



Illinois Elks Association Newsette



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FALL 2017

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To boost membership, 'Elks work best in a herd'

The Grand Lodge Convention is over and those who attended are breathing a sigh of relief. We're home and it's time to take it easy. But, now is not the time to relax, but to *Get on Board* and work on achieving our goals. We have to get ourselves moving and show the rest of the country what the Illinois Elks are capable of doing. We have a hard job to do and it won't be easy, but it can be done!

The IEA received an award at Grand Lodge for being one of the most improved states when it comes to membership. I don't know about you, but being praised

IEA president

Dave Jurmu



for "almost" doesn't appeal to me. I want to see the IEA get the award for highest membership gain. And, we can do it by working together.

There are a number of things we can immediately do to set the stage for achievement:

■ Think in terms of "we." I can't do it by myself. You can't do it by yourself. But, *we* can

do it together. Put aside petty differences. Work together. *We* are Elks, and Elks work best in a herd.

■ Make a pledge to bring in at least one new member or get someone who is in danger of losing his or her membership to re-commit to our Order. We tell each other how great it is to be an Elk. It's time to start telling others and ask them to join us in the good work we do.

■ Encourage your fellow Elks members to be the best they can be. After you've recruited a member or two, ask them to join you in working toward the cash

awards that will be given to the leading lodges. You can even make it a friendly competition, but always remember ... when it comes to membership, quality matters, not quantity.

■ And finally, remember to say "thanks" to those who are working hard to achieve lodge, district and state goals. We need to encourage each other.

As we head toward our upcoming meeting in September, I look forward to seeing you and saying, "Thanks for all you do. By the way, have you asked anyone to join the Elks?"

IEA sponsor

F. Louis Sulsberger PGER



Bring excitement of Reno back to your lodges

Greetings All!

It is my hope that those Elks and guests who were fortunate enough to attend this year's Grand Lodge Convention in Reno, Nevada, had a great time. Whether your Elks involvement is with your local lodge, district, state and/or Grand Lodge, you surely took away many ideas and suggestions to bring home with you. The convention always builds excitement within our attendees, and I encourage you to pass that on to all of our members.

To the past district deputies who served last year, I want to thank you for a job well done. You all made a great effort to keep me informed of the activities of the lodges in your districts.

Congratulations to our eight district deputies who were installed in their positions at the final business session in Reno. This begins a year of hard work, but I can assure you that the experience will be one that you will enjoy and not soon forget. Good luck this year!

It won't be long now before we meet again in Springfield for our



IEA makes its mark at Elks National Convention

Illinois Elks Association President Dave Jurmu is all smiles as he carries the Illinois flag in the parade of flags, which ushered in the start of the Elks National Convention in Reno. Meanwhile, Past State President Charlie Campbell and wife Jan were framed – albeit in a fun way – demonstrating that they were among Illinois attendees at the 153rd national convention. Also, the IEA's eight district deputies-designate are sworn in to assist Grand Exalted Ruler Malcolm McPherson in overseeing IEA lodges during 2017-18. Bill Gandolfi photos



POSTMASTER: Send Form 3579 to IEA Children's Care Corporation P.O. Box 222, Chatham, IL 62629-0222

Please See LOU, Page 2

STATE

Lou from Page 1

Fall Convention in September. I encourage as many of you as possible to make the trip to our state capital so we can enjoy a full weekend of Elkdom together.

Please try to attend as many of the seminars as you can and also the Saturday night banquet. As you know, it is tradition to honor our Illinois Elks Children's Care Corporation scholarship winners at our Fall Convention banquet. Please join me as we celebrate the accomplishments of these young people and witness what our hard work has provided for them.

Until then, God bless.

We all should be proud to be part of 150-year-old BPOE

It's hard to believe that we are fast approaching the midway of our fiscal year! Hopefully, your lodge's goals and projects are well under way.

The Grand Lodge Convention was great. I think everyone is looking forward to next year's celebration of this great fraternal organization. One hundred and fifty years of charitable works amount to an amazing accomplishment for Elks and will continue with the help of Elkdom. We all should be proud to be members of such a great organization.

IEA treasurer

George
Hornung



If your lodge hasn't picked projects to spend your ENF goal award on yet, please do so as it's a super vehicle to help your community and to be recognized for our charitable spirit.

Grand Lodge announced that to celebrate the 150th anniversary, every lodge will receive a special bonus grant of \$1,500. What a

great way to help celebrate all of Elkdom's storied history of helping mankind. If that doesn't make you feel good about our role in helping others I don't know what would!

As you well know, we have a great many programs. But pick out some that will benefit your community the most. Your role in your community will be amplified by these projects ranging from helping our youth to our veterans. We're fortunate to have so many worthwhile projects to be a part of.

At Grand Lodge we voted on 19 resolutions. Make sure your lodge is aware of any changes that will

take place.

