



Under the Spreading Antlers

Indiana **Elks** State Newsletter

May, 2008

From the State President

My final message as President

To all of my treasured Elk friends. This message will complete my year as your State President. It has been a long 8 years in many ways but fleeting in other ways.

As I look back on the years and reflect on them all I can say is that I put my heart and sole into trying to be a good President. I could not have done it without the support of my Wife Laquata. I did the best job I could. I appreciate all of the kind words by many and I hope they are sincere. I will always look forward to seeing all of you at other meetings and Elk functions. Please keep me on your mailing list for newsletters. I do read every word in them and appreciate knowing how the lodges are doing.

Now I will give you a report on my activities for May 2008

I ended my last message with a report on the Drug Awareness program that the Elwood Lodge under the leadership of Lance Winings set up at the Elwood Schools. May 1st he took the program to another school in Elwood. To refresh your memory there are two Indiana State troopers that are members of Elwood Lodge. One of them is a K 9 Officer with a German Shepherd named Colt. These Officers gave a great "Say No To Drugs" lecture to the students and faculty. The message was not to let anyone talk them into trying drugs and that anyone that tried to was not their friend. They pointed out what the drugs did to the body and mind as well as making them make wrong decisions on how to get money to buy drugs. They told them that Drugs are not cool even if they see their friends and relatives using them. In addition they asked the kids not to be afraid of the police. They assured them they were there to protect them not to just make arrests. After the lecture they used Colt to demonstrate how he could sniff out drugs. One of the Officers put on a padded sleeve and acted as if to run when told to stop. The other Officer released Colt and the kids had a chance to see what the dog would do to catch the person trying to get away. This program was shown to over 1,000 students and the faculty of both schools. We hope and pray that it will make many of the kids stay off of drugs.

I went to Michigan on the 15th thru the 18th to judge the Michigan State Ritual contest as well as being the guest of the Michigan Elks for the State President exchange program. The Michigan President will be at the French Lick Convention in June.

As you know our Indiana State Major Project is cancer research. and all Indiana Elks have much to be proud of to be part of this great program. We have now passed the 7 million dollar mark in donations to Indiana and Purdue Universities Cancer Research Centers. God only knows how many lives may have been saved all over the world by the research done with the Elk donations.

I was contacted by the Elk National Magazine regarding them doing a special article in the Magazine on our project. Joe, Nancy Erp, Laquata and I met the writer for the magazine May 20th at the Indiana University Cancer Center and he interviewed many of the Staff and Doctors that explained the progress of the research. After lunch we traveled to the Purdue University Research Center and he interviewed the Staff and many of the Researchers and Doctors at that facility. Look for this article in the September or October Elks magazine issue. The writer said it would be the best article that has been in the magazine for a long time.

In addition to all of these travels I helped several Ritual Teams prepare for the State Ritual Contest. I hope some of them take home plaques after the contest is over.

I will sign off now and turn things over to the new State President Don Schoeff. I am sure Don will continue to carry the torch for the Elks and do a great job.

Fraternally,

Jim Warren
State President

Southeast District

Connersville #379

ER Ed Cole reminded all of their members of the great beginning of our Order and of the continuing care and commitment of all our Lodge Programs showing "Elks Care-Elks Share".

He again thanked everyone for helping to fill in when he couldn't be there. He would like for everyone to congratulate and thank the new officers, trustees, and committee chairs that stepped up to fill a position.

He also noted the Charity Fund drive is running behind last year, and also losing 15 members for non-payment of dues is a big hit on the lodge. So, please, if you have not paid your dues, do so now.

We had a super Charity brunch and all you had to do to get a ticket is make a donation to the Charity fund. It was the second year we substituted a brunch for a dance.

Speaking of Brunches, we had a wonderful menu for the Mother's Day Brunch. I hope everyone enjoyed it, as it takes all our members to make a successful lodge. Please come out and support our activities.

May is a fabulous month, so full of life. The flowers are blooming from a much warmer feeling sun.

The first Saturday in May is the Kentucky Derby. Many of our Lodges throw a big Derby Party.

New Albany, Columbus and Jeffersonville put on a great event, with food and sharing a good time together watching and wagering on the races.

Tragic circumstances this year with the filly Eight Belles going down. Even more so personally, as I had an opportunity of meeting the owners before the race.

The other major event of May is Mother's DAY. Every day we should show our Mother's we love and think of them. But it is nice when Lodge's such as Connersville, Columbus, Madison, New Albany and Jeffersonville put on a special Mother's Day Dinner for them.

Jeffersonville #362 is gearing up for their Golf Tournament on June 22nd to raise money for cancer research. New Albany #270 is preparing for their Clothe a Child Golf Tournament the 29th. Both Lodge's would appreciate you coming out to play or to be a hole sponsor.

Northwest

Highland #981

We started the month of May with a bang. New members were balloted upon, and increase in membership for the second year, and a reminder all dues were due April 1st. Please remit to the Lodge Secretary.

We have May Specials on drinks for each different night and also Sunday Specials. The Elks Ladies had a rummage sale and bake sale with all proceeds going to the Lodge. We had another Fish Fry Friday on the 23rd from 4:30-8:30, all you can eat for \$10. For the ones who don't eat fish, we had chicken tenders. Our Mother's Day program was held on the 22nd. Come out for our Pancake breakfast on June 1st from 9 am to 1 pm.

