

St. Patrick's Day

# Elks Lodge

March 2009



The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America, North Wilkesboro Lodge #1846

## Message From The GER

Well folks March has finally arrived, the last month of this 2008-2009 Lodge year. Hopefully the records will show that this has been a good, perhaps even great, year for each of you, your Lodge and our Order. Hopefully you and your Lodge have made your goals and you can hold you head high and boast of the many accomplishments, as well as how you helped and/or fulfilled your responsibilities.

On the other hand, if you haven't quite reached your goals yet, use the days remaining until March 31st to "get 'er done!!" Install that last class of waiting candidates, contact every delinquent member and convince them that they are important to your Lodge and our Order. Get their dues, canvass the membership, hold that last fundraiser, collect those dollars and send that final check for the year to the Elks National Foundation. As a Member of the Army of Hope, do another good deed for the family of a currently active member of the military, help a Veteran in a VA facility or in your community, and/or distribute Drug Awareness materials to youth in your community. Do whatever is needed to reach your goals and end your Lodge year on a positive and successful note!!

For those of you who are moving on to new positions of responsibility, March should be a time for preparation. For the newly elected and soon-to-be-installed Officers, it is a time to learn your Ritual parts. Be ready to stand with pride before your Members on that first meeting night of 2009-2010 and conduct the opening and closing with dignity and from memory. Be ready to do the same with the Ritual of Initiation soon thereafter. It is time for the Officers to become a team working together.

Also for the soon-to-be Officers of 2009-2010, it is the time to finalize your programs, set your goals, determine your committees and get everything in place to hit the ground running in April. It is time to familiarize yourself with the requirements of our Order and your state and your local government as they relate to the proper and compliant operations of your Lodge. It is time to review and enhance your leadership skills, because the success of your programs, your Lodge and our Order will greatly depend on your abilities to lead and involve your membership in the many tasks at hand.

Thank you one and all for your dedicated efforts during 2008-2009 and best wishes to the Officers, Members and Lodges for the 2009-2010 Lodge year.

Fraternally,

Paul D. Helsel, Grand Exalted Ruler

## Spring Is On The Way

The spring of the year is a favorite season for many people, and it is certainly easy to understand why this is so. The spring is when the earth comes back to life after a long cold winter, and it is in the spring when the first flowers begin to bloom and the green world begins to return after its winter slumber.

The power of spring and its regenerative effects are evidenced by the fact that every major religion includes a major holiday in the spring season. From Passover to Easter, it seems that every culture marks spring with a celebration of renewal and new life. It is easy to understand how in times past ancient cultures were overjoyed by the power of spring and the beauty of new life.

The spring is an important season for many hobbies, including of course gardening. For the gardener, the spring is one of the most pleasant times in the garden. The spring is the time when the bulbs that were carefully planted in the fall begin to grow and blossom, and the spring is when the first seedlings are carefully nestled in the garden. There is no doubt that the spring is one of the most beautiful, and most colorful, of all seasons for the gardener.

The spring is also a favorite time for home improvement projects that could not go forward while the weather was too cold. Whether it is a small project like installing new downspouts or a large project like building a new garage or storage shed, the spring is one of the best times to work at improving the value and livability of the home. In the spring, the weather is neither too hot nor too cold, and the homeowner has plenty of daylight in which to work. It is no wonder that the spring season is one of the busiest for home improvement stores and warehouses.

For the outdoor sports enthusiast, there is nothing like the coming of the spring season. For the fisherman, the coming of spring means the first day of trout season. For the avid hiker, spring means that those favorite trails are no longer impassable due to snow, and for the horseback rider spring means being able to take a ride without first bundling up. And of course spring means the opening of baseball season, a joy for spectators and players alike.

### Lodge Meetings and Events

- Breakfast Meeting – Saturday, March 7, 8:30 am
- Third Sunday Buffet – March 15, Open 11:30 am
- Lodge Meeting – Thursday, March 19, 7:00 pm



## Leah Church Advances To Hoop-Shoot Regionals

Wilkes County Hoop-Shooter Leah Church, winner of the Girls (10 – 11) age bracket, advanced to the Southeast Central Region 10 Elks Hoop-Shoot competition to be held in Middletown, MD on March 21, 2009. Leah won the West District event in Hickory making 23 of 25 free throws and advanced to the state Hoop-Shoot competition held in Greensboro at Grimsley High School where she again took top honors by sinking 22 of 25 shots. “I would like to thank the Lord Jesus Christ for the ability and health to be able to play basketball and I give all the glory to Him,” commented Leah. The North Wilkesboro Elks Lodge congratulates Leah and her family as they move on to the regional Hoop-Shoot contest where she will compete against the state Hoop-Shoot winners from VA, MD, DE, DC and WV. Good Luck Leah!!

