I’m at a bit of a loss this month. My time as your E.R. is about done. I have told you all thank you all year and it seems I haven’t said it enough. The things that have happened in our Lodge this past year have been nothing short of phenomenal a plus 15, an ENF giving like never before. A constant growth of new members getting involved. I want to encourage each of you to continue to support Roger Cutsinger as he will lead us in our lodge’s 100-year celebration. I can only imagine the plans he may have to showcase our lodge to the state and our local community that we serve. So my fellow Elks, get behind your Exalted Ruler and show him the respect and support you have shown me. Lord bless you all.

Thank you for everything,  
Phil Wickwire

Awards Meeting  
The lodge met on Monday, February 17, 2020, for a chicken dinner. Afterwards, Phil Wickwire handed out a few awards. Carissa Decker was awarded the Citizen of the year, for her dedication and hard work on the remodel of the Elks Lodge. Without her help we would not have been able to open on time. Deb Kirkpatrick was awarded the Elk of the Year, for her support of the Lodge, for being the entertainment chair and for helping the city of El Dorado to know about the lodge and for planning all the events. She is also part of the Act I Players and was a key roll in getting them set up in the lodge and making it their permanent home. Sean Cutsinger was awarded the Officer of the Year, for his upbeat attitude and stepping up to the plate and helping out wherever he can. He is our home decorator, he is on the entertainment committee and was also involved in getting the Act I Players moved to the lodge. He is also a board member and actor of that group. He took things one step further and volunteered to take over the monthly newsletter. Phil told the members that he felt this was the best newsletter in the State and possibly the Nation. Help us in congratulating all these people on their hard work and dedication.

Sean Cutsinger

Million Dollar Meatballs Dinner Theatre  
The Act I Players put on our first show at the Lodge, on Friday and Saturday evenings of February 14, 15, 21 & 22. We had huge crowds, with our biggest ever crowd the Act I Players have ever had on the 15th. We went out with a bang with the best show on the 22nd. We received rave reviews from everyone. We all had such a wonderful time putting on this show. A special Thank you goes out to Marsha Cutsinger who cooked Spaghetti and Meatballs with a salad and different kinds of cake she made for desert. She along with the help of Judy Lowmaster who also baked a cake, were at all four shows cooking, serving and cleaning. We also want to thank Michelle Willhite, Shera Cutsinger, Kay and Phil Wickwire, Darlene Andrews, Rodger and Sharon Decker, Lisa Jack, Jim Masters and J.D. Reinhart, Kevin Lowmaster, Nancy McEachem, Tom and Kathy Clark for bartending, cooking, doing dishes and selling tickets at the door. Thank you to Jena McNamee for her volunteer work. She contacted us about serving to get work hours to go on her resume for college. A special thank you to Roger Cutsinger for having a cameo roll as the Elk in the Kitchen and for all his hard work on the sets, advertising and printing the programs and flyers that I put together. Without these people we could not have put this all together. I also want to thank my fellow cast mates. These people are true friends and I love you all dearly. Thank you to all the people who came to see and support us. We can’t wait to see you at the next show Murder in the Air, opening April 24, 2020.

Thank you all for your support,  
 Sean Cutsinger
DILLIONS & AMAZON SMILE DONATIONS

You can register your Dillon’s card and your Amazon account under the BPOE Foundation. We get a percentage kicked back to us. This is free money for the foundation. You can register online for both and the Dillon’s is www.dillons.com.

Amazon is under Amazon Smile and it does not affect your Prime membership. I urge all of you to register your accounts. If you need help setting up your accounts, please stop by Jack Insurance and let them help you set it up. Mon-Fri 9am-5pm. Just have your Dillon’s card Number and phone number.

Lisa Jack

GAME NIGHT

Loren and Jackie hosted the second monthly game night Monday, February 10, 2020. They played cards and had a great time. Come out and join us this month. See you there.