At this year's ritual contest, Illinois was represented by Mt. Vernon Lodge 819. Leading Knight David Edwards was awarded All-American for his rendition of his chair! This is a super honor! Congratulations, David! Nice job.

As I said earlier, this year is flying by so don't get left in the dust on achieving your goals for your lodge. It has a way of getting by too quickly. Have a great year and will be looking forward to seeing everyone in September in Springfield!



Illinois Elks Association

FALL CONVENTION

Honoring Children's Care Corporation scholarship winners

Sept. 21-24, 2017 ■ Wyndham Springfield Hotel

Thursday, Sept. 21

11:30 AM-5 PM Convention Office – Plaza 4
1-4 PM Executive Committee – Conference Ctr 3

Friday, Sept. 22

7 AM-5 PM Convention Office – Plaza 4
8-10 AM Executive Committee – Conference Ctr 3
10 AM-Noon Convention Committee – Rendezvous
Noon-7 PM Convention Registration
– Mezzanine, Registration Desk
1-4 PM Advisory Committee – Rendezvous

Saturday, Sept. 23

6:30 AM-6 PM Convention Office – Plaza 4
7 AM-Noon Convention Registration
– Mezzanine, Registration Desk
7:30-9 AM Board of Directors Meeting & Training
(Continental Breakfast) – Plaza 3
8-10 AM District Deputies & Esquires
(Continental Breakfast) – Conference Ctr 2
8:30-10:30 AM Membership/Lapsation/
Lodge Activities/Orientation – Prairie
9-10 AM Exalted Rulers meet with
Executive Committee – Ambassador
9-11 AM Secretaries Association – Plaza 3
9:30-11 AM Illinois Elks Children's Care Corporation
– Conference Ctr 4
9:30-11:30 AM Ritual Committee and Competition
– Embassy
10-11 AM Athletic Commission – Conference Ctr 2
10-11:00 AM New Lodge – Conference Ctr 1
10:30 AM-Noon Lodge Treasurers – Ambassador

10:30-11:30 PM Lodge Trustees Training/
Accident Prevention/Insurance – Prairie
11 AM-Noon Scholarship Selection – Conference Ctr 2
11 AM-Noon Veterans Service Commission – Plaza 3
Noon-2 PM Ladies Luncheon and Accessory Show
– Highland Room

Menu: Half Chicken Wrap with Soup
Cost: Pre-Registration \$15.50/On-site \$17
1-2 PM Elks National Foundation – Plaza 3
1-2 PM Youth Activities & Antlers – Conference Ctr 4
1-2:30 PM Publication Corp./Website Monitoring/
Public Relations – Conference Ctr 2
1-3 PM Hoop Shoot/Soccer Shoot – Plaza 1
1-4 PM PGER Sulsberger Meets with Lodges
and Individuals – Conference Ctr 3
1-5 PM Ritual Clinic – Embassy
2-3 PM Americanism – Plaza 3
2-3 PM Drug Awareness Program – Conference Ctr 4
2-3 PM Website Monitoring – Conference Ctr 1
2-3:30 PM Public Relations – Conference Ctr 2
3-4 PM Bowling Association – Plaza 1
5-6 PM Illinois Elks Association Reception
– Capitol/Illinois
5-6 PM Illinois Elks Children's Care Social
– Rendezvous Foyer
6-8 PM Illinois Elks Association Dinner – Capitol/Illinois
Salad: Iceberg Greens Salad
Entrée: Southern Fried Pork Chop, Mashed Potatoes
with Creamy Pepper Gravy And Green Beans
Dessert: Carrot Cake
Cost: Pre-registration \$29/On-site \$32

Sunday, Sept. 24

7-10 AM Convention Office – Plaza 4
7:30-8 AM Room Reservations for January Meeting
– Capitol/Illinois
8-10:30 AM General Business Session – Capitol/Illinois

ALL ELKS, MALE & FEMALE, MUST REGISTER
for convention functions:

FEES: Pre-Registration \$10/On-site \$20.

PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Sept. 6.

By pre-registering for the convention, volunteer luncheon and banquet, you will give the Credentials Committee time to make sure your credentials will be waiting for you at the check-in desk and will also assist the Convention Committee in working with the Hilton in planning the workshops, breakfast and banquet.

ROOM CANCELTION CUT OFF will be Aug. 21. All mailings must be postmarked before Aug. 21 to avoid additional late charges. Rooms cancelled after Aug. 21 will forfeit their deposit. Cancellation policy is 30 days out.

HOSPITALITY ROOM ASSIGNMENTS will be determined by the Pre-registration numbers per district excluding the state president's district. The remaining District Hospitality Rooms will be assigned following the close of Pre-Registration.

ALL HOSPITALITY ROOMS SHALL BE CLOSED
6-9 PM on Saturday, Sept. 23.