## Restaurant News



The Lodge restaurant will feature its third Sunday Buffet complete with all of the trimmings on Sunday, March 15. The dining room will open at 11:30 a.m. Members are encouraged to continue

supporting our third Sunday buffet at the Lodge restaurant. Reservations are very helpful as this allows us to plan for staffing and food preparation. Janice looks forward to providing Lodge members and their guests with great food and service at reasonable prices.

## Lodge Officers Named

Lodge officers for the 2009 / 2010 fiscal-year are as follows:

- |                             |                  |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| • Exalted Ruler             | Kenneth Foster   |
| • Esteemed Leading Knight   | Billy Jo Parsons |
| • Esteemed Loyal Knight     | Ken Burchette    |
| • Esteemed Lecturing Knight | Gill Ellis       |
| • Secretary                 | Larry Barnes     |
| • Treasurer                 | Walter Broyhill  |
| • Inner Guard               | Bert Hall        |
| • Tiler                     | Bill Dillard     |
| • Esquire (appointment)     | Larry Pendry     |
| • Chaplain (appointment)    | Nelson Martin    |

Lodge Trustees are as follows: Trustee Chairman: Bill Fletcher Trustees: Jerry Cheek, Paul Holbrook, Dan Little and Nelson Martin. Indoctrination Coordinators: Walter McSwain and Kenneth Foster, Newsletter Editors: Regina Miller and Kenneth Foster.

 <b>YADKIN VALLEY BANK</b> <small>Member FDIC</small> 301 West Main Street Wilkesboro • 838-0123 1404 West D Street N. Wilkesboro • 838-3300	 <b>JOHNNY HUFFMAN PLUMBING</b> COMPANY, INC Johnny Huffman 1703 Red Top Road Wilkesboro, NC 28697 Office (336) 973-3938 Fax (336) 973-7777 Cell (336) 957-0620	<b>MIKE'S BODY SHOP</b> 210 Elkin Hwy. – Hwy. 268 East North Wilkesboro, NC 28659 Phone (336) 667-9291 Mike McNeil - Owner
<b>TAR HEEL OIL COMPANY</b> 838-8332  1225 West D Street, North Wilkesboro, NC	 <b>WILKES STEEL</b> 117 Maple Street, North Wilkesboro, NC Phone (336) 838-5117	<b>Reins-Sturdivant Funeral Home</b> 270 Armory Road, North Wilkesboro, NC 838-3178

# Saint Patrick's Day

Much Irish folklore surrounds St. Patrick's Day. Not much of it is actually substantiated. Some of this lore includes the belief that Patrick raised people from the dead. He also is said to have given a sermon from a hilltop that drove all the snakes from Ireland. Of course, no snakes were ever native to Ireland, and some people think this is a metaphor for the conversion of the pagans. Though originally a Catholic holy day, St. Patrick's Day has evolved into more of a secular holiday. One traditional icon of the day is the shamrock. And this stems from a more bona fide Irish tale that tells how Patrick used the three-leafed shamrock to explain the Trinity. He used it in his sermons to represent how the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit could all exist as separate elements of the same entity. His followers adopted the custom of wearing a shamrock on his feast day. The St. Patrick's Day custom came to America in 1737. That was the first year St. Patrick's Day was publicly celebrated in this country, in Boston. Today, people celebrate the day with parades, wearing of the green and drinking beer. One reason St. Patrick's Day might have become so popular is that it takes place just a few days before the first day of spring. One might say it has become the first green of spring.

