

Volume 56, Issue 1 April 2022

Monthly Publication of Woodbridge Elks Lodge 2355 Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks



EXALTED RULER'S MESSAGE

Brother and Sister Elks,

I would like to start out by thanking Bob Kane for stepping up this year and finishing it out with us once again. Bob has helped this Lodge achieve the notice that we need and deserve with the Elks' community. I, personally, thank you Bob.

To be elected Exalted Ruler is a great honor and I want to thank the members of this Lodge for believing in my ability to perform in this capacity. I will perform the duties of the Exalted Ruler with the utmost respect for the Order and all its members.

The Lodge has a great team of Officers, Trustees, PERs, and committee members to make this a great year for Elks Lodge #2355. We already have a lot of great events on our calendar for this year to benefit our Lodge and our community.

I would like to encourage all members to attend regular meetings to know what all is going on in the Lodge. You have a voice in the Lodge and this is where it is to be heard, not at the bar or in social areas. We also encourage members to volunteer for different activities and learn more about what the Elks do and mean. We encourage members to bring their ideas to the meetings. This is where ideas are heard by the officers, trustees and members, and where important decisions are made. We also ask Lodge members, before complaining about something, ask yourself: Have you brought it to the meetings to be considered? Have you volunteered your time to make the Lodge and the community better? It takes a team of great members to achive great things and we have the members to do this.

Our goal this year is to make this a happy "wanna come to" place for our members and our community. Be the volunteers it takes to serve our community. Remember the reason you became an Elk, and what Elks stand for. Stand up, get involved, and you will hold the memories with you always.

Fraternally, Frances M Frank Exalted Ruler LODGE OFFICERS 2021-2022

EXALTED RULER

Frances Frank

LEADING KNIGHT

Allen Nightingale

LOYAL KNIGHT

Robert Kane, PER

LECTURING KNIGHT

Karla Lobo

ESQUIRE

Michael Haman, PER

CHAPLAIN

Heather Dyson

SECRETARY

Ken Catterton

TREASURER

Bob Geipel, PER

INNER GUARD

Amber Stramel

TILER

Jerry Tartt

5 YEAR TRUSTEE

Audra Simons

4 YEAR TRUSTEE

Don Young

3 YEAR TRUSTEE

Rudy Steffany

2 YEAR TRUSTEE

Houston Hayles

1 YEAR TRUSTEE

Tracy Fedor

A Special Thank You of True Elkdom <u>To:</u> Audra Simons, Tim Matics, and Sons

Audra has been and shown this lodge what being an Elk member is all about. Never saying No to anything she is asked of, and even stepping up saying she will take care of it. She has served as a Trustee for the last 5 years, and has stepped up once again to come back as our 5 year Trustee. She has also taken on the responsibility of being our cook, who serves some of the best food. She takes pride in her work and in all she does for the lodge and it shows. She has spent many, many volunteer hours at the lodge, sometimes using her own money on making sure all our events are covered with great decorations and also the use of her own personal items, and never asks for anything in return.

To the rest of her family: Tim Matics and the Boys. They too have all stepped up and have done and do volunteer work for the lodge weekly. Most of us do not see this or even know that they do all that they do for the lodge, because they do it from the heart, and it is done before the lodge is even open. I would also like to give a big shout out to Tim's mom Oddie, she is a wonderful woman that has attended many of our events and has always lent a helping hand where ever she can to help out.

This family shows us what the word FAMILY means. Be it by blood, or by Elkdom. Elks Care Elks Share.

I want to personally thank you all for everything you do, and know that it does not go unnoticed or unappreciated.

Sincerely,

Frances M Frank Exalted Ruler

<u>MERCI BEAUCOUP - "JOE PANCIONE"</u>

Thank you, **Joe Pancione**, for replacing the security light located in the bartender parking area. This light has been burned out for some time creating a security concern for the bartenders and lodge officers who park in that area. Our lodge is fortunate to have a resident electrician with the needed equipment who is generous with his time, talent and resources to provide a difficult fix/repair. Additionally, Joe replaced the light on the Lodge Road sign/banner.

