



# Under the Spreading Antlers

Indiana *Elks* State Newsletter

## From the State President November 2005

### State President's notes

October was a busy month that started off with the fall convention at Lebanon. I would like to thank the State committee chairman and those who helped in putting together some great Elks programs. All those that attended not only had the opportunity to increase their knowledge of Elkdome but had a great time both Friday and Saturday and enjoyed the friendship of the great Elks of Indiana. On Saturday evening PSP Chuck Curtis and I acted as MCs for the banquet. The keynote speaker was PDGER Ray Arnold.

On October 12, PSP Joe Erp and I along with our wives and representatives of the Jeffersonville and Union City Lodges traveled to Purdue University in Lafayette. We had lunch with the President of Purdue University and received on behalf of the Indiana Elks a beautiful plaque for the great work we do for their cancer research program. It made all of us feel privileged to represent the Indiana Elks. The plaque will be available for display at your Cancer Fund raisers. Contact Joe Erp at 812-522-5264 to make arrangements.

On Saturday October 22 Ed Sulicz hosted the State Soccer Kick off at Columbus Lodges # 521. Ed did his normal great job. Big thanks to Columbus for a job well done. The friendly atmosphere at Columbus makes everyone feel welcome.

Your first Lady and I continue to enjoy the hospitality of Lodges through out Indiana in our travels. If you Lodge is holding an event you would like us to attend please let us know. We are looking forward to being able to visit all the Lodges.

Your Lodge should have Elks Calendars available. Please volunteer to sell them to your family and friends. Funds raised continue to support programs at the Lodge, District and State levels.

Your Lodge plans should be in the works for the Hoop Shoot.

Scholarship applications are at your Lodge; please see that the high school seniors in your community have the application to apply. One of the programs that always goes wanting for applications is the Vocational grants for senior not planning on attending college. Check with your Vocational School for students needing funds to attend Vocational School Training.

For those planning on attending the Grand Lodge Convention in 2006 at Orlando Florida, the Indiana Elks will be offering an Indiana Convention Shirt. Your Lodge secretary should have an order form for these.

Do to renovations at French Lick, the 2006 State Ritual contest will be held prior to French Lick on March 31, April 1 and 2 at Lebanon. Details are being worked out by the Ritual co-chairmen Wayne Fessel and Jim Warren. More information will be forthcoming.

CHIME IN ON ELKDOM  
Harry E Smith

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Elks

I have been informed by a very reliable source (Mel's daughter) that Mel is in very critical. He is in the hospital in Richmond, In and has been there for several days. All life support systems have been removed from Mel. He has a lot of fluid on his lungs and his kidneys are not functioning properly. It doesn't sound good. Keep Mel in your prayers.

M Buck, PSP

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#### Insurance / Loss Control

Reminders .....

- Local Lodges should consider using higher deductibles in the self-insured Property Plus Program not only to save the Lodge money with their assessment, but also to reduce the disproportionate cost of claims handling expenses on the self-insured Program. It is your money - - so be efficient. The Program is not for maintenance or small claims. A \$1,000 deductible is normal and recommended.

- Every Lodge should weigh the risks of going without D&O/Employment Practices coverage. The purchase of D&O insurance should be considered a normal cost of doing business in this day and age. Don't operate without it.
- Every Lodge should also purchase Workers' Compensation insurance.
- Constantly review safety practices associated with bingo. A large percentage of slip/fall accidents come from this source.
- Lodges having multi-level facilities (e.g. raised stages, multi-level rooms, stairs, etc.) require extra safety precautions. Proper planning and control can eliminate claims in these areas.
- Remember that if a Lodge has Fidelity coverage under the Property Plus Program there is no need to purchase any additional bonds for Lodge Officers or others. Fidelity coverage limits under the Property Plus Program meet or exceed the minimum limits as required in the Grand Lodge Statutes.
- If your Lodge is the subject of a claim do not admit responsibility or promise to make any payments to the claimant. Also, do not attempt to deal directly with the claimant, their attorney or their investigators. All responses should be made by the Grand Lodge Claims Administrator (currently Gallagher Bassett Services). They are trained in proper claims handling techniques.

More next month on insurance and loss control subjects.

Larry Shaver – PSP  
State Insurance Chairman

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Indiana Elks Drug Awareness Program  
Dale S. Phillips, State Drug Awareness Chairman  
November 2005

## **MARIJUANA COULD THREATEN YOUR TEEN'S SUCCESS**

The high school years are some of the most important in your son's or daughter's life. This is the time when poor academic performance can compromise a teen's future because low grades and test scores limit options after graduation. As teens enter high school they are at an increased risk for drug use and drinking. While overall drug use among teens is down in recent years, be sure your teen remains drug-free during these critical learning years.

