

**State of the Elks Lodge 1753**  
**Colville Washington**  
**January 30, 2016**

**Respectfully submitted by**  
**Michael Cashion, Exalted Ruler**

***"The faults of our members we write upon the sand, their virtues upon the tablets of love and memory."***

First and foremost, I would like to thank every Trustee, Officer, Committee Participant and volunteer for your efforts to make our lodge better and better. We have come a long way since the Grand Lodge applied sanctions to the club and locked our doors and rallied back, "thanks" Mr. West et.al., and all PER's.

It hasn't always been easy to fill chairs in the various positions, but I haven't felt that to be a problem recently; and I don't feel Exalted Ruler Elect, Norm Butts, will have a problem in the future thanks to your energies. Please let him know if you are interested in any position currently filled or not.

Second, a big thanks to our employees: Mgr. Carrie, Tabby, Ashley and our subs Joey, Bob and Cindy. Also, to the dedication of the House Committee that started the year and the current house committee. Alumni MaryBeth Bronowski, Mark Spradlin, Amanda Garringer and current Chair Bob Lee, Steve Develvis, Vicki Skeels and sub Tim Pratt, and other volunteers. A big and essential job, and a job well done.

The state of the lodge is healthy with positive trends, memberships and gains. Here are some of the indisputable facts that we can celebrate.

**Membership: When we reopened our doors after the sanction we had 164 members, we then grew to 183; last year at this time we had 187, and as of this past Tuesday, we were at 204 valid**

**members**, with two more initiated in and needing to pay and one more initiate ready for our next initiation.

It's been suggested we have a separate meeting for initiations only, which would create a more focused, festive and welcoming occasion. That motion can be brought to the floor.

**Grants:** For the last two years, and for the first time in many years, if ever, our lodge has written grants for lodge activities. Last year we wrote the Freedom Grant for veteran's needs and were funded the maximum amount of \$2000.00. We also applied for the Gratitude Grant and received maximum funding to start a Summer Junior Golf League (\$2000.00). We also applied for and received the maximum \$800.00 from the state office for use with Veterans.

This current year we have again applied for and have been granted those grants, as well as one additional, The Beacon Grant. Now for the first time we have grant monies for Veterans, Breakfast with Santa, and the Summer Junior Golf League. We could use some volunteers on the summer golf league, coaches and course chaperones.

New Business: Do we want to help raise money for the Water Park in the Colville Park for youth?

**Highlights of the Finance, Membership, Bar and Great Room by year w/o bank balances added:**

<u>Item or Area</u>	<u>December 2014</u>	<u>December 2015*</u>
Membership	\$16,675.00	\$18,509.00
Hall/Kitchen Rental	\$ 3,159.00	\$ 5,177.00
Lease	\$17,100.00	\$17,743.00
Private Contributions	\$ 1,729.00	\$ 4,062.00
Bar Sales	\$70,671.00	\$76,082.00
Cost of Goods Bar	\$37,098.00	\$34,196.00
Office Costs	\$ 1,127.00	\$ 823.25
General Utilities	\$17,915.00	\$19,320.00**
Property Taxes	\$ 3,438.00	\$ 5,645.00**
Bar Salaries	\$19,724.00	\$23,483.00**

Net Annual Income                      \$7,692.00                      (\$2,692.00)\*\*

\*Numbers rounded

\*\* Noted as an increase of expenses/loss

**When you add standing bank account balances we remain well in the black.**

I have listed highlights of the Treasurer's budget sheets. A complete and more detailed accounting is accessible from the Lodge Treasurer. We will finish this year in the black and with outstanding bills being paid; paying the Line of Credit was huge; and with our Lessee paying their portion of utilities hence forth, we should be able to have a cash reserve for maintenance and unforeseen expenses.

It should be noted that a major expenditure this 2015, year was the paying off of our line of credit. That expenditure was \$6,500,00 and is now paid.

Second, for some reason we have not collected approximately \$420.00 a month for utilities from our lease. That would have been something over \$3,300.00 in revenue pending lease negotiations.

A third area of savings was complimentary drinks for volunteering. We discontinued that upon examining the financial impact. Those costs, up to the time it was discontinued, was around \$900.00 in 2015.

AND food sales are up -- thanks to Wednesday Men's (and Women's) night and the Poker boys.

**Lease:** Both the Elks Lease committee and the DMAA representation understand they are us. Every golf pass holder is a DMAA member and that would include the Men's Club and Ladies Club. At least 5 of the 9 DMAA board members are Elks and mostly Officers and Trustees. It isn't a matter of what we can get out of the other party, but how do we support both parties for the betterment of our respective organizations and the community. The 'us vs. them' attitude is archaic and harmful. Atta boys to both parties and progression.

**A huge thanks to the Trustees and Officers:**

Tim Pratt	Trustee	Chairman of the Board
Ted Bronowski	Trustee	Past Exalted Ruler
Ryke Dahlen	Trustee	Past Exalted Ruler/Egg Hunt
Fred Woods	Trustee	Safety Chair
Craig Cording	Trustee	

Michael Cashion	Exalted Ruler	Scholarship and Grants
Norm Butts	Leading Knight	ER Elect
Ken Barcus	Loyal Knight	Benefactor
James Martin	Lecturing Knight	Benefactor
Bob Lee	Tyler	House Chair, Liaison
Matt Prater	Outer Guard	
Joe Schultz	Esquire	Benefactor
Steve Wisner	Chaplain	Past Exalted Ruler
Butch Sager	Secretary Extraordinaire	
Richard Shull	Treasurer	Past Exalted Ruler

Dave Junker	Drug Awareness/Calendar Sales; Past ER
Claudia Griffith	Children's Therapy Chair
Scott Griffith	Veterans Chair
Mike Pete	Hoop Shoot
Vicki Skeels	Breakfast with Santa
Michael Cashion	Youth Golf League
Marilee Floener (retiring)	Audit/Finance