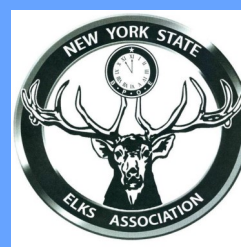


# EMPIRE STATE ELK

Official Publication of the New York State Elks Major Projects, Inc.  
Summer 2022 Issue



### STATE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**Cam Ricci**  
**2022-2023**

**“Elks—Family, Friends & Fellowship”**

Let me start by saying how humbling it is to be in this position. I am proud to be your NYSEA President for the 2022-2023 Fraternal year. Jo-Anne and I have already been on three visitations so far. We started in the new Central District. How fitting it is that we should begin our journey in the home of the district that sponsored us. I kid him a lot, but I owe a lot to Dan Capella for the faith and confidence that he had in me to assume this role. I have been enjoying the time spent with his wife Barb. She lets me be me, by telling a joke or two. I would also like to acknowledge Bill Reedy Jr. for also having my back and providing me with his guidance and knowledge to navigate the unknown and what is expected of me. His wife Lisa has also been a good friend to Jo-Anne and me.

As I started to say, we began our journey in the Central District. We started with cocktails in the Utica Lodge and finished the first night with dinner at the Rome Lodge. We had breakfast at Oneida Lodge before heading to Syracuse and enjoying the afternoon at the Liverpool clambake. We concluded with cocktails at Camillus Lodge. We concluded the weekend by participating in Liverpool's Flag Day Ceremony. I was honored to be asked to participate in and relay "What the Flag Means to Me".

The following weekend, we ventured to the West Central District. We began our travels at the Ithaca Lodge. We met so many interesting people in Ithaca. However, one gentleman stood out amongst the crowd. After saying hello to most everyone in the room, I noticed this one older gentleman on the far end of the lounge seemingly just patiently waiting for me to come over. I walked over to introduce myself. His name was John Perko. John is a 76-year member at age 97. What a great individual. He was extremely knowledgeable and gave us the cook's tour and history of the Lodge. What a guy.

Later in the day, we traveled to Waterloo, where we met Mike Bellone and his wife Julie. Mike is the last surviving member of a search & rescue team from the 911 disaster in New York City. Mike has quite the display of memorabilia and his recounting of the events after the attack were quite moving. Mike is a fountain of knowledge about that fateful day and his observations and contributions should be videotaped so we will never forget what took place. We concluded our day with a delicious dinner at Wolcott Lodge, home of the State Chairman on Drug Awareness, Jeff Drake.

The following day, we traveled to Penn Yan Lodge for a delicious breakfast, followed by shopping for candy in the store right adjacent to the Lodge. Next, we went to Vineyard View Winery for a tasting and then onto The Windmill Farm & Craft Market for some shopping. Thanks for helping me spend my money. We traveled to one more winery before concluding our visit with dinner at the Seneca Falls Lodge. I mean it when I say that I have a whole new appreciation for PSP, Rick Wunder & his wife Julie. They were great hosts, and we enjoyed the one-on-one conversations with them at all of our stops.

Most recently, we just finished out third visitation in the Hudson Valley District. We had an absolute fabulous time. We began our journey in Yorktown Lodge and concluded the first evening with a delicious prime rib dinner at Brewster Lodge. The following day, we had breakfast at the Ossining Lodge and a lite lunch in the Peekskill Lodge before boarding a boat to sail across the Hudson River. We finished Saturday at Haverstraw Lodge for their Hot Dog Days of Summer. We concluded on Sunday with breakfast in Poughkeepsie Lodge and lunch at the Beacon Lodge.

Hats off to SVP, Ron, "piggy" Piga aka "smiley" and Nancy for escorting Jo-Anne and I throughout the entire District all weekend. Also, thank you to Lodge Secretary, Alan Schrock and his wife Kay, for transporting our traveling companions. Last but not least, thank you to District Deputy, John Lawless, for attending all of the visits with us as well. You're a good man John.

Prior to commencing our visitations, I would be remiss if I didn't point out the fact that I was named to a committee for membership. Joining me on this committee is Grand Lodge Membership Chairman, Rick Gathen; PSP, Bill Reedy Jr; PSP, Stuart Rishe and State Membership Chairman, Jeff Largeteau. We were tasked with the job of spreading the message of membership and membership retention throughout the State of New York.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Barry "Bear" Griffith and his wife Susan on an outstanding year as President & First Lady this past Lodge year. They represented the State Association with honor and dignity at all times. My wife and I have big shoes to fill.

Remember, Elks are the Friends we have yet to meet. Jo-Anne and I will continue our journey throughout the State this year and we look forward to meeting everyone and making some new friends and getting re-acquainted with some old ones. Have a great summer and we will see you all soon. Fraternally,

Cam

### NYSEA State President Cam Ricci Upcoming Visitation Schedule

<b>West Central District</b>	<b>September 16-18, 2022</b>
<b>Fall Conference</b>	<b>September 22-25, 2022</b>
<b>Colonial District</b>	<b>September 30-October 2, 2022</b>
<b>State Capital District</b>	<b>October 7-9, 2022</b>
<b>Mohawk Valley District</b>	<b>October 14-16, 2022</b>
<b>South Central District</b>	<b>October 21-23, 2022</b>
<b>North Hudson District</b>	<b>October 28-30 2022</b>
<b>North Central</b>	<b>November 18-20 , 2022</b>
<b>Southern Tier District</b>	<b>December 2-4, 2022</b>
<b>South District</b>	<b>December 8-11, 2022</b>
<b>Central District</b>	<b>February 17-19, 2023</b>
<b>West District</b>	<b>April 21-23, 2023</b>
<b>East District</b>	<b>May 5-7, 2023</b>
<b>Homecoming</b>	<b>April 28-30, 2023</b>
<b>Spring Convention</b>	<b>May 17-23, 2023</b>



New York State Elks Association President **Cam Ricci** of Herkimer Lodge #1439 is pictured as he proudly waves the New York State flag during the State Association Flag presentations at the Grand Lodge Convention Opening Ceremony that was held at the Atlanta Convention Center on Sunday, July 2, 2022.



New York State Elks Association President **Cam Ricci** is pictured with Past Grand Exalted Ruler **David R. Carr** and Grand Lodge Trustee and Endorsed Candidate for Grand Exalted Ruler **Bruce Hidley** prior to the start of the Grand Lodge opening ceremony at the Atlanta Convention Center. Bruce Hidley was elected as Grand Exalted the following day during the Business Session.



**NEW YORK STATE  
ELKS ASSOCIATION**

**Cam Ricci**, President  
309 Tumbleweed Drive  
Deerfield, New York 13502  
(315) 534-0119  
(NYSEA First Lady—Jo-Anne)  
E-Mail: Cameron@ricciclaims.com  
Herkimer #1439

**Renee Bott**, State Secretary  
17 Linda Lane  
Waterford, New York 12188  
(518) 279-6561  
Fax # (518) 674-0291  
E-Mail: statesecretary@nyselks.org  
Rensselaer #2073

**Christopher Maddock**, State Treasurer  
P.O., Box 376  
Lyons, New York 14489  
(315) 946-6581  
E-Mail: vest13735@yahoo.com

**GRAND LODGE SPONSOR  
Hon. David R. Carr, PGER  
PSP (2009) Ticonderoga #1494**

2705 Main Street  
Crown Point, NY 12928-2607  
Office # (518) 597-4664  
E-Mail: dcarrelks@cptelco.net

**NYSEA ADVISORY BOARD**

PSP Donald J. Fischer, Chairman (2000)  
(Horseheads #2297)  
PSP Lucian A. Masur (1975)  
(Niagara Falls #346)  
PSP Daniel J. Capella (1987)  
(Oswego #271)  
PSP Joseph Petriello (1989)  
(Yorktown #2324)  
PSP Ernest E. Southworth (1992)  
PGELK (Cortland #748)  
PSP Frank Melino (1997)  
(Hudson #787)  
PSP Paul Galarnneau (1999)  
PGT (Cohoes-Waterford #1317)  
PSP Anthony Gilberti (2003)  
(Mount Kisco #1552)  
PSP James Peace (2004)  
(Olean #491)  
PSP Timothy E. Kelly (2005)  
(Watertown # 496)  
PSP Richard C. Wunder (2006)  
(Lyons #869)  
PSP Bruce Hidley (2007)  
(Watervliet #1500)  
PSP Michael J. Bloss (2010)  
(Clifton Park #2466)  
PSP Phillip Holowacz (2011)  
(Sidney #2175)  
PSP Martin I. Rosenthal (2013)  
(Islip #2533)  
PSP Gerald P. Shook (2014)  
(Kinderhook #2530)  
PSP John. E. Jacques (2015)  
(Poughkeepsie #275)  
PSP William Reedy Jr. (2016)  
(Camillus #2367)  
PSP Phillip E. Conaty (2017)  
(Monticello #1544)  
PSP Stuart Rische (2018)  
(Ogdensburg #772)  
PSP Brian Greene (2019)  
(Glens Falls #81)  
PSP Paul C. Galarnneau  
(Cohoes-Waterford #1317)  
PSP Barry Griffith  
(Lockport #41)

**THE EMPIRE STATE  
ELK PUBLICATION**

The Empire State Elk is published quarterly (bi-annually on newsprint and bi-annually in electronic format) and is financed by the New York Elks Major Projects, Inc. The Empire State Elk is circulated to all members of New York State Lodges to promote our program goals and objectives by reporting on lodge, state and national programs developed to enhance patriotism, and provide assistance to our veterans, the disabled, youth, elderly, victims of disaster and others in need. This publication will take no partisan stands or furnish space for political, sectarian or personal prejudice.

Photographs that accompany submitted articles may be rejected for poor quality, poor contrast, ect. Photos that reference or display alcohol, gambling and non-Elk activities will not be considered. Photos printed on personal computer printers are not suitable for newsprint reproduction and thus will not be considered. Photos sent in JPEG and PDF formats are acceptable. Please send photos and articles to your District Editor.

Members who do not receive the Empire State Elk should contact their Lodge Secretary. Address changes or corrections should be sent to your Subordinate Lodge Secretary. The Lodge Secretary should correct the Lodge records and inform the Grand Lodge of the change. Please note the Editor of the Empire State Elk has no authority to make changes to the mailing list.

**CONTRIBUTING EDITORS  
THE EMPIRE STATE ELK  
State Editor—Publisher**

**Tim Welpel, PDDGER**  
54 Waverly Street  
Potsdam, New York 13676  
(H) 315-265-8480  
Cell 315-212-1876  
E-Mail: empirestateelk@gmail.com  
timwelpel@gmail.com  
tmwelpel@northnet.org  
Potsdam Elks #2074

**District Editors**

**Mary Bielby**, Central District  
321 McRae Street.  
Rome, New York 13440-8341  
cell 315-525-6412  
bielbyjm@aol.com  
Rome #96

**Lynne Stein**-East District.  
6 Suydam Drive  
Melville, New York 11747-1018  
(H) 631-673-0375  
Cell 631-678-6163  
lynnestein11@gmail.com  
Huntington #1565

**Mark Whitney**-Colonial District  
PO Box 548  
Keeseville, New York 12944  
(H) 518-727-1809  
mark.whitney2072@gmail.com  
Keeseville #1491 (ESE/PR)

**Beth Playford** –East Central District  
16 Mower Mill Road  
Saugerties New York 12427  
(H) 845-332-0466  
BETHP@TBOGC.COM  
Saugerties #2574

**Melanie Largeteau**-Mohawk Valley District  
10666 Western Turnpike  
Delanson, New York 12053  
(H) 518-378-6845  
msl119@aol.com  
Esperance #2507

**Janel Smith**-Central District  
26 Hillview Drive  
Union Springs, New York 13160  
(H) 315-730-8822  
JMJO603@msn.com  
Auburn #474

**Mindi Moniz**-S. Central District  
13258 Route 38  
Richford, New York 13835  
(H) 607-259-3814  
pink48mattie@yahoo.com  
Vestal #2508

**Michael Jones**-State Capital District  
**State Public Relations Chair**  
31 Ontario Street  
Cohoes, New York 12047  
Cell 518-441-1845  
michaeljns64@gmail.com  
Guilderland #2480

**David McKenna**-West District  
367 East Street  
Lockport, New York 14094  
(H) 716-289-6520  
dmckennahawaii@gmail.com  
Lockport #41

**John Baron**-West Central District  
PO Box 67474  
Rochester, New York 14617  
(H) 315-530-8237  
jlsissionconstruction@yahoo.com  
Rochester #24

**Brian Minerly**-East Central District  
603 Route 17M  
Middletown, New York 10940  
Cell: 845-200-1723  
brian.minerly@gmail.com  
Middletown #2568

**Alan Schrock**-Hudson District  
85 Hillis Terrace  
Poughkeepsie, New York 12603  
(H) 845-462-5830  
aschrock@verizon.net  
Beacon #1493

**Lisa Moldovan**-South District  
150-09 Jewel Avenue, Apt. 314A  
Flushing, New York 11367-1433  
Cell 321-626-0957  
lisam1071@gmail.com  
New York #1

**GRAND LODGE REPRESENTATIVES  
2022-2023**

**Sponsor**

David R. Carr, PGER, PGT, PSP (Penny)  
2705 Main Street  
Crown Point, New York 12928-2607  
dcarrelks@cptelco.net  
518-597-4664

**Grand Exalted Ruler**

Bruce Hidley, PSP (Helen)  
Office Of Grand Exalted Ruler  
BPO Elks, USA  
PO Box 832,  
Cohoes, New York 12047-0832  
2223BPOEGER@gmail.com  
518-203-6127

**FedEx/UPS/USPS Deliveries (packages)**

Alan Sunukjian Administrative Assistant  
37 Copperfield Drive  
Waterford, New York 12188-1093

**Grand Lodge Committeeman  
Government Relations Area 1**

Daniel J. Capella, GLC, PSP (Barbara)  
710 County Route 25  
Oswego, New York 13126  
dbcapella@gmail.com  
315-343-2959





# NEW YORK STATE ELKS ASSOCIATION MAJOR PROJECT



**PAST STATE PRESIDENT  
JAMIE PEACE  
Major Project Message  
Summer 2022**



Cerebral Palsy of Westchester's Adaptive Boy Scout Troop 535 and Girl Scout Troop 1902 enjoyed a day of swimming and an end-of-year-cookout before going on their summer vacations. Members of **Mid-Westchester Lodge # 535** planned and cooked for this wonderful event. Pictured at the event are members Diane Geary, Tom Geary, Past Exalted Ruler Jay Singer, and Rocco Solano. They cooked for the swim party.

Dear Members,

It seems like yesterday that we celebrated the 4th of July and many of us were in Atlanta, GA for our National Convention, welcoming New York's and Area 1's Grand Exalted Ruler Bruce Hidley and First Lady Helen. I, along with State Major Projects Chair, David Bro to thank all the members and spouses that volunteered their time at the Major Project Booth. Please join me in congratulating Chairman 'Brownie' on another "5" Star Award!

In early August our Ambassador Charles attended the Herkimer Cerebral Palsy Car Show fundraising event. This is the first event in almost two years that our Ambassadors and their families have been able to attend. Both of our Ambassadors, Charles and Amanda, look forward to attending upcoming events. Lodges are required to contact Chairman David Brown to schedule one of the Ambassadors for your events.

As summer comes to an end, and schools are starting a new academic year, all the committees that are overseen by the New York Elks Major Projects, Inc. will soon be in full swing.

As a reminder, all the programs under the umbrella of the Major Projects Board fall under the 501(c)(3) category. These committees are: Community Activities, Americanism, Drug Awareness *Empire State Elk* publication, Hoop Shoot, Elks National Foundation, Veterans Services, Public Relations, Scholarship, Soccer Shoot, Youth Activities, as well as our NYS Major Project, the Cerebral Palsy Home Service Program.

As we begin the second half of our fraternal year, we would like to thank all the members for their fundraising for our Major Project. Many lodges or Districts have held events, and many more are being planned to help make our goal of \$8.00 per member and \$400,000 yearly goal. I would like to remind our membership that all the funds raised for your per capita go directly toward Major Project Home Service Program. None of the funds go to any other program.

Thank you for all the good work that is being done by the New York Elks membership.

Fraternally yours,



Past District Deputy Rocco Arcaro and Past State Vice President are pictured presenting Past Exalted Ruler **Joyce Bunce** and her husband **Bernie Bunce** with a plaque for outstanding support of NYS Elks Major Projects 2019-2020. The Major Project recognition Awards for 2019-2020, 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 were presented at the Spring Convention during the major Projects Workshop.



**Judy Ireland** of Liverpool is pictured as she is presented a Major Project Certificate of Appreciation for all of her and her late husband Lee's dedication to Major Projects over the years. New York State Elks Association President Cam Ricci had the distinct honor of presenting the Certificate of Appreciation.



