

INSIDE

**Fall Meeting
Schedule - Page 4
Form - Page 6**



**Grand Lodge
Highlights
Pages 4-5**

**CCC Catch-Up
Pages 7-8**



IEA PRESIDENT

Jeff Sterr

Honor the Past, Embrace the Future.



Jeff Sterr presenting PGER Klatt keys to a new car at Grand Lodge in Chicago..

Illinois had plenty to celebrate at the Grand Lodge Convention, including outstanding performances by Tymothé Willis in the 11 o'Clock Toast Contest and Mike Hozein in the Flag Charge. Congratulations to Bryan and Sue Klatt for representing Illinois and Elkdom so well this past year. You truly made the Difference! Tony Dardano and Carter Lacy did an excellent job coordinating the Local Support Committee volunteers, and the effort could not have gone better. Julie and I also thank everyone who attended and helped during the Grand Lodge Session in Chicago. The Hospitality Room was a tremendous success, thanks to Jeremy Hutchison and his team, with support from the State Officers, Exalted Rulers, District Vice Presidents, DDs, and, of course, my wife, Julie.

It has been a busy summer. Thank you to Mt. Vernon #819 for hosting a well-organized and enjoyable state golf tournament. The DCFS Picnic at the DuQuoin State Fair was held Saturday, August 29. Organized by the Marion Elks with the South and South Central Districts, this program serves more than 1,000 children and parents. ELKS Care!

At our fall conference in Springfield this September, we will welcome Ryan Swantz, president-elect of the Wisconsin Elks Association, and his wife, Joy. Please join us in giving them a warm welcome. ELKS Share!

I hope you have heard about the "Membership in a Box" kits created by State Membership Co-Chairs Merle Evans and William Ochab. If not, please attend the Membership Breakout Session at the September conference. Statewide participation is vital.

Most Valuable Student Scholarship applications open online August 1 at elks.org/scholarships. Please help spread the word to high school seniors who may need scholarship support.

Finally, please remember the value of historical knowledge and understanding "how it used to be." Knowing what worked—and why—can help us avoid reinventing the wheel. At the same time, the

Continued on Page 2

Thanks to the Elks for everything they do

Timothy F. Jaeger, GER

What a great celebration in Chicago over the 4th of July weekend.

As a nation we celebrated our 250th anniversary, the BPOE Veterans Memorial building celebrated its 100-year anniversary and was rededicated. I have been to many Grand Lodge conventions, but this may have been my favorite convention so far.

My enjoyment was likely impacted by the honor of my and Sandy's installation as 2026-2027 Grand Exalted Ruler and Grand First Lady. We are honored beyond words and so excited to begin the adventure of traveling to all the great states and meeting more of the Best People on Earth.

We have been preparing for this adventure since being notified that we were the Endorsed Candidate and First Lady almost a year ago. We believe we were prepared for almost everything, but were still overwhelmed by the outpouring of love, support and general goodwill that we felt and heard in Chicago.

We are about to begin our travels and are excited to visit your States, learn about all your major projects and the great work your Lodges are providing to those in need.

My motto is READY ELKS – LET'S GO! I know you will all respond when you hear the call.

God bless the Elks, God bless the members of our armed services and first responders and God bless the United States of America.

Volunteers Elks shine at Grand Lodge

The Illinois Elks Association members rallied around the Grand Lodge Convention Commission to give volunteer support at the 161st Grand Lodge Convention in Chicago July 5-8, 2026. Combined with Elk volunteers from other states, approximately 180 Elks and guests added manpower to the Ritual Competition, Opening Ceremony, Legislative Session, greeting Past Grand Exalted Rulers at the airport and manning the Illinois Elks Association Information and Sales Booth on the Exhibit Floor.

Local Support Committee General Chairman Tony Dardano had nothing but praise for the volunteers. Dardano said, "It was a showing of strength, commitment and pride delivered by the members of the Illinois Elks Association. The members that volunteered made the Illinois Elks Association stand tall. The entire four days were nearly flawless." Past Grand Exalted Ruler Millard Pickering, Chairman of the Grand Lodge Convention Commission said that he did not recall



The 2026 Grand Lodge Pin

Continued on Page 2

A WORD FROM OUR OFFICERS...



IEA SECRETARY

Joe Ray

Members all,

Hard to believe Grand Lodge has come and gone, with that Bryan Klatt, PGER, has become our State Sponsor. I have known Bryan since I attended Leading Knights training back in 2003-2004. His wife Sue is a very approachable person.

