



CT ELKS ASSOCIATION

DONNA L. WALLACE, PDD, *State President*
PHILLIP R. STENDER, PDD, *Secretary*
DAVID R. CARR, PGER, *Advisor*
JOHN P. SIMKO, PDD, *Public Relations Chair*



<https://ctelks.org/>

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Steve Maheu and Jennifer Maheu, Publishers

A 5 Star GL Award Publication

State President's Message by SP Donna L. Wallace, PDD

Greetings to the Members of the Connecticut Elks Association;

Installation of Officers for the lodge year 2018-2019 are well underway! I would like to extend my Congratulations to those who served their lodge in the 2017-2018 year and to wish all the newly installed lodge officers a very successful and productive year.

Since the last newsletter, the State Association has been very busy! In January, the Mid-Year convention was held at Groton Lodge No 2163. I would like to thank Groton Lodge for the outstanding job they did hosting our Mid-Year Convention. I was very happy to see the great turnout and that all 31 lodges in the state were represented!

Our Keynote speaker was Rick Gathen, Membership/Public Relations Manager, from Grand Lodge. His presentation - "We Don't Grow Membership By Chance... We Grow By Change!" was quite informative and very well received. A copy of the presentation has been put on the CT Elks website and can be accessed through the Membership committee tab. I recommend that new officers and members take the time to watch it!

The fundraising efforts for our \$100,000 commitment to CCMC-Safe Kids were kicked off in February with a Soundtigers Hockey Game in Bridgeport. This fundraiser made almost \$800.! In March, the annual CT Elks Bowling Tournament was held at the Apple Valley Bowl with a delicious lunch at Bristol Lodge No 1010, and close to \$3900 was raised. A special Thank-You to Darren "Howie" Lawlor, PER, Louise

Lee, PER and their committees for the excellent job they did. Also, thank you to the members who participated. Truly a testament on how Elks Care, Elks Share by having some FUN with Elk Friends and Family!

On March 10th, State President's Night was held at the Willimantic Lodge No 1311. There were 160 in attendance and 10 candidates became members. It truly was humbling to have so many travel to celebrate with me, the State President. Many thanks to the Officers, Members and Volunteers of Willimantic Lodge who worked tirelessly to be sure that everything went perfectly.

On March 22nd, members of the Executive Board, the Special Olympics Committee and myself attended the Special Olympics CT 50th Anniversary Gala at the Aqua Turf. It was a great experience and a wonderful tribute to the athletes, the families, the coaches, and to Eunice Kennedy Shriver. The CT Elks delegation were dressed in tux and inquiries were made as to who we were! It was a great way for others at the celebration to interact with Elks and learn a little bit about who we are and what we do.

At the time of writing this newsletter, the final numbers have not been tallied for our membership growth. I am keeping my fingers crossed that Connecticut will achieve a gain in membership

again this year. In regards to ENF, we had 30 out of 31 lodges make the goal. Not quite the 100% that State Chairperson Jim Money was

looking for, but still commendable. Thank you ENF committee for all your hard work.

If your lodge has not signed up to have the Drug Awareness Trailer at a lodge event, I highly recommend you do so since it has recently received a much-needed facelift!

It is sporting a new coat of paint and new logos! A special thank you goes out to Lisa Berthiaume, PER -DAP State Chairperson for all of her hard work on coordinating the project and to members of Manchester Lodge No 1863 for donating the materials and labor to complete the updates.

With a little over a month to go in this association year, we still have some work to do in regards to the fundraising efforts in order to meet our \$100,000 commitment to our state major project-CCMC/Safe Kids. Lodges please try to make the \$5 per member donation (or any dollar amount that your lodge can afford) by the end of May. On May 4th, lodges are invited to attend the Safe Kids Day held on the CCMC grounds. This is a good way to witness the safety programs being promoted by Safe Kids.



Continued on page two....

"Alone we do so little, together we can do so much."

- Helen Keller



Special Olympics Gala

On May 16th, the CT Elks Annual Golf Tournament will be held at the Windham Golf Club. If you are not a golfer, go to the CT Elks Website and click on the golf tab to get

more information on how you can make a tax-deductible donation.

The end of the CT Elks is fast approaching and with that brings the Annual Convention in Sturbridge. Please book your room and make your reservations early. Go to CT Elks website and click on the CEA Convention 2018 Tab. Also at the meeting, a vote will be taken on the revised CT Elks Bylaws. Please go the CT Elks website to print and review the bylaw changes.

Imagine how much more we will be able to accomplish in the next (2) months of the CT Elks Association Year if we continue to work together. For that I thank you.

Congratulations to Ken Marcucio, Sr. who recently was inducted into the Derby Little League Hall of Fame. Ken has served the Derby Little League in various capacities for 45 years and continues to do so. Ken is a retired teacher and former Coach and Athletic Director at Derby High School. He is a member of the Derby Board of Education and has served as its Chairman. Also, in recognition of his long service to the Derby Little League, the Derby Little League Complex has been named in his honor. Ken joins his brother Steve who was inducted into the Hall of Fame last year.

Kenny has been a member of the Derby Elks for 24 years He is 74 yrs old and is one of 13 from the Marcucio family who are members including his 2 sons. Some of the other organizations he has been involved with include the March of Dimes Committee, the Connecticut Association of Athletic Directors, the New Haven Tap Off Club, the Connecticut High School Coaches Association, to name a few. Ken is a great example of how Elks provide community service to a great many local organizations.



PGER David R. Carr's Placemat Program

You can find your set of GL Placemats on ELKS.ORG/ Grand Lodge/Committees/ Fraternal Committee/ Forms&Downloads.

They can be used at your next event, breakfast, dinner, and more to promote your Lodge and Elksdom. Download them today!

It is the intent of the State Public Relations Committee to publish this newsletter quarterly.

