

## GRAND EXALTED RULER'S MESSAGE

Contests "A" through "J," sponsored by the Grand Lodge-Lodge Activities/State Associations Committee, are Lodge-building, member-building, officer-building and communication-building. In short, they can be very productive for your Lodge and for your Order. Please get on board and take advantage of the offered rewards and incentives.

Encourage all Lodge officers to participate in the Elks Training Program. It is vital for the life and health of your Lodge that officers learn the duties of their office and become familiar with the procedures and programs of the Order. An educated officer is an effective officer.

My theme this year is **Elks Make a Difference**. I encourage you to make that difference and to seek rightful recognition for it through the contests of the Lodge Activities/State Associations Committee. Your Lodge and your Order will be greatly benefitted.

James L. Nicholson  
*Grand Exalted Ruler, 2009-2010*



For Certificates, submit names of "Citizen..." "Elk..." and/or "Officer of the Year" in writing to the Grand Secretary by **March 31, 2010**.

# Elks Care – Elks Share!



## GRAND LODGE LODGE ACTIVITIES/ STATE ASSOCIATIONS COMMITTEE 2009-2010 PROGRAM

CONTESTS AND GRAND EXALTED RULER'S AWARDS

## LODGE ACTIVITIES/STATE ASSOCIATIONS ★★COMMITTEE OF GRAND LODGE★★ ★ 2009-2010 ★

**DONALD SANSOUSSI, CHAIRMAN** O 863-465-5099  
136 Lake Francis Drive H 863-465-7570  
Lake Placid, Florida 33852-9134 F 863-465-7587

E-mail: dons@htn.net

**Area 3:** Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, Panama, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia

**JAMES A. FERLAND** O 207-624-7180  
7 Littlefield Trail H 207-547-5088  
Sidney, Maine 04330-2618 F 207-624-7178

E-mail: james.ferland@maine.gov

**Area 1:** Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont and Contest "D" — Divisions 1, 2, 3

**GARY T. SCHENK** O 717-576-5934  
7 Cromwell Court H 717-766-2702  
Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania 17050-3176 F 717-790-9740

E-mail: pres0607@aol.com

**Area 2:** Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Contests "E," "F," "G," "H," "I," & "J"

**LARRY S. SHAVER** O 812-855-9406  
2109 Park Avenue H 812-279-9407  
Bedford, Indiana 47421-4044 F 812-855-9320  
C 812-327-3410

E-mail: lshaver@indiana.edu

**Area 4:** Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, West Virginia and Contest "B"

**MILTON L. SWANTZ, JR.**  
350 Keswick Avenue H/F 863-424-5430  
Davenport, Florida 33897-4801

E-mail: pspffl@verizon.net

**Area 5:** Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Wisconsin and Program "C"

**LARRY N. TOMBERLIN** O (505) 864-5572  
8 Catalpa Lane H 505-865-3952  
Peralta, NM 87042-5320 F 505-864-4930

E-mail: lt30two@aol.com

**Area 6:** Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Louisiana, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas and State Association Major Project, Web Site Star Awards, and Elks Training Program

**JOHN G. HOLT** O 818-845-4228  
4209 W. Magnolia Boulevard H 818-846-2764  
Burbank, California 91505-2726 F 818-845-1691

E-mail: johngholt@aol.com

**Area 7:** Arizona, California, Guam, Hawaii, Nevada, Philippines, Utah and Contest "A"

**HARRY H. HARTLEY**  
P.O. Box 287 H 541-384-6702  
Condon, Oregon 97823-0287

E-mail: harry@jncable.com

**Area 8:** Alaska, Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Washington, Wyoming and Contest "D" — Divisions 4, 5, 6

## CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Each Lodge is encouraged to select a citizen, not necessarily an Elk, who has contributed in a special way to improving the local community. This individual should have shown leadership in the community, contributed voluntary service and been recognized as an all-around good citizen. The selection is yours alone — promote it!

Recognizing such a person helps show that the Elks are concerned with building a good community, and demonstrates “**Elks Care – Elks Share.**” After the selection, honor him or her by presenting the award at a dinner sponsored by the Lodge, or in conjunction with a community-night program sponsored by a local civic organization.

The full name (*no nicknames*) of the person selected should be submitted to the Grand Secretary in writing so that an inscribed citation may be issued to the “**Citizen of the Year.**” (Not issued before January 1, 2010; Postmark Deadline is March 31, 2010.)

