



Under the Spreading Antlers

Indiana **Elks** State Newsletter

From the State President

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL YOU GREAT ELKS AND FRIENDS

Well, 2007 is almost history and 2008 will be a new and challenging year for the Indiana Elk Lodges. Now is the time to start planning for those challenges. Most of the Lodges have received their new gaming license and have LEGAL gaming underway. Follow the rules and if in doubt contact the gaming commission or someone that can give you the right answer. Please do not take chances that could cost the loss of your Pull tab license, Legal Gaming License, or the lodge liquor license. There is no wrong time to do the right thing or right time to do the wrong thing.

November 7th Exalted Ruler Russ Williams invited Laquata and me to the Frankfort Lodge for a nice dinner and I had the honor of presenting \$1,000.00 National Foundation Certificates to 3 of their members. For a while Frankfort was first place in the Nation in per Capita. They have slipped out of first place but can still be proud of what they have accomplished so far this year. Keep it going Frankfort!

I hope all of the lodges and members find it in their hearts to donate to National Foundation. Hitting the \$4.25 per capita is one of our challenges. We can do it so lets get'er done.

November 10th we traveled to Bicknell for their Veterans night. What a fun night that was. In addition to a wonderful meal with some of the best beef I have ever eaten the members put on a show that kept all of us in stitches. The Star of the show was Max Kixmiller in his crazy costumes yelling "is it my turn now, when is it my turn?" Sara was real proud of him.

Since my theme this year is cruising with Elkdom the lodge made up a survival kit in case I was ship wrecked. All of the veterans in attendance from all branches of the service were recognized. It was a beautiful night with some wonderful and beautiful Elks.

November 12th my lodge, New Castle, cooked a tasty Thanksgiving meal for all of their members. Exalted Ruler George Barber, and wife Sue, served everyone and made them feel welcome. They are a great couple and love the Elks as I do.

In my October message I mentioned our tour of the Indiana Cancer Research Center. The Indiana University President, Dr Michael McRobbie, presented a nice framed letter of

appreciation to the Indiana Elks Association for their financial support, along with a hard hat signed by the doctors, scientists and research staff. These items were put in my care until my year as President is over. There was a typo error in the original letter so it had to be corrected. Laquata and I met with Amber for lunch November 19th and she presented us with the corrected letter.

I asked Amber if she would get copies made of the letter for each lodge and send them to me and I will see that each lodge gets one so they can frame it and put it on the wall so the members can see that their donations to Cancer Research is appreciated. I have already brought the hard hat and the letter to some of the lodges so the Officers and members could see them.

Thanksgiving day we had our entire family at our home for dinner. 3 Sons, 2 Daughters-in- Law, 6 Grandchildren, the husband of our oldest Grandchild and 2 Great Grandchildren. We enjoyed the day, ate too much, and watched a lot of football. The oldest Grand Daughter and her two Daughters and her husband along with 2 of the younger Grandchildren decided to spend the night. To entertain them Laquata had a slumber party with games music, and snacks. I deserted them and went to bed. They said they had a good time but Laquata was exhausted. I was smiling as I waved goodbye and saw the taillights pulling out of the driveway.

December 2nd I was asked to be the guest speaker at the Portland Elks Memorial Service. I am always happy to be part of the Memorial Service. Since I have been an Elk 30 years there is always someone I knew that had passed away. I wish we could get more members and widows to attend this beautiful service. The words "An Elk is never forgotten, never forsaken" has such a special meaning to all of us.

I received an email from Marvin Buck informing me that our State Sponsor Ray Arnolds wife, Eleanor, had a stroke and at this time is in the hospital recovering. Marvin said that the stroke did not affect her speech. Let us all keep her in our prayers. She is a beautiful lady that we all love and respect. If you want to send cards it was suggested that they be sent to the home address. It can be found in the State book.

One thing you can learn by watching the clock is that it passes time by keeping its hands busy. Even a woodpecker owes his success to the fact he uses his head (Thanks Betty)

God Bless one and all.

Fraternally,

Jim Warren
State President

News From The Southeast District

November is a month for giving thanks. November 10th the Marine Corps celebrated their 232nd birthday. Then on November 11th we honored all our veterans. On Thanksgiving Day, we shared our blessings with family and friends. It is great to share with those we love and to the less fortunate.

Connersville #379 should be congratulated for their Student-of-the-Month Program where they entertain and honor a student at the Lodge.

Jeffersonville #362 had four members help hand out clothes to homeless veterans during the VA's annual "Stand Down". Unfortunately, every year the number of homeless veterans increase. As long as there are veterans the Elks will never forget them.