<u>INITIATIVE – PROVIDE A NEEDED SERVICE WITHOUT PROMPTING</u>

Daylight Savings Time began recently and it plays havoc with electric timers. Hence the outdoor lights at the Lodge were burning brightly at 6pm while we were enjoying daylight. **Jay McFarland** recognized this and realized the timer needed to be adjusted **AND** did just that. Now the lights come on later in the evening and will need to be adjusted several more times as we approach the summer months. **Thanks Jay!**

WOODBRIDGE LODGE 2355 2022 - 2023 BUDGET

Budget for Lodge Year 2022 - 2023 is posted at the side entrance of the Antler Club for review, prior to approval, by ALL Lodge Members.

This budget will be voted on and approved by members, in attendance, at the next Lodge Meeting held on APRIL 6th.

Boy Scout Troop 1390

Our Scout Troop has been busy with several activities, starting with our Outdoor Skills Campout near Fredericksburg, VA, where we covered skills from First Aid to Night Time Navigation. On March 21st, we conducted our quarterly Troop Court of Honor for presenting Ranks, Merit Badges, Awards and other advancement requirements to our hard-working Scouts. We are now planning for our week-long Scout Summer Camp at Camp Pipsico in Spring Cove, VA, June 26 to July 2.

We're looking to recruit new Scouts from area Cub Scout Packs; seeking parental involvement to fill recent vacancies on our Troop Committee and scouting for an Assistant Scoutmaster too.

Finally, some fantastic news. We recently had a total Troop Trailer Makeover. The Scout's conducted "Trailer Day" where they cleaned out, constructed and installed wire shelving, constructed and built a Tool Storage Bin, and finished by repainting the Trailer floor. The outside was revitalized with new lettering and eye-catching graphics. This was all made possible through donations from the Woodbridge Elks Lodge, Local Businesses and Friends whom support our Troop. Our Scoutmaster, Mr. Denny, and the Troop Committee extend a Special "Thank You!" to everyone who contributed. Now, while traveling the highways to activities, everyone will see the excellent partnership between our two great organizations building the future leaders of America.





Stay in Touch

In addition to the newsletter, you can get updates about the lodge through two additional means. The first one is to sign up for **text messages**, this is done by entering your phone number in the tablet that is between the restrooms and the entrance to the Antler Club. The second method is by clicking "like" on Woodbridge Elks Lodge #2355 on **Facebook** and signing up for our updates. The lodge uses both means of communication to post menus, last minute events and changes within the Lodge.

Antler Club Storage Closet

As our ABC Liquor license allows our members to bring in their own liquor for their enjoyment, the Antler Club has provided a storage closet behind the bar so it will be available when the member visits. At the current time, there are many bottles being maintained in the storage closet that have been there for at least a year. We know this because the bartenders label them with the member's name and the month/year it was brought in.

In a past Board of Director's meeting, a motion was passed enabling the Bartenders to remove all liquor bottle(s) stored at the Antler Club for longer than 1 year. As such, any bottle that is in the storage closet that has a date greater than 1 year at the beginning of each month will be discarded. Please, if you know or believe you may have one of these bottles, come in and remove it so you can enjoy it.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak with a Board of Director's member.

Antler Club Electronic Payment Change

We continue to improve our facility and try to make things better and easier for our members and guests. We have been accepting Credit Cards and Debit Cards for the payment of your tab in the Antler Club or hall rentals. New procedures prohibit the use of Credit/Debit Cards for any LODGE expenditures, effective November 15, 2021.

Note, that you are not able to obtain cash or purchase any gambling related items by using your card. The ATM will remain for those wishing to obtain cash.

Upcoming Dates of Note...

