



Under the Spreading Antlers

Indiana **Elks** State Newsletter

From the State President

GREETINGS TO ALL OF MY ELK FRIENDS

By now all of the lodges have had the elections of Officers. I know that in many cases some positions will be held by the same Officers as the past year. The important thing is to dedicate yourself and do a good job that you can be proud of. Do a job that you can reflect back years from now with pride of a job well done. Do not hesitate to ask for help or to get answers to questions. It is much better to do the job the right way to start with than to find out it did not comply with statutes. There is a lot of help available that can point you in the right direction. Every Officer should have a current statute book to refer to before making decisions. Keep up to date on the gaming and ABC laws and follow them. Select your committees based on ability rather than friendship. Appoint people that are respected by the lodge members as well as the District. If you see that someone appointed is not going to do a good job for you replace them. In addition give thanks and praise to the ones doing a good job. It is a business decision you would make if it was your own business. Make sure your team of Officers are pulling in the same direction and you will have a great year.

I have been busy helping coach some ritual teams. Some of the teams have competed and some have won in their District. Now we will work to get them ready for the State contest at French Lick. As most of you know I love the ritual and will go anywhere to help a team. I hope we can get more teams interested in learning the ritual. It just takes a little time to learn the part. Having an experienced ritual person help the team will prove that it is not as hard as some think it is.

February 16th Laquata and I attended the Union City annual cancer dance and auction. The lodge had a sign made welcoming us and all of the committee signed it. They gave Laquata a dozen beautiful roses and most of all great hospitality. I am not sure of the exact amount of money raised but it was over \$12,000.00. Union City always does an outstanding job for Cancer Research and National Foundation. They keep the amount of money they are donating a secret until the last minute but their per capita for both is always among the leaders.

Speaking of National Foundation the deadline of March 31st for donations to count is very close. If you have money that has not been sent do not delay. I am happy to report that 75% of the lodges have met the Grand Exalted Rulers \$4.25 per capita goal. My thanks to all of the lodges that have donated.

This years State Hoop Shoot was a blast. The Friday night reception and check in for the shooters and families was held at the Basketball Hall Of Fame in New Castle. If you love Hoosier basketball be sure and see it. The contest was held Saturday morning at the New Castle field house which happens to be the largest high school field house in the United States. Parents and shooters could not get over the size. After the contest everyone drove to Knightstown for the awards banquet held in the gym where the movie Hoosiers was filmed. You could feel the history of the gym just walking through the door. Everyone enjoyed the day. A special thanks to the State Hoop Shoot Director Tim Beissel and his Assistant Director Gary Hedrick for a great job.

March is a busy month and as I write this February newsletter I am already into the March activities that I will report on next month. Until then be proud to be an Elk. Spread the word of the wonderful things the Elks are doing for Veterans, Drug Awareness, Scholarships, Hoop Shoot, Soccer, and all of the other charities we support. Keep in mind that through the National Foundation there is an Emergency Educational Grant available to children of deceased or totally disabled Elks. DO YOU BELONG TO NATIONAL FOUNDATION? IF NOT YOU SHOULD. LAST YEAR NATIONAL FOUNDATION SENT BACK \$1.72 TO INDIANA FOR EVERY DOLLAR INDIANA ELKS DONATED. PLEASE SUPPORT THE FOUNDATION AND ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO DO THE SAME.

Fraternally,

Jim Warren
Indiana State President

News from the Southeast District

Elections!! This is the month we look at who will lead your Lodge and in turn provide leadership for the District and State. We should take Lodge Officer selection seriously, not just stick someone in to fill a chair. Each Lodge has many good people who will serve, just ask them.

Columbus #521 served a very special Valentine Dinner - lobster tails. Great idea for all Lodges. Give your members something different, at a very reasonable price as well.

Connersville #379 continues to offer their membership many reasons to visit the Lodge and stay active. They had a great "Beat the Mid-Winter Blahs' Party."

Jeffersonville #362 held their annual Valentine's Day Dinner. They do a great job at serving a lot of people. Then on the 24th they are hosting a play. This is great theater in the round. Something more Lodges might consider.

