presented along with special awards and Years of Membership pins. After the awards there will be a dart tournament and on the big screen the Elks 100 year DVD and Honor DVD for Bluffton Elks will be replayed. Our regular Euchre league was the 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. A pool tournament will be held on the 26<sup>th</sup>.

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## **FROM THE WEST**

Kokomo #190 thanks all who attended the Monte Carlo last month. Gerry Avery, Dick Mason, Dr Jay Frazer and ER Lloyd Land attended the Central District Spring meeting at Noblesville in March.

Lots of information was given and State President Jim Warren was in attendance.

It is stressed that this is your Lodge, come out and enjoy it. Lots of changes are being made, and we offer socializing, Friday night dinners, gaming, pool; darts are just a few things to be enjoyed. A guest night will be Apr 11<sup>th</sup>.

The DD Clinic was held at Plainfield on the 13<sup>th</sup>.

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### **FROM THE SOUTHEAST**

Connersville #379 held a Charity Brunch on Apr 20<sup>th</sup>. It started with a brunch from 11 am-1 pm. A cash bar featured Mimosas and Bloody Marys, and cards and games from noon to 4 pm.

We have Saturday Night pitch-ins. Make a pot of soup, cheese & crackers, bake a cake, and pick up pizza, but come on down for good food and fellowship.

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### **FROM THE NORTHWEST**

Highland #981 hosted the District meeting on Apr 20<sup>th</sup>, and all the new ER's should be attending. A great way to get to know them.

We are in need of designing a new membership pin for our lodge. Anyone who comes with a new design can send it to Lewis Seberger, Secretary, in care of the lodge.

We had a team from the lodge participating in the March of Dimes Walk. The nine-mile walk took place on Sunday Apr 27<sup>th</sup> from Highland High School. This is a wonderful cause and we are looked for walkers or anyone who would like to make a donation. Team Captains were Chico Chevas and Nikki Heldorn.

Our wishes for a speedy recovery to PSP Mike Kelly, you are in our prayers.

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### **FROM THE GRAND LODGE NEWSLETTER**

Flags honoring US Prisoners of War and soldiers still Missing in Action (Code 541400, \$31.90) are available to elks Lodges preparing for Flag Day ceremonies. Write to Shipping Department, Elks National Headquarters, 2750 N Lakeview Ave, Chicago, IL 60614-1889. Call 773-755-4710.

National Youth Week the first week in May should be remembered. Remember to let your community know who we are and what we do. Please stress Elks Care-Elks Share.

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**Lucky Bucks Calendar Winners**  
**March 2008**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>CITY &amp; STATE</b>	<b>LODGE</b>	<b>CALENDAR NUMBER</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
Bryce Stone	Lafayette, IN	Lafayette #143	9326	100.00
Marcia Boruff	Kokomo, IN	Kokomo #190	5338	100.00
David James	Sullivan, IN	Sullivan #911	2211	100.00
John Quinlan	Beaver, PA	Sullivan #911	3217	100.00
Tom DeWees	Lawrenceburg, IN	Lawrenceburg 1836	7223	100.00
Tim Boyle	St. John, IN	Whiting #1273	9650	100.00
Evelyn Dingess	Laketon, IN	Wabash #471	9308	100.00
Mike Pooch Pietrzycki	Lansing, IL	Hammond #485	6898	100.00
Val Watts	West Lafayette, IN	Lafayette #143	3348	100.00
Joseph M. Chumbley	Denver, IN	Wabash #471	6288	250.00
Jan Carter	Seymour, IN	Seymour #462	4480	100.00
Robert McAllister	Homewood, IL	Hammond #485	0914	100.00
K. Widener	Hobart, IN	Hobart #1152	1840	100.00
Lee Lawson	Fort Wayne, IN	Fort Wayne #155	0011	100.00

Thanks, Bill Schaab, PSP  
State Calendar Chairman

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**ELKS DRUG AWARENESS PROGRAM**

Dale S. Phillips – State Chairperson

- For more information call 812-268-6022, FAX 812-268-6550, E-mail [dphillips@custom.net](mailto:dphillips@custom.net)

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Please send any articles, proofread please, for next month's newsletter to:

Sara Kixmiller  
Under the Spreading Antlers, State Chairman

Also any comments to my attention at [smkix@avenuebroadband.com](mailto:smkix@avenuebroadband.com)