



KANSAS ELK Sunflower

Official Publication of the Kansas Elks Association, Inc. a fraternal organization

www.kselks.org



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T. Keith Mills
Grand Exalted Ruler

December 2021

A Fraternal Organization

TO: Exalted Rulers
Secretaries

FROM: T. Keith Mills, GER

Re: Scouting Charters/Sponsorship

The Boy Scouts of America (BSA) are defendants in lawsuits alleging inappropriate behavior with Scouts. The alleged abuse could have occurred recently or decades ago. Organizations that supported Scouting are considered "Charter Organizations". There are approximately 275,000 Charter Organizations across the country which include churches, schools, park districts, Lodges, posts, etc.

Lodges may be sued by current and former Scouts if the Lodge supported Scouting. In fact, six Lodges are already in lawsuits. Support of Scouting may include signing a charter or merely allowing Scouts to meet at a Lodge. Prior to 1984 Lodges purchased individual Lodge liability insurance and it is unlikely that sexual abuse allegations were covered in those policies. Currently, the Elks Master Liability Program and Chubb D&O Insurance does not cover allegations of sexual abuse and Lodges will be assuming the risk of liability in the event it or its Officers get sued.

The Boy Scouts of America filed for bankruptcy protection due to 82,500 reported abuse claims. The Bankruptcy Court will consider a Plan to address the abuse claims against the BSA and Charter Organizations. Charter Organizations have three options under the Proposed Plan.

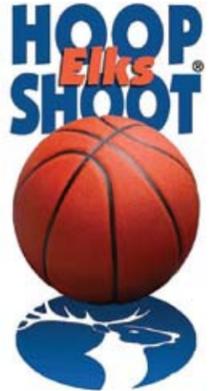
Grand Lodge has retained counsel to evaluate the three options facing Charter Organizations such as Elks Lodges. We expect to have a recommendation from counsel within the next few weeks. Counsel will also comment on a path moving forward for Lodges involved with Scouting. Grand Lodge will share the recommendation(s) provided by counsel with the Lodges once available.

In the interim, Grand Lodge recommends that Lodges who have received the BSA bankruptcy paperwork please refrain from responding to the Proposed Plan (three options) and for all other Lodges refrain from entering into any agreements to sponsor Scouting.

CC: Advisory
Board of Grand Trustees
Grand Forum
Special Deputy Grand Exalted Rulers
Grand Lodge Activities Committee
2021-2022 DDGERs
State Presidents
State Secretaries

Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks • Grand Lodge

February 5th Weekend Activities



State Hoop Shoot

Tony Nash, Parsons

The 2021-2022 Hoop Shoot season is in full swing. All the local contests are done and now the District contests are being held. Please go out and support your shooters.

The state contest will be Saturday, February 5th at 10 a.m., located at Sunrise Christian Academy, 5500 E. 45th St. N., Bel Air, KS.

Since there is NO state meeting, please come and support all of these shooters.

The Regional contest is March 17-19, Colorado Springs, CO.

The National Contest is April 28 - May 1, Chicago, IL.

Please bring face cover because of Covid 19. Respect our shooters, their families and fellow Elks.



State Planning Meeting

Carl Lindsey,
Overland Park

There is a Committee planning meeting Saturday afternoon following the State Hoop Shoot at 3:00 PM in Wichita, at the La Quinta Inn & Suites by Wyndham Wichita Northeast 2660 N. Greenwich Ct, Wichita, KS US (316) 500 6220.

I will be hosting the General Chair committee planning for the May Convention at the Drury Hotel and look forward to seeing you there.

If your committee needs to plan for the Spring Convnetion, get your committee together at the La Quinta Inn.



State Major Project Fundraising

David Foster, Pratt

Anyone interested in helping raise money for KETCH please come to the committee meeting. I will have a raffle and will sell pink tickets on a give away that evening. Come and join the fun.



The Golden Ticket to the 2022 Hoop Shoot National Finals

The Golden Ticket: A \$50 donation to the Hoop Shoot program could be your ticket to the 50th anniversary National Finals. #hoopshoot50

2022 will be a brand-new and bigger-than-ever year for the Hoop Shoot. It marks the Hoop Shoot's 50th anniversary as a national program, and the Elks intend to deliver a gold-medal National Finals for a golden anniversary.

On April 30, 2022, 72 National Finalists will toe the line at Wintrust Arena, a new state-of-the-art, 10,000-seat facility in downtown Chicago that's home to the 2021 WNBA Champion Chicago Sky and DePaul University's Blue Demons. The 2022 Finalists will step up to the same line as some of basketball's best.

In celebration of this Golden Anniversary, five lucky donors will be selected to win a Golden Ticket—a trip for two to the 2022 Elks Hoop Shoot National Finals.

Donate \$50 or more to the Hoop Shoot fund this fiscal year for a shot at a Golden Ticket—round-trip airfare for two to Chicago, onsite ground transportation, a two-night stay at the Hilton Chicago, and two complimentary registrations for all public events at the 2022 National Finals.

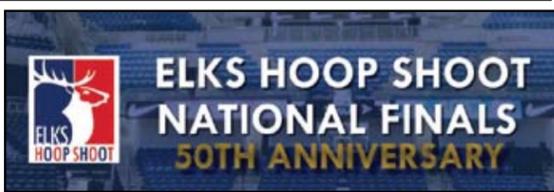
One winner will be selected each month from December to April. Donors not selected in a drawing will be eligible for the next drawing(s), so donate early to maximize your opportunity to win. The winners will be announced on Facebook Live. The Golden Tickets are non-transferable. If the winner is unable to attend, the Elks National Foundation staff will select a new recipient of the Golden Ticket.

Draw 1: December 1—completed Draw 2: January 3 Draw 3: February 1 Draw 4: March 1 Draw 5: April 1

Where Are They Now

Back-to-back Hoop Shoot National Champion Taylor Robertson has carried the lessons she learned as a competitor in 2010, 2012 and 2013 to her college career. Practice paid off for her in the Hoop Shoot, and it still pays off for her as a guard for Oklahoma Women's Basketball—she makes 300 shots a day to hone her game. On December 21, she made her 377th career three-point shot, becoming Oklahoma's all time three-point leader. And on Wednesday, she broke the Big 12 Conference record of 392: she made her 393rd career three-point shot. She's also the first Big 12 player to hit 100 or more 3s in back-to-back seasons.

And that's not all—this season, she's hit 56 of 57 free throws made, and set yet another Big 12 record for consecutive free throws made after scoring 60 straight all the way back to February 2020.



APRIL 30, 2022 CHICAGO, IL



Elks Care - Elks Share

P2 KEA Articles | P3 GL Articles | P4 KEA Committee Reports | P5 Community Charitable Activities | P6 GL Committees | P7 - 8 KETCH

President

James Standen, Overland Park



The Kansas Elks Association is over 100 years old. Our Order is 153 years old. There are 19 Elks Lodges in Kansas. These are, of course, all numbers. Numbers are everywhere. We have phone numbers, house numbers, SAT and other entrance exam numbers, social security numbers, employee numbers, income and expense numbers, Elks Lodge

numbers, Elks membership numbers and Elks National Foundation contribution numbers. There was once even a TV show called "Numbers" and yes there is the Book of Numbers in the Holy Bible. I think you get the idea. Numbers are constantly with us and out of necessity they play an enormous part of our everyday existence. As was once said, "What you can not measure, you can not manage". Your Lodge has many more numbers than those mentioned above to deal with, but I want to focus on three of them here.

These numbers are our membership of record, active members and the lapsation list. Whatever these numbers are in your Lodge, they interact and play on each other. Every Elk is a member of the membership committee and our active members are constantly bringing potential members in for a visit. We are witnessing the making of what could be a very good, remarkable and outstanding year for Kansas Elks membership. I want to see every Kansas Member have a sense as being part of it. So, if you are one of those able-bodied but less than "active" members, I urge you to make an extra effort to attend more meetings, programs and Lodge and club functions as well as recruitment of new Members. If you are on the lapsation list I hope you will reconsider

your reluctance to pay your dues and dropping your membership. I sincerely hope that if you are one of those 415 Kansas Elks who has not paid this year's dues, you will do so now and remain a part of a great 153-year-old Brotherhood rich with a history of charity, community and national service.

