



Under the Spreading Antlers

Indiana *Elks* State Newsletter

From the State President December 2005

On behalf of your first lady and myself, we would like to wish all Elks and their families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

November has turned out to be a busy month with our first visit of the month with Linton on the 5th for President's Night. A great time with good music and food was enjoyed by everyone. On November 10th, we visited at Rushville for their Veterans Program. Then on Veterans Day November 11th we attended a heart touching programs at Franklin. The guest speakers were the parents of a Marine, Derek I. Hallel, who was killed in Iraq. They spoke of their loss and the loss of many other parents. The many great works the Elks do for our service personal, veterans and their families is but small compared to their sacrifice.

On November 12th we traveled to Bloomington to help celebrate the Birthday of Ottis Foddrill who turned 99 but still makes it to the Elks almost every day and has been a member for 62 years.

On the 19th we spent the evening and saw a great show put on by the members of Princeton Lodge. The Tropical Fruits Show is not to be missed. Sunday the 20th we spent the day with Boonville Elks for a NASCAR party and some great food. The joy of the day was tempered by the recent storms. Although the Lodge building had no damage, several members were injured and one lost his daughter. Some members suffered damage or the total loss of their homes. Booneville is doing their best to help their members through these hard times.

As most of you are aware French Lick Hotel has closed down for the year. This will mean moving the State Convention to a new venue. The State Conventions committee is working out details with a new venue but as of this date still has some details to cover and has not signed a contract with them. We will have additional details next month. If

it all works out this should be the best convention in years at a new and bigger venue with a lot more to offer.

Note of an up coming event. A Going Away Party on December 10th at Hartford City # 625 for Don Young who is moving to Florida.

Harry Smith, State President

Loss Control / Loss Prevention

Workers' Compensation – Subordinate Lodges

The Grand Lodge Master Liability Program does not provide coverage for Workers' Compensation. Because work comp coverage benefits vary widely from state to state it is recommended that Lodges check with a local insurance agent, or their State Workers' Compensation Board to obtain coverage.

All Lodges that have employees should have Workers' Compensation coverage, even in the states where it is not mandatory for small employers to have coverage. If an employee or a person held to be an employee is injured while working, this party has a right to payments. If the Lodge does not have a Workers' Compensation policy, the Lodge will have to pay the claim from its own resources.

It is recommended that all Lodges have a minimum premium policy, even those without any employees. This will provide defense to the Lodge if a volunteer or any other party claims to be an employee.

Lodges should not, in any way, be deluded by anyone who wishes to sell an "accident policy" as a substitute for Workers' Compensation. The purchase of any accident policy does not limit the Lodge's liability. The injured party can collect from the accident policy and still proceed against the Lodge under the Workers' Compensation laws of the state.

Parking Lot Use

Every Elks Lodge should post the following sign, even if there is a charge for parking or a valet used (which is not recommended):

Park at Your Own Risk
The Lodge is Not Responsible for Damage, Theft
Or Losses of Any Kind

Reminders: There have been a number of recent claims in Lodge facilities in the restroom areas. Every Lodge should inspect this area frequently and those inspections should be increased when there are special events or when the Lodge is crowded.

Loss Control and Loss Prevention involves every Lodge member!

Please - - Let's all make this a Safe and Enjoyable Holiday Season at every Lodge!

Larry Shaver – PSP
State Insurance Chairman

NEW WINTER ADDRESS ON PSP, PAT BLAUGHER

MY WINTER ADDRESS FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS WILL BE

44600 S. HERITAGE PALMS DRIVE
INDIO, CA. 92201
PHONE # 760-200-2687

TAKE CARE AND GOD BLESS

K. PAT BLAUGHER

METHAMPHETAMINE

TOXIC, ADDICTIVE, DEVASTATING

GET THE FACTS!

Also known as “meth” or “ice,” this highly addictive and brain-altering drug is a threatening scourge on individuals, families, and communities.

Methamphetamine alters the brain's structure. The most affected areas are those that control memory, emotion, and reward. This is a highly toxic, addictive, and devastating substance that poses serious health risks both to individuals who use it and to those who never do. Families, neighbors, communities, innocent children, the environment – all are affected by methamphetamine and the highly toxic chemicals that are used to produce it.

What Does It Look Like? Often referred to as “meth,” methamphetamine can be a white powder that easily dissolves in water. Another form of the drug, in clear chunky crystals, is called “crystal meth” or “ice.” The drug can also come in the form of small, brightly colored tablets known by the name “yaba.” Methamphetamine abusers inject, snort, smoke, or swallow the drug.

Wide Devastation: Few substances are as harmful as methamphetamine. From the ravages facing abusers whose bodies, brains, and actions become altered, to burns, explosions, and toxic spills resulting from the chemicals used to produce methamphetamine, this is one dangerous drug. According to Dr. Nora D. Volkow, director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), methamphetamine is “a stimulant drug that can have devastating medical, psychiatric, and social consequences.” Partly because of the spread of methamphetamine across the country, NIDA has stepped up its research relating to the drug. Scientists are working to understand how the drug affects abusers and how best to treat people suffering from the disease of methamphetamine addiction.

