

Elks News
Pittsfield Elks Lodge #272 Newsletter
27 Union Street
Pittsfield, MA 01201
July-August 2009

Officers of Pittsfield Lodge #272
2009-2010

Exalted Ruler	Peter Torra	Secretary	Elizabeth Sawyer
Esteemed Leading Knight	Kim Sawyer	Treasurer	William Sawyer, EDD, PER
Esteemed Loyal Knight		Chaplain	
Esteemed Lecturing Knight	Dianna Schnopp	Inner Guard	Craig Comstock
Esquire	Albert Hugabone, PDD, PER	Tiler	William Chapman

Trustees
Brian Andrews, PER Chairman
Jeffrey Walger, Philip Winnard, PER, LTM
Carl Dawson, PDD, PER, HLM, Robert Keyes, PER

Lodge Telephone Numbers 413-447-9243
Website: <http://bpoe272@verizon.net>

Lodge Hours Mon-Wed 3:00pm-11:00pm, Thurs 10:00pm-10:30pm, Fri-Sat 3:00pm-12:00pm
Sunday 12:00pm-8:00pm

Exalter Ruler Message

We will start off July with the 4th of July parade, there is still time to help out with the balloon. Sign up at the bar or come down the morning of the parade around 8:30AM. We have a couple of our newest members, Mark Mathes and Seth DiGriglio helping with the balloon along side one of our veteran handlers, Kari Sawyer. I am unable to help this year because I will be representing you at the National Convention in Portland OR.

The date for Karaoke has been change to July 10th come down and have a fun evening of singing and socializing.

The House Committee has several activities in the works. Save these dates...July 27th the Lodge will host Tips Training for all of our bartenders, August 7th will be the Lodge Family Picnic, August 21st our Karaoke DJ Pat and his troupe will have a Cabaret Show. The date is not confirmed yet but in September we are bring back the hypnotist. We hope you will attend one or all of these activities and help support your Lodge. I hope you have a great summer and hope to see you all at theses events and our lodge meetings on July 15th and August 19th.

Fraternally yours,
Pete Torra
Exalted Ruler

July Meetings

July 14th	Trustee's Meeting	7:00PM
July 15th	Regular Meeting	7:30PM
July 21st	House Committee	6:30PM

August Meetings

August 11th	PER Assoc Meeting	6:30PM
	House Committee	7:00PM
August 18th	Trustee's Meeting	7:00PM
August 19th	Regular Meeting	7:30PM



Happy July & August Birthday's

Stanley Greenleaf	7/1	Burton Amidon	8/1
David Melovek	7/1	Anthony Di Martino	8/2
John Pirzl, Jr	7/1	Jeffrey Esposito	8/2
Kathy Bradley	7/3	Robert Chapman	8/6
Gary Sperlonga	7/5	David O'Brien	8/6
Tammy Walger	7/6	Richard Mierzejewski	8/12
Richard Belanger	7/7	John Panetti	8/15
Paul Capitanio	7/11	David Zahn	8/15
Steven Cobb	7/14	Joseph Doucette	8/17
Stella Kozlowski	7/15	William Banks	8/18
Stephanie Michalak	7/20	Frank Mancivalano	8/18
Rinaldo Dagonoli	7/21	Kenneth Hudelston, Jr.	8/20
Herbert Sagendorph	7/22	Steven Michalak	8/20
J Joseph Breault	7/23	Kenneth Wheeler	8/20
Charles Hall	7/23	Andrea Pozzoni	8/26
Wayne Broom	7/25	H Tyrone Belanger	8/24
Carl Dawson	7/25	Peter Velez	8/26
Perry Flood	7/26	Mitchell Plaine	8/27
Anthony Selvaggio	7/26	Frank Tetti	8/30
John St Laurent	7/26	Linda Clark	8/31
Lawrence Davis	7/29	Elizabeth Sawyer	8/31
Ralph Lake	7/29		
Michael Lewis	7/31		

*****If you visit the lodge on your birthday you can receive a beverage of your choice on the house*****
If we are missing your Birthday and you are a member in good standing, please let us know by calling the lodge.

Reminder

Attendance Raffle

The new 50/50 meeting attendance raffle, here's how it works -----

1. You must attend at least one meeting during the month.
2. Purchase a \$2.00 raffle ticket in the lodge room at each meeting. (only one per person)
3. Drawings will be held after the second meeting of each month.
4. You need not be present at the second meeting to win. (but if you have 2 tickets you have a better chance to win)

The more people the more money!!!!

May winner - Stella Kozlowski



Balloting for Reinstatement ... July 15, 2009

William Reddy, Jr.

Balloting for Lifetime membership ... August 20, 2009

Joel Whitcomb



Calling all balloon handlers!! We will again this year represent the Elk's the 4th of July parade. If you have helped in the past you know how much fun it can be. If you have not, come on down and have fun walking with your brother & sister Elks.