**MARIJUANA CAN LIMIT YOUR TEEN'S ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT.**

- Marijuana can hinder a teen's ability to learn. Heavy marijuana use impairs young people's ability to concentrate and retain information.
- Marijuana use is linked to poorer grades. A teen with a "D" average is 4 times more likely to have used marijuana than a teen with an "A" average.
- Some frequent, long-term marijuana users show signs of lack of motivation (a motivational syndrome). Lack of motivation or concern about the future can lead to poor performance in school.
- Marijuana and underage drinking are linked to higher dropout rates. Students who drink or use drugs frequently are up to five times more likely than their peers to drop out of high school. A teenage marijuana user's odds of dropping out are more than twice that of a non-user.

Many parents still don't understand that marijuana is harmful. But research shows it's a stronger drug than it used to be and kids are starting to experiment at younger ages. Know the facts and share them with your teen. The rules you set and enforce today can make all the difference in your teen's life tomorrow.

Material taken from [WWW.TheAntiDrug.com](http://WWW.TheAntiDrug.com) web site or call 1.800.788.2800

**KIDS, CARS AND MARIJUANA** and Elks DAP 265 pamphlet has the following:

The effects of marijuana on drivers include:

- Relaxation, disorientation; Altered time and space perception
- Drowsiness, sedation; Lack of concentration; Decreased car-handling performance
- Impaired time and distance estimation; Increased reaction times
- Impaired motor coordination.

Marijuana can impair a driver's abilities for at least one or two hours after use, and residual effects can be found up to 24 hours. Marijuana has also been shown to increase the impairing effects of alcohol. In addition to marijuana, other drugs, including some over-the-counter medications, can impair a driver's ability to stay alert and focused. In 2003, 34.9% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders used marijuana in the past year.

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## NOTES FROM THE SOUTHWEST

Mt Vernon Lodge #277 is planning a Cancer Benefit for Nov 12th. This will be a "Make It, Bake It, or Fake It" auction and dinner. On the menu will be a spaghetti dinner at 6:00 pm for \$10.00 a person.

Moving on up the road to Princeton finds this Lodge very busy. First on the list is an adult Essay Contest of 300-500 words on "What is the Cost of Freedom Lost" for high school Freshmen and up. This is to be turned in before Nov 16th.

They also have a pair of Colts tickets for the Dec 18th game, sitting in the lower level to be raffled off for \$5.00 a chance. The tickets were donated by Loyal Knight Jess Cason, and the drawing will be at the Tropical Fruits show on Nov 19th.

They also have cookbooks on sale for the holidays.

Their Troop Package Drive is quite an undertaking. As you have heard they have sent a tremendous amount of packages with cards and letters from grade schools included. They recently received another Certificate of Appreciation from the Afghanistan Organization for efforts in sending items for children in hospitals and orphanages. They also include supplies for schools.

They will be presenting all Veterans in their area with Certificates of Appreciation in honor of Veterans Remembrance Month.

Tropical Fruits - What can you say! They will present a program in Bicknell on Nov 12th and a whole new program starting Nov 19th, for their State Presidents Night. As a result of their Tropical Fruits performances, they have sent new Alter Flags to Ocean Springs Lodge #2501 with a check for \$142.50 and a check to Gulf Port, Miss Lodge #975 for \$195. to aid their lodge after hurricane Katrina destroyed their lodges. The Tropical Fruits, officers, members and PER's all helped in this effort. Any additional information can be obtained at Jon and Kathi Fowler's new email address [kjfowler@direcway.com](mailto:kjfowler@direcway.com). Way to go, Princeton!

Vincennes Lodge #291 held a Toys for Tots golf outing on Oct 30th, with the help of local Marines. This was open to the public for \$35 a person plus a toy. Vincennes is listed at #2 in the state per capita donation to National Foundation.

On up the way to Bloomington Lodge #446, several relocated residents from Hurricane Katrina were given vouchers to do laundry free at a laundromat owned by one of their members. What a nice jester, and needed also.

They have also distributed over 300 flags to all the schools in the county. They will celebrate State Presidents night Nov 12th.

This brings us back to Bicknell Lodge #1421, and no grass has grown under our feet. First we hosted the local soccer shoot and had 4 winners advance. The district shoot, also held here at Bicknell sent 3 winners from Bicknell and 1 from Bedford to the State shoot. As a result of the State Final competition in Columbus, In, Bicknell had 2 State winners. Danielle Yochum in girls 12 and under and Christopher Sergeant in the boys 14 and under, Congratulation to you both.

We had 5 members and 2 guests attend the State Fall Convention in Lebanon and came away with lots of good ideas and enthusiasm.

Our Fall district meeting was held here in Bicknell in Oct and our "Flag Ladies" participated in the "Corn Festival" parade in Sullivan and was judged Most Patriotic Entry.

Red Ribbon Week was a very big success, as our ER and Drug Awareness chair and several Elks members' wives helped put on a puppet show at the 3 grade schools in your area. The kids were enthralled with the Mom, Dad, and Dan, the son puppets as well as the dancing, singing, beer can, cigarette, and nicotine characters in the play. "Elroy, the Elk" also made an appearance, and shook hands and was hugged by the students.

Also, that week we entertained the State President Harry Smith and First Lady E I with a Halloween party, complete with costumes, Chinese auction for Cancer Research, and special guest "Elvis", aka Bruce Borders. The auction netted over \$600.

