



Under the Spreading Antlers

Indiana **Elks** State Newsletter

MARCH - 2008

From the State President

TO THE BEST PEOPLE ON EARTH

I am very pleased to report that thanks to you great ELKS that we have surpassed the Grand Exalted Rulers goal of \$4.25 per capita with a 132.650 %. 6 of the 8 Districts exceeded the goal and 1 district came within 10 cents per member reaching the goal. Special thanks to the West District that more than doubled the goal with \$10.588 per capita. Another special thanks goes to Dale and Betty Phillips for a \$15,000.00 donation. I might add this is the second such donation in the past two years. Dale and Betty you are special.

Laquata and I attended all but one of the District Conventions. The West District and the Northwest was on the same day. Since we had already visited many of the lodges in the West District we went to Michigan City for the State Officers night. We enjoyed all of the conventions and appreciated the great hospitality and gifts. I attended all of the District meetings and was proud of the great things the Indiana Elks are doing. I shared some of my knowledge and experiences and I hope the members liked what I had to say. If I left them with the knowledge of how much I love and respect the Elks I am happy.

Marion Elks sent out invitations to the members of the local Chamber Of Commerce inviting them to look over the facility and I gave a short seminar on Elkdom. I found that few of them really understood what the Elks stand for. I thought this was a good idea since the members of the Chamber Of Commerce are the pillars of the community. I know they had some sign up for memberships that night and I hope others did later. This might be a good idea for membership for other lodges.

I had the honor to install the new Officers for Greenfield Lodge on March the 19th and Lebanon lodge on the 22nd. I look for both of these lodges to have a great year based on the quality of Officers installed.

The State Convention at French Lick will be here soon. As has been explained this will be our last year at French Lick or until they lower their prices. If you have not been there since the renovation of the two hotels you may never get the chance to see them at the prices our last contract provides for.

Chuck Curtis has found another great facility for the next 3 years at an affordable rate and we understand that we can have our hospitality rooms like we have had in the past. It will be at the Sheraton Hotel at Keystone at the Crossing in Indianapolis. Thanks Chuck for your hard work.

Now that we have met our goal for National Foundation lets not forget the donations to Cancer Research. These donations must be received by Joe Erp by April 30th. I urge everyone that attends the State

Convention to come to the cancer donation check presentation to the Indiana and Purdue Cancer Research Centers. There will be a guest speaker who is a cancer survivor that has been helped by research done with the Elk donations. Information will also be given to us by one of the research Doctors on advances in finding cures for cancer. That meeting is scheduled for 10 AM on Saturday June 7th. You will be happy you attended.

I have already been busy the first of April and will give a complete report in the next Presidents message.

BE PROUD TO BE AN ELK. WHEN YOU ARE DOWN THINK OF ALL THE POSITIVE THINGS THE ELKS ARE DOING THAT FAR OUTWEIGHS THE FEW NEGATIVES. THINK POSITIVE, BE POSITIVE AND POSITIVE THINGS WILL HAPPEN IN YOUR LIFE.

God Bless all of you,

Jim Warren
State President

From the Southwest District

Bicknell #1421 has been having a good crowd at Bingo's. Everyone is welcome. District Deputy and District Vice-President Dick Dunbar opened the SW District Breakfast meeting hosted by Bicknell on the 8th. We had guest Bob Jenson, Lafayette Lodge #143, Chair of the Veterans Commission, talk to us about the Parade of Nickels and other projects concerning the veterans. We also had guest Ed Dyer of Decatur Lodge #933. He is running for State Secretary and informed us of his background. This meeting was well attended with only Mt. Vernon being absent.

The North Knox Band held a Spaghetti dinner fundraiser and many great prizes were won as well as very good food.

On the 19th we held our NCAA Action fundraiser and raised over \$11,000. We wished everyone a Joyous Easter. We reminded everyone about the tub for personal care items for veterans, as well as model cars, books, music, or movies.

Our last meeting of the month, we initiated one new member and accepted one by demit.

ER Sara Kixmiller thanked everyone who had helped these past two years. Our new 2008-2009 Officers will be installed on April 5, after dinner and 50-year pins and awards will be given.

Bedford #826

ER Robert Nail thanked all who had contributed to an outstanding year. However, this lodge is like others, is suffering from not having enough members participate at dinners, lodge activities, at the bar and required events.

Therefore, it is necessary to rely on the additional funds from Bingo. If it weren't for these dedicated volunteers, we would be "up the creek without a paddle".

Finally, to the members who support and work all our functions, only through your active support and participation can we succeed as a lodge. Thank you for your continued support.

Vincennes #291

ER Mike Hills thanked everyone for the memories. We had a very good turnout as 20 of our 37 surviving PER's attended the dinner honoring them. They are working on planning events for spring and golf.