DATE CHANGE... July 10, 2009 @ 8:00PM



TIPS TRAINING ... JULY 27, 2009

The lodge will hold a Tips Training on Monday, July 27, 2009 at 6:00PM at the lodge. All bartenders must be tip certified, including volunteer bartenders. This training is open to all Elk members and non members. Cost \$40.00 per person for Elk members of other Lodges and non members. Members of the Pittsfield Lodge are free.

PITTSFIELD ELKS #272 AWARD \$30,700 IN LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS

The Pittsfield Elks announces a number of scholarship grants presented to area graduates. Awards totaling \$5,500, direct from the Lodge went to: Nicholas Parmelee of St. Joseph's High School; Carolyn Bowler, Christina Cetti, Brandon Harris, Aleah Kozlowski and Derek Roach from Pittsfield High School; Patrick Meloveck of Wahconah Regional High School and Mt. Everett's Lillian Silk. The Mickey Panetti Memorial

Scholarship was awarded to Tyler Ferrusi from Mt. Everett. The Elks Memorial Scholarship went to Taconic's Corey May and the Lodge Past Exalted Rulers' grant was presented to Danielle Barnes, also from Taconic High.

Elks National Foundation Most Valuable Student scholarships of \$1,000 per year for four years went to: Matthew R. Conklin, Courtney A. Nason-Farrell and Sarah J. Tucker.

Massachusetts Elks Association Vocational Grants were awarded to: Shaina Renee Benham, Carl W. Dawson, Jr., and Lilian Pereira.

The following were recipients of new Mass. Elks State scholarships: Nicholas Avanzato, Kaitlin Belleau, Adam Blefari, Jeffrey Carvalho, Anthony Castellani, Richard Cimini, Jr., Ryan Clairmont, Ryan Harrington, Cameron McClusky, Victoria Mitchell, Allison Nichols, Nicholas Parmelee, Alison Ritosky, Andrew Senger and Mariah West. Renewal scholarships went to: Kelly Grogan, Shane Ruberto, Patrick Walsh, Victoria Walsh, Matthew Wasnewsky, Kathryn Wojcik and Mark Yost.

Sunday Breakfast ---WILL RESUME IN THE FALL

Do not forget to come to the Lodge for a fantastic Sunday breakfast starting at **\$4.00** per person - omelets starting at **\$5.00** per person. Hash and extra meat will be extra.

Price includes breakfast, juice & coffee.

Cooked by the best volunteers in the Lodge

Served from 8:00AM to 11:00AM

Bring the whole family!!

Editors Message

Everyone is certainly welcome and encouraged to provide articles for the newsletter. Please leave your written article at the lodge to the attention of Bill Sawyer or e-mail your article to wsawyer1@berkshire.rr.com If you would like to receive your newsletter electronically, let me know via e-mail at the address above, please be sure to indicate Elks Newsletter in the subject line.

If you wish to rent the hall you must book the party through the House Committee Chairperson, Brian Andrews. Members and non-members must complete a Facility Usage Agreement in order to secure the requested date.

Grand Exalted Ruler's Message:

To All District Deputies, Exalted Rulers, Officers and Members:

This is my 12th and final message as your Grand Exalted Ruler. My term will end with the installation of a new Grand Exalted Ruler on July 9th at the National Convention in Portland, Oregon.

This has been a busy, but fantastic 12 months for Jane and me! Please accept and extend to all Elks, everywhere, our deepest gratitude and appreciation for the wonderful reception we experienced throughout this incredible journey and more importantly, for all your dedicated efforts to Grow Elkdom in your Lodges and across all the 2000+ communities we serve. It has truly been an honor and a pleasure to serve our Order this year and to represent you, the "Best People On Earth"!!

While my time is up as your leader, the task before us is certainly not done. New leadership may bring new and perhaps even better approaches to our efforts, but the job remains to build a bigger, better, stronger Order through improvements in each and every Lodge and by increasing our presence in the Lodge communities through our national and local programs of service, support and aid.

As I have expressed many many times this year, each Lodge must continue to work on building a lasting relationship with its Members — not just the new Members, but also the current 80% to 90% we never see or, for the most part, are not involved in anything we do. We need to show those uninvolved Members who we are, what we stand for, and what great things we do. We must enlist more Elks to take an active role in our efforts

and not just pay dues and carry an Elks Card! Just imagine what we could accomplish with as little as 10% to 20% more of our Members involved in our efforts. Just think what your Lodge could do if you could double the number of Members involved in the day-to-day operation of your Lodge and programs!

Jane and I thank you once again for a most exciting and wonderful year, thank you for your service, thank you for your continuing efforts to *Grow Elkdom*, and best wishes for a successful 2009-2010 year.

Paul D. Helsel
Grand Exalted Ruler

Veterans' Message:

In February 2003, the Elks National Veterans Service Commission announced a program of mobilizing an Army of Hope to assist the families of Military Reservists and the National Guard who have been called to active duty during this time of crisis.

