

The Camillus Lodge #2367 Ladies

Auxiliary presented the Camillus Volunteer Fire Department with a \$ 500.00 check to offset costs associated with the recent Camillus Cutlery factory fire. Camillus Fire Chief Doug Groesbeck and Deputy Fire Chief Jim McBride visited the Elks Lodge on Newport Road to receive the donation. Ladies Auxiliary 1st Vice President Kathy Seabury, Secretary Susan Stamp, Treasurer Norma Dauenhauer and Trustee Carol Kopecky were on hand to present the check. Ontario District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler Don Fittipaldi, Camillus Elks Board of Directors Chairman Rocco Arcaro and Lodge Exalted Ruler Don Laxton were also in attendance.

Peekskill Lodge #744

hosted the signing of a historic agreement. Westchester County, NY and County Mayo, Ireland entered into a "twinning" agreement to share culture and economic initiatives. Political representatives from both counties were present for this amazing event, including Westchester County Executive Robert P. Astorino, County Legislator John Testa (former mayor of Peekskill) and Mayo County Councilor Michael Kilcoyne (former mayor of Castlebar, Ireland). In 2000, Peekskill and Castlebar entered into a similar agreement "twinning" the two cities. Ireland is now shifting from a local government structure to a county structure, which is what prompted the agreement between counties. This voluntary agreement will start an initiative to promote common projects with various themes. The themes presented coincide with programs that the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks currently participate in, such as youth activities and community activities. The Peekskill Lodge was honored to host this event and is looking forward to see how we can further assist in this project.

Horseheads Lodge #2297

recently donated \$200.00 to the North County Senior Center for the programs offered to their members. The Senior Center serves many seniors in the area throughout the year. This contribution helps to continue the Aerobics Program with a paid, certified instructor, maintain exercise machines and helps to fund office expenses. The senior Center also conducts monthly programs to help seniors with scam prevention, medication management and long term care information.



Auburn Lodge #474 - During a recent visit by NYS Elks Association President, Lawrence Contratti, Auburn Lodge awarded the Elks Distinguished Citizenship Award, to Anthony Saurini. It did not take the lodge long to decide who the perfect candidate would be.

He was a major part of a recent function held at their lodge, after which, a few of the volunteers and members who worked the event chatted with him. They realized quickly, not only was he a very busy person, but volunteers much of his time for our community.

On Wednesday nights, you can find him at St Alphonsis helping with their bingo night.

He also lends a hand with the Auburn Players Community Theatre.

Anyone who has live in and around Auburn have know him for over 15 years as being the star of the Auburn parade; the guy you waited for all year; the guy with the bright red suit; SANTA! He has donated countless

hours, listening to what kids hope to see under the tree on Christmas morning. He has been the center of photos and knows how to calm a young child in his presence. He even has his own sleigh that he will bring to an event, if the doors are wide enough to accommodate.

Not only is he the star of the Auburn parade, but also many private parties, kids Christmas parties held at local volunteer firehouses, YMCA preschool, area daycare centers, etc. Besides the work he does in the community, he is self employed and his two grandchildren keep him active. Pictured Lawrence Contratti NYS Elks Association President Frank Saya, Exalted Ruler Lodge #474 Anthony Saurini, award recipient.

Potsdam Lodge #2074

sponsored a chicken BBQ that raised \$3500 to support the Potsdam High School 2013 After- Prom Party. Exalted Ruler Shelia Guerin and District Deputy Tim Welpé are pictured presenting a check in the amount of \$3500 to After- Prom Committee. Accepting on behalf of the Prom Committee were Christine Compeau, Caroline Downing, Lisa cardinal, Kate Ormsby, Kate Cruikshank, Patty Gagnon and Carol Grant.



Potsdam Lodge #2074 provided the North Country Special Olympics with a \$350 donation in support of the areas Summer Games. Potsdam Lodge has been a proud sponsor of the North Country Summer Games for the past 25 years. District Deputy Tim Welpé presented the donation on behalf of Potsdam Lodge. He is pictured presenting the donation to Special Olympic committee members Beth Demo, Leslie Thompson, Lorrie Isaman and Martha Bowen. The donation was made during the event. Also pictured is the SUNY Canton mascot Rody Roo.



Watertown Lodge #496 generously donated \$2000 to the Elks National Foundation in honor of District Deputy Tim Welpé. The donation was dedicated toward the endowment fund for the furtherance of our philanthropic mission and ideals. Exalted Ruler Mike Forcier is pictured presenting District Deputy Welpé with a certificate from the Elks National Foundation Trustees acknowledging the donation. The certificate was presented during a recent District Deputy Clinic.

Mid Westchester Lodge #535 Receives Promise Grant for fourth year.

The Mid Westchester Lodge No. 535 has been granted a promise Grant for the fourth year in a row. The Grant will be split for two Scouting programs. The Lodge will cooperate with the Westchester/Putnam Boy Scout Council and



the Cerebral Palsy of Westchester started a Cub Scout program for handicapped children. This program is different than

the usual Cub Scout pack in that both boys and girls may participate and the ages are from eight to eighteen. There is a real need for this type of program and all the parties are excited about starting it. The other half of the grant will be used to run a Pine Wood Derby for all the Cub packs of Westchester. Last year this event hosted 150 Cub Scouts and an equal number of parents. Youth Committee Chairman, Bob Sollazzo has speared headed these programs over the last four years.

Yorktown Lodge #2324

- Yorktown seniors are benefiting from a recent \$2,000 grant donation by the Yorktown Elks. With the help of the members, three new insulated containers were replaced for the home bound seniors, Mary De Silva said. These containers are insulated and along with hot packs, they keep the meals up to temperature code.

Emergency meals were also purchased and will be delivered to the home-bound seniors for use during the winter months.

"These meals will have a note on them saying that the Yorktown Elks are responsible for them receiving this emergency package," De Silva said. By making a donation, ELK lodge members can provide such services to the residents.



Beacon Lodge #1493

has awarded the \$500.00 Rush Greenough Scholarship for outstanding community service to Beacon High School Senior Robert Simmonds Jr. presenting the award is Past Exalted Ruler Carl Oken at the annual Flag Day ceremony. Robert's outstanding community service is in the field of firematics as a firefighter 1 at the age of 16 for the city of Beacon. Robert plans to continue his education at Dutchess Comm. College this fall and become a paid fire fighter.

Peekskill Lodge #744

hosted their very first "First Responders" dinner. Which included The Peekskill Police Dept. Fire Dept. and Ambulance Corps. Each department picked one of their members to receive an award for "Outstanding Member of the Year." Exalted Ruler Raymond Matheson presented one plaque to each department. It listed their names as well as noting that they are member of the year for 2013. The Elks provided dinner and beverages for the 39 members of each department that attended.

