## THE ELKS MAGAZINE ONLINE

July/August 2019 VOL. 98, No. 2



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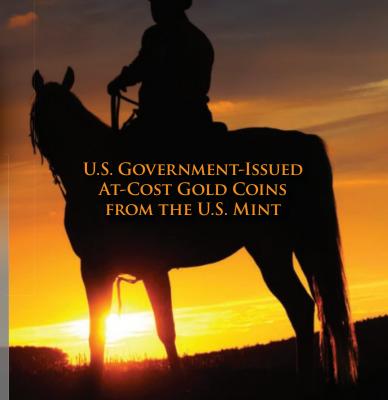
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# the magazine

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

### Membership Matters

For the first time since the 1979–1980 Grand Lodge year, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America has achieved a gain in membership!





#### 43

## Elks GER Michael T. Luhr Goes to Washington

Grand Exalted Ruler Luhr met with national policy makers to discuss how the Elks can help fight the opioid epidemic and provide support to veterans.

SHAWN BULLARD

## The Many Faces of America

For centuries, the unique American spirit has been embodied by figures like Lady Liberty and Uncle Sam. BUZZ BRANDT





## **62** From Steel to Rock & Roll: Cleveland, Ohio

Once an important industrial hub, Cleveland now entertains visitors with modern attractions like the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. VINCE GUERRIERI

#### **DEPARTMENTS**

- 4 Travels of the GER
- 8 It's Your Business
- 11 Healthline
- 14 News of the Lodges
- 71 Supporting Our Troops
- 77 Veterans Service Commission
- 87 Drug Awareness Program
- 92 Elks National Foundation
- 96 State Major Projects

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GER Michael T. Luhr and his wife, Barbara, traveled to **MARYLAND** to visit the state major project and attend a spring workshop at the Annapolis Lodge. Their first day involved lunch and a tour of Elks Camp Barrett, a youth camp that is the major project of the Maryland, Delaware and District of Columbia Elks Association. That evening, the GER and first lady joined 90 Elks for dinner at the Deale Lodge, during which they were given a carved wooden box and a handcrafted wooden replica US flag. Pictured are (from left) ER Linda Kilpatrick, GER Michael T. Luhr, and First Lady Barbara Luhr.

The following three days were taken up with meetings hosted by the Annapolis Lodge, which also hosted lunch and dinner each day, including a formal banquet on Saturday night.

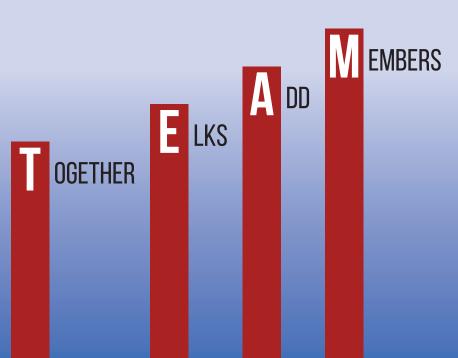
JULY/AUGUST 2019



GER Michael T. Luhr and his wife, Barbara, were guests of the Saint George "Dixie," **UTAH**, Lodge during the Utah Elks Association spring meeting. Prior to the two days of business meetings at the lodge, the GER and first lady attended the unveiling of a Buddy Bench at Sunset Elementary School. A Buddy Bench is a bench that is intended for lonely children to sit on to indicate that they are looking for a friend to play with. The bench was donated by the Saint George "Dixie" Lodge. Pictured are (front, from left) First Lady Barbara Luhr and GER Michael T. Luhr with (back, from left) Sunset Elementary School Principal Anthony Horrocks, lodge event committee Chairman Renee Danelon, lodge event committee member Harold Curry, and ER Lance Wright.



## GROW BY CHANGE NOT BY CHANCE





# Congratulations, Elkdom, on a Gain in Membership!

Each and every Elk has played a vital role in making this growth in membership a reality.

ODAY, I CAN SAY SOMETHING that has not been true in Elkdom for thirty-eight years. In the 2018–2019 Grand Lodge year, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America achieved a gain in membership! Every single year since the 1979–1980 Grand Lodge year, the Order has watched as its numbers have dwindled—but not this year! Today, we are a growing organization!

We can say this despite the fact that we live in what could be one of the most challenging eras Elkdom has ever faced. Since the early 1980s, when our membership began to decline, a rising tide of technological innovations and entertainment opportunities has radically altered the social landscape of America, fundamentally changing the way our society interacts. It was within this climate of fierce competition for people's time that we were reaching out to those in our communities and asking them to join us in sharing and caring, but we were not getting through to enough people. We were not getting through because we had not embraced the tide of change, and it was washing over us.

Most recently, we have been forced to compete with powerful new technologies—like smartphones and tablets and all the modern social media and entertainment opportunities that come with them—for our members' and potential members' valuable time and energy. Despite this competition, we have gained in membership this year, and we have accomplished this not by chance but by change. We have begun to embrace change and realize that it is the key to growth. By embracing the tide of change, we have been able to ride atop it to an increase in membership, instead of letting change simply wash over us.

Each and every Elk has played a vital role in making this growth in membership a reality. By working together and embracing change, we have achieved this monumental goal, but our work is far from over. We have reversed the trend of waning membership, but the fight to retain our gains and increase them goes on. To continue to benefit from change, we need to always remember that it was change—not chance—that got us here. ■

## IT'S YOUR BUSINESS



**Timothy Middleton** 

## Extra Income in Retirement? You Have Options

N THE AGE of smart devices and social media, there has never been a greater number of options to earn a side income in retirement. From websites advertising freelance jobs to smartphone apps for home food delivery work, opportunities to supplement one's earnings are everywhere. There are many prospects for those who prefer to be offline and unplugged, too. The competition for part-time work may feel steep at first because many people are looking for the same thing, and that includes a large number of retirees. With a majority of Americans—78 percent, according to Northwestern Mutual's 2018 Planning & Progress Study—concerned about not having enough set aside to fund their retirements, many retirees have entered the part-time or freelance job search. The key to finding the right side gig for you is to leverage the skills you already have and be doggedly persistent as you establish yourself in your next career phase.

#### **Getting in Line for Online**

The most immediate job opportunities await those who are comfortable in the online world. There are a number of websites on which companies post openings for part-time or piecework jobs in a host of categories, including writing and editing, research, and data entry. Job searchers with specialized licenses, such as attorneys, accountants, and civil engineers, can find opportunities on these websites, too. Those interested in freelancing for one of the sites' employer clients must apply and be approved to bid on projects—and the competition is fierce. Some of the jobs provide lucrative compensation, but payment per project can be as low as \$5.

Other online freelance opportunities are available in the so-called gig economy, a term that refers to business opportunities for independent contractors in which they are paid for each project or task they complete. The rise of the gig economy is closely tied to new mobile app-based companies, such as popular ride-share providers. Through these companies, those with a car can start earning a partor even full-time income behind the wheel. To apply to become a

#### IT'S YOUR BUSINESS

ride-share driver, applicants typically begin by completing an online background check and registration process and installing an app on their smartphone. When an application is approved, a new driver can use the app to pick up passengers and drive them to their destinations. Ride-share drivers earn a percentage of the fare paid by their passengers, and they receive any tips passengers give them through the app. Drivers are able to decide when and for how long they want to drive, which can make this type of work a good option for those who would like to have a great deal of flexibility.

For those job searchers who are not comfortable driving with strangers but would still like to work behind the wheel, there are food delivery services as well, many of which operate through mobile apps and allow freelance drivers to deliver food from restaurants and grocery stores to homes and businesses. As with ride-share services, food delivery drivers earn a certain amount for each delivery as well as any tips that are given through the delivery service's app.

In addition to selling your driving services, the internet has made it easy to sell space you are not using. Through online hospitality apps, you can rent out rooms or your entire living space for a set length of time. Likewise, other companies allow homeowners to rent out unused garage space. These space-rental companies allow those with extra room available to list their space, receive and approve requests from prospective renters, and then coordinate details and collect rent payment.

Another option, for those who have a knack for creating things or have an eye for antiques, is to become a seller on e-commerce websites. One such site allows sellers to "open a shop," which means creating a page on the site on which you can showcase and sell your wares. Sellers on e-commerce websites market everything from furniture and photography to jewelry and clothing. The items can be things you have made yourself or things you have found, for instance at a garage sale, and have refurbished. Of course, you can also launch your own business website, but by setting up shop in a preexisting marketplace, you can take advantage of marketing and payment processing tools that are already in place.

Regardless of the business niche you decide to pursue, taking advantage of online platforms can offer a flexible way to make some money on the side, as long as you are willing to be persistent and put in the work to market your services or products and build a clientele.

#### Job Opportunities in Your Backyard

Some retirees may prefer to find a part-time or freelance job that will provide them with opportunities to connect with their community, and for these job seekers, there are plenty of options. First off, consider the skills you acquired from any of your previous work or experiences. One of your past employers may have openings for part-time work, such as filing, bookkeeping, or mailroom duties, or

#### IT'S YOUR BUSINESS

even well-compensated consulting. If no opportunities exist with a past employer, consider other similar companies and try reconnecting with former colleagues to get reacquainted with the industry.

If you would rather not return to your previous line of work, tap into some of your other skills. Those who are experienced with home repairs and know their way around a hardware store may consider becoming a local handyman or handywoman. If you have a green thumb, offer your services as a gardener for local homeowners. Many neighborhood associations have newsletters and bulletin boards you can use to promote these types of services.

Community bulletin boards are also a smart place to advertise services you can offer as a caretaker, whether it be for pets, children, or adults who need a helping hand. List the skills and experience you have—for example, cooking, tutoring, or administering medicine—along with your contact information to let others in your community know that you are available to help. Another idea for those who cook, craft, or create in some other way is to look into setting up a booth at a farmers market or reach out to local businesses and ask if you can sell your products there. This is a great way to start your own business without taking on the overhead of owning a space.

If you are not interested in going into business for yourself, you can apply for part-time work at a number of local stores, especially those that need greeters. You may even be able to find a position at your local library, shelving books or greeting patrons, and assisted living facilities sometimes hire people to help coordinate activities for residents and guests.

Whatever you do, you are not alone in your search for ways to make a little extra money during retirement. As Americans live longer, pay more for health care, and discover that Social Security doesn't pay out as much as they might have imagined, they often head back into the workforce post-retirement. Fortunately, moneymaking opportunities abound both online and off-line. So welcome to the world of work—again.

### **HEALTHLINE**



Elizabeth A. Reid, MD

#### The Alphabet of Hepatitis Viruses

IRUSES are ingenious bits of DNA or RNA surrounded by capsules of protein. Their only purpose is to reproduce them selves by commandeering the cellular machinery of much more complex organisms like human beings. Some viruses, like the ones responsible for the common cold, are just temporary annoyances to their hosts. Other viruses have the ability to live inside the human body for extremely long periods of time, replicating themselves without being killed or killing their hosts, but doing significant damage to their adopted homes along the way. Among these types of viruses are those that affect the liver and cause the inflammatory disease called hepatitis.

#### The Discovery of Hepatitis and its Variants

Although the cause of hepatitis has only been known since the late twentieth century, people have been aware of the symptoms of the disease for thousands of years. The ancient Sumerians, for example, blamed the illness on a devil. Pope Zachary, who was pope from AD 741 to AD 752, also blamed the condition on an evil spirit but recognized that the disease spread through personal contact and wisely believed that affected people should be quarantined to prevent this.

Another piece of the hepatitis puzzle fell into place in 1885, after jaundice began appearing in workers at a shipyard in Bremen, Germany. It was noted that only those workers who had recently received injections of a smallpox vaccine made from human fluids were affected. By 1947, doctors had identified two versions of hepatitis—one that appeared slowly, weeks to months after the affected person received some kind of injection or inoculation, and another that moved through a population quickly and was apparently associated with contaminated food and poor sanitation. Twenty years later, researchers identified the first of the viruses that were responsible for these illnesses.

The identification of the agent that caused the less easily transmitted version of the disease came about in 1967 as a result of unrelated research into antigens that appeared in the blood of hemophiliacs who had received numerous blood transfusions. The

#### **HEALTHLINE**

researchers correlated one of these antigens with cases of hepatitis that had developed in some of the transfusion recipients. The virus responsible for the appearance of this antigen was dubbed hepatitis B virus (HBV), and in 1973, an antigen that appeared in the blood after foodborne outbreaks of the disease led to the discovery of another virus, which was called hepatitis A virus (HAV).

To help stop the transmission of HBV, donations of blood from people who carried the telltale HBV antigen were no longer accepted, but when this did not reduce the rate of transfusion-related cases of hepatitis as much as expected, doctors began to suspect that yet another hepatitis virus must exist, one that caused a third type of the disease. This new variant appeared to affect the same groups of people who were at risk for HBV—transfusion recipients, intravenous drug users, health care workers, and people who had undergone other procedures involving needles (such as tattooing); however, the virus responsible for this type was not found until 1989, when researchers discovered the hepatitis C virus (HCV). By screening blood donors for both HCV and HBV, doctors were largely able to abolish transfusion-related hepatitis.

#### Effects, Transmission, Symptoms, and Treatment

The inflammation caused by the various types of hepatitis interferes with the hundreds of tasks a healthy liver performs and can cause nausea, vomiting, weakness, malaise, fever, weight loss, abdominal pain, and a darkening of the urine. With enough impairment, jaundice appears, coloring the whites of the eyes yellow and turning skin sallow. Acute hepatitis, which occurs when the virus first invades the body, typically lasts weeks to months.

The virus behind foodborne epidemics of hepatitis—HAV—enters the body via the digestive system. Once in the liver, it reproduces itself without damaging the host liver cells. The infected person may not appear ill, but they can pose a risk to others nevertheless. The replicating virus can shed into their intestine through the bile and exit their body via feces for weeks before symptoms develop. Symptoms finally appear when the immune reaction produces liver inflammation.

Infections involving HAV are more common in areas of the world that lack public health measures to keep sewage away from water and food supplies. Still, in a world of global commerce, surprising outbreaks occur in developed countries as well, such as the one that hit the United States in 2013. In this case, the disease spread through contaminated frozen pomegranate seeds that were imported from Turkey. While rare cases of severe HAV occur, more than 99 percent of people recover completely from the infection and develop lifelong immunity in the process. Interestingly, small children suffer almost no symptoms at all from HAV. Immunization is highly effective at preventing infection and is recommended for people planning to travel to areas with unsafe water sources.

#### **HEALTHLINE**

Hepatitis B virus is also extremely infective and able to live outside of a host body for up to a week. It is generally transmitted from mother to child during the perinatal period, through sexual contact, through open wounds, or via unsterilized needles and accidental needle sticks in health care settings. For healthy people with normal immune function, the illness HBV produces is self-limited, but its symptoms are generally worse than those of HAV. Between 5 and 20 percent of people who contract HBV go on to develop a chronic infection, and those who have HIV or are receiving immunosuppressive treatment for other health problems are especially at risk. Chronic infection causes fibrosis and scarring of the liver and can eventually result in liver cancer or liver failure. There is a vaccine that prevents HBV, and it is recommended for people with high-risk lifestyles, health care and prison workers, and first responders.

The hepatitis C virus is transmitted in the same ways as HBV, so both viruses often appear simultaneously. The symptoms produced by HCV are generally less severe than those of HBV; however, HCV more frequently causes long-lasting problems with the liver. In fact, up to 85 percent of people who are infected with HCV develop chronic liver disease, making HCV the most frequent cause of chronic liver disease, outranking even alcohol abuse. It is estimated that HCV is carried by 3 percent of the world's population, and for now, there is no vaccine to prevent infection.

While HAV and most cases of HBV resolve on their own and require only good medical support, chronic cases of HBV and HCV can be harder to treat. Both types of chronic hepatitis are treated by attempting to clear the body of the viruses, but of the two, chronic HBV is the more difficult to resolve and requires years of surveillance and ongoing attempts to purge the body of the pathogen. In recent years, there have been huge advances in antiviral treatments designed to do this, especially in those drugs that attack the viruses directly by interfering with the ways they make their own components. Chronic HCV is more responsive to this kind of treatment than HBV and can be cleared from many people's bodies after twelve weeks of treatment. But challenges remain, not the least of which is the cost of the medications involved in treating these viruses.

There are other types of hepatitis, including hepatitis D, E, and G; however, HDV is only found in the presence of HBV, and although HEV, which is transmitted through the fecal-oral route, is on the rise in Western countries, it is still relatively rare in the United States. The final type, HGV, is present in many people, especially in association with HCV, but it is not certain whether it actually produces hepatitis on its own; consequently, the three main types of hepatitis—A, B, and C—are the ones that people in the United States generally need to be concerned about. Hepatitis of all types is a struggle between life forms that share the earth and do their best to survive.

#### **State Directory**



Cahaba Valley, AL, Lodge used a \$1,500 ENF Anniversary Grant and additional lodge funding to donate a dishwasher and some furniture to the Linda Nolen Learning Center, which teaches life skills to special-needs students. Pictured are PER Leon Johnston and teacher Cheri Brennan.

In other news, lodge members distributed dictionaries to more than 1,900 third-grade students in 15 schools. Lodge members also spoke to the students about the history of the US flag and the meaning of the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Cullman, AL,** Lodge used a \$2,000 ENF Beacon Grant to give 25 welcome baskets and 25 exit bags to Victim Services of Cullman, which assists victims of domestic violence. The donations will be given to people entering and leaving the organization's shelter.

**Jerome, AZ,** Lodge celebrated its 100th anniversary with a gala dinner, which nearly 190 people attended.

**Yuma, AZ,** Lodge donated \$8,000 to the Humane Society of Yuma to help refurbish the floors in the organization's building.