April					
6	Lodge Meeting				
10	DD Clinic at Alexandria-Fairfax Lodge				
13	BOD Meeting				
14	Blood Drive				
17	Easter				
20	Lodge Meeting				
20	USO Delivery				
30	Atlantic City Trip				

May						
4	Lodge Meeting					
8	Mother's Day					
11	BOD Meeting					
18	Lodge Meeting					
30	Memorial Day					

Articles:

New members and Initiations: We continue to receive applications for new members. This is great, for it is only through our members that we are able to meet our obligations to Veterans, the Community, our Lodge, and to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks as a whole. Keep up the great work in bring in new members that you feel meet our requirements and that will embrace Elkdom.

Messages/Letters have been/are being sent to everyone to tell them the date/time for their initiation. If you have sponsored someone to become a member, please tell them to be on the lookout for this information.

Lastly, please remember that when you submit someone for membership you should attend the Lodge meeting to provide character witness to whom you are supporting.

The Hall: Need a location for your special event; don't forget the Lodge Hall is available for your parties. Think of the Lodge when scheduling those office off-site business meetings; plenty of space for Wedding, baby/bridal showers. The hall is available days and nights. Contact a Trustee for additional information.

Box Tops for Education/Campbell's Labels: Have no kids at home or no school to donate your box tops? Clip those box tops and soup labels. Bring them to the Club and place them in the lock box under the Elk head. Monthly the Lodge will deliver them to a different local school for their use.

Soda Can Tabs: When purchasing canned soda from the bar, remember to remove the opening tab and give them to the bartenders. These tabs are donated to local charities such as Ronald McDonald House and Dialysis Centers. Save your tabs at home and bring them to the Club.

Elks Organ Donor Program: Organ transplantation is one of the most remarkable success stories in the history of medicine. In most cases, it's the only hope for thousands of people suffering from organ failure or in desperate need of corneas, skin, bone or other tissues. Tragically, the need for donated organs and tissues continues to outpace the supply. Right now, thousands of Americans could be helped if enough organs and tissues were available.

Organ and tissue donations provide each of us with a special opportunity to help others. You can save lives by making the decision to be an organ and tissue donor. When you apply for a driver's license, or photo ID card, you will be asked if you wish to become an organ donor. If you decide to become a donor, your choice will be noted on the front of your driver's license or photo ID card. By saying "Yes" to organ donation, you could save or improve the quality of life for more than 50 others who suffer from organ failure, bone defects, burns or blindness. Once you have made your decision, share it with your family. For more information, contact: Virginia Transplant Council, Donate Life Virginia, 9200 Arboretum Parkway, Suite 104, Richmond VA 23236.

Dues: The Lodge received the annual letter from Grand Lodge informing them of changes to the Grand Lodge assessment. There will be a \$5 increase in the Grand Lodge assessment for the 2022-23 Elk Year. Lodge dues will be \$62 for regular members, and \$29 for life members.

Monday, March 7, 2022

Woodbridge 2355 Donates Goodies to McGuire VAMC in Richmond



Lodge Treasurer and Veteran PER Bob Geipel, USCGR officer Mingo Gonzales, PER Mary Louise Mawn, and McGuire Physical Therapy Assistants Alexandra Eatmon and Tremeika Hubbard.



Lodge Trustee Audra Simons with Connect Four Game

Three Woodbridge 2355 members traveled to McGuire Veterans Medical Center in Richmond, Virginia on March 3 to deliver requested items in support of our Veterans. Unfortunately, COVID Restrictions remain in place so the "McGuire Team" was not able to personally visit Veterans in the Community Living Center or Hospice units. We were cordially greeted by Tremeika Hubbard and Alexandra Eatmon from the Center and quickly got caught up on how our Veterans and friends are doing.

We delivered sweat suits, lounge tops and pants, socks, T-shirts, loads of personal care items, Elks Wheelchair gloves, Elks playing cards, word/puzzle books, snack items for recreation time, water, and a generous amount of Canteen Coupon Books.

Prior to our scheduled visit, Tremeika advised us they would love to have a floor size "Connect Four" game. When discussing this at the Lodge, Lodge Trustee Audra Simons offered to donate the game to the Community Living Center. Tremeika and Alexandra were thrilled with the "Connect Four" donation and they feel the Veterans will enjoy the game immensely.