The **New York State Elks Association Major Project Booth** earned a Five Star Award. Judging occurred during the National Convention in Atlanta, Georgia. The booth was displayed in the Convention Hall along with booths from other state associations. Pictured at the booth are Major Project Chair David Brown and his wife Vicki, State Association President Cam Ricci and his wife Jo-Anne and Major Projects Board of Directors Chairman Jamie Peace and his wife Yvonne.





# NEW YORK STATE ELKS ASSOCIATION SPRING CONVENTION 2022 HIGHLIGHTS



The 108<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the New York State Elks Association and Spring Meeting of the New York Elks Major Projects, Inc. was held at the Villa Roma Resort in Callicoon, New York from May 12, 2022 to May 15, 2022. The convention was attended by members and guests representing Lodges from throughout the State. The convention began with an Opening Ceremony and Memorial Ceremony on Thursday evening, May 12th, 2022. The opening ceremony consisted of an invocation by Reverend Michael Martini, the Pledge of Allegiance which was lead by East Central District SVP Joseph Maxwell, the Star Spangled Banner song by Gresford Speid, introduction of Dias Dignitaries by Past State President James Peace, a welcome from East Central District Deputy Edward Wilhelm, a State Association welcome from State President Barry Griffith and remarks from the Honorable David R. Carr. The Memorial Ceremony immediately followed the opening Ceremony. During the Memorial Ceremony, Past Exalted Rulers who passed away from 2019-2022 were remembered. The ceremony featured a Lighting of Candles, an Invocation and Benediction from Reverend Michael Martini, the Eleven O'clock Toast by Past Exalted Ruler Dennis Brady of Watertown Lodge #476, a Necrology by State Secretary Paul Erkinen, Past State President Michael Bloss and District Deputy Renee Bott, and Eulogies for Past State Presidents Charles Noonan, Lawrence Contratti, Dominic Napolitano, Ron Olson, and Lawrence Haase,

On Friday morning, May 13th, State President Barry Griffith called the Opening Business session to order. An Invocation was provided by Reverend Michael Martini, the Pledge of Allegiance by Past Americanism Chair Mel Oliveira and the National Anthem was song by Gresford Speid of Gouverneur Lodge #2035. State President Griffith then introduced the Advisory Board members in attendance followed by remarks from Past Grand Exalted Ruler David R. Carr. This was followed by reports from the different committee chairs. Each outgoing Chairs was presented a Recognition Award. Following the committee reports, there were nominations for State Vice Presidents, Trustees and State President. Cameron Ricci of Herkimer Lodge #1439 was elected as State President for 2022-2023 and shortly thereafter provided his introductory speech. The convention featured workshops on Friday and Saturday that were well attended by Association members. Workshop included National Veterans Service, Government Relations/CONPOR, Community and Lodge Activities, Drug Awareness, Membership/Member Retention, Elks National Foundation, Youth Activities/Soccer, Accident Prevention/Risk Management, Scholarship and Emergency Grants, Empire State Elk/Public Relations/Internet-Website, Major Projects, Camp Bristol and a Secretaries and Treasurers workshop.

During the convention workshop and business session, numerous members and Lodges were recognized with awards. Significant Awards were presented to; Past District Deputy Tony Thanopoulos of Watervliet Lodge #1500 (2021-2022) and Jackie Oliveira of Watervliet Lodge #1500 (2019-2021) —Irene Pashley Memorial Major Project Award; Past District Deputy and Past Major Projects Chair Jan Pashley of Oswego Lodge #271 (2021-2022) and Past District Deputy John Nuzzi of New York Lodge #1 (2019-2020), —CP Person of the Year; Carl Oken of Beacon Lodge #1493 and Mindi Moniz of Vestal Lodge #2508 — Veterans Volunteer of the Year, and Mid Westchester Lodge #535 (Division 1), Scotia-Glenville Lodge #2759 (Division II), Gouverneur Lodge #2035 (Division III), Beacon Lodge #1493 (Division IV) and Saratoga Lodge #161 (Division V) were recognized as New York State All American Lodges. Past State President Daniel Capella was recognized for his long term as Camp Bristol Advisory Board Committee Member and Michael Emmerich was recognized for his long term commitment as State Trustee Chair. The Spring 2022 convention concluded with a Gala State Banquet and closing ceremonies that included the Installation of State Officers, including Cameron Ricci as new State President for 2022-2023; and Renee Bott of Cohoes-Waterford Lodge 31317 as State Secretary.



Past District Deputy and Past Major Projects Chair **Jan Pashley** of Oswego Lodge #271 is the recipient of the 2021-2022 CP Person of the Year. The award was presented during the closing Business Session. Jan is pictured with Major Projects Chair David Brown and Major Projects Board of Directors Chairperson Jamie Peace after accepting his award.



Past District Deputy and Major Projects Board of Directors Committee Member **Tony Thanopoulos** is the recipient of the 2021-2022 Major Projects Irene Pashley Memorial Award. He is pictured receiving the award from Past Major Projects Chair Jan Pashley, Major Project Chair David Brown and Major Projects Board of Directors Chairperson Jamie Peace.



Exalted Ruler **Mindi Moniz** of Vestal Lodge #2505 is the recipient of the 2021-2022 Elks National Veterans Service Female Volunteer of the Year. She is pictured receiving the award for State President Barry Griffith and National Veterans Services Chair Justine Crowley Duncan. The award was presented at the National Veterans Workshop.



Past District Deputy **Carl Oken** of Beacon Lodge #1493 is the recipient of the 2021-2022 Elks National Veterans Service Male Volunteer of the Year. He is pictured receiving the award for State President Barry Griffith National Veterans Services Chair Justine Crowley Duncan and Exalted Ruler Jennifer Velez. .



Past State President **Daniel Capella** was recognized for his commitment as a Camp Bristol Development Committee Member. He is pictured receiving a recognition plaque from Past Grand Exalted Ruler Davis R. Carr. The presentation was made during the closing Business Session.



State Trustee **Michael Emmerich** of Utica Lodge #33 was recognized for his many years of service as Central District Trustee and State Trustee Chair. He is pictured receiving a recognition plaque from Past Grand Exalted Ruler David R. Carr and Past State President Daniel Capella.





**NEW YORK ELK ASSOCIATION  
MAJOR PROJECT  
PER CAPITA AWARDS 2020-2021**



Major Project Per Capita Awards for the Fraternal years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 were awarded at the Spring Convention. Lodge, Group and Individual Awards were presented during the Major Project Workshop. Some of the many awards presented are illustrated on this and the following page.



**New York Lodge #1** was recognized for achieving a \$15.00 or more per capita during 2020-2021. Lodge Chaplain/Past Exalted Lisa Moldovan is pictured accepting the award from Past District Deputy Vicki Brown and Major Projects Board of Directors Chair Jamie Peace.



**Camillus Lodge #2367** was recognized for achieving a \$15.00 or more per capita during 2020-2021. District Deputy Rocco A. Arcaro is pictured accepting the award from Past District Deputy Vicki Brown and Major Projects Board of Directors Chair Jamie Peace.



**Cohoes-Waterford Lodge #1317** was recognized for achieving a \$15.00 or more per capita during 2020-2021. Past District Alan Sunukjian is pictured accepting the award from Past District Deputy Vicki Brown and Major Projects Board of Directors Chair Jamie Peace.



**Brewster Lodge #2101** was recognized for achieving a \$15.00 or more per capita during 2020-2021. Lodge Exalted Ruler Harry Sherblom is pictured accepting the award from Past District Deputy Vicki Brown and Major Projects Board of Directors Chair Jamie Peace.



**Mid-Westchester Lodge #535** was recognized for achieving a \$10.00 or more per capita during 2020-2021. Lodge Exalted Ruler Art Adelman is pictured accepting the award from Past District Deputy Vicki Brown and Major Projects Board of Directors Chair Jamie Peace.



**Pearl River Lodge #2041** was recognized for achieving a \$10.00 or more per capita during 2020-2021. Lodge Exalted Ruler Tim Ryan is pictured accepting the award from Past District Deputy Vicki Brown and Major Projects Board of Directors Chair Jamie Peace.



**Ballston Spa Lodge #2619** was recognized for achieving a \$10.00 or more per capita during 2020-2021. Lodge Exalted Ruler Wayne Van-Valkenburgh is pictured accepting the award from Past District Deputy Vicki Brown and Major Projects Board of Directors Chair Jamie Peace.



**Scotia Glenville Lodge #2759** was recognized for achieving a \$10.00 or more per capita during 2020-2021. Lodge Esquire/Charter Member Rich Kruk is pictured accepting the award from Past District Deputy Vicki Brown and Major Projects Board of Directors Chair Jamie Peace.





**NEW YORK ELK ASSOCIATION  
MAJOR PROJECT  
PER CAPITA AWARDS 2020-2022**



**Lockport Lodge #41** was recognized for achieving a \$10.00 or more per capita during 2020-2021. Past District Deputy/Past Exalted Ruler Gerald Claude is pictured accepting the award from Past District Deputy Vicki Brown and Major Projects Board of Directors Chair Jamie Peace.



**New York Lodge #1** was recognized for achieving \$4000 above their per capita during 2020-2021. Lodge Chaplain/Past Exalted Ruler Lisa Moldovan is pictured accepting the award from Past District Deputy Vicki Brown and Major Projects Board of Directors Chair Jamie Peace.



**Ellenville Lodge #1971** was recognized for achieving a \$10.00 or more per capita during 2021-2022. District State Vice President Joseph P. Maxwell is pictured accepting the award from Past District Deputy Vicki Brown and Major Projects Board of Directors Chair Jamie Peace.



**Clifton Park Lodge #2466** was recognized for achieving a \$10.00 or more per capita during 2021-2022. District State Vice President Robert E. Lumpkins is pictured accepting the award from Past District Deputy Vicki Brown and Major Projects Board of Directors Chair Jamie Peace.



**Brewster Lodge #2101** was recognized for achieving a \$10.00 or more per capita during 2021-2022. Lodge Exalted Ruler Harry Sherblom is pictured accepting the award from Past District Deputy Vicki Brown and Major Projects Board of Directors Chair Jamie Peace.



**Pearl River Lodge #2041** was recognized for achieving a \$10.00 or more per capita during 2021-2022. Lodge Exalted Ruler Tim Ryan is pictured accepting the award from Past District Deputy Vicki Brown and Major Projects Board of Directors Chair Jamie Peace.



**Colonie Lodge #2192** was recognized for achieving a \$10.00 or more per capita during 2020-2021. Past District Deputy Tony Thanopoulos is pictured accepting the award from Past District Deputy Vicki Brown and Major Projects Board of Directors Chair Jamie Peace.

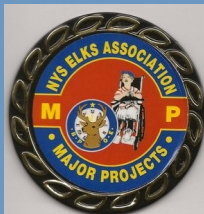


**Esperance Lodge #2507** was recognized for achieving a \$10.00 or more per capita during 2020-2021. Lodge Past Exalted Ruler Melanie Largeteau is pictured accepting the award from Past District Deputy Vicki Brown and Major Projects Board of Directors Chair Jamie Peace.





**NEW YORK ELK ASSOCIATION  
MAJOR PROJECT  
PER CAPITA AWARDS 2020-2022**



**Mechanicville-Stillwater Lodge #1403** was recognized for achieving a \$10.00 or more per capita during 2021-2022. Past District Deputy Theodora C. Meyer is pictured accepting the award from Past District Deputy Vicki Brown and Major Projects Board of Directors Chair Jamie Peace.



**Ossining Lodge #1486** was recognized for achieving a \$10.00 or more per capita during 2021-2022. Lodge Past Exalted Ruler Greg Perry is pictured accepting the award from Past District Deputy Vicki Brown and Major Projects Board of Directors Chair Jamie Peace.



**Mid-Westchester Lodge #535** was recognized for achieving a \$10.00 or more per capita during 2021-2022. Lodge Exalted Ruler Art Adelman is pictured accepting the award from Past District Deputy Vicki Brown and Major Projects Board of Directors Chair Jamie Peace.



**Camillus Lodge #2367** was recognized for achieving a \$15.00 or more per capita during 2021-2022. District Deputy Rocco A. Arcaro is pictured accepting the award from Past District Deputy Vicki Brown and Major Projects Board of Directors Chair Jamie Peace.



**Herkimer Lodge #1439** was recognized for achieving a \$15.00 or more per capita during 2021-2022. Lodge Past Exalted Ruler Louis Christie is pictured accepting the award from Past District Deputy Vicki Brown and Major Projects Board of Directors Chair Jamie Peace.



**Amsterdam Lodge #101** was recognized for achieving a \$15.00 or more per capita during 2021-2022. Lodge Exalted Ruler Pat Eckler is pictured accepting the award from Past District Deputy Vicki Brown and Major Projects Board of Directors Chair Jamie Peace.



**New York Lodge #1** was recognized for achieving a \$15.00 or more per capita during 2021-2022. Lodge Esquire/Past Exalted Ruler Lisa Moldovan is pictured accepting the award from Past District Deputy Vicki Brown and Major Projects Board of Directors Chair Jamie Peace.



**Fulton Lodge #830** was recognized for achieving a \$15.00 or more per capita during 2021-2022. Past District Deputy Jan Pashley is pictured accepting the award from Past District Deputy Vicki Brown and Major Projects Board of Directors Chair Jamie Peace.





# GRAND LODGE CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS



## Atlanta, Georgia

The 157th Grand Lodge Session of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks was held July 3rd-July 6th, 2022 in Atlanta, Georgia. The 158th Grand Lodge Convention is scheduled for July 2nd—July 5th, 2023 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. This year's convention activities began with a State Association Breakfast on Sunday morning, July 2nd, 2022 that was well attended by New York State Elks association members. Past State President Tim Kelly served as Master of Ceremonies. Gresford Speid of Gouverneur Lodge #2035 sang the National Anthem. Following an introduction by Past State President Dan Capella, Past Grand Exalted David R. Carr introduced the Grand Lodge members in attendance that included Past Grand Exalted Ruler Michael Zellan, Reverend Michael Martini, Reverend Steven McNally, Chief Justice Francis Olivieri, Pardon Commission member Robert Vancampen, Special Deputy Leo Blanchette, and Auditing Committee member William Chinn to name a few. Alan H. Sunukjian of Cohoes-Waterford Lodge #1317 was introduced as the Aide to Grand Exalted Ruler Hidley. Following the introduction of Grand Lodge members, State President Cam Ricci provided welcoming remarks and introduced the State Association dignitaries in attendance. The Opening Ceremony was held the afternoon of Sunday, July 3rd. During the opening ceremony, Past Grand Exalted Ruler David R. Carr and his wife Penny were introduced along with other Past Grand Exalted Rulers and their spouses that were in attendance. State President Cam Ricci had the distinct honor of carrying and presenting the New York State Flag during the flag presentation ceremony. Grand Chaplain Reverend Michael Martini delivered the Invocation and Benediction.

Our State Association had several highlights during the convention. Past State President and Grand Lodge Trustee Bruce Hidley of Watervliet-Colonie Lodge #1500 was nominated and elected as Grand Exalted for 2022-2023 during Tuesday, July 5th session. During his acceptance speech, he spoke about his vision of the order and his theme "**Promoting Elkdom with Enthusiasm**". He was installed as Grand Exalted Ruler during the Wednesday, July 6, 2022 session. Past Exalted Edgar Manwaring of Oswego Lodge #271 once again served as Session Coordinator. Pedro Rosa of Rotterdam Lodge #2157 served as a Ritual Judge. Grand Lodge recognition Awards included Empire State Elk with a Five Star Award for Publication Excellence, Oswego Lodge #271 with a Four star Award in the Grand Lodge Website Contest, and Gouverneur Lodge #2035 (Division III), Beacon Lodge #1493 (Division IV) and Saratoga-Wilton Lodge #161 (Division V) were top ten finalist in the All American Lodge contest. Carthage Lodge #1762 represented the NYSEA in the National Ritual Contest and posted a very competitive score of 96.7709. The following State Association members will represent the NYSEA as Grand Lodge representatives during the in 2022-2023 Bruce Hidley—Grand Exalted Ruler and Past State President Dan Capella— Area 1 Government Relations. Bruce Hidley was recognized with a Resolution honoring his service and retirement as a Grand Trustee. The resolution appeared in the Grand Lodge Convention Newsletter on Tuesday, July 5, 2022. During the closing session on Wednesday, July 6th, 2022, newly installed Grand Exalted Ruler Bruce A. Hidley installed the following State Association members as a District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler: Debra Kruk (Mohawk Valley District), John Brigante (East District), Thomas Howley (East Central District), John Lawless (Hudson Valley District), Stephen Dorsey (Colonial District), Jill Bruce-Wiley (North Central District), Linda Rowse (North Hudson District), Earl Caporin (Central District), Robert Comstock (South District), Michael Sage (South Central District), Steve Crozier (Southern Tier District), Michael Jones (Sate Capital District), Donald Hoy (West District) and Cheryl Garlock (West Central District).