All Grand Lodge & State Officers, committee persons & local Lodges are encouraged to submit any articles & information to the State or District Public Relations Chair.

Chair: John P. Simko, PDD – johnpsimko@yahoo.com; Central: Kathleen Ackerman, PDD kackerman56@comcast.net; Coastal: Sheila Parizo, sparizo@sbcglobal.net; East: Joshua Gray, jpg118@gmail.com; Northwest: Steve Maheu, stemahart@gmail.com

2017-18 CT ELKS ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

State President,
Donna L. Wallace, PDD

Vice President Coastal,
David J. Acanfora, PDD

Vice President Central,
Michael A. Bonini, PDD

Vice President Northwest,
James Sabio, PGLC, PDD

Vice President East
Michael R. Stewart, PDD

State Secretary
Phillip R. Stender, Sr, PDD

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James Money, PDD

Trustee Coastal,
Matthew C. Frankel, PDD

Trustee East,
Joseph Mingoia, PDD

Trustee at Large,
John P. Simko, PDD

Trustee Central,
Dennis Claffey, PDD

Trustee Northwest,
James Coley, PDD

Chaplain,
Darren Lawlor, PER

Tiler,
Andrea Ruimerman, PER

Sergeant at Arms,
Pete Nelson, PDD

Inner Guard,
Kathleen Ackerman, PDD

Organist,
Joseph Trovarelli, Jr., PDD

A MESSAGE FROM GRAND EXALTED RULER

GER, MALCOLM J. MCPHERSON, JR.

Youth programs build character and Elks spirit



It's hard to believe that Pat and I are already more than halfway through this journey. We have met so many Members of this outstanding organization and are

constantly moved by the great work that you're doing in your states and local communities on behalf of Elks.

As we continue down the road, I want to take another moment to recognize an important part of Elkdom—our youth. As you might know, I got my start in the Elks at a young age, and I hope to inspire others to get involved early and build a foundation for the future.

With the Hoop Shoot National Finals happening in Chicago this month, there's no better time to remind ourselves that the young people in our communities are the future of Elks. More than a free throw basketball contest, the Hoop Shoot challenges kids both mentally and physically and is a constructive way to teach kids that hard work

and practice can lead to reward—qualities that will help kids grow both inside and outside of the Elks. Likewise, the growing Soccer Shoot program is another way to instill these values in our children.

As the school year winds down, I encourage high schoolers to remain focused in their work and to consider applying for the many scholarship opportunities available through the Elks on the national, state, and local levels.

To our youngest Elks Members, it is your fresh perspective, positive outlook, and determination to succeed that will carry this organization into its next 150 years. I encourage all young Elks to get involved in their Lodges as much as possible and actively recruit new members. I can't wait to see the great things they will accomplish.

How will your Lodge invest in your youth this year? From scholarships to Hoop and Soccer Shoots to Antlers and the Youth Recognition Program, there are already so many wonderful national programs in place to support our young people. I look forward to seeing all the new ways you'll do so in your communities. See you out there!

Gary Sinise's band to perform at 150th

Gary Sinise & the Lt. Dan Band will headline the Elks' 150th anniversary celebration in San Antonio.

Named for Sinise's memorable character in *Forrest Gump*, the Lt. Dan Band has played hundreds of concerts over the past 15 years to raise spirits, funds, and awareness for our nation's disabled veterans and their families. The band is a program of the Gary Sinise Foundation, which serves defenders, veterans, first responders, their families, and those in need through unique programs designed to entertain, educate, and inspire.

"While we can never do enough to show gratitude to our nation's defenders," Sinise said, "we can always do a little more."

The band will perform on Sunday, July 1, after the Convention's Opening Ceremony. The performance is sponsored by the Elks National Foundation through a generous donation to the Gary Sinise Foundation.

"Gary's work for veterans and military families aligns so well with the mission and values of the Elks," said PGER Lou Sulzberger, the chairman of the ENF Board of Trustees. "We're happy to support what he's doing, and I can't wait to hear the band!"

For more information about the Gary Sinise Foundation, visit GarySiniseFoundation.org. For more information about the anniversary celebration, visit <http://www.elks.org/150contact> is David Plask, who may be reached at (305) 825-2004, ext. 312; or david@dturin.com.

2017-18 GRAND LODGE OFFICERS & COMMITTEEMEN

Jurisdictional Head,
Hon. David R. Carr,
PGER

Grand Trustee
Hon. Robert W. Hansen,
PGIG, PGLCC, PSP, PDD

Vice President Central,

Special Deputy GER,
Richard M. Palanzo,
PGLCC, PSP, PDD

*Grand Lodge
Committeeman Auditing
& Accounting,*
William J. Chinn, Jr.,
PSP, PDD

*District Deputy GER
Central District*
Vincent Alianiello, Jr.,
DDGER

*District Deputy GER
Coastal District*
Bonnie Mullin, DDGER

*District Deputy GER
East District,*
Arthur Brault, DDGER

*District Deputy GER
Northwest District*
Donald Woscyna,
DDGER

14 SAS HIT BULLSEYE IN BULLETIN CONTEST

By TOM SHELTON, COMMITTEE MEMBER

Results of the Grand Lodge State Association Bulletin Contest "I" for 2017-2018 have been announced.

State Editor -- No. of Stars

Kentucky Raymond Pauly -- 5
Louisiana Buddy Hartie -- 5
New Jersey Maureen Whalen -- 5
New York Timothy Weipe -- 5
Kansas Carl Lindsey -- 5
Missouri Bud Clarkson -- 5
Ohio Larry O'Grady -- 5
West Virginia Jack Bennett -- 5
Illinois Joseph L. Baker -- 5
MD/DE/DC Margie McIntyer -- 5
Connecticut John Paul Simko -- 5

Michigan Karen Cary -- 5
Georgia John Heigesen -- 4
Virginia Roger Monger -- 4

Congratulations to all the State Associations that participated in the contest. The overall content and quality of the bulletins submitted this year were impressive.