Lou Sulsberger was our sponsor for 18 years and along with Beth represented Illinois very well. I also count Lou as a close friend as our Lodges are less than an hour away and in the same district.

Illinois Elks did an exceptional job representing our Association and our State at Grand Lodge. We received a letter from PGER Carr saying how much he and his wife were impressed with the hospitality that they received. The Lodge Support Committee led by PSP Tony Dardano along with his sister Cathy Dardano, Carter and Ronni Lacey who were the manpower chairs, Jessica Mitchell who handled the Ritual duties, Kristi Hornung who managed the information booth (shirts and souvenirs), Darci Hastings, who has handled the expenses and income as committee treasurer. Many other PSPs also helped, including Doc Gerleman, Floyd Schmidt, Paul Ronsani, Jim Cusack, Todd Lindsay, Roger Quinn, Ray Summers and Steve Harkin. Hopefully I did not miss anyone.

IEA dues notices have been mailed and most checks received. Also IEA Treasurer Jeff Rodier and myself are in the process of issuing Scholarship checks to the District winners of the IEA. When requesting IEA grants be patient, this is a hectic time for Jeff and myself. Please include what you are using the grants for and any other info, since I have to input the info into the State Charity report, check turnaround is 10 to 14 days. If you do not receive the check, contact Jeff or me.



IEA TREASURER

Jeff Rodier

Members all,

What a great Grand Lodge Convention in Chicago!

It was truly an honor serving as the Grand Esquire to

our now Past Grand Exalted Ruler Bryan Klatt and First Lady Sue!

Thanks to PGER and State Sponsor Lou Sulsberger and his wife Beth for all the time and effort that they have put in over the past 18 years in serving not only Illinois, but Wisconsin and Missouri! Don't be strangers!

Thanks to all those who volunteered in any capacity with the Local Support Committee! The effort by all was outstanding and noted by many officials.

Thanks to IEA President Jeff Sterr, First Lady Julie, and Jeremy Hutchinson and his Hospitality team for the tremendous hospitality suite provided to the IEA members in attendance at the Convention.

On a brief business note, there are still about 10 Lodges that haven't paid their State dues yet. Please get that in to Secretary Joe ASAP!

Norine and I, as always, look forward to seeing all of you at the Crowne Plaza next month for the Fall Convention. Many exciting events are being planned as we speak. As the old song goes, "See you... in September."

Sterr, cont'd.

past should serve as a guide, not a limit. We may need to challenge the status quo and recognize possibilities where others see only obstacles. That mindset drives innovation and growth. Balancing when to pursue change and when to honor tradition is critical to the success of our Order. This balance will help us reach our goals and continue to be the Best People On Earth.

Volunteers, cont'd.

a smoother convention in recent memory. He heaped praise on the volunteers and committee chairs that made the event a success.

Dardano went on to say that he has nothing but admiration for the Illinois Elks Association members who volunteered. "I can't thank the chairpersons and the individual members and guests who stepped up to lend a hand enough," Dardano said.

There are some excess items from the Information and Sales Booth that will be for sale at the September IEA Meeting in Springfield. "We are going to close out the remaining T-shirts, Polos, pins (pictured on page 1), shot glasses and koozies at some really great prices. Bring some extra money to take advantage of these great deals," Dardano added.

The sales booth will have limited hours and will be set up by the registration booth at the Crowne Plaza on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning for a few hours. Exact times have not been determined.



IEA SPONSOR

F. Louis Sulsberger
PGER

Greetings all:

While all National Conventions are exciting, how wonderful was it that our very own Bryan Klatt, Grand Exalted Ruler for the fraternal year 2025-2026, came home to Illinois to preside over the Chicago National Convention proceedings! Bryan and Sue traveled from sea to shining sea across America spreading the good works of our Order, and demonstrating that "Elks Care – Elks Share" and promoting their message "Be The Difference". How proud we and all Elks are of the fantastic job they did representing the Order that we all love so very much. I look forward to continuing to work with Bryan for many years to come.

I am at a loss to know where to begin to thank the Illinois Elks for the job you did as hosts of the Grand Lodge Convention in Chicago. Under the leadership of Past State Presidents Tony Dardano and Roger Quinn, the Local Support Committee did an outstanding job assisting Grand Lodge in all the various responsibilities that are a part of this endeavor. Things went very smoothly and the committee has received many accolades from across the country for a job well done. As the former sponsor of Illinois, you made me very proud.