In addition to Past Grand Exalted Ruler David R. Carr, and newly installed Grand Exalted Ruler Bruce Hidley and State President Cam Ricci, several NYSEA Dignitaries attended the Grand Lodge Conventions. They were; Past State Presidents Frank Molino, Tim Kelly, Tony Gilberti, Phil Holowacz, William Reedy, Paul A. Galarneau, Paul C. Galarneau, Donald Fischer, Jamie Peace, Michael Bloss, Jerry Shook, Phil Conaty, Brian Greene, Barry Griffith. State Chairs attending included Tim Welpé—Empire State Elk Editor Tim Welpé, Jamie Sisson,- Community Activities, John Lawless—Elks Memorial Day Service, Michael Sage—Hoop Shoot, Tania DeFrank—Lodge Activities, Jeffery Largeteau—Membership/Retention, Michael Jones—Public Relations, Edgar Manwaring—State Convention, Mel Oliveria—Internet/Website, Jeff Drake—Drug Awareness, Howard Nesbit—Elks National Foundation, David Brown—Major Projects, Justine Crowley-Duncan—National Veterans Service, Brian Scott—Ritual, Paul Crump—Business Practices, April McInerney—Lodge Development, Charles Pemburn—Elks Training and Tony Thanopoulos—Grand Lodge Convention. Also attending were Renee Bott—State Secretary, Donna Bauer—State Trustee and Scott Hirst—State Trustee.



Past Grand Exalted Ruler **David R. Carr** and his wife Penny are pictured as they were introduced to the members in attendance at the Opening Ceremony in Atlanta, Georgia. .



**Carthage Lodge #1762** represented the New York State Elks association in the National Ritual Contest. The team posted a very competitive score of 96.7709 and finished third in their division. The team is coached by State Ritual Chairman Brian Scott.



**Bruce A. Hidley** was elected as the Grand Exalted Ruler at the Day 1 Business Session on Monday, July 3, 2022. He is pictured with Grand Lodge Housing Chair **Tony Thanopoulos** and Administrative Assistant **Alan H. Sunukjian** following the session.



Past District Deputy **Fritz Allen**, retired US Navy, of Camillus Lodge #31 had the honor of presenting the United States Navy Flag during the presentation of Military Flags during the Grand Lodge Opening Ceremony.





# GRAND LODGE CONVENTION PHOTO GALLERY

## ATLANTA, GEORGIA

### Major Project Booth







# GRAND LODGE CONVENTION PHOTO GALLERY

## ATLANTA, GEORGIA



### State Association Breakfast







# GRAND LODGE CONVENTION PHOTO GALLERY



## ATLANTA, GEORGIA

### State Association Breakfast







# GRAND LODGE CONVENTION PHOTO GALLERY



## ATLANTA, GEORGIA

### Business Sessions







# GRAND LODGE CONVENTION PHOTO GALLERY

## ATLANTA, GEORGIA

### Business Sessions







# GRAND LODGE CONVENTION PHOTO GALLERY

## ATLANTA, GEORGIA

### Business Sessions







# BRUCE A. HIDLEY INSTALLED AS GRAND EXALTED RULER ENCOURAGES ELKS ENTHUSIASM



Bruce A. Hidley of Watervliet-Colonie Lodge #1500 was installed as the Grand Exalted Ruler of the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks of the USA at the Grand Lodge Convention in Atlanta, GA on July 6th, 2022. Grand Exalted Ruler Bruce was elected as Grand Exalted Ruler during the Grand Lodge Business Session on Monday, July 3, 2022. Prior to his election, Past State President Frank Melino presented a nomination speech. Past State President Brian Greene then presented a motion to suspend protocol to allow a member to second the nomination. Past State President Phil Conaty seconded the motion. Gens Falls Lodge Trustee Mark Moulton then seconded the nomination motion. Tony Thanopoulos then motioned Bruce Hidley be elected Grand Exalted Ruler which was seconded by State Secretary Renee Bott and passed. Upon being elected First lady Helen and Grand Exalted Ruler Elect Bruce were escorted to the Dias which was followed by an exuberant celebration as numerous members from Area One entered the hall and following the celebration, Grand Exalted Ruler Elect Bruce presented his acceptance speech. In his speech, he spoke about his vision for the order and introduced his theme "Promoting Elkdom with Enthusiasm". Following his election and Installation, Grand Exalted Ruler Bruce and First Lady Helen signed cards, provided pins and had photos taken with numerous members. Many members provided donations upon acceptance of pins.

Grand Exalted Ruler Bruce A. Hidley has been an Elk member since June 2, 1980. Bruce joined the Guilderland Elks Lodge No. 2480 and in September of 1985, he transferred his membership to Watervliet Lodge No. 1500. He preceded through the principle chairs, serving as Exalted Ruler in 1991-1992. He has served his District and the NYSEA in many capacities, serving as State President in 2007-2008. At the Grand Lodge level, he served as the State Capita District Deputy in 2001-2002 and Grand Lodge Government Relations Committee from 2011-2017 and he served on the Board of Grand Trustees from 2018-2022.

Grand Exalted Ruler Bruce and First Lady Helen enjoy camping in the Adirondacks and spending time with their numerous nieces, nephews, grand-nieces and grand-nephews. They will be celebrating 40 wonderful years of marriage. They are excited to have the opportunity to serve as the Grand Exalted Ruler and First Lady of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America, and look forward to making new friends during their travels, and talking about their motto, "Promoting Elkdom with Enthusiasm." For further information about Grand Exalted Bruce, please visit the Grand Lodge website to review his bio.



Past State President **Frank Melino** (1997-1998) is pictured as he delivered a nomination speech endorsing Bruce A. Hidley of Watervliet-Colonie Lodge #1500 as Grand Exalted Ruler for the fraternal year 2022-2023.



Glens Falls Lodge #81 Trustee **Mark Moulton** had the honor of seconding the nomination motion for Bruce A. Hidley as Grand Exalted Ruler. He is pictured as he supports the motion.



New York State Elks Association Secretary **Renee Bott** is pictured as she seconded the motion to close nominations and have the Grand Lodge Secretary cast one unanimous ballot declaring Bruce A. Hidley elected as Grand Exalted Ruler.



Grand Lodge Secretary **Bryan Klatt** is pictured as he cast an unanimous ballot on behalf of Bruce A. Hidley during the Election of Officers at the Business Session on July 3, 2022. Minutes later, Grand Exalted Ruler T. Keith Mills declared Bruce A. Hidley was elected as the Grand Exalted Ruler for the fraternal year 2022-2023,



Grand Exalted Ruler Elect **Bruce A. Hidley** is pictured as he is receiving congratulations from Past Grand Exalted Ruler David R. Carr following his election as Grand Exalted Ruler. Looking on are Past Grand Exalted Ruler **Michael Zellan** and New York State Elks Association President **Cam Ricci**.



First Lady **Helen Hidley** is pictured being escorted to the Dias following the Election of grand Lodge Officers. She was escorted by Past New York State Elks Association President **Paul A. Galameau** and two Grand Lodge representatives.





# BRUCE A. HIDLEY INSTALLED AS GRAND EXALTED RULER ENCOURAGES ELKS ENTHUSIASM



**Bruce A. Hidley** is pictured as he is escorted to the Dias following his election as Grand Exalted Ruler, He is pictured with members of his escort team that included Past Grand Exalted Ruler's **David R. Carr**, Past Grand Exalted Ruler **Michael Zellen**, Past Grand Exalted Ruler **F. Louis Sulsberger** , New York State Elks Association President **Cam Ricci** and Grand Lodge Secretary **Brian Klatt**.

Grand Exalted Ruler Elect **Bruce A. Hidley** is pictured as he delivered his acceptance speech at the July 3, 2022 Business Session. During his acceptance speech he extended thanks to the many people who have supported him and his wife Helen, spoke about his vision for the order and spoke to his theme "**Promoting Elkdom With Enthusiasm**."



**Bruce A. Hidley** is pictured as he takes the Oath Of Office during the Installation of Grand Lodge Officer ceremony during the closing session on July 5, 2022. Also pictured taking the Oath is **Rev. Stephan McNally**. Past Grand Exalted Ruler **Robert Duitsman** conducted the Installation of the Grand Lodge Officers.

Newly installed Grand Exalted Ruler **Bruce A. Hidley** shares his joyful enthusiasm after being introduced to the members in attendance by Past Grand Exalted Ruler **Robert Duitsman**. Moments later he would speak to the membership for the first time as Grand Exalted Ruler.



Grand Exalter Ruler **Bruce A. Hidley** is pictured as he receives his Jewel of Office from Past Grand Exalted Ruler **David R. Carr**. Looking on is Past Grand Exalted Ruler **Michael F. Zellen**.

Grand Exalted Ruler **Bruce A. Hidley** is pictured as he receives congratulations from Past Grand Exalted Ruler **Robert Duitsman**.. Seconds later, Past Grand Exalted Ruler Duitsman presented him with his Gavel of Office, Also pictured are First Lady Helen Hidley and Past Grand Exalted Rulers **David R. Carr** and **T. Keith Mills**.



Grand Exalted Ruler **Bruce A. Hidley** is pictured as he closes the 157th Grand Lodge convention on Wednesday, July 3, 2022. Also pictured are Past grand Exalted Ruler Ruler **T. Keith Mills** and his wife **Amy Mills**, First Lady **Helen Hidley** and Past Grand Exalted Ruler **David R. Carr**.

Grand Exalted Ruler **Bruce A. Hidley** and his wife, **First Lady Helen** are pictured with Past Grand Exalted Ruler **Michael F. Zellen** and his wife **Donna** and Past Grand Exalted Ruler **David R. Carr** and his wife **Penny** following the closing of the 157th Grand Lodge Convention in Atlanta, Georgia. .





# BRUCE A. HIDLEY



## ELECTION CELEBRATION DEMONSTRATION

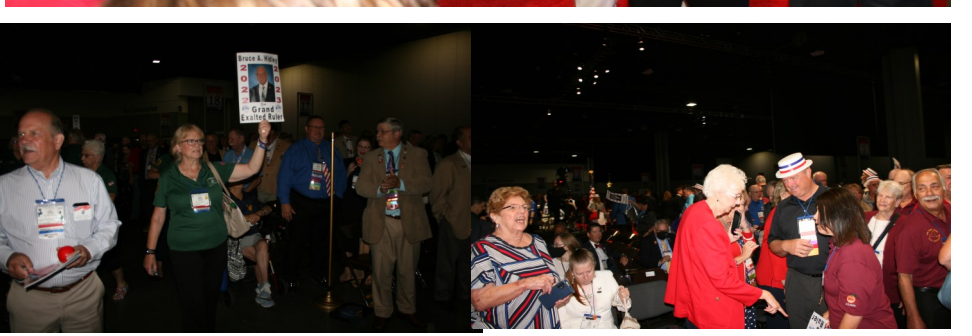
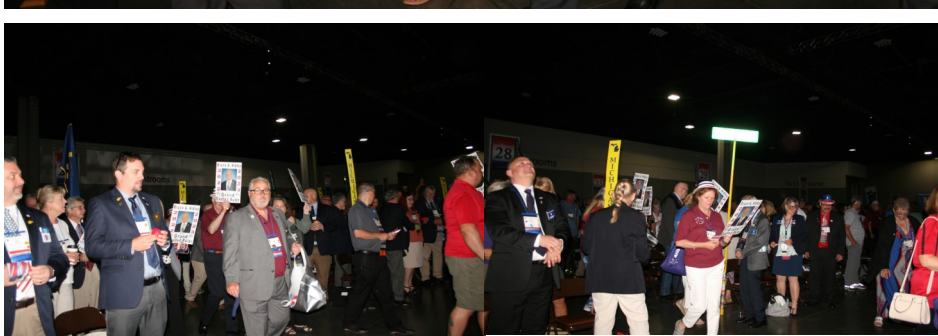
Immediately following the election of **Bruce A. Hidley** as Grand Exalted Ruler for the 2022-2023 Fraternal year, a large contingency of Area One members participated in a very enthusiastic demonstration. Prior to the demonstration, the Area One members met as a group and collected souvenir gifts that were distributed to the many members in attendance in the Convention Hall. Upon entering the hall, the Area One members walked each aisle as they distributed hats, pencils, pens, beach balls, signs and squeeze balls bearing Bruce A. Hidley's name. This pictures on this and the following page were taken as members gathered to collect gifts prior to the demonstration and during the demonstration celebration.







# BRUCE A. HIDLEY ELECTION CELEBRATION DEMONSTRATION





# Camp Bristol Update

CAMP WITH YOUR FELLOW ELKS!

## NYS CAMP BRISTOL

*Reservations Now Open!*

315-625-8145

**New York Elks Camp Bristol**

Camping Rental	Weekend Rate Fri-Sun	Weekday Rate for First Night Sun-Thurs	Rate for Additional days	Sites Available	Amenities Included	
RV site with hookups	\$ 70.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 25.00	10	50 Amp	Water
Tent / pop-up camper sites - no hookups	\$ 45.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 20.00	6		
A-Frame Camping (Sleep 4)	\$ 100.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 35.00	6		beds with mattresses

**Camping Reservations from Memorial Day Weekend through Columbus Day Weekend**  
Reservations Based on COVID Restrictions  
**CHECK IN 3:00 PM / CHECK OUT 11:00 AM**

1.25% of rate for Elk Sponsored Guests traveling with an Elk when requiring additional camping location  
Dump Station included with site fee  
Showerhouse with restrooms open 24/7.

Building Rental	Weekend Rate Fri-Sun	Weekday Rate Sun-Thur	Additional days	Cabins Available	Amenities Included	
Bunk House - (sleep 12)	\$ 325.00	\$ 160.00	\$ 125.00	2	additional room	Restroom
Staff Cabin (sleep 6) (half building)	\$ 260.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 100.00	2	heat/ac	Restroom / shower

Showerhouse with restrooms open 24/7.  
Daytime Rental Check in 8:00 AM / Check out 10:00 PM  
Overnight Check in 3:00 PM / Check out 11:00 AM



Jen Longley, Camp Bristol Board Member, made a delivery of Kayak's, life vests and paddles to Camp Bristol. The donation was made by Oswego Lodge #271.

The members from the **East Central District** donated an Elk Head Trophy Mount to Camp Bristol. The donation has found a home watching over Spruce Lodge, the Dining Hall. (Picture to the right)

**Camp Bristol Clothing & Gifts**  
*(available in green, navy and red)*

	Windshirt (navy only)	\$35.00
	Hooded Sweatshirt	\$30.00
	Polo Shirt	\$25.00
	Crewneck Sweatshirt <i>(green and navy only)</i>	\$20.00
	Long Sleeve T-shirt	\$15.00
	Short Sleeve T-shirt	\$12.00
	Travel Mug <i>(silver/blue only)</i>	\$10.00

**\*\* sizes XXL and above add \$2.00 \*\***

## WE ARE HIRING!

**NY ELKS CAMP BRISTOL IN WEST MONROE, NY IS LOOKING FOR A MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR/CARETAKER. THE POSITION REQUIRES A WIDE-RANGE OF PHYSICAL TASKS IN AND AROUND OUR 144 ACRE YOUTH CAMP.**

**THIS POSITION WILL INCLUDE TASKS BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE (DURING THE WARMER MONTHS.) TOOLS WILL BE PROVIDED. SOME SUPERVISION MAY BE REQUIRED.**

**ABILITY TO PASS BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR A RESIDENTIAL YOUTH CAMP IS NECESSARY. CHECKS WILL BE PERFORMED BY CAMP MANAGEMENT, AT NO EXPENSE TO THE APPLICANT.**

**EMPLOYMENT PERIOD BEGINS IMMEDIATELY.**

**SALARY WILL BE COMMENSURATE WITH EXPERIENCE (\$36,000 - \$50,000 YEARLY)  
LONG-TERM EMPLOYMENT IS POSSIBLE FOR THE RIGHT CANDIDATE.**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT CAMP BRISTOL CAN BE FOUND AT [WWW.NYELKSCAMPBRISTOL.ORG](http://WWW.NYELKSCAMPBRISTOL.ORG)**

**SERIOUS INQUIRIES AND RESUMES CAN BE DIRECTED TO MICHAEL BLOSS**

🏠 34 CYPRESS STREET, BALLSTON LAKE, NY 12019  
☎ 518-779-5589  
✉ mbloss.cp2466@gmail.com

**New York Elks Camp Bristol, Inc.**

Mail to:  
NY Elks Camp Bristol  
Buy-A-Brick Program  
c/o PDD Mel Oliveira  
512 Tony Drive  
Rotterdam, NY 12306

**Buy - A - Brick Program**

\$100 for 4" x 8" Brick -- \$150 for 8" x 8" Brick  
Min. \$500 donation for 12" x 12" Capstone Brick  
Capstone Bricks are in limit supply

Donor Information  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
eMail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: NY Elks Camp Bristol, Inc.

