



# New York State Elks Association E-Zine



## The Monthly Electronic Newsletter of the New York State Elks Year 2 Vol. 2- January 2010

### Good of the Order

The following is an adaptation of the letter from Director General William Airey of the Loyal Order of Moose.

February is the month when the process begins to elect our Lodge officers. Details are available in the Annotated Statutes. But just knowing the rules for Lodge elections, and following them, is frankly the easy part-especially this year.

With our North American economy taking a dive this fall and winter, it has become even more difficult for many of our Elk Lodges to succeed-or in some cases, even survive. We maintain, as we have for many years, that an Elks Lodge that has been allowed to degenerate into little more than a roadside tavern will struggle even in the best of times. (As one Past President said, "Who in his right mind would pay dues to belong to a *bar*?") However, we also maintain that a properly run Elk *fraternal operation* can and should do well even in the worst of times-offering family fun and fellowship with food and beverage at modest prices.

For that to happen, though, requires leadership that is determined to run a true fraternal operation-and that's why this time of year is so important.

To the Nominating Committees, I say this: 2010 is NOT the year to nominate or elect your "buddies" for officer positions, just because you enjoy their company over a beer.

This year, especially, we need Lodge officers who know and understand the Elk fraternity; who know that we exist NOT to sell the cheapest beer in town, but rather to fund the operations of the Elk National Foundation, and to be pillars of support in our communities.

This year especially, we need Lodge officers with at least some business background, who know that the Elk Lodge must be run as a *business*-

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not just in making sure that operating costs are kept in check and that revenue remains healthy, but that members are made to feel welcomed, and important, and needed, so that they keep coming in the door!

This year especially, we need Lodge officers who constantly promote both new member *production*, and member *retention*, which is accomplished with relentless old-fashioned friendliness and through old-fashioned telephone contact with members whose dues are just expired.

And this year especially, we need Lodge officers who know that we must constantly promote charitable giving to the Elks National Foundation and Major Projects; who take time to familiarize themselves with all the ways members can help themselves (with tax-deductible donations, bequests, and more) while they help our kids, veterans and communities.

The Elk year that our new Lodge officers will lead-the 2010-2011 year, beginning in April-is crucial to the future of our fraternity, and to the future of the Elks National Foundation. Too often in the recent past, we've relied on the easy gains of investment markets to get us all through rough periods. Now, those gains aren't there. And as our predecessors did many years ago, we have to get through this rough period by rolling our sleeves up and working through it. We need every *member*, not just every officer, to volunteer to serve in his or her Lodge in some way, and every member to participate in Elk fraternal and family activities.

That way, we'll make it through this rough period-and live to thrive again.

### In Vain We Call...

**Tom Karpinko, PER, PSVP, PDD State Scholarship Chair** died on Thursday, December 17. Viewing was Sunday, December 20 fro 2 to-5 PM at J.F.Rice Funeral Home, 150 Main St, Johnson City NY with a Lodge of Sorrows at 4 PM. A funeral service was held at Central Baptist Church, 1606 NY Route 12, Binghamton NY on Monday, December 21 at 9:30 AM. Please remember Marcia and the family in your prayers. In lieu of flowers, please consider a contribution to the Elks National Foundation or Major Projects in Tom's name.

### State President Carr Homecoming

State President Dave Carr will have his homecoming on April 17, 2010 at Glens Falls Lodge 81. Reservation forms and more information at News on [nyselks.org](http://nyselks.org).

### CLMS Tutorials

Are you confused by CLMS? Our state website, [nyselks.org](http://nyselks.org), now has tutorials for CLMS available under '**Resources**'. New courses are being added.

### Leading Knight Training Guide

Elks Training State Chair Dale Hare provided an Esteemed Leading Knight Training Guide at his workshop. The guide is available on our state website, under '**Resources**'.

### State President Visits

Jan 8-10	Central → <b>Canceled</b> ←
Feb 5-7	West Central
Feb 26-28	Central
Mar 5-7	Southeast

### PSP Birthdays

1/08 Lucian Masur	PSP 1975-1976
1/17 Joseph Petriello	PSP 1989-1990
1/27 Dominick Napolitano	PSP 1978-1979
2/11 Peter T Affatato	PSP 1965-1966