

"Wapiti"

NEWSLETTER

February 2021



The Station of the Exalted Ruler

Hope this finds all are well! As they roll out the vaccinations, we are hoping that attendance in the Club and Lodge increase. We would like to offer new and varied activities, open the kitchen, music in the Club (not just karaoke), etc. but without participation, it is cost prohibitive. We encourage each of our members to come out and support our activities. We announce all events on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/AOEIks1834> and in the Wapiti each month. Check us out!

January has seen us wrap up several projects.

- We finished the State Grant with Christian Care Ministries
- The Spotlight grant was completed with a check presentation to Mercy Medical
- The A/C replacement project is now complete with 5 new units installed and operational.

Looking ahead to February:

- **Nominations open for new officers** for the 2021-22 Lodge year open on February 1st with elections on the 15th.
- **Anniversary Ball**, to celebrate the founding of Elksdom is on the 13th. See an article on the Founding of Elksdom in this issue. This is evening we recognize members who have been of service to the Lodge during the past year, including the *Elk of the Year* and the *Officer of the Year*. While attendance has been low at all functions, we have continued to operate, in spite of the pandemic. Check out the *1834 Year in Review*, a selection of pictures of what our Lodge has accomplished this Lodge year. This presentation will open the banquet at 6:00 PM.

Tickets are \$25.00 per person and advance reservations are required NLT February 8th.

- **Karaoke contest!** will be open for the public in the Ballroom. We are hoping to attract new members and show them Elksdom and our Lodge on February 26th at 7:00 PM. **We need our members** to come out as well! **Hal and Rose** will host the event with assistance from several of our members. It looks to be a fun evening!

We will be attempting to contact members who are showing on the roll as being delinquent. Maybe you have forgotten during the pandemic to send a check or thought that we were not meeting... Please check to be sure your membership card is current and your dues have been paid. We will make another attempt to contact those on the delinquent list to catch this up. We need you to participate in the Lodge!

I look forward to seeing each of you at the Anniversary Ball on the 13th!

Fraternally,

John Findley, Exalted Ruler

From The Secretary's Desk

We are nearing the time for new Officers for 2021-2022. Nominations start February 1 for the first two weeks in February. Please attend our meeting session if you would like to nominate someone for an Officer position.

Reminder: we still can accept donations for Camp Ascca. If you have not turned in your stubs for tickets sold, please do so. A drawing for \$10,000 will be done at our annual convention in June. All tickets that have been sold this year are locked up to be taken to the Convention. There are still a few tickets available if anyone needs more tickets.

We have a new billing system for dues. Notices will be sent to you via mail and you have option of paying with a credit card. More details will follow at a later date.

AUBURN-OPELIKA LODGE #1834

Anniversary Ball



February 13, 2021

- **6-7:00 PM FELLOWSHIP**
- **7:00 PM BUFFET DINNER**
- **MEMBER RECOGNITION**
- **MUSIC BY GARRETT MILES**

\$50.00 COUPLE \$25.00 SINGLE

Reservations required for dinner

Mercy Medical Clinic



Local ELKS Contribute to Mercy Medical Clinic – Auburn, AL

With the assistance of an Elks National Foundation Spotlight Grant, Auburn-Opelika Elks Lodge #1834 was able to provide a contribution of \$2000.00 to the Clinic to help them with the purchase of needed computers and scanners to enable them to begin a computerized patient management system. The equipment will aid in data collection and assist to upload information to their on-line records system.

Shown is Julie Klarenbeek, RN, Clinic Director for Mercy Medical and the Officers of Auburn-Opelika Elks Lodge #1834.

Mercy Medical offers a wide variety of services by volunteer physicians and staff to meet the needs of the medically underserved in Auburn-Opelika and the surrounding community who maybe without insurance or financial resources. The Clinic's services include family medical care, women's health screenings, spiritual counseling, and a prescription assistance program, and much more.

With the Covid-19 pandemic the need for their services has mushroomed. It is hoped that this donation will assist them to complete their records management project.