Enter Message (two lines maximum - graphic is included with 8x8 or 12x12)

L1 \_\_\_\_\_  
L2 \_\_\_\_\_  
14 characters per line, counting spaced and punctuation

Select Brick Size  
 4x8  
 8x8  
 12x12

Select Graphic  
 Elk Head  
 Flag  
 Vet. Ribbon



**New Camp Bristol  
Logo**





## NEW YORK STATE ELKS ASSOCIATION RITUAL CONTEST 2022

### Carthage Lodge #1762 Takes Top Honors in State Ritual Contest, Places Third in National Preliminary.

The NYSEA 2022 Ritual Contest was hosted by Watervliet Lodge #1500. Rotterdam Lodge #2157 and Carthage Lodge #1762 competed for the NYSEA Lodge team honors and the opportunity to represent the NYSEA at the 157th Grand Lodge Contest in Atlanta, Georgia. With a team score of 95.714, the Carthage Lodge team earned the honor of advancing to the Grand Lodge contest. The North Central District fielded the only team in the District Teams Contest. The members from the three teams were eligible for the overall individual State Champion honors. The 2022 State Champions are;

Inner Guard - Jeremy Thesier of North Central District #6240

Chaplain - Aaron Fuller of Carthage Lodge #1762

Esquire - Michael Higgins of the North Central District #6240

Lecturing Knight - Elizabeth Gamble of Carthage Lodge #1762

Loyal Knight - Dennis Brady of North Central District #6240

Leading Knight - Tyler Clemons of Carthage Lodge #1762

Exalted Ruler - Ron Rockwood of North Central District #6240

All Star Awards were awarded to the top performer in the NYSEA Team contest. All Star Award winners were

Inner Guard - Jason Hancock of Carthage Lodge #1762

Chaplain - Aaron Fuller of Carthage Lodge #1762

Esquire - Michael Rohr of Carthage Lodge #1762

Lecturing Knight - Elizabeth Gamble of Carthage Lodge #1762

Loyal Knight - Andrew Smith of Carthage Lodge #1762

Leading Knight - Tyler Clemons of Carthage Lodge #1762

Exalted Ruler - Cody Heukrath of Carthage Lodge #1762

Candidate - Jim Risila of Rotterdam Lodge #2157

This year's contest featured an 11th Hour Toast Contest. Ron Piga (98.7079) of Beacon Lodge #1493 took top honors in the Charles I. Noonan 11th Hour Toast Contest. Elizabeth Gamble (98.4493) of Carthage Lodge #1762 placed second and Jeremy Kennedy (98.2427) of Guiderland Lodge #2460 placed third.

Carthage Lodge competed in the National Contest and took third place in the preliminary round with a highly competitive score of 96.3377



**NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT #6240**



**Jeremy Thesier** of the North Central District took overall honors as Inner Guard. He is pictured as he received his championship trophy from Past District Deputy Roy Henry of Herkimer Lodge #1439.



**Aaron Fuller** of Carthage Lodge #1762 took overall honors as the Chaplain. He is pictured as he received his championship trophy from Past District Deputy Roy Henry of Herkimer Lodge #1439.



**Michael Higgins** of North Central District #6240 took overall honors as the Esquire. He is pictured as he received his championship trophy from Past District Deputy Roy Henry of Herkimer Lodge #1439.



**CARTHAGE LODGE #1762**



**ROTTERDAM LODGE #2157**





## NEW YORK STATE ELKS ASSOCIATION RITUAL CONTEST 2022



**Elizabeth Gamble** of Carthage Lodge #1762 took overall honors as the Lecturing Knight. She is pictured receiving her championship trophy from Past District Deputy Roy Henry of Herkimer Lodge #1439



**Dennis Brady** of North Central District #6240 took overall honors as the Loyal Knight. He is pictured receiving his championship trophy from Past District Deputy Roy Henry of Herkimer Lodge #1439



**Tyler Clemons** of Carthage Lodge #1762 took overall honors as the Leading Knight. He is pictured receiving his championship trophy from Past District Deputy Roy Henry of Herkimer Lodge #1439



**Ron Rockwood** of North Central District 36240 took overall honors as the Exalted Ruler. He is pictured receiving his championship trophy from Past District Deputy Roy Henry of Herkimer Lodge #1439



**Jason Hancock** of Carthage Lodge #1762 took All Star honors as Inner Guard. He is pictured receiving his All Star trophy from Past District Deputy Roy Henry of Herkimer Lodge #1439.



**Aaron Fuller** of Carthage Lodge #1762 took All Star honors as Chaplain. He is pictured receiving his All Star trophy from Past District Deputy Roy Henry of Herkimer Lodge #1439.



**Michael Rohr** of Carthage Lodge #1762 took All Star honors as the Esquire. He is pictured receiving his All Star trophy from Past District Deputy Roy Henry of Herkimer Lodge #1439.



**Elizabeth Gamble** of Carthage Lodge #1762 took All Star honors as Lecturing Knight. She is pictured receiving her All Star trophy from Past District Deputy Roy Henry of Herkimer Lodge #1439.





## NEW YORK STATE ELKS ASSOCIATION RITUAL CONTEST 2022



**Andrew Smith** of Carthage Lodge #1762 took All Star honors as Loyal Knight. He is pictured receiving his All Star trophy from Past District Deputy Roy Henry of Herkimer Lodge #1493.



**Tyler Clemons** of Carthage Lodge #1762 took All Star honors as Leading Knight. He is pictured receiving his All Star trophy from Past District Deputy Roy Henry of Herkimer Lodge #1493.



**Cody Heukrath** of Carthage Lodge #1762 took All Star honors as Exalted Ruler. He is pictured receiving his All Star trophy from Past District Deputy Roy Henry of Herkimer Lodge #1493.



**Jim Risila** of Rotterdam Lodge #2157 took All Star honors as the Candidate. Exalted Ruler Jackie Oliveira is pictured receiving his All Star trophy on his behalf from Past District Deputy Roy Henry of Herkimer Lodge #1493.



Exalted Ruler **Jackie Oliveira** of Rotterdam Lodge #2157 is pictured as she accepted the 2022 NYSEA Ritual Contest Second Place Team Award from Past District Deputy Roy Henry.



Exalted Ruler **Cody Heukrath** of Carthage Lodge #1762 is pictured as he accepted the 2022 NYSEA Ritual Contest First Place Ritualistic Trophy from Past District Deputy Roy Henry.



**Jeremy Thesier** of Carthage Lodge #1762 was recognized as the All Star Ritual Coach. He is pictured receiving the All Star Coach award from Past District Deputy Roy Henry of Herkimer Lodge #1493.



**Ron Piga** of Beacon Lodge #1493 took top honors in the Charles I. Noonan 11th Hour Toast contest, earning an opportunity to compete at the National 11th Hour Toast Contest in Atlanta, Georgia. He is pictured receiving the 11th Hour Toast Award from Past District Deputy Roy Henry of Herkimer Lodge #1493.

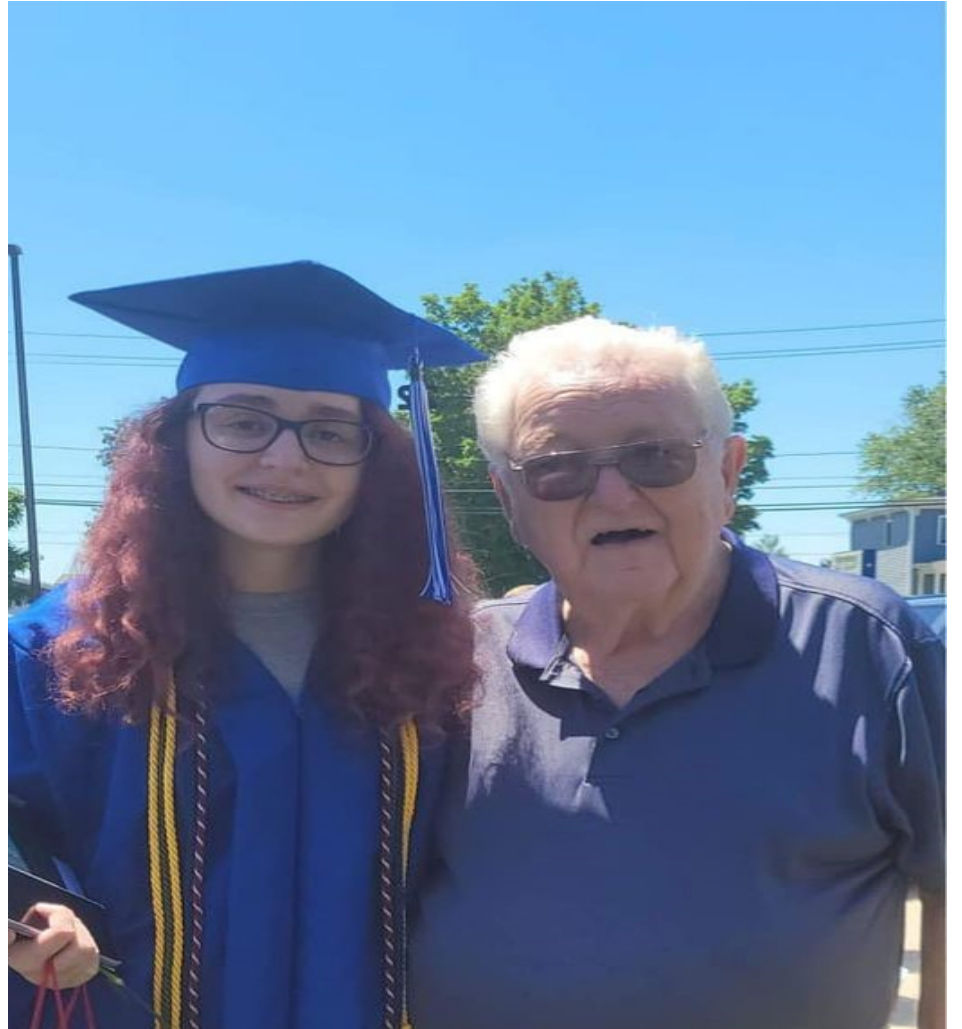




# YOUTH ACTIVITIES/SCHOLARSHIPS



During a **Camillus Lodge #2367** meeting, recipients of Elk scholarships were honored. New York State Elks Association Scholarship chair Jay Mason and Exalted Ruler Joe Andrews are pictured as they present students Kathleen Glass and Samuel Barth with American Flag pins and certificates for their accomplishments.



Rheana Cameron, a student at Ogdensburg High School was the 2021-2022 Peter T. Affatato Scholarship winner. She was sponsored by **Ogdensburg Lodge #772**. She is pictured with Past State President Tim Kelly, who is her great uncle.



The members of **Islip Lodge #2533** are proud to report that two students from West Babylon High School, having received well deserved Elk Scholarships, were honored at a end of school year assembly, with a crowd of very enthusiastic students in attendance. Olivia Price received the MVS Award for \$4,000 and Michael Alexiadis received the James Kachadourian Memorial Scholarship for \$1000. The Lodge's James Kachadourian Memorial Scholarship was developed in order to honor a greatly loved and well respected member of the Islip Lodge. Student Olivia Price ( who also sang the National Anthem at the opening of the assembly) is pictured with Lodge Secretary John Tramposh and Michael Alexiadis.



**Southampton Lodge #1674** presented 5 recent graduates with well - earned scholarships. James Clinton was presented with \$1,000 from the Lodge, Bruce Siska received \$1,000 also from the Lodge, Lily Heavy, MVS, received \$1,000 for 4 years, Jordyn Meyers, accepted her award for \$1,000 from the Lodge and Ryan Hughes, MVS received \$1,000 for 4 years. Jordyn and James were both Grandchildren of Elk members. The students are pictured.



**Oswego Lodge #271** and **Fulton Lodge #830** recognized Phoenix Central School District student Kelsey Redhead, a graduating senior from the CiTi New Vision program, with a scholarship award. Pictured (l to r) are Carla Defren, New Visions Program Administrator, Fulton Lodge Tiler Elsie Tucci, Oswego Elks Exalted Ruler John Babcock, scholarship recipient Kelsey Redhead, Fulton Elks Exalted Ruler Chris Scoville and Fulton Trustee Joyce Coady.



**Rensselaer Lodge #2073** partnered with the East Greenbush Community Library and Mad Scientist Margaret to offer a Summer Science workshop regarding matter / polymers where children were given the chance to research, create, explore and play. Pictured are children from the East Greenbush area carefully observing chemical reactions.



**Camillus Lodge #2367** recognizes Students of the Month from West Genesee High School. Students McKenzie Ponto, Matt Morey, Michale Page, Sam Kinsella, Grace McInerney, Teshale Kelly, Siany Smith, and Cameron Reina are pictured as they receive congratulations from Exalted Ruler Joseph Andrews. (picture to the left).

**Potsdam Lodge #2074** recently provided the Potsdam Sandstener Foundation with a \$500 donation. The Lodge proudly provides the Sandstener Foundation with an annual donation which is used to support student scholarships. Lodge Loyal Knight and Community Activities Committee member Wendy Morrill presented the donation on behalf of the Lodge to Steve Smalling - the Vice President of the Sandstener Foundation.



## YOUTH ACTIVITIES



**Islip Lodge #2533** recognized student Erin Thaxter at the West Islip High School's General Assembly. Fellow students and members of the Islip Lodge joined to honor Erin Thaxter as she received the Islip Lodge's James Kachadourian Memorial Scholarship Award for \$1000.00. This Lodge Scholarship was developed in order to honor a very well loved and highly respected member and Past Exalted Ruler.



Troop #485, sponsored by **New York Lodge #1**, recently hosted an Eagle Scout Ceremony for Nicholas Marchetti. Nick's eagle project - the church where the Troop is sponsored, has a day care program. To improve the outside play area and to give the young kids an opportunity to be able to plant flowers and other things, he built two raised planter beds for the School. He is pictured being presented with a certificate of recognition from the Lodge by the Troop's Scoutmaster Gary Hansen.



**Ithaca Lodge #636** cooked a Spaghetti Dinner for the 2022 NYS Class C Basketball Champion Newfield Trojans. After the boys were honored by the Tompkins County Legislature, they joined Ithaca Lodge members at the lodge for a wonderful dinner. The event was completely sponsored by the Ithaca Elks Lodge #636. Exalted Ruler Scott Rougeau is pictured celebrating with coaches and players of the Newfield Trojans Basketball in front of Ithaca Lodge #636.



**Mid-Westchester Lodge # 535**, with the assistance of Eagle Scouts from BSA Troop 36 Montrose, demonstrated how to make Camp Gadget at a July 2022 Troop meeting. The Scouts were taught how to use lashing to make a Tripod to hold a cooking pot over a camp fire. They also lashed together poles to play a game of moving 5-gallon pails. Past District Deputy Mike Picariello of Ossining Lodge #1486 brought 3 Eagle Scouts to the event.



**Vestal Lodge #2508** hosted an end-of-the-year awards ceremony for their local Challenger League baseball. Over 50 special needs kids from the league and their families enjoyed an afternoon filled with food, music, dancing and fun. The kids especially enjoyed a surprise visit from "Rowdy", the mascot from the Binghamton Rumble Ponies. Approximately 15 Lodge members participated in the event. Exalted Ruler Mindi Moniz is pictured with Tommy, one of the Challenger League kids from the Vestal Elks Team.



**Potsdam Lodge #2074** supported the St. Lawrence Central After Graduation Party with a \$500 donation. Exalted Ruler Sheila Guerin and Community Activities Chair Tim Welpé presented the donation on behalf of the Lodge. Pictured accepting the donation on behalf of the class of 2022 are Graduating Seniors Kaylee McCarthy, Dylan Bissonette, Connor Cline, Jilliana Hunter, Cole Zenger and Cheyanne Gilis.



# ***YOUTH ACTIVITIES***



## YOUTH ACTIVITIES



**Beacon Lodge #1493** honored students from 6th, 7th and 8th grades from Rombout Middle School with Student of the Month certificates and a gift certificate from Glazed Over Donuts for their outstanding achievements. Students Shane Signarelli, Christian Clemons-Simmons and Brianne Papo are pictured with Past District Deputy and Youth Activities Chair Cark Oken and Exalted Ruler Jennifer Velez as they proudly display their awards.