I am pleased that we have the many new Members this year in Kansas and I look forward to more joining us in the three months remaining in this Lodge year. We must continue with this tide of new Members and reinstatements and keep it as a primary goal. New Members not only mean basic growth, but vitality, new ideas and energy. Our fate as an Order, a state association and the several Lodges is determined by what we do and accomplish over the remaining three months of this Lodge year and for that matter even past that. No matter what active role you choose, I guarantee that it will benefit you and your Lodge. I ask each Kansas Elk to make every effort they can to support our Elks membership, programs and activities. Your membership card is your passport; please make timely and good use of it.

**"Protecting Elkdom
- Serving Communities"**

2nd Vice President

Roger Slief, Pratt



I hope everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year with their family and friends!

The Pratt Lodge prepared Christmas baskets for people in need in our community as I am sure the other Lodges in the District did. Also, they have been hard at work with Grant related activities.

We should all be proud of what our organization provides for our communities and I am

so appreciative of these people who make these activities such a success.

I hope all Lodges are still striving to exceed Grand Exalted Ruler ENF goal for the year and working on membership as well.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the State Hoop Shoot on February 5th and the committee meetings in Wichita.

Look forward to seeing everyone in February.

**Kansas Elks Association
Convention 2022 --- May 5 - May 8
Registration**

*Drury Plaza Hotel Broadview
400 W Douglas Ave, Wichita, KS 67202 *** 316-262-5000 *** KEA Block rate \$129 +taxes
Reservations: 800-325-0720 (must reference group #2450591) *** room block cutoff is April 2, 2022*

PLEASE REGISTER EARLY!

Reduced fees for registrations and payments received on or before 4/2/2022

**Early Bird Hotel and
Convention Registration
April 2, 2022**

Member:

Name: (Please Print) _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Lodge: _____ Lodge No.: _____

Spouse/Companion: Spouse/Companion is a: Member Lodge No.: _____ Non-member

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Registrations received on or before April 2, 2022

Number Attending Convention: _____ @ \$60.00 per person= \$ _____

**Includes banquet, hospitality room, and convention functions. Does not include convention brunch.*

Number Attending Brunch: _____ @ \$20.00 per person= \$ _____

Total Registration Fee: \$ _____

Name of Person(s) Attending Brunch: _____

Registrations received after April 2, 2022

Number Attending Convention: _____ @ \$75.00 per person= \$ _____

**Includes banquet, hospitality room, and convention functions. Does not include convention brunch.*

Number Attending Brunch: _____ @ \$25.00 per person= \$ _____

Total Registration Fee: \$ _____

Name of Person(s) Attending Brunch: _____

Send registration form and payment to:
(Make checks payable to Kansas Elks Association)

Venita Ruhnke, Registration Chair
810 Utah
Hiawatha, KS 66434-2324
785-285-0915 venita1741@yahoo.com

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ADDRESS CORRECTIONS:

We order our mailing labels through Grand Lodge so if you have an address change, your Lodge secretary can make that change for you through CLMS2. Thanks!

SPECIAL NOTE:

If your Lodge isn't mentioned in this edition;

- 1) Articles were not submitted by your Lodge
- 2) The Editor did not receive any of your Lodge bulletins or e-mails.
- 3) There wasn't any charitable or benevolent news included in your bulletins. Please submit bulletins and articles to the editor so they may be published.



Atchison #647 delivered TV and patio heaters along with putting up disk golf cages at the VA in Leavenworth. Pictured are past Exalted Rulers Trustee VA coordinator and Exalted Ruler plus the Grant writer. Roger and Judy Denton, Gary Wilson, Katie Kohler, Larry Beeson, Steve and Debbie Betts

Scan this code with your smartphone or mobile device to visit www.kselks.org and this Sunflower.



James M. McQuillan, PGER
Kansas Sponsor

HELLO KANSAS ELKS!
Time for another message for the Kansas Sunflower and it is also time for another year

to arrive in three (3) days – 2022! This past year has been one for the books some positive and unfortunately many negative happenings. Continuing issues with the Covid pandemic probably top the list for many but even for an optimist it seems far too many other things are cause for concern – fast increasing inflation, our open southern border with all the issues it brings with it, the inability of employers and business to hire workers, and the unrest and racial divide among many citizens to name a few. Probably you can name others of more significance to you. Regardless of one’s political persuasion, I think it would be difficult to dispute the fact that we are in for trying times in 2022.

For decades the Elks of America have been engaged with scouting, Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and the many award programs of those organizations. Elks have provided certificates to boys and girls for the following: Boy Scout Eagle Scout, Girl Scout Gold, Girl Scout Silver, Girl Scout Bronze, Cub Scout Arrow of Light, to name a few. Also up to four (4) Scouting Leaders have been recognized by the Marvin M. Lewis Award given during our National Conven-

tion. Many of you no doubt have been involved with Scouting through or outside of Elk activities.

The Boy Scout organization filed for bankruptcy protection as a result of thousands of lawsuits filed by persons alleging sexual abuse. This has involved us as Elks and the Grand Lodge currently is evaluating what course of action the Elks should take nationally and on the local Lodge level. Lodges will receive communication soon so stay tuned.

Scouting is all about developing leadership skills in our young boys and girls. Speaking of leadership, soon it will be time for our Lodges to nominate and elect the Lodge leaders for the coming year. This is one of the most important, if not the most important, function of the Lodge as the success of the Lodge depends in large part on the knowledge, work and dedication of Lodge officers and trustees. They must, in addition to the duties of officers and trustees, inspire members to participate in the good works and activities of the Lodge. I encourage you reading this article to consider becoming an officer or trustee of your Lodge and I can almost guarantee you you will get as much

or more out of your service as the time and effort you put in.

This year Elks will celebrate the 50th anniversary of our most visible and successful youth activity – the Hoop Shoot. Local Lodges should be holding the local shoots which lead to identifying the boys and girls who will advance to District, State and Regional Contests and ultimately the winners of the Regional contests will advance to the National Finals in Chicago on Saturday, April 30, 2022. This will be a special event and all Elk members can attend. Kansas Elks have been very active and supportive of the Regional Hoop Shoot Contest held each year in the Denver area. Thanks for the annual support you have provided to the program through your attendance.

As the years go by, family is even more important to me and the Elks are an extended part of my family and Kansas Elks are a close part of that extended family. Thank you for your continuing friendship and support. Hope to see many of you at the Spring Convention in Wichita May 5 through May 8. God Bless all Kansas Elks.

Sincerely and Fraternally



SDGER Message
Frank Springer, Chanute

Happy New Year to all Kansas Elks! Although the calendar has changed, our fraternal year does not change until April 1st. We still have 3 months to go and these 3 months are especially important to the success of your Lodge. Don’t sit back and let them pass you by.

The future of your Lodge leadership is in play. Recruiting new leadership is the most important task I can think of for a successful Elks Lodge. Nominations are just around the corner at the first Lodge meeting in February. Elections follow at the second Lodge meeting in February. New officer training comes around on March 12th. This year’s officer training will be held in Abilene. (Find more information on the Leadership Training Seminar in this issue of the Sunflower.)

The annual officer nomination and election process is governed by Statute Sections 3.080 and 3.090. I encourage you to read

them in advance and contact your District Deputy or me before your nomination meeting if you have question. The most common question that comes up every year is, “do nominations remain open at the election meeting?” The answer is, “it depends on whether there is someone already nominated for that office.” For example, if there are one or more members nominated for Exalted Ruler at your first February meeting, then no further nominations for Exalted Ruler may be made at your election meeting (the 2nd meeting in February). On the flip side, if there are no nominations for Exalted Ruler at your first February meeting, then nominations remain open at all future meetings until there is a nomination for that office. At such a time, nominations would close and an election would be held at the same meeting.