For mor information or to lend a hand check out the Clinic's website at this link:

[Mercy Medical Clinic](#)



Auburn-Opelika Elks Lodge #1834

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334-821-2391

auburnelks1834@gmail.com

February Birthdays

Date

Years
an Elk

04	Frank	Yates		42
05	Jeanne	Bishop		4
06	Fred	Birchfield		34
06	Dewey	Northcutt		56
10	John	Farrow		22
10	Kent	Lambert		15
11	John	Findley Jr		41
13	Alan	Jockisch		44
15	Charles	Barber		43
22	Mark	Luellen		2
24	Terry	Anderson		25
26	Jerome	Adcock		10
26	James	Jackson		33
28	Edward	Snoddy Dr.		3
28	Van	Stewart		30
29	John	Pruitt Jr.		2

February 2021

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	<p>1 4:00 Club open 6:00 Board Mtg 7:00 Lodge Mtg</p> <p>Officer Nominations</p>	 <p>Lodge Closed</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Lodge Closed</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Lodge Closed</p>	<p>5 4:00 Club open</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Lodge Closed</p>
<p>7</p> <p>Lodge Closed</p> <p>Super Bowl LV</p>	<p>8 4:00 Club open 6:00 House Committee 7:00 Lodge Mtg</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Lodge Closed</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Lodge Closed</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Lodge Closed</p>	<p>12 4:00 Club open 7:00 Karaoke</p> <p>Hal and Rose!  Abe Lincoln's Birthday</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Anniversary Ball 6:00 Doors open</p>
<p>14</p> <p>Lodge Closed</p>	<p>15 4:00 Club open 7:00 Lodge Mtg</p> <p>President's Day</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Lodge Closed</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Lodge Closed</p> <p>Ash Wednesday</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Lodge Closed</p>	<p>19 4:00 Club open</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Lodge Closed</p>
<p>21</p> <p>Lodge Closed</p>	<p>22 4:00 Club open 7:00 Lodge Mtg</p> <p>Washington's Birthday</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Lodge Closed</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Lodge Closed</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Lodge Closed</p>	<p>26 4-6:30 Club open 7:00 Karaoke Contest in Ballroom Public Welcome</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Lodge Closed</p>
<p>28</p> <p>Lodge Closed</p>						

Elks Donate Kitchen Equipment



ELKS DONATE NEEDED KITCHEN EQUIPMENT

In mid-December, 2020, we learned that Christian Care Ministries in Opelika needed to replace a refrigeration unit which had stopped working. At the same time we were looking for a project where we could team up with a local organization to make a difference in our community. With the help of an Alabama Elks Trust grant, Auburn-Opelika Elks Lodge #1834 was able to replace the defective equipment for the soup kitchen.

In addition, we purchased a deep fryer and gas griddle which they added for use in their kitchen.

Today, we were invited see where the equipment would be put to use. Little did we know what these folks did but soon found out. Christian Care Ministries supports three different areas of need in the community. A soup kitchen that provides meals for approximately 250-350 persons each week, a clothes closet providing gently used clothing on demand to area residents, and a food distribution service which provides 30-35 lb. boxes of food items for more than 250 families once per month.

Attached are pictures of the equipment and representatives from Christian Care Ministries and Auburn-Opelika Elks Lodge #1834.

We Are Not Just A Club

We are not just a Club !

Over \$15,000.00 invested in the Community in 2020!

Local Scholarships:

- With the Southern Union Foundation scholarships for local students \$5000.00

Alabama Elks Trust (State) Grant:

- Needed Cooking Equipment for Christian Care Ministries \$2500.00

Beacon Grant:

- Remembering our Veterans Luncheon and Gift Bags \$3500.00

Gratitude Grant

- Partner with Big House Foundation-recognizing our communities' foster children and their sponsor families \$2500.00

Spotlight Grant

- Computer equipment and Scanners for Mercy Medical \$2000.00

Christmas Food Drive for New Birth Outreach \$ 300.00

Total: \$15,800.00

Hal and Rose Karaoke

In the club for your enjoyment. . .

February. 12th, 2021

Club opens at 4:00 PM

Karaoke at 7:00 PM



THE ADVENTURES OF SAM B. SQUIRREL AND ELWYN J. ELK...

Sam: "Hey Elwyn!"

Elwyn: "Yeah, Sam..."

Sam: "Is Hal and Rose KJ'ing tunes at the Elks Lodge?"

