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From the Desk of the Exalted Ruler

GREETINGS TO ALL ELKS MEMBERS

Well, here we are into the last month of this crazy year. Yea!!! Unfortunately, so many things have been canceled or downsized. Our Americanism Essay contest this year did not happen. We did not receive one essay, when in the past we have had 200 or more to judge. We were told that the teachers either did not receive the materials we left at the school or they were too busy to deal with it this year with all of the online schooling. Of course, it is the students that lost out on a chance to get money out of it.

We went ahead and held our annual chicken and noodle feed during Veterans week. We had a better response than I expected. We fed over 30 Veterans at no charge and we had over 100 patrons in addition to the Veterans. At this time, our annual hoop shoot is in limbo. We will still try to do something, but at this time no exact plans are in place. This will be posted once we decide what we are going to do.

We are still getting new members, thank God! We have three more to initiate this month. We now have no delinquents, so we are doing well in the membership department. We do have one vacancy in the Lodge officers and could sure use some help on the committees. If you have some time, we will greatly appreciate your help.

Our bingo continues to do well and the patrons seem to appreciate us. Our entertainment committee is trying to have a variety of activities. All of our membership needs to support these activities. The Act 1 Players are working hard to put on a live radio show of “It’s a Wonderful Life” on December 11, 12 and a matinee on the 13th. Please come out and support this play and have a great meal.

Our 100th anniversary of the Lodge is coming up in the first part of February. We are planning on making this a big event. If you have any ideas or want to help with it, please join us in this great event.

Wishing all of you and yours, a very Merry and Healthy Christmas!!!

Fraternally,
Roger Cutsinger Exalted Ruler

Newest Member

On Monday, November 16, 2020 the lodge initiated one new member into our wonderful family. I’d like to introduce you to, Victor Riffel III. Please help me in welcoming this new member.

This month on the 7th, we have two more members to initiate, and on the 21st, we have one more. So please plan on attending. We will have a meal both evenings.

Grants

Tuesday, November 24, Lisa Jack and Roger Cutsinger of our Lodge, presented a $3,000.00 check to 12 Baskets Inc. They also presented a $2,000.00 check to the Family Life Center of Butler County—Safehouse. I’m so proud of our lodge.

www.Elks.org
www.KSelks.org/El Dorado/El Dorado.asp
www.facebook.com/ElDoradoelks

ELKS CARE – ELKS SHARE …!!!
GAME NIGHT
On November 09, Loren and Jackie Anthony hosted another game night. They were joined by Roger Cutsinger, Michelle Willhite, Nancy McEachern, Stan & Terry Willis, Tom and Kathy Clark, Darlene Andrews and Debbie Morehead. This month they played Thirty-One, a card game. The object is to obtain a hand that totals 31 in cards of one suit. They also played Mexican Railroad. Plan on attending Monday, December 14, and see if you can get the bragging rights.

Sean Cutsinger

ENF
Currently El Dorado is #2 in the state, with $2,357.50 in donations. That is $17.46 per member at this time. Please donate call Charles Lester at 316-210-4487. Thank you for your continued support.

Sean Cutsinger

BINGO
Thurs 3, 10, 17 7:00
Wed 23, 30 7:00
Early Bird 6:00 pm
Doors open at 5:00 pm

From the Desk of the Chaplain and Editor
Hello my fellow members. I hope this finds all of you well and I pray that everyone is staying safe and healthy. Never forget why we celebrate this season, the birth of Jesus Christ. He is such a huge part of my life. The other is being with my friends and my family. When you think about Christmas, what comes to mind? Is it the lights, the decorated trees, snow, Santa, or your moms pumpkin pie? For me it’s all of those things, but one thing that comes to mind is when I go shopping for Poinsettias. I have a tradition that I have done for many, many years now. I buy my mom one every single Christmas. I love the smile it brings to her face. Do you know how poinsettias became a part of Christmas, or what they represent? Well, if you thought I was going to tell you, then you guessed right. That’s what I’m going to do. Enjoy!

There are many plants and flowers that play important roles in holiday traditions. Some even have mysteries surrounding them and some are ritualistic. The Egyptians decorated trees, the Pagans and Druids used mistletoe in winter celebrations and the Poinsettia well, goes back hundreds of years. It’s the December birth flower and symbolizes good cheer and success. The shape of the poinsettia flower symbolizes the Star of Bethlehem. The red leaves symbolize the blood of Christ and to the Aztecs the white poinsettia leaves symbolize His purity. Cuetlaxochitl is the original name of the poinsettia. In the 14th century, in Mexico, the Aztecs used the plant for medicinal purposes. The latex, which is the milky sap, was used to reduce fevers. They also used it to create beautiful red and purple dyes for clothing and cosmetics. It wasn’t until many years later, in the 17th century, that the plant was used for Christmas celebrations. In a small town of Taxco de Alarcon, Mexico, there is a Mexican Legend that goes something like this... Pepita was a young girl that didn’t have enough money to buy a present for the baby Jesus. On her way to the Nativity at the chapel, she stopped and gathered a bunch of weeds that were growing along the side of the road, and made a bouquet. She was upset that she couldn’t provide more. Her cousin, Pedro, told her that “even the most humble gift, if given in love, will be acceptable in His eyes.” When she presented her bouquet to the Nativity Jesus in the chapel, they miraculously turned into a beautiful red flower, and all who witnessed knew they had experienced a Christmas Miracle.

