



## Under the Spreading Antlers

Indiana **Elks** State Newsletter

**From the State President January 2006**

# HAPPY NEW YEAR

State President's Newsletter

I hope that everyone has a great and joyous holiday season. With the holiday season behind us, I am sure you are renewed and refreshed ready to dedicate yourself to the great works of Elkdom.

For years Don Young has done a great job with the Elks Calendar Program. Don is moving to Florida. We owe Don a WELL DONE and hope he enjoys Florida. The new calendar chairman is Bill Schaab. Please advise your Lodges to send the \$13.00 and the registration for each calendar to Bill Schabb, 740 E Main Street, Auburn, In 46706-1224. Also remind them to send \$100 to their District Treasurer and that the remaining \$6.00 is their Lodges.

Donations for the National Foundation should be sent in by mid-March for credit this Lodge year. Our donations are in direct portion to our return.

The State Hoop Shoot will be coming up at the end of February in Lebanon. Please take time to enjoy the event for our youth.

E. I. and I had the pleasure of visiting Indianapolis # 13 and Noblesville # 576 for their Christmas parties. Hartford City hosted a roast for Don Young and Cheryl as they

prepare to move to Florida. Some old memories and experiences were brought back to life. Good Luck Don.

Anderson will be hosting a State Officers Night on January 21, 2006. Please put this on your social event calendar.

The Directors and Officers meeting will be held on Saturday January 28, 2006 at Lebanon. All State Officers and any interested members should be in attendance.

Union City #1534 will be hosting their annual cancer fund raiser on February 4<sup>th</sup>.

The dates for the District Conventions Tri State Southwest, West and Central March 3 /5 Northwest March 10/12 Northeast-- North Central March 17/19 and Southeast-- East March 24/26 (State Directory is wrong on this one it is in March)

Over the years we have discussed the State Newsletter. Larry has been doing a great job with the information he gets in but it is hard to do with no input from the officers, committeemen and Lodges. Come on people send Larry the information, I know it is out there.

For those who have over the years made contact with me thought my work phone number, PLEASE be advised that I have retired as of 12/31/2005. So please contact me at home (317-392-1894) on my cell phone (317-604-8668) or e-mail.

Plans have been finalized to hold the State Convention at the Lakeview Holiday Inn in Clarksville, In. Also the State Ritual Contest will be held at the same location at the same time. Additional information will be forth coming.

Harry E Smith  
State President

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Everyone - -

I just emailed an article to Larry Mercer for the January 2006 newsletter. With just a few exceptions, if it weren't for President Harry, Dale Phillips, and myself, there wouldn't be a newsletter. We are the only three that have consistently submitted articles for the monthly electronic newsletter this past year.

How about it, State Chairmen?

How about it, State Officers?

Get some articles in to Mercer. They don't have to be lengthy. Tell us what's happening in your Districts, or with your program. Anything you think might be of interest. Got a

new fundraiser? Tell us about it. Share!

And don't forget to regularly check the Indiana page on the Grand Lodge web site.

Larry Shaver, PSP

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### Loss Control / Loss Prevention

#### Important Notice

**Beginning December 2005 the Order has begun a transition to make a change in the service agent from Marsh, Inc. to Aon. The transition period will be conducted from December 2005 through April 2006. Appropriate notices of changes will be provided to all Lodges where required.**

### **Mandatory Participation in the Grand Lodge Insurance Programs**

Recently there have been some Lodges inquiring about purchasing their Lodge property insurance or general liability insurance through local agents. This is not allowed. A Lodge can lose its charter if it does not participate in both the Grand Lodge Property Plus Program and the Grand Lodge Liability Insurance Program. Mandatory participation is required as stated in the Statutes of the Order (4.232).

### **Prisoners / Community Service / Student Interns**

**“Free labor“ sounds like a good way to save the Lodge money, and there are now numerous programs available from various local or state governmental agencies or schools that would provide that “free” labor. In reality, however, the use of this type of labor can become costly to the Lodge, in the form of a claim, unless the Lodge is indemnified by the prison, state, or school (which in most cases they probably will not do). There is a legal difference between a Lodge member volunteering for a work detail and a person “assigned” to perform work at the Lodge. The best procedure is to pay for labor or seek other volunteers.**

And speaking of work details, when repairs are needed and maintenance is done, make sure it is done in a safe manner and done correctly. Too many times, members with good intentions attempt such work, but it results in a hazard or work that worsens the condition and makes a further correction more expensive. Use common sense.

### **Copyright Infringement**

In preparing your Lodge newsletter, or in other communications, if you use images, photographs, paintings, cartoons or other artwork that are copyrighted, be sure you have permission from the originator to reproduce and use the image. Failure to do so could result in a sizeable financial lawsuit against the Lodge.