Elwyn: "Yes, Sam they are! Every 2nd and 4th Friday at 7:00 p.m. Why don't you meet me out there on the 12th (of February)..."

Sam: "I just might do that! I hear they're a fun group!"

Elks National Foundation



- Do you use Amazon Prime to order items from AMAZON?
- Do you have an [AmazonSMILE](#) account?
- Would you mind if Amazon would make a donation to a charity of your choice?
- At **NO Cost** to you?
- Would you consider either giving to your favorite charity – OR –
- Maybe the **ELKS National Foundation**?
- It's **FREE** !

Your AmazonSmile Impact




Your orders that have supported charity

Remember, only purchases at [smile.amazon.com](#) or through the activated Amazon Shopping app support charity.

	Your total orders	112 orders
		Learn more

Every little bit counts

When millions of supporters shop at AmazonSmile, charitable donations quickly add up.

	You have generated	\$74.05
		as of January 20, 2021
	Your current charity Elks National Foundation has received	\$15,701.91
		as of November 2020
	All US charities have received	\$217,644,976.48
		as of November 2020

Each quarter Amazon will email you an impact statement of your giving!

IF you are already a Prime customer, [login](#). If not, why not [sign up](#) today?

Or: <https://smile.amazon.com/gp/chpf/dashboard>



Karaoke Contest

February 26th - Elks Ballroom

Doors open at 7:00 PM

- Open to the Public
- Must be **21** or over

\$5.00 Donation to Elk's Charities

Contest sign-up 7:00-8:00 PM

- Limited to first 15 singers to sign-up

Contest starts at 8:30 PM

Prizes for Contestants:

- \$100.00 First Prize
- \$ 50.00 Second Prize
- \$ 25.00 Third Prize



Non-Contestants sing between each Contestant

Light hors d'oeuvres provided

Masks are required!

To be an Elk - Ask an Elk

Contact: Rose Bufford at 334.728.4115 for more information

Life Membership

We have several members who qualify for but who have not requested Life Membership. The requirements are simple and include:

- 65 years of age or older
- 30 years of non-broken service to the lodge
- Send a short letter to the Lodge Secretary (which can be read on the floor) requesting Life Member status.
- The Lodge will then vote on your request.

We are required by GL Statute to send a letter to all active members notifying them of your request and a ballot on the same. ***We would request that each of you who would like to request Life Membership status, do so by the end of February.*** Doing so will allow us to send one letter notifying the membership rather than having to send a letter for each member at different times. This will save the Lodge both time and postage.

*We will schedule a ballot on the request/s **March 8th, 2021.***

After the ballot we will notify the members requesting Life membership of the outcome of the ballot by individual letter.

Life membership dues are \$43.00 (20.00 local dues and 23.00 GL Assessments) due annually, each April 1st.

For those eligible, please consider sending a letter of request to the Lodge Secretary during the month of February.

Thank you.

Elkdom Founded in New York City, February 16, 1868!

The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks was started by a group of entertainers in New York City in February 1868. The Order was initially formed in late 1867 because New York had “blue laws,” which meant no public establishment was open on Sundays. A small group of entertainers formed a “private club” so they could meet and enjoy a drink together on Sundays.

They called themselves the “Jolly Corks.” Shortly before Christmas 1867, one of the members died, leaving a widow and children in destitution. The Jolly Corks decided to help them and become a more enduring organization.

Deciding they needed a better name to fit with their ideals and goals, several names were suggested before it came down to two, Buffalo or Elks. The latter won by one vote, and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks became the name we all recognize today. It is commonly referred to as the BPOE, or Elks.

The Civil War had recently ended, and the group soon realized that war veterans were in desperate need of assistance. This became the first business of the Order and serving veterans has continued to be a major part of the Order ever since. Other organizations such as the Salvation Army and Red Cross also benefited from the Elks. They helped victims of the great Chicago Fire in 1871.

The BPOE grew rapidly in the late 1800s. Today, the nearly 1 million Elk members form one of the largest paternal organizations in the world.

The Order of Elks is distinctively American. The two basic requirements to become an Elk are that the applicant is an American citizen and that they believe in God. Consequently, there are no lodges outside of the United States or its territories.