As I mentioned above, the next 3 months are especially important for the success of your Lodge. Finish the Elks year strong! Hoop Shoot is in full swing. Scholarships are being judged and advancing to ultimate rewards. ENF per capita donations still need to be met for grant qualification. Delinquent members need to be brought back into the fold.

I hope you get the picture... take a deep breath and commit to do your part for a successful Lodge year. My slogan has always been carpe diem... seize the day! For yesterday is gone and tomorrow is uncertain... make the most you can of today.

For you new members... WELCOME! As I write this letter, there are over 250 of you

across the state. You too can seize the day and help your Lodge. The easiest thing you can do is get a handful of applications and sign up your friends to be members. You’ll have more fun as an Elk with more of your friends at your side. I also encourage you to volunteer for the Lodge activities, be them social or charitable. Ask your Lodge Secretary for a list of your Lodge’s committee chairpersons. Find one that interests you and give the chairperson a call to find out how you can help. Your fresh ideas are needed to grow and prosper the Elks within your community.

For you old members... Time has not passed you by. You have an investment to protect in your Elks Lodge. What better way to protect your investment than to accept a leadership role in the Lodge’s future? I challenge each of you to be a part of the future leadership team for your Lodge.

Let me switch gears for a minute to talk about the upcoming Grand Lodge session in Atlanta, July 3-6, 2022. I just returned from my pre-convention arrangement trip to the Kansas delegation’s assigned hotel, the Westin Peachtree Plaza. The Westin Peachtree is Atlanta’s premier 5-star hotel. Located right in the heart of downtown Atlanta, adjacent to Centennial Olympic Park. The convention center is an easy walk from the Westin through the park. There are also more restaurants, bars, theaters, culture centers, parks, and other attractions within a two block radius of the Westin than you can possibly visit in a week. Plus, Atlanta’s MARTA (Metro Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority) will take you anywhere else in the city you want to go.

Atlanta truly earns its nicknames, The Big Peach and New York of the South. I hope you are making plans now to join us in Atlanta this July. It will be a Grand Lodge to remember! You can view pictures I took in Atlanta during my pre-visit on the Kansas Elks FaceBook page. I will have more information available at the Leadership Training Seminar on March 12th. The reservation form is published in this issue of the Sunflower and is also available on the Kansas Elks website; <http://kselks.org/>.

Linda and I look forward to seeing everyone at the State Hoop Shoot in Wichita, February 5th and at the Leadership Training Seminar in Abilene, March 12th. Until then, we wish you a very happy and blessed New Year.



Diamonds are Forever
ENF News

A diamond is forever, much like the bond between the Elks National Foundation and its donors. That’s why the ENF created the Diamond level of the cumulative recognition program, which honors lifetime gifts totaling \$100,000. Through the course of their lifetime, Diamond Donors have committed themselves to the Foundation’s cause and its future.

Jody Patterson, a member of Pendleton, S.C., Lodge No. 2861; Ward Marsh, a member of Cadillac, Mich., Lodge No. 680; and Charlie Lester, a member of Wichita, Kansas, Lodge No. 427, all reached the Diamond level this year. They join one other living Diamond member, Pat Heller, a member of Edgewater-New Smyrna Beach, Fla., Lodge No. 1557, and other Diamond Donors who have since passed away.

Jody Patterson joined the Diamond ranks at the end of the last fiscal year. A Past Exalted Ruler, Patterson is deeply involved with fundraising for the ENF. She’s served as the Pendleton Lodge and South Carolina State ENF Fundraising Chair since 2017, spreading the word about ENF programs, including her favorite: the Most Valuable Student scholarship. She honored her late husband by naming the Jeffrey E. Patterson Memorial MVS Scholarship through the ENF’s named scholarship program.

Charlie Lester and his late wife joined the Elks because she wanted a place for them to dance. The Lodge became more than that to the Lesters—it became a place of community, one filled with hope for the future.

Lester has devoted himself to the Elks. He held roles as Exalted Ruler of the Wichita Lodge, as Kansas State President, and as Chairman of the Grand Lodge Membership Committee. Much like Patterson, he is dedicated to the MVS scholarship program, serving as MVS Coordinator. He also volunteers at the Lodge Hoop Shoot contest and has traveled to Colorado for the regional contest every year since 1993.

Lester is also a member of the John F. Malley Society. His planned gift to the ENF ensures his support of youth will continue in perpetuity.

“The more I give to the Foundation, the better I feel. It makes me feel good to do something for someone else. If I can help more kids along the way, I’ve accomplished something.”

Learn more about the Elks National Foundation’s donor recognition programs at enf.elks.org/recognition.

<https://www.elks.org/ENF/news.cfm?StoryID=128840>



Northeast DDGER
Aldie Ensminger, Atchison

By now it’s likely many of us are trying to lose the pounds that were put on over the Holidays and many may be trying to execute on those New Year’s Resolutions. Basically we are focused on being better this year than last and that can be carried over into our Lodges (minus the part where most give up

trying in a month.)

During our visits we became aware of the many good things happening in Elkdom, but we all had areas to work on. Sometimes it could be keeping the momentum going or possibly getting a new project off the ground but I would ask you to apply some “New Year’s” energy to your Lodge. We all need to be thinking about finishing this year strong and at the same time figuring out who among us will take the reins for the upcoming year. I am asking existing Officers and Committee Chairs to identify who will carry the momentum if you will not be staying in your role, then work on getting them ready! Elections are coming in Feb. but we need to recruit the right people now. We need to get newer members involved and excited to contribute to our wonderful causes. If you will not be staying in your role, “Train Your Replacement” and look for who will be teaching you about your new role! Share your knowledge, share your ideas and most of all - Share your

Passion!! All of this will lead to more people sharing the work which is a Win-Win-Win (You, your Lodge, and your Community).

But wait, there’s more. The KEA will be holding its Spring Leadership Training meeting on March 12th in Abilene. The following day will be a combined DD Clinic with all three Districts in attendance. Experience has shown that a get-together with fellow Elks leads to sharing of ideas, new friendships, renewed enthusiasm for our causes and of course fun. With any luck it WILL be contagious, and a great kickoff to the new fiscal year. Even if you are not expected to be there, I hope many of you will come anyway.

Don’t forget to actually attend any of the upcoming Hoop Shoot events and/or any functions of your Lodge. We have to be active in our Lodge’s events for them to turn out well.

As always, if I can be of any assistance please let me know. I can be reached at 913-426-0011, or you can find me at an event near you.



Southeast DDGER
Kathy Clark, El Dorado

Hello everyone, the smile on my face as I write this in December is from our wonderful weather. By the time you read this we will probably have had snow. We are over halfway through our Elk year. I want to thank all the Lodges and members for their hard work. With your continued work our communities know that *Elks Care ~ Elks Share*.

The State Hoop shoot will be held in Wichita and a not on the books meeting held to help with the arrangements for our May Convention. Leadership training and DD Clinics are our next events. The Leadership training and DD Clinics will be held at the Abilene Lodge. The Leadership training will be held on Saturday and the Clinics to

follow on Sunday morning.

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving and enjoyed their Christmas and New Years.

“Meeting The Challenge”

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season filled with friends and family. The passing of the holiday season it is now time to look at finishing the Elk year out strong. Membership recruitment doesn’t have to freeze with the temperatures. There is still time to bring in new members. Lodge elections are right around the corner as well. This is the time to step up in your Lodge and take

an office, help grow the Lodge, and guide the Lodge in great directions. If an office is not for you, I encourage you to join a committee. From Hoop Shoot, Americanism, to Fraternal, there is always plenty of committees in need of members. Every Lodge can use your help in serving the members and your communities.