It is important that State Association bulletins provide Lodges and Members access to timely information and recognition for the good works being done. Thank you and let's have more participation in 2018-2019.



Pictured are [L - R]: Bryon, Lees, and Ray Philippon [Medal of Valor in honor of their son/brother Lance Corporal Lawrence R. Philippon, KIA Iraq 2005]; Winsted Deputy Fire Chief Phil Bascetta Jr. [Certificate of Service for Firefighters]; Thomas Matthews, Exalted Ruler of #844; Winsted Police Officer Michael C. Roy [Medal of Service]; Patricia Bevivino [Certificate of Valor for Firefighters in honor of her son-in-law Torrington Deputy Fire Chief Christopher T. Pepler]; Beverly L. Dillon [Certificate of Service for Emergency Service Providers and Certificate of Valor for Emergency Service Providers in honor of her husband Richard C. Dillon Sr.]; Winsted Police Officer Daniel C. Pietrafesa [Certificate of Service For Law Enforcement Officers]; Nancy Areclaschi [Certificate of Valor for Law Enforcement Officers in honor of her husband Winsted Chief of Police John F. Arcelaschi Sr.]; Winsted Mayor A. Candy Perez [Lodge's Certificate of Appreciation]; Rev Lin McGee [Honor Our Flag].

APRIL DD CLINICS

By THE DISTRICT DEPUTIES OF CONNECTICUT



There will only be two clinics held in April. There will be a Joint Clinic held for the East & Central Districts on

Saturday, April 21st at Manchester Lodge 1893 and Coastal & Northwest Districts on Saturday, April 28 at Southington Lodge 1669. Information on these clinics will be sent to Lodges.

The April Clinic will have a revised format from past years. The clinic will open in regular fashion with introductions, invocation, and pledge of allegiance followed by the roll call of Lodges. Opening remarks will be made followed by a breakout into group sessions involving various subjects that will be of particular interest to different groups depending on subject matter. In addition to the required officers all officers as well as

Trustees and Treasurers are expected attend this clinic. Grant writing will be discussed so it's imperative that your grant writers or anyone interested in writing grants be in attendance.

The Clinic will continue with everyone reconvened. An in-depth overview from select State chairpersons will highlight their programs in detail. Limited Grand Lodge and State Programs will also be presented to inform the membership of vital information necessary to help our order grow and prosper. Making this clinic as informative and instructive as possible.

The Clinic will close in regular fashion with closing remarks and comments followed by the Benediction. Having a joint clinic and new format will help in making it possible to inform our members of the information needed while condensing and limiting time and cost.

State committee chairpersons who have not been contacted to give a presentation but has information they would like to hand out please have a printed copy of your information ready to hand out before the clinic starts.

The Winsted Lodge #844 held its first Annual Public Service Awards Ceremony on March 3, 2018 at the Town Hall in Winsted. The Public Service Awards are 'National' awards. The certificates and medals of honor come from our 'Grand Lodge'; the program is sponsored by our 'Grand Lodge Activities Committee'.

Along with the Elks Public Service Awards, our Lodge also gave a Certificate of Appreciation to our Mayor, A. Candy Perez, for all her support and assistance throughout the 2017-2018 year.

The Winsted Lodge #844 held its first ever Bunco Night on Saturday, March 10, 2018!! It was a great night of fun, games, fellowship, and prizes for all!

Most important -- all proceeds are going to the Connecticut Children's Medical Center. \$835.00 dollars was raised during this fundraiser (tickets to play / raffle baskets and gift certificates) for the Center!

2018 CEA HOOP SHOOT FINALS... COMPETE-CONNECT-SUCCEED

By JOHN P. SIMKO, PDD - CEA STATE PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIR



The gym at the Mahoney Rec Center in Manchester was filled with family and friends rooting on the 24 children competing in the 2018 CEA State Finals of the

ELKS Hoop Shoot. The participants competing here started their journey by winning at their local Lodge competition. From there they faced off against other local Lodge winners within their District, again winning their age group and coming here on February 10th to compete with hopes of moving to New England Region 6 Hoop Shoot contest in South Portland, Maine on March 24, 2018.

CEA Hoop Shoot State Chairman Michael Stewart, SVP (East), PDD, his District Chairs as well as all the judges, scorekeepers and volunteers should be commended on their great effort for holding a very successful competition. After the competition all the participants, their family and friends, as well as the volunteers and CEA representatives were invited to a hearty lunch and an award presentation at the Manchester Elks Lodge #1893. During the awards presentation all the competitors received trophies from the CEA Vice Presidents while the top award winners were presented the Terry Owens Trophy by CEA State President Donna Wallace, PDD. All 1st place winners will now move on to compete in the New England

Region 6 competition in South Portland, Maine, with the winners moving on to the National "Hoop Shoot" Final in Chicago on April 21, 2018.

The CEA Hoop Shoot 1st place winners and moving on to compete in South Portland, Maine:

- 8-9 Year Olds: Ava Storz, Milford Lodge #1589, Carl Parkhouse, Torrington Lodge #372
- 10-11 Year Olds: Emily Avel, Winsted Lodge #844, Will Parkhouse, Torrington Lodge #372

- 12-13 Year Olds: Erin Donegan, Milford Lodge #1589, Connor O'Leary, Glastonbury Lodge #2202

Terry Owens Trophy Award Winners for Top Scores:

- Ava Storz, Milford Lodge #1589, Carl Parkhouse, Torrington Lodge #372.

Carl Parkhouse from Torrington Lodge #372 and Connor O'Leary from Glastonbury Lodge #2202 were winners during the New England Region 6 competition in South Portland, Maine and will be moving on to the National "Hoop Shoot" Final in Chicago on April 21, 2018. We wish them both the Best of Luck!