We are planning on having Princeton's Tropical Fruits entertain for our Veterans Day program on Nov 12th. If you haven't see them, make a reservation (812-735-3860) and come on down.

Sara Kix

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### Indiana Elks Soccer Shoot - 2005 State Finals Results

<u>Group</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Lodge</u>	<u>Score</u>
<u>Under 8 Girls</u>	Mariah Allen	Central	Lebanon 635	<u>34 *</u>
	Aubrey Lynn Smith	Southeast	Columbus 521	<u>34 *</u>
	Abby Yochum	Southwest	Bicknell 1421	28
	Natalie Nowesnick	Northwest	Hobart 1152	26
	Whitney Weinschenk	West	Greencastle 1077	16

<b><u>Under 8 Boys</u></b>	Jesse Santos	Northwest	Whiting 1273	30
	Jacob Branum	Southeast	Columbus 521	23
	Peyton Walters	West	Greencastle 1077	21
	Mitchell Graham	Central	Lebanon 635	17
<b><u>Under 10 Girls</u></b>	Chenise Haldeman	Central	Franklin 1818	23
	Cassady Skipton	Southeast	Shelbyville 457	07
<b><u>Under 10 Boys</u></b>	Patrick LaPack	West	Lafayette 143	33
	Dean Margason	Central	Lebanon 635	31
	Alex Staggs	Southeast	Columbus 521	28
	Christopher Graman	Southwest	Bicknell 1421	25
<b><u>Under 12 Girls</u></b>	Danielle Yochum	Southwest	Bicknell 1421	<u>21</u>
	Danielle Phair	Central	Franklin 1818	19
	Nakel McClinton	Northwest	Hobart 1152	17
	Erin Sabados	East	Richmond 649	10
<b><u>Under 12 Boys</u></b>	Scott Mohler	Central	Lebanon 635	20
	Ryan Van Allen	West	Lafayette 143	19
	Lucas Nowesnick	Northwest	Hobart 1152	16
	Cameron Layman	Southeast	Columbus 521	12
<b><u>Under 14 Girls</u></b>	Nathan Cain	East	New Castle 484	12
	Sierra Cochran	East	New Castle 484	<u>21</u>
	Annie Dulhanty	Central	Lebanon 635	18 *
	Katie Schiller	Northwest	Highland 981	18 *
<b><u>Under 14 Boys</u></b>	Jessica Decker	Southeast	Columbus 521	13
	Chris Sargent	Southwest	Bicknell 1421	18
	Francisco Guerrero	Northwest	Highland 981	16
	Sam Lewis	East	New Castle 484	15
	Nathan Van Allen	West	Lafayette 143	12
	Tre' Swim	Southeast	Columbus 521	03

\* = Ties breaker needed for placement

High Score – 5 Goal Contest,  
Mariah Allen & Aubrey Lynn Smith – 35 pts.

High Score – Grid Goal Contest, Danielle Yochum & Sierra Cochran –  
21pts.

**Total Contestants = 33**

**Districts Represented = 6**

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### **News from the northeast**

The Northeast district held its fall meeting on October 8, 2005. The meeting began with an initiation conducted by the all district ritual team.

Our district committee chairs gave reports on their activities since our last meeting and upcoming events. Don Schoeff and Ed Dyer reported on functions at the state level.

DDGER Dorsey Brown reported on the Grand Lodge level. At the hour of eleven, district Toast champion Butch Householder gave a fine rendition of the toast.

The district held a 50-50 fundraiser with the proceeds going to the Elk victims of the hurricanes. Winner Ron Jakacki, Leading Knight of Fort Wayne 155 donated the winnings back to the fund and the district will be sending \$176.00 to those in need.

After the meeting a session was held and five more NE district Elks completed the Officers Training Test.

Robert Bishop  
NE district President

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### **FROM THE ELKS MEMORIAL BUILDING**

Northwest District came up for a visit and brunch at the Chicago Elks Memorial Building on October 8th, and had a fabulous time, thanks to the work of Valpo's Jeanie Stevens and Chef Tom Asher, and Hammond's Frank Kozlowski, not to mention the presence of Grand Secretary Jack Jensen, who joined in our buffet and tour, and even gave each visitor an Elks T-shirt. We wish that we could have brought every Hoosier Elk up here but that's physically impractical. HOWEVER, while discussing other matters with David Augustus, the Memorial Building's Director, he shared a recent donation with me, and you can now put this on the Indiana website so any Elk can at least take a "virtual tour" of the Memorial's great salon. I hope you all enjoy this treat.

Fraternally, Michael J. Kelly  
Dir. of Publications & Asst. to Grand Secy., BPOE HQ, Chicago

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**ALEXANDRIA LODGE 478**  
**Santa auction**

The annual Santa Auction will be on November 19<sup>th</sup>. This will again this year be a fun night you can buy great items and the Lodge makes the money to buy for the children of the fifty families who receive the Christmas food baskets. All starts at 6:00pm that Saturday at the Lodge. **COME DO YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING.**

Soup and sandwiches @ 6:00pm and the auction will follow.

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That's all for this month.