

Members,

Communication is a key component of any successful organization. As we are part of a truly successful organization, I want you to know that our Lodge values communications from all members. To help communicate, what is happening at our Lodge, an online calendar has been established. It can be accessed at: http://bit.ly/Elk_Calendar from any web browser. If you are a Facebook user you can also see it by clicking on the use app button on the Lodge Facebook page. This calendar contains the most up to date information with details, times, and more about what's going on in the building.

As stated last month, our Lodge is run by a team of seemingly tireless hard working individuals. An important part of this team are the Trustees, 5 of our fellow members who dedicate 5 years of service to the business operations of the Lodge. They form a board that meets monthly to "purchase all supplies ordered by the Lodge, establish an Accident Prevention Program, and protect the Lodge from claims for accidents and injuries." Having already attended some of their meetings, I can attest this is just a small sample of what Wendell, Russell, Wade "Peanut", Sean, and Dennis are tasked with. Running a business, even a charitable business is no easy task, for their hard work and dedication they deserve our thanks.

The 95th annual Eastern Maine Bowling Tournament was hosted by the Lodge from March 29 to April 1. This was a marathon of bowling, cooking, statistical analysis and numerous other things tasks that needed to be accomplished. On behalf of the lodge, and Laurel Veysey (Chairman), thank you to every one who assisted in the preparation, execution, and clean up. The Houlton #1 team came in third, with Trinity winning and Presque Isle #1 in second. Individually, Doug Merritt took home a trophy as a top average bowler.

On the heels of the EMBT we held our Ebbett cup bowling championship. This tournament named for the wife a past exalted ruler is held annually to determine the women's "club champion". This year the champion was Angel Patterson, with Kasey Cattani placing second and Denise Hannigan coming in third.

As Yogi once said, "you can observe a lot by watching" and I would like to share with you what I have observed to be one of the greatest attributes of our Lodge. Being involved as a spectator and participant in both the bowling and bumper pool activities that seem to dominate much of our winter season, I have watched fraternalism at its best. In the alleys, around the table, and in the lounge there are experienced and seasoned members encouraging, supporting, and praising fellow participants, passing along knowledge and skills. There are "newbies" encouraging and being encouraged, all while working to gain knowledge and experience. It never seems to matter whether the participants are competing for the same prizes, on opposing teams, or team mates. Be it the club championships, a Calcutta, any of the bowling teams, or bumper pool matches, the congratulations are heard all around for successes and everyone is adept at offering constructive tips. While these virtues may be most obvious during sporting events, they also shine through in the day to day bustle of the Lodge. This is true fellowship and is a manifestation of the Golden Rule that continues to provide the ground work for our order. Keep up the great work you do.

Fraternally, Mike

Times Change, Traditions Don't.

Propositions for Membership

This month the following individuals were proposed for membership and have been or will be investigated prior to the next meeting. At the May 9th meeting, following the report of the investigation committee ballots will be cast for: Jordan Wotton proposed by brother Tom Rouse, James Harvey proposed by Brother Dan Hiebert, Weldon Willette proposed by Brother Jim Gravel, and Jesse Small proposed by Brother Tyler Swimm. Also proposed, and awaiting investigation are Jeff Gallop by Brother Daniel Peabody and for reinstatement David Guy, by Brother Wendell Guy.

Lodge Meetings

We will hold our regular meetings on Tuesday May 9 and Tuesday May 23, at 7 PM.

Trustees Meeting

On Tuesday May 9, the trustees will hold their regular meeting at 6 pm.

House Committee Meeting

On Tuesday May 23, the house committee will hold its regular meeting at 6 pm.

Members Suppers

Tuesday May 2nd: Laurel Veysey and Crew: Steaks on the Grill

Tuesday 16th: The Trustees, Rib Eyes on the Grill.

Tuesday May 30th: The officers, Bar-B-Que Chicken.

Mothers Day Breakfast

Please join us on Mother's Day, May 14th, for a complimentary breakfast prepared by Sean Conologue and his crew. This annual tradition is great time and a wonderful way to tell the moms in your life just how special they are.

Law and Order Night

Each year the Grand Lodge requests that local lodges host a Law and Order night in May. The Houlton Police Department will hold their awards banquet in the Lodge on May 19th and in recognition of all they do, we will be donating the Lodge building to them.

835 Spring Clean Up Day

On Saturday June 3rd, we will be holding a spring clean up morning. From 8 to noon, followed by burgers and dogs on the grill we will be cleaning up the kitchen, storage room, and whatever else we have enough crew for. Mark your calendars and please come pitch in, many hands make light work.

From the House Committee

As a reminder to all members and guests, marijuana use in any lodge facility or on lodge property is strictly prohibited. Many of our members are employed by the federal government, work under licenses subject to federal law and are in public service.



Good of the Order

The American Red Cross will be holding a blood drive on the second floor on Tuesday May 30th. If you are able to, please give, blood is always needed, its been estimated that a transfusion occurs every 2 seconds in the United States.

Happy Hour Food

This month will kick off our summer season and that means we shut down the Friday night food. The final night for the Happy Hour Crew will be May 19th and is traditionally a pot luck. We look forward to September and the 3rd annual chili cook off. Mark your calendars for September the 8th.