*** If you are interest in helping the CEA Hoop Shoot Committee please contact: CEA State Chairman Michael Stewart, SVP (East), PDD; CEA Central District Chair George Gilhuly; CEA Coastal District Chair Dave Nagy; CEA East District Chair Mary Hill; CEA Northwest District Chairs Jim & Jean Weingart.

All contact information is in the State Directory on WWW.CTELKS.ORG

DONATE MITTENS, HATS & GLOVES

BRENDA WILLIAMS - MANCHESTER LODGE #1893



Something new is set to arrive next next season at the Connecticut Children's Medical Center thanks to the Connecticut Elks Association. A much needed service will be available next December

for those in need in the form of a Mitten, Hat, and Glove Tree. Those in need will be provided with these items and the CEA will be the program sponsor.

Mittens, hats, and gloves of all sizes are needed. The items can be purchased or hand made. A collection box will be provided at the State Convention in June. If anyone has any questions regarding this get in touch with me. I can be reached at (860)416-7815 or email me @ bratnawilliams@aol.com.

If you have items but don't have a way to get them to me, call and we can set up a way to pick them up.

Elks Care **Elks** Share

Waterbury Lodge #265 Community Support

Waterbury Lodge #265 recently presented 50 smoke alarms and 20 carbon monoxide detectors to the Waterbury Fire Department, courtesy of the Lodge and the Connecticut Elks Association State Major Projects Connecticut Childrens Medical Center (CCMC) Safe Kids Program. They will be issued to the city's fire companies to be distributed to various addresses where it is determined no such alarms are present.

Also, the Waterbury Lodge #265 participated in Operation Elf and adopted a Connecticut National Guard family for the holidays and sent valentines to area Veterans with the help of the Lodge's new antlers program.

CONNECTICUT ELKS DAY IN 'DA BRONX

Saturday, August 18, 2018 \$110.00

To see the Toronto Blue Jays take on
NEW YORK YANKEES

Lodge bus trip to the "House that Jeter
Built", the New Yankee Stadium

Game time is at 1:05 p.m. A
chartered Motor Coach will depart
Groton Elks, at 10:00a.m. to arrive
at Yankee Stadium no later than 12
pm . Time on your own for food and
beverage in or around the stadium.
Upon boarding the bus you'll be given
a ticket to left field home run territory
field level seats sections 133-136 at
Yankee Stadium. Food and beverage
at the stadium is NOT included in the
ticket price.

The bus is expected to depart the
stadium one hour after the game; it
is estimated we'll arrive back at the
lodge sometime around 8:30 p.m.

Tickets are priced at \$110.00, a
price that covers your game ticket,
transportation, food and beverage on
the bus (beer, water, soda, sandwiches),
and a \$20 charitable contribution
to an Elks major project children's
medical center and vets charities. You
are welcome to bring additional food

and beverage onto the bus to enhance
your enjoyment.

TO PURCHASE YOUR SEAT, EITHER:

- See or call John Espada at 401-954-1494
- PAYMENT-PAYABLE TO THE GROTON ELKS
- Tickets can also be bought at members bar

When your full payment is received,
you will be contacted and your seats
confirmed. At that time you'll be
given a few tips about stadium do's
and don'ts, and any questions will be
answered. TICKETS WILL BE SOLD
ON A FIRST PAID, FIRST SERVED BASIS.
A short waiting list will be assembled
for cancellations.

PLEASE ALSO NOTE: THERE IS NO
REFUND IF THE GAME IS CANCELLED
DUE TO WEATHER. The cancellation
policy for Yankee Stadium is: You
may exchange your ticket for any
ticket of the same or lesser price for
any Yankee Stadium Regular Season
game played over the next calendar
year. You can pick your game, subject
to availability.

Grand Lodge News

Contest rewards community work

By Steven A. Davis, Committee
Chairman

The Grand Lodge Activi-
ties Committee encourages
Lodges to become involved
in their communities with a
community project that fo-
cuses on a need in the com-
munity and makes a differ-
ence to those it serves.

The goal is to enhance
community awareness of the
good work we do as Elks and
to have the community asso-
ciate that good work directly
with the local Elks Lodge.
These projects can help the
community better understand
who we are and what we do
as a fraternal organization
and as such, develop mem-
bership in our Lodges.

To recognize and reward
the great community work
done throughout Elkdom, the
Grand Lodge Activities Com-
mittee sponsors the Lodge
Community Project Contest.
The winning Lodges will be
recognized in all six Divisions
for their outstanding com-
munity project at the Grand
Lodge Convention in San
Antonio, Texas.

It's easy to enter the con-
test. After logging on to elks.
org, click on Grand Lodge,
then Committees, then Activi-
ties Committee, then Com-
munity Project Contest, where
you will find the application.
Complete the entry form and
e-mail or mail it to David B.
Lake, Area 3 Member of the
Grand Lodge Activities Com-
mittee at the e-mail or postal
address shown on the appli-
cation.

Be proud of your Lodge's
Community Project and enter
this important contest. Please
remember that the deadline
for entries is May 1, so don't
delay. Send in your entry
today.

