PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE
Glenn Foster

First let me welcome all the new Exalted Rulers and Lodge Officers who have so graciously stepped up to serve their Lodges. I have many helpful hints but the most important one is to study the Grand Lodge Statutes. At some point during your tenure as a Lodge Officer a situation will arise that will cause you to refer to that book. Be prepared. Welcome all! Enjoy yourselves while serving your Lodges.

As of this writing we have just completed the spring convention in Harrisburg, which was well attended once again. I thank each of my fellow Elks who attended. Thank you to the members of Hanover Lodge #763 for presenting the Colors during the convention. Great job!

Fellow members, to be allowed to serve the State Association as your president is one of the highest honors ever bestowed upon me. Thank you for this great privilege. I cannot type this without including my wife, Bonnie. She too shares the joys of representing each of you. We both look forward to making new friends around Pennsylvania during our visits to each District and to the Maryland, Delaware, DC Convention, and to the West Virginia Convention.

Our first official visit will be in early June which will be to the MD, DE, and DC State Association Convention. Shortly after that Bonnie and I will begin visiting our Pennsylvania Districts as well as going to the Grand Lodge convention in Reno in July.

My slogan for this year is, “Communication – Grow Elkdom with It”. The shortened version is “Communication”. How many times have you said or heard it said, “I didn’t know that”?

Communication in our daily lives as well as in Elkdom has diminished greatly. Let’s all try to communicate with our fellow Elks, whether it is during a committee meeting or during a visit to your Lodge. When you see a new member in the Lodge, make him or her feel welcome. Communicate with them about what is being planned. Talk with them. Make them feel like a part of their Lodge. Get that new member more involved. Ask him or her to help serve a banquet or serve on a work party. Exalted Rulers and committee chairpersons, com-
The Pennsylvania Elk

PA Elks Major Projects
Ricki Hood, RN, Special Projects Director

This year at the PA Elks Spring Convention our wonderful Child of the Year, Dylan Cralley, captured everyone’s hearts with his love of the American Flag, and the Pledge of Allegiance. Many Elks were seen holding Dylan’s hand and following his prompts to recite the pledge. Amanda Davis, who serves as the Elks Nurse for Dylan’s area arranged for a special gift for Dylan. On Saturday April 29, 2017, she requested that the American Flag be flown over the US Capital Building in honor of Dylan Cralley. The flag that was flown over the US Capital Building will be mailed to Dylan with a certificate stating the date the flag was flown in his honor. Dylan and his family did an outstanding job representing the families that we serve, and we are grateful for their willingness to share their amazing son with us at the Pa Elks Spring Convention.

State Association
Carol M. Hutson, Chairperson

The State Association is pleased that all 500 of the new 2017-2018 pin designed by Kathleen Dabbs has been sold. The pin was designed like a “dog tag” and selected by our new State President, Glenn Foster. We are planning to order additional pins in the near future. This pin has a hole in it so it can be worn as a bracelet or necklace also. Kathleen, who is a member of Johnstown Lodge # 175 was presented with a plaque at the convention. Other entries for this contest were submitted by Carol Lee Carlin of Oakmont Lodge # 1668. Another pin contest is planned for 2018-2019 and entries should be submitted by November 17, 2017. Please forward them to your District State Association Committee person or email them to me at hutson@ptd.net.

State Association Committee members are as follows: Ronald A. Mead, Vice Chair from Greenville Lodge # 145 West District. Lynn Smith from Meadville Lodge # 219 Northwest District. Jeff Wright from West Chester Lodge # 853 Southeast District. Mark McHugh from Canonsburg Lodge # 846 in the Southwest District. D. J. Conway from Jersey Shore Lodge # 1057 in the North Central District. Roni Sue Stevens from Wilkins Lodge # 577 in the West Central District. Timothy Heefner Chambersburg Lodge # 600 of the South Central District. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the committee members who assisted with selling the pins at the Spring Convention. Thank you for a job well done!

We now have two different companies that can supply us with the Augusta Green Blazer. North Eastern Uniforms in Pittsburgh can be reached by email tmiller@neuniforms.com or phone 412-322-2500. The newest company is Blazer Boutique and they can be reach on the web at www.BlazerBoutique.com/ElksPa, email sales@blazer.com or phone 412-805-0450. Thank you Past State President Peg O’Polka for the information.

(State President - continued from page 1)

municate with the Lodge membership as to what your committee is doing. In my opinion communicating means more member involvement.

Our position in ENF donations is at a lowly 45th place. Please find a way to donate annually, if not more often. Our State Association benefits greatly by your donations. The ENF and Legacy Trust Fund help our Home Service Program. This year’s March of the Lodges for the Home Service Program brought in over $550,000.00. Great job everyone. Not only does the ENF help fund our major project it also offers several different Grants to Lodges to use in the communities they serve. Please remember; Elks Care – Elks Share.

