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IEA PRESIDENT

David Neel, Jr.

Stand for Elkdom!

Members All,
Hope everyone enjoyed Grand Lodge in Kansas City. It is such a nice city to be in. I would personally like to thank all who attended and helped bring in Bryan Klatt as our new Grand Exalted Ruler. It was so exciting to watch. Congratulations, Bryan. Also, the members that attended the hospitality room and all who helped. A big thank you too all. And a big thank you to Hutch and his crew for doing what they do to make the hospitality room a success. Also, thanks to Sandy, John, and Judy.

Don't forget to apply for your \$2000 President Grant for meeting the states ENF goal of \$5.50 per capita and Veterans Grant for \$1000. The money will come in handy to support your programs. Just send an email to State Secretary Joe Ray or myself. Don't forget to check the deadline dates on the back of the State Directory.

And a quick reminder that the Fall Convention will be held at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield in September. This is a new venue for us so please have some patience with the staff. For those coming in on Thursday night stop by the State Hospitality room for some food and drinks.

The DCFS picnic is on the 23rd of August. If you have some time, we could always use the volunteers. Becky and all the volunteers do an excellent job putting on this program. Big thanks to all the volunteers and sponsors who donate their time and resources to this program.

And finally, membership of our state is still down. We need to do more to have a gain this year. There are candidates out there waiting to be initiated. Also try to keep lapsation down. Membership is the life blood to our growth. It would be a good thing if we could have a gain for our own grand Exalted Ruler Bryan Klatt.



IL President Neel carrying the IL Flag during Opening Ceremony at Grand Lodge.

Illinois' own: Bryan Klatt installed as GER

Everyone in IL Elkdome is excited that our very own, Bryan Klatt was installed as the new Grand Exalted Ruler during the Grand Lodge meeting in Kansas City this past month. We're excited to see what he does this year and wish him and Susan safe travels at they venture out to visit all in Elkdome this year.

Bryan Robert Klatt was born in DeKalb, Illinois on December 5 to Robert A. Klatt and DonnaLee (Bettner) Klatt. He is the oldest of two children, with a younger brother, Mark A. Klatt (Layne).

Bryan was raised in DeKalb and graduated from DeKalb High School in 1977. Bryan graduated from Northern Illinois University in 1982 with a bachelor's degree in industrial arts. During his time in college, he was a five-year student equipment manager for the football team, which earned him a half-ride scholarship for all five years.

After college, Bryan worked with his father and brother at the former Kallal's Sheet Metal Inc. in his hometown. He was with the company for more than 25 years, first as an employee, then as a co-owner with his brother. Bryan is a past chairman of the City of DeKalb HVAC Mechanical board and a former member of the DeKalb Public Library board. He is a member of St. Mary Catholic Church in DeKalb and a Third Degree Knight of the Knights of Columbus Council No. 717, as well as a member of the Loyal Order of Moose Lodge No. 586.

During Bryan's senior year of high school, he was introduced to the former Susan Louise Ekstrom, to whom he has been married since October 1983. They have three children: Gregory Robert, Andrew Jordan, and Lucas Richard (BreeAnne).

When his boys attended and played sports at DeKalb High School, Bryan found a way to watch the action and save the school a little money. He volunteered to be the public address announcer, and stayed in the role for more than a quarter century. Bryan's voice could be heard at the school's football games, boys' and girls' basketball games, wrestling meets, baseball and softball games, and other events. He has also assisted Northern Illinois by announcing baseball, softball, gymnastics, football, and women's basketball. Bryan is a regular volunteer in his community in various school, civic, and athletic activities.

Bryan was initiated into DeKalb, Illinois Lodge No. 765 on November 12, 1985. He served on numerous committees before becoming Exalted Ruler in 1989-1990 and Lodge Secretary from 1998 to 2009. He is an Honorary Life Member and continues to serve the Lodge when needed to fulfill unexpired Officer terms or committees.