## ELK OF THE YEAR

The “**Elk of the Year**” Award has become increasingly popular. It is a way a Lodge can recognize a Member who is always willing to help and get things done. The selection should not be taken lightly. Qualifications should be stringent as it would be far better not to designate an “**Elk of the Year**” than to select a Member less than worthy of the honor. Attributes of the nominee should be weighed very carefully. Every involvement should exemplify “**Elks Care – Elks Share.**” Loyalty, dedication and willingness to work are essential to this consideration.

An anonymous committee should be appointed by the Exalted Ruler in sufficient time to observe and evaluate worthy candidates. The committee should preserve its anonymity throughout the selection process, and at the proper time (preferably during February), the award should be announced at a dinner or other special event for honoring the “**Elk of the Year.**” If properly promoted, this can be an outstanding annual event within your Lodge. Strive to make it so!

Keep in mind the two basic rules for the selecting your “**Elk of the Year**”:

- **CANNOT** be a Lodge Officer.
- Only **ONE ELK** can be chosen.

The full name (*no nicknames*) of the individual selected should be submitted to the Grand Secretary in writing so that an inscribed citation may be issued to the “**Elk of the Year.**” (Not issued before January 1, 2010; Postmark Deadline is March 31, 2010.)

## OFFICER OF THE YEAR

This award is a way a Lodge can recognize a current Officer who has contributed over and above the duties of office to improve the Lodge and our Order. This Officer must have shown leadership, contributed voluntarily to services and committees and is considered among Members as an outstanding Elk.

This award will reward an Officer who is always willing to help and can be relied upon to get things done. Qualifications should be stringent as it would be far better not to designate an “**Officer of the Year**” than to select a less than worthy Officer.

The Exalted Ruler shall direct the Lodge’s Past Exalted Rulers’ Association to select the “**Officer of the Year.**” At the proper time (preferably in February), the award should be

## ★ ★ AWARDS ★ ★

announced at a dinner or other special event.

We caution the Lodge’s Past Exalted Rulers to keep in mind two rules in selecting an “**Officer of the Year**”:

- **Recipient must be a Lodge Officer.**
- **Only One Officer can be chosen.**

The Officer’s full name (*no nicknames*) and title should be submitted to the Grand Secretary in writing so that an inscribed citation may be issued to the honoree (Not issued before January 1, 2010; Postmark Deadline is March 31, 2010.)

## ★★GRAND EXALTED RULER’S★★ ★ AWARDS ★

### FOR OUTSTANDING MEMBERS

A. A personal message of thanks and a GER Award Pin will be issued by the Grand Exalted Ruler in recognition of individual Members who bring in a total of THREE new or reinstated Members.

**NOTE:** Subordinate Lodge Secretaries should forward to the office of the Grand Secretary notices in writing of eligibility for Member recognition. (*Postmark Deadline is June 30, 2010.*)

B. Each Exalted Ruler is authorized to issue TWO Grand Exalted Ruler’s Outstanding Service Certificates to Members performing outstanding service for their Lodge.

**NOTE:** These Certificates must be ordered in writing from your Area Member of the Grand Lodge, Lodge Activities/State Associations Committee. Please order on a timely basis. Specify if any special presentation date is required on the certificates. (*This request should be postmarked no later than March 31, 2010.*)

### FOR EXALTED RULERS

Special Citations will be awarded to Exalted Rulers who participate in FOUR or more of the following programs during the year:

1. Community Service and Image Brochure Contest
2. Elks “Hoop Shoot®” Program
3. Youth Scholarship Program
4. Achieve \$4.50 Elks National Foundation per capita goal plus participating membership by all Lodge Officers.
5. Participation in at least THREE (3) of the following:
  - (a) All-American Lodge Contest
  - (b) Americanism Brochure Contest
  - (c) Drug Awareness Program
  - (d) Elks Memorial Day Brochure Program
  - (e) Elks National Youth Week
  - (f) Lodge Bulletin Contest
  - (g) Ritualistic Contest
  - (h) Student/Teenager of the Month/Year Program
  - (i) Veterans Service and/or Adopt-A-Vet Program

Special Citations are available through your Area Grand Lodge, Lodge Activities/State Associations Committee Member upon receipt of a formal written request from the Exalted Ruler, supported with dated copies of cover letters, programs, news releases, bulletin notices, etc. attesting to

participation by the Lodge family in the appropriate activities. (*This request should be postmarked no later than March 31, 2010.*)

### FOR SUBORDINATE LODGES

A. A Special Citation will be awarded to each Lodge that participates in at least SIX of the following programs. These certificates should be ordered in writing from the Area Member of the Grand Lodge, Lodge Activities/State Associations Committee. (*This request should be postmarked no later than March 31, 2010.*)