July/August 2019



Catalina Mountain, AZ, Lodge members took 25 needy children on a shopping trip and helped each child purchase \$140 worth of clothing and shoes. Following the trip, the lodge hosted a lunch, during which each child received an Easter basket and a bag full of school supplies from the Easter Bunny. Pictured with one of the attendees is the Easter Bunny (volunteer Debra Conover).

In other news, the lodge donated \$900 worth of playground equipment, \$600 in gift cards for art supplies, and a new US flag to Road-runner Elementary School.

In more news, the lodge used a \$2,000 ENF Beacon Grant and an ENF Anniversary Grant worth \$1,500 to donate 500 bags of food to a local food bank to be distributed to needy families.



**Prescott, AZ,** Lodge hosted a community Easter egg hunt, which several hundred people attended. The lodge donated the use of a booth to scouts from Cub Scout Pack 330 to sell food and raise funds for scouting activities. Pictured at the booth are (front, from left) scouts Jack Ruiz, Carter Wright, Carter Leforte, Gavin Worthington, Trent Findley, and Milo Montz with (back, from left) volunteer Paul Montz, lodge member Rick Allen, and scout leaders Rick Barushock and Matt Glodo.

**Fayetteville-Springdale, AR,** Lodge donated a total of nearly \$5,700 to charitable causes. Among the donations was a grant of nearly \$2,200 to a program that provides food to needy children for the



Sun City, AZ, Lodge members presented a framed certificate to the El Pueblo Lady Crocheters to recognize their work, which involves recycling plastic shopping bags and making them into thin mattresses that

are donated to organizations serving homeless people. Pictured are (from left) crocheters Barb Herron and Linda Rider and Arizona Elks Association Veterans Service Committee Chairman Gary Drumheller.

In other news, the lodge donated nearly \$1,700 worth of clothing and bedding to Central Arizona Shelter Services.



Hot Springs, AR, Lodge donated 80 trays and pots for starting seedlings to the Arkadelphia Human Development Center, a residential center for people with special needs, to be used in a greenhouse project. The state major project supports

the five Arkansas Human Development Centers. Pictured are (from left) center Maintenance Coordinator Phyllis Cook, lodge member Linda Doherty, and Arkansas State Elks Association Major Project Committee Chairman Herbert Carey

In other news, the lodge awarded \$1,000 scholarships to Episcopal Collegiate School student Corinne Clower, Lakeside High School student Alaina Edwards, Lake Hamilton High School student Jordan Erickson, Fountain Lake Charter High School student Byron Louk, Lakeside High School student Matthew Mangan, and Jessieville High School student Grace Robertson.

In more news, the lodge made a donation of approximately 1,500 pounds of pet food and some cleaning supplies, pet treats, and pet toys to the local Humane Society.

weekends and a grant of \$1,500 to the Arkansas Children's Foundation, which supports the Arkansas Children's hospital system.

**Gilroy, CA,** Lodge hosted a concert and raised more than \$1,800 for lodge scholarships. The seven recipients of the lodge's scholarships were invited to attend the event.

July/August 2019



Mountain Home, AR, Lodge members honored Pinkston Middle School students Ella Hilvert and Rylee Crecelius for finishing first and third respectively in the fifth- and sixth-grade division of the Arkansas State Elks Association Americanism Essay Contest. Lodge members presented the winners with certificates and awards of \$200 for first place and \$100 for third place on behalf of the state association. Pictured are (from left) ER Stuart Friend, winners Ella and Rylee, Americanism Committee Chairman Vonya Schaufler, and teacher Mylet Trotter.

In other news, the lodge donated \$200 to the City of Mountain Home Parks and Recreation Department to support a spring carnival.



**Searcy**, **AR**, Lodge donated \$2,000 to Camp Quality Arkansas, a summer camp for children with cancer. Pictured are (from left) Est. Lead. Knight Judy Monday, Camp Quality representatives George and Jeana Jucha, Trustee Bill Hilton, ER James Schmidt, Est. Lead. Knight Jesse Medler, Activities Committee Chairman Pam Boggan, Secy. Anita Varnell, Treas. Paulette Kempson, and Est. Lect. Knight Michelle Rodgers.

**Hemet, CA,** Lodge awarded \$100 scholarships to students Zachery Krell, Emma Medrano, Magali Olide, Jessica Orozco, Jared Sclenker, and Ivan Valentin.

**Orange, CA,** Lodge provided lunch to 120 participants and 50 volunteers taking part in a soccer camp organized by the Orange County Gang Reduction and Intervention Partnership, which provides positive activities for at-risk children ages 8 to 12.



Mission Viejo-Saddleback Valley, CA, Lodge members distributed a total of more than 6,000 dictionaries to third-grade students in the Saddleback Valley and Capistrano Unified School Districts. Pictured at Cordillera Elementary School with lodge member Andrew Costello are (from left) students Jace, Claire, Jewel, Annie, and Rachel and teacher Kim Pugh.



Santa Maria, CA, Lodge held a firefighters appreciation banquet and awards ceremony, which about 240 people attended. Following dinner, lodge members presented plaques to four outstanding firefighters. Pictured are (from left) Guadalupe Fire Department firefighter Nathaniel Kleinsasser, Santa Maria Fire Department Fire Chief Christopher Furtado, ER Luis Rodriguez, Santa Barbara Fire Department Captain Joshua Crazier, and Jennifer Jones, who accepted the award on behalf of her husband, Vandenburg Fire Department Battalion Chief Michael Jones.

**Simi Valley**, **CA**, Lodge donated a total of \$500 to the Simi Valley Family YMCA to support the organization's scholarship program.

**Sunnyvale, CA**, Lodge donated nearly \$3,400 to the Chico Lodge to support efforts to assist victims of the Camp Fire wildfire. The lodge also donated \$480 to JW House, which provides temporary residence and other services to the families of hospitalized children, and

JULY/AUGUST 2019

lodge members cooked and served dinner to a total of 25 residents and staff members of the house.

**Visalia, CA,** Lodge hosted a lunch and raffle, which 290 people attended, and raised more than \$10,000 for charities, including the state major project, which provides in-home therapy to children with special needs and vision screening for preschool children.

**Arvada, CO,** and **Lakewood, CO,** Lodge members congratulated eighth grader Amanda Hartzell for successfully completing the Catcha-Calf program by showing her steer at the 2019 National Western Stock Show and Rodeo. The two lodges cosponsored Hartzell to take part in the competition, which involved raising the steer for nine months before showing it.

**Aurora, CO**, Lodge used part of a \$2,500 ENF Gratitude Grant to donate \$1,500 to the Mile High Behavioral Health Care/Comitis Crisis Center to replenish frozen foods following a power outage.

**Glenwood Springs**, **CO**, Lodge members presented the Elks Distinguished Citizenship Award to US Marine Corps veteran John Petit to recognize his efforts in supporting the annual National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic.

Golden, CO, Lodge members honored Jefferson County Sheriff's Office Sergeant Ryan Jones as sheriff's deputy of the year, Golden Police Department Officer Joe Page as police officer of the year, Golden Fire Department firefighter Tina Gustafson as firefighter of the year, Fairmount Fire-Rescue firefighter Tyler Ottersberg as career firefighter of the year, and Fairmount Fire-Rescue member Danny Turney as volunteer firefighter of the year.

**Putnam, CT,** Lodge inaugurated a new Antlers program and initiated the program's 15 founding members.



Jacksonville, FL,
Lodge hosted a
Pinewood Derby for
members of Cub
Scout Pack 50.
Pictured with two of
the scouts are (from
left) pack leader
Demetri Poulos and
ER Jack Ward.

**Lakeland, FL,** Lodge awarded scholarships worth a total of nearly \$14,000 to 12 graduating high school students. The awards were presented at a banquet, which 80 people attended.

**Sebring, FL**, Lodge donated \$650 to the Special STARS, which provides adaptive athletic competitions for people with disabilities. A lodge member also threw out the first pitch at a Special STARS softball tournament.

**Tampa, FL,** Lodge used part of a \$5,000 ENF Impact Grant to provide 20 laptop computers to be used by Club Chivalry for Successful Students, which is a club for at-risk teenagers at Robinson High School.

**Twin Cities, FL,** Lodge donated a \$1,500 ENF Anniversary Grant to the Panhandle Youth Football Association to help improve lighting in the City of Niceville's sports facilities.

Winter Garden, FL, Lodge held several fund-raising events and collected a total of \$21,000 for Orlando Police Department Officer Kevin Valencia, who was severely wounded in the line of duty in June 2018.

**Zephyrhills**, **FL**, Lodge donated \$500 to the Zephyrhills High School Army Junior ROTC program.

**Jesup, GA**, Lodge used part of a \$1,500 ENF Anniversary Grant to donate \$1,000 to the Wayne County High School Jacket Jive club, which prepares high school students for a workplace environment.

**Mountain Home, ID,** Lodge used a \$2,000 ENF Gratitude Grant, an ENF Anniversary Grant worth \$1,500, and \$2,500 in additional funding to provide emergency rescue equipment to Elmore County Search and Rescue.

**Wallace**, **ID**, Lodge hosted a carnival for about 200 children ages 12 and younger and their parents. The event featured lunch, games, and prizes.

**Franklin, IN,** Lodge members honored students John Cave, Savannah Deckard, and Aubrey Runyon for winning the lodge's Americanism Essay Contest and awarded a certificate and a \$100 prize to each winner.

**Cedar Rapids, IA,** Lodge used part of a \$2,500 ENF Gratitude Grant to donate \$700 to the Cedar Rapids Fire Department to help provide smoke detectors to members of the public.



**Perry, IA,** Lodge used a \$1,500 ENF Anniversary Grant to stock a blessing box, which is a small, unstaffed, open-air food pantry located in a public place. Lodge members periodically restocked the blessing box with additional food purchased using the grant. The box was originally put in place by the staff of the Mercy Clinic, which is located nearby. Pictured are (from left) lodge member Larry Meacham, Est. Lect. Knight Amber Green, Est. Loyal Knight Heather Erickson, Secy. Jon Jamison, lodge member Tavis Landgrebe, and Mercy Clinic staff members Jennifer Wilson, Robin Burke, and Melanie Tolle.

**Junction City, KS**, Lodge used part of a \$1,500 ENF Anniversary Grant to donate \$500 worth of supplies to the Junction City/Geary County Animal Shelter and \$500 to Friends of Animals, which finds adopters for the animals at the shelter.

**Ashland, KY,** Lodge used part of a \$2,500 ENF Promise Grant to donate \$1,500 to the community Build-a-Bed project, which provides beds to needy children. Lodge members also donated 15 alarm clocks and 15 night-lights to the project and helped build 100 beds.

**Glen Burnie**, **MD**, Lodge inaugurated an Antlers program with eight founding members. Lodge members also presented \$1,000 scholarships to program members Abby Griffith and Emily Trader.



Frostburg, MD, Lodge members attended a Court of Honor ceremony for new Eagle Scout William Burke, of Boy Scout Troop 27, and presented him with a certificate. For his Eagle Scout Project, Jensen replaced an information kiosk at the Howell Run Picnic Area near Jennings

Randolph Lake. Pictured are (from left) DD Brian Westfall and Eagle Scout Burke.

Maryland, Delaware and District of Columbia Elks Association held a lunch at the Westminster, MD, Lodge for the 15 finalists of the state Americanism essay and poster contests and the winners' families. Following lunch, which a total of 75 adults and 36 children attended, each winner was presented with a certificate, a medal, a tote bag, and a monetary award. The state association also recognized 14 finalists who could not attend and arranged for them to be given their awards.

**Plymouth, MA**, Lodge used part of a \$2,500 ENF Gratitude Grant to donate \$1,000 to the South Shore Community Action Council Food Distribution Center, which supplies and assists 45 local food pantries and soup kitchens.

Marquette, MI, Lodge donated \$800 to the Music for All Kids youth music education program.



Grand Rapids, MI, Lodge donated more than 90 pounds of food to Kids' Food Basket. Pictured is Kids' Food Basket employee Kelly.



**Benton County, MO,** Lodge used a \$1,500 ENF Anniversary Grant to donate two protective vests to the Warsaw Police Department. Pictured are (from left) PER Tim Fink, lodge members Barry White and Sherry Blyth, Warsaw Police Department Chief Jason Wenberg, lodge member Nancy Batye, vest manufacturer representative Mark Marino, Secy. Vicki Brooke, and lodge member Paula Oprzedek.



egg hunt for 25 local children. Each child received an Easter basket or another gift and some candy. The event was held with the help of \$300 from a \$2,500 ENF Gratitude Grant. Pictured is guest Wednesday Weiman.



Kansas City (Northland), MO, Lodge used a \$2,000 ENF Beacon Grant to create eight baskets full of baby clothing and infant care supplies and donate them to the Down Syndrome Guild of Greater Kansas City to be given to families with newborn children who have Down syndrome. Pictured with three of the baskets are (from left) ER Mike Michalski, PER William Moore, Down Syndrome Guild Chief Operations Officer Amy Allison, lodge members Sonny Caton and Robbie Robertson, and PER R. D. Mallams.

In other news, the lodge awarded six college scholarships worth a total of \$9,000 to graduating high school seniors Kathryn Bullock, Catherine Cummings, Mawadda Eskandar, Faith Nagel, Gavin Ott, and Anne Winkler.

**Ocean Springs, MS,** Lodge used part of a \$2,500 ENF Promise Grant to provide school supplies to the Jackson County, FL, school district to replace supplies that were destroyed by Hurricane Michael. The lodge also used part of the grant to provide 96 backpacks full of school supplies to students in the Ocean Springs and Jackson County, MS, school districts.

**Deer Lodge**, **MT**, Lodge used part of a \$2,000 ENF Gratitude Grant to donate \$1,100 to the Deer Lodge Food Pantry. The lodge used the



**Washington, MO,** Lodge awarded Donald C. Conrad Memorial Special Needs Scholarships to four people with special needs to allow them to attend workshops and summer camps. Pictured are (from left) scholarship recipients Monica Smith, Keigen Noll (being held by his mother, Melissa Noll), Karen Hinten, and Michael Wand.



**Broken Bow, NE,** Lodge used a \$2,500 ENF Gratitude Grant to donate 14 backpacks filled with shoes and clothing to three schools to be distributed to needy children. Pictured are (from left) PDD Stanley Sedlacek, Secy. Nancy Sedlacek, Anselmo-Merna Public School Counselor Tina Larsen, Anselmo-Merna Public School Superintendent Logan Lightfoot, ER Rebecca Loy, and PDD Paul Loy.

In other news, the lodge hosted a Pinewood Derby for lodgesponsored Cub Scout Pack 23 and provided dinner and dessert to the more than 60 people who attended.

In more news, the lodge held a reception, during which more than \$6,000 worth of scholarships and other awards were given to outstanding young people.

remainder of the grant to donate children's life vests to the Deer Lodge Schools Central Park Center.

**Kearney, NE,** Lodge members took part in a fund-raising event and raised more than \$800 for the Guardians of the Children Seven Valleys Chapter, which is an organization that combats child abuse.

JULY/AUGUST 2019



Tahoe/Douglas, NV, Lodge members distributed more than 750 dictionaries to third-grade students in Douglas County and South Lake Tahoe, CA. Pictured at C. C. Meneley Elementary School are Est. Lead. Knight Twila Otto and students Jaden Sheppard (left) and Payton Murray.

In other news, the lodge used part of a \$2,500 ENF Promise Grant to provide fishing equipment to Discovery on the Fly, a six-week fly-fishing and confi-

dence-building program that served a total of 18 at-risk youth. The remainder of the grant funded a graduation lunch, which was held at the lodge, and during which each of the six participants in the most recent course received a full set of fly-fishing equipment. A total of 30 participants and volunteers attended the lunch.

In more news, the lodge donated \$600 to Douglas County Parks and Recreation Commission to support youth activities. The lodge also donated \$250 to the Douglas High School Army Junior ROTC program. Additionally, the lodge used part of a \$2,500 ENF Gratitude Grant to make a donation of \$250 to the Boys and Girls Clubs of Western Nevada.

Carson City, NV, Lodge donated nearly \$6,700 to the Douglas-Carson High School Rodeo Club.

**Derry-Salem, NH,** Lodge hosted a comedy show fund-raiser, which 170 people attended, and raised \$2,100 for local charities.

**Bayonne**, **NJ**, Lodge donated an ENF Anniversary Grant worth \$1,500 to WomenRising, which assists victims of domestic violence, at-risk children, and underhoused families.

**Bordentown**, **NJ**, Lodge hosted an Easter egg hunt, which about 50 children attended. Each child received an Easter basket full of treats, and the children who found ten specially marked eggs each received a chocolate Easter bunny.

**Elmwood Park-Paterson, NJ,** Lodge used a \$2,000 ENF Beacon Grant to host a dinner and dance for nearly 180 people, including adults with special needs and volunteer assistants.

**Hackettstown**, **NJ**, Lodge donated ten food baskets to the families of needy Brass Castle School students.



Bayville, NJ, Lodge and the lodge Motorcycle Committee renovated the house of special-needs ambassador Val Falzarono and his family to make the bathroom accessible to people with disabilities. The lodge also held a party at the Falzaronos house to celebrate the opening of the new bathroom. The lodge also gave Easter baskets full of gifts to Val and his sister,

Bella. Pictured with Val and Bella and their Easter baskets are (back, from left) Trustee Mary Ann Lynch, ER Bernie Lynch, and Est. Lead. Knight Katherine Rausa.



**Eatontown, NJ,** Lodge used a \$1,500 ENF Anniversary Grant to provide four bicycles to Eatontown Public Schools to be awarded as prizes for good attendance. Pictured with three of the winning students are (back, from left) ER Richard Brand, lodge member Amie Miller, and bicycle store owner Michael Schiavo.

In other news, the lodge held a flag-retirement ceremony and honorably disposed of four worn US flags.