For the Illinois Elks Association, Bryan served as North Central District Vice President (1992-1993); State Chaplain (1993-1994); State Americanism Committee Chairman (1993-1994); Third (1994-1995), Second (1995-1996), and First (1996-1997) State Vice President; State President (1997-1998); Chairman of Advisory Committee (2000-2001); Chairman of Convention Committee (2002-2004); Co-Chair of Leading Knight/Officer Training Seminars (1998-2008); Co-Chair of the LouGER Committee for then Endorsed Candidate for Grand Exalted Ruler F. Louis Sulsberger (2006-2008); and District Leader/Sponsor for the Northwest District No. 2680 since 1999.

Bryan has served the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America as District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler (1994-1995); as a member (2001-2008) and the Chairman (2005-2007) of the Grand Lodge Membership Committee; and as the Grand Secretary from July 2008 through July 2025.

Bryan and Susan are humbled, thankful, and honored to be chosen as the ambassadors to represent our great Order as the Grand Exalted Ruler and First Lady of Elkdome. They are excited to travel to and visit Elks communities throughout America promoting their theme: **Be the Difference!**



Send in your stuff!
Event pics, Newsette
articles, fundraiser
recaps and more!

ilelksnewsette@gmail.com

Deadline for next Newsette is November 21st, 2025

A WORD FROM OUR OFFICERS...

IEA NEWS

LODGE NEWS



IEA SECRETARY

Joe Ray

Members all,

Seems like no time ago, I was writing my article for Summer Newsette. Here we go again! For those that went to Grand Lodge, I believe a good time was had by all. If you see the hospitality crew please say thanks for a fabulous job that they did. Jeremy Hutcheson has been a good friend since we were ERs together 2004. I know for everyone it was spectacular to see Bryan Klatt installed as Grand Exalted Ruler and even to see Jeff Rodier installed as Grand Esquire. Our association was well represented.

As everyone should know by now, we will be at the Crowne Plaza and Holiday Inn Express and some over at Hilton Garden Inn for overflow. Hopefully everyone will be patient with issues that will arise. I know that Chris Ord with assistance from Jeff Sterr will work everything out. The Crowne Plaza and Holiday Inn Express, which we toured, were very nice and the employees were friendly. We also ran into a friendly face, Katrina, who previously worked at the Wyndham.

State dues invoices were mailed in early June, if you did not receive yours just drop me a note. The yearly awards will be presented at the Saturday Banquet. All IEA Scholarship forms have been mailed to the students and I already have had several back, if you get questions, just let me know. I would appreciate it if everyone would use the email centralia493@gmail.com for emails.



IEA TREASURER

Jeff Rodier

Members all,

Norine and I hope all of you that attended Grand Lodge in Kansas City had a great time! I know we did! Congratulations to Grand Exalted Ruler Bryan Klatt and First Lady Sue for their election and installation as our national leaders. I know that they will serve the State of Illinois and all of Elksdom well. I know they will "Be The Difference!"

Next, thanks to IEA President Dave Neel and his assistant Sandy Begue (and her husband John, aka "The Commodore") for running a fine Hospitality Suite at the Westin.

A huge Thank You to Jeremy Hutcheson and the Hospitality Crew for all the time and effort that they put in to keep us in food and beverages for the four days the Suite was open. GREAT JOB, CREW!

Finally, on behalf of myself and Norine and PSP Charlie Campbell and his wife Jan, a huge thank you to all of you who volunteered to help with Bryan and Sue's Monday night reception and Wednesday luncheon. Everything ran smoothly in all aspects and the compliments flowed about how well things ran. THANKS TO ALL OF YOU!

Looking forward to seeing all of you at our new venue The Crowne Plaza in September for the Fall State Convention. Our walk through at the hotel leads us to believe that we are in good hands for this Convention. More news regarding future venues will be shared at this convention.

See you in September and remember to "Be The Difference!"



IEA SPONSOR

F. Louis Sulsberger
PGER

Greetings all!

For those of you who attended the Grand Lodge Convention in Kansas City Missouri, I'm sure it was as exciting for you as it was for Beth and I to witness our good friend Bryan Klatt be sworn in as Grand Exalted Ruler of our beloved Order! Having known Bryan and Sue for over 30 years, we are aware of what he has done for his local Elks Lodge, his District and the Illinois Elks Association all these many years and have witnessed what he brought to the Order as Grand Secretary for the past 17 years. We can only imagine what he will do as our National President! The mark he will make on the Order this year will be indelible. Along his side will be the First Lady of Elksdom, Sue, who we have seen support Bryan all these years and together they will be outstanding and refreshing ambassorders of the Order.

