



Volume 23, Number 3
 Tuesday, July 16, 2013
 Reno, Nevada



Grand Lodge Convention News

Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks... "A Fraternal Organization"

Oregon Major Project earns hugs

The Elks Children's Eye Clinic, Major Project of the Oregon State Elks Association, would not be possible without the organization's commitment to providing eye care for babies and children.

The Elks became involved with the University of Oregon Medical School, now the OHSU School of Medicine, in 1949. That year, Kenneth Swan, M.D., needed a piece of equipment called an oximeter for a baby whose father was an Oregon Elk. The Oregon Elks promptly raised \$2,000 for the oximeter. Soon after, their continued generosity established the Elks Children's Eye Clinic.

Since then, the Elks have contributed enormously to the growth of the clinic, helping pay for the nation's first microscope for ocular surgery, the Northwest's first ophthalmic excimer laser, and Oregon's first photokeratoscope for children. Today, the visual program of the Oregon State Elks Association contributes more than \$2,000,000 annually to the Elks Children's Eye Clinic, working with 18,000 children each year.



Casey the Elk gets a hug from a grateful child. This child needed glasses, but didn't know it until he was screened by the Oregon Elks Children's Eye Clinic Vision Screening Program.

Elks Veterans Leather Program

The Elks Leather Program had another great year. Stop by the Elks National Veterans Service Commission booth and see how your state can get involved.

Last year the top three states for gathering hides were as follows:

1. Missouri (4150)
2. Iowa (3457)
3. Wyoming (2535)

The Commission is grateful for the Elks who collect and donate deer hides to the National Veterans Leather Program. These hides provide occupational and recreational therapy for our disabled veterans and gloves for those confined to wheelchairs. This effort reinforces our Elk's motto: "So long as there are veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them."

Leather Program Statistics for Lodge Year 2012-2013 are as follows:

States donating salted hides: 19

AR 1343, AZ 1000, CO 1975, IA 3457, IL 51, KS 7, MO 4150, NE 750, NJ 485, NM 130, NV 40, OK 4, PA 242, SC 56, TX 750, VA 60, WV 1002, WY 2535, and WI 250. Total hides donated - 18,287.

Veteran's wheelchair gloves distributed: 3398

Crafting leather distributed in square feet: Elk 596; Deer 10,360

Crafting leather donated to help hospitalized veterans: 39,595 square feet

Crafting kits manufactured and distributed: 38,912

Glove orders by state (29 states/113 orders): AL 1, AR 1, AZ 17, CA 2, CO 15, FL 4, GA 1, HI 3, IA 1, IL 7, KS 5, KY 3, LA 1, MA 1, MD 4, MI 2, MN 5, MO 6, NE 1, OH 3, OR 1, PA 2, SC 2, SD 1, TX 6, VA 2, WA 2, WI 11, WV 3

Crafting leather orders by state(8 states/22 orders): AZ 8, IA 3, KS 3, MI 2, SD 1, TX 2, WY 3

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION

Now, Whereas, the Grand Lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will conclude this 149th Grand Lodge Session in Reno, Nevada on the 18th day of July, 2013;

And, Whereas, it is appropriate that due note be made, and appreciation expressed, to the many individuals who have contributed their time and effort to the success of this Grand Lodge Session;

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Delegates here assembled extends their sincere gratitude and appreciation as follows:

To all Elks, Spouses and Families of the State of Nevada, for their wonderful hospitality and for giving so unselfishly of their time and talents;

To Thomas S. Brazier, Grand Exalted Ruler, for the excellent and timely manner in which he conducted the Business Sessions, and for his untiring efforts on behalf of our Order during his term as our Leader.