Manahawkin, NJ, Lodge held an Easter egg hunt with the help of members of the lodge Antlers program. A total of 80 children attended the event.

**Marlton, NJ,** Lodge members attended the Eagle Scout Recognition Dinner of the Garden State Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

JULY/AUGUST 2019



**Greater Cape May, NJ,** Lodge awarded the Elks Distinguished Citizenship Award to Jessica Manfre to recognize her for coordinating assistance to US Coast Guard personnel at Coast Guard Training Center Cape May during the federal government shutdown. Pictured are (from left) Jessica's husband, Scott Manfre; her daughter, Raegan; honoree Jessica Manfre; her son, Anthony; and ER Jerry Krause.

In other news, the lodge donated \$1,500 to the Lower Township Police Department to support a youth camp for junior and senior high school students.



Hamilton, NJ,
Lodge hosted an
Easter egg hunt for
40 children from the
community. The
children searched
for Easter eggs
filled with candy and
treats, were provided with lunch,
and posed for
photos with the

Easter Bunny. Pictured with the Easter Bunny (In. Guard Timothy Cicon) are (from left) guests Amelia Schulte, Jack Schulte, and Annalina Groehrig.

During the dinner, lodge members presented a certificate and a pin to new Eagle Scout Jonathan Fine, of Boy Scout Troop 36, which is sponsored by the Mount Holly Lodge. For his Eagle Scout Project, Fine built ten shelters as part of a community effort to spay and neuter feral cats.

**New Brunswick, NJ,** Lodge used a \$2,000 ENF Gratitude Grant to donate five digital projectors to Roosevelt Elementary School. In other news, the lodge donated a \$1,500 ENF Anniversary Grant



**Kearny, NJ,** Lodge used part of a \$1,500 ENF Anniversary Grant to donate \$500 to the Kearny High School Empty Bowl Project, which is a donation drive for the Kearny Community Food Bank that is led by high school students. Pictured are (from left) lodge member John Kryzanowski, chef Laura Coletti, students Eric, Morgan, and Mary, ER Mary Beth Gerstenmier, chef Jess Barone, Chaplain Barbara Kryzanowski, and Trustee Julie Murtha.



Long Branch, NJ, Lodge hosted a lunch with the Easter Bunny for about 60 guests from the community. Pictured with three of the guests are ER Michael Veth and the Easter Bunny (volunteer John Severs).

and an ENF Beacon Grant worth \$2,000 to Elijah's Promise, a community kitchen that provides free meals to needy people and job training to people who need jobs.

**South Orange, NJ,** Lodge members collected community donations and used them to create 90 purses full of basic supplies for the Angel Project. The purses will be provided to women who are homeless or are the victims of domestic violence.

In other news, the lodge donated a \$1,500 ENF Anniversary Grant to Girls Helping Girls Period, which provides feminine hygiene products to needy women and girls.

**South Plainfield, NJ,** Lodge Motorcycle Committee hosted a fundraising event and raised a total of approximately \$1,500 for five-year-old Amanda Van Der Werf and her family to help them pay for her medical expenses.

JULY/AUGUST 2019



Mount Holly, NJ, Lodge used a \$2,000 ENF Beacon Grant to donate \$500 worth of snacks and 50 cases of water to the Gift of Life Family House, which provides tempo-

rary residence to the families of organ transplant patients. The lodge also provided dinner to 74 residents of the facility. Pictured are (from left) Gift of Life Family House Guests Services Intern Liz Wapinski and Relief Manager Peggy Fulda.



**Rutherford, NJ,** Lodge used a \$1,500 ENF Anniversary Grant to donate animal-handling equipment to the Rutherford Police Department. Pictured are (from left) Officer Steven Villareale, Sgt. Julie Ann Zeigler, volunteer Joy Christians, ER Josephine Gagliano, Police Chief John Russo, City Council Liaison Frank Nunziato, and Special Law Enforcement Officer David Kiernan.

**Tenafly, NJ,** Lodge hosted a fund-raiser and raised \$500 each for the Bergen County Animal Shelter and START II, which is another animal shelter.

**Vineland, NJ,** Lodge used part of a \$2,500 ENF Gratitude Grant to donate \$800 to the Patrick R. Fiorilli Senior Center.

**West Milford, NJ,** Lodge donated \$2,500 to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. The lodge also donated \$100 to the Newark Boys and Girls Club to help repair a parking lot and donated more than \$400 to sponsor three local children to attend the Bubbling Springs Day Camp.



Sussex, NJ, Lodge members presented a certificate to past Wantage Township Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee President Gregory Williams to honor him for his work, particularly with respect to constructing a Vietnam War memorial. Pictured are (from left) Williams and ER Warren Wisse.

In other news, lodge members attended a Court of Honor ceremony for new Eagle Scout Cody Farischon, of Boy Scout Troop 850, and presented him with a

certificate, a US flag, and two pins. For his Eagle Scout Project, Farischon replaced all of the welcome signs in his home town.

In more news, the lodge donated about \$500 worth of clothing, food, stationery, and toiletries to Domestic Abuse and Sexual Assault Intervention Services.

In further news, the lodge donated the use of the lodge building to the local 4-H sewing and cooking club and to the local Experimental Aircraft Association chapter to hold their regular meetings.

**Santa Fe, NM,** Lodge awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to high school senior Colton Rohrbach.

**Amsterdam, NY**, Lodge hosted a softball tournament fund-raiser and raised \$5,000 for the families of children who died in a limousine accident. The New York Northeast District provided food for attendees at the event.

**Beacon, NY**, Lodge hosted a Court of Honor ceremony for Boy Scout Troop 41, which 75 people attended.

**Cohoes-Waterford, NY,** Lodge held a fund-raiser and raised nearly \$2,000 to assist member Anthony Falconio with medical expenses.

In other news, the lodge used a \$2,000 ENF Gratitude Grant to donate \$1,000 each to the Cohoes City School District and the Waterford-Halfmoon Union Free School District.

**Guilderland, NY,** Lodge used a \$1,500 ENF Anniversary Grant to distribute dictionaries to 350 third-grade students in seven schools.

**Huntington, NY,** Lodge used part of a \$2,500 ENF Gratitude Grant to make a donation of \$500 to the Suffolk County Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

JULY/AUGUST 2019



Clifton Park, NY,
Lodge donated a
\$2,500 ENF Gratitude
Grant to CAPTAIN
Community Human
Services to provide
food, clothing, and
emergency transportation to teenagers
staying at the
organization's shelter
for runaway and
homeless young
people. Pictured with

some of the food are PER Robert Lumpkins and CAPTAIN representative Aine Evangelista.

In other news, the lodge used a \$1,500 ENF Anniversary Grant to help the local YMCA hold a seven-week basketball skills program for 30 children from a mobile home community. Each child received a T-shirt and a pair of athletic shoes, and dinner was served after each session of the program.

In more news, the lodge donated an educational display detailing the history of the US flag to the Town of Clifton Park.



**Esperance**, **NY**, Lodge members presented a framed certificate to the managers of a supermarket to recognize them for correctly displaying the US flag. Pictured are (from left) ER Robert Beaver, Assistant Store Manager Steven Wood, Store Manager Joel Riley, DD Jeffrey Largeteau, and PER William Fink.

**Islip, NY,** Lodge used a \$2,500 ENF Gratitude Grant to distribute nearly 380 books for young readers to kindergarten and first-grade students at Wing Elementary School.

**Lancaster**, **NY**, Lodge held a painting class fund-raiser and raised more than \$610 for lodge charities. (Continued on page 33)

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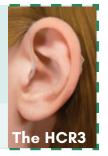
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Newark, NY, Lodge used part of a \$2,500 ENF Gratitude Grant to donate \$1,000 to the Alex Eligh Community Center. The donation will be used to provide equipment for local youth baseball, softball, and T-ball teams. Pictured are (from left) community center Board President Len Colavito, community

center Assistant Director Jorge Bueso, Est. Lead. Knight Susan House, and PER Margaret Mares.

In other news, the lodge used part of a \$2,500 ENF Gratitude Grant to donate \$1,500 to the Wayne County Humane Society. The lodge also donated the use of the lodge building to the Wayne County Motorcycle Club to hold a fund-raiser for the organization.

(Continued from page 31)

**Lockport**, **NY**, Lodge held its annual bowling day and lunch for bowlers with special needs. A total of approximately 100 people with special needs were assisted by lodge members and scouts from Boy Scout Troop 82.

**Mechanicville-Stillwater, NY,** Lodge used a \$2,000 ENF Beacon Grant to hold a day of basketball games for children with special needs and their classmates. A total of 40 children took part in the basketball games.

In other news, the lodge hosted a banquet for the winners of the lodge Americanism Essay Contest, their families, and a state assembly member, who presented the awards. Each winner received a trophy, an educational poster, and a monetary prize of \$100 for first place, \$50 for second place, and \$25 for third place. The lodge received more than 380 entries for the contest. The winners of the fifth- and sixth-grade division were Mechanicville City School District student Landon Bronson in first place, Augustine Classical Academy student Asher Hopkins in second place, and Mechanicville City School District student Emma Andrews in third place. The winners of the seventh- and eighth-grade competition were Stillwater Central School District students Katelyn Olson in place first, Liam Brady in second place, and Alyssa Coffee in third place. All six winners also won the New York Northeast District Americanism Essay Contest.

**Riverhead, NY,** Lodge used part of a \$1,500 ENF Anniversary Grant to donate \$500 to Phillips Avenue Elementary School to support a food pantry for needy students.



Patchogue, NY, Lodge honored the 11 winners of its Americanism Essay Contest in separate ceremonies at the three participating schools. Lodge members chose as many as three winners per agegroup from each school that participated and awarded each winner a certificate and \$50 for first place, \$25 for second place, or \$10 for third place. Pictured at Holy Angels Regional School are (from left) PER John Sweeney, seventh- and eighth-grade division winners Madeline Diemer in first place, Leah Walker in second place, and Katelyn Halverson in third place, and ER Karen Costello.

**Saratoga-Wilton, NY,** Lodge hosted a dinner and concert, which 130 people attended, and raised about \$1,000 for lodge charities.

In other news, the lodge Senior Food Program, which is supported by a \$10,000 ENF Impact Grant, delivered food provided by local food pantries to more than 110 needy seniors in five locations.

In further news, the lodge used a \$1,500 ENF Anniversary Grant to donate two basketball hoops and backboards to Saratoga Bridges, an organization that serves people with special needs.

**Shallotte**, **NC**, Lodge members presented plaques to Policeman of the Year Bert Reaves and Firefighter of the Year Alexis Hayes and awarded the Elks Distinguished Citizenship Award to Andrew Carr following a dinner at the lodge.



New Bern, NC, Lodge donated \$350 to the Kennedy Home, which provides temporary residence to children who have been neglected or abused or whose family is in crisis. Pictured are (from left) lodge member Thomas Perretta and Kennedy Home Director of Residential Services Chris Allabaugh.

34 July/August 2019



Roseburg, OR, Lodge members presented certificates to all 60 participants in the lodge's Americanism Essay Contest. The three winners were Eastwood Elementary School students McLane Stedman in first place, Grace Gibby in second place, and Fir Grove Elementary School student Emylie Moore in third place. McLane also won the Oregon Southwest District contest. Pic-

tured presenting a certificate to McLane is Americanism Committee Chairman James Blasi.

**Hamilton, OH,** Lodge donated \$1,000 to the Open Door Food Pantry. Lodge members also helped unpack food deliveries and stock shelves at the pantry.

In other news, the lodge used part of a \$2,500 ENF Gratitude Grant to donate a total of \$1,500 worth of tools, including wireless tool sets, battery-operated lights, and saw blades, to the Liberty Township Fire Department.

**Portsmouth, OH,** Lodge donated a \$2,000 ENF Gratitude Grant to the Steven A. Hunter Hope Fund to help provide food for the weekends to needy local schoolchildren.

**Van Wert, OH,** Lodge donated \$100 to the Van Wert Peony Festival scholarship program.

**Keizer**, **OR**, Lodge members congratulated McNary High School senior Abbie McKenzie for receiving an ENF Most Valuable Student Scholarship worth at least \$4,000 over four years.

**Bellefonte, PA**, Lodge donated \$10,000 to the Juniata Valley Council of the Boy Scouts of America to help build the John M. Kriner II Lodge at Seven Mountains Scout Camp.

In other news, the lodge donated a total of \$7,200 from the David B. Garver Memorial Fund to the Centre County Grange Fair to replace sandboxes.

**Oakmont, PA,** Lodge members congratulated local Soccer Shoot winners Gage Adinolfi and Allison Porter for finishing first in the U–12 Boys and Girls divisions of the Area 2 Regional Soccer Shoot championship.

**State College, PA,** Lodge members presented the Elks Distinguished Citizenship Award to Tyler Martz.



East Stroudsburg, PA, Lodge used a \$1,500 ENF Anniversary Grant to host a dinner for 30 people from the community who were experiencing homelessness and to provide tents, sleeping bags, sleeping mats, bus passes, and gift cards to the guests. The event was held with the help of Operation Chillout, which assists homeless veterans, and Street2Feet, which provides small cash grants and other assistance to homeless individuals. Pictured are (from left) Operation Chillout representative Al Compoly, guests of the lodge Corey Collins and Chelsee Deems, ER Ralph Bush, Street2Feet representative Jack Morris, PDD Carol Hutson, and lodge member Robert Huffman.



Kittanning, PA, Lodge hosted its annual awards banquet, during which lodge members presented the Elks Distinguished Citizenship Award to Jack Bennett and recognized Chris Robbins as their police officer of the year. Lodge members also awarded certificates and gift cards to 11 outstanding Armstrong School District students to recognize them for winning the lodge's Americanism Essay Contest and Drug Awareness Poster and Essay Contests. Pictured during the presentation are (front, from left) Drug Awareness Poster Contest winners Rosie Harmon, Gracie Slovinsky, Meliah Mellish, and Aubrey Reefer, Drug Awareness Essay Contest winner Haylee Young, and Americanism Essay Contest winners Ellie Reefer and Emma Orr, with (back, from left) Americanism Essay Contest winner Brooklyn Kotora, ER Kevin Luke, and local and district Americanism Essay Contest winner Ava Rose Carbajal.

36 July/August 2019

**West Warwick, RI,** Lodge used a \$2,000 ENF Beacon Grant to provide clothing and activity books to foster children who are being treated at Hasbro Children's Hospital.

**Georgetown/Pawleys Island, SC,** Lodge donated a \$1,500 ENF Anniversary Grant to Maryville Elementary School to support a program that provides needy schoolchildren with backpacks full of food every weekend.

**Little River, SC,** Lodge held a donation drive and raised \$2,500 for the Elks National Foundation.

In other news, the lodge donated about \$400 worth of snacks, drinks, and filled plastic Easter eggs to the North Strand Recreation Center to support a community Easter egg hunt.

**Pendleton, SC,** Lodge members honored the winners of their Americanism Essay Contest and presented them with medals and monetary awards in a ceremony at La France Elementary School. The lodge received 50 entries to the contest. The winners were students Neydi Morales, Pierce Lee, Emma Worn, and Rose Glenn.



Huron, SD, Lodge donated a \$2,000 ENF Beacon Grant to the food pantry of the Salvation Army of Huron. Pictured are ENF Committee Chairman Dennis Bennett and food pantry Director Reva Powell.

**Cumberland County, TN,** Lodge made a donation of \$250 to Saint Jude Children's Research Hospital and a donation of \$250 to Shriners Hospitals for Children.

**Eureka** "Tintic," UT, Lodge donated a \$1,500 ENF Anniversary Grant to Eureka City Emergency Services to purchase trauma bags for emergency medical services personnel.

**Saint George "Dixie," UT,** Lodge hosted a raffle and auction and raised a total of more than \$4,000 to provide school supplies to needy, local schoolchildren.

In other news, the lodge took part in a fund-raiser held by a doughnut company to support research into xeroderma pigmentosum, (Continued on page 39)



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JULY/AUGUST 2019



Windsor, VT, Lodge members honored new Eagle Scout Aiden Williams, of Boy Scout Troop 42, and invited him and his Scoutmaster to attend a dinner at the lodge. Lodge members presented him with two framed certificates. For his Eagle Scout Project, Williams built and installed 12 bat houses. Pictured are (from left) DD Norman Marshall, Eagle Scout Williams, Scoutmaster Brian Fortier, and PER Jean Crosby.

### (Continued from page 37)

a skin disorder that makes people extremely sensitive to ultraviolet light. The lodge purchased 34 dozen doughnuts, in return for which the company donated \$170 to support research. The doughnuts were given to students and faculty at Millcreek High School.

**Barre, VT,** Lodge awarded the Elks Distinguished Citizenship Award to Sara Akers to recognize her work in organizing charitable fundraisers in the community.

In other news, the lodge used part of a \$2,500 ENF Gratitude Grant to donate \$500 to Hedding United Methodist Church to support programs that assist needy people.

**Brattleboro**, **VT**, Lodge donated \$1,500 to the Brattleboro Fire Department to help provide firefighters with high-visibility water- and fluid-resistant jackets.

**Clifton Forge, VA,** Lodge members honored the winners of their Americanism Essay Contest and presented them with monetary awards in a ceremony at Clifton Middle School. The winners were Isaiah Wood in first place, Bryce Crawford in second place, and Tyler Jackson in third place.

Fredericksburg, VA, Lodge held an awards banquet, during which lodge members named Michelle Swisher as their educator of the year, granted a posthumous lifetime achievement award to retired Fire Chief Norman Brooks, named Chuck Eley as their citizen of the

year, and named Senior Deputy Joseph Weins as their law enforcement officer of the year.

**Front Royal, VA**, Lodge used a \$2,000 ENF Beacon Grant to provide bags of groceries to a total of 200 needy seniors and veterans in the community.