**HOST LODGE:
SPRINGFIELD
#158**

Registration badges necessary to attend all functions;

All Elks, male and female, must register for convention functions

Please preregister by Sept. 6 for Sept. 22-24 convention

Illinois Elks and guests attending the Illinois Elks Association Fall Meeting, scheduled Sept. 22-24 in Wyndham-Springfield Hotel, are encouraged to pre-register. Pre-registration deadline is Sept. 6.

Attendees should fill out the form at right and mail it with a check or money order to Scott Flota, Chairman, Credentials, P.O. Box 1484, Mt. Vernon, IL 62864.

To assist in record-keeping, lodge secretaries are asked to copy the form at right for each registration instead of putting them all on a single form.

The pre-registration fee is \$10

and \$20 if postmarked after Sept. 6. Checks should be made payable to the Illinois Elks Association.

The charge for the Saturday evening dinner is \$29 with pre-registration and \$32 on-site. The ladies luncheon and accessory show is \$15.50 with pre-registration and \$17 on-site.

Room cancelation cut off is Aug 21 – 30 days ahead of the start of the convention.

All mailings must be postmarked by the posted dates to avoid additional late charges. Rooms canceled after Aug. 21 will forfeit their deposit.

Pre-registration
Deadline
SEPT 6, 2017

Scott Flota, Chairman
Credentials Committee
P.O. Box 1484
Mt.Vernon, IL 62864
scottflota@gmail.com
Phone: (618) 316-0219 (text)

Pre-registration
Deadline
SEPT 6, 2017

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: ILLINOIS ELKS ASSOCIATION

Illinois Elks Annual Meeting
Registration Form
Fall Meeting September 22-24 2017
Springfield – Wyndham Hotel

Please make a reservation for the following:

Pre – registration - \$10.00 After SEPT 6, 2017---\$20.00

ELK#1 _____ Non-Elk Spouse _____

ELK#2 (Only if spouse of Elk #1) _____

Lodge _____ No. _____ Dist. _____

Title ELK#1 _____
(To be typed on Convention Badge)

Title ELK#2 _____
(To be typed on Convention Badge)

Registration Fee @ \$10.00 ALL ELKS (Male and Female) \$ _____
If both male and female are members
Both pay fee (no exceptions)

Ladies Lunch & Accessory Show @ \$15.50/\$17.00* \$ _____

Saturday Evening Banquet @ \$29.00/\$32.00* \$ _____

Illinois Elks Association Dinner

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

*Cost of meal if check received post marked after SEPT 6, 2017
Or purchased on-site

Home Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

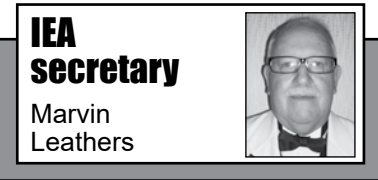
Phone () _____ E-mail _____

Super hospitality room in Reno!

First, a very big thank you to President Dave and his wonderful wife, Rae Marie, for a super meeting room at the Grand Lodge Session in Reno – and to Mike and his committee for the drinks and food during that time. It was appreciated by all attending. Thank you.

Now, lodges that made the state president’s \$5.50 per-member goal last year, you have until Dec. 31 to let me know how you are going to spend your award. We like to see it used for community service. That way you can get it published in your local newspaper.

What a great way to let your community know what the Elks are doing. You might even pick up a new member from this!



Please don’t let this award pass the membership and you by.

State scholarship awards are going out to many students! A number of these students take the time to send a note thanking the Illinois Elks for their help. I enjoy reading their thank you’s, and glad they take the time to say thank you. The need is there and the Illinois Elks are there to help!

In closing, let’s all “Get on Board” the membership train, and get that gain for Illinois Elks!



Showcase your lodge’s civic activities in the Illinois Elks Newsette!

Send your articles and photos, and show every Illinois Elk what you’re proud of in your Lodge. **E-mail them** to Newsette Editor Joe Baker at deejayeditor@yahoo.com. **Or mail them**, if you must, to Joe Baker, 59 S. Hale Street, Unit 301, Palatine, IL 60067-6267.

Submission deadlines – Nov. 21, 2017, for Mid-Winter; March 22, 2018, for spring; June 15, 2018, for summer; and July 20, 2018 for fall

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Lodge secretaries urged again to help cut costly Newsette returns

Local lodge secretaries statewide have been summoned to help stem the rising tide of costly postal returns resulting from inaccurate addresses on some of the Newsettes mailed to members.

Making the appeal after the IEA Annual Meeting in May was Gene Howe, vice chairman of the Illinois Elks Publication Corporation, which publishes the Newsette. He is also the South Central District Newsette chairman.

“The corporation has asked all of the publication directors and district chairmen to reach out to the lodge secretaries and ask for their help,” Howe said “This is a problem statewide, not just in (South Central) district.”