On March 3rd Bob Geipel PER, Mingo Gonzales and Mary Louise Mawn PER traveled to McGuire Veterans Medical Center located in Richmond, Virginia with a large assortment of needed items for Veterans in the Community Living Center and Hospice Units. On behalf of our Lodge and its members, we delivered personal care items, lounge pants and tops, snacks and much more. Please read the attached Virginia Elks Association write-up for more details.

In addition, the following Lodge Members donated requested items needed by the Veterans.

Warren Schadle Laura Belk Karla Lobo Mingo Gonzales Bob Geipel Nancy McFarland Audra Simons Drs Christopher & Favagehi

David & Jennifer Tierney Mary Louise Mawn

SO LONG AS THERE ARE VETERANS,
THE BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS
WILL NEVER FORGET THEM

Pirginia Elks Association News

Monday, March 14, 2022

Three North District Lodges Assist a Veteran in his New Home



Front Royal 2382, Loudoun 2406, and Woodbridge 2355 got together March 5 to gather furniture, home goods, and other supplies to help place a Veteran in his new home.

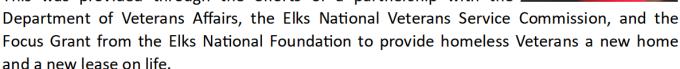
Front Royal Lodge members
Dennis Henline, Charlie Miller, and
Ralph Hauser drove to Sterling, met
with Kathy Cassedy and Matt
Offerman at the Loudoun Lodge,





then proceeded to the storage unit to load up furniture and other household items for the task. We then drove to Woodbridge to the new home of Veteran Ronald Denney. We met Mary Louise Mawn and Bob Kane from the Woodbridge Lodge at the location.

Once we arrived the moving in work began, and we all proceeded to carry furniture and other household items up to the third floor apartment where Mr. Denney was housed. This was provided through the efforts of a partnership with the



The Elk's pledge is "So long as there are veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them." Volunteers much like the ones mentioned in this article are able to reach out to those Veterans who may be homeless or otherwise considered at risk and continue to live by the Elks Pledge. Thank you to all the Volunteers, not only in our area but throughout our Great Country, that work diligently to help those Veterans in need.

Submitted by Jane Wine

Send comments to webmaster@virginiaelks.org

Wednesday, March 23, 2022

VEA Spring 2022 Convention Registration, June 9-11, 2022



Clarion Hotel & Suites 2801 Plank Road Fredericksburg VA 22401 Room cost \$130 plus tax

Please call directly to the hotel at (540)786-8321 and ask for the "Virginia State Elks Association Group Block"

Cut off for room Reservations is May 17 for the Elk Rate.

We have arranged for all the district Hospitality rooms to be in one 2024sf room, The hotel does require us to have one ABC party license issued from "FREDERICKSBURG." Cost of the license will be split between the four districts. Please have the lodge that is running your District Hospitality Room call me.

One time Hospitality Room charge of \$200 for each District.

All meetings will be in the main hotel, the "Clarion"

Due to the limited amount of room at the Clarion we will have an overflow Hotel



Homewood Suites 1040 Hospitality Ln, Fredericksburg VA 22401 Room cost \$139 plus Tax

Please call directly to the hotel at (540)786-9700 and ask for the "Virginia State Elks Association Group Block"

Cut off for room Reservations is May 17 for the Elk Rate.

Please go to https://veaconference.com/ You can register for the convention and PER and Ladies Breakfasts. We will be doing Elks Training on Sunday the Twelfth like we did before. "Free Breakfast!" for people attending.



Sunday, March 20, 2022

Paul Shoemaker Needs to Know How Many are Going to June Meeting

Virginia Elks Association June Convention June 9-11, 2022 - Frederick Burg

Virginia Elks Association State Convention Committee Chairman Paul Shoemaker is in urgent need of an accurate count of the number of Elks and guests and the days they plan to be at the June 2022 Convention in Fredericksburg. If you are planning on attending the June Convention, please reply to this email or send an email to Paul at pspshoe@gmail.com stating your name, the number of guests coming with you, and the days you expect to be at the Convention.