Speaking of former sponsor, I must say it is a bittersweet time for me as I prepare this final article for the Newsette. As many of you have already learned, I made the decision to step down as Sponsor of the Illinois Elks Association and turned over the reins to PGER Bryan Klatt effective July 9th. Bryan is also the sponsor of Wisconsin Elks and I remain the sponsor of Missouri Elks. When I became a Past Grand Exalted Ruler in July of 2008, PGER Bob Sabin relinquished sponsorship of both Illinois and Wisconsin to me and it has been an honor and privilege to be your sponsor for the last 18 years. Beth and I want to thank you for the confidence you have shown in us and the friendships we have made. Illinois Elks Association is in good hands with PGER Bryan as Sponsor and I know he looks forward to working with all of you.

We do have an odd situation as while Bryan is now the State Sponsor of Illinois, our State was not able to welcome him and Sue to our Mid-Winter Meeting while they were GER and First Lady. This was due to our issue with hotels which necessitated that our Mid-Winter Meeting be changed from January 2026 to February 2026 and the Klatts were not able to join us, of course, due to their "already in stone" GER schedule. Because of this, the Illinois Elks Association will welcome Bryan and Sue at the Fall Meeting as their "official Grand" visit to Illinois. The Klatts actually have five more States to visit this fall as PGER and PFL and we are excited that Illinois has this opportunity to celebrate them and their years of service to the Order. Plans are in the works for a wonderful weekend and we look forward to being with all of you for this.

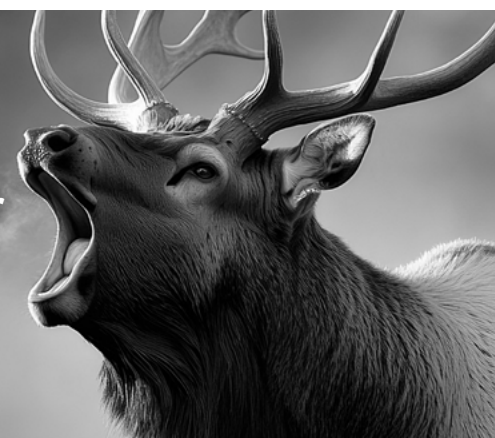
In closing, enjoy the rest of your summer, stay cool and we will see you soon! God Bless.

Calling all IL Elks!

**Send in your stuff!
Lodge pics, articles, fundraiser
recaps and more!**

ilelksnewsette@gmail.com

Deadline for next Newsette is November 21, 2026



Illinois Elks Association

FALL CONVENTION

September 24-27, 2026 Crowne Plaza Springfield Hotel

Thursday, September 24, 2026

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

PLACE/ROOM
Topaz
Lincoln Boardroom

Friday, September 25, 2026

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 26, 2026

6:30 AM-6:00 PM	Convention Office
7:00 AM-12:00 PM	Convention Registration
7:30 AM-9:00 AM	Board of Directors Meeting & Training - Continental
8:00 AM-9:30 AM	Lodge Trustee Training/Accident Prevention/Insurance
8:00 AM-10:00 AM	District Deputies & Esquires - Continental
8:00 AM-12:00 AM	Leading Knights Training
9:00 AM-10:00 AM	Exalted Rulers Meet w/ Executive Committee
9:00 AM-10:30 AM	Illinois Elks Children's Care Corporation
9:30 AM-11:30 AM	Ritual Committee & Competition - Open to all members
10:00 AM-11:00 AM	New Lodge
10:00 AM-11:15 AM	Membership/Lapsation/Lodge Activities/Indoctrination
12:00 PM-1:00 PM	Ladies' Luncheon

Entrée: Slow Roasted BBQ Pulled Pork on a Kaiser Roll
and Crispy Seasoned Potato Wedges
Dessert: Assorted Brownies Cost: Pre-Reg \$35.00 / Onsite \$40.00

Topaz
Registration
Sapphire
Plaza G
Plaza F
Diamond
Ruby
Plaza C
Plaza H I J
Turquoise
Emerald
Capitol View