1. Community Service & Image Brochure Contest
2. Elks “Hoop Shoot®” Contest
3. Ritualistic Contest
4. Youth Scholarship Program
5. Veterans Service and/or Adopt-A-Vet Program
6. Drug Awareness Program
7. Every Officer a subscribing member of the Elks National Foundation
8. Mother’s Day Program

B. A Special Citation will be awarded to each Lodge that attains at least TWO of the following goals. These certificates should be ordered from the Area Member of the Grand Lodge, Lodge Activities/State Associations Committee. (*This request should be postmarked no later than March 31, 2010.*)

1. Raises \$4.50 per Member in donations to the Elks National Foundation.
2. Achieves a net membership gain of at least ONE Member.
3. Achieves a level at or below TWO PERCENT lapsation (to be determined as noted in Section C below.)
4. Every Officer, elected and appointed (15), sponsors a New/Reinstated Member.

C. A Grand Exalted Ruler’s Citation will be awarded to each Lodge with a lapsation rate of TWO PERCENT or less as of March 31, 2010. Entitlement to this award shall be determined by the Office of the Grand Secretary based on information provided by each Subordinate Lodge in its final membership report for the period ending March 31, 2010.

D. A Grand Exalted Ruler’s Citation will be awarded to each Lodge which has, as of September 1, 2009, a full complement of elected and appointed Officers who are **not Past Exalted Rulers (EXCLUDE Secretary, Treasurer, Trustee, Organist, Presiding Justice and Alternate Delegate positions)**. This special Award encourages recruitment of new Officer talent, and builds continuity by progression through the chairs. *The request should include the list of current Lodge Officers, notated as verified and approved by the District Deputy.* Send entry to the Office of the Grand Secretary *postmarked no later than October 31, 2009.*

# 2009 “Elks Care – Elks Share” 2010

Presented by the Grand Lodge-Lodge Activities/State Associations Committee  
DONALD SANSSOUSSI, Chairman

## READ AND USE GRAND LODGE PROGRAM MANUAL

### ELKS TRAINING PROGRAM

This program is conducted by the individual State Associations in cooperation with the Grand Lodge, Lodge Activities/State Associations Committee. Elks Training Tests have been given to every Exalted Ruler, State President and State Secretary at the Grand Lodge Convention. Send completed forms to the State Training Chairperson, who will issue Grand Exalted Ruler Special Certificates for all who complete the course with a score of 83% or better (no more than 5 incorrect answers out of a possible 30 correct).

The questions in the Elks Training Test are based upon contents of current Grand Lodge Manuals that should be on file in every Subordinate Lodge Secretary's office. (*Post-mark deadline for completion is March 15, 2010.*) Mail inquiries to your State Lodge Activities Chairperson or the State Training Chairperson. If necessary, contact **LARRY N. TOMBERLIN**, 8 Catalpa Lane, Peralta, NM 87042-5320; lt30two@aol.com.

The State Associations with the greatest percentage of Lodges and Members participating in this Elks Training Program in their respective Groups, as listed below, will receive Awards at the 2010 Grand Lodge Convention.

### NUMBER OF LODGES IN ASSOCIATION

Group I – 14 or less Lodges	Group IV – 33 to 43 Lodges
Group II – 15 to 22 Lodges	Group V – 44 to 74 Lodges
Group III – 23 to 32 Lodges	Group VI – 75 or more Lodges

**PLAN ...WORK  
YOUR YOUR  
WORK... PLAN!**

# Elks

## CONTESTS

Awards are presented by the Grand Lodge for recognition of excellence in various categories.

For Contests “A–F,” First-, Second- and Third-Place Awards are given in each of six divisions, based on the Annual Membership Report of March 31, 2009.

**DIVISION 1:** Lodges under 301 Members.

**DIVISION 2:** Lodges with 301 thru 500 Members.

**DIVISION 3:** Lodges with 501 thru 700 Members.

**DIVISION 4:** Lodges with 701 thru 1,100 Members.

**DIVISION 5:** Lodges with 1,101 thru 1,500 Members.

**DIVISION 6:** Lodges with over 1,500 Members.

Your entries for Contests A–F must be received by the Grand Lodge-Lodge Activities/State Associations Committee Member responsible for the contest at the specified place and with a date postmarked no later than the deadline date indicated in the contest rules. All program/contest entries must be accompanied by a letter from the Lodge Secretary certifying the Lodge membership as of March 31, 2009.

### STATE ASSOCIATIONS STAR AWARDS



#### STATE ASSOCIATION MAJOR PROJECT DISPLAY AWARD

This award is presented to those State Associations that exhibit their Major Project at the Grand Lodge Session each year. State Associations are encouraged to reach for the stars and can earn up to “Five Stars” for their displays depicting their Major Project in the exhibit area. Exhibits are judged on content, graphics, pictorial, overall appearance and special effects.