Plan an event for the Veterans in your community. Hold a breakfast, a lunch, or perhaps a Bingo for them. Make the Vets feel welcome in your Lodge. So Long As There Are Veterans, The Benevolent And Protective Order Of Elks Will Never Forget Them.

I am a big supporter of informal round table discussions in a Lodge. However, do not hold these discussions around the bar. That is not the place for meetings. Become involved with a committee and share your ideas. We must work together as the Fraternal Organization we are.

Remember always that we are all volunteers and everyone deserves the utmost respect in the Lodge.

Enjoy your summer.

Fraternally,
Glenn E. Foster, President
Mid-Atlantic Soccer Shoot

The Pennsylvania State Soccer Champions traveled to Frederick, MD the weekend of March 4th thru March 6, 2017 to compete in the 2017 Mid Atlantic Regional Soccer Shoot. They competed against teams from New Jersey, Ohio, West Virginia, Kentucky and MD/DC/DE.

The weekend was full of fun and excitement starting with Friday night pizza and swim party where friendships were being formed.

Saturday morning started with breakfast at the Hotel, after breakfast our State Champions traveled to the Frederick Indoor Sports Complex to begin the competition. With State Vice President Glenn Foster and Bonnie, family and friends in attendance the PA Champs set out to recapture the Cantoli high scoring trophy, Dillon Doan from Bridgeport Lodge of the SE District in the U8 Boys Division started out by shooting a score of 38 to win the competition. He also won the U8 Boys Division High Scorer Trophy. Next up was Caylee Henderson from Franklin Lodge of the NW District who finished in 5th place. In U10 Girls Division Megan Mehall from the Scottsdale Lodge of the SW District. Caylee’s day didn’t start well as she had to kick last in her division due to a nose bleed. Then with determination she came up to shoot. When all was said and done she had shot herself into a 3rd place tie only to lose in the shootout. In the Boys division, Tanner Bruzda from SW District Uniontown Lodge finished in 6th place. In U12 Girls Division Brooke Lindstrom from Connellsville Lodge in the SW District was leading going into the final round but fell into a 2nd place tie only to lose in the shootout finishing in 3rd place. In the boys U12 Division Eric Reed from Uniontown Lodge also from the SW District finished in a 2nd place tie lost in the shootout and finished in 3rd place. In the U14 Girls Division Lannie Glenn from Chambersburg Lodge of the SC District finished in a 2nd place tie also, shooting 2nd in the shootout paying attention to her opponents score she shot what she needed to and finished in 2nd place. In the Boys division Brandon Mehall from Scottsdale Lodge in the SW District finished in 2nd place. In the quest for Cantoli trophy Pennsylvania fell short with a score of 283 to the New Jersey team who had a score of 300 and just one point ahead of West Virginia. All contestants and family had a wonderful weekend. The contestants did a great job and represented the Pennsylvania Elks well.

**PENNSYLVANIA CHAMPIONS**

CAYLEE HENDERSON  DILLON DOAN
MEGAN MEHALL  TANNER BRUZDA
 BROOKE LINDSTROM  ERIC REED
LANNIE GLENN  BRANDON MEHALL

The Frederick, MD Elks Lodge hosted the event once again and their hospitality was just outstanding.

Pa Elks Home Service Program

Keith H. Olash, State Chairman

I believe we recently had a grand PA Elks State Convention. The lodges announced their donations for the 2016-17 year at the march on Saturday. A total of $542,458.64 was raised by the lodges with $8,239.26 in miscellaneous monies for a grand total of $550,698 for a state per capita of $13.19. We did not reach the $600,000 mark but it was $6,547 more than last year. So let us try for more next year!

Thank you to the lodges, districts and individuals who donated items for the auction and to all those who helped in any way to make the auction, raffle, and shirt sales a great success.

The top three lodges in amount given where Erie #67 at $46,000, Reading #115 at $30,525 and Franklin #119 at $25,336. The top three Per Capita lodges where Reading #115 at $216.49, Monongahala #455 at $68.02 and Bridgeport #714 at $45.38.

Remember, it is all about the over 4,300 individuals with special needs that are helped by our nurses that should drive us all to do this special work to raise these funds!

The PA Elks License Plates have now increased in price to $31.50. The increase in price came from the Department of Corrections.

Please continue to submit your forms as usual for the plates and make all checks out to the "PA Elks State Assoc." and enclose it with your application when you send it to me for my signature.

If you have any questions please contact me directly at (610) 247-9244.

Fraternally,
Mark A. Shepperd
PA Elks Special License Plate Coordinator

The application is available on line at: www.paelks.com/files/elklicplate2.pdf

S-T-R-E-T-C-H Your Home Service Donations!

