

As we observe fall rituals, let us not forget one of the main goals this year was to reduce the substantial financial debt by year's end. I want to thank the members who have already donated to this cause, but we are far from reaching our necessary obligation. As of the fourth quarter, we have reached approximately \$30,000 in donations for the debt reduction, but much more is needed. We need to keep this at the forefront, our officers are working diligently, but we need the help of our members. We have a financial responsibility to continue paying down what is owed to ensure the success of this Lodge and maintain the great legacy of those who went before us. Every little bit helps, give whatever you can! If we each contribute, it makes a huge difference. Are you proud to be an Elk? Remember "Elks care, Elks share."



BRUCE CONARD
EXALTED RULER

As I see the progress that our Lodge is making this year, it is really a good feeling. In a time, that has hindered others, we have slowly but surely forged a path to success, now we need to ensure that everyone follows it, Get involved! We need to see new faces, of the 594 members how many do you see at lodge events?

As we gear up for the fall, there are many activities at the Lodge, so look closely to your newsletter or follow us on Facebook for more information, we need your participation! There are some important programs that are essential, please make sure to read the articles in this newsletter regarding the ENF and the State Major Projects.

I pledge to you my fidelity, Bruce Conard, Exalted Ruler

ON THE LODGE FLOOR

Lodge Meetings in October 1st at 7:00 pm, 15th 6:30 pm with Initiation
Board of Directors 8th at 6:30 PM

NEWS FROM THE

LODGE SECRETARY

In last month's newsletter I noted that our Lodge has donated money to a number of projects in town thanks to grants through the Elks National Foundation. Although less than in the past because of the pandemic, we also impact the community through volunteering to help in community activities. For example, we have conducted a food stand during the 400 block concerts and provided help with Art in the Park. Any volunteer activity – even time spent helping at the Lodge – should be recorded. I then transfer this time into a charitable giving report in CLMS. Grand Lodge then compiles all of these reports into a single document that is then evaluated by the Internal Revenue Service. As of March 31, 2020 our Lodges reported total contributions of \$372,667,146.33. This total includes \$62,780,120 in cash donations, \$38,316,258 in non-cash donations, \$19,038,312.70 in miles driven (@\$.55 per mile) and \$252,532,455.63 in hours worked. Grand Lodge does not provide a breakdown by individual Lodge. As you can see, volunteer time provides the largest portion of our contributions, showing how valuable our time is when we help in an Elks project.

Ridge

Lodge Lore

Unfortunately this year the 156th Grand Lodge Session planned for the city of Baltimore on July 5-8 had to be canceled due to Covid-19. The last time it had been in that city was in 1916. It is the only session that was cancelled although the 81st in 1945 in New York City was restricted to only the minimum number required for a quorum (337) due to war time restrictions.

The first Grand Lodge Session took place in New York City on February 12, 1871 with 10 members present. From 1871-1890 the Grand Lodge met in New York City with the exception of 1877 when it opened in Philadelphia, PA but there was a debate over whether it could meet anywhere other than New York and it moved back there. While there is no record of how many members met in Philadelphia, 21 had met in 1876 and 40 met in 1878.

In 1890 it met in Cleveland, OH with 207 present and did not return to New York City until 1945. The largest attendance was in Las Vegas in 1981 with 19,417 members present. The usual number ranges from 6,000 -10,000.

Originally the Grand Lodge met in December which was the height of the theatrical season and many members were actors, entertainers, or in some other way associated with the theater and so were unable to attend. They were discontented with the timing and in 1886 a proposal was made to meet in the summer when theaters were closed (due to no air conditioning). In 1887 the decision was made to meet in the month of July.

Next year it will be in, Tampa, FL on July 4-7. If you have never been to one, consider it as a vacation- although of course the weather in Florida in the summer can be oppressive.

Following that in 2022 is Atlanta, GA, July 3-6; 2023 Minneapolis, MN, July 2-5; and 2024 Austin, TX, June30-July3.

Mike Rebhahn, Lodge Historian

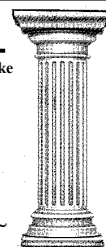
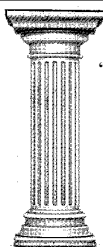
Packer Sundays are back, sign up in the lounge. \$10.00 per person for the regular season games noon or 3:25. Pick a game and be a food sponsor too"

IN MEMORIAM

"What we have done for ourselves alone dies with us, what we have done for others and the world remains and is immortal." Albert Pike

Jack Horak
Born March 30, 1937
Initiated August 5, 1982
Died August 20, 2020 a member 39 Years

~ In vain we call, they have passed into the light which is beyond the valley of the shadow of death ~



Dan Sillars
GENERAL CONTRACTOR

*New Homes *Remodeling
*Additions *Light Commer-

Office: 715-845-7651
Mobile: 715-432-4652
"WE STRIVE TO BUILD THEM BETTER"