Princeton #634 ER Debbie Austill thanked everyone for his or her input and help during this past year. She wishes Good Luck to the next ER and hopes their year is as interesting as hers was.

She reminds everyone to volunteer time, energy, skills, and feelings. Whatever the reason, help support your lodge. She states she needs officers to fill the positions. Please step up and volunteer. They continue to collect items to send to the troops overseas. Any toiletries, reading material, games, snacks, and music are welcome.

From the West District

Linton #866 celebrated our Cancer Bingo when the weather was bad, but spirits were high on the inside. The event contributed over \$2300 for our Charities and is still receiving contributions.

We had a Couples/Casino night in March with special entertainment, and our Annual Shrimp Peel on Mar 11th. This is our major PER event. On Mar 29th we had our changing of Officers. A very interesting evening was planned as well as the ceremony.

ER Steve Malone thanked everyone for his or her support and help this past year.

From the Central District

Kokomo #190 ER Richard O Mason thanked everyone who helped him over the past year. He stated "I can truly say I'm proud to be an Elk and for all we stand for and the great work we do."

We had our Central District Spring meeting at Noblesville Lodge. The Annual "Monte Carlo" night was held on Mar 29th. This was a really fun evening.

Sandwiches are available at the lodge on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Mondays as well as the 3rd Thursday every month. Come and enjoy.

Installation of 2008-2009 Officers was held on Mar 24th. Visit our web page at: www.kokomoelkslodge190.org.

From the Northeast District

Bluffton #796 went to the Spring Convention and Ritual Contest. The new Officers were installed on Mar 22nd and take office on April 1st.

Our new newsletter editor will take over during April. Thank you for the help and support this past year. The Elks partnered with the Shriners to present the Shrine Circus to 324 third graders 109 teachers and helpers, 11 bus drivers and 3 Bluffton Elks members. This is a very worthwhile project, as some kids might not ever see a circus. Elks Care-Elks Share.

I went to Bluffton Middle School and presented certificates to all the students that sent essays in and the teacher sent pictures to paper. We picked 1st 2nd 3rd & 4th from each school then picked three from the two schools and sent to State contest. The story covered more than half back page this was cool. I haven't been to the other school yet. John B.

From the Southeast District

Connersville #379 ER Ed Cole and the lodge planned a Special Seafood Extravaganza for Good Friday. Thanks for all the help. The Hometown Deli will be having their fabulous buffet every Wednesday in Mar. We need your support at these buffets or they will be discontinued.

Our 10-year veteran bartender Tracy Whetstone, will be leaving us. We wish her well in her new job.

As with most all lodges, we need new blood in the offices and chairmen of committees. Please step up.

News from the Southeast District

March is a month full of transition and hope. The weather is improving slowly, the temperature is raising and everyone is becoming excited that Spring is arriving. Our Lodge officers are passing the baton. We are congratulating the exiting officers for a job well done with our many thanks for what they have given their Lodges. The incoming Exalted Rulers and officers are apprehensive about doing a good job, but very eager to guide their Lodges forward.

Congratulations to Ryan Cline (10-11 Boys) and Ashley Shepherd (12-13 Girls) for winning at the Regional Hoop Shoot. What a thrill going to the Nationals representing Indiana and their Lodges. The Noblesville and Ligonier Lodges' should be proud of these kids.

Many of the Lodges will have St. Patrick's Day meals and activities at their Lodges, such as Rushville and New Albany. Also Easter meals and such will be offered. Jeffersonville will also have the Easter bunny for pictures. Keep offering activities for your members. The more we can get them to use the Lodge facilities the more they will want to be a part of this grand organization.

Fraternally,

John W. Sauer

Lucky Bucks Calendar Winners for 2008
February 2008

NAME	CITY & STATE	LODGE	CALENDAR NUMBER	AMOUNT
Ed Martin	Eaton, IN	Dunkirk #1776	9638	100.00
Michael A. Smith	Chicago, IL	Hammond #485	9911	250.00
Mike & Trish Patmore	Lebanon, IN	Lebanon #635	8806	100.00
Dr. M. J. Deady	Terre Haute, IN	Terre Haute #86	4704	100.00
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Hade	Fort Wayne, IN	Fort Wayne #155	0180	100.00
Sarah McKee	Noblesville, IN	Noblesville #576	9835	100.00
Mike Seitz	Greendale, IN	Lawrenceburg 1836	9527	250.00
Marian Dahm	Crown Point, IN	Whiting #1273	6924	100.00
Henry E. Meyers	Connersville, IN	Connersville #379	9601	100.00
Ruth Jenks	Union City, OH	Union City #1534	0436	100.00
Wallace R. Parker	Greencastle, IN	Greencastle #1077	9503	100.00

Thanks,
Bill Schaab, PSP
State Calendar Chairman

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 smkix@avenuebroadband.com