## LODGE NOTES:

- Please remember our sick and distressed Elks in your thoughts and prayers.
- Leah Church – Girls (10-11) won the State Hoop-Shoot competition advancing to the Regional Hoop-Shoot competition to be held in Middletown, MD. Congratulations Leah!
- Don't forget the third Sunday Buffet at the Lodge restaurant March 15. Serving begins at 11:30 a.m.
- Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 8. Set your clocks forward by one hour before you go to bed Saturday night.
- Don't forget to support the Elks National Foundation this year. The ENF is the heartbeat of Elksdom underwriting the many charitable causes supported by our Order.
- Laura Wellborn, Director of Wilkes County Smart Start, will be our guest speaker during the breakfast meeting March 7.



Shannon Snuggs, Carl Espenship and Janice Vanderslice

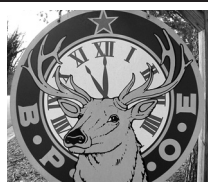
## New Members Join The Lodge

New members were indoctrinated and initiated into the Lodge during the Thursday evening meeting on February 19. They are Shannon Snuggs, Carl Espenship, Janice Vanderslice, and Powell D. Porter (not pictured). Bart Hayes was also reinstated. Congratulations to our newest members. Please welcome our new members with outstretched arms as they embark on their journey into the realm of Elksdom.

### Elks News

Published monthly by North Wilkesboro Elks Lodge #1846  
P.O. Box 279 • 100 Finley Avenue North Wilkesboro, North Carolina 28659  
**336-838-8591**

LODGE OFFICERS: Exalted Ruler - Kenneth Foster, Esteemed Leading Knight - Walter McSwain, Esteemed Loyal Knight - Ken Burchette, Esteemed Lecturing Knight - Gill Ellis, Secretary - Larry Barnes, Treasurer - Walter Broyhill, Inner Guard - Nikki Jones, Tiler - Walter Wyatt, Esquire - (appointment) Greg Luck, Chaplain - (appointment) Greg Fuller.  
TRUSTEE CHAIRMAN: Bill Fletcher. TRUSTEES: Jerry Cheek, Paul Holbrook, Dan Little and Nelson Martin.



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# March 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> Lodge Closed	<b>2</b> Pasta Night Happy Hour 6-7pm	<b>3</b> Lodge Closed	<b>4</b> Lunch Only Open 11:30 am	<b>5</b> Lunch - 11:30 am Dinner - 5:30 pm Happy Hour 6-7pm	<b>6</b> Lunch - 11:30 am Dinner - 5:30 pm Happy Hour 6-7pm	<b>7</b> Breakfast Mtg @ 8:30 am Dinner Special Open 5:30 pm Happy Hour 6-7pm
<b>8</b> Lodge Closed Daylight Savings Time Begins	<b>9</b> Pasta Night Happy Hour 6-7pm	<b>10</b> Lodge Closed	<b>11</b> Lunch Only Open 11:30 am	<b>12</b> Lunch - 11:30 am Dinner - 5:30 pm Happy Hour 6-7pm	<b>13</b> Lunch - 11:30 am Dinner - 5:30 pm Happy Hour 6-7pm	<b>14</b> Dinner Special Open 5:30 pm Happy Hour 6-7pm
<b>15</b> 3rd Sunday Buffet Open 11:30 am	<b>16</b> Pasta Night Happy Hour 6-7pm	<b>17</b> Saint Patrick's Day Lodge Closed	<b>18</b> Lunch Only Open 11:30 am	<b>19</b> Lunch - 11:30 am Dinner - 5:30 pm Happy Hour 6-7pm Lodge Mtg @ 7 pm	<b>20</b> Lunch - 11:30 am Dinner - 5:30 pm Happy Hour 6-7pm	<b>21</b> Dinner Special Open 5:30 pm Happy Hour 6-7pm
<b>22</b> Lodge Closed	<b>23</b> Pasta Night Happy Hour 6-7pm	<b>24</b> Lodge Closed	<b>25</b> Lunch Only Open 11:30 am	<b>26</b> Lunch - 11:30 am Dinner - 5:30 pm Happy Hour 6-7pm	<b>27</b> Lunch - 11:30 am Dinner - 5:30 pm Happy Hour 6-7pm	<b>28</b> Dinner Special Open 5:30 pm Happy Hour 6-7pm
<b>29</b> Lodge Closed	<b>30</b> Pasta Night Happy Hour 6-7pm	<b>31</b> Lodge Closed				