Manufacturing: 1 lb of methamphetamine = 5 lbs of toxic waste. A “meth lab” is an illegal site where the drug is manufactured. Meth labs have been found in garages, kitchens, vehicles, hotel and motel rooms, storage lockers, campgrounds, abandoned dumps, restrooms, and mobile homes. Children who grow up in places where methamphetamine is manufactured are at risk for acid burns and respiratory problems from exposure to toxic chemicals. Toxic contamination remains behind from the manufacturing process on surfaces in the meth lab itself, including furniture, curtains, bedspreads, flooring, air vents, eating surfaces, and walls. Leftover chemicals and by-product sludge from methamphetamine manufacture have been found along highways, in parks and forests, in the ground and groundwater, and in sewer systems.

How is Methamphetamine harmful? Scientists know that methamphetamine can change the structure of a person’s brain; it can change behavior; and it can even change feelings and emotions—effects that can last a long time. It can also cause people to do risky, disastrous things—things they’d never do if they weren’t under the influence of the drug. Methamphetamine abusers can experience a wide range of potentially devastating effects for themselves—and others. Blood vessels constricting in the mouth weaken the teeth leading to tooth decay. Also violent behavior as well as anxiety, depression, confusion, insomnia, paranoia, auditory hallucinations, and delusions plus a very fast aging of the body. Long-term methamphetamine abuse is associated with a reduction in dopamine transporters in the brain, and that this damage appears to be linked to impaired motor skills and memory. Methamphetamine may suppress the Immune System’s Killer T cells, a type of white blood cell that fights off germs. Research has shown that methamphetamine users are twice as likely as nonusers to contract HIV if exposed to it.

Is Just One Use Safe? The answer is NO. In animal studies, even a single high dose of methamphetamine can damage nerve terminals in dopamine-containing regions of the brain. In humans, a big dose can raise your body temperature so high that your life can be in danger—it can lead to convulsions and coma. Also, says Dr. Volkow, a single dose

of methamphetamine can cause “irreversible stroke-producing damage to small blood vessels in the brain.” **Smart Choice:** All in all, for the sake of your brain cells, your immune cells, and all your other cells—as well as for the sake of your family, neighbors, children, and the environment—the smart choice is never to try methamphetamine. **Not even once.**

The material and facts of the above were extracted from an article in the “Scholastic Choices” October 2005 magazine, VOL. 21/NO. 2 The magazine also listed www.findtreatment.samhsa.gov or call the national hotline at 1-800-662-HELP.

Also “DAP245 – Methamphetamine, It’s Everyone’s Problem” can be ordered thru your Elks Lodge, District or State drug awareness chairperson. This is a new and revised Grand Lodge free pamphlet which doesn’t show on the order forms distributed at the fall meeting. Please write in the DAP245 number when sending in the existing order form.

This article submitted by Dale S. Phillips, State Chairperson of the Indiana Elks Association Drug Awareness Program. 812-268-6022, Fax 812-268-6550 or E-mail dphillips@custom.net Additional information can be found at: www.elks.org/members web site and click on Drug Awareness program.

ELKS Care – ELKS Share

EAST DISTRICT DRUG AWARENESS

2nd Vice President, Jim Warren of #245 Muncie, and Joe Eakman, Drug Chairman for East District Lodge 209 of Anderson were CO- Chairs of a Drug awareness program at the Elwood High School in Elwood In. Elks Lodge 368 sponsored the program. 550 students were present for the assembly. Joe works for drug court in Madison County so was able to have persons who manage the program, also persons who are involved in the program. One participant told the assembly how in the last 6 months were the first sober breaths he had drawn since he was 15 and he was now 28. A young woman told the girls present that when she was finished with the program she had 2 kids to raise and the man had moved on. She told them to just say no to the boy friend because when they get what they want their not there for you. A film was made of the program and will be made available to the district. Lodge 209 Anderson has placed over 2500 coloring books in the public schools in the Anderson area, also the lodge is donating \$25.00 to each child whose mothers are in a home for battered woman and drug addicted for Christmas.

The children will be part of the lodges Christmas party. It proves that these lodges are more than lounge and dinning, but are showing a heart and real concern for their communities. The work of State Chairman Dale Phillips is to help open doors and he has done an excellent job of this, and wife Betty is active in her area, through the schools. They need the help of every lodge and every member to accomplish the work that we as Elks can do. Thanks again to Jim Warren and the Elwood Lodge for being their and being known for Charity and community activity. Elks Lodge 209 Anderson will be passing out more than 40 boxes of food and toys on the 24 of December as well as seeing that these children have a Merry Christmas. Gods Love to all.

Joe Eakman East District Drug Awareness Chairman

UP DATE ON MEL KEITH

Harry Olsen, Jerry Abram, Larry Shaver and I made a visit last Saturday to Past State Secretary, Mel Keith. Mel has moved back to Anderson and is living in his apartment alone. He seems in very good spirits. He is more or less confined to his apartment, mainly because of the cold weather. He is on oxygen much of the time and is on a couple of medications, lasix being one, to get the water out of his body.

Let's keep Mel in our thoughts and prayers

M Buck, PSP

ELKS BRING OLD GLORY TO MCCSC

Bloomington Elks 446 provided fifty class room flags and a 5x9 flag for the pole in front of the new Summit Elementary school. The lodge also donated another 150 flags to other schools in the Monroe County community school corp. at the cost of about \$1,500.00. Several members of the Elks lodge were present when the school raised the large flag for the first time. Doug Waltz a school official said it was great that everything was in place this fall when the school opened. He also stated it was great that the Elks had donated the flags and the school was able to use the money for other thing that was need at the school.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

To One and All

Larry & Candy Mercer
Under the Spreading Antlers
State Chairman