The Publication Corporation gets its mailing list

More than food available at fall ladies luncheon

Kristi Hornung, owner of Carnaby Square Boutique in Fairfield, will be the featured speaker/presenter at the September Ladies Luncheon.

She will share her years of experience in accessorizing wardrobes for the coming fall season. Using scarves, jewelry, toppers and other accessories, ladies will have the opportunity to learn the “tricks” of adding those touches that make an outfit special and complete. Hornung will also have a few items available for purchase after the show.

This year the fall and spring luncheons will be held in the Highlander Room on the ground floor of the hotel.

STATE

IEA DRUG AWARENESS PROGRAM

Elroy getting bored waiting for lodges to give him a job

By **FRANK BURR**
IEA Drug Awareness Chairman

Elroy is getting bored just setting around doing nothing. Does your lodge have an event coming up that Elroy can help out with? Is there a community event that your Lodge could have a Drug Awareness table or booth at?

If so Elroy would like to help you out. Elroy is a great way to bring people to your booth or table. Elroy is not shy either - Elroy likes getting his picture taken with people.

Just a few things to remember, Elroy is always busy around major holidays like 4th of July, Labor Day, etc. However, every community has their own special event or festival that Elroy would like to attend and help your Lodge out at.

Here are the Illinois Elks

to contact to schedule a Drug Awareness trailer or Elroy costume:

■ **East Central District**, Robert Swisher, (217) 562-9292; rswish@newwavecomm.net

■ **North District**, Sandy Supancic (773) 625-3924; sthurm@yahoo.com

■ **West District**, Matt Stropes, (309) 346-3513; mattstropes@omnilec.com

■ **South Central District**, Tony Korzenewski, (618) 201-7264; cobracing2@charter.net

■ **South District**, Chris Paul, (618) 924-3507; chrisandbillpaul@gmail.com

■ **East District**, Larry Nolan, (708) 567-3532; j.louridas@comcast.net

■ **Northwest District**, Gail Sessler, (815) 866-6645; gessler65@gmail.com

■ **West Central**, Bill Block, (217) 483-3020; helpkids@elksare.org

The Elroy costumes are administered by the state Drug Awareness chairman or his designee and are the sole property of the IEA. They are not the property of a district or lodge. The person scheduling the Elroy costume needs to know where it is at all times. They coordinate its use to the various lodges. Costumes are available first come, first served.

Requests for Elroy costumes from lodges should come from the lodge Exalted Ruler or lodge Drug Awareness chairman only! Those requesting the Elroy costumes are responsible for them. The Elroy costumes are valuable IEA property and must be safeguarded. Transferring the Elroy costume

from lodge to lodge requires cooperation. The lodge ER or Drug Awareness chair who has a costume sends it on only to where the state Drug Awareness chair or his designee indicates. The two lodges transferring the Elroy costume should arrange for the delivery.

The Lodge must arrange to have it delivered back only to where the state Drug Awareness chairman or his designee indicates. This is the lodge's responsibility. When scheduling to use Elroy, make sure ahead of time that you can return it on time.

The Elroy costume may not be shipped under any circumstances, and is not to be "loaned" to schools or law enforcement agencies. No one knows our program like we do, and we know about the rules of use to protect our image.



Centralia Elks take to the streets to help raise drug awareness

Members of Centralia Lodge 493 recently helped raise drug awareness and assisted in raising money to help support the Marion County Drug Court. From left are member Danny Stover, lodge Drug Awareness Chairman Tony Korzenewski and lodge Treasurer Rich Davis.



Programs created, others expanded

The IEA Drug Awareness program started new programs and expanded others, Chairman Frank Burr said in his 2016-17 year-end report.

He was referring to: the Christmas tree decorated with Drug Awareness Red Ribbons; distributing program material to the Drug Enforcement Agency, Red Ribbon Week and back-to-school program.

Burr said he now meets bimonthly with the DEA agent in charge of Illinois. He also offered the President Volunteer Service

Award coin to the IEA scholarship winners; and expanded involvement with Hoop Shoot, Soccer Shoot and junior golf programs.

"It is our goal to continue our new programs and grow all the programs this coming year."

He added that data from the Chicago Lodge Membership System, showed that through 38 of the IEA's 70 lodges reached more than 33,400 children and adults with their Drug Awareness activities as of May.

Key award winners were Ben Hopfinger, representing Fairview Heights Lodge 664, in the Drug Awareness poster contest; and Kewanee police Sgt. Justin Reed, winner of the Enrique Camarena Award.

"We cannot save every child from drug or alcohol abuse, but we need to do our best to try."

**Frank Burr,
IEA DAP chairman**

"We know we cannot save every child from drug or alcohol abuse, but we need to do our best to try," Burr said. "Losing even one child or a loved one to drugs or alcohol, is one too many and hurts the future of Illinois and the country!"