Margie Wood, RN, Grant Projects Director

Once again, we are participating in the WCCF Day of Giving on September 12, 2017.

Last year, six lodges and eight individual Elk members donated through the Day of Giving and their donations to Major Projects were increased by almost $2,000!

On September 12th, go to www.wccfgives.org from 8 AM to 8 PM and donate. Be sure to include your lodge name so your lodge will get credit for the donation.

There will be a special form for anyone who wishes to donate by check. Please contact me at mwood@paelkshomeservice.org or 412-997-2723 and I will be happy to send you the form. Any donations using that form must be received at WCCF no later than 5 PM on September 11th.

Your Home Service Nurses are helping over 4,000 families receive the support they need to improve their health and enjoy a better quality of life. Your donation could make a tremendous difference in the life of a child or adult with special needs.

THANK YOU!!!
IT IS THE START OF A NEW LODGE YEAR

Accident Prevention / Insurance Risk Committee William Dickerson, PDDGER, Chair

Now is a great time to examine the status of the Lodge’s legal well-being:

- Where are the Lodge’s legal documents located?
- Are state and local filings and registrations maintained?
- Now is the time to review important dates such as renewal of licenses and permits.
- Become familiar with all Lodge contracts, now.
- The officers and trustees should know all Lodge obligations.
- Lodge officers and trustees must maintain proper records.
- Contracts should avoid a conflict of interest.
- Does the Lodge have written personnel policies?
- The Lodge should have written work rules for its employees.
- Does the Lodge have an attorney that can review contracts?
- Does the Lodge have service contracts with repairmen, plumbers, electricians, etc.?
- If so, such service contracts should provide the Lodge with back-up redundancy?
- Has the Lodge prepared a rental agreement or contract to be signed by individuals or entities using the Lodge, according to the Laws of the Order?
- In these agreements, the entity using the Lodge should hold the Lodge harmless for activities and provide evidence of insurance coverage (see Pages 18-11 of the Liability Insurance Program booklet).
- Now is the time to review the Accident Prevention Manual and Liability Insurance Program booklet.

S-T-R-E-T-C-H Your Home Service Donations!

LEGACY TRUST FUND / Margie Brouse

The Legacy Trust Fund; as we all know, is the life jacket for the PA Home Service Program. It is in place if ever the Home Service needs monetary assistance as a guarantee our legacy goes on way past our life time, to continue helping those in need of our services. This past fiscal year, I am happy to say that we are up slightly for a total of $24,427.00.

Following is a recap of some of the work done in the past:

- The Legacy Trust Fund Web Page has a form that you should print, fill out and send with your donation to the State Office. This will take the guess work out of where to apply it.
- Donations in memory or in honor of can be designated as a gift. There’s a form on the web page that your secretary can download, fill out and send to the family or person the donation references. The State Office will send out one if you request it AND give them ALL the information to do so.
- WHERE TO SEND YOUR CHECKS- The State Office address has changed: to 703 Georgian PL, Somerset, PA 15501
- The points system, some of you may remember, was part of the $20/5 program. This is no longer done. Continue to encourage the $20 once a year for 5 years donation or a one-time gift.
- The website is a work in progress as the committee works to bring it up to date, easier to explain and more attractive.
- We were working on combining and updating brochures; this is now on hold until monies are available.
- PINS – currently, they are given out every time you reach $100. NOW, a silver pin will be given to you on attaining your first $100 donation only. The next step is a gold pin at $1000. We are adding a middle step. A Bronze Pin will be given out at the $500 achievement. We are hoping to introduce it at the Fall convention.
- iGive! generates money for your favorite charity by shopping online at any of their 1700 stores. There’s no added costs, obligations, hidden fees, or codes to enter. It’s been a free service since 1997 and has $350,000 supporting 50,000 causes raising over $9 million for charities. Download the iGive button. It automatically tracks your spending and surfing while on their stores. Check it out, keep shopping and watch your pennies add up for your cause.

Now it is time to say goodbye; sadly, my term is up as your State Chair. THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR COOPERATION AND KINDNESS SHOWN ME, BUT, MOST IMPORTANTLY FOR YOUR DONATIONS TO THE LEGACY TRUST FUND.

Your new State Chair is Sherri Walison from Lockhaven Lodge and Vice Chair is Laura Scotty from Oakland. I’m sure they will do a great job. Please continue your loyalty and promote the Legacy Trust Fund.

Elks National Foundation

Dick Miller - ENF State chairman

At the Spring convention, the results of the national rankings were available. Pennsylvania ranked 45 in the Nation for ENF giving. President Foster has stated that this is not acceptable and I agree. As committed Elks, we should be able to provide both the Keystone State and the Keystone of the Elks Fraternity with a higher level of giving that will give rise to our giving total. During the next year let us strive to increase the National Standing of Pennsylvania.