Madison #524 is getting the community involved in their Veterans Book Drive. There are ten businesses around town being used as drop off points for books. This is a great program for any of our Lodges.

New Albany #270 held a Breeder's Cup gathering for the horse enthusiast in the Lodge. Their Halloween Party was a blast with unique costumes. Fun! Fun!

Rushville #1307 offered up their Oyster Extravaganza, all proceeds benefit Indiana Veterans Hospitals. Great crowd came out to support a good cause. It is official Shelbyville Lodge has merged with Rushville. Sad to see a grand old Lodge disappear, but the forty Shelbyville members will be an asset at Rushville.

Seymour #462 has now sold their building. They are searching out a location to move to. We wish them well in rebuilding their membership and Lodge.

Fraternally,

John W. Sauer
State Vice President

NEWS FROM THE NORTHEAST DISTRICT

I went to the Fort Wayne VA Hospital Volunteers meeting tonight and received these awards. One to the Elks and one to me this was A very special honor for the Elks and me. Thanks everyone that has helped support Fort Wayne VA.



Associate Director Michael Hamilton presented the Certificates.

John Barnes ER Bluffton Elks Lodge 796
Elks Fort Wayne VA representative



Pictured: Exalted Ruler, Phyllis Gates
Columbia City Elks Lodge #1417 Memorial Service

The officers of the Columbia City Elks Lodge #1417 recently conducted the **Elks Memorial Service** for their departed Lodge members. The first Sunday in each December is set aside as a day for all Elks to pledge anew Fidelity to the memory of their absent members. "Though they have passed through the valley of the shadows into the sunlight of eternal morning; the places that have known them shall know them no more, but upon our tablets of love and memory, their names shall endure forever".
In memory of: Cal Hile, Walter Schneider, and Richard Woodbury

NEWS FROM THE SOUTHWEST DISTRICT

First I want to apologize for last month's newsletter being so late. I was gone to Florida until the end of the month for my nieces wedding. When we got back, I was covered up getting our Veterans Day/State Presidents celebration planned and written.

As I said, this was a big production and we wanted it to be special. Bicknell invited our Elk Veterans for a free dinner. Wives, companions and other members paid a nominal amount. After introducing our State President and First Lady, hopefully we entertained them with a "Laugh-In" show.



Our DD Dick Dunbar was at our Lodge for his inspection and our meeting where we initiated a new member.

Our High School show choir "Class Act" held a fried chicken benefit dinner at the Lodge, and the Lodge also donated to another benefit for a youngster in Freelandville, who has a terminal illness.

We celebrated Thanksgiving by counting all our blessings. We are preparing for the Christmas Season with Kids parties, members parties, donations for Social Ministries, and pray all people remember "Jesus is the Reason for the Season."

Bicknell Lodge wishes everyone a Merry Christmas.

Hello Fellow Elk Brothers and Sisters:

This year is 8 months over for my reign as Exalted Ruler and it has indeed been very informative and interesting. I believe we have grown as a lodge and worked together to make our club better.

I would like to thank everyone who has made the year a successful one, especially my officers and all the committees.

The holiday season is fast approaching and I wish all Elks members and their families the very best of holidays. Please stay safe while traveling, and /or, while visiting your families.

The Elks family is a great family but being with our own personal families is the best way to celebrate the holidays.

May God bless all of you and keep you in his safekeeping.

Debbie Austill
Princeton BPOE #634

Lucky Bucks Calendar Winners for 2007

November 2007

NAME	CITY & STATE	LODGE	CALENDAR NUMBER	AMOUNT
Dianne Jansky	Whiting, IN	Whiting #1273	2767	250.00
Telpri J. Piccirilli, Jr.	Hebron, IN	Highland #981	5946	100.00
Everett J. Goss	Brazil, IN	Brazil #762	5716	100.00
Mike Dolowy	Elkhart, IN	Elkhart #425	5186	100.00
Virginia Johnson	Fort Wayne, IN	Fort Wayne #155	1456	250.00
Harriet Crevier	Fountain, CO	Valparaiso #500	9879	100.00
Jeffery L. Payonk	Hammond, IN	Hammond #485	2378	100.00
Joe Sigety	New Carlisle, IN	South Bend #235	2256	100.00
Hanna Elliott	Bedford, IN	Bedford #826	7262	100.00
Tim Guard	Crawfordsville, IN	Crawfordsville#483	9237	100.00
Mike Miller	Goshen, IN	Goshen #798	0580	100.00
Larry Starbuck	Kokomo, IN	Tipton #1012	4047	100.00
Joe Gage	Leo, IN	Fort Wayne #155	7156	100.00
Michael Chester	Wabash, IN	Wabash #471	5722	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, 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