**Loudoun, VA**, Lodge awarded the Elks Distinguished Citizenship Award to Michelle Mort to thank her for her assistance with the Virginia North District's Welcome Home Program for formerly homeless veterans.

**Martinsville**, **VA**, Lodge donated \$100 worth of school supplies and snacks to Martinsville Middle School.

**Virginia Beach, VA,** Lodge members presented the Elks Distinguished Citizenship Award to Kim Wade.



Greater Spokane, WA, Lodge members attended a Court of Honor ceremony for new Eagle Scouts Rylan Donahue, Austin Gainey, Sean O'Dowd, and Keegan Phillips, of Boy Scout Troop 420, and presented them with US flags. For their Eagle Scout Projects, Donahue built planter boxes at a site that hosts retreats for female veterans, while Gainey installed Masonite to protect interior walls in a children's crisis nursery. For his project, O'Dowd landscaped a portion of a middle school's ground, and for his project, Philips installed and stocked a Little Free Library on an elementary school's grounds. Pictured are (from left) Scoutmaster Mat Bippes, Eagle Scouts Phillips, O'Dowd, Gainey, and Donahue, and Americanism Committee Chairman Charles Porter.

In related news, lodge members attended a Court of Honor ceremony for venturing scout Ashleigh Rasmussen, of Venturing Crew 454, to recognize her for earning the Summit Award. Lodge members presented her with a US flag. For her Summit Award project, Rasmussen made lanyards for summer reading programs and donated them to schools in the Central Valley School District.

**Virginia Elks Association** awarded \$1,000 scholarships to 32 graduating high school students. The association also congratulated seven students for being awarded ENF Most Valuable Student Scholarships worth at least \$4,000 over four years.

**Waynesboro**, **VA**, Lodge used a \$2,000 ENF Beacon Grant to provide more than 170 pairs of shoes to students at William Perry Elementary School.

**Ballard (Seattle), WA,** Lodge used a \$2,500 ENF Gratitude Grant to hold several birthday parties for children in the Low Income Housing Institute's Tony Lee Apartments for low-income families and the Mary's Place shelter for victims of domestic violence. A total of about 200 children attended the parties, which featured snacks, goody bags, presents, and games.

**Bremerton**, **WA**, Lodge members donated a total of \$800 to the Elks National Foundation.

**Weirton**, **WV**, Lodge hosted a breakfast with the Easter Bunny for 35 children and 41 other guests. The event featured lunch and crafts, and each child received an Easter basket full of goodies and posed for a photo with the Easter Bunny.

**Laramie, WY**, Lodge used a \$2,000 ENF Gratitude Grant to donate toiletries and cookware to residents of both the Cathedral Home for Children and the Laramie Youth Crisis Center. The lodge also used part of a \$1,000 Wyoming Elks Association grant to donate \$500 to the Albany County School District clothing drive. ■



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## Elks GER Michael T. Luhr goes to washington



Grand Exalted Ruler Michael T. Luhr is pictured in Washington, DC, during a visit he made to the Society of the Cincinnati, a fraternal organization dedicated to honoring the nation's first veterans—those who fought in the American Revolution. In addition to honoring the country's veterans, GER Luhr spent his two days in the nation's capital carrying the Elks' message of service and hope to policy makers and other officials.

### SHAWN BULLARD

URING HIS JOURNEY to Washington, DC, this spring, Grand Exalted Ruler Michael T. Luhr spent two full days holding meetings with leaders at the US Department of Veterans Affairs and the US Drug Enforcement Administration, senior congressional staff members from his home state of Alaska, and senior officials at the US Coast Guard Headquarters to let them know what the Elks are doing for the nation and find out how the Order can do

even more in the future. Grand Exalted Ruler Luhr also dedicated his time in the nation's capital to honoring the sacrifices of those who serve and have served, especially those who fought in the Revolutionary War and stand as the nation's very first veterans, and visiting places of deep historical significance.

### Honoring Veterans and Spreading the Elks' Message

Before meeting with government officials on Capitol Hill, GER Luhr set aside time early on Tuesday, his first morning in Washington, DC, to tour the US Capitol Building. The GER was given a personal tour by Angelina Klapperich, who was Miss Alaska in 2017 and is interning for Senator Dan Sullivan (R-AK). It was the first time in Elks history that a GER received a tour of the US Capitol Building from his own state's Miss America candidate.



On his first day in the nation's capital, GER Luhr received a tour of the US Capitol Building from Angelina Klapperich, who was Miss Alaska in 2017 and was working as an intern for Senator Dan Sullivan (R-AK), one of the senators from the GER's home state. The bronze statue to Klapperich's left depicts Senator Ernest H. Gruening, who was a senator from Alaska and is considered the Father of Alaska Statehood.

Klapperich guided GER Luhr through National Statuary Hall, also known as the Old Hall of the House, which is a large, beautiful chamber with a domed ceiling. The hall was the second chamber built for the House of Representatives at the Capitol. During the tour, GER Luhr also had an opportunity to view the Old Supreme Court Chamber, which was used from 1810 until 1860. Surrounded at every turn by the immensely rich history of the United States, GER Luhr suggested to Klapperich that every American should spend at least one day of their life visiting the US Capitol Building.

JULY/AUGUST 2019

Following his tour of the Capitol, GER Luhr took some time to reflect upon the nation's earliest veterans—those who fought in the Revolutionary War and risked all to break the shackles of British rule. Toward this end, he traveled into the heart of downtown Washington, DC, to the home of the Society of the Cincinnati, which is a hereditary fraternal order for descendants of veterans of the Revolutionary War that is housed in a stately, Italianate mansion known as Anderson House.

Located northwest of the White House, Anderson House was built in 1905 as a private residence and became the home of the Society of the Cincinnati in the late 1930s. The organization is named after the Roman statesman, military leader, and farmer Lucius Quinctius



Grand Exalted Ruler Luhr (right) and PGER Paul Helsel are pictured during the guided tour they received from Museum Docent Jane Bush at Anderson House, which is home to the Society of the Cincinnati, a fraternal order whose members are descendants of Revolutionary War veterans.

Cincinnatus, who left the plow to lead a Roman army to victory in 458 BC. Cincinnatus is renowned for promptly giving up his powers and his army and returning to his farm once his work for the republic was done. George Washington, who also relinquished his army to return to his farm when his duty was done, is often compared to the humble, selfless, and modest Roman statesman.

The Grand Exalted Ruler's next visit was to the offices of the congressional officials from his home state of Alaska. At the personal office of Congressman Don Young (R-AK), the GER met with the congressman's US House of Representatives legislative assistant, Cameron Humphrey. Congressman Young currently holds the title dean of the house, which is a ceremonial title held by the longest continuously serving member of the US House of Representatives. Congressman Young assumed this title in 2018, having served in Congress since 1973. As it turns out, the congressman is also an Elk and belongs to the Anchorage, Alaska, Lodge.



Grand Exalted Ruler Luhr made time during his trip to Washington, DC, to stop into the offices of Congressman Don Young (R-AK), where he met with the congressman's US House of Representatives legislative assistant, Cameron Humphrey. Pictured with GER Luhr (far left) in Congressman Young's office are (from left) Legislative Assistant Humphrey, Elks Government Relations Liaison Shawn Bullard, and PGER Paul Helsel.

During his meeting with Legislative Assistant Humphrey, GER Luhr asked how the Elks could increase the impact of their disaster relief support when federal resources are stretched thin. The conversation was born out of a discussion of Alaska's finances in the wake of a magnitude 7.0 earthquake that struck the state late last year. The GER and Legislative Assistant Humphrey also discussed the Elks' strong partnership with the US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and DEA 360, a program the US Drug Enforcement Administration rolled out in Pittsburgh in 2015 that paired the DEA with community groups like the Elks to combat the opioid epidemic. Legislative Assistant Humphrey said Congressman Young is interested in the mechanics of how the DEA 360 program works and wonders if the DEA and the Elks could somehow take the program to Alaska. The Grand Exalted Ruler promised to broach the idea of expanding the program with DEA Acting Administrator Uttam Dhillon, whom he was meeting with the next day.

Next, GER Luhr visited the offices of one of his home state senators, Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), where he met with Nathan Bergerbest, who is deputy chief of staff and general counsel for the senator. Again, the GER asked how the Elks could do more to help others following earthquakes and floods. "We like to partner with everybody," Bergerbest told GER Luhr. "It is the Alaska way." Grand Exalted Ruler Luhr encouraged Senator Murkowski to lean on him and Alaska's Elks. "The Elks have a disaster relief program administered by Elks Lodges," the GER told Bergerbest, going on to say that the Elks are good at helping their neighbors get back on their feet when Mother Nature deals them a setback.

Grand Exalted Ruler Luhr's final meeting on Tuesday was at the offices of his other senator, Dan Sullivan (R-AK), where he met with

July/August 2019



Grand Exalted Ruler Luhr is shown here during his meeting at the offices of Senator Dan Sullivan (R-AK) with (from left) Liz Banicki, who is legislative assistant to Senator Sullivan; Mary Eileen Manning, who is the senator's State Department fellow; and Elks Government Relations Liaison Shawn Bullard.

Liz Banicki, who is legislative assistant to Senator Sullivan, and Mary Eileen Manning, who is the senator's State Department fellow. Both Legislative Assistant Banicki and State Department Fellow Manning welcomed GER Luhr's passion for providing assistance to America's homeless veterans.

In the course of their discussion, Banicki asked GER Luhr how the Elks' work to help solve veteran homelessness was going since the Order had begun heavily focusing on the issue several years ago in partnership with the US Department of Veterans Affairs. Grand Exalted Ruler Luhr let the senator's staff members know that the Elks' partnership with the VA is more than a century old, that the Order has a decades-long relationship with the VA secretary's office, and that both relationships are friendships the Elks hold dear. "Without the VA's guidance," GER Luhr said, "we would not be able to do what we are able to do to assist veterans each and every day."

### Honoring Veterans, History, and Active-duty Members of the US Armed Forces

Grand Exalted Ruler Luhr's first visit on Wednesday morning, his second and last day in the nation's capital, was once again all about honoring veterans, and it took him to the US Department of Veterans Affairs, which is located just north of the White House. While there, GER Luhr had a fruitful conversation with Secretary of Veterans Affairs Robert Wilkie, and they discussed ways the Elks could strengthen its partnership with the VA and do even more to help veterans in need.

During their conversation, it became clear that the secretary was well aware of the many ways in which the Elks provides a safety net to America's veterans. "The Elks are in a special place in so many communities around the country," Secretary Wilkie said. "You can help me find those who have slipped through the cracks, those with

health problems who have fallen off the grid, and those with mental health issues." Secretary Wilkie praised the Order for its service and work in partnership with the VA to help prevent veteran homelessness and lift veterans out of homelessness.

Following his visit to the US Department of Veterans Affairs, GER Luhr headed nearby to the library of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, which is located directly across from the Ellipse, just southwest of the White House.



Grand Exalted Ruler Luhr's first stop on Wednesday, his second and last day in the nation's capital, was at the offices of Secretary of Veterans Affairs Robert Wilkie. The Order has a decades-long relationship with the secretary's office, and the GER used this time to talk with Secretary Wilkie (left) about ways the Elks could do more to help veterans.



During GER Luhr's meeting with Secretary of Veterans Affairs Robert Wilkie (left), he also met with the secretary's senior advisor and Veterans Service Organizations liaison, Jason Beardsley (center), and his chief of staff, Pamela Powers.

Founded in 1890, the society was started as an organization through which women could express their patriotism. During the GER's tour of the society's library, Reference Librarian Kadri Kallikorm-Rhodes discussed how the members of the organization have been a driving force in preserving American history.

Grand Exalted Ruler Luhr's next journey into American history took him out of the city, across the Potomac River, and into Virginia. His destination was a church located in Alexandria, about seven and a half miles due south of the District of Columbia. The church is called Christ Church, but it is known to Old Town locals as George Washington's church. While there, GER Luhr had a chance to sit in exactly the same pew the father of our country once sat in.

Departing Alexandria, the GER crossed the Potomac River and reentered the capital for a meeting at the US Coast Guard Headquarters. The US Coast Guard is sometimes referred to as the Forgotten Service, because it is an often-underrecognized branch of the US Armed Forces—but it is in no way forgotten by GER Luhr or the Elks.

The GER received a very warm welcome from Command Master Chief Deputy Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard Charles

R. "Rob" Bushey and US Coast Guard Command Master Chief **Deputy Commandant for Missions** Support Edward Lewis. Grand Exalted Ruler Luhr is the first Elks national president to visit with US Coast Guard leadership in Washington, DC, and the GER let Command Master Chiefs Bushey and Lewis know that the Elks are as committed to serving active-duty members and veterans of the US Coast Guard as they are to serving any of the active-duty personnel and veterans of any of the other branches of the US Armed Forces, Grand Exalted Ruler Luhr has owned a boatyard in Petersburg, Alaska, for decades and knows how crucial the US Coast Guard is. He even has two US Coast Guard



On the second day of his visit to Washington, DC, the GER spent time at the US Coast Guard Headquarters and is shown here shaking hands with US Coast Guard Command Master Chief Deputy Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard Charles R. "Rob" Bushey.



Grand Exalted Ruler Luhr's meeting with US Coast Guard Command Master Chief Deputy Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard Charles R. "Rob" Bushey was productive and the first time an Elks national president has met with US Coast Guard officials during the GER's annual trip to Washington, DC.

vessels moored at the end of the dock that is located just outside his office window.

During GER Luhr's meeting, Command Master Chiefs Bushey and Lewis provided him with a number of suggestions of ways the Elks can assist members of the US Coast Guard. "If you have an Elks lodge in the vicinity of our shipmates," Command Master Chief



While visiting the US Coast Guard Headquarters, GER Luhr met with US Coast Guard Command Master Chief Deputy Commandant for Missions Support Edward Lewis.

Bushey told the GER, "we want to know about it. If that local Elks lodge tells those Coast Guard shipmates what you offer and those shipmates connect with the local community, we're all winners." Command Master Chief Lewis added the following observation: "The Coast Guard has a huge volunteer mentality, which is in sync with the Elks."

Command Master Chief Bushey went on to suggest other ways the Order could assist active-duty members of the US Coast Guard, saying that if he were in the Elks' shoes, he would reach out to those service members who are serving in rural America, such as those patrol-

ling inland waterways. He said that many of the young petty officers who operate small boats on America's rivers feel isolated and don't know anyone in the communities they live and work in, and he encouraged local lodges to reach out to these men and women and get to know them, saying that even the simplest of gestures in this direction would be greatly appreciated.

### The Elks Drug Awareness Program

The Elks have worked hand in hand with the US Drug Enforcement Administration for decades, and no GER's visit to the nation's capital would be complete without a meeting with top officials at the DEA. Heading back across town, GER Luhr spoke with US Drug Enforcement Administration Acting Administrator Uttam Dhillon and let him know what the Order is doing to combat illegal drugs and drug abuse. The GER was pleased to learn that Acting Administrator Dhillon's brother, David Dhillon, and uncle, Par Dhillon, were both Elks, and Acting Administrator Dhillon proudly told GER Luhr that in 1967, his Uncle Par was ER of the Calexico, California, Lodge.

As a strong believer in the Elks, Acting Administrator Dhillon cut to the chase. "I know the Elks well," he said, "and I know what you are capable of doing." He went on to praise the Order for its coordination with the DEA, from the community level all the way up to the administrator's level, but said that there is still a great deal of work to be done. Speaking of DEA 360, the program the administration rolled



Pictured with GER Luhr (second from left) at the US Drug Enforcement Administration are (from left) DEA Chief of Staff, Office of Congressional & Public Affairs Patrick Kelly; PGER Paul Helsel; Elks Government Relations Liaison Shawn Bullard; and US Drug Enforcement Administration Acting Administrator Uttam Dhillon.

out in 2015 to combat the opioid epidemic, partly by forming partnerships with community groups like the Elks, Acting Administrator Dhillon said: "I want to ensure that community participation in future drug awareness programs is as robust as DEA 360." Dhillon also reaffirmed the DEA's relationship with the Elks. "We both want to help the community, and we both want to do more. Doing more is most important to us." The previous day, GER Luhr had told Congressman Young's legislative assistant, Cameron Humphrey, that he would discuss the possibility of bringing the DEA 360 program to Alaska. The GER took this opportunity to do just that, discussing the mechanics of how the DEA might expand DEA 360 to other parts of the country.

As those in Elkdom may already know, it was only a short time ago that the Order answered another call to action from the DEA. Beginning in 2017, the Order and the DEA began a partnership and joined with a youth-oriented YouTube comedy channel called SMOSH in an effort to reach out to millions of young people at the age at which they are most apt to experiment with drugs and discourage them from going down that path. As of this year, the thirteen-minute-long Elks/DEA video on SMOSH, which uses makeup artists to alter actors' appearances to show viewers how drugs affect them physically, has had nearly two million views.

All throughout GER Luhr's trip to Washington, DC, whether he was meeting with government officials and policy makers, paying his respects to veterans and active-duty members of the US Armed Forces, or sitting in the same church pew that George Washington once sat in, he tirelessly carried the Elks' message to officials in the nation's capital—and that message was unswerving: Elks are always looking to do more. Grand Exalted Ruler Luhr made it abundantly clear to those he met with that whether you are a senior policy maker or a US Coast Guard command master chief, you can rest assured that the Elks will always ask: how can we help?