The news media have called some of our Lodge and national leaders to obtain a local perspective on our program. The response from our Members and non-Elks has been overwhelming. Our elected government officials at the local, state and national levels are greatly impressed, and have responded favorably to our initiative.

The Army of Hope has many facets and literally any activity that supports our troops and their family falls under this vital program. Lodges are also partnering with local and state organizations to adopt units and families to help them through these trying times.

Here is just how easy it can be to contribute to this vital program:

The first step in setting up your local program is to identify a Lodge Chairperson. This position may be especially attractive to a Veteran; however any volunteer can chair your program. The first priority of that chairperson is to establish a list of volunteer Members who are willing to provide their individual expertise. In addition a subsequent list identifying the specific skills of each volunteer will also be helpful in matching the needs of the families with the skills of the volunteers. (For example: Volunteer John Doe – minor automobile repairs, Volunteer Jane Doe – painting and back-up child-care support).

After you have established your Army of Hope volunteers you will need to contact your local Reserve and/or National Guard units. When contacting them explain what the program is and how your Lodge can help the families. (It is understood that not every Lodge will be able to handle every request). You can provide the list of volunteers along with their expertise directly to the local Reserve or Guard units. The military units may then contact the Lodge or the volunteers directly, depending on how you set up your local program.

You still might be thinking what can my small Lodge or State Association specifically do to help? The following are examples of how easy it can be for your Lodge or State Association to make a difference in the lives of our service men and women and their families.

Have a family-oriented dinner at the Lodge in honor of our troops and host the families and Guard/Reserve representatives. This is a great way to introduce the families and Reserve or Guard representatives to the Elk volunteers with whom they will be working.

- Supply the families with phone cards.
- Provide lawn mowing, landscaping or sprinkler service.
- Perform automobile repairs, or transportation when needed.
- Complete minor home repairs, such as plumbing, or painting, etc.
- Provide either full time or "back up" babysitting service.
- Send comfort care packages to our troops – (check with local military bases for requirements and regulations).
- Send copies of the service person's daily hometown newspaper.
- Have a photography buff in your volunteer listing? Take some pictures of the soldier's family and possibly some local sights to send to the troop member.
- Host a welcome-home party at your Lodge, or for the troops who return home and thank them and their families for their service.
- Hold some fundraising activities at the Lodge to provide monetary support to specific families if identified.

Now that you have seen what some of the other Lodges are doing in their programs, I know with the initiative and creativity of our Members and support organizations that you will be able to think of hundreds of more ways to help. STILL don't think your Lodge is large enough to establish its own Army of Hope program? Then team or volunteer with another local organization (V.F.W., etc.) to help them with a program. Even if your Lodge just does one of the tasks listed above you can make a difference!

The final responsibility of the Army of Hope chairperson is to take a few minutes to write up a short report of the activities and mail it to the office of the Grand Secretary on behalf of these families. This will be of immeasurable help as we continue to tell our story of service to these American patriots.

Please send your letters (pictures) and reports to:

Army of Hope
 Robert M. Hennings, Director
 National Veterans Service Commission
 2750 North Lakeview Avenue
 Chicago, IL 60614-1889

Roger R. True, PGER



July 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	BINGO 2	3	4 TH OF JULY
National Convention Portland OR Begins 5	6	7	8	BINGO National Convention Ends 9	Karaoke 8:00PM 10	11
12	13	Trustee's Meeting 7:00PM 14	Regular Meeting 7:30PM 15	BINGO 16	17	18
19	20	House Committee 7:00PM 21	22	BINGO 23	24	25
26	Tips Training 6:00PM 27	28	29	BINGO 30	31	

August 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1

2	3	4	5	BINGO 6	7	8
					Family Picnic 5:30PM Karaoke 8:00PM	
9	10	PER Assoc 11 Meeting 6:30 House Committee 7:00PM	12	BINGO 13	14	15
					Newsletter Deadline	
16	17	Trustee's 18 Meeting 7:00PM	Regular 19 Meeting 7:30PM	BINGO 20	Cabaret 21 Show 7:00PM	22
23/30	24/31	25	26	BINGO 27	Elk's Night 28 @ Fenway	29



Pittsfield Lodge of Elk's Family Picnic

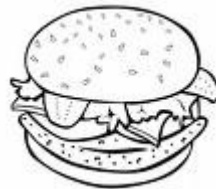
Friday, August 7, 2009

**5:30PM @ Elk's Lodge
27 Union Street**

Ticket \$5.00

Clams -- price to be determined

**Tickets available at the Bar
Cut off Date August 3, 2009**





Friday, August 21, 2009

**Pittsfield Elk's Lodge #272
27 Union Street
Pittsfield MA**

**Doors Open 6:00PM
Show time 7:00PM**

Cost \$20.00

Light Refreshments

**Spend the evening with your family and friends
and enjoy the show**

Show performed by DJ Patrick & Troupe