West DDGER
Jonathan McClung, Goodland

Kansas Elks Association Drug Awareness Program

Burton Pianalto

In a Zoom Meeting on January 7th between the DEA and the Elk's Drug Awareness State Chairpersons, the DEA asked we as an organization to get the word out about this growing drug crisis sweeping across the nation. With the DEA's campaign "One Pill can Kill" they are providing information about the use of Fentanyl in the counterfeit prescription pills. Please educate yourself and your children to help fight against this growing problem. I will be posting more information on the Kansas Elk's Drug Awareness Program Facebook page. Please visit and share information with your friends and family. #OnePillCanKill

The United States prescription drug overdose crisis has reached a devastating new height with more than 100,000 people dying over the last year from drug overdoses.

In December the Drug Enforcement Agency's (DEA) press release titled "DEA Reveals Criminal Drug Networks Are Flooding the U.S. with Deadly Fentanyl" the subtitle read: DEA Seizes Enough Fentanyl in 2021 to Provide A Lethal Dose to Every American. This alarming fact is hitting close to home. These Criminal Drug Networks are flooding the United States with pills that look just like the prescription drugs you would get from your pharmacy. This is especially scary with the fact our children and young adults are having gatherings called rainbow parties. These are parties where the children and young adults bring whatever prescription pills, they have, or they can get their hands on and dump them into a bowl with all the other pills. You get the idea. These counterfeits prescription pills are easy to purchase by anyone

with a cell phone or a computer though the social media. There is even emojis symbols that are used to indicate what pill they want to buy so the name of the pill is never said in the social media.

The key points about the counterfeit prescription pill epidemic sweeping America is:

- Criminal drug networks are mass-producing fake pills and falsely marketing them as legitimate prescription pills to deceive the American public.
- Counterfeit pills are easy to purchase, widely available, often contain fentanyl or methamphetamine, and can be deadly.
- Fake prescription pills are easily accessible and often sold on social media and e-commerce platforms, making them available to anyone with a smartphone, including minors.
- Many counterfeit pills are made to look like prescription opioids such as oxycodone (Oxycontin®, Percocet®), hydrocodone (Vicodin®), and alprazolam (Xanax®); or stimulants like amphetamines (Adderall®).

The DEA Lab testing the pills seized over the last year reveals that four (4) out of every ten (10) pills with fentanyl contained a potentially lethal dose of fentanyl. You might ask, why would they create pill for their customers pills that contain a potentially lethal dose for the average person. One explanation could be that the dosage of fentanyl is so small, the amount that would fit on the head of a pin would be enough to kill a normal person, combined with the manufacturing methods are not very accurate, create a dangerous situation. One would also ask, why would they even put fentanyl into their fake pills. The short answer is fentanyl is one of the most addictive substances and it takes fewer doses for a person to become highly addicted to the substance. The drug dealers are simply increasing the number of people addicted they can profit from. The only safe medication are the ones that come from the licensed pharmacies. The best way to combat this epidemic is through education.

Major Project

David Foster, Pratt

Hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving and holiday season. I am still receiving pink ticket mailings. We have collected \$5300 to the good. The state Hoop Shoot will be held in Wichita first weekend in February and they are planning a Committee's meeting that Saturday afternoon in Wichita, at the La Quinta Inn & Suites by Wyndham Wichita Northeast 2660 N. Greenwich Ct, Wichita, KS US (316) 500 6220.

Anyone interested in helping raise money for KETCH please come. I will have a raffle and will sell pink tickets on a give away that evening. Come and join the fun.

Lodge Activity

Carl Lindsey, Overland Park

The Lodges can submit a nomination for Kansas Elks Association "Elk of the Year". Nomination should be submitted before March 5th to Carl Lindsey at celjr76@gmail.com

Kansas Elks Association Changes

Address

Venita Ruhnke
810 Utah
Hiawatha, KS 66434-2324

Entertainment Committee

Kasey Voss, Pratt

The entertainment committee would like to know if the Lodges will be participating Friday night with a fundraiser at the Spring Convention. If you are in need of tables and chairs for your activity please let the committee know.

There are other activities planned for Friday night along with a DJ. If you have any music request you would like to be played, please submit those ahead of time.



To Our Absent Members

El Dorado #1407

J D Reinhart

Osawatomie #921

Kenneth Crouch

Roger Mathia

Overland Park #2395

Agnes States

Russell #1715

Hon. Robert J Dole

Sunflower Donors

Tony Nash, Parsons

Some widows have donated to the Sunflower. We would like to thank them.

Connie Hatcher

Jane Gingles

Janet Habluetzel

Leadership Seminar

Carl Lindsey, Overland Park

Letters will be sent to each individual Lodge The Leadership Seminar will be held March 12, 2022 at the Abilene Lodge #1675. Registration will open at 9:30 a.m.

The Hotel has rooms blocked off. Members should make and pay for their own rooms and then submit a voucher to the State Secretary for reimbursement. The KEA will pay for one night stay hotel room for double occupancy. If there is only one person in the room 1/2 of the room cost will be reimbursed.

Holiday Inn Express

110 E. Lafayette,

Abilene, Kansas 67410

(785) 263-4049

\$94.99 + tax per night

Lunch on Saturday will be provided by the Kansas Elks Association. It will be a light lunch. Following the Seminar will be a Happy Hour. Dinner Saturday night will be on your own. The menu will be set by the Lodge.

There will be a new format this year. We are trying to prepare and support the officers in their positions. Such as their duties and responsibilities.

Sunday will be DD Clinics for all 3 districts. Breakfast will be provided by the Abilene Lodge. The District Deputies will conduct their clinics with their normal agendas.

Grant Writing

Trish Halstead, Clay Center

The deadline to apply for the 2021-22 Gratitude, Beacon and Spotlight grant is January 17, 2022. Remember Lodges can merge the Beacon and Spotlight grants together and only have to meet the requirements of the Beacon grant. All grant projects and grant funding must be completed by March 31, 2022.

Final Grant Reports are due online by March 31, 2022, or within 30 days from the project completion date entered on grant proposal. If final report is not completed timely, Lodge will be out of compliance and ineligible for other grants until resolved.

Lodges shall work on meeting the GER per member ENF goal of \$4.80 this year to be eligible for the Gratitude Grant next year.

•A \$500 Bonus will be added to the grant next year if 15 percent of the individual members donated at least \$10 to ENF in the 2021 Elk Year

•A \$500 Bonus will be added to the grant next year if 5 percent of the ENF donors were enrolled in the Fidelity Club in the 2021 Elk Year

For the 2021-22 grant year, we currently have 13 Lodges approved for 30 grants totaling \$76,000. Great job!

We have 6 Lodges that have not applied for any grants this year. There is still time! However, your grant project must be completed by March 31, 2022.

Grant information and reports can be found at www.elks.org/cip.

If you need any help with grants, please contact Trish Halstead, 785-632-0035, trishh@twinvalley.net

Public Relations

Deb Zang, Pratt

I would like to begin by congratulating the Lodges that have done outstanding projects and work since the last issue. Although I haven't received many bulletins or communications, I have many of you that have shared with me the wonderful things that are happening throughout out state.

Congratulations to Pratt, Goodland, Junction City, Atchison and El Dorado. I have read and watched your activities on social media. Good Job! You and your members should be proud!

Just think if all the Lodges would step-up and submit monthly articles what we would find out! It is very important to keep up-to-date on what is going on in your Lodge. I know that all the Lodges are doing wonderful things, especially at this time of the year. Take pictures, submit articles to your local newspapers, etc. Please send me bulletins, articles, etc. I would like to be able to share them with other Lodges and members.

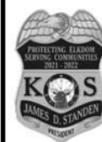
Contact me with any questions or concerns. I look forward to hearing from you and how you are spreading the words of Elkdom.

Remember to BE LOUD, BE PROUD, BE VISIBLE and BE HEARD!