Returns from Page 3

the Children's Care Corporation. The CCC lets the Publication Corporation use its list in exchange for space in the Newsette to promote its programs.

"There has been a misconception that when (the Chicago Lodge Membership System) is updated that it updates the list for CCC. It does not," Howe said. "Remember, this list also affects other outgoing

mailings for the state including HODO pins, calendars and annual drawings, just to name a few.

"So updating this regularly may also solve other problems" besides Newsette mailings.

The Publication Corporation has had a long-standing problem of bad addresses it gets from the CCC, but the problem has worsened in recent mailings. The corporation is forced to pay 50 cents to the Post Office for each of the Newsettes that is returned due to bad addresses.

"The IEA Publication Corp., which produces the Newsette, has over the last several issues had a large increase in returns, which we have to pay for," Howe said. "This has caused a rather large hit on our budget."

Publication Corporation Treasurer Vicki Williams traced the outflow of revenue for postage returns through the spring Newsette mailing.

"Since a high of \$1,769 in 2007, efforts to keep mailing lists updated resulted in lows of \$51.50

in 2013 and \$51.15 in 2014," Williams said. "Since then the cost of returns has increased to \$195.02 in the year ended April 30, 2017, and the cost of the spring issue was \$105.56 for that one issue."

Postage returns for the summer 2017 Newsette were not immediately available.

The increased cost comes in the wake of the corporation already having to deal with a decrease in revenue from the IEA to support the Newsette mailing. Howe put that loss at about \$10,000 over the

last 10 years.

"After some investigating, it has been narrowed down to a couple of issues, one being the membership/address updates to the Children's Care Corporation not being done either regularly or at all," Howe said.

He remains hopeful that the spike in postage returns can be turned back.

"The last thing any of us want to see happen is a decrease in the availability of the Newsette or an increase in dues," he said.

ELKS NATIONAL CONVENTION

Illinois Elks make their presence felt at Reno convention



Eight Illinois Elks were sworn in at the Elks National Convention in Reno as district deputies to assist GER Malcolm McPherson in overseeing Illinois lodges in 2017-18. From left, they are: Richard Wilkinson of Centralia Lodge 493, South Central District; Michael Porter, Effingham 1016, East Central; Jeff Sterr, Joliet 296, East; Jon Coulter of Kewanee 724, West; Todd Lindsay of Herrin 1146, South; Lane Burghoffer, Rock Island 980, Northwest; Jim Cusack of Des Plaines 1526, North; and Mike Slape of Fairview Heights 664, West Central.



IEA President Dave Jurmu, under the watchful eye of 2016-17 Grand Exalted Ruler Michael F. Zellen, nominates Bryan Klatt, past state president and member of DeKalb Lodge 765, for grand secretary.



Some Illinois Elks were guests of Wisconsin Elks in the Wisconsin hospitality room in Reno. From left are: IEA Past State President Larry Smith, Northwest District Vice President Gail Sessler, Children's Care Corporation Administrative Manager Bill Block, Wisconsin PSP Ron Shannon, Block's wife Kim Block and Shannon's wife Nikki Shannon.



Grand Secretary Bryan Klatt of DeKalb Lodge 765 addresses convention delegates.



IEA Secretary Marvin Leathers and his Wisconsin counterpart, Ken Johnson, share war stories from their multidecade tenures as an Elks state secretary, Leathers with 24 years and Johnson with 20. Neither looks worse for the wear.

The *Newsette* gratefully acknowledges Past District Deputy **Bill Gandolfi** of Oglesby Lodge 2360 for supplying the 13 convention photos appearing in this edition.



IEA President Dave Jurmu, right, accompanied by Maine Elks President David Anderson, after the parade of flags to open the Grand Lodge Convention in Reno.



In an apparent act of deliberate provocation, and to the chagrin of Bears fans everywhere, IEA Sponsor Lou Sulsberger and IEA President Dave Jurmu are all smiles in displaying their NFL loyalties.



IEA Sponsor Lou Sulsberger and wife Beth, caught in the act of being themselves.



IEA President Dave Jurmu shows off a gift sign he received from fellow Elks, Children's Care Corporation Administrative Manager Bill Block, IEA Past State President Ray Summers, Wisconsin Past First Lady Nikki Shannon and Wisconsin PSP Ron Shannon.



Grand Lodge officers take the oath of office for 2017-18.

LOCAL LODGE

Mount Vernon Elks honor teen, retiring lodge secretary Ray Baril



Rebekah Delaney, representing Mt. Vernon Lodge 819, placed third in the IEA Teen Elk of the year contest. She receives a check from Illinois Elks State Secretary Marvin Leathers, himself a Mt. Vernon Elks member. From left are: Anthony Burk, Leathers, Delaney, Exalted Ruler John Tucker and IEA Vice President Tom Deien.