At the Fall Convention, when the raffle baskets are presented, a registration card will be completed by all who donate a basket. This card will have the donor name and/or lodge and related information in order that the giver and/or lodge may be properly credited. Try to bring your ENF giving number as that will be requested in order to facilitate the proper ENF credit for the donor.

ENF has announced The Anniversary Grant as one-time grant opportunity to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Elks! This $1,500 grant will offer an opportunity for Lodges to do even more charitable work. All Lodges will be eligible for a one-time Anniversary Grant, regardless of meeting the ENF per-member-giving goal. Much like the Gratitude Grant, the Anniversary Grant will have flexible guidelines. Applications will open July 1, 2017, and will be available for use during the 2017-18 CIP grant cycle. Anniversary Grants are the ENF’s way of celebrating every Lodge’s commitment to their community.

Don’t forget the Elk ENF cruise in September of 2017. A portion of the cruise proceeds will be given to ENF. A great vacation, a great cruise, and a great way to give to ENF. Ron Lewis, South Central ENF District Chair is coordinating the Cruise.
York #213

York Lodge #213 participated in the York St. Patrick’s Day Parade in March and were honored to have Peg O’Polka as our guest for the weekend and to ride in the parade. In April, the Lodge was nominated for the Downtowe 1st Award, for their service and commitment to the York community. Even though they did not win this year, they received a letter of commendation recognizing their advocacy and support for York City.

The Veteran Service Committee never stops. In April they went to the Lebanon VA Medical Center and held a Bingo Night. The Lodge provided prizes, books, refreshments and requested items. This is always a great evening. Snacks and supplies were collected for our troops in Kuwait and the care packages were sent and arrived safely. The committee will be having their annual Big Band Brunch on May 27, 2017. This is one of their biggest fundraisers and is always a great event with music by the Unforgettable Big Band. Monies raised from this event will fund the Heroes Among Us dinner in November. The All Vets to DC bus trip is scheduled for November. Veterans and their guest will enjoy a free trip to Arlington, including lunch. More than 10 buses will be going.

April 22, 2017 was a busy day for the Lodge. Members participated in the Bell Socialization “Big Bed Race” and won the People’s Choice Award and came in 2nd for monies raised. The team worked hard to create their bed for the race. Front Row L-R: Diane Barth, Donna Lucas, Daryl Hoffman. Back Row: Kevin Bush, Doug Stauffer, Rov Pollack.

Also on April 22nd, the Lodge was part of York’s “Go Green in the City”. Their theme was “Planting Seeds for the Future” and we gave out over 200 bean plants, Elks anti-Drug and anti-bullying information to children as well as Elks information for the adults. Also on that day, the Veterans Service Committee participated in the “Flag” planting at Prospect Hill Cemetery to honor those that have served and lost their lives in Iraq and Afghanistan.

On May 6, 2017, the lodge will be helping our neighbors in the North East Neighborhood rebuild and plant their community garden. Through the Beacon Grant from ENF we will be building 8 new garden plots, 2 raised beds for handicapped residents and providing benches, garden tools, soil, plants and seeds. This garden is a vital part of the neighborhood.

West Shore #2257

West Shore Lodge #2257 members not only held their annual lodge Spring clean-up day but, as they have done for over 15 years, they devoted their time to the PA Adopt a Highway program to clean up 3 miles of roads leading up to our grounds.

In June, West Shore will honor their national Finalists in the Elks Hoop Shoot contest as well as students from local area high schools and scout troops who have excelled in athletics and academics during our annual Youth Appreciation Day. Then local Cub Scout troops will assist us with the annual Flag Day ceremony.

The West Shore Elks in Camp Hill PA recently dominated in the 3rd annual Wing Madness chicken wing contest while helping to raise over $9000 for the Hampden Township Veterans’ Recognition Committee to assist in the construction of the new Captain Leon Locke Veteran’s Memorial Park to recognize all veterans, past, present and future, who have served their country. Their winning wing recipes beat 18 other local restaurants and private clubs and won the Veteran’s Choice Award, Best Wings on the West Shore and Overall Best Wings.

Columbia-Middletown #1074

Columbia-Middletown Elks #1074 assisted in initiating the “Adoption Program” at St. Anne’s Retirement Community in Columbia, PA, by providing the funds for “life-like dolls” and “stuffed mechanical companion cats and dogs” for the residents with dementia. Doll Therapy has proven successful in calming a resident with dementia as well as providing hours of enjoyment and companionship. The cats and dogs are especially beneficial in promoting social interaction. Millie Hilliar (St. Anne’s resident), the widow of a deceased Elk member, was Diane Kane’s inspiration for the program. This is a great way to show our senior community that ELKS CARE, ELKS SHARE!!!