**Vestal Lodge #2508** members held a special "Youth Night" event at their lodge. Over 50 local children and their families came out to enjoy a fun evening filled with food, music, dancing, games, crafts, face painting, and special raffles. The lodge's Drug Awareness committee had a booth to help educate the kids on the dangers of drugs. Each child was given a swag bag to take home that was filled with candy, freeze pops, a sensory squishy ball, and a kite. The children were also given Drug Awareness coloring books, book markers, and other drug awareness memorabilia to take home. Pictured: One little girl at the event had so much fun at the event that she insisted on giving Exalted Ruler Mindi Moniz a huge hug.



**Brewster Lodge #2101** members attended a Court of Honor was held at Four Brothers Restaurant in Mahopac, NY for 7 Eagle Scouts from Mahopac Troop #371. Scouts recognized were Zachary Couzens, Matthew Cropsey, Matthew DePaso, Michael Horan, David Kaprielian, Stephen Nealon, and Bryant Pappas. Zachary Couzens project was building and filling twenty seven flower beds to grow produce for Northern Westchester Hospital. Matthew Cropsey project was designing, demolition, building and installing a new ramp for the icehouse at Sycamore Park and used mulch to make a trail to the icehouse. Matthew DePaso project was designing, fabricating, and installing a tree bench at Sycamore Park. This is a bench that is wrapped around a tree. Michael Horan project was the restoration of the Bocce Ball Court at Sycamore Park. Most of the courts frame was replaced with new pressure treated beams and was then painted. The playing surface was replaced entirely with stone dust and a new scoreboard was put in place. David Kaprielian decided to benefit the Church of the Good Shepherd in Granite Springs improving the Memorial Garden and Garden Paths. This consisted of cutting, wood burning and installing signs marking each of the Station of the Cross, building and installing service leaflet space boxes, and putting in a large sign demarcating the sacred space of the garden. Also mulched the garden and path. Stephen Nealon worked with St. John's Church, he noticed there were a number of signs but not one for the food pantry. It was needed to raise awareness. This included replacing the mulch and putting in new plants. Bryant Pappas designed, built and installed a custom wood and rope fence on the waterfront of Mahopac VFW post 5491, as well as the implementation of a sandpit cover. The fence was necessary to protect unsuspecting people from falling into the shallow water and the sand-pit's location posed a serious risk to injury.



Adaptive Cub Scout Pack 535 and Girl Scout Troop 1902 participated in their ninth annual Pinewood Derby at Cerebral Palsy of Westchester (CPW) on June 10, 2022. The event was run and sponsored by the **Mid-Westchester Lodge #535**. Over several weeks, and joining millions of Scouts across the country, the Scouts built, equipped, and decorated their cars to be "fast and furious" and ready to race on an official Pinewood Derby Track. On competition day, volunteers from the Mid-Westchester Elks Lodge #535 and leaders from local Scout troops arrived at Cerebral Palsy of Westchester to run the derby heats. The three top winners from each troop received trophies, with the Cub Scouts winning the grand prize. Everyone was excited to see who would win, and the racers were thrilled with their trophies. Pictured in the Front Row: L to R: Lisa Stahli, Cheryl DiCostanzo\*, Barry Wasser, Mohanda Harriarian and Back Row: L to R: Elk Rae Partellow, Elk Tom Geary, Exalted Ruler Art Adelman, Elk Bob Lent, Elk Mike Picariello, Scout Leaders Ethel Shaurt, George Peborde and Dave D"Login, Past Exalted Ruler and Scout Leader Jay Singer and scout Leader Steve Owen.



**Mid-Westchester Lodge # 535** recognized 17 Eagle Scout's from 6 BSA Troops prior to the end of the school year. Recognized were— Eagle Scout Samuel Weber of Troop 613 from White Plains, NY, Eagle Scouts Eleanor Dempsey and Jane Olszewski of Troop 125 from Mount Pleasant, NY, Eagle Scouts Christopher Beechert and Kyle Francavilla of Troop 2 from Rye, NY, Eagle Scouts Colin McLaren and Edward Olszewski of Troop 1 from Hawthorne, NY, Eagle Scouts Rebecca Gilder and Shira Kornblau of Troop 5613 from White Plains, NY, Eagle Scouts Luke Chrzanowski, Thomas Macchetto, Jeremy Damon, Nicolas Andreshak, Nicholas Higgins, Scott Renza and John Jeffrey of Troop 1 from Chappaqua, NY and Eagle Scout Erick Hideki Calderon of Troop 400 from Port Chester, NY. Past Exalted Ruler Jay Singer is pictured with Scouts Luke Chrzanowski, Jeremy Damon, Scott Renza, and John Jeffrey following one of the awards presentation ceremony.

**Rensselaer Lodge #2073** in East Greenbush awarded \$5,000 in total scholarships this year in memory of Jack Stewart and Ann Collins. The Lodge presented eight scholarships in the amount of \$625 to one male and one female from four local high schools. Lodge Spokesperson Greg Collins noted "We are committed to our local youth and in helping them to reach their potential. The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks has always championed education and scholarship. In fact, our organization is one of the largest providers of scholarships in the country behind the U.S. Government. We look forward to hearing about the progress and achievements of these talented and deserving students." The scholarship winners were Jacob White and Hannah Crupi from Averill Park High School, Charles Welcome and Carly Coyne from Columbia High School, Ethan Wilkinson and Rebecca Hall from Maple Hill High School and Gael-Pera Reyes and Sierra Riley from Rensselaer High School



Mid-Westchester Lodge # 535, with the assistance of Eagle Scouts from BSA Troop 36 Montrose, demonstrated how to make Camp Gadget at a July 2022 Troop meeting. The Scouts were taught how to use lashing to make a Tripod to hold a cooking pot over a camp fire. They also lashed together poles to play a game of moving 5-gallon pails. Past District Deputy Mike Piccinelli of Ossining Lodge #1186 brought the Eagle Scouts to the event.

## ***YOUTH ACTIVITIES***



# ***YOUTH ACTIVITIES***



# YOUTH ACTIVITIES



**New York Lodge #1** was honored to make presentations to six young American students from Valley Stream Schools, Buck Ave School and Brooklyn Ave school. Pictured during the presentation are Scott J. Comis, Principal of Brooklyn Ave School, Noah Ismar Buck School, Past State Trustee and District Drug Awareness chair Anitra Butler, Sophia Salem Buck Ave School, Rajiv Singh Brooklyn Ave School, Natasha Mahmood Brooklyn Ave School, Past State Vice President and Lodge Drug Awareness Chair Brian Steckler, and two students from 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grades. Past State Vice president Brian Steckler presented the winning students with a Certificate and a check for \$50.00 to each winner.



**Rensselaer Lodge #2073** teamed up with Holy Spirit School in East Greenbush, NY to sponsor "Fun Day" to coincide with the conclusion of the school year. The Lodge provided hot dogs, homemade cupcakes, and lemonade for 200 students and staff. The Lodge also provided an elk coloring activity and 2,200 plastic easter eggs with candy for a massive school wide egg hunt. Finally, the Lodge did a 3-D printing demonstration and a drone flight to reinforce the importance of STEM. Students were incredibly engaged and asked insightful questions well beyond their years. For example, one student asked if a 3- printer can be used to make body parts. The event was a reward for students based on two fundraising drives. Seven Elks participated in the event to give back and support our youth.



The Officers and Members of **New York Lodge #1** were honored to give two Girls Scout Gold Awards. Two Girls from Girl Scout Troop 2177 earned their GOLD AWARDS, Sisters Ameila and Colette Doyle reached their highest Achievement Award in Girls Scouting. The sisters were invited to attend the Lodge for a presentation of a framed American Flag, Elks Certificate of Achievement, along with a check for \$ 50.00 to each. Pictured are Ameila Doyle, Past State Trustee and Lodge Scouting Chairperson Anitra Butkler and Colette Doyle.



**Rensselaer Lodge #2073** sent the children of Lodge Members to participate in the East Greenbush Town Fishing Derby. Pictured in the photo is Peighton Lurie, age 6 of East Greenbush, NY.



**New York Lodge #1** gives out Past Exalted Rulers Scholarships on an annual basis. This year 5 outstanding students received awards. Lodge Scholarship Chairman DGER Michael J. Boller gave out the scholarships to the students. The scholarships were presented to Kylie Matthews, Kayla Stuparich, William P. Mohr, Vito Nicholas DiPietro, and Jordyn Meyers. Each student received \$1000.00 to put towards their education.



**Rensselaer Lodge #2073** held a Summer bicycle rodeo in coordination with the East Greenbush Police Department. Department Officers Max Scheibly, Michael Herington, and Edward Ashley were on hand to do a safety and equipment check, offer riding tips and help participants navigate an obstacle course. The EGPD donated helmets to those in need and offered giveaways. MVP Healthcare sponsored the event on behalf of children, their families and the broader community. Area Politicians that included Rensselaer County Executive, Steve McLaughlin, New York State Assemblyman, Jake Ashby and Rensselaer County Legislator, Tom Grant were also on hand to support the event. The Rensselaer Elks continue to build partnerships in the local community and actively support our youth. In total, 20 children participated in the event Pictured in the photo are Officer Ashley, Lincoln, Age 4, Jackson, Age 3, Maddie, Age 1, Officer Herington and Officer Scheibly.



The **Port Jervis Lodge #645 Antlers** participated in their first National Night Out by walking in the parade and proudly displaying their banner. The Port Jervis Antlers recently held their second initiation in August since becoming a charter in November 2021. They initiated seven candidates which increased their total membership to 25.



Mid-Westchester Lodge # 535, with the assistance of Eagle Scouts from BSA Troop 36 Montrose, demonstrated how to make Camp Gadget at a July 2022 Troop meeting. The Scouts were taught how to use lashing to make a Tripod to hold a cooking pot over a camp fire. They also lashed together poles to play a game of moving 5-gallon pails. Past District Deputy Mike Piccinelli of Ossining Lodge #1186 brought the Eagle Scouts to the event.

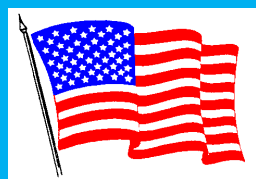
## ***YOUTH ACTIVITIES***



**Mid-Westchester Lodge # 535** recognized 17 Eagle Scout's from 6 BSA Troops prior to the end of the school year. Recognized were– Eagle Scout Samuel Weber of Troop 613 from White Plains, NY, Eagle Scouts Eleanor Dempsey and Jane Olszewski of Troop 125 from Mount Pleasant, NY, Eagle Scouts Christopher Beechert and Kyle Francavilla of Troop 2 from Port Chester, NY, Eagle Scouts Colin Whelan and Edward Olszewski of Troop 1 from Hawthorne, NY, Eagle Scouts Rebecca Gilder and Shira Kornblau of Troop 5678 from White Plains, NY, Eagle Scouts Luke Chrzanowski, Thomas Macchetto, Jeremy Damon, Nicolas Andreshak, Nicholas Higgins, Scott Renza and John Jeffrey of Troop 1 from Chappaqua, NY and Eagle Scout Erick Hideki Calderon of Troop 400 from Port Chester, NY. Past Exalted Ruler Jay Singer is pictured with Scouts Luke Chrzanowski, Jeremy Damon, Scott Renza, and John Jeffrey following one of the awards presentation ceremony.

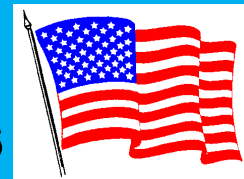
## ***YOUTH ACTIVITIES***





# VETERANS ACTIVITIES

## SUPPORTING AND HONORING OUR VETERANS



**Auburn Lodge #474** hosted a breakfast for the DAV ( Disabled American Veterans) of Cayuga County. 25 Veterans were in attendance. Pictured are two of the attending Veterans as they prepare themselves a breakfast plate.



**Camillus Lodge #2367** provided a \$1000 donation to the Syracuse Vet Center as part of their Freedom Grant. The grant will be used for outings, picnics, and recreational activities, along with items for a palliative room at the center. Pictured is Stephen Lockwood, Veterans Outreach Program Specialist as he accepts the check from Lodge Secretary Michelle Hickey Veterans Chair Bob Marajo.



District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler and **East District 6120** VAVS Representative Jack Stein, visited the Long Island State Veterans Home in Stony Brook and met with the Director of Therapeutic Recreation and the Deputy Executive Director, to discuss the Elks upcoming events at the home. During the visit, Jack presented them with several items that he received and were donated by the Lt. B.R. Kimlau American Legion Post #1291 in Chinatown, NY, the VFW Post 5942 in Plainview NY and the Huntington Elk Lodge #1565. These items included puzzles from the VFW, sanitary kits and hand wipes from the American Legion and slip free socks from Huntington Lodge. The total value of these items was approximately \$250.00. Pictured during the donation presentation are (l-r) Michelle Chestak, Director of Therapeutic Recreation, John Baptisto Fiore, Nassau County VFW Commander, District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler Jack Stein and Jonathan Spier, Deputy Executive Director as the donations were received.



The members of **Port Jefferson Lodge #2138** held their annual Flag Day Ceremony at the Long Island State Veterans Home in Stony Brook along with the Home's Director of Therapeutic Recreation Michelle Chestak, Deputy Executive Director Jonathan Spiers, also from the Veterans Home, John Fiore, Nassau County VFW Commander and District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler Jack Stein. Pictured after enjoying a beautiful and heart-warming ceremony, is the group of participants.

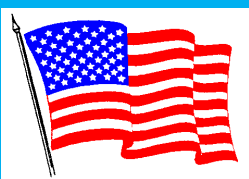


The members from **Riverhead Lodge #2044**, **Patchogue Lodge #1323** and **Port Jefferson Lodge #2138** look forward to joining each other every year as they pay tribute to our fallen soldiers on Memorial Day at Calverton National Cemetery. Representatives from each lodge are pictured at this year's event as they joined the crowd of local residents at their annual ceremony.



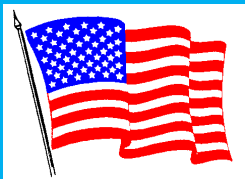
**Oswego Lodge #271** members and Team RWB (Red, White, Blue) placed over 100 flags on Veterans graves at St. Paul's Cemetery in Oswego this morning. Team Red, White & Blue is a nonprofit founded by Veterans working to solve the epidemic of loneliness through physical activity.





# VETERANS ACTIVITIES

## SUPPORTING AND HONORING OUR VETERANS



During the Lodges Homecoming Celebration Pig Roast, members from **Auburn Lodge #474** and their guests were able to show their thanks and appreciation to the Veterans during their Veterans Memorial Ride. Members are pictured as they displayed the Lodge Banner as they cheer on the riders.



Members of **Rensselaer Lodge #2073** stepped up to help their friends at the East Greenbush Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post #7338 by raising funds and helping to cook and serve chicken BBQ dinners for 200 people for a much-needed fundraising event. The Lodge donated \$500 while Members donated \$750 for a total of \$1,250. The proceeds of the event netted \$3,800 for the VFW Post. Pictured in the photo are Chief Master Sergeant, Mark Mann who spearheaded the effort and who has put in 31 years with the Air National Guard and Ed Nestler, a 15 year veteran of the United States Army and Commander of East Greenbush VFW Post #7338. Both are Elks Members.



**East District #6120** VAVS Representative and Past District Deputy Jack Stein, visited the Long Island State Veteran Home in Stony Brook, with a car load of much needed items from their "wish list". Included in this most welcomed delivery were sweatpants and shirts, underwear, electric razors and a variety of magazines. A total of \$1,100 was utilized to fulfill these requests. Pictured during th delivery are (l-r) Fred Sganga, Executive Director, Jack Stein, PDD and East District VAVS Representative along with Samantha Calandrino, LMSW, Volunteer Service



The members of **Southampton Lodge #1574** held their annual Flag Day Ceremony and were joined by members of the LI ABATE (a motorcycle club which is a group of Veterans serving Veterans). At the conclusion of the ceremony, they presented the club with a check for \$500 to help further their work with Long Island Veterans. In addition to this presentation, however, the members also had the honor of presenting Roger Kilfoil, V.P. of the "Honor Flight of Long Island" with a check for \$4000.00 showing their appreciation for the work they do for our local Vets. The "Honor Flight" is an organization dedicated to flying veterans to Washington D.C. to visit the memorials of their respective wars. Pictured during the check presentation are: (l-r) Trustee Chairman Perry Zito, Past Exalted Ruler Richard Nilsson, Past Exalted Ruler Ken Rothwell, Roger Kilfoil, VP of the Honor Flight of Long Island, Exalted Ruler Andrew Smith, Leading Knight Kathleen Miller and Chaplain Christopher Zito.