1:00 PM-2:00 PM	Elks National Foundation
1:00 PM-2:00 PM	Youth Activities & Antlers
1:00 PM-2:00 PM	Website Monitoring/Public Relations
1:00 PM-3:00 PM	Hoop/Soccer Shoots
1:00 PM-3:00 PM	Secretaries' Association
1:00 PM-4:00 PM	PGER Meet with Lodges & Individuals
2:00 PM-3:00 PM	Americanism
2:00 PM-3:00 PM	Athletic Commission
2:00 PM-3:00 PM	Publication Corporation
3:00 PM-4:00 PM	Drug Awareness Program
3:00 PM-4:00 PM	Lodge Treasurers
3:00 PM-4:00 PM	Scholarship Selection
3:00 PM-4:00 PM	Veterans Service Commission
5:00 PM-6:00 PM	Illinois Elks Association Reception
6:00 PM-8:00 PM	Illinois Elks Association - Dinner Members are encouraged to attend the Banquet in Honor of the Past Grand Exalted Ruler Bryan R. Klatt and Past First Lady Susan Salad: Traditional House Salad with Ranch & Italian Dressing Entrée: Grilled Chicken Breast with a Hoisin Honey Garlic Sauce with Chef selection starch and vegetable plus dessert. Cost: Pre-Reg \$40.00 / Onsite \$45.00 Dress: Business Suit

Plaza F
Plaza C
Plaza B
Plaza E
Diamond
Lincoln Boardroom
Plaza A
Plaza D
Plaza B
Plaza A
Plaza B
Plaza D
Plaza E
Ruby/Emerald
Ruby/Emerald

Sunday, September 27, 2026

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 and female, must register for meeting functions: **FEES:** Pre-Registration \$10.00 / Onsite \$20.00. **Pre-Registration deadline is September 11, 2026.** 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 Cancellation cutoff will be August 17, 2026. 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.

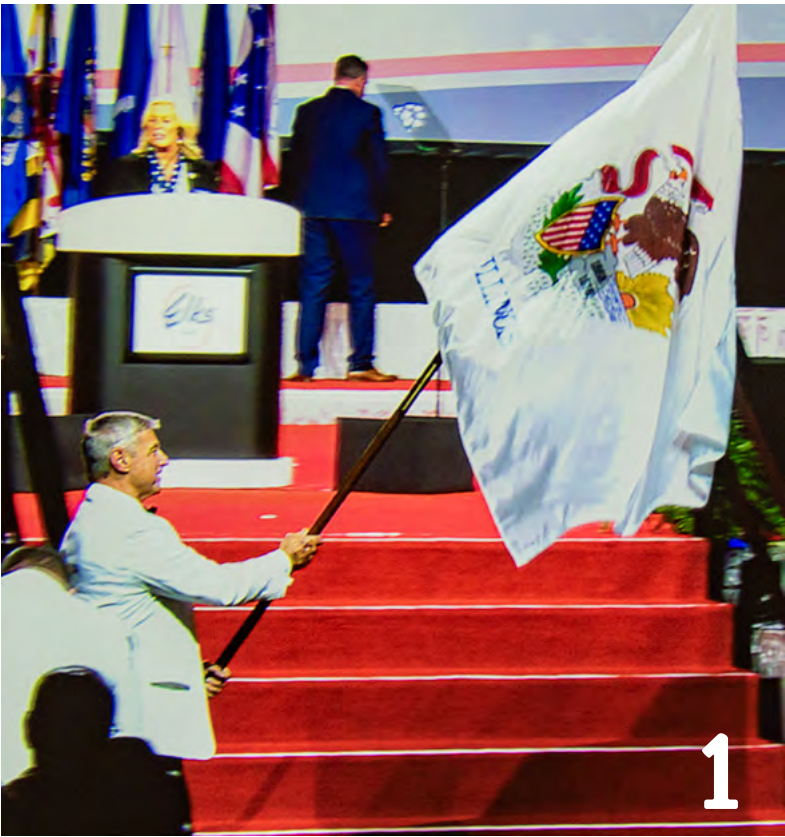
HOSPITALITY ROOMS

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 26, 2026, 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.

IL Elks in Chicago



**It was a GRAND
time indeed!**

1 - IEA President Carrying the Illinois Flag at Opening Ceremony; 2 - Oaklawn #2254 Color Guard Carrying the US Flag at Opening Ceremony; 3 - GER Elect Jaeger and New GL Officers Take the Oath of Office with escort Grand Esquire Jeff Rodier; 4 - Past First Lady Receives a jeweled necklace from PGER Klatt; 5 - Grand Esquire Jeff (IL PSP) Places the US Flag During GL Opening Ceremony; 6 - PGER Klatt Celebrates becoming a PGER; 7 - Illinois PSP Ray Summers doing the 11 O'Clock Toast at Rededication; 8 - PGER Lou and Beth Sulsberger being introduced at Opening Ceremony.