(Continued on Page 8)
9-Night Canada/New England Cruise  
Thursday, September 14 – Saturday, September 23, 2017

Elks Care – Elks Share!  
Support PA ENF

Starting at $1489.00

Enjoy a fabulous 9-Night Cruise aboard  
Royal Caribbean’s Anthem of the Seas!

ITINERARY:

Thursday, Sept 14:  4PM Departure from Cape Liberty, New Jersey
Friday, Sept 15:  Enjoy a day at Sea
Saturday, Sept 16:  7AM – 7PM Boston, MA
Sunday, Sept 17:  8AM – 5PM Portland, ME
Monday, Sept 18:  7AM – 6PM Bar Harbor, ME
Tuesday, Sept 19:  11AM – 11PM Saint John, NB
Wednesday, Sept 20:  Enjoy a day at Sea
Thursday, Sept 21:  7AM – 5PM Halifax, NS
Friday, Sept 22:  Enjoy a day at Sea
Saturday, Sept 23:  7AM Cape Liberty, NJ

STATEROOMS:

Interior - $1489.00
Ocean View- $1669.00
Balcony - $1779.00
Call for Triple and Quad rates

INCLUSIONS:

9-Nights Aboard Anthem of the Seas  
Port Charges & Departure Taxes  
Ship Board Gratuities  
Onboard Meals & Entertainment

RipCord by iFly | FloRider surf simulator | SeaPlex indoor activity space with first bumper cars, roller skating and flying trapeze school at sea | Rock Climbing Walls

Rates are per person, based on double occupancy.
Cabin categories and prices are subject to availability and are on a first come, first serve basis.
Other cabin categories are available by request.
Travel insurance is not included but available through Travel Time.
Deposit of $250 per person is due at time of booking. Final Balance is due by June 1, 2017.
A valid passport is required.

Travel Arrangements Provided By:  
Contact Lori Heathcote with questions:
lori@trvltime.com  
717-855-2128
REGISTRATION FORM

9-Night Canada/New England Cruise
September 14 - 23, 2017

To make your reservation, please complete the information below:

**SECTION 1: TRAVELER INFORMATION**

* Name as it appears on your Passport:
* Home Address: ____________________________
* City: _______ * State: _____ * Zip Code: __________
* Email Address: ____________________________
* Phone Number: ___________________ Cell________
* Emergency Contact Name: ____________________________
* Emergency Contact Phone Number: ____________________________
* Passport Number: ____________________________
* Passport Expiration Date: ___ / ___ / ___
* Gender: ____________________________ * Date of Birth: ___ / ___ / ___
* Name/Nickname for your Name Tag: ____________________________
List any Dietary Restrictions: ____________________________
Crown/Anchor Number: ____________________________

**SECTION 2: GUEST INFORMATION** (If NO GUEST, skip to Section 3)

* Name as it appears on your Passport:
* Home Address: (If different from above) ____________________________
* City: _______ * State: _____ * Zip Code: __________
* Email Address: ____________________________
* Phone Number: ___________________ Cell________
* Emergency Contact Name: ____________________________
* Emergency Contact Phone Number: ____________________________
* Passport Number: ____________________________
* Passport Expiration Date: ___ / ___ / ___
* Gender: ____________________________ * Date of Birth: ___ / ___ / ___
* Name/Nickname for your Name Tag: ____________________________
List any Dietary Restrictions: ____________________________
Crown/Anchor Number: ____________________________

**SECTION 3: ACCOMMODATIONS, DINING & TRAVEL**

* Please select your Stateroom: Interior Ocean View Balcony (Please circle your choice stateroom)
□ Please check this box if you would you like your room with 2 beds.

**SECTION 4: INSURANCE**

We strongly recommend purchasing Travel Insurance to cover your investment in case you need to cancel the trip for medical reasons or if the trip is cancelled due to supplier bankruptcies, etc. Insurance must be purchased no later than 14 days after the first deposit has been made.

* I choose: (Check one)
□ To purchase travel insurance
□ To decline travel insurance at this time

**SECTION 5: PAYMENT**

Trip cost is per person, based on double occupancy.
$250 Deposit per person is due at time of booking.
Final Balance is due by June 1, 2017
Payment Methods: Check or Credit Card. If you prefer to pay your trip by check, do not fill out your credit card information.

Credit Card Holder: ____________________________
Credit Card Number: ____________________________
Expiration Date: ___ / ___ Security Code: ________

□ Please accept the enclosed check in the amount of $___________ for my reservation.

□ Please charge my credit card in the amount of $___________ for my reservation.

$___________ for my reservation.

