



Under the Spreading Antlers

Indiana **Elks** State Newsletter

From the State President

I want to thank everyone for the confidence shown in me as the new State President. As I said at French Lick I promise to work hard to continue to earn that confidence.

The State Convention was great. French Lick is beautiful and everything worked out better than expected. The Convention committee headed by Chuck and Elaine Curtis did an outstanding job setting things up for all of us. Their team John and Margaret Ryan and Don and Carrie Fassnacht also worked hard to make it nice. A special thanks to all of them.

Laquata and I arrived at French Lick on Wednesday and did not seem to stop until we left Sunday. We were very happy to see all of our friends again. Friends that we feel are our second family.

I was proud of the nice ladies luncheon. The decorations and entertainment was great. There were so many that helped Laquata I am afraid I will leave someone out by trying to name them. She does once again want to give a big thank you to Sandy Chester and Margaret Ryan for the help in planning everything. There were many hours and days spent in advance of the convention by these two wonderful ladies helping her.

Congratulations to Greenfield Lodge on winning the Ritual contest. I am sure they will represent Indiana well at the National contest. Also to Rich Vereb for winning the toast contest.

The next thing on my agenda is the Miss Indiana and Miss Teen Indiana contest. Competition starts on June 20th in Zionsville and continues until June 23 when the winner is crowned. In case you are not aware of it the Elks give a small scholarship to the top 10 contestants.

After that we will be going to the National convention in Charlotte North Carolina. We are looking forward to once again seeing Indiana friends and friends we have made over the years from many other States.

I will have many memories of the past State convention just as I have from all of the others I have attended. It seems however each year there is something special to remember. This year it came from the meeting conducted by Past State President Joe Erp when he presented checks to the IU and Purdue cancer research centers. One of the Doctors pointed out how the Elk donations were used. He said that last year our donations were used as seed money to help get projects started and off the ground so they could be presented for grants. Last year the money donated by Elk members and lodges was responsible for getting 40 million dollars in grants for cancer research. That's 40 million they might not have had to fight cancer without your donations. I say - - "GREAT JOB INDIANA ELKS!" God Bless you.

In closing my first newsletter as President let me ask for some help from all of you in improving our position in National Foundation. Indiana is last in area 4 in per capita donations and 38th in the Nation. Indiana Elks are too great to be that far down. Put National Foundation on the front burner and get us off of the bottom. The per Capita goal this year is \$4.25. Start every new member in National Foundation even if the lodge pays the first year. Put a line on the dues notice for an optional donation to National Foundation as well as cancer. The lodges that have done this meet their per capita and more. The money returned to Indiana for our charitable work is based on donations. Last year we got back almost \$2.00 for every dollar donated. Because our per capita was low there were cuts in some of our charities such as Hoop Shoot and Scholarships. State Scholarship Chairman Lou Rowland had to award 4 fewer scholarships due to the cuts as an example.

I have tried to be an active Vice President and want to do the same as President. Over the years I have been to most of the lodges but I want to visit all 69 of them this year as President. Please put me on your newsletter mailing list. I will try to attend some of your lodge functions.

Fraternally,

Jim Warren

Message from the Indiana Elks Webmaster

I want to remind everyone to keep sending me details of Veteran's Memorial locations that are located in your vicinity. I'll be glad to add them into the county-by-county listing on the Indiana Elks web page.

Larry Shaver – PSP
Indiana Elks Webmaster

NEWS FROM THE NORTHEAST DISTRICT

The Bluffton Elks Officers attended IN. Elks State Convention June 7- 10. The Bluffton Elks Lodge was honored with 1st place in IN. Elks Americanism, and Public Relations contest. The Bluffton Elks Americanism Scrapbook received 1st place in scrapbook contest.

A certificate was given Bluffton Elks outstanding work in Drug Awareness.

Kevin Poling competed in the IN. Elks State 11 o'clock contest but fell short of 1st. place.

Announced at the Convention that Bluffton Elks Exalted Ruler John Barnes and Americanism Chairman has been chosen to participate as Flag escort for one of our Nation's Military Branches of Service in the Opening Day Ceremony of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elk's Grand Lodge Convention in Charlotte, North Carolina, on Sunday July 8th.

Thank You,
John Barnes ER

NEWS FROM THE CENTRAL DISTRICT

State Champion Greenfield Elks Ritual Team on the Move



The Indiana Elks State winning Ritual Team from the Greenfield Elks Lodge # 1720 traveled to Wabash to perform the Ritual of Initiation for the Wabash Elks Lodge # 471 on Monday June 25th. The team initiated five new members into the Order for the Wabash Lodge. The Greenfield team won the Indiana State Ritual Competition during the State Convention at French Lick in June and, in July, will be traveling to the Grand Lodge Convention in Charlotte NC where they will be competing for the National Title. After the initiation the Wabash Lodge presented The Greenfield Lodge a \$100.00 check to show their support for the State Winners!

The Greenfield Elks support local charities, youth activities, and other programs. The Indiana Elks Lodges have donated nearly 7 million dollars to the IU and PU cancer research facilities as the State Major Project. Nationally the Elks are one of the largest providers of scholarships in the nation awarding over \$3 million annually; they also support our Veterans, our Nation's youth, and rise to the occasion during natural disasters and other emergencies. For more information about the Elks go to www.elks.org or contact the Greenfield Elks.

NEWS FROM THE SOUTHEAST DISTRICT

Changing of the Guard.

We should all wish Jim Warren, our incoming State President much luck on his "Cruise for Elkdom". Plus a huge thanks to Tom and Fran McQueary for their leadership and friendship this past year.

French Lick was wonderful. Absolutely gorgeous building, as is West Baden. There was plenty to keep our members entertained during the convention.