Veterans

Gary Wilson, Atchison

Well I still don't have any good news to report on as we are still locked out of the facility. We were allowed to go onto the grounds to set some goal posts. We can't give until we get through this pandemic. I will let you know as soon as I can.



"Serving Communities" Dates To Remember

January 15th

Southeast District Hoop Shoot
Parsons, KS

January 16th

Northeast District Hoop Shoot
Atchison, KS

January 29th

West District Hoop Shoot
Pratt, KS

February 5th

State Hoop Shoot
Wichita, KS

February 5th - 6th

State Committee Meetings
Wichita, KS

March 5th

Elk of the Year nominations due
Kansas Elks Association

March 12th

Leadership Seminar
Abilene, KS

March 13th

NE - SE - W District Deputy Clinics
Abilene, KS

March 18th - 20th

Regional Hoop Shoot
Colorado Springs, CO

April 30th

National Hoop Shoot
Chicago, IL

May 5-8

KEA Spring Convention
Wichita, KS

Leadership Training Seminar - Kansas Elks Association

Abilene Elks Lodge #1675 located at 417 NW. 4th St., Abilene, KS Saturday, March 12, 2022

Hour	Time	Subject	Presenter(s)
9:30 - 10:00	:30	Seminar Registration: Abilene Elks Lodge #1675	David Foster, PSP, Carl Lindsey, PSP
10:00 - 10:10	:10	Call to order, prayer, flag salute, introduction of honored guests, & explanation of meeting	David Foster, PDD, PSP
10:10 - 10:20	:10	All presenters & participants participate in an ice breaker.	Carl Lindsey, PDD, PSP
Comments on which Lodge they represent, what they hope to gain from the seminar, and areas of special interest.			
10:20 - 10:30	:10	Break	
10:30 - 12:30	2:00	Membership, Retention, Orientation & Publication	Rick Gathen, GL Membership, Marketing, Manager
12:30 - 1:30	1:00	Complimentary Lunch at Abilene Elks Lodge (included in registration)	
1:30 - 3:00		Secretary Breakout Session	
1:30 - 1:50	:20	An Exalted Rulers Duties !	James Standen, PDD, KEA President
1:50 - 2:00	:10	Trustees and their roll in the Lodge	Roger Slief, 2nd VP
2:00 - 2:10	:10	Hoop Shoot Dashboard	Tony Nash, PSP, State Chair
2:10 - 3:00	:50	Drug Awareness Presentation	Burton Pianalto, DA Chair
3:00		Secretaries return from breakout meeting	
3:00 - 3:10	:10	Break	
3:10 - 3:30	:20	KETCH, State Major Project	KETCH Representative
3:30 - 3:40	:10	Elks National Foundation "The Great Heart of Elkdom"	Bruce Boone, KEA 1st VP, KEA Chr.
3:40 - 3:55	:15	Grant Writing (due dates, and maximizing grant money)	Trish Halstead, PER, KEA Chair
3:55 - 4:05	:10	Lodge Protocol	Frank Springer, PGL Inner Guard, PDD, PSP, KEA Secretary
4:05 - 4:15	:10	Break	
Conventions			
4:15 - 4:35	:15	Looking Forward to Grand Lodge, Atlanta, GA July 3 - 6, 2022	Bruce Boone, KEA 1st VP, KEA Chr. Frank Springer, PGL Inner Guard, PDD, PSP, KEA Secretary
4:35 - 4:50	:15	Looking Forward to KEA Spring Convention, Wichita May 5 - May 8, 2022	James Standen, KEA President Frank Springer, PGL Inner Guard, PDD, PSP, KEA Secretary
4:50 - 5:30	:35	Closing comments and announcements. Fill out critique sheets	David Foster, PDD, PSP
5:30 - 6:00	:30	Cocktail Party & Reception (included in registration) Lounge	



- Abilene Lodge invites you to enjoy their lounge after this evening's dinner. Dinner on your own will be available at the Lodge, 6:30 PM.
- Enjoy your year in office. Make it FUN, work the programs, and grow your Lodge! The Seminar is complete.
- **Thank you for coming and All District Meetings will be Sunday at 9:00 a.m.**



Clay Center #2253 hosted the 15th Annual Toy Run. Riders on over 90 motorcycles participated and donated toys to the Elks. New Elks member Gary Davies and friend Steven Hill donated 22 used bicycles and 1 go cart. The Lodge will distribute the toys and bicycles to families with a need.



Gary Davies and Steven Hill with some of the bicycles they donated. Bike Riders with American Flags at the toy run.

October Kids of Clay County project was in recognition of First Responders. First responder binders filled with pictures and stories done by the kids were delivered with special treats to the EMS, Sheriff/Police and Fire Department. They also delivered home-made goodies. They held a Veteran's Soup Supper where Veterans ate free and received a special treat. The proceeds from the paying guests went to the Elks Kansas Honor Flight Fund to sponsor an Elk Veteran. They had monthly breakfasts with proceeds going to help with their local Elks projects.

For December the Kids of Clay County project delivered Christmas Cards to the Clients and Staff at Big Lakes Development Center. In December they hosted a breakfast for Shop with a Cop. Members distributed USDA Commodities to 101 households and 245 families. They distributed toys to 40 families with 140 kids.

Part of their ENF Beacon Grant was used to purchase Christmas presents for the clients at Big Lakes.



Clay Center #2253 displayed all of late PSP Eugene Bauer's memberships cards. Gene was proud to be an Elk member. Every membership card is pictured here.

El Dorado #1407 participated in the Veteran's Day Parade and gave out free hotdogs to those attending the parade. They also held their annual Chicken Noodle Feed for Veterans where all Veterans ate free. Their Americanism committee received around 90 essays for the contest. The winners were recognized at The Spotlight on Youth night where they read their essays. The Lodge hosted the State and Mid America Soccer Shoot. The Lodge held their annual Memory Service. They donated to Wreaths Across America. The Lodge held their local Hoop Shoot. They pulled the Hoop Shoot trailer in the Christmas Parade. On Christmas Eve members rang bells for the Salvation Army.



Junction City #1037 used \$300 from their Gratitude Grant to donate to Washington Elementary to purchase turkeys for their "Turkey Bingo".



Junction City #1037 used \$400 from their Gratitude Grant to make a donation to Wheels of Hope

**ELKS GRAND LODGE CONVENTION 2022
HOTEL ROOM & GROUP TOUR RESERVATIONS**

*** Reservations must be made through KEA Secretary, Frank Springer ***

The Westin Peachtree Plaza Hotel
210 Peachtree Street, NW, Atlanta, GA 30303

<https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/atpl-the-westin-peachtree-plaza-atlanta/>

Grand Lodge Opening Ceremony is at 4:00 PM, Sunday, July 3, 2022

Grand Lodge concluding session is 8:00-11:00 AM, Wednesday, July 6, 2022

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Email: _____

Day Phone: _____ Eve Phone: _____

Lodge Name & No.: _____ Spouse/Companion Name: _____

Number in Room: _____ adults _____ children King Bed Two Beds

Arrival date _____ Departure Date _____
(4:00 PM Check-In) (11:00 AM Check-Out)

- Room Rate: \$124 + 16.9% tax + \$5 Georgia Hotel Fee = \$149.96 per night. Room rate is available Tues, June 28, 2022 through Fri, July 8, 2022.
- The Westin is the Grand Lodge Co-Headquarter Hotel for 2022. It is moments away from Atlanta's best-known attractions - from the Georgia Aquarium and the World of Coca-Cola to State Farm Arena, Centennial Olympic Park and Mercedes-Benz Stadium. It's also connected to downtown Atlanta's AmericasMart.
- Complimentary bus/shuttle service will be provided to and from all Grand Lodge functions and meetings.
- Valet Parking will be discounted \$5 off their normal \$49 daily rate for Elks. (More parking information will be available later.)
- Airport to Westin average cab fare \$35+tip one way. Uber & other ride service fares are similar. Subway is cheapest; \$2.50 one way.
- Complimentary Wi-Fi, complimentary Fitness Center, spectacular views of downtown Atlanta.
- Take an exhilarating glass elevator ride up 70 stories where spectacular views of Atlanta await. The Sun Dial Restaurant, Bar & View is the Westin's award-winning fine dining destination, the perfect place to eat for a romantic dinner with a view.
- One night's deposit -or- credit card information must accompany your reservation. Any Cash Deposit checks should be made payable to the hotel... The Westin Peachtree Plaza Hotel

Visa Mastercard Discover American Express

Card Number: _____ Exp. Date ____/____

Credit Card Security Code (3 digit code on back of card) _____

Check if you are: E.R. D.D.Designee GL Officer/Comm.