**SECTION 6: CANCELLATION POLICY** (Per person)

6/1/17 – 7/19/17 $250 penalty to cancel
7/20/17 – 8/16/17 50% penalty to cancel
8/17/17 – 8/30/17 75% penalty to cancel
8/31/17 or After: NO REFUND

* Please mail, email or fax your completed Registration Form to Travel Time, Attention Lori Heathcote.
2474 North George Street • York PA 17406
Phone: 717-855-2128 • Fax 717-299-7330
Email: lori@trvltime.com • Website: www.trvltime.com
The Pennsylvania Elk

Columbia-Middletown Elks #1074

Supports our Veterans - On May 3, 2017 a group of members lead by our Exalted Ruler, Daphne Grim, visited the Lebanon VA to deliver requested items to the Oncology Department, along with other personal care items. The ageless game – the Elkwood Derby – was enjoyed by the residents, along with a great time of fellowship, visitation and snacks. The lodge continues to support our veterans to show our appreciation for their service and sacrifice. Also, on May 19th a group of veterans from the Lebanon VA joined lodge members for a great evening of baseball, food and fellowship while watching a Lancaster Barnstormer game in one of the luxury boxes during the Barnstormers Salute to Veterans event.

Power Packs Food Drive a Success

On Saturday, April 8th the Columbia-Middletown Elks #1074 sponsored a Food Drive for Power Packs. We collected $242 in monetary donations and approximately $1,800 of food donations. Power Packs provides weekend food for families in need.

Northwest District News

Erie #67

Members of Erie Elks Lodge #67 supported the Erie March of Dimes March as a one of our own Lodge family’s son is the 2017 Erie March of Dimes Ambassador. The March took place on Sunday April 30th, 2017, with Elk Members participating in the walk and with the Lodge supporting the cause with a $2,500 platinum sponsorship.

On Thursday, March 30, 2017, Erie Lodge #67, hosted another successful BINGO event for 50 Veteran residents at the VA Medical Center and PA Soldiers and Sailors Home. Veterans were treated to a full afternoon of Bingo, (all guests won a prize), a delicious meal prepared by Lodge Chef, homemade pies and cakes by Lodge #67 Auxiliary, and many Lodge members who spent time interacting with our guests. The afternoon also included Lodge Member and Pennsylvania State Representative, Ryan Bizzarro, who helped serve food and conversed with many of the Veterans.

Titusville #67

Titusville Elks Lodge Past Exalted Rulers Timothy McCandless and Carolyn Pheniecie participated in the Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Alexander Bickel. Bickel, who earned a total of 35 merit badges, is a member of Scout Troop 97. McCandless presented Bickel with citations from the Elks Grand Exalted Ruler (National President) Michael Zellen. Pheniecie presented him with an Elk’s feather pin and an American Flag saying “As this Emblem is close to our hearts as loyal Americans, so is it close to our hearts as loyal Elks and loyal Scouts. Preserve it as a memento of this occasion”

South Central District News (cont’d)

Chambersburg #600

Chambersburg Lodge #600 14th Annual Eagle Scout Awards dinner recognizing boy scouts from the Southern Conococheague District of the New Birth of Freedom Council, BSA. A total of thirty boy scouts were honored for accomplishing this outstanding achievement. Americanism Chairman John Noel (not pictured), is a 2012 recipient of the Marvin M. Lewis Elks and Scouting Award and to date, the lodge has honored 274 Eagle Scouts and one Girl Scout Gold Award recipient.
Bellefonte #1094

Patrick W. Corbett, representing the Bellefonte Elks Lodge # 1094, recently participated in an Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Noah C. Gaus, son of Frank and Charlene Gaus, of Bellefonte, PA. Noah is a member of Bellefonte Boy Scout Troop 370, and the Award Ceremony took place at the Bellefonte Faith United Methodist Church. Noah is a senior at the Bellefonte Area High School, and plans to attend Penn State University in summer 2017.

On his way to the rank of Eagle Scout, Noah earned 23 Merit Badges, and served as Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader, Assistant Patrol Leader, Chaplain's Aide, and Scribe, in addition to serving as crew leader for Troop 370's Philmont Scout Ranch Trek in 2015. He also plans to return to the Philmont Scout Ranch with Troop 370, serving as an adult leader in the summer of 2018.

Noah's Eagle Scout Project took place at the Environmental Learning Center of the Bald Eagle State Park in Howard Township, PA, where he restored and made addition to the bird watching area at the Park. This project included tilling the area, planting new grass, removing weeds and rocks, sanding and sealing split-rail fences, repairing a large open bird feeder, building another identical bird feeder, and painting both.

Left to right are Elks representative William W. Asbury, Alexander Burka, Nathan Shunk, and Joseph Sepich.