Larry Shaver – PSP  
State Insurance Chairman

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## **FATAL FUMES: THE DANGERS OF INHALANTS**

Kids are putting their lives at risk by huffing toxic chemicals. “Eighth grade was the first time I used inhalants – I was at school. I was 13, maybe 14 years old. I sniffed rubber cement, markers, and gasoline (at home). I didn’t think it was dangerous at all. I thought it was not nearly as bad as using drugs because everybody else was doing it. It can’t be that bad – the stuff is just lying around the classroom or the house – so I thought. It’s not like I was getting something from a drug dealer.” \* Courtney, 17, currently in treatment for abusing inhalants and drugs. (Courtney asked that her last name not be revealed) This person became addicted to inhalants and is undergoing treatment. Inhalant abuse – huffing, sniffing, or bagging, as it’s sometimes called – is more damaging than many people realize. And inhalant abuse among young teens has risen over the last two year. This is a middle school problem a 2003 University of Michigan survey reports. The survey reports that one out of four kids in grades six through eight said that they had intentionally huffed inhalants to try to get high. Inhalants cause problems for the brain, nerve, and organ damage. People can even die from abusing inhalants. A teenager nearly died from huffing an aerosol cleaner and wound up having brain damage and seizures. Inhalants are not drugs. Most are poisons, toxic chemicals found in glue, paint, gasoline, solvents such as paint thinner, aerosol sprays, and hundreds of other household products.

Solvents, for example, break down fat molecules. These chemicals also eat away at the myelin sheath that insulates the body’s nerves. Thus, memory loss or loss of coordination can happen and it may be permanent. Sudden sniffing death is the most serious consequence of inhalant abuse. One study showed that 4 out of 10 people who died from abusing inhalants were huffing for the first time. These figures may be even higher because many inhalants go undetected in drug tests or during autopsies.

So why do kids mess with these toxic chemicals? Inhalants are accessible, cheap or easily stolen. Also, many abusers are unaware that they can become addicted to inhalants, or that they might be doing lasting damage to their bodies.

Some warning signs to look for: 1. Paint or oily stains on skin or clothing. 2. Chemical odors on his/her breath and clothing. 3. Constant red or runny nose. 4. Spots or sores around the mouth. 5. Dazed or glassy-eyed look. 6. Slurred speech. 7. Nausea or loss of appetite. 8. anger, excitability, or anxiety. If you think a friend is using inhalants, tell a trusted adult. Or call the National Inhalant Prevention Coalition’s hotline

at (800) 269-4237. You can also visit [www.inhalants.org](http://www.inhalants.org). \*\*Some of the material was taken from CHOICES magazine April/May 2005.

The Elks DAP 175 pamphlets "A Parents' Guide to Preventing Inhalant Abuse" – Available through your local Elks lodge goes into more detail on many of the above mentioned points. **Remember – It can kill suddenly, and it can kill those who sniff for the first time. There is no typical profile of an inhalant abuser. Victims are represented by both sexes and all socioeconomic groups throughout the U.S. It's not unusual to see elementary and middle-school age youths involved with inhalant abuse. How does a young person who abuses inhalants die? A 13 year-old was inhaling fumes from cleaning fluids. He died 24 hours after the incident. An 11 year-old boy collapsed in a public bathroom. A butane cigarette lighter fuel container and a plastic bag were found next to him. CPR failed to revive him. A 15 year-old boy was found unconscious in a backyard. According to three companions, the four teenagers had taken gas from a family's grill propane tank. They put the gas in a plastic bag and inhaled the gas to get high. The victim collapsed and died on the way to the hospital.**

**For additional information – contact your local Elks, District or State Drug Awareness chairperson. –Dale S. Phillips, State Drug Awareness chair – E-mail [dphillips@custom.net](mailto:dphillips@custom.net) or 812-268-6022**

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## STATE CONVENTION UPDATE

Brother and Sister Elks

After about 2 months discussions, visitations of different sites the site for the 2006 Indiana Elks State Convention has been finalized. After Convention Chairman's recommendation to the Past State Presidents they have voted to without any no votes to have the convention at LAKEVIEW HOLIDAY INN IN Clarksville, In on I-65, 1 mile north of Ohio River. Why there you ask?

They have 350 rooms (ritual contest will be held during convention)

Ample meeting rooms

Banquet facilities

Easy access

Very important (price is right)

The only other facility looked at that had enough housing for all, meeting space was the Executive, IN in Evansville or a downtown hotel in Indianapolis and their are cost very high + parking cost.

Since I have the Email addressees Chairman, Mayo Sanders has requested I send this message to Elks throughout the state.