To our First Lady Venita Brazier for the elegant grace with which she endeared herself to all during her tour as First Lady with our Grand Exalted Ruler throughout Elkdom;

To the Aide to the Grand Exalted Ruler, Leslie A. Yeffa, for the efficiency with which he handled the many support functions required of that position;

To the Elks National Convention Commission: PGER Ruler Lester C. Hess, Jr, Chairman, PGER Roger R. True, PGER James C. Varenhorst, PGER Louis J. Grillo, and PGER James L. Nicholson whose planning and efforts began many months prior to this Convention, and for their attention and supervision during this Session, ensuring its success;

To the Local Support Committee Honorary Chairman, Past Grand Exalted Ruler, Louis J Grillo, and Honorary Co-Chairman Special Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler James Shirkey for their guidance in the planning and execution of this Convention;

To the 2013 Local Support Committee, General Chairman Ted Balash, Operations Chairman Larry Rackley, along with Bill Wiseman and Pam Shirkey, and the many Elks of the State of Nevada, who worked tirelessly on the various committees and subcommittees to make this Convention truly outstanding;

To Grand Secretary, Bryan R. Klatt, and his capable Headquarters staff, for their cooperation and knowledge, without which no Grand Lodge Convention would be successful;

To Tina M. Haran, Convention and Meetings Director, and her Associate, Jessica M. Ruiz, for their efforts and dedication in carrying out their many responsibilities and logistical functions at this Convention;

To the Exhibits & Sessions Coordinators, Dick Mitchell, Edgar Manwaring, Roland L. Siebert, James Rice, William Gebhardt, and Scott Kirstein who provide and prepare the exhibits, the sound and visual equipment, the timing, the lighting, and other Convention requirements;

To Phil Claiborne, Chairman of Registration, Rudy R. Wicht, Director of the National Information Services Department, and their team of skilled credentials personnel, and for the efficient and pleasant manner with which they welcomed and registered, for another successful year, the thousands of Elks and Guests attending our Convention;

To Grand Treasurer, Robert L. Ressler, Harry E. Smith, Chairman of the Grand Lodge Auditing and Accounting

Committee, and Johnetta Tyler, Grand Lodge Controller, for their prompt and capable handling of the financial commitments of this Session; to Past Grand Exalted Ruler, James L. Nicholson for serving as Master of Ceremonies at the Opening Session of this Convention;

To Reverend Father Stephan McNally, Grand Chaplain for his spiritual guidance and prayers of Elks and Elkdom during the past year; and for invoking the Divine Blessing of Almighty God on these Proceedings; and sending us forth from this Session to do the good works of Elkdom with his Benediction;

To Robert K. Bjornaas, Organist, of Sun City, Arizona Lodge No. 2559, for providing such fine musical renditions;

To Virginia Basil, of Raymond, Washington Lodge No. 1292, for her wonderful and stirring vocal performances during the opening Ceremony;

To the Color Guard from Salinas, California Lodge No. 614, for their dignified and impressive presentation of the Colors;

To Past Grand Exalted Ruler, David Carr, Grand Lodge Memorial Service Coordinator, for his meticulous planning of our moving Memorial Service;

To Johanna E. Baniak from Watervliet, New York Lodge No. 1500, for her special vocal presentation during our Memorial Service;

To Michael F. Zellen, Secretary of the Board of Grand Trustees and Member of Saugus-Everett, Massachusetts Lodge No. 642, who rendered the General Eulogy;

To Robert W. Hansen, Jr from New Britain, Connecticut Lodge No. 957, for his commitment to render a beautiful Eleven O'clock Toast at our Memorial Service;

To Roger Lund from Reno, Nevada, Lodge No. 597 for leading us in song each morning;

To the First Place Female and Male Winners of this year's "Most Valuable Student" Scholarship Awards: Grace Young, sponsored by Hoboken, New Jersey Lodge No. 74, and Anish Athalye, sponsored by Worcester, Massachusetts Lodge No. 243. In the hands of such immensely talented young people, our American Legacy of Freedom is guaranteed;

To the "Getty Powell Award" Winners for the highest scoring Girl and Boy in the 2013 "Hoop Shoot" Contest: Keira Holcer, sponsored by Brookfield, Missouri No. 874, and Landon Carroll, sponsored by Jackson, Ohio Lodge No. 466, who stood fast and displayed unbelievable poise and dexterity under the pressure of intense National competition and emerged victorious;

Finally, our deepest appreciation to all the Members of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America, who, with their spouses and families, have pledged allegiance under God to the Flag of the United States, the Emblem of our Order and this great Country and the Symbol of Freedom and Liberty throughout the World.