We are planning a "Blast From the Past" 50's & 60's party in June. There will be cars there from the 50's & 60's, as well as food, dancing, music, Elvis Impersonator, milk shakes, and all for \$12 a person.

Thanks to everyone for the volunteer help and please support our lodge activities.

West

Kokomo #190

Please welcome new members in our Lodge. Our goal this year will be retention of members and adding new ones.

Please visit our web site www.kokomoelkslodge190.org. Buck Sullivan has done a tremendous job building and updating it weekly.

We conducted our bowling party for the safety patrol girls and boys on May 17th at Cedar Crest Bowling Lanes. Thanks for all the help.

On May 9th, we had our Mother's Day Rib Eye & Roses Special honoring our mothers. This sounds very special.

Euchre nights will again resume sometime in July. Friday night dinners are picking up weekly.

Thanks to all supporting our Lodge.

Southwest

Boonville #1180

We hoped (southern Indiana) to dry out during May and get some crops planted, but Mother Nature had other plans.

A special thanks to Doug S, Butch W, David T, Kenny M, John S and Mark H for the help in getting ready for new carpet in clubroom. It really looks great. We held another Dart tournament on the 16th.

We will be celebrating our Lodge's 100th Anniversary in November and lots of plans are underway. Two jars will be placed in the Clubroom for donations, as we will need extra funds to support this event.

Vincennes #291

ER Mark Wehrheim in his Lodges newsletter stressed all of the points needing work, not only for their Lodge, but also for all Elks Lodges in Indiana.

#1 is Grand Lodge program top priority of increasing membership from new members and retention of existing members. Grand Lodge's goal is 2% Lapsation and 10% re-instatement.

#2 was Grand Lodge reports. Yearly reports must be submitted at the state level or face monetary penalties or loss of Charter. Most important reports are year-end audit and balanced budget for the coming year.

#3 discussed was Lodge meetings. Conducting meetings properly and following Elks rituals was emphasized. Therefore all Vincennes meetings will be in the Lodge room and an opening and closing will be used.

Good luck Vincennes and all Lodges in following these requirements.

Bicknell #1421

National Youth Week was celebrated the first week of May with the Mayor signing a Proclamation and an invitation to the winners of the Student of the Month program and their parents as guests. Special guests also were the participant from Bicknell Lodge in the State Hoop Shoot Bridget Brocksmith, and also the participants representing Bicknell in the State Soccer Shoot Kaitlyn and Ian Kixmiller.



We had a wedding reception on the 10th and entertained over 100 people with a Mother's Day Brunch the next day at 11 am. Some of the guests decided to play cards and were still there at 3 pm.

We had balloting at the first lodge meeting and elected PER Officers after the regular meeting. Bingo continues to have good crowds, and High School Awards Day and Graduation were very important to all.

Armed Forces Day was celebrated by decorating all our tables in the dining room with flowers and an American Flag.

Awards Day recipients of Savings Bonds for applying for MVS Scholarships were Michelle Harrell, Sara Rogers, and Jordan Black. Bicknell gave the Second Annual Bicknell Lodge cash scholarship to Sara Rogers.



Red, White and Blue decorations in the Clubroom honored those who served and are serving on Memorial Day.

We are looking forward to the State Convention in June at the French Lick Resort.

From the State Newsletter Editor

First of all thank you to my son Jeff for helping me with the set up and sending info to Larry Shaver. Thanks to Larry for putting it on the web. I hope everyone is going to the website and reading the newsletter. Thanks to all the Lodges for putting me on their mailing list for information on their Lodges, and to individuals for sending news items.

Last month, I apologize for the newsletter for being late, but we had so much information and pictures in it, it was too large for the server. It had been trying to send it for over a week and I finally had to have Jeff do something with it as he thought it had been sent.

After much thought and trying to juggle my Trustee/Assessor job, getting a new Fire Dept Rescue truck loan, ending two years as ER, and working on a waste water system for our town, and occasionally sweeping my kitchen floor, something had to give. It has been very interesting keeping up on all the Lodges around the state, and learning of new ways and means to complete lodge projects. I'm sure Scott Gates will do an excellent job. Thanks to the State Presidents and Past State Presidents for their confidence in my being able to do the job.

I'll still keep up my Elks Obligations and Committee work and hopefully show "Elks Care-Elks Share".

If any information comes to me for the newsletter, I'll forward it to Scott. His email is sgates1417@embarqmail.com.

Thank you all again, Sara M Kixmiller

Lucky Bucks Calendar Winners for 2008

April 2008

NAME	CITY & STATE	LODGE	CALENDAR NUMBER	AMOUNT
Stan T. Logan	Fort Wayne, IN	Fort Wayne #155	7646	100.00
Janette M. Echlin	Fort Wayne, IN	Fort Wayne #155	7662	250.00
Eugene P. Barnum	Fort Wayne, IN	Fort Wayne #155	6004	100.00
Monica Hileman	Peru, IN	Wabash #471	0296	100.00
Terry Daniel	Anderson, IN	Greenfield #1720	0368	100.00
Walter Helmke	Angola, IN	Angola #2398	1893	100.00
Ernest Lessie	Hammond, IN	Hobart #1152	3011	100.00

Thanks, Bill Schaab, PSP State Calendar Chairman

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

Please send any articles for all future newsletters to:

SCOTT GATES

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