#### STATE ASSOCIATION WEB SITE AWARD

This award is presented to State Associations for their efforts in keeping their Members informed and active in state and local projects through a State Association Web site. Web sites are judged based on content, layout, design and effectiveness in telling the Elks story. Web sites can earn from *one to five star awards*. *Registration must be before October 1, 2009* to participate.



#### SUBORDINATE LODGE WEB SITE AWARD

This award is presented to a local Lodge that has participated and won its State's Subordinate Lodge Web site contest. Keeping their Members informed and active in local projects. The Web sites are judged on content, design, news, virtual home page and Lodge promotion. Web sites can earn from *one to five star awards*. State Associations must register their winner with the Grand Lodge *before October 1, 2009* to participate.

The State Association and Subordinate Lodge Web sites will be accessed and judged up to three times during the year. Mail inquiries or registrations to: **LARRY N. TOMBERLIN**, 8 Catalpa Lane, Peralta, NM 87042-5320; lt30two@aol.com.

## CONTEST “A” — ALL-AMERICAN LODGE

Elkdom’s All-American Lodge Award is the most coveted of the Grand Lodge Awards. Participation in this contest demonstrates membership involvement and truly exemplifies our motto – “*Elks Care – Elks Share.*” Competition is based on District, State and Grand Lodge levels. Points are earned by competing Lodges, based upon the degree of their participation in 44 categories, ranging from sponsoring a new Lodge through posting a gain in membership. The contest also includes participation in Grand Lodge contests and programs, such as the Elks National Foundation, “Hoop Shoot®” Free-Throw Contest, Grand Exalted Ruler Awards and Youth Scholarship programs. Final entries are verified and judged by the Grand Lodge, Lodge Activities/State Associations Committee.

Entry in the contest is accomplished by submitting a form that will be received from the Grand Lodge in January and is to be **completed and sent to the District Deputy by March 15, 2010.** The Grand Lodge January Newsletter will carry the details of this contest. The District Deputy will select the winners by membership division for the district. These are then submitted to the State Lodge Activities Chairman by April 1, 2010. ***(Deadline: The State Lodge Activities Chairman will review the entries, sign and submit them to the Grand Lodge, Lodge Activities/State Associations Committee Member for the All-American Lodge Contest by April 15, 2010.)***

Address inquiries to: **JOHN G. HOLT**, 4209 W. Magnolia Blvd., Burbank, CA 91505-2726; johngholt@aol.com.

## CONTEST “B” — COMMUNITY SERVICE AND IMAGE CONTEST

One of the most important activities a Subordinate Lodge can undertake is service to its community. The Lodge that is cognizant of this obligation will seek out community projects that Elks can undertake, live up to community responsibility and enjoy good public relations, thereby demonstrating “*Elks Care – Elks Share.*”

The purpose of our existence as Elks is to make our communities better places in which to live. We must be pillars of strength for our communities. Our facilities must be kept in good condition at all times, as they should be a place we can be proud to bring others who may join our membership ranks. Without a positive image and without any worthwhile involvement in our community, we will have difficulty maintaining our membership levels, and most assuredly will not experience any growth.

As we go about our daily lives, we should observe the needs of our communities and lead in fulfilling those needs. This type of action is what has made America historically the greatest nation in the world. By participating in continuing efforts to improve our community and the image of Elkdom, we truly show “*Elks Care – Elks Share.*” Submission of a brochure showing community involvement and keeping a good image in the community is required. No more than one three-ring binder, 8½ x 11 inches by 4 inches thick, will be accepted. ***(Deadline for submission: Must be postmarked no later than March 15, 2010.)*** Mail entries to: **LARRY S. SHAVER**, 2109 Park Ave., Bedford, IN 47421-4044.

## PROGRAM “C” — ELKS MEMORIAL SERVICE

On the first Sunday in December, the Laws of the Order (Sec. 2.020) provide that we, as Elks, should pay respects “*To Our Absent Members.*” This service should be well-planned and carried out with utmost dignity. Families of our departed Members should be invited to attend as well as the public.

Submission of a brochure including the service, activities and preparation is required. Not more than one three-ring binder, 8½ x 11 inches by 4 inches thick, will be accepted. ***(Deadline for submission: Must be postmarked no later than February 15, 2010.)*** Mail entries to: **MILTON L. SWANTZ JR.**, 350 Keswick Avenue, Davenport, FL 33897-4801.