I tip my hat to Madison #524 as they were the only Lodge in the District to remember February 16, 1868 as the founding of our Order. Honoring and remembering the past helps us to build a strong present and plan for the future. Also they are reminding us to celebrate National Patriotism Week, February 16-22. They are also planning a big Lent Fish fry on Friday the 22nd.

New Albany #270 hosted their annual Super Bowl Party, everyone brought their favorite dish to share. They are planning a fun trip to Belterra. They are always offering special events for their members, plus the sharing by their members to each other warms my heart.

Rushville #1307 Sports Saturdays are a blast. Harry Smith, Chuck Gray and myself stopped in and really enjoyed ourselves. Homemade chili and camaraderie made for a great afternoon. They work hard for Elkdom, but they play equally as hard.

Fraternally,

John W. Sauer

State Vice President

NEWS FROM THE CENTRAL DISTRICT

PER Robert "Bob" Montgomery of Martinsville Lodge #1349 passed away on Feb. 22, 2008 at his home of Cancer. He was Exalted Ruler in 1992-1992 and 1992-1993. His wife Kathy and two children, son John and daughter Sarah and three grandchildren survive him. His last grandson was born on February 8, 2008. Services were held at Carlisle and Son Funeral Chapel in Mooresville on Feb. 26, 2008.

NEWS FROM THE SOUTHWEST DISTRICT

As the Lodge year end gets closer, everyone rushes to get those last minute programs done, and turn in the reports and forms for contests. This is a very unique time as you put everything in order for scrapbooks, All-American Lodges, Youth Activity programs, Memorial Services, PER Night, and most important nominations and election of Officers for the next year.

It is amazing how much you and your Lodge have accomplished in one years time. Time goes by so fast; it's hard to keep up with everything.

This past month at Bicknell started with a Super Bowl party. It also featured some really wonderful food, thank you members, and ladies. The traveling bowling league participated in the State Bowling Tournament at Anderson. Our younger (as verses the old-timers) bowlers are catching on to what a good time we have when we go to tournaments.



Our first Feb Lodge meeting, we balloted on six new members. We had some snow closing problems and had to set a policy on how to handle it concerning serving food when things canceled on account of snow.

Bicknell started a new tradition with the first Corn Hole/Corn Toss tournament. We had a carry-in buffet and you can't believe all the food that was available. As for the contest, we had four courts set up and after a blind draw, 19 couples competed. Some of the ladies wore cowboy hats, and had very, very short hair or no hair, and needed a shave. But in their skirts they were very cute. It was a tremendous amount of fun and trophies were given for 3 places. This was so much fun and with all the bragging, we'll probably have twice as many next time.



The final Feb Lodge meeting was PER Night and 7 new members were initiated. We are looking forward to hosting the District meeting on March 8th for a 9:00 am breakfast and meeting at 10:00 am.



Vincennes #291 ER Mike Hills thanked his membership for the privilege of serving and also thanked 4 members and officers for advising him on leadership in the organization and he gained a lot of respect for those who served before him. They also had a PER Dinner, a Valentines Dance and dinner, and hosted the life members with cocktails and dinner.

Bedford #826 nominated and elected 2008-2009 officers. They celebrated Valentine's Day and the BPOE's 140 birthday. They have started a unique program that if you mention the Elk's as you have your oil changed at Bedford's Ford Quicklane and \$1.00 will be donated to the Lodge. Members keep those crankcases clean and help the Elks. They received 12 MVS scholarship applications (8 girls and 4 boys), and also 10 entries for the Americanism Essay contest. Way to go Bedford!

Boonville #1180 opened Feb with a Super bowl party. They also had a Fat Tuesday Mardi Gras feed. Bar-B-Que ribs were served for the Daytona 500 party along with carry-ins. Feb 23rd is the annual Cancer Auction and Spaghetti supper and the 29th is the Dart tourney.

FROM THE WEST DISTRICT

Greencastle #1077 invited all members on Feb 6th with the officers doing the cooking. Bingo is in need of help with calling and participation from members. Let's have a big push to get new members in these final months. Attend a meeting and see what you can do to help.