Mt. Vernon Elks in June recognized the 35 years that Raymond Baril (front center) has been lodge secretary. Baril retired from the post to enjoy more time with family and friends. He will remain as a consultant for the new secretary. Flanking Baril, from left, are: Don Bond, Kent Fair, David Bowling, Zack Greenwell, John Tucker, Tom Deien, Patrick Bevis, David Rakey, Wayne Murphy, Kenny Bell and Scott Flota.



Benton Elks' ENF grant goes to the (police) dogs

Benton Lodge 1234 recently donated \$2,000 – proceeds from an Elks National Foundation Gratitude Grant – to the Benton police department for its K-9 unit. Exalted Ruler Scott Rice and lodge secretary Coy Cockrum present the check to police chief Kyle Melvin and commissioner Don Storey.

Oglesby Elks recognize student achievement



Oglesby Lodge 2360 honored it's Elks Teens of the Month and Year at the recent Appreciations Dinner. Alongside Exalted Ruler Bill Gandolfi at the dinner are March honoree and Teen of the Year Gina Henkel; and the January, September and November honorees Olivia Lewis, Pedro Matros and Hunter Thurman.

STATE

IEA in market to replace trailer stolen before Mid-Winter meeting

The IEA is looking to replace its storage unit, which was broken into sometime before the Mid-Winter Meeting in January.

IEA officials meeting in May are discussing whether to replace the rental unit with a trailer. They also are looking into possibly securing space in the Wyndham-Springfield Hotel, where IEA meetings are held.

The IEA uses the storage for its hospitality room at conventions.

No decision on the replacement had been reached. Any decision would rest with the IEA Executive Committee.

President Ray Summers said he has priced both a replacement trailer and a fixed, secure location.

Charles Campbell said he likes the idea of

a trailer except you'd have to find a place to store it when not in use.

Summers said he has spoken to Jeff Rodier of Springfield Lodge 158, who's looking into storing the trailer at the lodge.

Bill Marsh asked if the hotel might have a storage closet available. Summers said IEA Convention Coordinator Tina Haran could inquire.

Paul Ronzani suggested using one of the IEA's existing Drug Awareness trailers.

"We have five trailers out there that aren't doing what they're supposed to be doing," Ronzani said. "So why not use one of them for what we need?"

Dave Jurmu echoed Ronzani, saying, "If the option is a trailer, let's get one of those," but he added, "I would rather have a storage

unit."

As one of the Drug Awareness trailer coordinators and also a member of the IEA Judiciary Committee, Matt Stropes said a problem occurs when lodges want the trailers at the same time, especially around July 4 and festival weekends.

"That's the big bottleneck with the trailers is everybody wants it the same days," he said.

Marsh responded: "Don't forget that not everybody can pull a trailer."

Summers reacted, saying, "We have had volunteers, me being one. ...There's enough rednecks around here that we'll get it moved."

Third Vice President Greg Verdun suggested if a Drug Awareness trailer is

not available in one district, to get it from another district.

Stropes responded, "That's what we do a lot of. We'll tell Kewanee, 'When you're done with it, take it up to...'"

IEA Sponsor Lou Sulsberger spoke in favor of buying a trailer and parking it at either Springfield Lodge, which has already offered parking space, or at the Children's Care Corporation office in Chatham.

"I know the question about the truck is there, but if you have a storage shed, you're still going to have to have some kind of means of getting it here," he said. "That's my 2 cents."

Summers put the cost of a trailer at less than \$5,000.

LOCAL LODGE



In May, members of Boy Scout Troop 258, sponsored by Joliet Lodge 296, repaired the wheelchair ramp of a disabled Joliet resident. From left are Aidan Overstreet, Jeremy Crowl, Matthew Dixon, Vincent Parise, Jeff Parise, Char Cannon, Kenneth Parise and Thom Dixon.

Joliet Elks give scouts life lesson in community service



With the help of his parents and troop, Life Scout Joshua Turek of Troop 258, sponsored by Joliet Lodge 296, in June installed his Eagle Scout Project. Joshua built and installed a cedar arbor for the residents of the DuPage County Convalescent Center to enjoy. From left are Jeff Parise, Zander Parise, Geno Turek, Joshua Turek, Vincent Parise and Kenneth Parise. Troop 258 Scoutmaster is Jeff Parise (not pictured).

Elmhurst Elks turn Dictionary Project into Dictionary/Laptop Project



Members of Elmhurst Lodge 1531 in June donated 100 dictionaries and 30 Chrome Notebook computer laptops to area third-graders. The lodge has been donating dictionaries for several years to area schools, but expanded its offerings this year to include the laptops. “The students were very excited to have the new dictionaries and Chrome books,” said Rich Menzia, lodge public relations chairman. “Once again the members of the Elmhurst lodge proved that *“Elks Care – Elks Share.”*”



STATE

To measure their quality, lodges asked to enter Contest A

IEA Lodge Activities Chairman Dennis Bierman underscored the importance of local lodges entering the Grand All American Lodge Contest A as a way to measure lodge improvement from year to year.