## CONTEST “D” — LODGE BULLETIN CONTEST

There is no better way of keeping our membership informed than with a newsletter or bulletin. An informed membership is an active membership. In many of our Lodges, this task is left to the Lodge Secretary. It would be much better if an individual who has had experience in publishing a bulletin or newsletter were asked to do this task. This individual would then find a committee of two or three others to gather news items, solicit sponsors and set up the format for each bulletin. The bulletin should:

1. Report on the activities of the Lodge, using pictures as well as commentary.
2. Present ideas and opinions of the Lodge and its activities.
3. Stimulate Members to actively participate in Lodge activities.

Remember, the bulletin can become the source of information for activities and programs of the Lodge as well as the principal source for promoting participation and interest by the Members in the scheduled activities, showing that “*Elks Care – Elks Share.*”

The Lodge Bulletin Contest is easy to enter. It requires that you submit three consecutive issues of your Lodge bulletin from the period between April 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009. ***(The deadline for this contest is January 15, 2010.)*** Mail entries for Divisions One, Two and Three (those under 701 Members) to: **JAMES A. FERLAND**, 7 Littlefield Trail, Sidney, ME 04330-2618. Mail entries for Divisions Four, Five and Six (over 700 Members) to: **HARRY H. HARTLEY**, P.O. Box 287, Condon, OR 97823-0287.

## CONTEST “E” — PER CAPITA CONTRIBUTION TO THE ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION

This award is granted for the largest per capita contributions made by the Lodges to the Elks National Foundation and is based upon Elks National Foundation records. ***(Deadline for contributions: Received no later than March 31, 2010.)*** Mail inquiries to: **GARY T. SCHENK**, 7 Cromwell Court, Mechanicsburg, PA 17050-3176.

## CONTEST “F” — ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION LODGE CHAIRMAN CHALLENGE

This award rewards Lodges for having a broad-based fund-raising program. Lodges will be scored on the following: per capita including percent increase over the previous year and meeting the GER’s goal; new donors as a percentage of membership; and participation in an ENF-Month fund-raiser. The Elks National Foundation determines scores. Additional Contest information is located in the ENF Chairman Handbook provided to each Lodge ENF Chairman. Direct inquiries to the Elks National Foundation at: enf@elks.org.

## CONTEST “G” — STATE ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION PER CAPITA DONATION

This award is granted for the largest per capita contributions made by the States to the Elks National Foundation and is based upon Elks National Foundation records. ***(Deadline for contributions: Received no later than March 31, 2010.)*** Mail inquiries to: **GARY T. SCHENK**, 7 Cromwell Court, Mechanicsburg, PA 17050-3176.

## CONTEST “H” — ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION STATE CHAIRMAN CHALLENGE

This award rewards those states with Lodges that have a broad-based fund-raising program. Each Lodge receives a score in the Lodge Chairman Challenge Contest. The state’s score is based on the total of the state’s Lodge scores divided by the number of its Lodges. The Elks National Foundation determines scores. Additional Contest information is located in the ENF Chairman Handbook provided to each state ENF Chairman. Direct inquiries to the Elks National Foundation at: enf@elks.org.

## CONTEST “I” — STATE ASSOCIATION BULLETIN CONTEST

There is no better way of keeping your state membership informed than with a newsletter or bulletin. Just as Lodge Bulletins communicate to Members, State Publications can communicate what other Lodges are doing and provide ideas for activities. The contest rules are:

1. Enclose three (3) copies of any two (2) issues of your state bulletin, newspaper or newsletter published in the calendar year 2009. (January 1 to December 31.)
2. Judging will be based on:

Content:	0 - 100 points
Layout & typography:	0 - 50 points
Pictorial:	0 - 25 points
General:	0 - 25 points
3. Please do not submit your entries in bulky notebooks or binders.

The awards will be Five Stars, Four Stars and Three Stars. Only Five Star recipients will receive their awards at the Grand Lodge Convention. Four- and Three-Star awards will be mailed to the State President for presentation at a State meeting or function.

***(Deadline for submission: Must be postmarked no later than January 15, 2010.)*** Mail entries to: **GARY T. SCHENK**, 7 Cromwell Court, Mechanicsburg, PA 17050-3176.

## CONTEST “J” — SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARDS FOR ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION

These awards are granted to recognize specific groups for outstanding contributions to the Elks National Foundation and are based upon Elks National Foundation records. The categories include:

1. Top Grand Lodge Area.
  2. To members at the Elks National Home for contributions to the Elks National Foundation.
- (Deadline for contributions: Received no later than March 31, 2010.)*** Mail inquiries to: **GARY T. SCHENK**, 7 Cromwell Court, Mechanicsburg, PA 17050-3176.