Respectfully submitted by the Grand Lodge Resolutions Committee:

Louis W. Ringger, Chairman, Decatur County, Tennessee, Lodge No. 2641 (Area 3)

Francis X. Olivieri, Winthrop, Massachusetts Lodge No. 1078 (Area 1)

Robert F. Binetti, Ridgefield Park, New Jersey Lodge No. 1506 (Area 2)

New members of Grand Lodge Activities Committee announced

Committeemen of the Grand Lodge Activities Committee for 2013-2014 include

Area 1 – Ron Olson of Colonie, New York #2192; ronolson1@verizon.net

Area 2 – George Olson of State College, Pennsylvania #1600; geo1@psu.edu

Area 3 – David Lake of Fort Myers, Florida #1288; dlake@certifiedslings.com

Area 4 – Jeff Durant, Chairman, from of Ohio River Valley, Ohio #231; jrdurant@1st.net

Area 5 – Norman Behnke of Fon du Lac, Wisconsin #57; ncbjab@charter.net

Area 6 – Charles E. Devine of Broken Bow, Nebraska #1688; cdevine@gpcom.net

Area 7 – R. Douglas Larsen of Salinas, California #614; dougsp@hughes.net

Area 8 – Steven A. Davis of Bismarck-Mandan, North Dakota #1199; davisfamily@bis.midco.net

Communications spell the success or failure of any new committee. This became the focus of our first year on the new Grand Lodge Activities Committee, using liaisons with the State Presidents and District Deputies. We strive to keep every member of this committee informed so any one of us will be able to answer your questions. We will be available to any of you to answer any questions you do not find on the

website.

Working with the Chicago Office all information, booklets, and certificates have been updated on the elks.org website.

Our committee members write the articles for the newsletter, as well as serving as a contact person for Student/Teenager of the Month/Year, Dictionary Program, Junior Golf, Antlers, Scouting, and Soccer. Each of these subcommittees has a member in charge and any questions should be directed to that committee member.

The full list of committee members, phone numbers, and mailing addresses can be found on the elks.org website and you are encouraged to see what is new and updated. We look forward to another successful year of serving the members of the Elks Lodges as you plan and carry out your projects in the community, apply for Beacon Grants, and serve the youth of this great nation. Remember, the key to membership and having a viable lodge is public relations. Keep your communities informed of the good you do and make certain they all know that “Elks Live – Elks Give” and we still “Care and Share”, too. This hard-working committee will do all in their power to make another successful year a reality .

Volunteers make Registration process easier

The first thing every delegate does at a Grand Lodge Convention is register. The lines are often long, but the Grand Secretary's office brings in volunteers to handle the rush. Assisting Tom Petro, PER from Trenton, NJ #105 with registration is Grand Secretary Bryan Klatt's mother, Donna Lee.



Pin traders busy at convention

C. Thomas Naumann of Pontiac-Waterford, MI #810 has a message to Lodges about their pin designs. "Quit making the same pin over and over year after year," the avid collector said Monday, sitting amid the scrapbook-type pages filled with hundreds, if not thousands, of pins at the pins booth. "It doesn't create any new interest with pin traders.

He advised Lodges to at least change pin colors or add a date, "something to make it different, so it's noticeable." Naumann himself has some 16,000 pins he has collected over the years. He added that the need to changing pins designs is a must more than ever in this day and age of dwindling numbers in the Elks ranks.

"We've lost so many Members, there's not as much interest in pins as there used to be," Naumann said. "I'm 75. How much longer am I going to be here?"

(Editor's note. Overheard in the hallway: "This is my first convention and look how many pins I've got!")

Ed Abel of Brunswick, GA #691 and Richard Craft and Brian Hoffman, both of Farmington, MO #1765 discuss their Elks pins collection at the pin trading area at the Elks National Convention on Monday.



Strongest Elk contest

High scores as of Tuesday noon are the same as they were on Monday: Marlene Lein, Manchester, NH #146 at 180 pounds and Joel Buoy, Roseburg, OR Lodge #326 at 180 pounds

Be sure to stop by the California-Hawaii Elks booth to enter the contest and to learn more about their Major Project. Help our kids "walk, talk, see and play".

The contest will be closing at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday. Prizes will be awarded at that time, and winners may stop by the booth to pick them up on Wednesday.