We look forward to their official visit to Illinois in January of 2026 where they will receive a big WELCOME from their home State. I also want to take this opportunity to say how great it will be that the Convention that Bryan will preside over in 2026 as his year as GER comes to a close, will be in Chicago. How awesome it will be for Illinois Elks to host that Convention! In addition, the Elks National Memorial building will be celebrating its 100th Anniversary at the Convention and we anticipate that attendance will be larger than normal as Elks will have the opportunity that week to visit the Headquarters building to view this beautiful structure. Bryan and Sue are on one heck of a special journey from day one of the KC Convention to the last day of the Chicago Convention and we send our love and best wishes with them every day as we know each of you do as well.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many Elks from Illinois (and many from the other States in Area 5) for a job well done in Kansas City. From planning and serving at the receptions for GER Elect Bryan and Sue, and walking in the celebration on the Convention floor Monday morning, these events would not have happened without your help. In addition, Illinois Elks raised money throughout the State and the entire country selling Bryan's Endorsed Candidate pin and holding fundraisers. It truly was inspiring to see friends work together for Bryan and Sue and our State Association. Thank you all!

I would like to thank the Past District Deputies who served last year for a job well done. You all made a great effort to keep me informed of the activities of the Lodges in your Districts and I appreciated that. To our newly installed District Deputy Grand Exalted Rulers, congratulations on this achievement and best of luck to you. This will be a year of hard work, but I can assure you that the experience will be one that you will enjoy and not soon forget.

As summer comes to a close, plans are being made for the Illinois Elks Association Fall Meeting in Springfield in September. As I'm sure most of you have heard, our State Association is not able to hold our Fall Meeting at the Wyndham Hotel in downtown Springfield. Due to major vandalism sustained by the hotel, it is currently closed and its future is uncertain. September's IEA Meeting will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel and you can be sure your State Convention Committee along with Convention Coordinator Tina Haren have worked hard with the hotel to ensure our accommodations will be satisfactory to everyone and that we will have a successful Fall Meeting. Please watch for announcements about future hotel locations and convention information for our State Association.

In closing, enjoy the rest of you summer, stay cool and we will see you soon! God Bless.

Brookfield #1510 helps raise \$25,000 for Fisher House

Members Bill and Michelle Stach did the Ride For Veterans of Fisher House. Eighty bikers participated and drove 200 miles which helped bring in \$25,000 was raised.

Pictured are right are members Bill and Michelle Stach and Holly from Fisher House.



Illinois Elks Association

FALL CONFERENCE

September 25-28, 2025 Crowne Plaza Springfield Hotel

Thursday, September 25, 2025

| | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| 12:00 PM-5:00 PM | Convention Office |
| 1:00 PM-4:00 PM | Executive Committee |

PLACE/ROOM

| |
|-------------------|
| Topaz |
| Lincoln Boardroom |

Friday, September 26, 2025

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| 7:00 AM-5:00 PM | Convention Office |
| 8:00 AM-10:00 AM | Executive Committee |
| 10:00 AM-12:00 PM | Convention Committee |
| 12:00 PM-7:00 PM | Convention Registration |
| 1:00 PM-4:00 PM | Advisory Committee |

| |
|-------------------|
| Topaz |
| Lincoln Boardroom |
| Plaza A |
| Registration |
| Plaza A |