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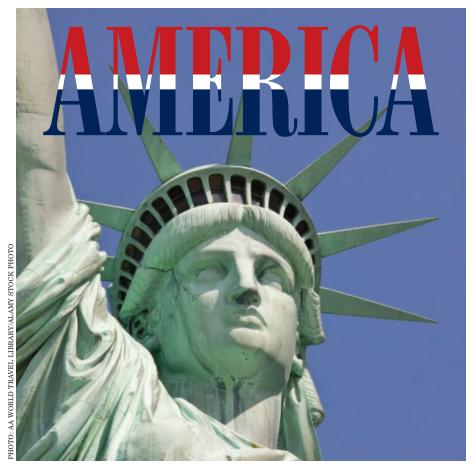


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### The Many Faces of



The Statue of Liberty, on Liberty Island in New York Harbor, is recognized around the world as a symbol of the United States and the nation's values. However, there is a long tradition, stretching back five centuries, of using human figures to represent the American continents and the United States, and Lady Liberty is only one of them.

### **BUZZ BRANDT**

OR AMERICANS, the iconic figure of Uncle Sam stands tall as an enduring symbol of patriotism and pride, a stalwart personification of our national identity. But the lanky, top-hatted, steely eyed father figure who pointed his finger at "YOU" from millions of World War I recruitment posters turns out to be a relative newcomer in the history of our country's imagery. Indeed, the United States, like the American colonies and the North and South American continents before it, have been personified using various human forms over the centuries, all of which embodied the American spirit in ways that were both popular and profound in their times.

### Personifying the New World

When Europeans first began arriving in the Americas in the early sixteenth century, they were struck by the continents' flora, fauna,

and native inhabitants. The earliest illustrations of the New World were engravings that accompanied travelogues published in Europe by returning explorers. Some of these illustrations were completed by artists who had traveled to the New World themselves; many others were artistic recreations based on returning explorers' notes and verbal accounts of what they had seen, while others still were outright fabrications.

During this time, allegorical figures were popular ways of representing historic events and geographic areas. In Europe, there was an established tradition of representing the known regions of the world—Europe, Africa, and Asia—as women. When North and South America were discovered, artists began personifying the New World as a Native American queen called America.

This engraving depicts a Native American queen called America, which was a popular personification of the New World in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.



The figure of America was inspired by accounts of the appearance and customs of the native people that European settlers encountered in the New World and by early woodcuts made by the Tupinambá people of Brazil. America was often depicted wearing a feathered headdress and wielding a tomahawk or a bow and arrows. Her physical features, however, were most often those of somebody of European descent, as was common with the other geographic personifications created by Europeans at that time. In the minds of many in the Old World, the New World teemed with exotic plants and wildlife. As such, America was often depicted surrounded by fruit, corn, and such newly discovered animals as the alligator.

### **Revolutionary Women**

With the permanent settlement of the British colonies on the Eastern Seaboard of North America, colonial artists began to develop their own allegorical figures to embody colonial identity, often in response to the political events of the day. Benjamin Franklin famously depicted the colonies as a segmented snake when he urged them to "Join or Die" in 1754. Animals would go on to provide other symbols for the colonies and the fledgling United States, most notably the bald eagle, which is featured prominently on the Great

54 JULY/AUGUST 2019

Seal of the United States. Human personifications, however, were the most potent symbols before and during the Revolutionary War.

In the decades leading up to the American Revolution, the Native American queen began to stand in, not just for the New World, but for the British colonies in particular. During the British colonial disputes over taxation in the mid-eighteenth century, cartoonists in Great Britain used the image of the Native American queen called America to express what the British perceived as the colonies' unruliness and lack of sophistication. In one cartoon, America was portrayed as the rebellious daughter of the stately Britannia, who was herself a personification of Great Britain. Meanwhile, back across the Atlantic, Paul Revere responded with his own cartoon, one that showed British lords forcing the figure of the Native American queen to drink tea.

During the Revolutionary War, a new female figure emerged to represent the United States and its struggle against the British monarchy. To elevate the young country and its cause, artists invoked classical iconography and latched onto the figure of Libertas, the Roman goddess of freedom, who would also feature in the imagery of the French Revolution a little more than a decade later. In the late eighteenth century, Libertas could be found in paintings and engravings and on some Revolutionary War soldiers' uniforms.

The American interpretation of Libertas eventually received the names Lady Liberty and Columbia. The name Columbia, meaning "the lands of Columbus," had been suggested as the official designation for the colonies as early as 1697. By the revolutionary period, Columbia began appearing in patriotic poems and songs, including the poem "His Excellency General Washington," by Phyllis Wheatley, and the song composed for George Washington's first inauguration in 1789, "Hail, Columbia," which was the unofficial national anthem of the United States until 1931. (The song is now the official vice presidential anthem.)

Columbia was usually depicted bearing a liberty pole and American flag and was sometimes shown beside an American eagle. She often wore a crown or a phrygian cap, a soft, cone-shaped hat



Painted on this cap, which would have been worn by a member of the Newport Light Infantry of Rhode Island during the Revolutionary War, is the image of Columbia carrying her liberty pole.

PHOTO: DON TROIANI/ALAMY STOCK PHOTO

sometimes also known as a liberty cap that was a symbol of classical democracy. In some renditions, Columbia appeared ready for war, wearing armor and clutching a sword in addition to her liberty pole.

Columbia was an immensely popular personification of the United States throughout the nineteenth century, during which she appeared on Congressional medals, coins, and bank notes, as well as on ships' figureheads. She was also a recurring character in the political cartoons Thomas Nast published during the American Civil War. By the end of the century, Columbia came to reflect the nation's prosperity and confidence, and artists sometimes substituted her classical white



This oil painting from the early nineteenth century shows one of the ways Columbia, sometimes called Lady Liberty, was being depicted around the time of the War of 1812.



Throughout the nineteenth century, the figure of Columbia appeared on Congressional medals, coins, bank notes, and envelopes, such as the one shown here, which was sent to a Mr. George H. Waldson in Maine in 1861.

robes for period dresses decorated in patriotic stars and stripes. At Fourth of July celebrations, women would dress up as Columbia, and a sixty-five-foot statue of Columbia was the centerpiece of the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. The name Lady Liberty has since surpassed the name Columbia in popularity, and the figure endures in national icons like the Statue of Liberty.

### The Bald Eagle

ERSONIFICATIONS of the United States have not been limited to human figures. Over the centuries, several animals have been used to represent the country, most notably the bald eagle. The bald eagle is the official bird of the United States and is featured prominently on the Great Seal of the United States. The founders began designing the seal shortly after signing the Declaration of Independence in 1776. They were inspired by the imagery of Ancient Rome, in which the golden eagle was a recurring figure, and they believed that the Great Seal should include a bird native to North America. The bald eagle was proposed and eventually incorporated into the design. Benjamin Franklin, however, questioned the choice of the bald eagle, calling the eagle a "bird of bad moral character." He would have preferred a different North American bird be included on the seal—the turkey. As Franklin wrote to his daughter: "The turkey is in comparison a much more respectable bird, and withal a true original native of America." Franklin was overruled, and in 1782, the Second Continental Congress officially adopted the Great Seal. Since then, the bald eagle has appeared on coins, paper currency, stamps, and the Seal of the President of the United States. -MM

### **Brother Jonathan**

Alongside this classical, female personification of American sovereignty and freedom, a more rustic, male personification of the new country also took hold in popular media. Like Yankee Doodle, Brother Jonathan began as a British caricature of a New Englander and first appeared in songs and stage plays as a deceptive and cutthroat counterpart to John Bull, the sturdy, upstanding male personification of Great Britain. Historians believe that Brother Jonathan was modeled on Jonathan Trumbull, the governor of



Brother Jonathan, an early personification of the United States, is depicted here at right in a cartoon from 1840 with John Bull, a figure that was used to represent Great Britain at the time.

Connecticut before and during the American Revolution, who sided with George Washington and rejected British rule. There is also evidence that the name Jonathan had already been in use since the seventeenth century as a derogatory term referring to a resident of New England.

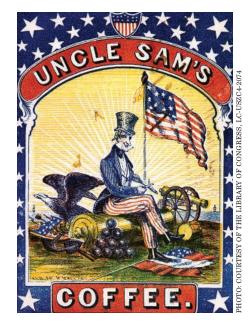
Following the Revolutionary War, American cartoonists reclaimed Brother Jonathan from British satirists and turned him into a stand-in for the American everyman. This new version of Brother Jonathan was very resourceful, and compared to the sometimes-pompous John Bull, he was plain spoken and dressed in a modest, American fashion. During the War of 1812, Brother Jonathan and John Bull appeared in cartoons depicting relations between the United States and Great Britain. In these cartoons, Brother Jonathan might be shown boasting of an American victory or bludgeoning John Bull in a boxing match.

By the mid-nineteenth century, Brother Jonathan became associated with the Know-Nothing party, and as the country continued to grow, this distinctly New England figure no longer reflected the identity of everyday American citizens. After the American Civil War, Brother Jonathan's popularity waned, and he was gradually replaced by a more comprehensive male personification of the United States—Uncle Sam.

### **Uncle Sam Appears**

Legends about the development of Uncle Sam, one of the most recognizable and distinctly American personifications of the United

States, have their origins in the War of 1812. According to legend, the figure of Uncle Sam was inspired by a meatpacker from Troy, New York, named Samuel Wilson. During the War of 1812, Wilson secured a contract with the US government to supply rations of meat to American troops in New York and New Jersey. He sent thousands of barrels of pork and beef to the US Army and stamped each barrel with the letters US to indicate that they were property of the US government. This much is known to be true. but as the legend goes, some of the soldiers who were from Troy and knew of the prominent businessman joked that the barrels had been stamped with those initials because the rations were coming from Uncle Sam, meaning Sam Wilson, and the story



Uncle Sam became a symbol of the Union during the American Civil War. In this coffee can label illustration from 1863, he is depicted sitting on a cannon with his foot firmly planted on the flag of the Confederacy. spread among the soldiers that Samuel Wilson was personally feeding the army.

In 1816, one of those soldiers published an allegorical story about American history called *The Adventures of Uncle Sam: In Search After His Lost Honor*, which featured the earliest known use of Uncle Sam as a personification of the United States. Shortly thereafter, characters named Uncle Sam started appearing in political cartoons alongside Columbia and Brother Jonathan. If Columbia represented the American spirit and Brother Jonathan the American people, Uncle Sam represented the federal government, and during the American Civil War, he became a stand in for the Union.

PHOTO: NIDAY PICTURE LIBRARY/ALAMY STOCK PHOTO

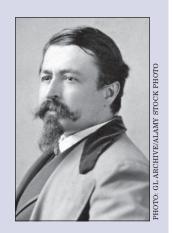


This political cartoon from 1894 depicts Uncle Sam in his familiar top hat, swallowtail coat, and striped trousers.

### **Thomas Nast**

HE German-American political cartoon ist Thomas Nast, called the Father of the American Cartoon, is often credited with developing the image of Uncle Sam that is now recognizable around the world. But the pinstripe-wearing gentleman with a goatee and top hat was not Nast's only creation.

Born in Landau, Germany, in 1840, Nast arrived in the United Sates when he was six years old. During the American Civil War, he became an illustrator for *Harper's Weekly* and made sketches of battlefields to be included



in the magazine. During the Gilded Age, Nast drew many editorial cartoons satirizing New York City's machine politics, embodied by the Tammany Hall political organization and its leader, William "Boss" Tweed. Also during this time, Nast popularized the elephant and the donkey as symbols of the Republican and Democratic parties, respectively, and originated the modern depiction of Santa Claus, drawing him with a bushy beard and red clothes.

Nast left *Harper's Weekly* in 1886 but continued to illustrate on a freelance basis. In 1902, he was appointed consul general to Ecuador by President Theodore Roosevelt. Nast died in Ecuador six months later.

--MM

Early illustrations of Uncle Sam varied. Some cartoonists depicted him wearing a soft cap much like Columbia's, while others drew him in a way that resembled Brother Jonathan. As early as the late 1830s, he was already being depicted wearing red, white, and blue, but this was not always the case. In the 1870s, political cartoonist Thomas Nast began portraying Uncle Sam as a tall, thin, goateed figure in a swallowtail coat, striped pants, and top hat. Over the next half century, the image that we are familiar with today would continue to develop in the pages of newspapers and on the labels of products like coffee.

In 1916, as the United States faced the increasing possibility that it could be drawn into World War I, Uncle Sam made his most iconic appearance. For the cover of the July 6, 1916, issue of *Leslie's Illustrated Weekly Newspaper*, James Montgomery Flagg painted a



James Montgomery Flagg's 1916 illustration of Uncle Sam appeared on more than four million recruitment posters during World War I.

60

### **Rosie the Riveter**

AMES MONTGOMERY FLAGG'S iconic portrait of Uncle Sam appeared on millions of US Army recruitment posters during World War I. At the height of World War II, another inspiring figure would emerge and find her way onto posters, magazine covers, and even a song—Rosie the Riveter.

Although not a personification of the United States or the US government, Rosie the Riveter is a symbol of American solidarity and industriousness, specifically that of the millions of women who supported the war effort on the home front. During the war, women were called on to fill manufacturing jobs that had been left vacant by men who were sent overseas to fight. The aircraft and munitions industries in particular saw massive increases in their female workforces. Many newsreels and photographs produced at this time showed women factory workers wearing overalls and operating machinery such as rivet guns.

Inspired by these images, the songwriters Redd Evans and John Jacob Loeb wrote a song called "Rosie the Riveter" in 1942. The song became a hit, and for the cover of the May 1943 issue of the Saturday Evening Post, the artist Normal Rockwell painted a picture of a woman named Rosie posing with a rivet gun in front of an American flag. Meanwhile, the Westinghouse Electric Corporation in Pittsburgh had hired an illustrator, J. Howard Miller, to produce a poster to boost morale among the company's female workers. Miller drew a picture of a woman rolling up her sleeve and saying "We Can Do It!" At the time, Miller's figure was not directly associated with the character of Rosie the Riveter, and his poster was likely not seen outside of Westinghouse factories. Nevertheless, Miller's illustration enjoyed a massive resurgence in popularity in the early 1980s, and since then, the bandana-clad female factory worker has become synonymous with Rosie the Riveter and the wartime spirit she represents. —MM



stern-faced portrait of a white-haired, top-hatted Uncle Sam and below it were the words "What Are You Doing for Preparedness?" Flagg based the image on a British recruitment poster but used his own face as a model, aging himself and adding a white goatee. Flagg soon modified the image for an army recruitment poster, and between 1917 and 1918, more than four million posters featuring Flagg's iconic Uncle Sam were printed.

Historians have contested the accuracy of the various accounts of Uncle Sam's origins, including the idea that the character is related to Samuel Wilson; nonetheless, in 1961, Congress adopted a resolution recognizing Samuel Wilson as Uncle Sam's namesake. In 1989, Congress designated Wilson's birthday, September 13, as Uncle Sam Day, and over the years, several monuments commemorating the real-life Wilson have been erected, including statues in Troy, New York, and in Wilson's birthplace of Arlington, Massachusetts. Whatever the case, one thing is certain: the stern-faced, patriotic man in a top hat and red, white, and blue clothes is just one of many important and beloved personifications of the United States. From the Native American Queen America to Columbia, Lady Liberty, Brother Jonathan, and Uncle Sam—each of these figures have, in their own way, helped put a face on the unique American spirit. ■

# FROM STEEL TO ROCK & ROLL CLEVELAND OHIO



Cleveland, Ohio, is a former steel town that retains many buildings from its industrial past even as the city has transformed into a modern tourist destination.

### VINCE GUERRIERI

LEVELAND, Ohio, is located on the south shore of Lake Erie at the mouth of the Cuyahoga River. At one time the city was renowned for its steel mills and oil refineries and the wealth generated by those industries—John D. Rockefeller, the famous nineteenth-century industrialist, made his fortune here and became the world's first billionaire in US dollars. Cleveland is still home to a steel mill, but the industry of the modern city is based on medical and pharmaceutical technology; a large influx of tourists, who visit contemporary Cleveland for its professional sports teams and museums; and a restaurant scene that draws inspiration from the multiethnic makeup of the community.

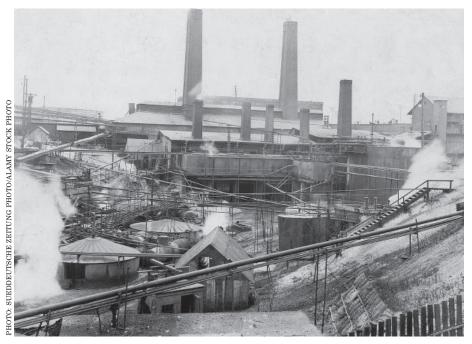
July/August 2019

### **History**

There is evidence of human settlement in the area around Cleveland dating back to 11,000 BC. Native Americans who were part of the Hopewell culture made their homes here, followed by the people of the Whittlesey culture, but archaeologists believe that by the middle of the seventeenth century, when European traders first traveled through the region, Native Americans had mostly abandoned the Cuyahoga Valley.

In 1662, King Charles II of England granted Connecticut a royal charter, part of which established the colony's claim to lands extending all the way across North America. These lands encompassed modern-day northeastern Ohio. This area of Ohio came to be known as the Western Reserve, and it was the subject of complex legal claims between the state of Connecticut and the post–Revolutionary War US government that were not fully resolved until 1800. In the meantime, the Western Reserve was purchased by the Connecticut Land Company in 1795, and in 1796, a company surveyor named Moses Cleaveland led a group of settlers to the area and founded a settlement to which he gave his name. As the small village grew into a burgeoning town, the spelling of the name changed when the first a was dropped in the 1830s.

