



On behalf of the Major Projects Board of Directors, we would like to thank you, the MEMBERS of the New York State Elks Association for all of your generous support. As we are coming to the end of another fiscal year, we

are all worked hard to meet our Per Capita goals of at least \$8.00 per member. Our State Major Project Chairperson Rich DeSilva, along with his wife Mary, worked tirelessly to assist Lodges and districts in their fundraising efforts, to ensure that we had a positive year.

With all of your contributions, you are helping the New York State Elks Association to continue our commitment to work with and partner with Cerebral Palsy of New York State. All of the monies raised pay the salaries of the Home Service Director for each Affiliate. We also assist in the purchase of 4 vans each year. The Home Service Directors lead their clients through all of the stumbling blocks that may arise when dealing with Insurance and Government agencies, making sure that their client receives the specialized treatment that may be needed. The Home Service Director not only makes the appointment, but may also drive the family to the appointment, as many do not have a vehicle.

In the upcoming Fiscal Year we are looking at some changes that will be announced at our Convention in Rochester in May. Again THANK YOU, the MEMBERS, for all of your support. PSP Jamie Peace, New York Elks Major Projects Board Chairman

**Racker Centers** - I have completed an article on a building project done for a woman names Veronica that lives in Nates Floral Estates in Ithaca. The project included housing improvements for Veronica's trailer both on the exterior and interior to make it more accessible. Since the project included so many wonderful organizations, I would like to include a brief mention of each organization on our 'Making Friends' page as a continuation of the article. I have attached the article about the overall project and pasted below the write up for your organization. If you could please review what is below and send me edits or corrections as soon as possible that would be great. I could also include a logo if you would like to send that along. Thank you for partnering for Racker Centers and all the great work your organization does in our area!

**Massapequa Lodge #2162** Major Projects Chairperson, Gina Munsey, created an Up-roaring Hilarious evening of Entertainment with the Inspired Artists Theatre Co. and their rendition of "Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)". It was well attended and it raised \$300.00 to be donated to Cerebral Palsy.



**Watervliet Lodge #1500** held their annual Turkey shoot with their Major Projects Ambassador for the State Capital District Nicholas Fox [age 3] & his parents Shannon & Martin Fox. In photo is L-R;; [PDDGER] Tony Thanopoulos, Martin & Shannon Fox, Nicholas Fox, [PSVP] Tim Gardner, [ER] Dennis Whittermore [SCD Major Project Chairman from Rotterdam #2157] & [ER]

Edgar Quackenbush Watervliet #1500. In Dec. 1994-95 Tim Gardner [then ER] & his family started the Turkey shoot, which Tim is Major Projects Chairman for Watervliet #1500.. Tim's wife Patty works for Upstate Rehabilitation Products in Guilderland & his daughter Julie works for St. Margarets Center for Children which both are part of the center for Disability Service. Pictured above L-R [PSVP] Tim Gardner son Kevin & Patty Gardner..Missing is daughter Julie.

On October 30<sup>th</sup>, **Utica Lodge #33** held a Halloween Party for 90 United Cerebral Palsy children, their counselors and children of Elks members on October 30th. The Children were treated to a day of fun, treats, food and activities. The lodge banquet room was decorated in a friendly Halloween décor with animated stations and games to play. A DJ got the children up and dancing and a magician put on an hour show. Cider, pizza, home-made Halloween cookies, a ghoulish punch and apples were served. Our lodge received hand-made cards from the UCP children and all said they had a wonderful time.

**Albany Lodge #49** recently held a fund raising event to benefit The Elks National Foundation and Major Projects. Over one hundred attendees browsed the twenty five vendors present and the event and lodge members manned a food booth. Over # 1,187.00 was raised for the two charities.

More than 600 people attended **Liverpool Lodge #2348's** 22nd annual Music Fest to benefit CP. Two bands played music throughout the course of the day. Plenty of food was available as well as raffles and games Enable had one of there Home Service Vans present and set up a very informative display. It was wonderful to see the support from members of various lodges in the district along with the public. More than \$10,000 was raised to support Cerebral Palsy.