Saturday, September 27, 2025

| | | |
|-------------------|--|--------------|
| 6:30 AM-6:00 PM | Convention Office | Topaz |
| 7:00 AM-12:00 PM | Convention Registration | Registration |
| 7:30 AM-9:00 AM | Board of Directors Meeting & Training - Continental | Sapphire |
| 8:00 AM-9:30 AM | Lodge Trustee Training/Accident Prevention/Insurance | Plaza G |
| 8:00 AM-10:00 AM | District Deputies & Esquires - Continental | Plaza F |
| 8:00 AM-12:00 AM | Leading Knights Training | Diamond |
| 9:00 AM-10:00 AM | Exalted Rulers Meet w/ Executive Committee | Ruby |
| 9:00 AM-10:30 AM | Illinois Elks Children's Care Corporation | Plaza C |
| 9:30 AM-11:30 AM | Ritual Committee & Competition | Plaza H I J |
| 10:00 AM-11:00 AM | New Lodge | Turquoise |
| 10:00 AM-11:15 AM | Membership/Lapsation/Lodge Activities/Indoctrination | Emerald |
| 11:30 AM-12:15 PM | Memorial Service | Capitol View |
| 12:00 PM-1:00 PM | Ladies' Luncheon <i>Entrée: ½ Turkey Club Sandwich-Oven Roasted Turkey, Avocado, Lettuce, Tomato, Bacon, Cheddar, Mayo on Ciabatta with ½ House Salad</i> <i>Dessert: Assorted Cookies Cost: Pre Reg-\$30.00/ Onsite \$35.00</i> | |

| | | |
|-----------------|---|-------------------|
| 1:00 PM-2:00 PM | Elks National Foundation | Plaza F |
| 1:00 PM-2:00 PM | Youth Activities & Antlers | Plaza C |
| 1:00 PM-2:30 PM | Publication Corp/Website Monitoring/Public Relations | Plaza B |
| 1:00 PM-3:00 PM | Hoop/Soccer Shoots | Plaza E |
| 1:00 PM-3:00 PM | Secretaries' Association | Diamond |
| 1:00 PM-4:00 PM | PGER Meet with Lodges & Individuals | Lincoln Boardroom |
| 1:00 PM-5:00 PM | Ritual Clinic | Plaza H I J |
| 2:00 PM-3:00 PM | Americanism | Plaza A |
| 2:00 PM-3:00 PM | Athletic Commission | Plaza D |
| 3:00 PM-4:00 PM | Lodge Treasurers | Plaza B |
| 3:00 PM-4:00 PM | Scholarship Selection | Plaza D |
| 3:00 PM-4:00 PM | Veterans Service Commission | Plaza E |
| 5:00 PM-6:00 PM | Illinois Elks Association - Reception | Ruby/Emerald |
| 5:00 PM-6:00 PM | Illinois Elks Children's Care Social | Capitol View |
| 6:00 PM-8:00 PM | Illinois Elks Association - Dinner <i>Salad: Traditional House Salad with Ranch & Italian Dressing</i> <i>Entrée: Roasted Pork Loin, Caramelized Onion & Apple Chutney with Chef selection starch and Vegetable plus Dessert.</i> <i>Cost: Pre-registration \$40.00/On-site \$45.00 Dress: Business Suit</i> | Ruby/Emerald |

Sunday, September 28, 2025

| | |
|------------------|--|
| 7:00 AM-10:00 AM | Convention Office |
| 7:30 AM-8:00 AM | Room Reservations for the Mid-Winter Meeting |
| 8:00 AM-10:30 AM | General Business Session |

| |
|------------------|
| Topaz |
| Diamond/Sapphire |
| Diamond/Sapphire |

REGISTRATION
All Elks, male & female, Must Register for meeting functions:
FEES: Pre-Registration \$ 10.00/ On-site \$20.00. **Pre-Registration deadline is September 10, 2025.** FORM ON PAGE 6.

By pre-registering for the convention, Ladies' 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 Crowne Plaza in planning the workshops, Luncheon and banquet.

Registration Badges are necessary to attend ALL functions, including hospitality rooms.

ROOM RESERVATIONS
Room Cancelation cut off will be August 22, 2025.

All mailings must be postmarked prior to the above date to avoid additional late charges. Rooms cancelled after the above date will forfeit their deposit.

HOSPITALITY ROOMS
The Hospitality room assignments will be determined by the pre-registration numbers per district excluding the State President's Area. The remaining District Hospitality Rooms will be assigned following the close of Pre-Registration then sent to the Jr. Trustee.

All Hospitality Rooms shall be **CLOSED** from 5:00 pm until the conclusion of the banquet on Saturday, September 27, 2025, and during all Business sessions.