We're planning next month's dinner for a New Orleans style food. We had a Chili Bowl cook-off on Super Bowl Sunday, also a Valentines Dance on the 16th. Karaoke is on the first Friday, and a spring golf outing is planned.

Sullivan #911 also held a Super Bowl party. We had our PER Night on Feb 11th. On Saturday the 23rd we held our Annual Shrimp Peel. For those who don't like to peel shrimp, we had marinated chicken breasts.

FROM THE NORTHEAST

Bluffton #796 had nomination of new officers and have formed an entertainment committee to plan activities. We had a Bummies night for Cancer and raised over \$1000. We received over 200 Americanism Essays, which is fantastic!

Indiana Elks Association President Visits the Northeast District

Jim Warren, Indiana Elks Association State President, recently paid a visit to the Northeast District Elks and each of their seven Lodges. State President Warren was accompanied by the Northeast Districts 1st Vice-President; Don Schoeff, and his wife Ruth, of the Bluffton Elks Lodge #796, and Ed Dyer, the Northeast District Director from the Decatur Lodge #993. Beginning on Friday, January 25th State President Warren made a social visit to the Kendallville Lodge #1194. Jim was greeted by the officers and members of the Kendallville Lodge including Past District Deputy and current Exalted Ruler Jim Peipenbrok.

From there the group traveled to Columbia City Lodge #1417 to find a packed Lodge enjoying a pasta bar dinner. Jim was hosted by Columbia City Elks Exalted Ruler Phyllis Gates, and dignitaries included Past District Deputy's Jeff Mullendore and Scott Gates, as well as all of the Lodge officers.

After dinner, State President Warren then stopped by the Fort Wayne Lodge #155 to complete his evening.

Saturday brought Jim and his traveling companions to the Angola Lodge #2398. Angola Lodge Exalted Ruler, Ed Black, and his officers greeted Jim and had prepared a fine lunch for all.

From Angola, the group traveled to Auburn Lodge #1978 and was met by Exalted Ruler Netha LaLone, her officers and members, as well as Past State President, Bill Schaab. Snacks were provided as well as good fellowship.

Decatur Lodge #993 was the next stop on State Presidents Warren's agenda. A late afternoon visit with Exalted Ruler Kip Pancake, the officers and members of Decatur Lodge was enjoyed by all.

State President Warren's final stop of the Northeast District was for a charity dinner at the Bluffton Elks Lodge #796. Exalted Ruler John Barnes and his officers hosted their annual dinner for Cancer Research. During the evening's festivities the Bluffton Lodge ran a 50/50 drawing with the proceeds going to their Cancer fund. The lucky winner was, get this, our own State President Jim Warren!! Jim proceeded to announce that his winnings would go to the Elks National Foundation. Way to go Jim!!

All of the Lodges in the Northeast District would like to thank Jim for taking the time to visit with each of us, and learn what each Lodge is doing for their community. The Northeast District would also like to thank State President Warren for the time and effort he has shown in leading the Indiana Elks Association. Thank you Jim!!





Pictured Left to Right:

Front Row: **John Stanley, Brad Nelson, Bob McCoy, Mike Redman, Dwayne Wood.**

Second Row: **Jeff Mullendore, Dennis Grable, Scott Gates, Gary Zeigler.**

Third Row: **Phil Hyndman, Mike Myers, Robert Addison, Brian Hyndman, Mike Murphy.**

Article by: Scoop Newsflash

Photo by: Mully's Camera

Submitted by:

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Past Exalted Rulers Night at Columbia City Elks Lodge #1417

Recently the Columbia City Elks Lodge #1417 hosted a dinner in honor of their Past Exalted Rulers. The Exalted Ruler is the highest office that an Elk member can hold at the local Lodge. Following the dinner, the Past Exalted Rulers conducted an initiation of several new members into their Lodge. Although a member may have completed his year at the highest level, the Past Exalted Rulers often advise the current officers of the Elks with matters concerning the local Lodge.