It was a few hundred years later before the Cuetlaxochitl was introduced to America and received it’s American name of Poinsettia. It all has to do with a politician, Joel Roberts Poinsett (1779-1851). Mr. Poinsett was from South Carolina, he was a physician, botanist and was a co-founder of the Smithsonian. He served under five different presidents, President James Madison, President James Monroe, President John Quincy Adams, President Andrew Jackson, and President Martin Van Buren. However, it was during the Adams Administration this story continues. President Adams appointed Mr. Poinsett the first ever, U.S. Ambassador to Mexico, in 1828. It was during one of his visits to the Taxco de Alarcon area, that he stumbled upon a shrub with bright red flowers by the road. He had never seen a plant like this and he took cuttings of the plant and sent them to his greenhouse in South Carolina, where he studied them and started growing them. He then sent clipping of them to friends. In 1837, a historian and gardener by the name of William Hickling Prescott, was asked to rename the plant. Since Mr. Poinsett introduced the plant to America, he named it in honor of him and called it “Poinsettia.” National Poinsettia Day was established by the U.S. House of Representatives in 2002. They choose December 12, the date that Joel R Poinsett passed away in 1851.

To submit articles you can email me at SeanCutsinger@gmail.com

Merry Christmas and God Bless Each and Everyone of you, Sean
DECEMBER
BIRTHDAYS

04 Robert Baldwin
05 Oliver Bishop
06 Mike Bhatt
07 Leon Leachman
10 Roger Cutsinger
10 Paula Hatton
10 Bradley Yazel
12 William Mason
15 Lisa Jack
19 Benjamin Jones
21 Darlene Andrews
22 Ray Zang
24 Debra Kirkpatrick
28 Tyler Arasmith

Merry Christmas!

Event Bookings
If you are planning a special event, like a wedding, anniversary birthday party, or class reunions, please let a member know or call 316-321-9393

It’s A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play
The Act I Players are still planning on performing this show. Please come out and support our local theatre troupe. Safety measures are being observed. On Friday and Saturday, December 11 and 12, Sunday matinee, December 13, for It’s A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play. Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, a roll and deserts will be served for the meal. Make your reservations soon. If you want to contribute, below is how you can help us.

$100-$249 Stage Hand.
$250-$499 Cast Member. 2 show and dinner tickets, to a show of your choice.
$500-$999 Director. 4 show and dinner tickets, to a show or shows of your choice.
$1,000-$1,999 Producer. 2 season tickets to all productions and dinners.
$2,000 and up Executive Producer. 4 season tickets to all productions and dinners.

All contributors’ names will appear on a plaque and the year they contribute and their names will appear on all performance programs. If you would like to contribute, please contact Roger Cutsinger.

Thank you to everyone for supporting the local arts. Break-a-leg Sean Cutsinger

Paint and Wine
November 7th Tabitha Sharp held a paint and wine evening at the lodge. We had around 25 people who came out to paint. It was by reservations only. For $15.00 they received the canvas, brushes, paint and two glasses of wine. They painted the American Flag in honor of veterans week. Everyone had a great time and the people who attended, asked us to put this on once a month. Since it was such a great success, we are looking at keeping this a monthly event. Sean Cutsinger

Chicken and Noodle Feed
November 8th the Lodge held our annual Chicken and noodle feed in honor of veterans week. We didn’t know how this year would turn out with the pandemic but we had a great success. We served over one hundred people and thirty some veterans. The veterans ate for free. We had people pick up meals, we delivered meals and we had people eat at the lodge. Everyone was thankful that we used pandemic precautions and thanked us for going ahead and having this. I want to thank Marsha and Roger Cutsinger, Bob Reed, Lisa Jack, Rodger Decker, J.D. Reinhart, Loren and Jackie Anthony, Deb Kirkpatrick, Stan Willis, Darlene Andrews, Tom and Kathy Clark, everyone who made all the deserts and the Elks Lodge #1407. We look forward to seeing all of you again next year and thank you to everyone who came out to have some wonderful food and support us. Sean Cutsinger

BBB Blowout
Saturday, November 21, Loren Anthony hosted another BBB Blowout. Jackie made two huge batches of ham and beans. This time the pandemic and the weather caused a lot of people to stay home. Those in attendance were Loren Anthony, Roger Cutsinger, Roger and Sharon Decker and Darlene Andrews. They all had a great time even though there was very few in attendance. We will try this again next year. Hopefully things will be calmed down by then. Thank you to all who come out to support the lodge. Sean Cutsinger

Merry Christmas!
## LODGE OFFICERS

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