Alexis T. Burka, son of Tomas B. Burka and Deborah L. Triolanos, of State College, PA, has served Troop 83 as Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader, Assistant Patrol Leader, and Quartermaster, in addition to earning 22 Merit Badges. Alex has camped outdoors for over 81 nights, and hiked over 204 miles, participating in several High Adventure Trips. Alex also has volunteered 64 service hours to help others in the community. For his Eagle Scout Project, Alex planned and implemented the construction of a handicapped-accessible community garden for the Mazza Foundation for Education.

Nathan P. Shunk, son of Dr. Brian and Jill Shunk, of State College, PA, has served Troop 83 as Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Troop Guide, and Quartermaster, in addition to earning 23 Merit Badges. Nathan has camped outdoors for over 101 nights and hiked over 67 miles, participating in four High Adventure Trips. In addition, he has volunteered 63 service hours to help others in the community. His Eagle Scout Project included the planning and implementation of a construction project of two paver sections of 20’ x 10’ and 30’ x 10’ at our Lady of Victory Catholic Church, which included upgrading the landscape areas.

Joseph P. Sepich, son of Dr. Rodney and Dr. Tracy Sepich, of State College, PA, has served Troop 83 as Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader, and Scribe. He has earned 21 Merit Badges, camped outdoors for over 82 nights, and hiked over 245 miles, participating in several High Adventure Trips. Joe also has volunteered 49 service hours to help others in the community. For his Eagle Scout Project, Joe planned and implemented the construction of a bridge over a drainage ditch at the Oak Hall Regional Park, coordinating over 100 hours of Boy Scout volunteer work.

On March 19, William Asbury, representing the State College Elks Lodge #1600, recently participated in an Eagle Scout Court of Honor for three Eagle Scouts from State College Boy Scout Troop 83.

State College #1600

On March 19, William Asbury, representing the State College Elks Lodge #1600, recently participated in an Eagle Scout Court of Honor for three Eagle Scouts from State College Boy Scout Troop 83.
West District News

Coraopolis #1090

Catherine Martolf, who received First Place Honors in the Pennsylvania Elks State Americanism Contest presented her winning essay to delegates and their guests at the PESA State Convention in Harrisburg. Catherine is an eighth grade student at St. James School in Sewickley and is the daughter of Delilah and Richard Martolf of Monaca. She was sponsored by Coraopolis Lodge # 1090. The topic for this year’s contest was “Why Is It Important to Vote”.

Other West District Winners include: 5th & 6th Grade; 1st place – Joel Fabian, Coraopolis #1090, St James, Sewickley; 2nd Place, Gabby Williams, Oakmont # 1668, Pivik Elementary, Plum; 3rd Place, Oakmont # 1668, Pivik Elementary, Plum. In the 7th and 8th Grade Division besides Megan Marston the winners were: 2nd Place – Ryan Zawislak, Rochester # 283, Rochester Middle School, and 3rd place - Lauren Grape, Oakmont # 1668, from St. Bonaventure.

Sharon #103

Ms. Stattel has been extremely involved in various music programs, to include All Eastern Chorus, Regional Chorus, District Chorus, District Band, and Regional Band. She has served as Thespians President for 2017, Thespians Secretary for 2016, and Chorus and Band President for 2017, as well.

Mr. Tobias is a member of the Distinguished Honor Roll, and captain of the varsity football team, captain of the varsity basketball team, and played varsity baseball. Andrew has been a member of the National Honor Society for three year, Varsity Club for three year, and member of the Student Council for four years.

Ms. Wert is a senior at Penns Valley Area High School, and is on the Distinguished Honor Roll. In addition, she has been a National Honor Society Member for two year, as well as Class Secretary for 2017.

Rebecca Bierly is a senior at Penns Valley High School, member of the Distinguished Honor Roll, served as President of the Entrepreneurship Club, and participated in Girls Track and Field and Girls Cross Country.

Garrett Fleck is a member of the Student Council, 4-H Treasurer, and member of the Varsity Club and participated in both football and basketball, and is a member of the Boy Scouts of America.
East Stroudsburg #319

East Stroudsburg Elks Lodge # 319 arranged for 11 patients of the Wilkes-Barre V/A hospital to attend lunch at the Lodge on April 5th followed by bingo and bowling with prizes awarded to all the Veterans. The patients were outpatients receiving rehabilitation at the hospital.

Tobyhanna Elementary students participated in East Stroudsburg Lodge Drug Awareness Poster contest and entered 199 posters. They awarded Anais Nisha the winner in grade 3, Rachael Berger in grade 4 and Kaylee Booth in grade 5. Rachael & Kaylee won district level and Kaylee went on to win state. She and her family were honored at the state convention in Harrisburg. She is the first student from East Stroudsburg to win on the state level.