No one will be permitted in the hospitality rooms without proper convention credentials. Those not displaying proper credentials WILL be required to leave.

Covid-19 Guidelines for the Fall Meeting can be found on the IL Elks website. Precautions and guidelins are the same as previous meetings. Please take care and do not attend meeting if you are feeeling ill or exhibiting any symptoms. Let's keep everyone safe and healthy.



**We'll see you
next year in**

- 1 - Chicago 26 Booth, Advertising the Chicago GL next year, the Memorials 100th Anniversary, Selling Bryan Klatt Bobblehead Dolls, and Memorial shirts.
- 2 - Illinois PSP Ray Summers, GL Ritual Committee Member, Helping with awards.
- 3 - Elks Color Guard with US Flag at Opening Ceremony.
- 4 - Illinois volunteer helping in KC and seeing how GL Convention Operates - PSP Tony Dardano.
- 5 - GL newly appointed and sworn in Esquire IEA PSP Jeff Rodier assuming his station.
- 6 - Illinois Elk Scott Flota GL Exhibit Coordinator.
- 7 - PDDGER Terry Herrington is hard at work on new duties as Aide to GER Klatt.
- 8 - Illinois Volunteers Assisting Missouri Elks with the GER Elect's Reception.
- 9 - PDDGER Terry Herrington Nomination Bryan Klatt for GER.
- 10 - PGER F Louis Sulsberger places the GER Jewels on new GER Bryan Klatt
- 11 - IL Elks celebrating.
- 12 - Celebratory kiss between First Lady Sue and GER Klatt.
- 13 - IL Elks celebrating.
- 14 - IL Elks celebrating.
- 15 - Our photographer extrodinaire, Bill Gandolfi! Thank you so much, Bill!
- 16 - Grand Lodge Officers for 2025-2026.

Grand Lodge 2025



GRAND LODGE NEWS



Elks care, Elks share!

Pre-registration
Deadline
September 10, 2025

Scott Flota, Chairman
Credentials Committee
P.O. Box 1484
Mt.Vernon, IL 62864
scottflota@gmail.com

Pre-registration
Deadline
September 10, 2025

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: ILLINOIS ELKS ASSOCIATION

Illinois Elks FALL Meeting
Registration Form
FALL Convention SEPT. 25-28 ,2025
Springfield – CROWNE PLAZA

Please make a reservation for the following:

Pre – registration - \$10.00 After September 10, 2025 - \$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 luncheon @ Price\\$20. / *\$25.00 \$ _____

Saturday Evening Banquet @ \$ 40/ *\$45 \$ _____

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

*Cost of meal if check received post marked after April 30,2025 Or purchased on-site

Home Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone () _____ E-mail _____

Galesburg #894 helps extinguish thirst at local firehouses

Lodge members Terry Leafgreen, Dennis Jacobs, ER Jim Carter, CJ Johnson, Mary Padilla, Linda Murphy and Steve Brown took Gatorade and water to the Galesburg local fire department as part of serving their community. In total, they donated to three local firehouses.



Back-to-School with Chicago Northshore #1316

On July 23, 2025 Chicago Northshore #1316 assembled 165 school backpacks for Foster Elementary children at Lawrence Hall in Chicago.



Elgin #737 makes the Top 10 in the Nation!



Congrats and way to go Elgin #737! With their 100 kit donation to the Welcome Home Program they secured the #10 top spot! Keep up the good work!

Every night, thousands of veterans are without homes. Each with a different story, they all shared a common pledge: to support and defend this country. Their service is done. Now, it's the Elks' turn to serve.

In partnership with the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Elks National Veterans Service Commission has pledged to help end veteran homelessness, and ensure that every veteran has the safe, stable home they deserve.

Most veterans move into their homes with nothing. Elks help veterans establish their homes by building Welcome Home Kits. Generally, this kit would include some small furniture, kitchenware, and cleaning supplies. Items can be new or used, donated or purchased.

In the Community

Galesburg #894 helps welcome home a fallen soldier

Galesburg #894 had the privilege of helping put up flags along the route for a fallen soldier who has been missing for 75 years. Pictured right are the members who helped put up the flags.

