



# Under the Spreading Antlers

Indiana **Elks** State Newsletter

December 2007

From The State President

HELLO TO ALL OF THE GREAT ELKS OF INDIANA !!!

2008 is here and it is time to start planning for a successful year for all of the lodges. I urge the Exalted Rulers to give guidance to your successor. Be sure you select the Officer of The Year, Elk of the Year, and Citizen of The Year. Nothing is more encouraging for a hard worker then to know they are appreciated.

On November 7th Exalted Ruler Russ Williams of Frankfort lodge asked me to present National Foundation certificates to 3 Frankfort Lodge members in recognition of \$1,000.00 donations to the foundation. Frankfort is one of the leaders in the Nation in per capita donations. I urge all Lodges to make a special effort regarding National Foundation so we can reach the Grand Lodge per capita goal. So far we are only half way there.

On November 10th we were the guests of Bicknell Lodge #1421 in honor of the Veterans. There was a great turn-out and some VERY good food. Laquata and I enjoyed the skits put on by the Lodge members and appreciated the nice gifts.

On November 14th we were invited to Merrillville to see all of the completed renovations at the Star Plaza Hotel. This is the hotel were we had the fall convention. All I can say is it is beautiful. I understand that we will be back there for the fall convention in 2008.

On December 2nd I was asked to be the guest speaker for the Portland Lodge Memorial service. It was an honor and privilege to be part of the service.

November 8th and 9th we were invited to Louisville, Kentucky Lodge # 8. They had a special service in their old lodge building built in 1923 when they had 4000 members. Although they do not own the building now, the Louisville Historical Society has brought it back to its original beauty. The room where the service was held which was the lodge room when it was built had as many square feet as many of our smaller lodges. It was the first Elks function to be held in the building for almost 75 years.

We made it through Christmas and had a very quiet New Years Eve and are ready for the events planned and not planned for 2008.

The Elks Convention Committee is meeting with the French Lick Hotel convention people on Jan 12th. My guess is that this will be our last convention at the French Lick Hotel. They have just priced themselves above what we can afford. PSP Chuck Curtis has another site in mind that I am sure everyone will enjoy.

Another plug for National Foundation and Cancer Research - - The deadline for donations to be received for this fraternal year is March 31<sup>st</sup>, so donations MUST be mailed several days prior to that date to make sure you and your Lodge gets proper credit.

As I have said before, Laquata and I would be honored to visit your Lodge for a visit and meet more great Elks. Even just to stop by for a quick lunch or soft drink would be super! Also, don't forget that Ritual competition is just around the corner. If I can help your Lodge, or your District, just have your District Chairman give me a call.

Fraternally,

Jim Warren  
Indiana State President

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From the Grand Exalted Ruler: (some excerpts, thoughts and comments from the Grand Lodge Newsletter)

A new year has begun, and it is my hope that your lodges are well on the way to achievement of the goals set as the year began. There is still time to make one last push to get new members and to get current delinquent members current. Make a personal visit and ask them if there is a problem and stress your wishes that they remain a member.

Grand Lodge Membership committee stress the key to retention of members is involvement. Reversing the trend requires a commitment to involvement. Doing so will reduce the need to reinstate a member.

New members join for a number of reasons. They are excited and anxious to become involved. Each has a multitude of ideas, experience, and talents. It is the responsibility of every member of the lodge to make sure they have the opportunity to help with Elks programs, share their talents, and feel a part of the lodge.

Public Relations- activities and policies used to create public interest in a person, idea, product, institution, or business establishment. Why is it so hard to get new members and why can't we keep them? We need to read about events in newspapers, hear about them on the radio, and television. Publicity is, getting the word out, blowing our own horn, patting ourselves on the back. In today's society, it takes more than good food and bar to draw members. Men and women who invest the time and energy in belonging to an organization like the Elks care about the image and perception of their lodge. Everyone likes to have bragging rights about an organization that they are a member of, and it's our job to provide that pride.

Let's show everyone that Elks Care-Elks Share.

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### Message from the Indiana Elks Webmaster

In addition to posting the monthly state newsletter on the web page, I am now also posting the quarterly issues of the Grand Lodge Accident Prevention Newsletter. This is an excellent resource publication for everyone for Lodge insurance and safety-related information from Grand Lodge. Please review it regularly.