Cleveland's growth was aided by its location at the mouth of the Cuyahoga River, where the river feeds into Lake Erie. The completion in 1832 of the Ohio and Erie Canal provided a route for manufactured goods to flow to the northwestern territories and for raw materials to be shipped to the factories of the eastern states. In the second half of the nineteenth century, Cleveland became a major industrial center. Iron ore arriving from the Lake Superior region and



A 1904 photo of a petroleum refinery in Cleveland suggests the scale of industrial production that took place on the banks of the Cuyahoga River close to downtown.

coal from Pennsylvania enabled the city to become a major producer of iron products such as locomotives. Cleveland also became the chief refiner for oil produced in Pennsylvania, leading one John D. Rockefeller to establish the Standard Oil Company in Cleveland in 1870. The emergence of the automobile industry in the early twentieth century cemented Cleveland's industrial base, and the great wealth generated in the city can be seen in the significant increase of its population and the construction of museums and carefully planned public spaces during this time.

Cleveland's economy suffered during the Great Depression but rebounded during World War II. After the war, the city underwent a series of changes similar to those experienced by many former industrial powerhouses in the Midwest. The importance of heavy industry in the city's economy declined, accompanied by a decline in its population (from a height of more than nine hundred thousand people in 1950 to the present-day total of about four hundred thousand). In the past few decades, however, the great museums and parks established by the philanthropy of the tycoons of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries have been renovated, the old industrial areas of Cleveland have been transformed into residential and entertainment areas, and the city continues to adapt to changing times by offering a wide variety of activities, events, and things to see.

### Downtown and the Flats

Cleveland's growth as a city was driven by factories, refineries, and steel mills, and much of the industry within the city limits was concentrated in a district known as the Flats, an area on both banks of the Cuyahoga River as it winds up to Lake Erie. After the Ohio and Erie Canal opened in 1832, the flat land on the east and west banks of the river became the site of lumber yards and the great steel mills that powered Cleveland's economy later in the nineteenth century.

The second half of the twentieth century saw a steady decline in the industry located in the Flats. After mills, lumberyards, and factories closed down, many of the warehouses sat empty for years. In the last decades of the twentieth century, a few buildings were turned into entertainment venues, but the full redevelopment of the Flats has only occurred in the last decade.

Nowadays, thanks to a multimillion-dollar redevelopment, visitors to the Flats can take in a show at a comedy club on the west bank of the Cuyahoga River, spend some time at the Greater Cleveland Aquarium on the same side of the river, and then take a water taxi across the river to enjoy a meal at one of the many restaurants on the east bank. The river itself—once so polluted that it often caught fire—is now so clean that kayakers and boaters can be seen plying the waters.

A little more than a mile and a half northeast of the Flats, where downtown Cleveland meets Lake Erie, one finds one of the most celebrated landmarks of contemporary Cleveland—the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. Located on the Harbor Walkway, close to the Great



The Greater Cleveland Aquarium opened in 2012 in the former powerhouse building in the Flats district. The powerhouse was constructed in 1892 to provide electricity for the city's streetcars.

Lakes Science Center and FirstEnergy Stadium, where the Cleveland Browns play, the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame has an eye-catching design created by world-renowned architect I. M. Pei. (Seen from overhead, the shape of the building is supposed to resemble a record on a turntable.)

Inside the museum, visitors can see exhibits celebrating the musical achievements of the artists who have been inducted into the hall.



An exhibit of Fender Stratocaster electric guitars that have been turned into sculptures stands in the forecourt of the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame.

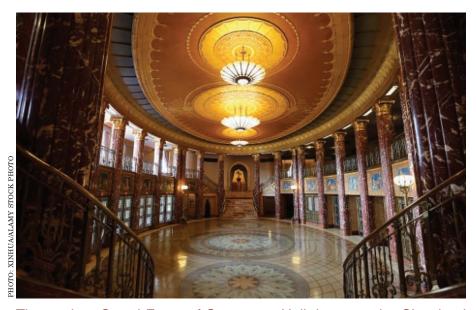
The Legends of Rock exhibit contains thousands of items, from a childhood drawing by rock guitarist Jimi Hendrix to an array of stage costumes worn by British singer-songwriter David Bowie. An exhibit called The British Invasion charts the influence British bands had in the 1960s on popular music in the United States and includes a piano that belonged to Paul McCartney and an electric guitar owned by John Lennon. The permanent exhibits are displayed on several levels of the museum and chronicle more than sixty years of popular music history.

On the east side of downtown, visitors will find live entertainment in the theaters of Playhouse Square. Originally a row of movie palaces, the theaters have been preserved and restored and now form the largest theater district in the United States outside of Broadway, regularly hosting plays, music acts, dance performances, and spoken word events. Playhouse Square is easy to spot: just look for the chandelier suspended over Euclid Avenue at East Fourteenth Street. This chandelier is the world's largest permanent outdoor chandelier. It weighs 8,500 pounds and contains more than 4,200 LED lights.

### **University Circle**

The philanthropic legacy of Cleveland's wealthy late nineteenth-century industrialists can be seen in the city's public buildings, parks, and museums. Many of these are located in or are adjacent to the University Circle area, which is located approximately four miles east of downtown and takes its name from its proximity to what is now known as Case Western Reserve University.

One of University Circle's gems is Severance Hall, home to the Cleveland Orchestra. It is located at the southern side of the area, across Euclid Avenue from Case Western Reserve University. The



The opulent Grand Foyer of Severance Hall, home to the Cleveland Orchestra, contains Egyptian-themed friezes inspired by a trip that patron John Severance took to Egypt in the 1920s.



The Cleveland Museum of Art opened in 1916 thanks to donations from local industrialists. The museum's collection includes more than forty thousand works of art, from ancient Egyptian painted coffins to contemporary art.

orchestra was founded in 1918, and the concert hall was built in 1931 with funds provided by John Severance, a former executive with Rockefeller's Standard Oil Company. Considered a stateof-the-art space when it was built, Severance Hall is on the National Register of Historic Places and remains one of the most beautiful concert venues in America. Concertgoers can admire the Grand Foyer, with its neo-Egyptian architectural features, on their way into the art deco auditorium, which has renowned acoustics. Here they can listen to one of the most celebrated orchestras in the United States.

In addition to donating the money for Severance Hall, John Severance was also president of the Cleveland Museum of Art, which is located a short distance north of the hall. One of the museum's most celebrated ex-



This set of steel plate armor for knight and charger was crafted in Italy in the sixteenth century and can be seen in the Cleveland Museum of Art's celebrated Armor Court.

hibits is the Armor Court, a collection of medieval armor that contains pieces donated by John Severance, and many more acquired via a bequest from him. When the museum opened in 1916, the armor

collection was considered to be one of the most important public collections of its kind in the world. The modern museum, much expanded since its founding more than a century ago, maintains an expansive collection of art from ancient times to the present, including masterpieces by Caravaggio, Rubens, and Monet.

In the summers of 1936 and 1937, Cleveland hosted the Great Lakes Exposition, a world's fair to commemorate the centennial of Cleveland's incorporation as a city. Among the many exhibits were cars dating from the beginning of the twentieth century. After the fair ended, the cars were headed for the junkyard when Fred Crawford, a local industrialist and civic booster, stepped in to save them. The cars provided the basis for the Crawford Auto-Aviation Collection, which is on display at the Cleveland History Center, north of the Cleveland Museum of Art on East Boulevard. In addition to the more than 170 antique automobiles comprising the Crawford collection, the museum is home to an exhibit about Cleveland's history called *Cleveland Starts Here* and a host of other traveling exhibits. There is even a carousel, which was formerly at Euclid Beach, a lakefront amusement park that provided fun for generations of Clevelanders.

In addition to building the magnificent museums and performance spaces of University Circle and other spots around the city, the industrial titans of nineteenth-century Cleveland used their wealth to create public parks, several of which border the University Circle district. At the district's northwestern edge, close to the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, visitors can enter Rockefeller Park and the Cleveland Cultural Gardens, which is the result of a 200-acre donation of land made by John D. Rockefeller in 1897. The parkland extends for nearly two miles from University Circle to the lakefront. Its design includes four elegant stone bridges and a lagoon that is used for boating, fishing, and ice skating.

Beginning in the 1920s, a series of gardens was established in the park to celebrate the various ethnic groups that called Cleveland home. The first gardens were the German Cultural Garden, the Irish Cultural Garden, and the Hungarian Cultural Garden. In recent decades, new gardens have been added to reflect more recent immigrant arrivals in Cleveland. Among these gardens are the Syrian Cultural Garden and the Ethiopian Cultural Garden. The gardens are scrupulously maintained, with lush plant life and architecture that reflects the ethnic groups they represent. In the Syrian Cultural Garden, there is a replica of the gate at Palmyra, and in the Serbian Cultural Garden, there is a statue of inventor Nikola Tesla. Annual events at the Park include opera in the Italian Cultural Garden in July and an annual One World Day in August.

Lake View Cemetery, slightly northeast of University Circle, is notable for the public figures who are buried there and also the views of Lake Erie its elevation affords. James A. Garfield, the twentieth president of the United States, is entombed in a 180-foot-high mausoleum, the interior of which is decorated with marble columns, terracotta relief sculptures, and stained glass windows. Other Cleveland citizens and famous Ohioans whose graves can be found in



The Hungarian Cultural Garden, with its memorial to composer Franz Liszt, is one of thirty-two gardens in Rockefeller Park that celebrate Cleveland's varied ethnic history.

Lake View Cemetery include John D. Rockefeller; Eliot Ness, the crime-fighting FBI agent; and Carl Stokes, the first African-American mayor of a major US city. Not to be missed is the Wade Chapel, with its ornate murals and its Tiffany stained glass windows.

### **Dining Out in Cleveland**

The city of Cleveland has been home to many ethnicities over the years, each offering their own unique contributions to the area's culture, and part of that legacy is reflected in the variety of cuisine offered by Cleveland's restaurants. Not far from Lake View Cemetery and University Circle is Cleveland's Little Italy, home to a variety of restaurants offering everything from pizza to a fancy dinner. If you have a sweet tooth, there are plenty of bakeries (such as Corbo's Bakery, located at 12210 Mayfield Road) providing Italian desserts like pizzelle, biscotti, and cannoli.

Chinese immigrants came to Cleveland from the West Coast in the early twentieth century, founding a small community just east of downtown, and in the 1920s, the district around Rockwell Avenue became known as Chinatown. Its remnants are most visible in the On Leon Tong Building, an imposing structure with Chinese architectural accents. In the last half of the twentieth century, people from Korea and Vietnam also formed their own communities in the area, and in 2006, the district was renamed AsiaTown by local developers, to better reflect the expanded cultural diversity of the community. The district hosts an annual Asian Festival in May and a monthly night market throughout the summer that features sidewalk musicians, dance performances, and vendors offering Asian street food.



West Side Market, located in the Ohio City neighborhood, houses more than one hundred vendors in a spectacular yellow-brick and white-tiled interior designed by the same architects who designed the Cleveland Museum of Art in the early twentieth century.

Asian food with an American twist is offered by chef Rocco Whalen at his Fahrenheit restaurant, located in the Tremont neighborhood southwest of downtown Cleveland. Whalen trained at the Pittsburgh Culinary Institute and in the kitchen of renowned chef Wolfgang Puck. Menu items at Fahrenheit include Kobe beef short ribs and noodles, tuna with tomato-edamame fried rice, and salmon with wasabi mashed potatoes.

And no trip to Cleveland is complete without a stop at the West Side Market, which is located at the corner of West Twenty-Fifth Street and Lorain Avenue. The market opened in 1912 and was one of three public markets in Cleveland. The market's vaulted ceiling is a fine example of Guastavino tiling, a way of supporting arches and vaults through a series of interlocking terracotta tiles. With more than one hundred vendors selling everything from dairy, vegetable, and meat products to flowers, fudge, and handmade pasta, the West Side Market is a vibrant place where people go for their daily shopping, restaurants purchase ingredients for their kitchens, and passersby can pick up delectable food to go.

From older buildings like the West Side Market and the Georgianstyle buildings of University Circle, to the newer attractions of the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and the aquarium, modern Cleveland has changed from an old steel town to a vibrant center of tourism with something for everyone to enjoy.

JULY/AUGUST 2019



#### **Supporting Our Troops**



Stockton, CA, Lodge packed 54 care packages and shipped them to US armed forces service members who were deployed overseas. Pictured with two of the donated care packages is US Army SSG Annie Oakley-Sparks of the 18th Airborne Corps.

**Eureka, CA**, Lodge held several dinners for US Coast Guard service members during the federal government shutdown.

**Oceanside, CA**, Lodge donated 15 blankets and 20 warm hats to the American Soldier Network to be distributed to needy veterans and active-duty armed forces service members and their families.

**Longmont, CO,** Lodge used part of a \$2,000 ENF Gratitude Grant to send a total of 29 care packages to members of the Colorado National Guard deployed overseas.

**Jacksonville, FL,** Lodge members used a \$1,500 ENF Anniversary Grant to pack 300 care packages, which contained snacks, candy, personal items, and thank-you notes, and ship them to US armed forces service members deployed overseas.

**South Southeast District, FL,** lodge members held a dinner fundraiser at the Delray Beach Lodge and raised a total of \$1,000 for the Florida State Elks Association Army of Hope program, which provides emergency assistance to the families of active-duty US armed forces service members. The event included a musical performance by the Re-Creation USA troupe.

South Southwest District, FL, Lodges held a fund-raiser at the Rotonda Lodge and raised a total of \$15,000 for the Florida State

Elks Association Army of Hope program, which provides assistance to families of active-duty US armed forces service members.

**Wallace**, **ID**, Lodge members packed 17 care packages, containing clothing, toiletries, snacks, and playing cards, and shipped them to the airmen of the 380th Air Expeditionary Wing of the US Air Force, which was deployed in the United Arab Emirates.

**Atchison, KS,** Lodge members packed 21 care packages and shipped them to US armed forces service members who are deployed overseas.

**Ocean City, MD,** Lodge donated a total of \$3,900 to the local American Legion post to help supply gift cards to 37 members of the US Coast Guard. Coastguardsmen were given the gift cards to enable them to purchase food and personal items during the federal government shutdown.

**Adams, MA,** Lodge used a \$2,000 ENF Beacon Grant to pack 24 care packages, containing snacks, games, toiletries, and Valentines Day cards handwritten by schoolchildren. The lodge shipped 21 of the packages and gave 3 of the packages to Boxes of Love Vermont to be shipped to US armed forces service members who are deployed overseas.

**Elmwood Park-Paterson, NJ,** Lodge held a Saint Patrick's Day dinner fund-raiser and raised \$500 for the lodge's Army of Hope Committee, which provides assistance to active-duty armed forces service members.

**Greater Wildwood, NJ,** Lodge raised \$10,000 for local US Coast Guard members during the federal government shutdown.

**Kearny**, **NJ**, Lodge held a trivia night and raised nearly \$980 for the New Jersey State Elks Association Army of Hope program, which provides assistance to families of active-duty US armed forces service members. On another occasion, the lodge held a fish fry fund-raiser and raised \$1,100 for the Army of Hope.

**Manahawkin**, **NJ**, Lodge donated 41 gift cards to be used at a local supermarket by US Coast Guard service members during the federal government shutdown.

**New Jersey State Elks Association** Army of Hope Program donated a total of \$25,000 to US Coast Guard facilities in the state of New Jersey to assist coastguardsmen and their families with the cost of gasoline, food, and various other expenses during the federal government shutdown.



**Hackettstown**, **NJ**, Lodge held an adopt-a-unit program for the New Jersey Army National Guard's 102nd Cavalry Regiment, C Troop and collected 11 shopping carts filled with snacks, canned food, and toiletries to be sorted in care packages and sent to the unit while it is deployed overseas. Pictured are (from left) unit members SGT Andrew Ruckriegel, CPT London Nagai, SGT Justin Pallokat, and PFC James Canino.

In other news, lodge members solicited donations for the American Red Cross during a donation drive and collected 11 shopping carts full of snacks and toiletries to be shipped to US armed forces members deployed overseas.

In more news, the lodge donated the use of the lodge building for a meeting of a support group for families of New Jersey National Guard personnel deployed overseas.

**Point Pleasant, NJ,** Lodge held a dinner for 43 members of the US Coast Guard and their families during the federal government shutdown. The lodge also collected donations of two tons of food and nearly \$13,000 to assist coastguardsmen at US Coast Guard Training Center Cape May during the shutdown.

**West Milford, NJ,** Lodge donated \$1,000 to the New Jersey State Elks Association Army of Hope program, which assists families of active-duty US armed forces service members.

In other news, the lodge donated \$300 to help send Girl Scout cookies to active-duty military personnel deployed overseas.

**Clifton Park, NY,** Lodge members attended a yellow ribbon ceremony and donated \$220 to the Capital Region Blue Star Mothers to help send care packages to active-duty military service members who are deployed overseas.

**Cohoes-Waterford, NY,** Lodge members held an event at the lodge to honor US Army SPC Nicholas Smith, who had just returned from a nine-month deployment to Afghanistan.

**Esperance**, **NY**, Lodge donated a \$1,500 ENF Anniversary Grant to the Capt. John J. McKenna IV Military Courtesy Room at the Albany International Airport to help maintain and stock the room.

**Staten Island, NY**, Lodge donated \$1,000 in gift cards to US Coast Guard members to help them purchase gasoline during the federal government shutdown.

**Xenia, OH,** Lodge used part of a \$2,000 ENVSC Freedom Grant to hold a dinner at the lodge for 93 members of the Second Squadron of the 107th Cavalry Regiment of the Ohio Army National Guard.

**Erie, PA,** Lodge sent 100 boxes of Girl Scout cookies to active-duty military personnel deployed overseas. Each box included a note thanking the troops for their service.

**El Campo, TX,** Lodge members, along with members of local Cub Scout, Boy Scout, and Girl Scout troops, packed more than 100 care packages containing snacks, toiletries, games, cards, puzzles, books, stationery, and postage stamps and shipped them to US armed forces service members deployed overseas.

**Loudon**, **VA**, Lodge members made several trips to the USO facility at the Washington Dulles International Airport and delivered a total of more than \$400 worth of food. ■

# Elks Clues C R O S S W O R D

#### BY MYLES MELLOR

Answers appear on page 99.