Thank you, Bill Gandolfi, for all of the wonderful photos!

Grand Lodge 2026



9 - GER Candidate Timothy Jaeger is Escorted to Dais; 10 - Elks National Veterans Memorial; 11 - Celebration for GER-Elect Timothy Jaeger following the election; 12 - Memorial Plaque for the Rededication; 13 - Entrance Statue at Memorial; 14 - GER Elect and Family Celebrate his Election; 15 - 2026–2027 newly sworn-in Illinois District Deputy Grand Exalted Rulers.

We'll see you
next year in



Illinois Elks Annual Meeting Registration

September 24-27, 2026

Springfield Crowne Plaza Hotel

Pre-Registration Deadline: September 11, 2026

Pre-Registration Fee: \$10.00 • After Sept. 11: \$20.00

Elk #1			Non-Elk Spouse		
Elk #1 Title to be typed on Badge			Questions? Email medic6773@yahoo.com 2026 Credentials Committee Gene Howe, Chairman • Barb Marks, Co-Chairman		
Elk #2 (Only if spouse of Elk #1)					
Elk #2 Title to be typed on Badge					
Lodge		Number		District	
Address					
City, State, Zip					
Phone			E-mail		

Registration Fee x # of registrants:

(Pre-Registration Fee: \$10.00 • After Sept. 11: \$20.00)

All registrants must pay fee • No exceptions

Ladies' Luncheon @ \$35.00 • \$40.00*

Saturday Evening Banquet @ \$40.00 • \$45.00*

Total Enclosed:

*Cost of meal if check received postmarked after September 11 or on-site

Make all checks payable to Illinois Elks Association

Mail to: Credentials Committee c/o Gene Howe

PO Box 383 • Irvington, IL 62848

Questions? Email medic6773@yahoo.com

Elgin #737 steps it up!

On July 25, Elgin Elks #737, used \$8,000 of a Beacon and Gratitude Grant to purchase 175 pairs of athletic shoes for the annual Step It Up Program.

On August 7 and 8, in partnership with First Baptist Church in Elgin, 1,500 pairs of shoes are expected to be given to students of Elgin school district U46.

Pictured left, l to r, Trustee Rich Ankenbrandt, ER Greg Huske, Secretary Peggy Shedivy, Trustee Terry Stout, Treasurer Shar Huske and Lodge helpers.



Southern IL Police Youth Camp with Anna-Jonesboro #1641



Pictured above from the Anna-Jonesboro: Matt Macy, Exalted Ruler, Jared Dudley, Lecturing Knight, Tim Bowen, PER & South District Vice President, Sheri Vega, PER, Carter Lacy, PER and Scott Miller.

We were truly honored to serve breakfast to the outstanding cadets attending the Southern Illinois Police Youth Camp. Seeing these young men and women dedicate themselves to learning, leadership, and personal growth is both inspiring and encouraging.

As Elks, our commitment to supporting our youth and veterans is at the heart of everything we do. Opportunities like this remind us of the importance of investing in the next generation and giving back to those who serve our communities and our country.

We are grateful for the opportunity to be a small part of this incredible program. Below is a note from our friends at the Southern Illinois Police Youth Camp.

“Southern Illinois Police Youth Camp – Makanda, IL

On June 8, 2026, the Team Illinois Youth Police Camp kicked off its 4th annual program at Touch of Nature in Makanda, Illinois. Multiple law enforcement agencies came together to make this year’s camp a success, including:

- Illinois State Police
- Carbondale Police Department
- Southern Illinois University Police Department
- Marion Police Department
- Herrin Police Department
- Jackson County Sheriff’s Department
- Williamson County Sheriff’s Department