Larry Shaver – PSP  
Indiana Elks Webmaster

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### News from the Southeast District

Ho!Ho!Ho! Merry Christmas. Such a beautiful month, when people are friendlier to each other, old friends get back together, parties and good cheer. But as Elks we help those who are less fortunate, we bring joy and laughter to those in need. This thought and deed makes me proud to be an Elk.

Columbus #521 held their annual Tom& Jerry Party, great time for all who attended. Plus Santa will be at their Lodge for all the kids big and small or young and old.

Connersville #379 looked beautiful for the Ladies Christmas party and the decorations added a great touch for the Children's Christmas party as well.

Jeffersonville #362 had breakfast with Santa on the 2nd and 9th, pictures were taken for all the children.

Madison#524 came up with a magnificent idea of an Angel Tree, gifts for fifty plus children in the community. Every child deserves a special gift from Santa, Great idea.

New Albany#270 made Christmas special for over a hundred children on the 1st and 8th with their Clothe-a-Child. After shopping at the New Albany Wal-Mart the children and families had breakfast with Santa back at the Lodge. New Albany has made their Clothe-A-Child into a major event for the community. Congratulations.

Rushville #1307 also held their Clothe-a-Child, making many children happy for Christmas.

Seymour #462 celebrated being completely out of debt and money in the bank with a "mortgage burning" party attended by 119 people. Now they are searching for a new Lodge building. Good luck. Plus they are working hard at supporting the various Elk's programs.

Merry Christmas,  
John Sauer  
State Vice President

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## NEWS FROM THE NORTHEAST DISTRICT

The Bluffton Elks Lodge had my old classmate, Jim Reams, do a magic show for our kids Christmas party. Jim was good I told him I was the top Elk and he said I should look the part so he turned me into a Elk then left. My granddaughter ask Santa to help turn me back, but Santa said I would have to wait till Christmas and see if I was good. Good thing I got a sunroof in my car.



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## NEWS FROM THE SOUTHWEST DISTRICT

Happy New Year Everyone! The start of a new year brings many hopes and dreams of great things for all. We at Bicknell wish you the best. Our Dec was quite busy starting with the Memorial Service remembering 14 members of our Lodge.

We held our local Hoop Shoot and had a triple shoot off. Winners will be presented balls and certificates and pictures on Jan 5<sup>th</sup> at high school basketball game.

We held our Children's Christmas Party on the 16<sup>th</sup> and Santa was there. We held a members and spouses party on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and a New Years Eve party the 31<sup>st</sup>.

In January we are looking forward to hosting the SW District Hoop Shoot on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

Vincennes Lodge #291 held their Memorial Service conducted by PER's. Their Charity event was very successful with over \$4400 being raised. This is to be used for Scholarships and Cancer Research.

Boonville #1180 had a dinner for the National Foundation and raised over \$500. They continue to have dart tourneys for members. The Ladies held a Breakfast with Santa that was a big success.

Bedford #826 held its Memorial Service for 16 departed members. It was very well done. We had Christmas with Santa, with Drema Nail and Nicol Meister responsible for the food. We also had a Tom & Jerry party with food donated by members. Thanks to all who brought food and a good time was had by all.

Upcoming events are Lodge meetings 3 and 17<sup>th</sup>, Lady Elks meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup>, and open bingo every Tuesday evening.

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### NEWS FROM THE CENTRAL DISTRICT

Kokomo #190 has been working very hard to keep everyone involved with their lodge. They also had their Memorial Service in Dec and received word from Cody, (in Iraq) that he received his Christmas packages and was delighted.

They continue with Euchre contests once a month, and are planning a PER dinner on Jan 19<sup>th</sup>.

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### NEWS FROM THE NORTHWEST DISTRICT

Highland Lodge #981 has been a very busy place. It held a Vegas Night the last of November and had fantastic results.

They held their Memorial Service and it was the best turn out in a long time. Many thanks to all who helped in both events.

The Christmas decorating by Lodge members and ladies made a real difference. Three trees were put up and decorated.

They also held a Texas Hold 'Em tournament and have plans for another in January.

They had a Tom & Jerry Christmas party with DJ and food, and a Children's Party with wrapped gifts, milk, donuts, cookies, and coffee. Thanks to all who helped in any way, it was hard work but really worth it.

Upcoming events in January, are another Texas Hold 'Em, Hoop Shoot, and a National Foundation Chili supper.

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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 <mailto:smkix@avenuebroadband.com>

**PLEASE NOTE: THIS IS A NEW EMAIL ADDRESS FOR SARA !!!**

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