#### **ACROSS**

- 1. It is celebrated on June 14, 2 words
- In 1928, this vital Elks charitable organization was formed, abbr.
- 7. Paddle
- The Elks National Veterans Memorial is designed in the Beaux \_\_\_\_\_ style
- **10.** Just
- 11. One who guards the entrance to the lodge
- 12. Airport abbreviation for arrivals
- 13. Merit
- Elks celebrated this number of years in 2018, goes with 19 across
- **17.** The *n* in The Elks Alphabet stands for this
- **19.** See 14 across
- 25. Month for remembering veterans, abbr.
- **26.** Pass on
- **27.** What *t* stands for in The Elks Alphabet
- **30.** Grand Exalted Ruler whose vision made the Elks National Foundation a reality, John F. \_\_\_\_\_
- 31. Starting letter for zeal
- 33. Adorn with brilliant colors

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									39				
40						41					42		

- **35.** BPOE partner in the Elks National Drug Awareness Program
- **37.** Location of the Grand Lodge Convention in 2018, 2 words
- 38. Intentions
- 40. Award for Hoop Shoot winners
- 41. Home of the Buckeyes
- 42. "That's amazing!"

#### **DOWN**

- 1. Friendship and mutual support between people
- 2. One is found in every lodge
- 3. Dulles International Airport is here
- 4. Hankers (for)
- 5. Our planet
- 6. Belong, 2 words
- **7.** The r in GER
- 8. It's on a globe
- **10.** Moving to and \_\_\_\_\_
- 15. Winter hours in New York City
- **16.** Had a victory
- 18. At this point
- 20. Bismarck locale, abbr.

- 21. Lower the lights
- 22. Hero's accomplishments
- 23. Group of enthusiasts
- 24. "Whoopee!"
- 28. Souvenir
- 29. \_\_\_\_classical architecture
- **31.** Rock band that had its first paying gig at the Beaumont, Texas, Elks Lodge
- **32.** Elks \_\_\_\_\_ other people's lives every day (improve)
- 34. Meal provided by many lodges to people in need
- 36. Urgency
- **37.** Arrange
- 39. Depart

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#### Elks National Veterans Service Commission



**Sun City, AZ,** Lodge held a breakfast at a restaurant for 13 veterans from the Arizona State Veterans Home, including two WW II veterans and two Korean War veterans. Pictured are (from left) US Marine Corps veteran Chris Blain, US Army veteran and lodge member Robert Wheat, Arizona Elks Association Veterans Service Committee Chairman Gary Drumheller, and US Army veteran Jay Roland, who is a WW II veteran.

In other news, the lodge donated nearly \$24,000 worth of powered wheelchairs and other medical supplies to the Paralyzed Veterans of America; gave nearly \$13,000 worth of clothing, bedding, food, powered wheelchairs, and other supplies to the Community Bridges Supportive Services for Veterans and Families; and provided nearly \$4,500 worth of furniture to Vets for Vets to be given to veterans moving into new homes.

Cahaba Valley, AL, Lodge members visited the Colonel Robert L. Howard State Veterans Home and held a barbecue lunch for 130 veterans. During the lunch, lodge members donated 12 pairs of fingerless gloves for wheelchair users and more than 270 craft kits, all of which were created by the Elks Veterans Leather Program, to the veterans home. The lodge used a \$2,000 ENF Beacon Grant to help fund the event. The total value of the donations and food was more than \$6,600.

**Huntsville**, **AL**, Lodge used a \$2,000 ENVSC Freedom Grant to provide a scholarship for a homeless veteran to attend classes at KTECH, a technical school that trains people in mechanical and electronics fields.

**Yuma**, **AZ**, Lodge donated a total of \$4,000 to Right Turn for Yuma Veterans, which provides transitional housing and other services to homeless and at-risk veterans.

**Fayetteville-Springdale**, **AR**, Lodge hosted a lunch and game session for seven veterans and two staff members from the Fayetteville Veterans Home. Each veteran received a sweatshirt, and during the games, each veteran won at least one prize.

**Holiday Island, AR,** Lodge donated six air mattresses, worth a total of \$400, to the Veterans Health Care System of the Ozarks to be used by veterans struggling with homelessness.

**Hot Springs, AR,** Lodge donated 3,000 books and magazines, ten bags of toiletries, eight boxes of greeting cards, and \$200 worth of prepaid phone cards to the Saint Francis House Veterans Re-Entry Program, which serves homeless veterans.

Jonesboro, AR, Lodge hosted a ceremony in honor of National Vietnam Veterans Day, which was attended by approximately 100 people, including 62 Vietnam War veterans and two spouses of deceased Vietnam War veterans. Lodge members presented a certificate signed by the governor of Arkansas and a pin to each veteran and veteran spouse. The ceremony was followed by a reception with beverages and dessert.

**Buena Park, CA**, and **Garden Grove, CA**, Lodge members traveled to the VA Long Beach Health Care System and held bingo games for 25 veterans. During the games, lodge members provided winners with small cash prizes, and refreshments were served.

Hemet, CA, Lodge used a \$1,500 ENF Anniversary Grant and an ENVSC Focus Grant to provide 45 Welcome Home Kits, each of which contained a handmade quilt, other bedding, kitchen appliances, clothing, and toiletries, to the US VETS housing facility for formerly homeless veterans. The lodge also donated 20 sets of cooking appliances, including microwave ovens, toasters, electric grills, slow cookers, and electric coffee pots, to the facility.

Merced, CA, Lodge used a \$2,000 ENVSC Freedom Grant and an ENF Anniversary Grant worth \$1,500 to host a dinner for 11 veterans who were identified by the Sierra Saving Grace Homeless Project and the Merced County Rescue Mission. During the event, each veteran was given a bag of toiletries and a take-home meal. The lodge also gave a total of 39 care packages containing toiletries and

take-home meals to the two organizations to be distributed to veterans in need.

**Pittsburg, CA,** Lodge honored deceased veteran Robert F. McDonald by flying his military burial flag and committing to continue to fly it until it becomes too worn. When the flag is too worn, lodge members will display it indoors until it can be honorably retired in a flagretirement ceremony. Another flag honoring a veteran will then be flown in its place.

**Simi Valley, CA**, Lodge made a donation of \$500 to the VFW Military History Museum.

**Delray Beach, FL**, Lodge members greeted a group of 80 veterans and 80 volunteers who were returning from an Honor Flight to Washington, DC, where they visited national veterans memorials and other monuments. A lodge member also volunteered to accompany a veteran on the trip.

**Saint Petersburg, FL,** Lodge members participated in a stand down for homeless veterans at the C. W. Bill Young VA Medical Center and distributed 500 fleece blankets to attending veterans.

In other news, the lodge hosted a graduation ceremony for seven veteran participants in the C. W. Bill Young VA Medical Center's Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Recovery Center program. About 75 relatives and other well-wishers attended the event. The lodge also donated \$500 to the program.

In other news, the lodge held a fund-raising event and raised \$560 to be used to provide gifts to veterans being treated at the C. W. Bill Young VA Medical Center.

**Zephyrhills**, **FL**, Lodge donated a \$100 gift card to cover a veteran's emergency travel expenses.



Wallace, ID, Lodge used part of a \$2,000 ENF Beacon Grant to host a fly-tying class for 11 local veterans. Pictured are US Air Force veteran Jim Newell and US Air Force veteran and lodge member Sharon Howard.

In other news, the lodge hosted a dinner

for about 50 veterans and family members. Several of the veterans also received door prizes.

**Quincy, IL,** Lodge used a \$2,000 ENF Beacon Grant to hold a lunch and concert for a group of nearly 120 veterans and 15 staff members at the Quincy Veterans Home.

**Cambridge, MD,** Lodge members and scouts from lodge-sponsored Boy Scout Troop 209 held a food drive and collected a total of 50 bags of nonperishable food, which were donated to the local American Legion post and the Cambridge VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic to be distributed to needy veterans.

**Hagerstown, MD,** Lodge invited a group of 22 veterans from the Martinsburg, WV, VA Medical Center to attend the lodge's monthly birthday dinner.

**Battle Creek, MI,** Lodge used a \$2,000 ENF Gratitude Grant and an ENVSC Freedom Grant worth \$2,000 to donate nonperishable food, paper plates, and cleaning supplies to Silver Star Veterans Housing.

Gaylord Area, MI, Lodge hosted a lunch for 52 local veterans.

**Marquette**, **MI**, Lodge made a donation of approximately \$800 to the D. J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans.

**Eveleth, MN,** Lodge donated \$1,200 to the local Honor Flight organization to help provide trips to Washington, DC, for WW II, Korean War, and Vietnam War veterans.

Hopkins, MN, Lodge members delivered a Welcome Home Kit containing basic household supplies to a veteran who was moving



**Negaunee**, **MI**, Lodge donated nearly \$800 worth of toiletries, hats, footwear, watches, and wallets to the D. J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans. Pictured with resident Dick Wills (at front) are (from left) home director Ryan Engle, Veterans Service Committee Chairman Ronald Downey, home staff members Kristal Burns and Sarah Johnson, Secy. Pamela Gadzinski, ER John Thomas, and volunteer Jean Downey.



Saint Louis, MO, Lodge donated \$2,200 to the Joshua Chamberlain Society to help purchase an adaptive driving kit for disabled veterans. The lodge also donated \$1,000 each to the SSGT Ron Bozikis Memorial Organization, the Paralyzed Veterans of America, HEROES Care, and the FOCUS Marines Foundation, all of which are veterans service

organizations. Pictured are (from left) Veterans Service Committee Chairman David Roeth and Joshua Chamberlain Society member and US Army SGT Legrand Strickland (Ret.).

into a new home. It was the 300th Welcome Home Kit that the lodge had delivered.

**Red Wing, MN,** Lodge, with the help of the local Chamber of Commerce, American Legion post, VFW post, and other veteran volunteers, held an open house at the lodge in honor of National Vietnam Veterans Day. During the event, Vietnam War veterans were encouraged to place pins in a map of Vietnam to show where they had served, and door prizes were awarded to veterans in attendance. More than 500 people attended the event.

**Ellisville, MO,** and **Saint Louis, MO,** Lodge members visited the Missouri Veterans Home–Saint James and held a Mardi Gras lunch for 75 veterans, family members, and staff members. Each veteran was given a set of beads and a gift bag containing socks, gloves, snacks, and toiletries.

**Eureka-Pacific, MO,** Lodge held a dinner, raffle, and silent auction and raised \$13,000 to help a community effort to end veteran homelessness in the Saint Louis area.

**Carson City, NV,** Lodge donated \$1,500 to Meals on Wheels to support meals delivered to veterans.

Carson City, Fallon, and Tahoe/Douglas, NV, Lodge members visited the VA Sierra Nevada Health Care System and provided dessert to a total of more than 100 veterans, family members, and staff members.

**Reno, NV,** Lodge donated \$15,000 to Honor Flight Nevada to help provide veterans with trips to Washington, DC, to visit veterans memorials and national monuments.

**Bound Brook**, **NJ**, Lodge used part of a \$2,000 ENVSC Freedom Grant to host a dinner for 30 veterans from the Lyons Campus of the VA New Jersey Health Care System. Each veteran also received some canteen books.

**East Brunswick**, **NJ**, Lodge used a \$2,000 ENVSC Freedom Grant to provide clothing to six veterans residing at the Veterans Memorial Home–Menlo Park and six veterans residing at the Lyons Campus of the VA New Jersey Health Care System.

**Elmwood Park, NJ,** Lodge used a \$2,000 ENVSC Freedom Grant to host a breakfast for more than 120 people, including veterans and their guests.

**Hackettstown**, **NJ**, Lodge members held an opening ceremony for a new lounge at Veterans Haven North, a transitional housing facility for formerly homeless veterans. The lodge used a \$2,500 ENF Gratitude Grant and donations from a hardware store to remodel the room and make it into a fully furnished lounge.



**Kearny**, **NJ**, Lodge used an ENVSC Welcome Home Grant to provide T-shirts, sweatpants, shower shoes, bedding, and toiletries to the Patriot First Professional Services shelter for homeless veterans. Pictured with some of the supplies are (from left) ER Mary Beth Gerstenmier, Veterans Service Committee Chairman Julie Murtha, PDD Steve Robinson, shelter director Keith Jackson, and veteran resident "General" Bennett.

In other news, the lodge provided a Welcome Home Kit containing basic household necessities to a veteran family that was moving into new housing. **Newark-Bloomfield, NJ,** Lodge used a \$2,000 ENF Beacon Grant to donate 25 jackets to the Lyons Campus of the VA New Jersey Health Care System to be given to female veterans and 25 jackets to the New Jersey State Elks Veterans Annex in Stirling, which is a central distribution point where veterans moving into new housing can receive needed supplies.

Sussex, NJ, Lodge donated 12 boxes of used kitchen items and clothing to the Catholic Charities Veterans Clothing Closet to be given to veterans in the community.

In other news, the lodge donated ten Welcome Home Kits containing basic household supplies to the New Jersey State Elks Veterans Annex in Stirling, which is a distribution point where veterans moving into new housing can receive needed supplies.

In more news, the lodge donated the use of its building to the local Marine Corps League detachment for its regular meetings.

**Vineland, NJ,** Lodge donated a \$2,000 ENVSC Freedom Grant to the Veterans Memorial Home–Vineland.

**West Milford, NJ,** Lodge donated \$100 to New Jersey's Mission of Honor, an organization that locates, identifies, and inters the cremated remains of deceased veterans.

In other news, the lodge held a breakfast for 30 veterans at the VA Hudson Valley Health Care System facility in Montrose, NY. The veterans also received ball caps and music CDs, and one veteran was given a portable music player.

**Brewster, NY,** Lodge donated a total of \$1,500 to the PFC Joseph P. Dwyer Veteran Peer Support Program, which provides peer counseling to veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injuries.



Riverhead, NY, Lodge used part of the proceeds of a concert fundraiser to buy several pieces of clothing for US Navy veteran Harold Goodale. Pictured presenting the gifts to Goodale is Treas. Patricia Judd.

**Huntington, NY,** Lodge used part of a \$2,500 ENF Gratitude Grant to donate \$250 to the Northport VA Medical Center to support the Outpatient Veterans Bowling League.

**New York, NY,** Lodge hosted a dinner and concert for a total of nearly 160 veterans from seven local medical and housing facilities that serve veterans.

**Poughkeepsie**, **NY**, Lodge members and members of lodge-sponsored Boy Scout Troop 275 held a food drive and collected more than \$1,000 worth of food for Liberty Station, which provides affordable housing for veterans and assists veteran families.

**State Capitol District, NY,** lodge members collected donated hides, sold them to a tannery, and contributed the \$1,500 that was raised to the district Veterans Service Committee.

**Calabash**, **NC**, Lodge donated \$500 to the SGT Eugene Ashley Memorial Center, a transitional residence for homeless veterans.

**Circleville, OH,** Lodge held a clothing drive and used a \$1,500 ENF Anniversary Grant to donate \$2,500 worth of warm winter clothing to the Chillicothe VA Medical Center.

**Hamilton, OH,** Lodge members visited about 20 veterans at the Cincinnati VA Medical Center and played volleyball and board games with them. The lodge also used part of a \$2,500 ENF Gratitude Grant to donate \$1,500 worth of snacks, clothing, and shoes to the center to be distributed to needy veterans.

**Ravenna, OH,** Lodge used a \$1,500 ENF Anniversary Grant to donate pillows, towels, and washcloths to Family and Community Services to be used by veterans served by two of the organization's programs: Valor Home, which assists homeless veterans, and Safer Futures, which assists victims of domestic violence.

**Xenia, OH,** Lodge used part of a \$2,000 ENVSC Freedom Grant to hold a bingo party for nine patients at the Dayton VA Medical Center's nursing facility. The lodge also used part of the grant to provide 45 boxed lunches to patients of the center's memory care facility and the center's hospice. Another part of the grant was used to donate nearly \$190 worth of gift cards to the center to support a movie night for nursing home patients.

In related news, the lodge used part of a \$2,000 ENVSC Freedom Grant to give thank-you notes to 95 veterans who were returning from an Honor Flight to Washington, DC. Lodge members also helped to greet the veterans upon their return.

**Hood River, OR**, Lodge hosted a monthly support group meeting for about 30 local veterans.

**Bedford**, **PA**, Lodge hosted a ceremony during which 170 veterans imprinted their thumbprints in the base of a clay mold, which will be used to create a bronze statue of US Army veteran and Medal of Honor recipient Robert W. Hartsock. The statue will be placed near the Bedford County Vietnam War Monument.

**Tri-City, RI,** Lodge used part of a \$2,000 ENF Beacon Grant to host a lunch for 61 veterans and several staff members from the Rhode Island Veterans Home.

**West Warwick**, **RI**, Lodge used a \$2,500 ENF Gratitude Grant and additional lodge funding to donate a total of \$3,000 to Operation Stand Down Rhode Island to support the organization's two housing facilities for homeless veterans.

**Eureka** "Tintic," UT, Lodge donated more than 35 handmade blankets to the Mervyn Sharp Bennion Central Utah Veterans Home.

**Utah Elks Association** arranged for Warriors' Tales, a nonprofit organization that records veteran history, to interview US Army veteran DeVearl Decker, who served during World War II and was awarded the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star. A complete record of the interview was sent to the Library of Congress.

**Clifton Forge, VA,** Lodge used part of a \$1,500 ENF Anniversary Grant to donate \$500 to the local VFW post.

**Front Royal, VA,** Lodge hosted a lunch for about 45 veterans who were members of several recreational therapy groups that meet at the Stephens City VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic. The lodge also donated 100 bags containing fresh fruit and vegetables, unsalted nuts, and toiletries to the clinic to be distributed to veterans.