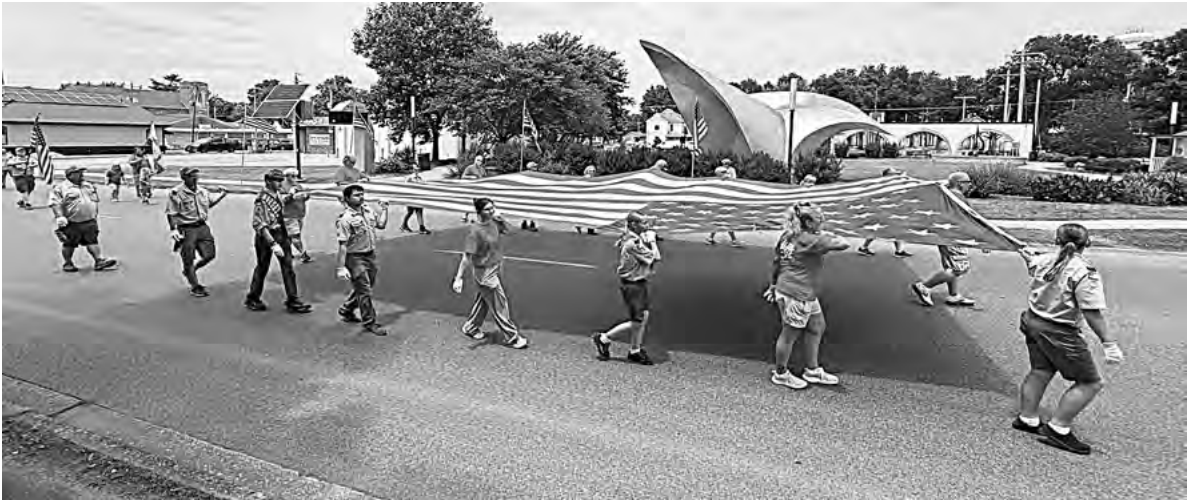
The camp provides a safe, structured environment where young people can build positive relationships with law enforcement while learning essential life skills. This year, 26 cadets from across Illinois completed the program, receiving training for CPR certification, internet safety, firearms safety, and teamwork, without the everyday distractions of cell phones, computers, or television.

A major highlight of this year’s camp was the incredible support from the Anna-Jonesboro Elks Lodge #1641. Their members generously donated breakfast supplies and went above and beyond by preparing and serving breakfast to the cadets and staff every single day. Their dedication and commitment made a tremendous impact on the success of the program.

We are proud to partner with the Anna-Jonesboro Elks Lodge and extend our sincere gratitude for their outstanding service to the youth in our communities.

Thank you for helping shape the next generation of leaders!”

Murphysboro #572 helps with Flag Day Celebration



The General John A. Logan Museum and the City of Murphysboro held a three-day celebration from June 5-7, for the 250th anniversary of America and the 200th birthday of local native General John A. Logan, a prominent American soldier, politician, and U.S. senator. Murphysboro #572 participated by inviting area scouts to join them in carrying their large American flag in the event's parade.

Galesburg #894 help keep first responders hydrated

Thanks to funds raised through 50/50 drawings, food nights, and generous member donations, Galesburg Elks Lodge members donated 270 cases (6,480 bottles) of water and Gatorade to the local fire and police departments. Pictured right, l to r, Fire Captain Randy Hovid, Trustee Linda Murphy and Police Captain Kevin Legate who is also an Elk!



Elks Children’s Care 2026 Clinics

September 2026

Bloomington Clinic September 4th @ Cortese Foot & Ankle Clinic: 12:00 to 1:00 PM
Robinson Clinic September 9th @ CMH Bone & Joint Center: 9:00 to 11:00 AM
Mt. Vernon Clinic September 10th @ Neuromuscular Orthopedic Institute: 2:00 to 4:00 PM
Mt. Carmel Clinic September 14th @ Wabash General Hospital: 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM
Effingham Clinic September 16th @ Sarah Bush Lincoln Bonutti Orthopedic Clinic: 9:00 AM

October 2026

Lincoln Clinic October 6th @ Lincoln Memorial Hospital: 1:00 to 3:00 PM
Elgin Clinic October 21st @ OrthoIllinois: 2:00 to 4:00 PM
Dixon Clinic October 22nd @ Morrison Podiatry: 8:00 AM

November 2026

Flora Clinic November 4th @ Clay County Flora Medical Clinic: 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM
South District - DuQuoin November 20th @ Marshall Browning Hospital: 2:00 to 4:00 PM

December 2026

Mt. Vernon Clinic December 3rd @ Neuromuscular Orthopedic Institute: 2:00 to 4:00 PM
Bloomington Clinic December 4th @ Cortese Foot & Ankle Clinic: 12:00 to 1:00 PM
Effingham Clinic December 9th @ Sarah Bush Lincoln Bonutti Orthopedic Clinic: 8:00 AM
Mt. Carmel Clinic December 14th @ Wabash General Hospital: 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM
Robinson Clinic December 16th @ CMH Bone & Joint Center: 9:00 to 11:00 AM

ALL DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

JOIN THE Fidelity Club!