Sean Cutsinger

BINGO

Every Thursday 7:00 pm
Early Bird 6:00 pm
Doors open at 5:00 pm

ACT I PLAYERS AUDITIONS

We held auditions Monday, February 24, 2020, for Murder in the Air that will open April 24, 25 and again May 8 and 9. This is an audience participation show, where you get to put on your detective hat and try to figure out who done it. Every night there will be a different murderer. So, you won’t be able to come one night and spill the beans so to speak, to your friends. There will be a meal in the middle of the show. For reservations call the lodge or contact me or another member.

Break-a-leg Sean Cutsinger

ST. PATRICK’S DAY PARTY

We will be having our Annual Party on Saturday, March 14, 2020. The price will be $8.00 per person to attend. We will have comded beef and cabbage and different deserts. For those that don’t like that we will have some other soups and food as well. The cash bar will be open and we will be serving some green beer. We also will be having some games so come celebrate the season with us and wear your green. We hope to see everyone there. Sean Cutsinger

D. D. AND TRAINING CLINIC

Remember the upcoming weekend, March 7 and 8, we will be hosting these meetings and training events. We are offering a baked steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, salad, roll and desert for $10.00 for the evening meal. The cash bar will be open. If you plan on attending, we need a head count from each lodge. Call me at 316-619-7314. Sean Cutsinger

From the Desk of the Editor

Hello my fellow members. First, I want to thank Phil Wickwire for his leadership and asking me to be Chaplain. You also took a chance on me in doing this newsletter. You definitely surprised me with the Officer of the Year Award. I am humbled and honored. I love this lodge and I’m so thankful for it’s members and this wonderful organization. I am so happy that everyone came out to see Million Dollar Meatballs. It was so much fun to do. Thank you for all the compliments.

Since this month is March, I’m going to talk a little bit about St. Patrick’s Day. March 17, is the anniversary of his death. The Irish have observed this day as a religious day for over 1000 years. This day also falls during the Christian season of Lent and Irish folk would attend church in the mornings and celebrate in the afternoon. The consumption of meat during Lent was waived and the folks would dance and have a meal of Irish bacon and cabbage. Saint Patrick is the patron saint of Ireland. He was born in Roman Britain and at the age of 16 he was kidnapped and taken to Ireland where he was a slave. No one knows for sure when, but he somehow escaped and later returned to Ireland bringing Christianity to the people. It’s believed that he passed away on March 17, 461. The most well known mythology legend is that he explained the Holy Trinity (Father, Son and the Holy Spirit) using a three leafed clover or shamrock to illustrate. In Ireland this has always been a religious holiday and it was law that all pubs were to be closed. It was only changed in 1970. The first parade was actually held not in Ireland but the United States, in New York City, in 1762. I’m amazed at how many traditions started in the United States. Irish soldiers serving in the English military marched in the parade. During this time Irish immigrants grew. They were coming here to escape starvation in their home land. To date this is the largest parade in the United States. Some people claim it takes more than five hours to watch. I’ve never been so I can’t confirm that. When the immigrants spread out across the United States, other cities started celebrating. In 1962 in Chicago the green dyed river started when pollution control workers used green vegetable dyes to track down illegal sewage dumping and thought this would be a great way to celebrate the holiday with the green river. There is some speculation as to if this was the original city to do this as Savannah Georgia says they came up with the concept when Tom Woolley who was a restaurant owner convinced the city to dye the river green in 1961, but it only took on a slight green tint and they never tried again. Saint Patrick’s Day is now celebrated world wide. Have a green beer and have a safe holiday.

If there is something you would like in the newsletter email me at SeanCutsinger@gmail.com

God Bless Each and Everyone of you, Sean
Beacon Grant  The lodge recently received the beacon grant. I reached out to Angela McClure at the Safehouse, and she sent me a wish list. With this list, we put together “welcome Home” kits for the women who have suffered abuse, and are currently housed at the Family life center, Safehouse. When they have had some time to heal and are ready to find a new home, they have nothing. With this grant we put together kits to help them set up their new house. In these kits we included a vacuum, a coffee pot, silverware, dishes, pots and pans, utensils, dish towels, bath towels, laundry soap, dryer sheets, a trash can and bed sheets. We were able to supply the Safehouse with seven welcome home kits. They were ecstatic!