With the funding from the ENF Beacon grant East Stroudsburg lodge joins with "Street 2 Feet" program, a part of RHD's Crossroads Community Services serving the homeless population of Monroe County. Once a month from March until July they are invited to the lodge for lunch. They also receive gift cards in the amount of $5 each for CVS (for the co-pay on prescriptions), $5 for a fast food restaurant (so they can get a coffee and use the rest rooms) and Monroe County Transit Authority bus passes in the amount of $5 each. This is the third year they have been able to help with this program.

East Stroudsburg Lodge presented dictionaries to the 395 students in the 3rd grade of Stroudsburg School District. Mark Hutson presented flags to representatives of the Chipperfield school 3rd grade classes.

Bangor #1106

Bangor Lodge along with the Pennsylvania Elks Drug Awareness Trailer and Elroy the Elk recently participated in the Partnership for a New Beginning Heroine and Opiate Awareness and Education day. Elroy greeted children as the Elks Drug Awareness team handed out brochures on Drug Prevention.

Frackville #1533

Frackville Elks Lodge No. 1533 hosted the annual Children's Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday April 9th for Frackville and surrounding communities. Nearly 200 children attended this event along with their parents and loved ones. Before and after the egg hunt, the Easter Bunny paid a visit to meet with the children and pose for pictures. The children received hotdogs, drinks, and prizes following the event. Lodge member Drew Yeselski spent much of the day dressed as the Easter Bunny before being relieved of duty by Lodge Secretary and DSVP Bill Mack posing with future Elk Nico Bracey (Lodge members Louis and Becky Bracey are Nico’s parents).

East Stroudsburg Lodge held a dinner in honor of the "Most Valuable" student scholarship winners. From left is Jillian Harvey from Pocono Mt. East who won a scholarship in the amount of $1,200, Michael Medaugh from Pocono Mt. East who was awarded a $20,000 scholarship and Michelle Joyce from Stroudsburg who won a scholarship in the amount of $1,000 for the next four years. Presenting the awards are Scholarship Chairman Randy Polinski on left and Exalted Ruler Ed Freeborn. Jillian plans to attend St. Joseph’s to study Marketing, Michael will attend Harvard and study Nero Surgery and Michelle will attend Temple to study Bio-Engineering.

East Stroudsburg Lodge # 319 presented two scholarship awards in the amount of $1,000 each to Robert Fox of Pocono Mtn, East and Seth Slavin of Pleasant Valley high school. Robert plans to attend East Stroudsburg University and study Sports Management and Seth plans to attend Lehigh University and study Electrical Engineering. The students attended a dinner held in their honor at the lodge. Presenting the awards were Randy Polinski Scholarship Chairman and Exalted Ruler Ed Freeborn.

Bloomsburg #436

Bloomsburg Lodge is proud to announce that they have been announced as a Five Star Winner of the Grand Lodge Fraternal Committee’s 2016-2017 Local Lodge Website Contest with their website bloomsburgelks.org.
North Penn #1979

A family affair; North Penn Lodge #1979 has installed Melissa Triol (pictured center) as Exalted Ruler for the 2017-2018 lodge year. Melissa is the third in her family to hold the office, following both of her parents RaeAnn Triol, PER (left) and J. Thomas Triol, PER (right).

Pottstown #814

On March 5th, the Pottstown Elks #814 Veterans Committee hosted Jason “Jake” Leone from Vets for Vets for the presentation of $2,000 in donations raised through the 7th Annual Vlahos/Dunn Insurance Golf Outing which is held in July each year. In addition, Jim Vlahos also presented him with an additional donation of $1,000 from Lebanon Valley Insurance Company.

Jake gave the Veterans Committee an update on what has been going on at Vets for Vets including a model of the home and an update on the ongoing renovations to provide additional residential services for veterans in transition and possibly adding services for veteran police officers in need of similar services.

Others in attendance included; Kim Barrett, ER, Jim Vlahos, Terry Embody, Bob Rhoades, Paul Mizic, PER & Gina Custer.

The Committee had an enjoyable afternoon with our Veterans exchanging stories of their Service and common interest in supporting veterans.

We are looking forward to our continued support of the Vets for Vets organization!

May God Bless All our VETERANS!!

Deadline to submit articles for the next edition of “The Pa Elk” is August 25th, 2017

PA Elks State Association
703 Georgian Place
Somerset, PA 15501

The Pennsylvania Elk Subscription Form

Complete this form and mail the information to the address above to receive The Pennsylvania Elk via US Mail.

NAME ____________________________________________________

ADDRESS _________________________________________________

Deadline to submit articles for the next edition of “The Pa Elk” is August 25th, 2017

PA Elks State Association
703 Georgian Place
Somerset, PA 15501

Address Service Requested

Pictured, Ron Nace, PER, Veterans Committee Chair and Jason “Jake” Leone, Founder of Vets for Vets.