SELECTION	NO. OF TICKETS	PRICE EACH	TOTAL
Hospitality Room (Required)		\$50	\$
KEA Group Tour & Dinner (optional)		\$85	\$
TOTAL (make check payable to KEA)			\$

RESERVATION DEADLINE is May 15, 2022

Return this reservation form to:

Frank Springer, KEA Secretary, 923 S Highland Ave, Chanute, KS 66720-3018
or scan and email to: springer.frank@gmail.com 620-431-8577

Junction City #1037 used \$300 from their Gratitude Grant to donate to Washington Elementary to purchase turkeys for their "Turkey Bingo".



Junction City #1037 celebrated Veterans Day and the Marines Birthday. They also donated the use of the Lodge to a unit on Ft. Riley so that they could do a power point presentation & breakfast.

Osawatomie #921 at the end of October took pumpkins, cider, and doughnuts to the clients of Tri-Ko and helped with their Halloween party. They also took Tri-Ko clients to a movie in Ottawa and then back to Osawatomie for a pizza lunch. They also provided warm weather clothing items, personal hygiene items, and a few other things to the clients for their Christmas party. This was all done with money from their Impact Grant. They held their local Hoop Shoot. They also had their Memorial Service followed by a dinner. With their Freedom Grant they purchased roadside emergency kits, portable battery jumpers, ice scrapers, blankets, towels, cleaners, and tire gauges for 13 cars that Cars4Heroes gave away on Veterans Day to honor the 13 fallen soldiers in the Kabul airport attack in August. The event was held at the WW1 Memorial in Kansas City. They held their Memorial Service followed by a dinner The Lodge had their local Hoop Shoot.

Ottawa #803 members were in the Veteran's Day Parade. The Lodge had a breakfast for Veterans. They held their local Soccer Shoot and Hoop Shoot. Members worked in a food trailer for a Car Show. They held a dinner for COF clients and staff.

Overland Park #2395 held a Children's Halloween party. The Lodge held a Veteran's Dinner. Members collected canned goods and "Toys for Tots" during the Thanksgiving and Christmas season for those less fortunate. They also adopted a family for Christmas. They held their Memorial Service. A Children's Christmas party was held, and Santa visited the children. Their local Hoop Shoot was held.



Pratt #1451 hosted Vietnam Veterans receiving Kansas medals, medallions, and certificates at their Veterans Meal/Program. They spent hours gathering the information from these Vietnam Veterans and they were so willing to cooperate. They knew it was important to them. Pictured L/R 1st row: Steve Parsons, Gordon Stull, Gail Dancaster (wife of Harley Dancaster), Darryl Horst, Kenny Gates, George Stevens, Ross Hoyt, Shirley Raney (wife of Dennis Raney), Kent Monte, Taylor Clark (Miss Kansas) Pictured L/R 2nd row: Houston Collier, Steve Stelzer, Roger Davis, Jack Veverka, David Hargreaves, Kenneth Lewton, General Bill Turner from the Kansas Commission on Veterans Affairs, Jon Renegar.



Pratt #1451 members, Linda Stelzer, Brenda Riffey, Bev Aldrich, Karen Riffey, and Eric Killough (who is also the Pratt Public Library Director) presented children in Pratt Schools with brand-new coats and picture books. The new coats from the non-profit Operation Warm and new picture books from the partnership with the Pratt Public Library were made possible with the Elks CIP Beacon Grant.



Pratt #1451 Brenda Riffey Secretary and member Linda Stelzer, both retired teachers, presented students at Southwest Elementary and Skyline Schools with dictionaries and drug awareness book markers and pamphlets. The pamphlets and book markers explain how students can make good choices by saying "no" to drugs.



Salina #718 gave a generous donation to Saint Francis Ministries. The dollars help to support their work to help children find their way to stable and loving homes. Gary Hindman, Exalted Ruler of the Salina Elks Lodge, presented the check, and he shared about his extensive history in the Salina community. It is always a joy to talk with people who have spent their lives giving back.

Publication Coordinator

Pioneering Baseball Exec Served As GER

Mike Chamernik,
Publications Coordinator

Every Grand Exalted Ruler has a list of accomplishments, but only one can claim to be the father of baseball's World Series.

August "Garry" Herrmann, the GER in 1910-11, was president of the Cincinnati Reds and served as chairman of baseball's National Commission from 1903 to 1920.

Herrmann's chairman role functioned much like MLB's commissioner today. In the early 1900s, tensions were high between the established National League and upstart American League, as clubs battled over players and their salaries. The Commission was formed to operate as the major leagues' governing body. Along with settling disputes between league presidents, Herrmann helped to make the World Series, the postseason match-up between the top team in the AL and NL, an annual event starting in 1905.

An Elk since 1887, Herrmann used his influence to get his hometown Cincinnati to host the 1904 Elks Grand Lodge Session. As GER, Herrmann encouraged Elks to become mentors to the youth, creating the Committee on the Big Brother Movement. The program connected more than 30,000 little brothers with Elks Members and was eventually folded into the Social and Community Welfare Committee.

The gregarious Herrmann was a lavish spender, known for his wardrobe that included checked suits, pinky rings, and silk undergarments. He was also called "The Walking Delicatessen" because he took sausages with him everywhere. Despite his career in baseball, Herrmann's preferred sport was bowling. He was named president of the American Bowling Congress in 1908.

The son of German immigrants, Herrmann became a self-made man. According to the Society for American Baseball Research and Immigrant Entrepreneurship: German-American Business Biographies, Herrmann worked in a type foundry as a boy to support his widowed mother. As a young man he started The Law Bulletin, the newspaper of the courts of Ohio's Hamilton County. He then worked his way through Cincinnati's political machine, serving as clerk of the courts, a member of the school board, and president of the water works commission. After earning millions of dollars and developing connections with other local power players, Herrmann purchased a stake in the Reds in 1902. His club won the World Series in 1919 (a series now remembered for the Black Sox scandal), and he remained team president through 1927.

Herrmann died in 1931. He was elected to the Reds' team hall of fame in 2008, but has fallen short of induction into the Baseball Hall of Fame.

G/L PR and Membership
Marketing Committee

Official Social Media Channels Spread Elks' Message

Rick Gathen
Membership Marketing Manager
GL Newsletter, January 2022

We are utilizing the following official Grand Lodge social media channels to provide authoritative information:

Grand Lodge Marketing and
Membership Facebook Group

Private group for use by Elks Members in their marketing and membership efforts. It also provides Grand Lodge Marketing and Membership training opportunities.

[facebook.com/groups/grandlodgemembershipandmarketing/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/grandlodgemembershipandmarketing/)



For live or recorded official Grand Lodge communications. This allows us to spread the word to vulnerable populations. It also gives us a platform to provide more training and discussion opportunities throughout the year.

[facebook.com/BPOETV/](https://www.facebook.com/BPOETV/)

BPO Elks USA Facebook Page

The page contains publicly available information for Members and other public stakeholders. It provides shareables and spreads the word about the great things Elks do.

[facebook.com/bpoelksusa](https://www.facebook.com/bpoelksusa)

Elks State Associations

Linking state associations to national efforts will help us all disseminate our information better.