**Waynesboro**, **VA**, Lodge donated 25 boxes of books, games, puzzles, clothing, and toiletries to the Salem VA Medical Center.

**Ballard (Seattle), WA,** Lodge used part of an Anniversary Grant worth \$1,500 and part of an ENVSC Focus Grant to provide 25 Welcome Home Kits containing kitchenware, bedding, and other basic household supplies to formerly homeless veterans moving into new housing.

Green Bay, WI, Lodge used part of a \$2,000 ENVSC Freedom Grant to donate a television to Veterans Manor Green Bay, a transitional housing facility for homeless veterans. The lodge also used part of the grant to donate cleaning supplies and toiletries to the facility. ■



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### Elks Drug Awareness Program



Bullhead City, AZ, Lodge members staffed a drug awareness booth during a kids fair hosted by the local Kiwanis Club and distributed drug awareness materials, including coloring books, bookmarks, and red ribbons. More than 1,000 people attended the fair. Shown here are two of the young attendees.



Green Valley, AZ, Lodge members honored the first-place winners of the lodge's Drug Awareness Poster and Essay contests during an assembly at Continental School. The winners of the poster contest were Continental School students Leah Deason, who is in third grade; Madeline Flowers, who is in fourth grade; and fifth grader Monica Ontiveros. The winners of the essay contest were Continental School students Kayleanna Renshaw, who is in sixth grade;

Portia Bentley, who is in seventh grade; and Anyssa Glabe, who is in eighth grade. Kayleanna was also recognized for placing first in the state essay competition, and she was presented with a plaque and small monetary award. All winners received either a drug awareness basketball or soccer ball. Pictured with state essay contest winner Kayleanna is Arizona Elks Association Drug Awareness Committee Chairman John Ponzo.

**Cahaba Valley**, **AL**, Lodge members distributed more than 1,900 drug awareness bookmarks and pencils at 15 elementary schools.

**Hot Springs, AR,** Lodge members distributed drug awareness materials, including coloring books and bookmarks, to 40 special-needs students in the Lakeside School District.



Fayetteville-Springdale, AR, Lodge honored the first-place winners of the lodge's Drug Awareness Video and Essay Contests, who also placed first at the state level, and presented them with framed certificates and small monetary awards during an assembly at their school. The winners of the video contest were Prairie Grove Middle School sixth-grade students Abbie Dorey, Macey Faulkner, Klea Smith, and Addyson Snyder, and the winner of the essay contest was Prairie Grove Middle School seventh-grade student Maddie Hardy. Pictured are (from left) lodge Drug Awareness Chairman Ronald Materna, contest winners Macey, Addyson, Abbie, Klea, and Maddie, and Chaplain Marge Guist.



San Rafael, CA, Lodge held an awards ceremony, during which lodge members honored Marin County District Attorney Lori Frugoli for receiving the Enrique Camarena Award at the lodge, district, and state levels. The award recognizes outstanding performance in combating drug abuse and drug trafficking. Frugoli was presented with a plaque and a framed certificate. Pictured are (from left) Petaluma Lodge PER Verna Eisen and Enrique Camarena Award winner Frugoli.



Santa Monica, CA, Lodge members recognized Saint Anne School fifth grader Gavin Burdick for winning the California-Hawaii Elks Association Drug Awareness Poster Contest. Pictured with Gavin is PER R. A. Pickett.



**Inverness**, **FL**, Lodge hosted a dinner in honor of Lecanto Middle School sixth grader Ava Rueck to congratulate her for winning the Florida State Elks Association Drug Awareness Essay Contest. Ava was presented with a framed certificate, a tablet computer, and a small cash award. Pictured are (from left) DD George Sevast, Drug Awareness Committee Chairman James Manos, contest winner Ava, and ER William McAvay.



Brick, NJ, Lodge members recognized Osbornville Elementary School fifthgrade student Dennis Haines for winning the lodge's Drug Awareness Poster Contest and presented him with a framed certificate, a board game set, and a gift card. Pictured with Dennis is lodge member Anthony Alfano.

**Yreka**, **CA**, Lodge held a bingo fund-raiser and raised a total of more than \$3,000 for a drug- and alcohol-free post-graduation party to be held at Yreka High School.

**East Brunswick, NJ,** Lodge used a \$1,500 ENF Anniversary Grant to co-sponsor a forum that was held at a local community center for the purpose of discussing the legalization of marijuana. The event featured an expert guest speaker, and a total of nearly 130 people from the community attended.

**Sussex**, **NJ**, Lodge members gave a presentation on the dangers of drug, alcohol, and tobacco use to nearly 30 members of Boy Scout



Hamilton, NJ, Lodge members distributed drug awareness coloring books to nearly 40 children during an Easter egg hunt that was held at the lodge. Pictured receiving a coloring book from the Easter Bunny (In. Guard Timothy Cicon) is guest Cassandra Yauger.



Kittanning, PA, Lodge held an awards dinner, during which lodge members recognized the six winners of the lodge's Drug Awareness Poster and Essay contests and presented them with framed certificates and gift cards. Pictured with ER Kevin Luke is third grader Aubrey Reefer, who was the first-place winner of the Drug Awareness Poster Contest.

Troop 12. The event included a demonstration of Fatal Vision goggles, which simulate the effects of inebriation, and more than 50 bags containing drug awareness materials were distributed to the scouts and their families.

Clifton Park, NY, Lodge members staffed a drug awareness booth during a science and health fair at Shenendehowa High School East and distributed drug awareness materials to more than 80 attendees. Additionally, the lodge donated \$100 toward the cost of organizing the fair.

**Islip, NY,** Lodge used part of a \$2,500 ENF Gratitude Grant to distribute drug awareness rulers, coloring books, crayons, and colored pencils to nearly 380 kindergarten and first-grade students at Wing Elementary School.

**Laramie, WY,** Lodge used part of a \$1,000 Wyoming Elks Association grant to donate \$500 to Laramie High School Project Graduation, which organizes a drug- and alcohol-free post-graduation party. ■

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#### **Step into the Spotlight**



Pictured are children whose elementary school has received support from the Huntsville, Alabama, Lodge through ENF Community Investments Program grants that fund literacy programs. This year, the ENF has introduced the Spotlight Grant, a new CIP grant that is designed to shine a light on the importance of family literacy and the necessity of combating veteran homelessness.

HE ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION'S Community Investments Program distributes \$13.7 million annually to local lodges through grants that Elks use to meet the needs of their communities. Not only do these grants make a huge impact on those they aid, they also energize Elks members, encourage former members to return to the fold, and gain the notice of people who want to be part of an organization doing big things. To keep this positive momentum going, the ENF has launched a new grant offering this year: the Spotlight Grant. Lodges can use this \$2,000 grant to shine a light on two important issues: family literacy and homelessness among our nation's veterans.

All lodges are eligible to apply for a Spotlight Grant and are not required to meet the Grand Exalted Ruler's per-member giving goal to apply. "Our hope," says PGER Lou Sulsberger, chairman of the ENF Board of Trustees, "is that by eliminating a barrier to participation, the Spotlight Grant eventually will encourage more lodges to apply for Beacon Grants."

To help lodges use the Spotlight Grant to make a significant impact in their communities, the ENF is providing a new type of implementation strategy. It has created seven project plans, and every lodge that receives a Spotlight Grant must select one of these plans. Four of the plans target family literacy initiatives, and three focus on ending veteran homelessness.

#### Literacy

As teachers across the country will tell you—especially those who work in low-income areas—students are coming to their classrooms each year with reading skills that are well below what is expected of students at their grade level. With the Spotlight Grant, lodges can work to improve student educational outcomes through one of the four established project plans.

The first project plan is called Warm Welcome to the Library. For this project, a lodge holds an event at a public library and invites needy families to attend. Every child who comes to the event is given a brand-new winter coat, manufactured by Operation Warm, a nonprofit organization that distributes new winter coats to hundreds of thousands of needy children each year. Plus, during the event, the children are given up to two new books each, and they and their families get the opportunity to explore the library and learn about all the programs that are offered. Lodges are encouraged to partner with local schools and organizations, such as the Boys and Girls Club or Big Brothers Big Sisters, to identify children in need that could be invited to the Warm Welcome to the Library event.

Another project option, called Suds and Stories, seeks to help build children's literacy skills at a young age by connecting with underserved families at local laundromats. The inspiration for this project came from an indisputable truth: parents of very young children have to do a lot of laundry. Many low-income families do laundry at laundromats, and they often bring their children with them. When a lodge puts on a Suds and Stories event, it works with a local laundromat to provide free use of the washing machines and dryers for a set amount of time. During that time, lodge members engage with children in attendance by providing them with free books, hosting a story time, or offering other literacy-building activities.

The third project plan to promote family literacy involves lodges supporting the Imagination Library, a program created by country music star Dolly Parton and the Dollywood Foundation. The Imagination Library provides needy children with a free hardcover book every month from birth to age five. When a lodge receives a Spotlight Grant and chooses the Imagination Library as its project, lodge members either partner with an existing Imagination Library in the area or register to start a local program, if one does not already exist in their community. Then, lodges must identify a nonprofit partner to collaborate with on their Imagination Library program. According to the program requirements, a lodge must have a local 501(c)(3) agency on board as a key collaborator. Due to postal regulations, the return address of all Imagination Library books sent to needy children must be that of a local 501(c)(3) organization. Once the lodge has secured a nonprofit partner, lodge members can plan a fun

kickoff event to promote the program and get children registered to begin receiving their books.

The last literacy project plan is called Community Baby Shower, and it seeks to provide low-income families with basic necessities, such as diapers and formula, along with resources to help develop early literacy skills. To complete this project, lodges may contact local hospitals, women's shelters, or other organizations that provide services to newborns and parents in need. Once lodge members have identified a population in need, they can begin planning the community baby shower and encouraging others to donate needed infant care items for the event. The event must include a component that fosters literacy, so the lodge may work with local libraries or schools to provide parents and soon-to-be parents with information on developing reading skills in young children.

#### **Veteran Homelessness**

According to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development, on any given night, nearly thirty-eight thousand veterans are homeless. In partnership with the US Department of Veterans Affairs, the Elks has pledged to help end veteran homelessness and ensure that every veteran has the safe, stable home they deserve. Lodges who receive the Spotlight Grant can choose from three different project plans that help accomplish this goal.

The first project plan is called Welcome Home, and it aims to provide veterans who have just transitioned into permanent housing with the basic items they need to set up a household. Lodges that choose to execute this project can start by looking for local veteran housing programs that can identify veterans in need of new home supplies. Every VA medical center has at least one person on staff who focuses on veterans experiencing homelessness, so contacting that representative can be a good place to start. Once lodge members have identified veterans in need, they can begin collecting items, such as kitchenware, cleaning supplies, and furniture, to make up Welcome Home Kits. When it's time to deliver the kits, the lodge can throw a housewarming party for the recipients or write letters of appreciation to include with the donated items.

The second Spotlight Grant project plan to support veterans is called Stand Down, and it is for lodges that wish to create a stand down event or support one that is already being held in their community. A stand down is a one- to three-day event coordinated by local VA medical centers and other service providers to offer various services and resources, such as clothing, health screenings, dental care, and benefits counseling, to veterans experiencing homelessness. To use a Spotlight Grant to hold a stand down, Elks must be actively involved in volunteering during the event and the funds should be used to provide vital supplies or services for the veterans. For example, Elks can support dental service offerings at a stand down by volunteering to set up the area where services will be provided, scheduling appointments, and providing kits with dental hygiene supplies to veterans as they complete their visit.

The final project plan is called Adopt-a-Haven, and it is for lodges that wish to provide ongoing support to an emergency shelter or transitional housing facility in their community that is specifically for veterans. The grant must be used to provide things such as Elks-led landscaping, painting, or maintenance projects; a dinner service for at least one week; a workshop at the facility to teach veterans a skill; or regular social events for veterans, such as game or movie nights.

For more information on what can be accomplished with a Spotlight Grant, please visit enf.elks.org/SpotlightGrant. Applications for 2019–2020 Spotlight Grants are now open and will close December 31, 2019. Grant projects must be complete by March 31, 2020. The ENF Community Investments Program hopes to approve more than one thousand Spotlight Grant applications by the December 31 deadline. Help us reach our goal by applying! ■

The Elks National Foundation is helping lodges encourage literacy and work to end veteran homelessness by offering Spotlight Grants of \$2,000. To find out more about Spotlight Grants and the Community Investments Program, visit enf.elks.org/SpotlightGrants.

## **State Major Projects**



### New Mexico Elks Cerebral Palsy Program



Then GER Ronald Hicks is pictured with Manny Turner and his family during the New Mexico Elks Association's annual convention. Manny's family received a grant from the New Mexico Elks Cerebral Palsy Program that enabled them to purchase an adaptive tricycle for him.

OR NEARLY SEVENTY YEARS, the New Mexico Elks Association has helped children with cerebral palsy and has made that mission its state major project. The project was established in 1950, and the ways it goes about serving its clients have changed as its clients' needs and the association's capacity to help have changed. Since 2012, the assistance provided by the New Mexico Elks Cerebral Palsy Program has taken the form of grants awarded to families with children who have cerebral palsy. The funds help these families afford the equipment, therapy, and home modifications they need.

Any family residing in New Mexico that has a child with cerebral palsy is welcome to apply through their local Elks lodge for financial assistance from the New Mexico Elks Association. This assistance can be used to purchase equipment, services, and tools the family needs to improve the quality of their everyday life and that of their children. Once approved by the local lodge exalted ruler, secretary, or Cerebral Palsy Committee chairman, the application is forwarded to the state Cerebral Palsy Commission for consideration. The commission consists of the state major project administrator, a vice chairman, four district representatives, the current state president, the current treasurer, and a past state president advisor. A decision is made concerning each applica-



Candace Flores is pictured on a new, handicapped-accessible deck and ramp that was built onto the family home with the help of a \$3,000 grant provided by the New Mexico Elks Cerebral Palsy Program.

tion within two weeks of its receipt. "We try to help everyone who comes to us who has cerebral palsy," says State Major Project Administrator Lee Morris. "Sometimes their requests are outside of our capacity, but we do what we can."

The specific uses to which grants are put has tended to change over the years, often based on what other sources of funding, such as insurance, tend to cover. In previous years, many grants went toward the cost of equipment, such as wheelchairs, wheelchair adaptations, or tablet computers loaded with assistive software. But over the past two years, Morris says, most grants have been used to cover the costs of remodeling bathrooms, bedrooms, or home exteriors to render them accessible to people with disabilities. This often involves the installation of ramps, wheelchair lifts, and other hardware that allows children with cerebral palsy to live more comfortably in their homes. Recently, fewer grants have been used to purchase adaptive equipment, as other funding sources, including insurance, have begun to cover more of these costs.

When the New Mexico Elks Cerebral Palsy Program is unable to cover the full cost of a needed item for an applicant, its administrators do their best to find other ways to help. For example, the state major project can provide up to \$5,000 toward the cost of a handicapped-accessible van, but such vans typically cost much more than this and grant applicants must find the rest of the funding for the vehicle elsewhere. To help with this process, the state major project works closely with a company that offers low-rate financing options for people with disabilities.



Six-year-old Beau Armstrong is pictured with his family and some New Mexico Elks in front of an adaptive vehicle that the family purchased with the help of funding from the New Mexico Elks Cerebral Palsy Program.

#### **Fund-raising**

The largest New Mexico Elks Association fund-raiser for the Cerebral Palsy Program is an annual raffle. Each year, the association sells nearly seventy thousand tickets and raises about \$40,000 for the project. Thanks to an unusual feature of New Mexico's state laws, local lodges are also allowed to have casinos on-site, the profits of which go toward charitable ends, including the state major project. Lodges also engage in various other creative fund-raisers year-round to support their project.

During the New Mexico Elks Association's annual convention, people who have benefited from grants are invited to share their experiences and tell the assembled Elks how the assistance they have received has improved their lives. Each year, their stories reflect the positive impact of the New Mexico Elks Cerebral Palsy Program. By providing flexible assistance to families who are coping with a child's cerebral palsy, members of the New Mexico Elks Association continue to demonstrate that Elks Care—Elks Share.

Click here for more information on the New Mexico Elks Association's major project.

98 JULY/AUGUST 2019



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Answers to crossword puzzle on page 75.

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### **Departed GL Officers**

**Past District Deputy** John R. Jones Jr., of the Oak Ridge, TN, Lodge, died April 16. Member Jones served as district deputy for the East District of Tennessee in 2001–2002 and served as administrative assistant to Grand Exalted Ruler Arthur H. Frost III in 2006–2007.

**Past District Deputy** Catalino C. Bañez Jr., of the Washington, DC–Rockville, MD, Lodge, died April 23. Member Bañez served as district deputy for the Southwest District of Maryland, Delaware and the District of Columbia in 2017–2018.

**Past District Deputy** Archie L. Brackens, of the Lewisburg, WV, Lodge, died April 27. Member Brackens served as district deputy for the South District of West Virginia in 2014–2015.

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## NEWS OF THE LODGES State Directory

State Director	<b>.</b> Y
Alabama	14
Arizona	14-16
Arkansas	15-17
California	
Colorado	19
Connecticut	.19
Florida	19, 20
Georgia	20
ldaho	20
Indiana	20
lowa	20, 21
Kansas	
Kentucky	21
Maryland	
Massachusetts	
Michigan	
Mississippi	
Missouri	
Montana	
Nebraska	
Nevada	
New Hampshire	
New Jersey	
New Mexico	
New York	
North Carolina	
Ohio	
Oregon	
Pennsylvania	
Rhode Island	
South Carolina	
South Dakota –	
Tennessee	
Utah	
Vermont	
Virginia	
Washington	
West Virginia	
Wyoming	.41

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