Please do so as soon as Possible!!



Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Woodbridge 2355 to Hold Red Cross Blood Drive April 14



Elks Lodge #2355



14602 MINNIEVILLE RD DALE CITY 22192

April 14th 2022 9 am - 3 pm

Make an appointment: WWW.REDCROSSBLOOD.ORG



Saturday, March 12, 2022

Virginia Elks Association 2021-2022 Scholarship Winners

Virginia Elks Scholarship Winners 2021-2022 include seven MVS national finalists and nine State funded awards. The awards are \$4,000 each with the national finalists eligible for awards of \$60,000. Virginia received a total of 476 applications.

Legacy Scholarship announcements well be made in May and the report will be updated when those results are available. The winners will be invited to our June Convention for introduction to the membership!

Bob Hinkle and Bill Schindler

Virginia Elks Association Scholarship Contest Results 2021-2022

Last Name	First Name		Lodge and Number
Veysel	Ella	MVS	Charlottesville 389
Ratna	Sumanth	MVS	Arlington-Fairfax 2188
Askew	Ayana	MVS	Norfolk 38
Yoon	Rick	MVS	Arlington-Fairfax 2188
Cherry	Azaria	MVS	Norfolk 38
Tesauro	Sebastion	MVS	Richmond 45
Sun	Lillian	MVS	Arlington-Fairfax 2188
Elias	Natania	State	Arlington-Fairfax 2188
Kamal	Heba	State	Woodbridge 2355
Gay	Skylar	State	Bedford 2844
Siqueiros	Meredith	State	Front Royal 2382
Potter	Dana	State	Virginia Beach 2268
Arraya	Christopher	State	Woodbridge 2355
Joseph	Emily	State	Roanoke 197
White	Joshua	State	Portsmouth-Chesapeake 82
Freitag	Maxwell	State	Fredericksburg 875

MVS Awards are at least \$4,000 with the opportunity for an award of \$60,000 Virginia Elks State Awards are \$4,000

April 2022

Woodbridge Elks Lodge #2355
14602 Minnieville Road Woodbridge VA 22193

Phono 702 878 7444 Emails allowers 2255 @gmail

Phone: 703-878-7444 Email: elksevents2355@gmail.com



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
	Boy Scout Troop Meeting		Lodge Meeting Chef's Choice	Steak Night/Ribeye Grilled Chicken Breast Hamburger/Cheese	Seafood Night Crab Legs; Steamed Shrimp; Fried Fish and Cooks Special of the Day	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Boy Scout Troop Meeting		BOD Meeting	Steak Night/Ribeye Grilled Chicken Breast Hamburger/Cheese	Seafood Night Cooks Special of the Day	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
DD Clinic at Alexandria- Fairfax Lodge	Boy Scout Troop Meeting		Lodge Meeting Chef's Choice	Blood Drive 0900 - 1500	Seafood Night Crab Legs; Steamed Shrimp; Fried Fish and Cooks Special of the Day	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Happy Easter	Boy Scout Troop Meeting		Chef's Choice	Steak Night/Ribeye Grilled Chicken Breast Hamburger/Cheese	Seafood Night Crab Legs; Steamed Shrimp; Fried Fish and Cooks Special of the Day	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	Boy Scout Troop Meeting		Chef's Choice	Steak Night/Ribeye Grilled Chicken Breast Hamburger/Cheese	Seafood Night Crab Legs; Steamed Shrimp; Fried Fish and Cooks Special of the Day	





COME AND JOIN YOUR FELLOW ELKS AND FRIENDS AND ENJOY A DAY IN ATLANTIC CITY, NJ.

TRIP INCLUDES: ROUND TRIP TRANSPORTATION, LIQUOR, BEER, WINE, SODA, AND WATER

APRIL 30, 2022

Sign-up with the Bartender

If you must cancel, please notify Mr. Roger Highfield at: 703-470-9134