Grand Lodge Activities
Committee

Don't Let Your Lodge Shed Its Antlers

Richard Bard
Committee Member
Grand Lodge Newsletter,
January 2022

As we slowly emerge from this horrible pandemic, signs of new growth can be seen in several places. Not a week goes by that I don't get a phone call or e-mail from Lodges all across our Order looking to start or revive an Antlers program.



It really is a perfect fit, and easier to do than you might think. Antlers Lodges help our Order and our communities on so many levels. Parents looking for a safe and service-minded spot for their kids are finding our program. Antlers Lodges and Antlers kids bring new Members with them. I have seen it happen. Antlers who become familiar with what we do for our local communities often stay with us as future Elks. I have seen that happen as well.

Perhaps your Lodge had an Antlers program. Maybe it was thriving and active, but through happenstance, such as numerous kids going off to college together, and the program stalled or ceased. That doesn't mean it's done. Now is the time to look into jump-starting that program again.

The Activities Committee updates and posts available information and materials on the Grand Lodge website. Our Grand Exalted Ruler's motto is "Meeting The Challenge." I too am asking you to meet the challenge. Put your mark on your Lodge, and start or renew an Antlers program. The rewards will be endless. Contact me or your Area Activities Committee person and let's "Meet the Challenge" together.

Grand Lodge Fraternal
Committee

Honor The Locals Who Make A Difference

Robert R. Hinkle,
Committee Chairman
Grand Lodge Newsletter,
January 2022

Exalted Rulers should review their Lodge's accomplishments and recognize those who make significant contributions to their Lodge and community.

The three most valued awards are the Elk, Officer and Citizen of the Year Awards. Certificates are available upon request from the Grand Lodge Secretary. Applications must be postmarked or e-mailed by March 31. Forms may be downloaded at: [elks.org/clm-s2web/files/AwardRequestForm.pdf](https://www.elks.org/clm-s2web/files/AwardRequestForm.pdf).

- **Elk of the Year.** For a Member who demonstrated devotion, dedication, and loyalty to the Lodge. This award cannot be presented to an officer.

- **Officer of the Year.** For an outstanding current officer who exhibited extraordinary leadership and voluntary service to the Lodge.

- **Citizen of the Year.** This award is not limited to Elks. It presents an opportunity for Lodges to recognize an individual for significant community effort. It is a useful tool for community outreach and membership recruitment.

The following four awards are available by request directly from the Grand Lodge Fraternal Committee. Applications are submitted to your Area Member of the Grand Lodge Fraternal Committee by March 31. Online fillable PDF forms which facilitate processing and reduce error are available online: [elks.org/grandlodge/ger/files/GER-AwardCertificationForms.pdf](https://www.elks.org/grandlodge/ger/files/GER-AwardCertificationForms.pdf).

- **The GER Special Citation Award.** Exalted Rulers are authorized to issue citations to two (2) Members who displayed extraordinary effort during the Lodge year.

- **Making a Difference – Exalted Ruler.** This Special Citation is available to recognize Exalted Rulers who participated in at least six (6) of the nine (9) listed programs and contests during the Lodge year.

- **Making a Difference – Lodge.** This Special Citation is available for Lodges that participated in at least six (6) of the eleven (11) listed programs.

Stay connected with your Fraternal Committee. Do not hesitate to ask questions and forward suggestions! Together, we are making a difference in all we do as "Elks Care — Elks Share!"



Want to discuss the Elks? Check out the Membership Forum ([elks.org/message-board/forum.cfm](https://www.elks.org/message-board/forum.cfm)).

Members use the message board to share constructive information every day.

Grand Lodge Fraternal
Committee

Award Honors Those Who Fly Old Glory

Anthony J. Dardano,
Committee Member
Grand Lodge Newsletter,
December 2021

The Grand Lodge Fraternal Committee is charged with promoting Americanism within the Order. There is nothing that shows patriotism more than the symbol of our crowning virtue, the flag of the United States of America. There is no flag on earth that is more recognizable than Old Glory.

The flag has been our symbol as a democratic society since 1777. It has flown over our ships at sea and over our troops in battle to keep America free of the influences of Marxism, communism and socialism. The men and women who have gone to war to protect everything that she stands for are testament to how glorious our free society is. The number of those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice protecting our freedoms is staggering. The flag flies in remembrance of each of them.

Old Glory stands in every courtroom in our country as they carry out justice. It flies majestically above every government building in our land, including schools, which teach students everything that has allowed us to remain a sovereign nation.

All of the above is reason to keep her flying day and night. Respect for the symbol of democracy is paramount when we have so many in today's society trying to bring her down.

The Grand Lodge Fraternal Committee makes it possible to honor those businesses who fly the flag properly. There is a certificate available to print on the [elks.org](https://www.elks.org) website and award to businesses that qualify for this award. This award makes it easy for Lodges to interact with and honor local businesses who display the flag properly.

There is no cost for this program other than some nice paper and printing on your in-house desktop printer. You can award as many of these certificates as there are businesses in your community who fly the flag properly.

The certificate is easily filled out and printed from the Elks website by going to <https://www.elks.org/GrandLodge/fraternal/files/FlyTheFlagCertificate.pdf>.

Alternatively, it can also be found in the Members Only section of [elks.org](https://www.elks.org). Click on "Officers & Committees, then "Grand Lodge Committees" and select the Fraternal Committee. Under the "Currently Featured Contests/Awards" header there will be a link to the Fly the Flag Program & Certificate. The first page contains a letter from the current Fraternal Committee Chairman with instructions on filling out and printing the certificate, which is on the second page of the document.

Once you have printed the certificates, have your Exalted Ruler or Americanism Chairperson sign them. You can award these certificates at a formal ceremony or you can go to the businesses and present them. In any case, don't forget to notify the media. This is a great public relations opportunity for your Lodge and the Order. If no local media is available, take a picture with the business representatives receiving the certificate and submit it to your Lodge bulletin, State newsletter, and the Elks Magazine.

The presentation of these certificates will increase community awareness of the Elks and help get our message out to the community. There is no better way to show your Lodge is "Meeting the Challenge."

Per Capita And Fees Grand Lodge Fraternal Committee Set For 2022-2023

For the 2022-2023 fraternal year, on April 1, 2022, the following per capita and fees will be due from each Member: Grand Lodge per capita—\$6.50; Insurance assessment—\$12.00; and the Elks Magazine assessment—\$5.50, for a total of \$24.00.

*This amount represents a \$5.00 per Member increase from last year.

Attention must continue to be given to retaining our delinquent Members as well as attracting new or reinstated Members. Involvement in Lodge activities should be encouraged to help keep Members interested.

If you, or someone you know, plan to visit Chicago over the winter, call the Grand Secretary's office to set-up a time, and staff can give you your own personal tour of the National Headquarters. Season's Greetings and Happy Holidays from your Grand Lodge staff.

Grand Secretary
Bryan R. Klatt

Elks Veterans Service

Emergency Assistance Helps Hundreds Of Veterans

Nadezh Mulholland
Program Assistant
Grand Lodge Newsletter,
December 2021

A father with a heart condition is anxious to move his family to a safe, smoke-free home. A man worries he will be evicted from his apartment while receiving inpatient mental health treatment. After learning that her abuser is scheduled to be released from prison, a mom moves her children out of state on short notice. If you're wondering what these people have in common, the answer is simple. All three are veterans, and all three turned to the Elks in their time of need.

The ENVSC's Emergency Assistance Fund was created to help veterans prevent and exit homelessness. In 2015, in partnership with the VA, we pledged to help eradicate veteran homelessness. The Emergency Assistance Fund is one way we are making good on that promise.

Last year, the Emergency Assistance Fund helped more than 400 veterans with essential housing expenses such as security deposits, rent, and utilities. For most of those veterans, Elks assistance was the only thing standing between them and homelessness.

Many people, including veterans, are one emergency away from the threat of eviction: a job loss, an illness, a death in the family. Working at the ENVSC, I have witnessed firsthand the pivotal role of timely financial support in shaping a veteran's future. Even a seemingly small amount of money can help to keep a veteran safely housed.