Front: Linda Murphy, CJ Johnson, Sue McNaught, John Miller. Back row: Steve Brown, Dana Underwood, TJ McNaught, and Gary Wilson. Not pictured ER Jim Carter, Anna Moore and Tom Eagan.



From WGIL-FM's article...

A 25-year-old Galesburg native killed during the Korean War has finally been accounted for after more than seven decades.

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced on Nov. 15, 2024, that the remains of U.S. Army Cpl. Paul Eugene Hoots were identified, bringing long-awaited closure to his family. His flag-draped casket arrived at Lambert International Airport in St. Louis on Tuesday, July 22, where a Funeral Honors Team from the Army will receive him before he is transported to Hinchliff-Pearson-West Funeral and Cremation Services in Galesburg for his final homecoming. Funeral services were held on Thursday, July 24.

For 74 years, his fate remained a mystery

His remains, buried as an "Unknown" at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu, remained unclaimed until the DPAA's forensic team matched them with family DNA provided in 2018.

According to the DPAA, Hoots' remains were among those disinterred from the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu, where unidentified soldiers from the Korean War were buried as "Unknowns." Advances in forensic science, including mitochondrial DNA analysis and anthropological techniques, enabled scientists at the DPAA's laboratory to confirm his identity.

To view the full article visit: <https://www.wgil.com/2025/07/17/i-thought-it-was-never-going-to-happen-fallen-galesburg-soldier-coming-home-after-7-decades/>



U.S. Army Cpl.
Paul Eugene Hoots

East Central District makes annual donation to VA

This past Elk year, the East Central District #2560 donated to the Danville VA Illiana Health Care System.

Pictured left to right: Jacob Cowger 24-25 Sr. Trustee, Jamie Elson, Service Specialist, & Chad Stevens 24-25 Vice President.

Funds came from State Veterans Grant, lodges of the East Central district and East Central District donation. The money is used in multiple ways, but one of the favorites of veterans is receiving ice cream gift cards.



IEA NEWS

LODGE NEWS

NOTICE TO CANDIDATES

A candidate for any IEA state office may submit at no charge one proclamation or endorsement from the candidate's Lodge (or district), or a letter of intent. Copy with or without photograph shall not exceed 13 printed column inches (about 35 words per column inch). A candidate may also submit a photograph and biography, not to exceed 100 words, for publication in the spring issue of the Newsette at no charge. All other copy and photographs shall be considered paid advertising and shall be charged at the same rates as regular advertisements.

ADVERTISE YOUR SPECIAL Lodge EVENT!

Golf Outing • Poker Run • Fundraisers
\$75 per insertion of business-card size ad
or \$65 per insertion on four-issue contract!
Call or e-mail us!

SECRETARIES!

WE WANT YOUR ADDRESS CORRECTIONS!

Send to: Children's Care Corp.,
1201 N. Main St. • Chatham, IL 62629

Fax: (217) 483-2131

E-Mail: helpkids@elkscore.org

Note: Address corrections go to the Children's Care Corp. because that's who maintains the mailing list.

WE WANT YOUR NEWS!

Send to: Newsette Editor
1937 N. Walnut Rd., Rochester, IL 62563

E-Mail:

ilelksnewsette@gmail.com

For information, call Editor Liz Conaway
at (217) 827-3799

Newsette Deadlines

Mid-Winter - Nov. 21 - **NEXT ISSUE!**

Spring - March 22

Summer - June 15

Fall - July 20



Illinois Elks Children's Care Corporation

1201 N. Main • Chatham, IL 62629
(217) 483-3020 • Helpline 1-800-272-0075
Fax (217) 483-2131 • E-mail helpkids@elksccare.org

Grand Lodge Booth Report

By Bill Block, CCC Admin

I am very happy to report that this year's Grand Lodge Booth did very well. Kim B. and I were very busy during this convention nearly selling everything we brought with us, as well as some of the sample ties & scarves. The office was just as busy filling and mailing all of our Square orders. All orders were filled & shipped the same day they purchased, thank you Kim S. & Abby. Our total sales including Square charges grossed \$18,414.96 not too bad for three and a half days. The booth was also was awarded a 5 Star Certificate.



Five Star Newsette!