“This information can only help our lodges thrive,” Bierman said in his 2016-17 year-end report. “I will continue to ask more lodges to participate in Contest A this coming year.”

While only 12 of the IEA’s 70 lodges participated in the contest this year, it was better than the nine that participated in 2015-16.

Material promoting the 2017-18 contest is a staple of thumb

drives that will be distributed to exalted rulers at the Elks National Convention in Reno in July, and will be posted on the Grand Lodge Fraternal Committee webpage at Elks.org before the end of June.

The material also will be mailed to lodges. Look for it in the mailing of the October Grand Lodge Newsletter to lodges.

All lodge officials need to do is to complete the Contest A form and send it to their district deputy by March 15.

The form is a measure of how lodges fare in submitting to Elks charities, promoting membership, participation in ritual, contributions

to the Elks National Foundation and veterans programs, and a host of other measures in pursuing the Elks mission.

“This is the most prestigious of the Grand Lodge Awards, for it recognizes those lodges best exemplifying that *“Elks Care – Elks Care,”* 2016-17 contest administrator Ashley Buckwell said in his letter promoting this year’s contest. “You must, however, enter in order to have a chance to win.”

District deputies are to send the forms completed by exalted rulers, to the 2017-18 IEA Lodge Activities chair, which will

continue to be Bierman. He will complete and verify the “Points Earned” column and send to the contest administrator by April 15.

Also in his year-end IEA Lodge Activities Committee report, Bierman said his goal for 2016-17 was to continue to improve communication between Grand Lodge, the IEA, districts and lodges.

“With communication, we all work as one team and avoid costly problems,” he said.

Entering Contest A will offer lodges an exercise in lodge to district to state to Grand Lodge communication.

CHILDREN’S CARE CORP.

Awards from Page 8

Effingham Lodge, Caitlin Kaufman, Hannah Pike, Jessica Schumacher; Robinson Lodge, Ethan Blankenship, McKenna Elder, Kelsie Harper, Micah Murphy, Sydney Ogle, Rhiannon Pearse, Kendyl Surrells, Jack Webster; and Pana Lodge, Anna Lowry, Claudia Magnussen; and Champaign-Urbana Lodge, Keely Smith. District total, \$27,150.

West Central District – Quincy Lodge, Christopher Dietrich, Nicholas Dietrich, Amanda Gross, Carlee Hively, Taylor Smith; Springfield Lodge, Elya Farias-Herschelman, Allyson Hunt, Hope Lang, Brooke Metzger, Abby Pohlman; Belleville Lodge, Casey Berberich, Kaitlynn Borik, Caitlin Busch, Kristen Busch, Natalie Gass, Amanda Kaltwasser, Hollie Kreher, Sarah Kuester, Hana Michael, Alyssa Pellman, Megan Seibel, Veronica Steibel, Kelsey Weatherford; Fairview Heights Lodge, Savannah Buch, Sierra Buch, Corinne Holtmann; Jacksonville Lodge, Alex Bertman, Alisha Kerr; Beardstown Lodge, Alex Bertman, Alisha Kerr; and Granite City Lodge, Kelsey Cunningham, Haley James, Aryn Weise. District total, \$54,700; Area Grand total, \$81,850.

Area 2 North District – Des Plaines Lodge, Alina Wallin, Ryan Walsh; District total, \$5,175.

Northwest District – Freeport Lodge, Devin Hartman, Tara Holycross; Galena Lodge, Kyle Wienen; Sycamore Lodge, Isabella Johnson, Carolyn Stoesser; Princeton Lodge, Alyssa Thompson, Chelsea Wallaert, and Oglesby Lodge, Steffen O’Brien, Heather Senica, Kristy Wallin; District total, \$20,000. Area 2 Grand total, \$25,175.

Area 3 South District – Murphysboro Lodge, Mackenzie Grefe; Marion Lodge Nicole Plumley; Herrin Lodge, Makayla Smothers; Benton Lodge, Jared Johnson; District Total, \$5,525.

South Central District – Centralia Lodge, Sarah Gerdes, Lauren Smith; Mt. Vernon Lodge, Divya Merchant; Flora Lodge, Clinton Rauch; and McLeansboro Lodge, Kaitlyn Flannigan, Madison Nelson; District total, \$9,150. Area 3 Grand total, \$14,675.

Area 4 East District – Joliet Lodge, Alyssa Callans, Kyla Owens, Olivia Perozzi; Streator Lodge, Shea Gabehart, Mikayla Greenwood, Drew Travers; and Oak Lawn Lodge, Karina Folliard, Connor Ganzer; District total, \$11,750.