Past District Deputy Tony Florio, District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler Jack Stein of **Huntington Lodge #1565** and Nassau County VFW Commander John Baptisto Fiore met at Stony Brook Veterans Home to honor Loretta Weiss who just celebrated her 103rd. birthday. Loretta is a World War II, Korean and Vietnam Veteran. Loretta is pictured with Past District Deputy Florio and District Deputy Jack Stein as she was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for her many years of dedicated service to our Country.



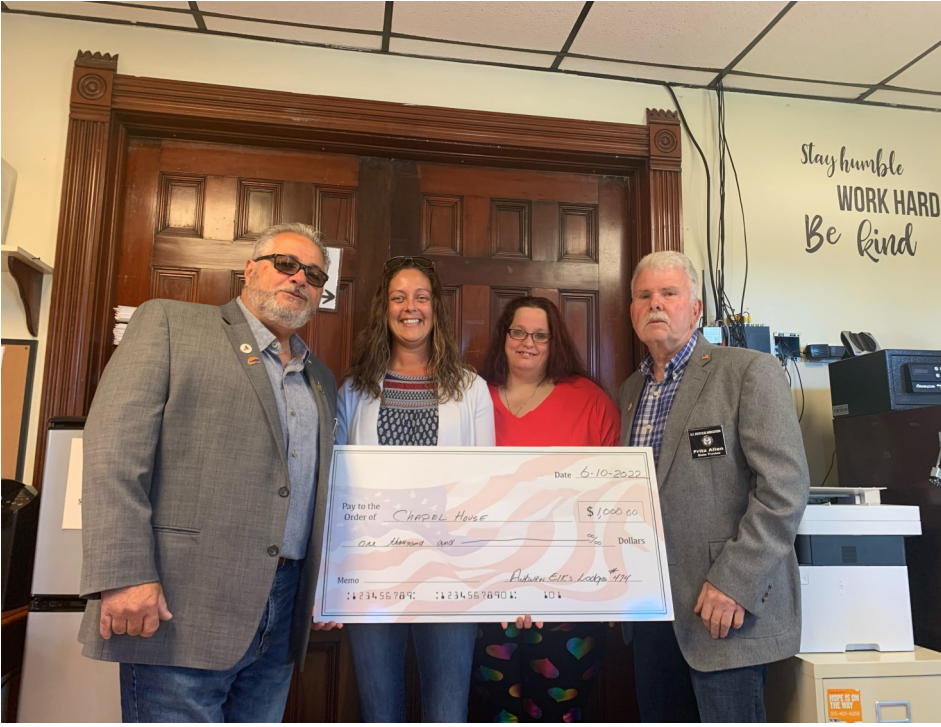
In honor of Memorial Day, **Syracuse Lodge #31** members placed flags at the Oakwood Cemetery in Syracuse New York. Pictured are Past State Vice President Mike Giehl District Deputy Tom Kanaley, Syracuse Member Rodney Stanford, Past Exalted Ruler Pam Allen and Lodge Chaplain Dave Merriam.

**Bunkers in Baghdad update**— Currently donations stand at 1,708 golf clubs, 167,993 golf balls and other assorted golf equipment. The dollar value for the Southwest/Southern Tier District is \$30,074.50 and the NYSEA is \$71,853.00 for a grand total of \$101,227.50. Additional donations are needed. Please send donations to Bunkers in Bagdad. If making a donation, please contact Norm B so he can record the donation to ensure an accurate record of donations. .





# ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION—GRANTS IN ACTION



**Auburn Lodge #474** donated \$1000 to the Chapel House from the Freedom Grant. The Chapel House is a homeless shelter located in Auburn who serves homeless men and woman from all of Cayuga County as well as homeless veterans. Exalted Ruler Mario Campanello Jr. and Past District Deputy and State Trustee Fritz Allen are pictured presenting the donation to Shelter Director Kim Dunn and Sheila Jordan from Chapel House.

**Huntington Lodge #1565** donated non-perishable items to the Faith Missionary Baptist Church. Over \$200.00 received through the efforts of the Beacon/Spotlight/Gratitude Grants, was utilized to purchase and deliver healthy morning cereals, snacks, lunch items, and fruit drinks for the parishioners children's morning and after school programs. Pastor Timothy Flyth and Elk volunteer Marcy B. are pictured as the delivery was made. During the visit the Lodge learned that some of the items delivered will be shared with Pastor Carlos Ortiz's Congregation as his parishioners share space in their facility.



**Ithaca Lodge #636** received a \$1,000 Beacon Grant from the Elks National Foundation to support the Dryden Games. The Dryden Games is an event that provides an opportunity for differently abled students from Lansing, NY and Dryden, NY to compete in track and field events, soccer games and more at the sixth annual event. With help of many volunteers from the Ithaca Elks Lodge and Cornell University Athletics the event was a hugh success. Paige Marks is pictured at the event taking part in the club throw.

**Camillus Lodge #2367** made a donation of \$1000 to the "We Rise Above the Streets" organization as part of their Gratitude Grant. Their mission is to deliver high energy messages that encourage people to live up to their full potential by breaking the cycle of poverty and homelessness. They provide help for the homeless, the underrepresented and any one in need of food, clothing, or basic hygiene items. Their motto is "IF WE EAT, THEY EAT". "We Rise Above the Street" Founder Al-amin Muhammad, is pictured as he accepts the donation from the Lodge.



**Potsdam Lodge #2074** recently provided Helping Hands with a \$2000 donation. The Lodge used an Elks National Foundation Spotlight Grant to support the donation. Lodge Treasurer and ENF Chair Ernie Charleston completed the grant application and secured the grant. He is pictures presenting the donation to Helping Hands Executive Director Tom Chappelle. Also pictured during the check presentation are Potsdam Lodge Exalted Ruler Sheila Guerin, Secretary James Hassett, Helping Hands Volunteer Coordinator Florence Wright, IT Specialist Roger Hart, and Helping Hands volunteers Sandy Demerist, Steve house and Laurie House. Helping Hands, located in Hannawa Falls is a non-profit organization that serves people in need form the Brasher, Colton, Hopkinton, Lawrence, Madrid, Nicholville, Norfolk, Norwood, Parishville, Pierrepont, Potsdam, Stockholm, and South Colton communities. It was founded in 2004 by Cindy Talcott and is entirely supported by the generosity of donations from local churches, individuals, organizations, and businesses. Helping Hands assists local families through a food pantry, provides health care products, provides used furniture and housewares, and offers assistance with fuel, rent, and utility payments in a crisis situation. The program provides a free lunch Monday-Thursday from 12noon to 12:30PM. Helping Hands is staffed by a group of volunteers.

**Rome Lodge #96** and **Utica Lodge #33** members from the Central District #6300 recently participated in the ELKS Riders of Central New York Ride For Elks National Foundation. They raised a total of \$2796.





# ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION—GRANTS IN ACTION



**Auburn Elks Lodge #474** recently donated \$2000 Gratitude Grant to the Caspar Gregory Camp in Aurora NY. The Caspar Gregory Camp, Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing camping and outdoor learning and recreational experiences for people of all ages. Pictured during the donation presentation are Exalted Ruler Mario Campanello, Past Exalted Ruler Phyllis Allen, Past District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler and State Trustee Fritz Allen, Member Ed Kustyn and Camp Gregory members Frank Benenati, John Wensler, Cathleen Sheils, Susan Dean, Cassie Ryan, Abby Anderson and Dick Taylor .



**Ithaca Lodge #636** received a \$3,000 Beacon Grant from the Elks National Foundation to support Tompkins County Project Lifesaver. This program, run out of the Tompkins County Sheriff's Office, uses GPS and Drone Technology to protect the wandering and bring peace of mind to Families, Caregivers and Communities. The program protects those with Autism, Alzheimers, Down Syndrome, Dementia as well as those with Traumatic Brain Injury. Pictured during the donation presentation are L to R: Sheriff Derek Osborne, Heather Tallman (wife of member on the program), Exalted Ruler Scott Rougeau, Trustee Tom Morgan, Lodge Secretary Tim Kessler, Undersheriff Jennifer Olin.



**Camillus Lodge #2367** made a donation of \$500 worth of camping supplies to the Camillus Town Shop as part of their Gratitude Grant. Exalted Ruler Joe Andrews is pictured with Director Debra Ancillotti and Assistant Director Harrison Rein as he delivered the supplies.



**New York Lodge #1** used the proceeds from an ENF (Elks National Foundation) Spotlight Grant and presented a \$2000 donation to the Long Island Sled Hockey Team. The Lodge has supported the team in various ways for the past 28 years. Past District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler John Nuzzi, Lodge Grant Writer and Past Exalted Ruler Lisa Moldovan, along with other Lodge members are pictured as the donation was presented



**Massena Lodge #1702** recently presented a check for \$2000 to the Massena Meals on Wheels. This donation was made possible from a Spotlight grant from the Elks National Foundation. The grant was secured by members Roxanne Roberts and John Root. Exalted Ruler Kyle DiTullio is pictured presenting the donation on behalf of Massena Lodge.



Through the use of the Spotlight Grant, members of the **Port Jefferson Lodge #2138** purchased fresh milk, eggs, butter, orange juice and bread which was delivered to the St. Cuthberts Food Pantry in Selden, NY. These nutritious items were distributed to families with young children who are not receiving free meals at school during their summer vacation. A total of \$380.00 was utilized for this event. Lodge Esteemed Leading Knight Debra Farkas is pictured as her car is being unloaded.

The Family Service League Homeless Shelter, located on Crooked Hill Rd. in Brentwood, houses approximately 300 residents in their converted hotel facility. To assist their residents with food and clothing, they depend on contributions from outside organizations. The members of **Huntington Lodge #1565** were more than happy to provide the specific items most needed through the use of the funds received from the Beacon/Spotlight/Gratitude Grants and approximately \$700 was utilized to purchase children's, women's and male clothing and shoes, diapers, microwavable dinners, canned vegetables, breakfast cereals, snacks and plastic dinnerware. Past District Deputies Lynne and Jack Stein delivered the items on behalf of the Lodge.





# ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION—GRANTS IN ACTION



**Beacon Lodge** was able to secure the Spotlight Grant. This year, the Beacon Lodge chose to donate these funds to Common Ground Farm to address the issue of food insecurity. Common Ground offers hands-on, farm-based education programs for adults and children of all ages. Their programs include the Farm to School initiative with the Beacon City Schools and a weekly backpack giveaway. Backpacks are filled with fresh produce for children to take home to their families. Seniors and Veterans benefit from the Greens4Greens program where eligible, state funded food benefits are matched dollar for dollar, making the farmer's market more accessible to a wider base of consumers. Pictured during the donation presentation are Kathy Caporale, State Trustee/Past Exalted Ruler Barbara Farber, Sember Weinman – the Executive Director of Common Ground Farm and Past State Vice President and ENF Chairperson Atilano Rivera Jr.



The Officers and members of **New York Lodge #1** honored to present a \$1000.00 obtained through a Freedom Grant to support the Long Beach Waterfront Warriors organization. The Waterfront Warriors bring in Veterans from across the country into Long Beach, along with families, for a full week of entertainment of fun. Pictured during the donation presentation are past Exalted Ruler/Esquire Paul Schneller, Exalted Ruler Amy Schneller, Past State Trustee and District Veteran Chair Anitra Butler, Gerald Snell President of Warriors, Past District Deputy John M Nuzzi Sr and Patrica Farrell Warriors Board member.



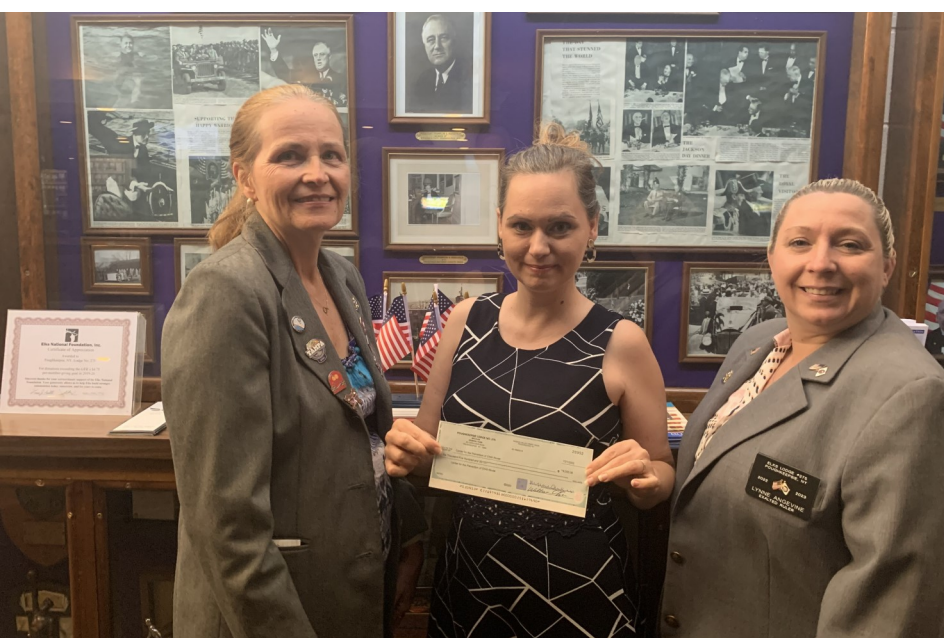
**Middletown Lodge #1097** members visited the Guild of St. Margaret Soup Kitchen to present a donation of \$4,000 toward the purchase of a commercial refrigerator to replace a failed unit. The funds donated came from a Beacon Grant from the Elks National Foundation. In the past five years, Middletown Lodge #1097 has contributed over \$10,000 to the Guild to fund improvements in their kitchen and dining room, as well as to purchase food for distribution to those in need during the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic. An outreach program of Grace Episcopal Church in Middletown, the Guild of St. Margaret is the oldest public welfare charity in the City of Middletown, being in continuous operation since 1980. They serve two meals a day, seven days a week, to roughly 40 people. There is no screening process for people to qualify; all are welcome. Pictured during the donation presentation are (L to R) Esteemed Lecturing Knight Jim Anderson, Esteemed Loyal Knight Sue Hamel, Exalted Ruler Jenn Neuburger, Guild Director Phyllis Guardino, and Esteemed Leading Knight Scott Hamel.



**Rensselaer Lodge #2073** donated \$3,000 as part of an Elks National Foundation (ENF) Beacon Grant to fund the Eileen L. Collins, 'Summer Science Series' at the East Greenbush Community Library in East Greenbush, NY. The program features regular events from the end of June until early August to offer interesting, fun, and many educational opportunities for local youth. Pictured in the photo are Susan Bell, Community Relations Coordinator and Molly Chatt, Head of Youth Services from the East Greenbush Community Library.



**Yorktown Lodge #2324** presented a \$1,000 check to the My Brother Vinny Organization. The My Brother Vinny organization is a non-profit charitable organization that organizes and distributes food, clothing and furniture to US Veterans, outreach groups, shelters and families in need in Westchester County and neighboring vicinities. The Lodge used a Freedom Grant received from the Grand Lodge to support the donation. Pictured during the donation presentation are Lodge Secretary Rich DeSilva, Chaplain Mary DeSilva, Paula Miritello, Director and Founder of My Brother Vinny, and Exalted Ruler Mary Hansen.



**Poughkeepsie Lodge # 275** used a Elks National Foundation Beacon and Gratitude Grant and provided The Center for Prevention Child abuse with a \$6,500 donation. Past Exalted Ruler Christine Hillerud and Lodge Exalted Ruler and ENF Grant writer Lynne Angevine are pictured as they presented the donation to Rachel Johnson of The Center for Prevention Child Abuse.

The Huntington Interfaith Homeless Initiative (HI HI) is a Family League program which provides food and clothing for the homeless. During a recent visit to the center, the members of **Huntington Lodge #1565** learned that sweatpants, sweat shorts and tops were badly needed. As a result, approximately \$150 received through the efforts of the Beacon/Gratitude/Spotlight Grants was utilized to purchase over a dozen matching outfits and delivered to the HI HI representative, Joanne, for their immediate use.





**ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION—GRANTS IN ACTION**







# ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION—GRANTS IN ACTION



**Huntington Lodge #1565** recently supported St. Elizabeth church with a supply of items. St. Elizabeth's Roman Catholic Church has a very large congregation with many parishioners in need of assistance. As a result, their outreach program is extremely active and their food pantry is constantly being maintained. There are items, however, that need more frequent replenishment, which is where the Lodges Beacon/Spotlight/Gratitude Grant funds come in handy. Past District Deputy Jack Stein is pictured with Denise (volunteer at St. Elizabeth's pantry). The Lodge donation of approximately \$200.00 worth of diapers, tuna salad boxes, breakfast bars, sugar and vegetables was well received.