Start an automatic monthly gift to the Elks National Foundation through your credit card or bank account at secure.elks.org/FC or learn more by scanning the QR code.





CALENDAR WINNERS

APRIL

Randi Kelsheimer, Robinson; Eddy Hunter, Streator; Peggy Amason, Deborah Glisson, Elgin; Brayden Martin, Beardstown; Peter Steward, Springfield; Matt Inverso, Charleston; Billie Ruth Reller, Beardstown; Jean Terry, Quincy; Curtis Thornton, Murphysboro*; Carolyn Vitalo, Brookfield; Mike Schimanski, DuQuoin; Charles Krezwick, Chicago South; Gloria Konczal, Oak Lawn; Adrian Wright, Charleston; Tom Jamison, Jacksonville; James Rushing, Springfield; Brad Christiansen, Des Plaines; Nicolai Mikos, Chicago South; Erin Grumley, Belleville; Alice Lauer, Mendota.

MAY

Pat Durkin, Chicago South; Joseph Schneider, Oak Lawn; Lucus Cupp, Robinson; Jarrod Rice, Sycamore; Aaron Bass, Dixon; Bill Pierce, Peoria; Ange Heming, Quincy; Christine Jamruszka, Des Plaines; Tracy Egerman, Sycamore; Kathy Price, Canton; Karen Reid, Olney; Dalton Smith, Charleston; Patricia McAdams, DeKalb; Mary Jo Hock, Belleville*; Jenifer Rongey, Marion; Tony Doudera, Salem; Blaire Sullivan, Dixon; Rob Catton, Des Plaines; Ronnie Oglesby, Chicago South; Tristan Tolley, Beardstown; Shirley Summers, Murphysboro.

JUNE

David Marqua, Robinson; Kay Fink, Champaign-Urbana; Bill Cowden Jr., Springfield; James Ferguson, Murphysboro; Susan Dunn, Carlinville; Gale Randall, Peoria; Penny Young, Galesburg.

*\$100 **\$1,000 ***\$5,000



Have a fun recruitment idea? Created a new program and seen success in membership growth?

Share your recruiting tips in the next issue of the Newsette! E-mail to ilelksnewsette@gmail.com!



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

Once again I'm very happy to report that this year's Grand Lodge Booth continued to do very well. Kim and I were very busy selling everything we brought with us. For example, we sold 250 American flag ties and scarves as well as many of our other ties & scarves and their samples. In total, our sales, including Square charges, grossed \$18,862.00, which isn't bad for three and a half days. The booth also did well and was awarded another 5 Star Certificate.



*Great
work,
CCC!*



Want to show what your
Lodge has been up to?

Send it to the Newsette!
ilelksnewsette@gmail.com

A Visit From Candor Threads

On the Monday morning of the convention I had a meeting with two representatives of Candor Threads, Katie and Mary. The purpose of the meeting was to put faces to the voices that have been doing business with us for many years. Candor Threads is the company that has been providing and manufacturing ties and scarves for the CCC for the past 33 years. They were impressed by our booth and all the exhibits highlighting the great work provided by Elks nationally.



2026 Grand Lodge Pin

This year's Grand Lodge Pin commemorates Illinois, as well as the 100th anniversary of the Elks National Memorial in Chicago. I have 126 pins out of 500 left over, please add this pin to your collection and help the Kids. The pins will be available at the Fall Convention in September for \$5.00 as well as online.

Jeff Sterr's State President Shirt

If you missed your chance to get one of Jeff's shirts, we will have both men's and women's sizes available at the Fall Convention. We also have them online for \$39.00, plus \$10 shipping via mail. Order one today before they are gone!



Canton #626 celebrates its 125th Anniversary

Canton #626 proudly celebrated the 125th anniversary of its charter on July 25 with a full day of community fun. Families enjoyed children's activities before the celebration concluded with live music and a lively parking lot party.

Pictured right: ER Mike Little in the dunk tank with Leading Knight Ryan Kozelichki and ER Mike Little and Activities Chair & Loyal Knight Jenna Osborne.