West District – Peoria Lodge, Mackenzie Baldock, Ashlyn Rulis; Lincoln Lodge, Rachel Durchholz; and Macomb Lodge, Emily Riggins; District total, \$9,650. Area 4 Grand total \$21,400.

Overall Grand total, \$143,100.

Hawking his wares



Children's Care Corporation Administrative Manager Bill Block tends to a patron stopping by the CCC booth at the Elks National Convention in Reno. The Grand Lodge Fraternal Committee awarded the CCC four of five stars for its booth, but to Block, "We had a 5 Star convention as we sold out of all convention pins, all flag ties and scarves, and lanyards," grossing more than \$12,800 in the process. "Not bad for a shortened convention."

CCC earmarks \$143,100 in scholarships for 2017-18

Judging has been completed for 2017-2018 Physical/Occupational Graduate and Assistant Programs. A total of 110 Applications from 38 Lodges were submitted.

"We are proud to say the Children's Care Program will be awarding 87 students scholarships totaling more than \$143,100," CCC Administrative Manager Bill Block said. "The students have been notified by letter of their award. Those students who did not receive an award have also been notified; in those cases the student simply did not score high enough to receive an award."

"Please note that this application has become very competitive with


many more excellent graduates applying."

Block encouraged all students seeking a career in physical or occupational therapy to reapply for the six-year program regardless of whether they receive a scholarship.

For those students aspiring to be a PT/OT therapist, the 2018-19 application will be available in Dec. 1 at www.illinoiselksccc.org.

Award winners for 2017-18 are:
Area 1, East Central District
– Danville Lodge, Dawson LaBaw, Cade Robinson; Decatur Lodge, Trevor Schrock; Clinton Lodge, Sarah Gehres; Paris Lodge, Shayne Smith, Ashton Williams;

Please See **AWARDS**, Page 7



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Children's Care Corporation

Elks Magazine traces history of CCC in July/August edition

The IEA was in the spotlight of the July/August edition of *The Elks Magazine*, in which the Illinois Elks Children's Care Corporation was profiled.

CCC Administrative Manager Bill Block was in the catbird seat to see how the story came about.

The 800-word piece, including two photos displaying the work of the CCC and its board of directors, traced the origins of the IEA's state major project to 1928 in response to the spread of polio that plagued the nation through the 1950s and into the 1960s.

With the eradication of the disease, the CCC's focus switched from sending therapists on home visits to holding two-hour clinics

statewide to address orthopedic issues. Providing equipment to improve children's mobility also became a priority.

Later added was funding scholarships for students studying physical therapy, occupational therapy and special education. In 2015-16, 91 scholarships totalling nearly \$160,000 were awarded.

Recounting how the story evolved, Block said he had received a call several months before the article was published, from a staff reporter for *The Elks Magazine*, requesting an interview.

"After the interview and some additional phone calls and some correspondence through the mail, I received a proof of a soon-to-be-

released article (minus pictures) about the CCC," Block said.

"After approving the proof I began to wait, and after a couple releases of *The Elks Magazine* and not seeing an article about the CCC I had forgotten about the interview."

Weeks later, Block said, "I started reading comments on social media regarding the CCC article in the July/August issue."

"I waited in anticipation for my magazine to arrive and after seeing and reading the article I could not have been more proud of our State Major Project, our board members, my predecessors, the lodges and the membership that have given so much support to children over these many years."

CCC calendar winners announced for June and July

The Children's Care Corporation has announced its calendar winners for June and July. They are:

June 2017 – Barry Evans, Robinson; Jeff Rodier, Springfield; Scott Hawthorne, Belleville; Jerod Cottingham, Carlinville; Richard Ackerman, Harrisburg; Michael G. Sack, Oak Lawn; Barbara A. Rich, Benton; Hal Lamb, Pana;

Janet Harms, Quincy; Lance Loftus, Metropolis; Bill Johnson, Oglesby; Dorothy Larose, Granite City; Gary Sarge, Chicago South; Tim Ethington, Streator; Nicholas J. Cruz*, Dixon; Raymond Manis, Benton; Shari Axley, Carlinville; Caroline A. Ryan, Beardstown; Tom Porter, Chicago South; Marion E. Devoy, McLeansboro; Patti Belmonte, Des Plaines; Janice Casper, Rock Island;

July 2017 – Merrill Lauderdale, Elgin; Chris Edwards**, Carlinville; Cody Stacey, West Frankfort; Gregg & Cindy Russell, Pontiac; Carl P. Anderson, McLeansboro; Robert W. Roberts, Robinson; John Paul Braswell, Mt. Vernon; Doug Shockley, Metropolis; Arthur R. Walters, Beardstown;

– * \$100 ** \$1,000 *** \$5,000

Golfing for the CCC



Centralia Lodge 493 recently held its annual Dudley Henry Memorial Golf Tournament, raising \$2,500 for the Children's Care Corporation.