STATE TEN PIN BOWLING TOURNAMENT

By LOUISE LEE, PER, CEA STATE BOWLING TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE CHAIR

The 10th Annual Connecticut
Elks Association Ten Pin
Bowling Tournament was
recently held at the Apple
Valley Bowl in Plantsville. Each
year this tournament has been
growing and this year 144
keglers showed up. Following
the bowling, the Bristol
Lodge #1010 held the Awards
Dinner. All proceeds from this
tournament are donated to
our State Major Project, the
Connecticut Children's Medical
Center. Thanks to the State
Bowling Tournament Committee,
led by State Chair Louise Lee,
PER from Danielson Lodge,
her District Chairs and all that
participated and donated to the
CCMC, this year's tournament
raised \$3,738.14

...And the award winners were:

- Bristol Varsity Team won
overall with a score of 2530
- High Game Series (3 games)
Women overall Tammy
Viesto - Danbury Lodge - 543
- High Game Series (3 games)
Men overall Mike Stone -
Bristol Lodge - 704
- Low Game Series (3 games)
Women - State President
Donna Wallace - Willimantic
Lodge - 199
- Low Game Series (3 games)
Men - Joe Frederick -
Manchester Lodge - 187



ENSURE LONG-TIME MEMBERS REMAIN ON OUR ROLLS

By RICK GATHEN MEMBERSHIP AND MARKETING MANAGER

Many of us understand the role of taking care of aging family members, or helping friends who are struggling financially or are in poor physical health. As charity begins at home, please give consideration to delinquent Elks Members who may be facing hardships. Remember "Living or dead, an Elk is Never Forgotten... Never Forsaken."

Let's stand by these words and review Lapsation rolls, especially emphasizing those Members with many years serving our Order. Some have been loyal dues-paying Members for decades. Discuss the loss of these at-risk Members with your Lodge's Standing Relief Committee.

Per GLS, Statute Section 13.010: "The Exalted Ruler, Esteemed Leading Knight, Loyal Knight and Lecturing Knight, Secretary and Treasurer shall constitute the Standing Relief Committee of the Lodge, which shall

examine the merits of all cases suggesting the necessity of aid or relief." Upon committee recommendation, your Lodge may vote on assisting with their dues. Any Member present at a Lodge meeting may make that motion. Because this process is often overlooked, the Lodge Secretary is forced to cancel memberships of those worthy of assistance. Instead, allow your Lodge the right to vote before cancelling.

Make sure your Lodge Standing Relief Committee performs this important responsibility. Only then are we acting with Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love and Fidelity.

19TH ANNUAL TEAM SCRAMBLE GOLF TOURNAMENT

HOSTED BY CONNECTICUT ELKS ASSOCIATION

The 19th annual team scramble golf tournament will be held on May 16, 2018 at the Windham Golf Club on 184 Club Road in North Windham, CT. Registration will be from 7:30 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. with a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. Dinner post the event will be held at the Willimantic Elks Lodge #1311 forty-five minutes after tournament end time.

The tournament benefits the Connecticut State Major Projects, which include, but is not limited to, accomplishing annual goals of providing Scholarships to students, strengthening our support to the Connecticut Children's Medical Center Safe Kids Program, the Connecticut State Special Olympics and giving back to local communities to support veterans and youth.

The tournament is limited to one foursome per Lodge, per district. This will allow all 31 Lodges within the State of Connecticut to participate. Reservations must be secured by March 1, 2018 and full payment with application is due on May 9, 2018. If your Lodge does not plan on participating, please contact Chic Rhodes, Jr., PER at (860) 688-9474. so another Lodge within your District may register more than one foursome.

Golf, cart, dinner and prizes only \$100 per person. Closest to the pin and long drive contest is included. Dinner will be served 45 minutes post the event conclusion.

Dinner reservations without participation in the golf tournament is available for only \$20 per person. Please reserve your dinner in advance.

Proper dress is required, no jeans and no PGA members of any type allowed.

Hole sign sponsorships are also available for \$50 each.

If your lodge or a member would like to donate a prize, it would be greatly appreciated.

To access the application and registration form visit the [Connecticut Elks Association website](#).



Helping to fill the bags are as follows:

Dottie Wittenzellner Rockville Elk member, Claire Decker Past Exalted Ruler Secretary Rockville Elks, Daniel Skiba Past Exalted Ruler Past CT State Elks Association President, Mary Jo Sauer, Cornerstone helper, Joan Adams Rockville Elks Treasurer, Kelly Sorrow Cornerstone helper, Allan Sauer, Cornerstone helper Back Row, Jessica W. Cornerstone helper, and Brenda Sauer Cornerstone helper.

Rockville Lodge of Elks #1359 presented a Grand Lodge Anniversary check to the Cornerstone Food Kitchen in Vernon CT. The money will be going to help restock the shelves of the food pantry so that the Cornerstone may give more food to their backpack program. The Cornerstone gets in touch with the school system to find out how many children are in need of food to eat during the weekends and then they supply the food to the schools who in turn fill backpacks to give to the families.

CTELKS Association is on



[Facebook](#)

Follow us on Facebook. With over 20,000 Elks in Connecticut, let's increase our numbers! **FIND US AT [CTELKS.ORG](#)**

WHAT'S NEW WITH DAP? A REFURBISHED TRAILER – THAT'S WHAT!

LISA BERTHIAUME, PER, CEP STATE DAP CHAIRMAN



Things have been very busy in February and March concerning the Drug Awareness Trailer. The DAP trailer has been part of the program for 12 years. It was brand new back then and quite an addition to the program. But time, weather, miles and

general use have taken their toll so it was time for a make-over. When I began this project with Pat Miller, the East District DAP Chairman, we had no idea the scope or cost of the project, but we quickly learned! Bids were solicited and we soon realized we could not simply remove the old decals and apply new ones. A more extensive overhaul was required and an angel came on the scene by the name of Andrew Hewitt of Ranco Collision in South Windsor, a member of Manchester Lodge No. 1893. Without hesitation, Andy volunteered his time, garage, tools, material and labor to not only remove the decals, but sand, power wash, paint, buff, and polish the exterior of the trailer. He did this with the help of several employees, Tim & Brian, as well as a few members from Manchester Lodge, Chris Terry and Mike Vassallo. He then reached out to his business associate, Rudy Cerpa of Creative Graphics & Designs of East Hartford, who also volunteered his expertise to design, create and apply the new decals. So far this cost our program nothing!