**Massena Lodge #1702** recently presented a check for \$2500 to Wounded Warriors Outdoor Adventures. The donation was made possible from n Elks National Foundation Gratitude Grant. Lodge members Roxanne Roberts, and John Root secured the grant for the Lodge.



**Syracuse Lodge #31** utilized their Spotlight Grant to present a check for \$2,000 to St. Lucy's Food Pantry. This food pantry serves the 5th poorest census area in the entire United States. They intend to use the funds to support their fresh fruits and fresh vegetables programs. Pictured from left to right are Director Murray Gould, Assistant to the Director Jackie Tucker, Past District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler Tom Kanaley, and Lodge Chaplain Dave



**Potsdam Lodge #2074** supported the Potsdam After Prom Committee with a \$1425 donation. Lodge Exalted Ruler Sheila Guerin is pictures presenting the donation on behalf of the Lodge to students Colin Haggett and Trevor Bates and After Prom Committee member Candice Bates and Heidi Haggett. The Lodge used proceeds from Elks National Foundation Grants to support the donation.



**Webster-Fairport Lodge** donated \$1,000 to the Healthcare for Homeless Veterans Program at Canandaigua VA Hospital. The donation was made possible by the Freedom Grant the lodge received from Grand Lodge. The items donated included, coffee makers, dishes, silverware, blankets and sheets to help furnish apartments for the homeless vets at the hospital. Pictured during the donation are Exalted Ruler Dave Carlson, Nicole Brayer, Case Manager Healthcare for Homeless Veterans Program and Past District Deputy and Trustee Gordy Scott.



**Huntington Lodge #1565** donated \$130 worth of supplies to the Outreach Center of St. Elizabeth Church of Hungary. The supplies were delivered to the Church using funds received through the Beacon/Gratitude/Spotlight Grants. Pictured is "Marianne" of the Outreach Center as she accepts these needed supplies. Included in the delivery were toothbrushes and toothpaste, hair brushes, deodorant, shampoo and conditioners and bar soaps.



**Potsdam Lodge #2074** provided the Colton- Pierrepont After Prom with a \$855 donation. Exalted Ruler Sheila Guerin presented the donation on behalf of the Lodge to a small group of senior students at the school. The Lodge used the proceeds from Elk National foundation Grants to support the donation. (Picture to the left)



## Community Activities Elks—Family, Friends & Fellowship



**Auburn Elks Lodge #474** made a food donation to the Chapel House. The Chapel House is a homeless shelter located in Auburn that serves homeless men from all of Cayuga County as well as homeless veterans. Past Exalted Ruler Phyllis Allen, Kitchen Committee Chair, is pictured as she presented the donation on behalf of the Lodge to Shannon from the Chapel House



**Liverpool Lodge #2348** held a bottle drive and took donations to benefit the Humane Association of CNY. Pictured during the bottle drive are, from left to right, Secretary Pam Seeber, Lecturing Knight Dennis Seeber, associates from the Humane Association, member Sherri Bisnett, Leading Knight Ken Light and member Bianca Valentino. All together over \$1,000 was raised along with lots of donations.



**Middletown Lodge #1097** recently participated in the City of Middletown's National Night Out. Lodge members met with city residents, explained the Order's mission, and distributed flyers promoting their upcoming Soccer Shoot and Back to School event. They also distributed 150 coloring books and crayons containing drug awareness messaging with the assistance of Elroy the Elk. Since 1984, the National Night Out has been an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie. Pictured (L to R): Inner Guard Deb Neuburger, PER / Exalted Ruler Jenn Neuburger, Elroy, member Eddie Tamburro



**Ogdensburg Elks Lodge #772** held a Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser to benefit the Claxton-Hepburn Medical Center Auxiliary. House Committee Member Mike Weaver and Past Exalted Ruler Rick Powell are pictured presenting a check to Claxton-Hepburn Medical Center Auxiliary Manager Ramona Kennedy and CHMC Auxiliary Assistant Allyson Smith. The Mission Statement of the CHMC Auxiliary is to support the Medical Center community through volunteerism, advocacy and fundraising.



**Potsdam Lodge #2074** has been a proud supporter of the St. Lawrence County Law Enforcement Torch Run since the event began in St. Lawrence County. Recently the Lodge donated a \$500 to support the 2022 Torch Run. The Torch Run supports Special Olympic New York athletes. Additionally, Ogdensburg Lodge #772 hosted a pizza and wings luncheon following the run. Ogdensburg Lodge also hosted a luncheon following last years run. Past District Deputy and Lodge Community Activities member Tim Welpé is pictured presenting the donation on behalf of the Lodge to St. Lawrence County Torch Run Coordinator Theresa McCarger of the NY State Police.



**Poughkeepsie Lodge #275** used the proceeds from an Elks National Foundation Gratitude Grant to support the Miles of Hope Breast Cancer Foundation. Lodge ENF Grant writer Chris Hillerud, and Exalted Ruler Lynne Angevine are pictured as they presented a \$2000.00 check to Cathy Varunok of Miles of Hope Breast Cancer Foundation.



# Community Activities

## Elks—Family, Friends & Fellowship



**Camillus Elks Lodge #2367** supported the Camillus Historic Society with a donation. Pictured is High School Student Kathleen Glass and Director Sue Graverson as a check is presented from a grant given by the Lodge to help develop a web site for the Historic Society



**Rensselaer Lodge #2073** hosted an informational event to raise awareness about the critical need for organ and tissue donation. Local resident, David Gray, shared his experience about receiving a heart transplant in August 2016. During his ordeal, which was caused by a virus, he spent 177 days in total in the hospital, 77 days on life support and was on a ventilator 6 times. 500 New Yorkers die each year because the organ they need is not donated in time. 8,500 New Yorkers are waiting for a lifesaving organ transplant. 1,500 people have been waiting 5+ years for a transplant. One organ donor can save up to 8 lives! Pictured in the photo are David Gray and Laura Fiset from the Center for Donation and Transplant of New York.



The members of **Huntington Lodge #1565** utilized approximately \$175 to purchase much needed supplies for the Brentwood Family Service League who are currently housing 300 residents in their converted hotel. In this supply were microwavable dinners, peanut butter and jelly, cleaning supplies, boxed cookies, fruit desserts and bags of sugar. Pictured as supplies were delivered are: (l-r) Assistant Program Director Luisa Naranjo, Past District Deputy Lynne Stein and Program Director Dawn O'Donovan.



**Potsdam Lodge #2074** supported the Norwood Norfolk High School All Night Graduation Party with a \$1035 sponsorship. Community Activities Chair Tim Welpé presented the donation on behalf of the Lodge. Pictured during the check presentation are Senior class members Jordan Ring, Katie Cruz, Erica Lavigne, Mike's Colbert, Zach Perry, Casper Phillips, Megan McCarthy, Sophie Lauzon, Adam Niles, Tucker Ludlow, Lauren Sweet, Constance Piresuk, Kyleigh Newtown, Anna Nelson, Madison Weaver, Nattalya Browning, Molly Gardner, Madelyn Dinneen, Skylar Saumier, Catherine Whippen, Sterling Sweeney, Sam LaPage, Samantha McGinnis, Karen Wawreyniak, Shyanne Durant, Keegan Newtown, Gavin Phillips.



**Liverpool Lodge #** was privileged to honor Martin Knaul from the Baldwinsville Police Department as their Officer of the Year. He is pictured being congratulated by Baldwinsville Police Department Chief Michael Lefancheck and Exalted Ruler Michael Halko



Over the past 2 years, the members of **Huntington Lodge #1565** have been working with Officer Claudia Delgado, from the 2nd. Precinct in Huntington Station, contributing much needed essentials for the weekly food giveaway days at Manor Park. In addition to this event however, Officer Delgado makes "house calls" to families in need, bringing specific items that will enhance their daily lives. In view of this, the members of the lodge shopped for many of these items and Officer Delgado came by, in her personal car, to pick them up. Approximately \$250 was utilized from the Beacon, Spotlight and Gratitude Grants. The purchases included fruit cups, cereal, peanut butter, jelly, refried beans, chili, tortillas, canned tuna, canned chicken salad, cookies, sundries, diapers and cleaning supplies. Officer Delgado is pictured along with Past District Deputy Jack Stein as she accepted the donations. .



**Fulton Lodge #**, in conjunction with Hades Hounds Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club, held a Motorcycle Ride to End Hunger where over \$1,500.00 was raised to help food pantries in Oswego County. Ten different food pantries each received donations of \$150.00. Pictured at the event are Frank Neil, Joe Guarrera and Collin Miller from Hades Hounds LEMC, Mary Simmons and Leading Knight Chrissy Hawksby from the Fulton Elks and Steven Nehlsen from Fulton Alliance Church.



## Community Activities Elks—Family, Friends & Fellowship



**Camillus Lodge #2347** recently provided the Joseph House with a donation of hygiene products. Pictured is Jacinta, one of the employees at the Joseph House as she receives the donation from the Camillus Elks Lodge. Their mission is to "promote the sanctity of life and the dignity of women by providing a nurturing home for mothers facing unplanned pregnancy or homelessness.



Prior to the pandemic, the "Helping Hands Mission" would supply about 85 families every 2 weeks with 40 lb. bags of food. They are currently supplying over 260 families each week and the demand continues to grow. With the need for donations ever increasing, the members of **Huntington Lodge #1565** are doing their utmost to increase their donations to include the most needed items each month. Pictured, accepting the most recent visit contribution, is Drew (grandson of the founders of the Mission). Included in the delivery was coffee, tea, rice, apple sauce, peanut butter and oatmeal. Approximately \$130.00 was utilized from the Beacon/Gratitude Grant received by the Lodge.



**Huntington Lodge #1565** Loyal Knight Connie Olson, East District VAVS Deputy, and Past District Deputy Jack Stein, VAVS Representative visited the Northport VA Hospital, bringing a most welcomed delivery of assorted magazines, detergent, underwear and patient style slip free socks. A total of \$600.00 was utilized for this supply of much needed items. Pictured during the delivery are (l-r) Jennifer Pohl and Richie Kitson, both VA Hospital Representatives, Past District Deputy Jack Stein, VAVS Representative and Connie Olson, VAVS Deputy.



The members of **Islip Lodge #2533** have been strong supporters of the Post Prom Breakfast, for the past 22 years, at Islip High School. This celebration provides an alcohol free environment for their High School Seniors falling under the umbrella of the Lodge's Drug Awareness Program. This year, State Vice President Joe D'Angelo, Exalted Ruler James Hernandez, Esquire Lisa Hernandez and members Mark Lentini and Luanne D'Angelo were joined by the Event Coordinator Paul Austin along with members of the school board as they celebrated this event. \$1500 was utilized for the function provided by the general funds of the Lodge.



Members from the **Port Jefferson Lodge #2138** visited the campus of the American Vets\_Dog Program located in Smithtown, LI. They received a tour of the facility by Katman Pun, Philanthropic Officer, at which time, a donation of \$1,300 was presented through funds received from the Beacon Grant. These funds will be used to help train the program's service dogs to assist local veterans. Pictured during the donation presentation are (l-r) Past State Vice President Ted Farkas, District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler John Brigante, Esteemed Leading Knight Deb Farkas, Past District Deputy Tony Florio and Exalted Ruler Joan Brigante.



**Watertown Lodge #496** hosted a lacrosse fun day that was attended by area girl and boys lacrosse players. During the event Watertown Lodge provided a complimentary lunch for those participating, coaches and volunteers. Exalted Ruler Ed Massa is pictured with a group boys that participated.



# Community Activities

## Elks—Family, Friends & Fellowship



While servicing local food pantries over the past year, the members of **Huntington Lodge #1565** have concentrated on supplying families with items to be served for breakfasts, lunches and dinners. This week, however, the Lodge was dedicated to purchasing items specifically geared toward children and for "snacks" they would enjoy, most of which would be considered as a novelty. Pictured accepting these items are Drew and Roman from the Helping Hands Mission, as \$125 from the Beacon Grant was used to purchase a variety of chips, fruit cups and an assortment of treats. It was a welcomed surprise that brought a smile to their faces.



In their continuing effort to supply local food pantries with nutritious fresh and packaged food, the members of **Port Jefferson Lodge #2138** used a portion of funds received through the Spotlight Grant to purchase items for the Infant Jesus Outreach Pantry. Approximately \$500 was utilized for this donation District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler John Brigante, Exalted Ruler Joan Brigante, Esteemed Leading Knight Debbie Farkas, Infant Jesus Outreach Coordinator Vicki Rybak, Coordinator and Past State Vice President Ted Farka are pictured as the delivery was made.



**Liverpool Lodge #2348** honored 4 officers from the Liverpool Police Department as Officers of the Year. Covid provided an unprecedented stress on law enforcement and the part time officers of Liverpool Police stepped up and kept their Village safe. Liverpool Elks Lodge was honored to show them their appreciation. Pictured are Officers Robert Marshall, Dana Vinch and Sean Edwards. Officer Marcus Lukins was unable to attend.



**Rensselaer Lodge #2073** partnered with the East Greenbush Community Library for another installment of their Summer Science Series. About 25 children and their parents learned all about birds of prey including information about their lifespan, their diet, their behaviors, their habitat and their keen senses and incredible ability to hunt. The audience got a chance to meet birds up close in a program offered by The Wildlife Institute of Eastern New York including three owls, a falcon, and a raven. Pictured in the photo from The Wildlife Institute of Eastern New York, Trish Marki, Eurasian Eagle Owl, 'Wyatt', and Elk Member, Eileen L. Collins, a long-time local science teacher who came up with the idea for the program.



Members of **Massapequa Lodge #2162** attended a brick laying ceremony at "The Tower of Freedom 9/11" and "Military Monument" in Massapequa LI. A brick donated by the Lodge was placed in the walkway leading up to the monument. A group of Lodge members are pictured at the ceremony.



**Potsdam Lodge #2074** supported the Community Lunch Program for Kids with a \$500 donation. The program provides food to local children from the Norwood, Norfolk and Raymondville communities who face food insecurity when school is not in session. In addition to food, the CLPK has added a new program called "My Brother's Keeper". This aspect of the program assist children to get school supplies, socks, sneakers, underwear, backpacks and winter coats. Lodge Exalted Ruler Sheila Guerin is pictures presenting the donation to CLPK Director Wendy Chambers.



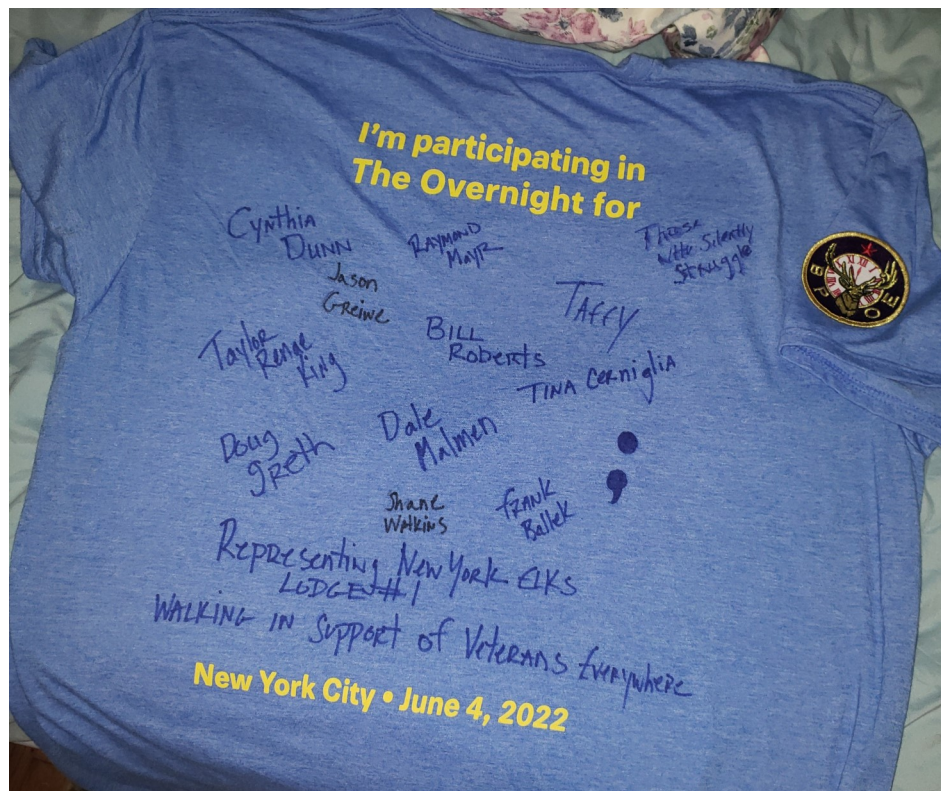
Members of **Middletown Lodge #1097** participated in the sixth annual Pocono Foxtrot 5K for Parkinson's Research in Milford, PA. Two teams were formed by Lodge members: "MARTINis Shaken not Stirred", captained by member Marissa Folchi honoring her mother, member Julie Martin, who participated in the race; and "In Memory of JR Rivera", captained by Past First Lady Sue Rivera in memory of her late husband PER John Rivera. A total of 18 participants made up the two teams. Pictured are the members of Middletown Elks' two race teams. (Picture to the left)



## Community Activities Elks—Family, Friends & Fellowship



**Cohoes-Waterford Elks Lodge #1317** donated a \$100 Gift Card for refreshments for a Memorial Day Celebration for the 9<sup>th</sup> Floor Nursing Home Care Unit at the Albany VA Medical Center. Past Exalted Ruler Regina Hogan, Lodge Veterans Service Chairperson is pictured as she presented the donation to Michele Ferraulo, VAMC Recreation /Creative Arts Section Supervisor.