Our Lodges put on their Flag Day Ceremonies, very stirring and patriotic. At the State Convention there was a flag retirement ceremony, very special to watch.

Seymour #462 presented a new flag to the city of Seymour and Governor Daniels made an appearance.

Columbus #521 put on their "Piggy Party" on the 16th; car show and band to go along with the pork loin dinner.

Connersville #379 is having a dinner and style show called "Strolling Through the Garden with the Ladies of the Elks"

Madison #524 continues to get their members involved, every Friday food is served, which is made and brought in by the members. Fantastic way to make everyone feel like they are part of the Lodge.

Rushville #1307 received an award at the State Convention for being #1 in the State for per capita donation to the National Foundation.

Jeffersonville #362 was #1 in the State for donations to cancer research and was awarded a plaque.

Enjoy the summer.

Fraternally,
John W. Sauer

NEWS FROM THE SOUTHWEST DISTRICT

ER Sara and Max Kixmiller and Secretary Ed and Cheryl Hagemeyer and DD Bob Willsey attended the State convention at French Lick. This was a great time in the new hotel and convention center and it is truly beautiful. Grand Exalted Ruler Arthur "Jack" Frost and wife Sharon were in attendance and spent quite a lot of time getting to know our state and local officers and the members and wives who are the backbone of our organization.

Bicknell lodge received several awards for the many programs we participate in. One of the best was for our Youth Activities Program. We were judged the best in the state of Indiana and will receive a plaque at the National Convention in Charlotte. It was stated this is the first time ever one lodge has won 2 years in a row. If you are in Bicknell lodge, be sure to check these out.



Bicknell held its first ever Flag Retirement ceremony under the portico with the Boy Scout Troop # 274 doing the honors. It was very impressive and a very good crowd attended. The guests and Boy Scouts then attended the Flag Day ritual in the dining room. Refreshments were served.

June 26th, we held a blood drive to help with the supply for the 4th of July weekend. We donated 37 productive units.

We have had Wedding receptions and class reunions scheduled all month and are looking forward to attending the National Convention in Charlotte.

Vincennes Lodge #291 had a golf scrambles on June 30th. This was held to fund the work o the frost-damaged fairways. ER Mike Hills and Lea Ann joined Don Kiefer and Jim Westfall at French Lick for the State convention. It was announced the restaurant upstairs at Vincennes is under new management. It is open and goes by the name of Carolina Cherry. Brent and Sherri Thacker are running it.

ELKS DRUG AWARENESS PROGRAM



2nd Drug Awareness Trailer is available and they are located in 2 parts of Indiana.

Contact --Dale S Phillips-- at e-mail dphillips@custom.net

Dale S. Phillips – State Chairperson

- For more information call 812-268-6022, FAX 812-268-6550, E-mail dphillips@custom.net
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Lucky Bucks Calendar Winners
May 2007

NAME	CITY & STATE	LODGE	CALENDAR NUMBER	AMOUNT
Tonya Walden	Kokomo, IN	Kokomo #190	6609	100.00
Hester E. Lubbehusen	Dale, IN	Boonville #1180	3053	100.00
William D. Anderson	Fort Wayne, IN	Fort Wayne #155	1494	250.00
Kent K. Thompson	Bluffton, IN	Bluffton #796	3186	100.00
Ernest & Sandra Bakajza	Whiting, IN	Whiting #1273	5628	100.00
Betty Ann Danik	South Bend, IN	South Bend #235	6995	100.00
Ann Barclay	Boonville, IN	Boonville #1180	3039	100.00
Dennis Owen	Lafayette, IN	Lafayette #143	5704	100.00
Rodell Rickerd	Fremont, IN	Angola #2398	1025	100.00
Larry Shannon	Anderson, IN	Greenfield #1720	3952	100.00

Thanks,
Bill Schaab, PSP
State Calendar Chairman

CHARITY GAMING UPDATE

Following is an update on Charity Gaming regulations that will affect organizations qualified to hold Charity Gaming Licenses (yes, the Elks are qualified).

Number one, until you obtain the proper licenses, which I will discuss later, I suggest that you suspend gambling activities such as daily, weekly, and monthly drawings as well as Texas Hold'em and other games not being held under a proper license until you obtain the proper license. This may take 2 to 4 months. The applications will not be available (on line) until July 1. Please err on the side of squeaky clean until all of the new situations shake out. Remember, many penalties under the old rules were of the slap on the hand variety, new penalties as of July 1 include revocation of your liquor permit, retail merchant certificate, charity gaming license, and/or tobacco permit as well as associated felony penalties.

Important: The Gaming Commission realizes that they have basically overlooked many of these illegal activities in the past but in the spirit of the new law, they will be citing the aforementioned activities.

A new annual charity gaming license will allow you to conduct “dice, wheel, and card” games 3 nights per week. Also, you can apply for an annual raffle license that will allow drawings 3 nights per week. The earliest these applications will be available is Monday July 2 (they should be online at <http://www.in.gov/gaming/charity/>).

You cannot operate under more than one license per day. Here is one scenario I believe will be possible: use your annual charity gaming license to hold Texas Hold'em one night per week and use your raffle license to hold your drawings the other two days. Daily drawings will not be legal. Also if you are doing bingo, those days will count against your three days.

It will be a felony to even own a cherry master type machine. I cannot imagine any circumstance under which you would have them on your property.

Please believe that I feel a burden upon my shoulders to provide you with the proper information you need to legally run your business. Some rules are still being interpreted. I will do my best to provide you with the best info available. Larry Litsey <mailto:llitsey@verizon.net>

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:mkixmiller@charter.net>