Lisa Jack

73 Annual Butler County Mayor’s Banquet  The lodge welcomed the mayor’s of Butler County on Tuesday, February 18, 2020. They had around forty people attend, which was around half the cities in Butler. El Dorado Mayor Bill Young started the evening with updates on the city. Kansas House Representative Will Carpenter was there and answered questions before heading back to Topeka. Dean Schmidt, Mayor of Potwin said he has held the office for 33 years. Also, in attendance was the county commissioners, our City Manager David Dillner, the presidents of Butler Community College and El Dorado High School. I had a great talk with the Mayor of Andover Ronnie Price. He invited me for coffee and to have a personal tour of 81 speedway. We are working out when we are both available. He is interested in collaborating with our Lodge on events, the Act I Players and he may become a member of the Lodge. Everyone that attended said we had such a beautiful facility.

Sean Cutsinger

Mardi Gras Veteran’s Bingo  Tuesday, February 25, Roger Cutsinger, Stan Willis, Tom Clark, Danny Morrow, Loren and Jackie Anthony went over to the Bob Doyle V. A. Center in Wichita to play BINGO and to have a Mardi Gras Party. There were eight veterans who where there. Confetti ice cream and King Cake was served. Nathan got the baby in his piece of cake. He received the king crown beads. Congrats Nathan on your year of good luck.

Thank you,
Sean Cutsinger

NEW LODGE OFFICERS  We have elected new lodge officers. The upcoming year will be a great year as we will be celebrating our 100 years in El Dorado. Roger Cutsinger will once again be our Exalted Ruler. A record eleven times, since he became a member. Leon Leachman - Leading Knight, Jim Masters –Loyal Knight, Stephen Sheridan –Lecturing Knight. Danny Morrow is the Inner Guard. Lisa Jack –Secretary and Tom Clark –Treasurer. Stan Willis is Trustee– One Year, Rodger Decker Trustee-Two Year, Tony Allison Trustee-Three Year, Darlene Andrews Trustee-Four Year, and Loren Anthony Trustee-Five Year. Kevin Lowmaster as Esquire and Sean Cutsinger will remain the Chaplain. Please help me to welcome all the members who remained in a position and to the new members in these positions.

Sean Cutsinger

Elks National Foundation  I am very proud to announce that El Dorado Elks Lodge 1407 is # 1 in the State of Kansas, this is $116.59 per member so far for the year, even though we have dropped to # 3 in the Nation. I suspect we will finish in second place. Pendleton, SC has not been on the radar all year and all of a sudden they are first in the nation. I am happy for them to step up. We just need to keep plugging away. A RECURRING GIFT to ENF is very easy and does not have to be a great amount. If you can afford $0.35 a day, that would be the amount of $10.50 a month. That is less than a cup of coffee or Snicker bar a day.

To donate call 1-773-755-4728.
Thank you for your continued support,

Charles Lester
### March 2020

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**Lodge Officers**

**Exalted Ruler:** Phil Wickwire  
**Leading Knight:** Leon Leachman  
**Loyal Knight:** Jim Masters  
**Lecturing Knight:** Stephen Sheridan  
**Inner Guard:** Danny Morrow

kap6@cox.net  
leachrl@cox.net  
Jimmasters2339@gmail.com  
Stephen_1.sheridan@hotmail.com  
9299morrow@gmail.com

**Esquire:** Loren Anthony  
**Chaplain:** Sean Cutsinger  
**Treasurer:** Kay Wickwire  
**Secretary:** Lisa Jack

jacquelineanthony@att.net  
SeanCutsinger@gmail.com  
kap6@cox.net  
ilsa@jackins.com

**Trustees:** Charles Lester, Rodger Decker, Roger Cutsinger, Stan Willis, Darlene Andrews