I would like to acknowledge that this would not have been possible had it not been for Pat Miller's persistence in soliciting bids and learning about the process but MOST importantly, doggedly researching and finding a high resolution image of our beloved Elroy the Elk by way of South Carolina's State DAP Chairman, Gerry Kirkland.

Additionally some safety issues were addressed such as repacking the wheel bearings, applying non-skid tape to the rear entrance and purchasing new rims and wheels (at wholesale).

Interior re-painting should be completed as well in April by Rick Berthiaume.

I'd like to formally acknowledge and extend a tip of the antlers to the following businesses and individuals:

- Pat Miller – Westbrook Lodge, East District DAP Chairman
- Andrew Hewitt – Manchester Lodge, Ranco Collision and his employees Tim & Brian
- Rudy Cerpa, Creative Graphics & Designs
- Chris Terry – Manchester Lodge
- Mike Vassallo – Manchester Lodge
- Rick Berthiaume – Manchester Lodge
- Sherwin-Williams Automotive of Hartford
- Gerry Kirkland – South Carolina DAP State Chairman
- PRO CAL, Concord, NC (Cindy Garvin and John Chapman)



ELKS SHARE THE HOLIDAYS

BY SHARI DZIEKAN, PER, WALLINGFORD #1365 PUBLICITY CHAIR

Wallingford Lodge "Elks Share The Holidays" committee had another successful year. 300 lbs. bulk food, turkey dinners to 58 families, 60 cases of misc. food were distributed to shelters and pantries and \$525.00 worth of gift cards were given to veterans for the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

L to R: Mary Smith committee member, Julie Goode, ER and Richard Gee Trustee & Committee Chair



AMERICAN ESSAY WINNERS

BY SUZANNE L NOVACO, PER, CT ELKS ASSOCIATION STATE AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN

Why our Veterans are America's Heroes

2018 CEA State winners

Division 1

First Place: Amy Morrissey, sponsored by . Naugatuck Lodge #967 Lodge Chairman Judee Pratt, PER, Northwest District Chairman Denise Johnson, PER

Second Place: Dylan Bird, sponsored by Torrington Lodge #372. Lodge Chairman Ron McCarthy, Northwest District Chairman Denise Johnson, PER

Third Place: Erika Kozek, sponsored by Manchester

Lodge #1839. Lodge Chairman Christine Ray – Chris Malone, East District Chairman Jennifer Audette.

Division 2

First Place: Jenna LaBranche, Sponsored by Derby Lodge #571 Lodge Chairman Sheila M Parizio, Coastal District Chaimrnan Denise Reynolds, PER

Second Place: Grace Marino Sponsored by Derby Lodge #571 Lodge Chairman Sheila M Parizio, Coastal District Chaimrnan Denise Reynolds, PER

Third Place: Evan Migdole, Sponsored by Westbrook Lodge #1784 Lodge Chairman Jim Madden, East District Chairman Jennifer Audette.

ORGAN TISSUE & ORGAN DONATION

BY JOHN SIMKO, PDD, PUBLIC RELAITONS CHAIR



The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the USA has joined forces with Donate Life America to increase donations of organs, eyes and life-saving tissue.

The Grand Lodge, Fraternal Committee is asking Elks Lodges nationwide to promote the Organ Donor Program in their Lodge Bulletins and Lodge Web sites to help

inspire members and citizens in their communities to make these life-saving donations.

Even though 95% of Americans are in favor of being a donor, only 54% of the U.S. adult population, are registered organ, eye and tissue donors. Nationally, nearly 33,600 patients began new lives in 2016 thanks to organ transplants. 683,000 have taken place since 1988. Every year 1.5 million tissue transplants are performed. 48,000 patients have their sight restored through corneal transplants each year and 1,500,000 since 1961! Unfortunately, 119,000 men, women and children currently need life-saving organ transplants. Then, add another name to the national organ transplant waiting list every 10 minutes. No wonder an average of 22 people die each day from the lack of available organs for transplant!

We Elks Members can help close the gap! The effort of Lodges to promote the program through their Bulletins and Web site can gain them five points in their quests to be named an All American Lodge. More incentives will be announced in coming years as the program takes shape throughout Elksdom.

For more information on the importance of donation and how to become a registered donor in your state, go to the Donate LifeSM web-site by logging onto www.donatelife.net. This is a great way to show that "Elks Give from the Heart."

National Take-Back Initiative

The DEA has released a new toolkit of flyers, posters, brochures, web ads, etc. that are typically made available to help advertise the DEA National Prescription Drug Take Back Day. It is now up and live on dea.gov. The material is under the "Partnership Toolbox" button over on the right-hand side of www.dea.gov.

Elks National Drug Awareness Program

Kent Gade
Director - Elks
National Drug
Awareness Program

ANNIVERSARY GRANT

GRAND LODGE COMMUNITY INVESTMENTS PROGRAM

The Anniversary Grant is a one-time grant opportunity to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Elks through service! This \$1,500 grant offers an opportunity for Lodges to do even more charitable work. All Lodges are eligible for a one-time Anniversary Grant, regardless of meeting the ENF per-member-giving goal. Much like the Gratitude Grant, the Anniversary Grant has flexible guidelines.

An opportunity to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Elks! This one-time grant is available to every Lodge and offers a chance for Lodges to do even more charitable work. This grant is only available during the 2017-18 grant year.

Grant Amount: Every Lodge is eligible for a one-time \$1,500 grant. The Lodge does not need to meet the GER's per-member-giving goal to receive this grant.

Charitable Focus: ENF grants must be used for charitable purposes: to relieve the poor, distressed or underprivileged; advance education; lessen the burdens of government; lessen neighborhood tensions; eliminate prejudice and discrimination; or to combat juvenile delinquency.

Flexibility: We encourage your Lodge to use its Anniversary Grant to supersize another CIP grant!