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ENF Offers Emergency Educational Grants

Elks National Foundation Emergency Educational Grants provide college financial assistance to children of deceased or totally disabled Elks. These scholarships, which range up to \$4,000 each year, offer hope to Elks' children who face a difficult road ahead.

Look at Elks scholar Michal Panno. Two weeks before Michael was scheduled to leave for his freshman year of college, his father, a member of Pontiac, IL, #1019, suddenly passed away. Instead of worrying about his family's future, Michael and his younger brothers did what they knew their father would do—they turned to the Elks.

"Our Emergency Educational Grants were key in allowing me and my two brothers to continue our educations," says Michael, now a 2013 graduate of Illinois Wesleyan University. "It provided our family a sense of security so we could put all of our focus on academics." Each year, the Elks National Foundation helps Elks' children through Emergency Educational Grants. If you know a family that could benefit from this scholarship, direct them to the ENF booth or encourage them to email scholarship@elks.org for an application and more information.

California-Hawaii Elks History Booth

Stop by the California-Hawaii booth on Tuesday, July 16 at 1:00 p.m. to see a series of interesting and informative presentations on little known aspects of Elks' history. See if you can stump the experts – any Elks History question will be answered.

Alaska Pin Trading & Raffle on Tuesday

Join the Alaska State Elks for their pin trading tomorrow at Reno Elks Lodge from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Purchase your Alaska Wounded Veteran pin to gain admission to this wonderful event. The pin benefits the Alaska Wounded Veteran Project. Come and meet all the Exalted Rulers of Alaska and trade for their lodge pin, and be sure to meet our first lady State President Janet Johnson and get her State President Musher Pin.

They are also raffling off a Randall Compton Elk Print containing all Alaska State President sleds and current President's sled with Lodge dog pins. The drawing will be held on Tuesday at the Alaska Open House at the Reno, NV Lodge.

Visit Kansas' State Booth

Stop by the KETCH Booth and receive a sunflower sticker and check out the luggage tags, challenge coins, and state pins. All proceeds support Kansas' State Major Project, KETCH. Kansas Elks Training Center for the Handicapped, provides programs for persons with developmental disabilities such as Autism and Cerebral Palsy.

Husband and Wife State Presidents

Judy Smith and R.C. Smith are the first husband and wife to be President of the Utah State Elks Association. Judy is current Utah State President and R.C. Smith, Utah State First Gentleman, was Utah State President in 1995-96. R.C. a 35-year member, and Judy, a 13-year member hail from Eureka (Tintic), UT #711. Congratulations to an Elks family that has dedicated themselves in service to the Order.

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Attendance Report as of noon on Monday

		Spouse/ Guest
Grand Exalted Ruler	1	0
Past Grand Exalted Rulers	24	12
Grand Lodge Officers	9	5
Grand Trustees	8	7
Grand Forum	5	2
Grand Lodge Committeemen	47	32
District Deputies Designate	217	105
Special Deputies	23	16
Representatives to the Grand Lodge and Alternates	1599	619
State Presidents	48	28
State Secretaries	27	17
Grand Lodge Members	1398	602
Non-Voting Members	1282	166
Guests	0	366
Vendors	0	26
Total	4688	2003

Combined Total 6691

Elks.org brings 400+ new members to Order

Since our last convention, more than 400 new members have joined their local Elks Lodge after initiating contact with the Order through our new online "Membership Inquiry" system, introduced in 2011. An additional 92 new candidates have applied and are awaiting initiation. These totals are up more than 60% since last year!

GLOVES GLOVES GLOVES

Elks National Veterans Service commission has veterans gloves for sale in both fingerless and full fingered styles. ERs looking for something to take back to your officers - this may be just the item you're looking for. While at the booth check out all the programs available to help you serve the Veterans in your Lodge area.

Don't forget to pick up your "I'm a Veteran" ribbon.

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Donations for families of Arizona firefighters accepted at convention

A Memorial Service was held for the 19 fallen heroes of Granite Mountain Hot Shots at the Tim Toyota Center in Prescott Valley on July 9, 2013. The Arizona Elks Association is accepting donations for the families of these heroes. Arizona State President Ed Leuer will be making the presentation to the Prescott Fire Department after his return from Reno. You may make a donation at the Arizona Elks Hospitality Room at the Grand Sierra Resort in Room #1014, at the Arizona Major Project Booth in the Exhibit Hall, or mail to Al Kayal, AEA Treasurer, 7524 N. 20th Street St., Phoenix, AZ 85020-3607.



