

.....Continued from page 6

Each first-place winner then received a \$100 savings bond, second-place winners received a \$50 savings bond, and third-place winners received a \$10 gift certificate to a local bookstore. In addition, they all were awarded a framed Certificate of Excellence, a personal dictionary, an American flag and other various prizes. Participation certificates will also be sent to the schools for each student who submitted an essay. Refreshments were then served while students and families listened to patriotic music, and read other submitted essays which decorated the walls of the Lodge. Albany Lodge once again donated complete Thanksgiving baskets to need families in the city of Albany. The packing boxes were donated by several members and the lodge donated the turkeys and the makings of a complete dinner. It took 12 members to deliver the dinners in about 2 hours. Students from Albany's Hackett Middle school baked and donated 100 loaves of banana bread to be included.



Cohoes /Waterford Lodge #1317 assists 7 families of tragic Christmas night fire

The community of Cohoes and its neighbors and friends, led by the efforts of the Cohoes / Waterford Lodge #1317 come out in support of a fundraising "Hot Dog Smoker" to benefit 7 families burned out during a Christmas night fire in the City of Cohoes.

The fire consumed 3 buildings and left some 28 people ranging in ages from 2 months to 60 years homeless and without as much as the clothes on their backs.

In just 6 days time, the members of the Cohoes / Waterford Lodge stepped up to host a fundraiser to assist the families in rebuilding thier lives one piece at a time. Proving that Elks Care and that Elks Share and in concert with the City of Cohoes long time slogan as a "Community that Cares" it was the perfect marriage of Community support and leadership resulting in over \$23,000 being raised and distributed directly to the fire fictim families.

State President Michael Bloss was on had to personally deliver a \$2,000 start up check on behalf of the Northeast District Charity Fund as well.

Northeast District - Dicitrct Deputy Teddi Myers and State Vice President Paul C. Galarneau also attended our event leading a large contingent of supporters from our sister Lodges throughout the Northeast District.

Certainly a proud Elk moment of Caring and Sharing.

Pictured above (L - R) PSVP Otto Madsen listens as fellow Elk and Cohoes Mayor John T. McDonald addresses supporters, while surrounded by the 7 family members tragically burned out on Christmas night.

Webster-Fairport Lodge # 2396 - Provided food and Christmas gifts to families in need. On Saturday, December 18, 2010 the members of the Webster-Fairport Elks Lodge delivered food and Christmas gifts to seven local families with fifteen children experiencing hardships this Christmas season. Each family received a ham and a turkey with all of the trimmings and also extra food and supplies for their household. A hat and gloves in addition to Christmas gifts were also given to each of the fifteen children of the seven families.

Each year, especially at Christmas time the members of the Webster-Fairport Elks Lodge try to assist families experiencing hard times. The lodge members who performed this service all stated " It was heart warming to see and hear the gratitude from these families." The Community Chest of Webster supplied the lodge with the names of these families in need.



The photograph above was taken as the members were leaving the Lodge to deliver the gifts. I. D. in the photo is , from left to right, Lodge Exalted Ruler Scott Seltzer, Lodge Leading Knight Cheryl Garlock, Past State Vice President Donald Williams, as Santa Claus, and Brian Klafehn, President of CP Rochester.



Lyons Lodge #869 was given a special recognition. National Elks Representative, Kevin Granger and District Chairman, Theodore Reese presented Lyons Elks Lodge Leader Ed Gnau with a Certificate recognizing their charitable donations to the Elks National Foundation.

The Elks National Foundation provides financial assistance and grants to many charitable activities and programs throughout the United States of America. The organization of Elks is the second highest provider of scholarships and assistance to graduating high school seniors and students in college in the United States. Only the United States government provides more financial assistance. Many other charitable programs are supported by the Elks including a wide variety of activities benefitting veterans, youth and handicapped children.

Lyons Elks Lodge #869 is a member of the West Central District with lodges in the neighboring communities of Wolcott, Rochester, Webster-Fairport, Newark, Canandaigua, and Seneca Falls.



Rochester Lodge #24 The Back Pack Program was a huge success. The Lodge was able to provide over 250 Back Pack meals to Food Link. The Elks National Foundation donated \$1,000. to use for a local Charity. Lodge #24 along with the CP of Rochester added to this donation. The Back Pack Program helped to provide Food Link with enough nutritional food to give to needy children in the Rochester area. Thank you to everybody who donated to this worthy cause. Special thanks to Harriet Amundson and her committee for a job well done.



For over 50 years the **Massapequa Lodge #2162** is proud to have sponsored its Blood Drive for our community. For over the past 12 years we have had the privilege of having our loyal member, Chairman Kevin Rich, in charge of the event. We were able to service over 40 participants and would have been able to make more donations but unfortunately they did not have their axyl machine available that separates blood plasma and platelets. As usual our wonderful chef PER Joe Russo prepared a delicious Roast Beef dinner for all the donors. Kevin Rich's granddaughter, Meaghan Haskell, graciously donated her pint of blood in memory of her Father, FDNY Battalion Chief Thomas T. Haskell and his brother Fireman Timothy Haskell. Both were lost in the World Trade Center attack.

Huntington Lodge #1565 in conjunction with the Huntington Young Professionals Chamber of Commerce hosted an evening that had more than 210 High School Students from 11 local high schools that participated in the competition that demonstrated their talents, skills and creativity at the Eighth Annual Business Leadership Competition. It was a delight to have gathered so many bright students who, during the competition, demonstrated their skills in Sports Management, Sports Marketing, Entrepreneurship, Travel and Tourism and Job Interview Skills.

Assemblyman Andrew Raia, Legislator Steve Stern and Councilwomen Susan Berland distributed proclamations to the students. It became clear that the high school students possessed an abundance of talent and will become the future generation of Long Island. Leading Knight Jack Safarik stated that the turnout for this celebration was phenomenal. The Huntington Elks Lodge was honored to be able to host these dynamic students.



Massapequa Lodge #2162 was proud to host the **New York State South Regional Hoop Shoot Free Throw Contest**. The event took place at the John F. Kennedy Middle School. 24 well prepared boys and girls from the ages of 8 to 13 participated and gave the audience a show that they will soon not forget. After completing their shooting the families and contestants went to the Massapequa Lodge for presentation of awards for the winners and participants followed by a delicious luncheon. On to the Nationals for all the contenders and good luck to them. Proudly present the future of America. Everyone a winner and they did themselves proud.