WE WILL HAVE A GREAT CONVENTION!

MILEAGE TO (BY Map Quest)

<b>French Lick</b>		<b>Clarksville</b>	
258 miles (4hrs 47 min)	<b>HIGHLAND</b>	264 miles 4 hrs 21 min	-26 mins
256 miles (5 hrs 24 min)	<b>SOUTH BEND</b>	257 miles 4 hrs 51 min	-33 mins
274 miles (5 hrs)	<b>ANGOLA</b>	274 miles 4 hrs 26 mins	-34 mins

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The Big Bucks Calendars

The Bluffton Elks 796 presented the Bluffton police department the Indiana Elks State 2006 Lucky Bucks Calendar. The Elks Calendar Has picture of activities from Elks Lodges through out Indiana. There are a number of pictures of the Bluffton Elk activities.. Bluffton Elks John Barnes is holding the Calendar open to a picture Of the Bluffton Police Honor Guard changing the Court House Flag at The Elks Flag Day program. Members of the Honor Guard are pictured With John accepting the calendar. The Elks calendar can be purchased at the Bluffton Elks. The Elks calendars Are a fundraiser for the Elks Charities that give you a chance for cash prizes?

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**A Letter to the Editor, the Anderson Herald Bulletin.**

Thanks for the donations

Christmas is a time of caring and sharing. Caring for those around us and sharing of ourselves by giving to others in need. I would like to thank Richard Dunn and Anderson Elks 209 for their generous monetary donation. With it, we were able to purchase cards to assist persons with their ambulance bills. Ambulance cards, which are valid for a calendar year, can be purchased for \$25 each and are good for one ambulance ride to the hospital. As always, all donations are greatly appreciated and Anderson Elks 209 should be commended for their contribution

Denny Jones, Captain  
Technical Services

Anderson Fire Dept.

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## **Hoop Shoot**

Hopefully your Lodge “Hoop Shoot” Contests are completed and your winners are getting excited about advancing to your District Contest. Please make sure that you fill out your Lodge winner’s registration cards completely, front and back, and send them to your District Director ASAP. Please keep your Lodge winners informed about the date, time, and location of your District Contest. If you have any questions regarding your District Contest, please contact your District “Hoop Shoot” Director. For your reference, listed are the District Directors:

Northwest District - Kevin Guilford - (219) 405-1603  
North Central District - Alan Stewart - (260) 563-1929  
Northeast District - Bill Zywicki - (260) 724-9221  
East District - Gary Hedrick - (765) 521-8611  
Central District - Dick Milam - (765) 482-2404  
West District - Jeff Franklin - (812) 847-9370  
Southeast District - Jim Erp - (812) 522-5242  
Southwest District - Wilbur England - (812) 336-7870

The winners of the District “Hoop Shoot” contests will advance to the Indiana State “Hoop Shoot” Contest. The Indiana State “Hoop Shoot” Contest will take place in Lebanon, Indiana at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, February 25, 2006 at the Lebanon Middle School. If you have any concerns regarding your District Contest or any questions regarding the State Contest, please feel free to contact me at anytime. I can be reached at (219) 531-8611. I hope your holidays were enjoyable.

Go Indiana!!!!

Tim Beissel  
State “Hoop Shoot” Director

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## **Christmas Party**

The Bluffton Elks visited the Maplewood Home Sun 12/18 for a Christmas party for residents of the home. Elk’s members, Eks family members, and friends. Elks made it a Special day with Christmas presents for all, treats, Christmas carols, and friendship.

Bluffton Elks 796  
John Barnes

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## ELKS HELPING OTHERS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Bloomington Elks 446 do their clothe - a - child program again this year. The Elks and Bloomington Target store joined together to help a lot of children and their parents though the annual event. 52 children in 21 families each child picked out an average of \$100.00 worth of clothes. Especially touching none of the children went for toys they all went for clothes. This was an effort has a long history of 50 years money raised each year buys clothes and each family received a large turkey and a bag of potatoes.

Alexandria Elks 478 again this year helped 50 families with food baskets that were delivered Christmas Eve morning. Their were 106 children in those families each child received pants, shirt, shoes or jacket. Blankets and pillows and toys were also given. The lodge members donate the money for the food and an auction was held to raise the money for the clothes. Total donation of over \$6,000.00 was given again this year.

Elks CARE - Elks SHARE

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## REMEMBER TO SELL THE 2006 BIG BUCKS CALENDARS

The new State Calendar Chairman is:

**Bill Schaab, PSP**

**Please send the cards and money to:**

Bill Schaab, PSP  
107 E 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Auburn IN 46706-2335

**PLEASE FINALIZ CALENDAR SALES BY JANUARY 31<sup>st</sup> 2006**