A Memorial Service was held on July 9 in Prescott, AZ, for the Granite Mountain Hot Shots. Donations are being accepted for their families.

South Carolina Alzheimer's State Project

Help the South Carolina Elks Association raise funds for their Alzheimer's State Major Project. The project raises money for respite care for caregivers who provide care for our Elks members and their families. Stop by our booth and buy a raffle ticket to take a chance at winning 4.5 liter bottles of spirits. "Elks Working for Those Who Cannot Remember."

Illinois Major Project helps children

The Illinois Elks Children's Care Corporation, the State Major Project, is celebrating its 85th anniversary with its annual pin for the Elks National Convention in Reno. The IECCC helps children with special needs by offering 72 free orthopedic clinics a year at its 18 sites statewide. It also awards scholarships to students studying occupational and physical therapy, which numbered 127 scholarships in 2012-13 totaling \$203,200.

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Alaska Raffle Wednesday

Stop by the Alaska State Elks Association booth to take a chance at their Alaska Fish Raffle fundraiser. The winning ticket will be drawn on Wednesday at noon. All the monies will go directly to the Alaska State Elks Youth Camp. The Alaska State Elks currently sends up to 180 girls and boys, ages 9 to 13, from throughout the state of Alaska to one week summer camps. Elks lodges in Alaska sponsor deserving boys and girls to attend the camp. Transportation along with the camp is free to the campers and their families. We provide a fun and safe Alaskan camping experience while sharing the values of pride in America and community support. It's for the kids.



God Bless the U.S.A.

New York Major Project Cerebral Palsy

The New York State Major Projects Cerebral Palsy Home Service Program is unique in terms of serving people with disabilities.

The Elks have collaborated with Cerebral Palsy of New York to provide individualized services to people with disabilities since 1964.

The staff of the Home Service Program travels thousands of miles annually, providing referrals for appropriate evaluation and program services, and advocacy counseling, follow up and development.

Funding for the New York State Major Project is provided through donations from Lodges and individuals. Last year's donations totaled \$440,000, with \$459,300 contributed to the Home Service Program – a 104% return on donations.

Nevada Support Booth has item for sale

Unique items available from the GL Convention in Reno 2013 include the official GL pins with the Reno arch logo, T-shirts with the mustang horse emblem, "Blinky" items, dice, shot glasses, horses, ice cubes, tiaras, cowboy hats, tote bags, Nevada wrist bracelets, anti-stress kits, and the big hit has been a souvenir picture print you can take on your cell phone for sending on Facebook. There are a limited number of G.L. convention pins, so get them early.

Final Ritual scores from first round competition

EASTERN DIVISION

Dover, DE #1903	96.6979
Kenton, OH #157	96.4281
Greenville, SC #858	96.3344
Wabash, IN #471	96.2383
Lake Hopatcong, NJ #782	96.1976
Tawas Area , MI #2525	96.0700
Norristown, PA #714	95.9003
Danielson, CT #1706	95.8310
Hattiesburg, MS #599	95.6191
Bradenton, FL #1511	95.5487
St. Johnsbury, VT #1343	95.2529
Sanford, ME #1470	95.1360
Dalton GA #1267	94.9716
Arlington-Fairfax, VA #2188	94.4734
Lyons, NY #869	92.8940

WESTERN DIVISION

Carlsbad, NM #1558	97.2867
Littleton, CO #1650	95.9973
Chula Vista, CA #2011	95.8063
Houston TX #151	95.6566
Blue Springs, MO #2509	95.6090
Lincoln, NE #80	95.5887
Hillsboro, OR#1862	95.1689
Pawhuska, OK #2542	95.1306
Reno, NV#597	95.0186
Minneapolis, MN #44	94.8607
Casper, WY #1353	94.3789
Yuma, AZ #476	94.2953
Vancouver, WA #823	94.0340
Champaign-Urbana, IL #2497	91.8459

Minnesota Elks youth camp

Stop by the Minnesota Elks booth and see the ring our GER wears. Pick one out for yourself—men's and ladies' rings and pendants are available. All proceeds benefit the Minnesota Elks Youth Camp, serving over 30,000 kids for 60+ years. Minnesota Elks thank you for your support.