Use the \$1,500 to increase the budget of a Beacon, Gratitude or Promise Grant. The supersize option can only be applied to one grant.

If the Lodge is unable to plan an active project, it may use an Anniversary Grant to donate funds or

supplies to a charitable organization. Restrictions: ENF grant guidelines state that Lodges may not use grants to support State Major Projects, national Elks programs, fund scholarships, Hoop Shoot events, youth awards nights, poster and/or essay contests, appreciation dinners, fundraisers or general community events, benefit Lodge members and their families or Lodge maintenance and repairs.

The Lodge will only have to answer the following questions if it chooses the stand-alone Anniversary Grant application. These questions do not apply if you choose to supersize.

Application Questions:

- Describe your Lodge's charitable project.
- Why is this an important community need?
- How will Lodge members be involved in this project?
- What does the Lodge expect to accomplish with this project?
- Itemized budget. Please note: No more than 10 percent of the budget can be dedicated to administrative or publicity expenses.

Application Dates: Anniversary Grant applications are available online only, July 1, 2017, until March 31, 2018. No exceptions. Anniversary Grants are available for use between the date your Lodge applies and July 31, 2018.

Go to Elks.org for more information.



Michael Bonini PDD, State VP Central, Cathleen Martus PER, Julie Goode, ER, William Wright, Wallingford Police Chief and some of the police department members.

Donation to Local Police Department

By Shari Dziekan, PER,
Publicity Chair for
Wallingford Lodge #1365

Wallingford Lodge recently presented the Wallingford Police Department with a \$2000.00 grant. ENF Chair Cathleen Martus PER and ER Julie Good applied for the grant in Nov. and contacted the police department when the grant was won in Dec. Since the grant was for drug awareness, Exalted Ruler Julie Goode thought the police department could use it for new equipment for the narcotics division. The police chief said the funds would be used to purchase equipment for undercover narcotics investigations. ER Goode's husband retired after 32 years with the department.

COMEDY FUNDRAISER

BRANFORD ELKS LODGE

Featuring New England's Best Comedians to benefit the Connecticut Children's Medical Center (CCMC) and Elks National Foundation (ENF).

Scheduled for Saturday, May 12th, 2018 hosted by the Branford Elks Lodge at 158 Montowese Street, Branford, CT 06405. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. and show starts at 8:00 p.m.

Bring your own snacks, cash bar available. Tickets are \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door. For tickets, to donate or sponsor, please visit funny4funds.com/events.

For more information, please contact "Howie" Lawler, PER at (203) 871-7888.

Now Open!
Connecticut Elks Online Store

Visit us through
CTELKS.ORG
Or scan this QR Code

All proceeds benefit CCMC
Our State Major Project

ATTENTION HUNTERS

BY FRANK "CHEECH" DeFAZIO, PDD, CEA SPECIAL OLYMPICS CHAIRMAN



Now is the time of the year that we start collecting deer hides for our Veterans Leather Program.

The opening of hunting season is upon us... or the deer. This is for all hunters not only those who are Elks members. Spread the word. We need the hides to have them tanned and turn them in to leather pelts for our vets in the VA Hospitals to work on.

The hides will again be collected at the main drop off at Middletown Lodge #771. Contact Glenn Davis or Bill Ackerman (both of Middletown Lodge). All we ask is that you salt them down and fold them. Last year we collected 59 hides. We are looking to double that figure so we make the most of the freight that the Grand Lodge is paying. All animal hides are accepted. If you have any questions call me.

The St. Mary/St. Michael Christian and Compassion Award was presented to Derby Elks Lodge 571.

This award is in recognition of service to our community and schools, embodying the spirit of generosity, kindness, and goodwill. Sheila Parizo, Secretary of Derby Lodge #571, accepted the award on behalf of Derby Lodge.

2018 CEA PRESIDENT'S NIGHT

Written by John Paul Simko, PDD, CEA State Public Relations Chairman

Contributed by Peter Nelson, PDD, CEA State Ritualistic Chairman

Photos by Kathleen Ackerman, PDD, CEA Central District Public Relations Chairman



On Saturday, March 10th Willimantic Lodge #1311 held State Presidents Night for Lodge member and CEA State President Donna Wallace. There were over 150 people in attendance to greet SP Donna and to witness candidates coming to Willimantic Lodge from many Lodges across the State to be installed into the CEA. In attendance was GL Trustee Hon. Robert W. Hansen, PSP, PDD, along with GLCM A&A Bill Chinn, PSP, PDD, and SD Rick Palanzo, PSP, PDD. Also in attendance were many PSP's, CEA State Officers, District Deputies, Willimantic Lodge Officers and Members with many visiting Lodge members from around the State.

An impressive list of Officers presided over the Initiation of candidates. The list performing were in the role of ER: Pete Nelson, PDD, Leading Knight: Peter Freiler, PSP, PDD, Loyal Knight: Lisa Berthume, PER, Lecturing Knight: Phil Stender, PDD, Esquire: Mike

Barta, PSP, PDD, Chaplin: William Coley, Inner Guard: Jim Coley, PDD and Tiler: Jeff Ross. To see and to listen to this group of CEA members perform their roles and recite the initiation ceremony by memory, reinforce that the ritual is alive and well among the Connecticut Elks.

Following the Initiation Ritual, all were invited to dine with SP Donna and husband Michael. All of the speakers showed the gratitude, appreciation and love toward their State President and thanked SP Donna for her leadership of the CEA. SP Donna thanked her family and friends, the evenings Suite of Officers performing the Installation, Willimantic Lodge and ER Richard Dancosse, the Lodge kitchen staff and all the volunteers who did a terrific job setting up for this occasion. SP Donna was very proud of all the members of the CEA and told all to be "Proud of Elkdom".