**Staten Island Lodge #841** had the distinct honor and pleasure of having our NY State Major Project Ambassador Gregory Santiago and his family, attend the 107th Anniversary Charity Ball of the lodge. Accompanied by Richard DeSilva, PSVP and his wife Mary DeSilva, SVP Mid Hudson District, Gregory and his family charmed all whom they came in contact with. Also in attendance was New York State Chaplain, Fr. Michael Martine, DDGER, Gary Hamilton and New York State Vice President, Thomas Griffiths. Also in attendance were the lodges own Lodge Sponsor, Gus Martine, PDD Cliff McCurdy and PSVP Thomas Sadowski. Exalted Ruler Robert Van Pelt, Leading Knight Richard Ryan and SVP Thomas Griffiths took the Santiago and DeSilva families on a tour of the Childrens Program at United Cerebral Palsy Staten Island prior to the Charity Ball. Pictured above with the Santiago family, ER Robert Van Pelt and ELK Richard Ryan.

**Major Projects Report, Richard De Silva, PSVP, Chairman.State Convention, May 22, 2010, Rochester, NY To all of our Lodges who have donated** this year, I want to say thank you, thank you and thank you. You have all followed Presidents Carr's motto "Give from the Heart" and Jr. PSP Amodeo's motto Helping Hands- Open Hearts"

We as a united group of 56,891 Elk's for the fiscal year of 2009 - 2010 have collected a total of \$469,000, or an \$8.24 per capita, the highest per capita since 1964. Be proud of yourselves for all the hard work your Lodges have done. In fact, give yourselves applause.

**AWARDS**

District Chair District Committee Person Awards

Judy Meyer SOUTH DISTRICT & Ricky Ryder ONTARIO DISTRICT

Ladies of the East District for the largest ladies donation of \$ 18,000.00 raised in one afternoon.

Rotterdam Lodge #2157 for highest individual lodge donation in the state of \$ 30,800.00

The Distinguished MP Person  
Stephen Sellie, ROTTERDAM LODGE #2157, Stephen is Rotterdam's Lodge Chair who coordinated a team of volunteers to raise funds for Major Projects.

State Vice President Award :  
Wayne Slingerland

This award is for our CP Person of the Year who exhibits outstanding support to our Major Project program displaying commitment, dedication and caring. This recipient is an outstanding individual who puts everyone first before himself, as a DJ in his district, has attended every event, district picnic, tag sales, football parties, all Sunday events. With his direct help, his district raised over \$40,000 this year last July his son was killed in a motorcycle accident a few days before a major cp fundraiser, still in mourning; he did not let anyone down and played his DJ music in memory of his son. I happened to be at that event. He has also donated his talent and music to a member in the North District to raise money to help with her child fundraising. He currently is the senior dare instructor in the state of New York and was appointed detective youth officer. You can say he has an exceptional dedication to Elkdom.This year's recipient is John Girolamo Ossining lodge, # 1486

Thank you to State President David Carr and first lady Penny for their efforts in collecting on behalf of Major Projects \$ 5,828.00 thru card signing.



**Haverstraw Lodge #877** ER, Dominick Posillipo, Jill Warner from Jawanio, Scott Smith and Sandy Sewell, founders of RSN (Rockland Social Network).hosted a Holiday Dance for RSN (Rockland Social Network) Celebrating their 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and their Founder Sandy Sewell's 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday. There was a DJ with a dance and Karaoke contest and a special appearance made by Elvis and Santa Claus bearing gifts for all. RSN is a small non profit organization run by Sandy Sewell and Scott Smith, which holds 3 to 4 dances a year for 50 to 100 individuals with various disabilities throughout the community.Sandy was born with Cerebral Palsy, yet that has never stopped her from reaching her goals. So with Cerebral Palsy being our state major project, what a great opportunity it is for the Haverstraw Elks Lodge # 877 to give back to Sandy and RSN.