Organist CD available

The Grand Lodge Organist, R.K. (Bob) Bjornaas has a CD of organ music available for Lodges that do not have an organist. If interested, see Bob before the general session begins each day to purchase one of his CDs.

\$5

FREE Slot Play

or

Table Promo Chip

Present your Elks Badge and valid GSRewards card at the Players Club to redeem.

FREE Play will be automatically loaded on your GSRewards card. Not a GSRewards member? Visit the Players Club to sign up today. It's easy, fast and free. One \$5 Free Play offer per account. Must be 21. Management reserves all rights. Expires 7/22/2013



2-for-1

show tickets



ESCAP3

Present this coupon and your Elks Badge to the Box Office to receive one free ticket when you purchase one ticket to ESCAP3. Offer is based on availability. Limit 2 free tickets per person. Management reserves all rights. MGR Comp L0029. Expiration date 7/22/13.

2500 East 2nd Street Reno, Nevada • 800-501-2651



GRAND LODGE SESSION – Reno, NV

TUESDAY – July 16, 2013

- 8:00 Call to Order Thomas S. Brazier, GER
8:05 Invocation..... Rev, Father Stephen McNally
Pledge of Allegiance..... All
Report of Commissions
8:10 National Memorial & Publication..... Arthur H. Frost, III, PGER, Chairman
8:20 Veterans Memorial Restoration Trust Arthur H. Frost, III, PGER, Chairman
8:30 GL Resolution..... Louis W. Ringger, Chairman
Report of Committees
8:35 Activities Committee Jeffrey L. Durant, Chairman
8:40 Fraternal Committee Awards..... Ira. W. Earp, Chairman
9:00 Auditing and Accounting Harry L. Smith, Chairman
9:10 Government Relations Report..... Charles L. Hendricks, Sr., Chairman
9:20 Elks National Convention Commission Report..... Lester C. Hess, PGER, Chairman
9:30 Ritualistic (Preliminary Report) Roy R. DeRtter, Chairman
10:00 Legislative Session (voting)..... John Amen, Judiciary Chairman
11:00 Activities Committee 2013-2014 Program Jeffrey L. Durant, Chairman
11:10 Fraternal Committee 2013-2013 Program Ira Earp, Chairman
11:20 GER Elect Program Remarks Millard C. Pickering, GER Elect
11:35 Announcements Bryan R. Klatt, Grand Secretary
11:45 Legislative Results..... John D. Amen, Judiciary Chairman
Benediction..... Rev Father Stephen McNally
Noon Grand Lodge Session Recessed

ADDITIONAL EVENTS ON TUESDAY, July 16, 2013

- 10:00 Elks National Foundation, open for questions on program grants, office hours, room D3
12:30 Being an ENF Chair presentation room D2
1:00 Ritualistic Contest Finals, convention
1:00 Auditing & Accounting Committee seminar: Operating a Financially Successful Lodge, Room C1
1:00 Marvin M. Lewis Elks & Scouting Awards Presentation, ceremony room C1
1:30 Special Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler meeting, Grand Sierra Resort Hotel, Carson Ballroom 1
1:30 Committee on Judiciary available for questions, Grand Sierra Resort Hotel, Boardroom
1:30 District Deputy-Designate Conference, Ballroom C4
1:30 Auditing and Accounting Committee available for Questions, Room F9
1:30 Major Projects Administrators Workshop, Room C2
2:00 Elks National Foundation, How to Host a Hoop Shoot seminar, Room D2



McIntyre Family has 4 Generations of Elks

James L. McIntyre, Jr., Sisterville, WV, Lodge #333, is currently the State President of West Virginia. His two daughters, Heather D. McIntyre (pictured) and Adriene M. McIntyre are both members of Sisterville #333. William E. McIntyre, Minnington, WV Lodge #338 and James L. McIntyre, Sr., Sisterville #333, grandfather and father respectively, both deceased, were also Elks members.