State Association Bulletin Contest Winners

Five Star Awards - *****

Florida – Rachel A. King
Illinois – Elizabeth Conaway
MD-DE-DC – Janie Swigert
Missouri – Joy Clarkson
New York – Timothy Welp
Washington – Jen Steele

Georgia – Lynda Lewis
Kansas – Carl Lindsey, Jr
Michigan – Jean Chapdelaine
New Jersey – Kelly Miller
Pennsylvania – Jason Cook

Thank you to everyone who submits
photos, articles and ideas to the Newsette!
We recieved 5-Stars again at Grand Lodge!

Happy Reading,

Liz

Thanks for all your support!



Dave Neel's State President Shirt

Many members were unable to purchase Dave's shirt because we didn't have a May Convention. Please know CCC will have his shirts available for the September Convention. They have most sizes in both men and women shirts and cost is only \$37.00.



2025 Grand Lodge Pin

This year's Grand Lodge Pin commemorates: Kanas City, MO as well as helping the "KIDS" in Illinois. We sold 200 pins leaving 100, please add this pin to your collection, they will be available at the September's Fall Convention for \$5.00.

Joliet #296 gets its flowers (and fruits!)

At the Grand Lodge Convention in Kansas City, Mo., the ENF asked attendees to shine a spotlight on service by donating new socks or a new or gently used children's books.

The Lodge responded and was entered into a drawing to win a bonus \$2000 CIP Grant. Twenty bonus grants were given out and Joliet #296 was one of the winners. As a result, the Lodge's Spotlight Grant has been doubled for a grant totaling \$4000.

Thank you to Leading Knight Karen Johnson, PER for donating on behalf of Joliet #296 for this contest.

Joliet #296 has partnered with My Fruit Truck to deliver fresh fruit from the Orchard to the community. The Lodge is serving as their location for Joliet! It's a great way to bring people to the Lodge and provide a great service to the community! Visit www.myfruittruck.com for more details!

**Next Newsette
deadline is
NOV 21, 2025!**

**Send your items to
ilelksnewsette
@gmail.com**

Elks Children's Care 2025 Clinics

August 2025

Flora Clinic August 20th at Clay County Flora Medical Clinic 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM
South District @ DuQuoin August 22nd at Marshall Browning Hospital: 2:00 to 4:00 PM
Champaign/Urbana Clinic August 27th at OSF Healthcare Heart of Mary Medical Center: 8:30 to 10:30 AM

September 2025

Bloomington Clinic September 5th at Cortese Foot & Ankle Clinic: 12:00 to 1:00 PM
Mt. Carmel Clinic September 15th at Wabash General Hospital: 11:00 to 1:00 PM
Robinson Clinic September 10th at CMH Bone & Joint Center: 9:00 to 11:00 AM
Mt. Vernon Clinic September 11th at Neuromuscular Orthopedic Institute: 2:00 to 4:00 PM
Effingham Clinic September 18th at Sarah Bush Lincoln Bonutti Orthopedic Clinic: 8:00 AM

October 2025

Lincoln Clinic October 7th at Lincoln Memorial Hospital: 1:00 to 3:00 PM
Elgin Clinic October 22nd at Orthollinois: 2:00 to 4:00 PM
NW District @Morrison Clinic October 23rd at Morrison Community Hospital: 8:00 AM

November 2025

Flora Clinic November 19th at Clay County Flora Medical Clinic 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM
South District @ DuQuoin November 21st at Marshall Browning Hospital: 2:00 to 4:00 PM

December 2025

Mt. Vernon Clinic December 4th at Neuromuscular Orthopedic Institute: 2:00 to 4:00 PM
Bloomington Clinic December 5th at Cortese Foot & Ankle Clinic: 12:00 to 1:00 PM
Effingham Clinic December 11th at Sarah Bush Lincoln Bonutti Orthopedic Clinic: 8:00 AM
Mt. Carmel Clinic December 15th at Wabash General Hospital: 11:00 to 1:00 PM
Robinson Clinic December 17th at CMH Bone & Joint Center: 9:00 to 11:00 AM

**Read a digital version of the Newsette at
www.illinoiselks.org**