It was a wonderful time throughout the evening. If you missed State President's Night please try to attend next year. You will be impressed and you will leave with a having a proud feeling that you are a Connecticut Elk and a member of a most generous fraternal organization, The Benevolent Protective Order of Elks.



HOW THE ELKS BEGAN

By JOHN P. SIMKO, PDD

The moving spirit for the Elks was an Englishman named Charles Algernon Sidney Vivian. Born October 22, 1842, this son of a clergyman was a successful comic singer and dancer in the music halls of London. In November 1867, Vivian arrived in New York City to try his fortune.

Charles Algernon Sidney Vivian

Other actors and entertainers soon gravitated toward his magnetic personality. With everything closed on Sunday because of New York City Blue Laws, a group of theatrical people began meeting for their own amusement under Vivian's leadership. A loose organization was formed to make sure the larder was well-stocked for these gatherings. They called themselves the Jolly Corks, a name derived from a trick introduced by Vivian in which the uninitiated purchased a round of refreshments.

When one of their members died shortly before Christmas in 1867, leaving his wife and children destitute, the Jolly Corks decided that in addition to good fellowship, they needed a more enduring organization to serve those in need.

On February 16, 1868, they established the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and elected Vivian to head it. Its social activities and benefit performances increased the popularity of the new Order. Membership grew rapidly. Elks traveling to other cities spread the word of the Brotherhood of Elks. Soon there were requests for Elks Lodges in cities other than New York. In response to these appeals, the Elks asked the New York State legislature for a charter authorizing the establishment of a Grand Lodge with the power to establish local Lodges anywhere in the United States. When the Grand Lodge Charter was issued, the founders then received the first local charter as New York Lodge No. 1 on March 10, 1871.

New York Elks Lodge #1

Dissension soon erupted. Legitimate actors headed by George F. McDonald wanted to restrict membership to the theatrical profession. This view was opposed by Vivian and his friends. Taking advantage of Vivian's absence due to an out-of-town engagement, the McDonald group summarily expelled Vivian and several of his closest friends. Years later the Order rectified this illegal act, but it gave rise to a controversy whether Vivian was actually the founder of the Order. In 1897, a formal inquiry firmly established his right to this honored title.

Vivian continued, after his expulsion from the Order, to enchant audiences across the country. He starred with some of the largest road companies of the time. Together with his actress wife, the former Imogene Holbrook, Vivian set up a repertoire theater in Leadville, Colorado. Shortly thereafter he died of pneumonia on March 20, 1880. In 1889, the Elks moved his body from Leadville, Colorado, to Mt. Hope Cemetery, Boston, Massachusetts.

Mrs. Vivian received a stipend from the Order her husband founded until her death in 1931.

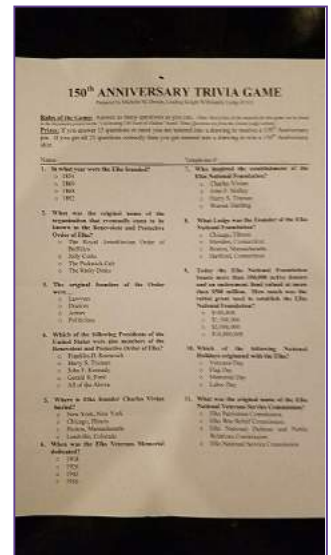
The legacy of Charles Vivian continues to this day. In addition to aiding members in distress, the Elks raise money for children with disabilities, college scholarships, youth projects and recreational programs for patients in veteran's hospitals.

On June 14, 1907 the Order held a Flag Day observance. This tradition later was declared a national holiday by President Harry S. Truman.

During World War I, the Elks funded and equipped the first two field hospitals in France and built a 72-room community house in Camp Sherman, Ohio, and a 700-bed rehabilitation hospital in Boston, which they turned over to the War Department. They also raised money for the Salvation Army's frontline canteens.

Their loans to 40,000 returning veterans for college, rehabilitation and vocational education were the precursor of the GI Bill.

When World War II broke out, the Elks were the only civilian organization asked to help recruit construction workers for the military, a task that was completed three months ahead of schedule. The Elks also contributed more than half a million books to the Merchant Marines so that their men would have reading material on board ship.



Continued on page 13....

CEA SCORES A GOAL FOR THE CCMC!

The Connecticut Elks Association enjoyed an AHL hockey game between the hometown Bridgeport Sound Tigers (NY Islanders) and the Charlotte Checkers (Carolina Hurricanes). The game was attended by 82 CT Elks, family members and friends. With the additional \$460 donated from Chuck a Puck, a total of \$788 was raised for the Connecticut Children's Medical Center. Special thanks go to the efforts of State Major Projects Chairman PER Howie Lawler, his committee, the CEA members and guests that made this donation possible.



How the Elks Began, continued from page 12

The Korean War again brought out the best in the Elks. They donated more than half a million pints of blood to help wounded soldiers.

When the wounded from Vietnam needed help, the Elks responded. They provided the funds for a recreation pavilion at the Navy Hospital on Guam. The wounded at Tripler Medical Center in Hawaii were sweltering in the heat. When the Elks heard of their plight, they purchased 24 air-conditioning units so these patriots could recuperate in some degree of comfort.

When Operation Desert Storm took place, the Elks again led the support for our fighting men and women in the Persian Gulf. Subordinate Lodges undertook letter-writing campaigns to help keep up the spirits of the defenders of freedom. The Elks were also among the first to welcome them home and thank them for a job well done.

Our story is long; our work is humble; our history is proud. As long as there are those who need our help, the Elks will be there to give aid and comfort.

Save the Date

FUNDRAISER FOR CONNECTICUT CHILDREN'S MEDICAL CENTER

Ride for the Children

September 8th

Registration starts at 8:30am
Ride starts 10am
\$20 per bike \$10 per passenger
Leaving from lodge
Food and entertainment to follow