Our Emergency Assistance Fund gives veterans the support they need and deserve to rebuild after homelessness or a financial emergency. The fund does something else, too: it shows veterans that they are not alone. "You have given me a renewed hope for humanity," said a Miami veteran whom we assisted with rental arrears. "Sometimes it's not easy to reach out for help. No one likes to be turned down. On behalf of all the veterans and service men and women you have given so many reasons to look forward to the future, I am eternally grateful."

When a military member's service to our country ends, we say they are "coming home." But the truth is, far too many veterans have no place to call home. We dream of a future when that number is zero, but until then, we soldier on.

Drug Awareness Program

Updated Guide Explains Substance Use, Risk Factors

William J. Bryan
Asst. National Director
Grand Lodge Newsletter,
January 2022

As part of commemorations of Red Ribbon Week and National Youth Substance Use Prevention Month, our partners at the Drug Enforcement Administration are excited to announce the release of the updated edition of Growing Up Drug Free: A Parent's Guide to Substance Use Prevention. The publication was written by the DEA in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Education.



This guide includes an overview of substance use among children and young adults; descriptions of some substances young people may use; a look at risk factors that may make children and young adults try alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs; Updated guide explains substance use, risk factors Drug Awareness Program and protective factors that help offset those risks, along with suggestions for how to talk to young people about alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs.

This 64-page publication is packed with information and is available at no cost. Every Lodge DAP Chair should have this resource. Although this is not a companion piece to Awkward Conversations, our collaborative video which premiered on November 15, it is a great resource for parents or anyone who deals with youth.

The DAP encourages you to share this resource with your colleagues and community partners. This publication is available on getsmartaboutdrugs.gov/publications.

This year has got to be better than 2021. The directors of the Drug Awareness Program wish the very best to all Elks. As we look forward to the New Year, we thank all Elks who, despite the problems we all faced with COVID19, worked diligently to make the Elks Drug Awareness Program the largest all-volunteer drug education program in the country. Thank you one and all and happy new year!

The Kansas Elks Training Center for the Handicapped, Inc. is the major project of the Kansas Elks Association.



KETCH

Aspire higher

BLESSINGS AT CHRISTMAS

Pratt Elks Steve Beer and Gib Lane from the Pratt Lodge presented a donation to KETCH President Sheila Brown on December 7. Because the COVID concern is still present, it was not advisable to hold the annual KETCH Christmas Party for persons served in-person again this year for the second time in its history.

KETCH serves adults ages 18-84, all with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and most also have underlying health conditions making them more vulnerable to the risk of illness. We appreciate the Kansas Elks' understanding and continued care and concern despite not having the traditional fun party our program participants look forward to each year.

The donation will purchase activity tubs and replenish them as long as we continue to quarantine persons served after any potential contact with an individual who has tested positive. These activity tubs will provide significant relief for persons accustomed to attending their day and work programs and being with more of their friends, rather than isolated within their home without sufficient new activities to keep their spirits up. When we no longer have to quarantine, the remaining funds will provide a YAHOO party!

Thank you, Pratt Lodge, and individuals who have stepped up to contribute to this fund. Persons in the homes and their direct care staff appreciate you!



The maiden voyage of the activity tubs for homes. We will adjust the next batch as needed based on feedback and requests received.

ANGEL TREE CREW

For many years, the sister of a person served at KETCH has volunteered plus recruited her Bible Study group and other friends to donate, shop, wrap, and deliver gifts for every person in the KETCH residential program!

This process begins in the early Fall to obtain the Christmas wishes of persons served. The requests range from gift cards to a favorite store to clothes, shoes, and bedding. Some individuals let a little of their personality shine through and ask for a Disney Princess poster or Kansas City Chiefs shirt.

It is overwhelming when the gifts roll in from cars stuffed full of packages! The regional managers distribute these bundles to the homes and witness the huge smiles shine upon seeing these gifts arrive, ready to unwrap Christmas morning.



THE FINAL TOUCH FOR CHRISTMAS

Jerry DeRee of Dutch's Greenhouse is so kind to continue the tradition of delivering poinsettias for everyone in the residential program. The lobby looks beautiful, the homes look beautiful, and staff members have the opportunity to select from any that remain in the lobby. Many thanks to Dutch's Greenhouse for spreading Christmas cheer!





December 22, 2021

Dear KEA Membership:

During the December KETCH Board of Directors meeting, we discussed the activity tubs that are being compiled to provide useful tasks and projects for individuals in the residential program when they are quarantined due to any potential or confirmed exposure. All of us can relate to how important it is to keep hands busy and minds occupied for mental health and overall well-being.

This year, as tubs are emptied and re-filled, if you become aware of or obtain any of the following activities, please keep the adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities at KETCH in mind. Individuals in programs have a wide range and levels of disabilities, and interests can range from Spiderman to Kansas City Chiefs. Examples of items that are useful are:

- Games for 1-2 people (staff can assist persons)
- Coloring books
- Crayons
- Markers
- Pencils with sharpener or mechanical pencils
- Simple origami
- Puzzles (25-500 pieces)
- Magazines
- Painting kit (paint by number, paint by sticker, etc)
- Simple crafts for 1 person

No glass or sharp items please.

If you have questions, feel free to contact Director of Development Paula Hanna at phanna@ketch.org or 316-383-8882.

Sincerely,

Sheila Brown

Sheila Brown
KETCH
President & CEO

James D. Standen

James D. Standen
Kansas Elks Association
President

P.S. Please keep KETCH and the individuals they serve in your heart and make a charitable donation to KETCH whenever possible. Your support is vital to preserve funding for program provision.

STAFF CHILI LUNCHEON

Last year the KETCH chili luncheon, another annual tradition, was canceled because of COVID. This long-standing tradition provides staff with a treat as the President and Vice Presidents decorate the room, prepare, cook, and serve lunch as a gesture of appreciation for their contributions to improving the lives of adults with disabilities. While it's a serious tone, it is great fun!

This year, while still mindful of not having large group gatherings, the feast was carefully prepared and served in individual To-Go containers. All staff members are still abiding by the "face mask required" rule to keep us as healthy as possible. It was great to see more than just the staff in our immediate circle at the luncheon!

Many thanks to Sheila and the vice presidents for pushing forward to have this luncheon appropriately adapted to the current environment. Thank you also to Loren Anthony and Gary Ritthaler from the KETCH Board of Directors for jumping in to serve this meal! It was DELICIOUS!



Sheila and Jean Marie



Loren and Sallie serving desserts



Patrick and Laura serving staff



June with chili-to-go



Gary serving staff

TRIBUTES

Donations to the KETCH Memorial Trust
Tributes - 11/01/2021 to 11/30/2021

Eugene Bauer

- Ms. Janet Chamberlin
- Ms. Sharon Chase
- Mr. and Mrs. Jim Faith
- Mr. and Mrs. Mike Floodman
- Ms. Anita Griebel
- Ms. Connie Hatcher
- Mr. James Hinson & Joanne McIntyre
- Ms. Donna Karmann
- Ms. Pam Knitter
- Ms. Vickie Larison
- Mr. and Mrs. Ron Larson

- Mr. and Mrs. Herb Matlock
- Mr. and Mrs. James McDiffett
- Ms. Kay Mitchell
- Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Ogley
- Past State Presidents' Wives
- Ms. Brenda Pfizenmaier
- Ms. Zona Price
- Mr. and Mrs. Ron Reed
- Mr. and Mrs. Brad Urban
- Ms. Deb Wallace
- Ms. Connie Whisenhunt
- Ms. Barbara Wohler

KEEP IN TOUCH

If you would like to receive the KETCH Pinnacle newsletter, or occasional email updates, feel free to send your contact information to Director of Development Paula Hanna at phanna@ketch.org or 316-383-8882.

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NOTICE



FACE MASK REQUIRED