FROM THE GRAND LODGE NEWSLETTER

Grand Exalted Ruler Louis Sulsberger wishes good luck and much success to the new officers in the next year. He asks each member to find a friend and ask him or her to join our organization and help in all the work of Elksdom.



Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks

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February 25, 2008

For Immediate Release

They Shoot, They Score!

Angola, IN to Host Elks "Hoop Shoot" Free Throw Great Lakes Regional Championship Saturday, March 15th, at Angola High School, 350 S. John McBride Avenue, Angola, IN 46703 at 8:30 A.M.

On March 15th, young free-throw shooters hailing from Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio will descend on Angola, Indiana to display their impressive skills as they compete in the regional championship of the Elks "Hoop Shoot" National Free Throw Contest. These net-stuffing boys and girls, who already have a local, district, and state championship under the belts of their warm-up suits, face their next challenge here in Angola.

With free-throw percentages that would make many in the NBA weep with envy, these talented youngsters have already proven themselves to be the standouts in a competition that started last fall with more than 3-million participants, ages 8 to 13. Now as the top free-throw shooters from three states gather at Angola High School, at 8:30 A.M. they will continue to make news as they take all their hard work, talent, and concentration to the line. At stake is a chance to advance to the national finals, where just 72-participants will compete April 24-27, 2008 at the birthplace of basketball, Springfield, Massachusetts.

Now in its 36th year, the Elks "Hoop Shoot" National Free Throw Contest, sponsored by the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, has grown into the largest co-educational sports program in the country, allowing boys and girls to compete separately in three age-groups, 8-9, 10-11, and 12-13. Each contest consists of 25 free throws --10 in round one, 15 in round two -- with ties being resolved in 5-shot shoot-offs. The six regional winners from the competition at Angola will have a chance to stake their claim to one of six coveted spots on the Elks "Hoop Shoot" plaque in the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame alongside the likes of past Elks "Hoop Shoot" champs and sports luminaries as Indiana Pacer Chris Mullin, former North Carolina State star Jennifer Howard, and former Chicago White Sox third-baseman Chris Snopce.

The Elks "Hoop Shoot" National Free Throw Contest is entirely funded by the Elks National Foundation, the charitable arm of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Last year, the Foundation disbursed more than \$13-million in support of youth programs, Veterans' services, drug education programs, college scholarships, and aid to people with disabilities. The

Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America is a patriotic and philanthropic fraternal organization with nearly 1-million members in more than 2,100 communities.

Between March 14 – March 16, Don Fassnacht can be contacted at (765) 414-1321(c) or Potawatomi INN in Angola, IN at (877) 768-2928

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Lucky Bucks Calendar Winners for 2008

January 2008

NAME	CITY & STATE	LODGE	CALENDAR NUMBER	AMOUNT
Kevin Harris	Alexandria, IN	Alexandria #478	5438	100.00
John & Sheryl Davis	Elwood, IN	Elwood #368	3844	100.00
Toni Wagner	Crown Point, IN	Hammond #485	1915	100.00
Robert Snedigar	New Castle, IN	New Castle #484	4728	100.00
Tony Clem	Indianapolis, IN	Indianapolis #13	1298	100.00
Steven Deckard	Indianapolis, IN	Martinsville #1349	7563	250.00
Mark Taylor	Fort Wayne, IN	Fort Wayne #155	5031	100.00
Michael Mounsey	Nashville, TN	Fort Wayne #155	5034	100.00
Dan Flynn	Crown Point, IN	Hammond #485	5890	100.00
Rita Clark	Bicknell, IN	Bicknell #1421	1037	100.00
Kelli Korte	Fort Wayne, IN	Fort Wayne #155	7638	100.00

Thanks,
Bill Schaab, PSP - State Calendar Chairman

ELKS DRUG AWARENESS PROGRAM

Dale S. Phillips – State Chairperson

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- For more information call 812-268-6022, FAX 812-268-6550, E-mail dphillips@custom.net

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

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Also any comments to my attention at smkix@avenuebroadband.com