**New York Lodge #1** Past Exalted Ruler Lisa Moldovan represented the Lodge in the Walk Out of The Darkness overnight walk to raise money for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. The \$1,137 total funds raised was comprised of donations from Elks members and friends as well as a \$300 donation from the Lodge #1 itself. This organization's goal is to stop suicide and their fundraising helps fund different ways for people to get help when they are struggling.



**Mid- Hudson District #6180** used an Elks National Veterans Commission Bonus Grant and was able to donate \$1000 worth of clothes to the Castle Point VA. The donation included female shirts, sportswear, female sneakers, female pants and under garments. Pictured L to R is Carl Oken Veterans Representative for Castle Point VA and Air Force Veteran Donna Terman US Air Force with a portion of the donation.



**Rensselaer Lodge #2073** donated \$80 in support of IBI Semper Training as part of their PTSD & Service Dog Awareness Ride/Fundraiser. This organization engages Veterans and First Responders with PTSD to improve lives and rescue shelter dogs to become PTSD service dogs. Exalted Ruler Greg Collins, Sonya Ward, IBI Semper Training Founder, and Elk member Joel Rigsbee are pictured at the event.



**Elmira Lodge #62** supported the Eldridge Park Carousel Preservation Society with a \$500 donation. Ed Rutan and Jen Donovan are pictured as they present the donation to Bob Kramarik, President of the Eldridge Park Carousel Preservation Society. The money was raised from April - June during the monthly Bloody Mary Sundays. All of the bartenders donated their tips during this time.



**Beacon Lodge #1493** gave a portion of their Gratitude Grant to the Beacon Police Department Jr. Camp. This free weeklong program for students entering grades 9-12 provides an introduction to careers in law enforcement. Our Youth Police Academy meets for a week each summer. The goal of the academy is to help participating youth understand the role police officers play in the community, job duties performed and requirements of becoming a police officer. In addition, the program fosters relationships between the officers and the youth participants. This is accomplished with mock situations and lectures, field trips, physical fitness exercises, and games. Members of Beacon Lodge #1493 met with City of Beacon Police Officers to present the check. Pictured during the donation presentation are in Front Row: Sadie DiRubbio, Deborah DiRubbio, State Trustee Barbara Farber, Det. Jason Johnson, Past State Vice President Atilano Rivera Jr., Officer Samantha Milani, Kathy Caporale, Joan Healey and Past District Deputy Carl Oken. In back row are Sgt. Joseph Conti, Trustee Christopher Bopp and Officer Michael Connor



# Community Activities

## Elks—Family, Friends & Fellowship



The Waterford-Halfmoon Class of 2022 completed volunteer work within the Community as a way to say thank you to the community that helped raise them for the last 13 years that they have been in school. After their morning chores were complete, **Cohoes-Waterford Lodge #1317** hosted a luncheon for all the participants. It was a great day for all involved. Pictured (L-R) is PER John Lord, Connie Zebrowski, PER Bill Rosenberger, PER Jeff Matthews and member Debbie Matthews who graciously cooked and served lunch to the students and teachers.



**Mid-Westchester Lodge # 535** was awarded a Freedom Grant in the amount of \$3,000 to provide need food staples for the Montrose / Hudson Valley Veterans Administration Hospital Food Party. The Lodge will be purchasing food staples once a month that the Food Party is in short supply of which they can't get from the regional food pantry. Supplies will include items such as Cooking Oil, Milk, Jelly, Peanut Butter, Canned Fruit, etc. This is a 10-month project. Past Exalted Ruler Jay Singer is pictured with volunteers from the Montrose / Hudson Valley Food Pantry.



**Rensselaer Lodge #2073** donated a check for \$1,000 and \$1,500 worth of food, clothing and toiletries to the Albany Stratton VA Medical Center to assist Veterans in need. Pictured during the donation presentation are Rensselaer Elks Veterans Committee Chair Dirck Van Deusen, Michael Fitzpatrick, VA Chief of Voluntary Service and Elks Committee Member Carolyn Felock.



Hampton Bays, Southampton and Westhampton School Districts met to recognize 14 graduating seniors who have enlisted in the military. Members from **Southampton Lodge #1574** attended the ceremony and presented each of the enlistees with a certificate of appreciation, a lodge pin and, among other gifts, a flag which was flown over the U.S. Capitol building. At the completion of the ceremony, all were invited to a luncheon at the Lodge.



Members of **Middletown Lodge #1097** participated in the sixth annual Pocono Foxtrot 5K for Parkinson's Research in Milford, PA. Two teams were formed by Lodge members: "MARTINis Shaken not Stirred", captained by member Marissa Folchi honoring her mother, member Julie Martin, who participated in the race; and "In Memory of JR Rivera", captained by Past First Lady Sue Rivera in memory of her late husband PER John Rivera. A total of 18 participants made up the two teams. Pictured are the members of Middletown Elks' two race teams.



**Port Jefferson Lodge #2138** used a Spotlight Grant to purchase over \$500.00 worth of fresh dairy products, produce, breakfast and lunch items which were promptly delivered to the Connect Church Outreach food pantry. These items will be distributed amongst the children in the area who have not received their usual free school meals during their summer vacation. Pictured here are "Chris", food pantry Manager, along with Esteemed Leading Knight Debbie Farkas and Past State Vice President Ted Farkas.



Gloria Dei operates its drive through food pantry twice a week on a Thursday and Saturday. On one of their lightest days for the event, 56 cars were lined up to receive boxes of well sorted foods. Their normal day consists of over 80 families so donations from outside sources are greatly needed. Using \$135.00 from the Beacon/Spotlight/Gratitude Grants, members from **Huntington Lodge #1565** delivered oatmeal, peanut butter, lunch style tuna and chicken salad and boxes of canned corn and peas. Past District Deputy Jack Stein is pictured along with Gloria Dei volunteer "Rex" lining up the delivery.



# Community Activities

## Elks—Family, Friends & Fellowship



**New York Lodge #1** members attended Troop 485 Awards Night for Eagle Scout Sebastian Morales, whom earned the highest scouting honors. Sebastian's project for attaining Eagle Scout was collection of needed items for deployed military personnel, Sebastian having had military family members overseas pushed him even further to collect items of need. He worked hard to organize groups to solicit needed funds as well as items. After all have been pack and boxed to be sent to our deployed military he had enough funds to handle all shipping cost to various military areas. He realized that this touch a bit closer to home. He held a great leadership roll in his Eagle Scout Project. Exalted Ruler Amy Schneller is pictured as she presented Sabastian Morales with a framed Elks Scout Certificate of Accomplishment, along with a American Flag, and a check for \$50.00 dollar from New York Elks Lodge #1.



**Rensselaer Lodge #2073** honored one of their own at their 2022 Flag Day Ceremony bestowing the Rensselaer Elks Citizen of the Year honor upon Hank Rivet. Proclamations were also provided by the House of Representatives through Congressman Paul Tonko and the Rensselaer County Legislature through Legislator Tom Grant for Rivet's brave service and sacrifice to this Country. Pictured at the ceremony. Hank Rivet is pictured at the ceremony with Rensselaer County Judge Debra Young, Congressman Paul Tonko, Rensselaer County Legislator Tom Grant and Exalted Ruler Greg Collins.



**Rensselaer Lodge #2073** presented certificates to eight (8) local businesses to honor them correctly flying the United States flag. Pictured in the photo are employees Liz Hays and Jordan Haberland of Gettysburg Flag Works in East Greenbush, NY,

**Rensselaer Lodge #2073** honored Purple Heart recipient, Joseph Gucciardi, and picked up his breakfast on National Purple Heart Day (August 7<sup>th</sup>). 85 people, including 16 Elk Members, were in attendance to salute the Veteran for his brave service to this Country. Gucciardi, who was a U.S. Army reservist, was injured in December of 2009 in Kwost Province, Afghanistan when his vehicle struck an improvised explosive device.



**Newburgh Lodge #247** donated 100 custom-designed shopping bags to the Deacon Jack Seymour Food Pantry in Newburgh NY. The blue bags had "Newburgh Elks #247", an American Flag image, and "Sponsors of the Deacon Jack Seymour Food Pantry Newburgh NY" emblazoned on them. The Food Pantry has plans to build a new facility near the lodge later in 2022. Pictured L-R: Jared Kerin, Past Exalted Ruler/Trustee Michael Kerin, new members Janet Cruz, Christine Casilla, Mary Jaffee, new member Tony Casilla, Ed Segali, Past Exalted Ruler Anthony Gilmeier, Esteemed Loyal Knight Craig Furey and DJS Food Pantry Directors Linda and Paul Zalinowski.



Founded by the late Harry Chapin, Long Island Cares Inc. brings together all available resources for the benefit of food insecure residents on Long Island. As it is dependent on donations, the **Huntington Lodge #1565** members put this organization high on their list for contributions especially during the pandemic. Long Island Cares representatives Emendina and Louis are pictured accepting the Loges recent donation of \$150 worth of non perishable items using funds received through the Beacon/Gratitude/Spotlight Grant.



**Kingston Lodge #550** held a Social Activities day for over 70 children and volunteers from Mentor Me of Ulster County, a nonprofit that matches at-promise youth to inspiring mentors focused on whole person wellness and supportive relationships. Funded in part by an Elks National Foundation Gratitude Grant, the outing was held at Wood'n Wheel Family Fun Center and included roller skating, laser tag, arcade games, and snacks. Pictured at the event are Mentor Me members, volunteers and Elks.

Through the use of \$250.00 received from the Beacon/Spotlight/Gratitude Grants, the members of **Huntington Lodge #1565** provided much needed items to help fill the empty shelves at the TRI-CYA food pantry in Huntington NY. Included in this delivery, received by Ms. Debbie's assistant Elijah, were pasta, sauce, salsa, sugar, mac and cheese, pancake mix and syrup, along with an assortment of toiletries.

**Rensselaer Lodge #2073** donated \$200 to History Flight, a non-profit dedicated to identifying the remains of U.S. military personnel killed overseas and then arranging their transportation home for a proper burial.



Community Activities  
Elks—Family, Friends & Fellowship



Community Activities  
Elks—Family, Friends & Fellowship





**NEW YORK STATE ELKS ASSOCIATION  
STATE VICE PRESIDENTS**



**GARY RENDE  
ILION #1444  
MOHAWK VALLEY DISTRICT**



**JOSEPH D'ANGELO  
ISLIP #2533  
EAST DISTRICT**



**MERRILL CONNOR  
ELLENVILLE #1971  
EAST CENTRAL DISTRICT**



**RONALD PIGA  
BEACON #1493  
HUDSON VALLEY DISTRICT**



**MARK WHITNEY  
KEESEVILLE #2072  
COLONIAL DISTRICT**



**GARY MILLARD  
LOWVILLE #1605  
NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT**



**WILLIAM MELLAN JR.  
HUDSON #787  
NORTH HUDSON DISTRICT**



**JAY MASON  
CAMILLUS #2367  
CENTRAL DISTRICT**

**"ELKDOM—FAMILY, FRIENDS & FELLOWSHIP"**





# NEW YORK STATE ELKS ASSOCIATION STATE VICE PRESIDENTS



**BRIAN DIAZ**  
**NEW HYDE PARK-NORTH SHORE #2107**  
**SOUTH DISTRICT**



**TIM SAYERS**  
**OWEGO #1039**  
**SOUTH CENTRAL DISTRICT**



**FLOYD SMITH**  
**ELMIRA #62**  
**SOUTHERN TIER DISTRICT**



**CHARLES PEMBURN**  
**ROTTERDAM #2157**  
**STATE CAPITAL DISTRICT**



**NELSON CIRRITO**  
**NIAGARA FALLS # 346**  
**WEST DISTRICT**



**CHRISTINE VAN DEWALLE**  
**LYONS #869**  
**WEST CENTRAL DISTRICT**



Ronald Piga (Hudson Valley), Merrill Connor (East Central), Mark Whitney (Colonial), Charles Pemburn (State Capital), Gary Millard (North Central) and Tim Sayers (South Central) are pictured at the Spring Convention. Minutes later, they were sworn on as State Vice President for their home District.

William Mellan Jr. (Hudson Lodge #787) and Joseph D'Angelo (Islip Lodge # 2533) are pictured as they are sworn in as a State Vice President at the spring Convention. William will represent the North Hudson District and Joseph will represent the East District.

**“ELKDOM—FAMILY, FRIENDS & FELLOWSHIP”**





**NEW YORK STATE ELKS ASSOCIATION  
DISTRICT DEPUTIES**



**JOHN LAWLESS  
HAVERSTRAW #877  
HUDSON VALLEY DISTRICT**



**THOMAS HOWLEY  
GREENWOOD LAKE #2067  
EAST CENTRAL DISTRICT**



**STEVE CROZIER  
HORSEHEADS #2297  
SOUTHERN TIER DISTRICT**



**DEBRA KRUK  
SCOTIA-GLENVILLE #2759  
MOHAWK VALLEY DISTRICT**



**CHERYL GARLOCK  
WOLCOTT #1793  
WEST CENTRAL DISTRICT**



**JILL BRUCE-WILEY  
WATERTOWN #496  
NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT**



**JOHN BRIGANTE  
PORT JEFFERSON #2138  
EAST DISTRICT**



**LINDA ROWSE  
RENSSELAER #2073  
NORTH HUDSON DISTRICT**



**STEPHEN DORSEY  
SARATOGA-WILTON #161  
COLONIAL DISTRICT**

**“PROMOTING ELKDOM WITH ENTHUSIASM”**





# NEW YORK STATE ELKS ASSOCIATION DISTRICT DEPUTIES



**EARL CAPORIN**  
**LIVERPOOL #2348**  
**CENTRAL DISTRICT**



**MICHAEL SAGE**  
**VESTAL #2508**  
**SOUTH CENTRAL DISTRICT**



**DONALD HOY**  
**BROCKPORT #2110**  
**WEST DISTRICT**



**ROBERT COMSTOCK**  
**MID WESTCHESTER #535**  
**SOUTH DISTRICT**



**MICHAEL JONES**  
**GUILDERLAND #2480**  
**STATE CAPITAL DISTRICT**



**BRUCE A. HIDLEY**  
**WATERVLIET-COLONIE #1500**  
**GRAND EXALTED RULER**



GRAND LODGE OFFICERS 2022-2023—Grand Exalted Ruler Bruce Hidley from Watervliet-Colonie NY Lodge #1500, Grand Secretary Bryan Klatt from De Kalb IL Lodge #765, Grand Esteemed Leading Knight George Lehn from Hutchinson MN Lodge #2427, Grand Esteemed Lecturing Knight Alvin Nagel from Eagle River AK Lodge #2682, Grand Esteemed Loyal Knight Doug Larsen from Salinas CA Lodge #614, Grand Inner Guard Barton Barnes from Franklin PA Lodge #110, Grand Esquire John Jennings from Hutchinson MN Lodge #2427, Grand Tiler Kenneth Charles Lafleur from Opelousas CA Lodge #1948 and Grand Chaplain Rev. Stephen McNally from Bedford VA Lodge #2844. The Grand Lodge Officers were installed during the closing session.

The 2022—2023 District Deputies are pictured at the closing session prior to their installation. They were installed later during the session by Grand Exalted Ruler Bruce Hidley. Pictured are; Debra Kruk (Mohawk Valley District), John Brigante (East District ), Thomas Howley (East Central District), John Lawless (Hudson Valley District), Stephen Dorsey (Colonial District), Jill Bruce Wiley (North Central District), Linda Rowse (North Hudson District ), Earl Caporin (Central District), Robert Comstock (South District ), Michael Sage (South Central District), Steve Crozier (Southern Tier District), Michael Jones (State Capital District), Donald Hoy (West District) and Cheryl Garlock (West Central District ).

**“PROMOTING ELKDOM WITH ENTHUSIASM”**