

North  
Carolina



News



**APRIL MAY 2020**



**Go to “News From the Lodges” to read what North Carolina Lodges are doing to assist their communities during the COVID-19 shutdown**

## **NCSEA Makes Plans to Install Officers**

With State guidelines prohibiting meetings of more than 10 individuals, the planned one day NCSEA meeting in June has been cancelled. Currently a ballot listing the nominated Officers for the 2020-2021 year is being sent to all Lodges for voting. Upon receipt of the ballots by State Secretary Michael Curran, a video conference call will be scheduled at which State Sponsor PGER Jack Frost will hold swearing in.

Lodges are also urged to notify the State Secretary upon voting for approval of the NCSEA budget. A copy of the budget was previously sent to all Lodges. Should your Lodge not have one please contact the State Secretary for a copy.

In other news, with no National Convention, Lodges will be receiving ballots from the Grand Lodge to vote on legislation that was due to be voted on at the Grand Lodge meeting. Again, please vote on those and return.

Stay Safe

**Grand Lodge Convention Cancelled— See Page 4 for Details**

# Message from State President John Bullock

## Hello My Elk Friends:

I hope you are having a great beginning to the summer. This has been a very trying time for our local Lodges. Being none of us has ever seen such a situation like this with the Covid-19 pandemic. This is not in my wildest dreams how I thought my soon to be year as State President would be starting. I would first like to thank Shari Driscoll for the great leadership she has shown the state association this past year. I know I have some big shoes to fill. I would also like to thank Ron Dickson and NCSEA Board of Directors for looking at every aspect of holding a spring business meeting in these trying times. We will get it done some how and some way soon.

With my year as State President starting soon, my message this year. I am going to somewhat borrow from the Nike Company. Instead of "Just Do It", mine will be "Let's Do It". What this means is the success of a lodge is not based on one person but as a group of members working together. Don't be afraid to ask for help from your members. The more members you get involved and keep involved, the better chance your lodge will have a successful year, and your membership will stay on the positive side. **So, "Let's Do It".**

With the Memorial Day holiday just being celebrated please don't forget our veterans and active service members. With out there sacrifices we would not be able to enjoy the freedoms that we take for granted.

So, I hope to see all my Elks friends soon. But in the mean time stay safe and healthy.

John Bullock, State President Elect

## Message from the Grand Exalted Ruler

ROBERT L. DUITSMAN

### **“Elks stay strong, connected during pandemic”**

The past few months have been a chaotic time in the life of our Order and our nation. There has been an unprecedented amount of suffering, deprivation, hardship, fear, and for some even the loss of life as we collectively deal with the scourge of the COVID-19 pandemic. But through this and other trials we as a nation have faced over the years, we as Elks and as Americans have always stood strong. It is times like these that we should be all the more mindful of the cardinal principles on which our Order was founded. Our Lodges have been closed and activities have been suspended, but we would do well to focus our thoughts and look for ways to help others get through these times. While the typical focus of newsletter messages is to address business and operational matters within our Lodges, it bears repeating that under our cardinal principle of Brotherly Love we should be looking after our fellow Members and those in our communities who are disadvantaged. Some likely don't have family or support and may need our help. Consider setting up a phone tree so that your officers can make personal contact with Members, especially those who are alone or may need some help with even routine tasks like shopping. A little attention may go a very long way. It has been fully recognized that we can't do the work of our Lodges in traditional ways, and flexibility and creativity have been encouraged to take care of Lodge matters the best we can. Hopefully you are finding ways to keep moving until things can return to normal, or at least improve. This is a time for Elks to do what Elks have always done better than anyone else: Help others, as best we can. On a more mundane note, remember to submit your Lodge Audit Report by the end of June. It is important information, and timely submission will avoid a \$100.00 fine. If there are problems, talk with your Sponsor to see how they can be addressed. Also, for Members who are eligible for GER membership pins, you need to get your request in by June 15. May God bless you all as together we move forward to better times.



## **Notice to All Members: The 156th Grand Lodge Convention Is Canceled**

Every year, we look forward to connecting with our fellow Members at the National Convention, but given the continued concerns about COVID19, we have made the difficult decision to cancel the 156th Grand Lodge Session in Baltimore, Maryland, which was scheduled to be held from July 5 to July 8, 2020. Following increased and overwhelming concerns about the coronavirus and COVID-19, we felt this was the best way to proceed during such an unprecedented global situation. We are very disappointed that we are unable to hold the National Convention for our Members, but we know it is the right decision based on the information we have today. This was a tough call to make. The Grand Lodge Sessions are incredibly important to the Order because they are where we elect and install the Grand Lodge Officers and vote on legislation and budgets for the ensuing year, but we need to prioritize the health and safety of our Members, our employees, and everyone who helps at the Grand Lodge Sessions. The Convention Commission is exploring other ways and means of completing the tasks that need to be accomplished during a Session and is also investigating the possibility of live streaming the Session on the Elks.org website. Please check Elks.org for updates. We remain committed to the city of Baltimore, Maryland, where we are now planning to hold the 2028 convention. The dates and details will be worked out with the city and the hotels in the months to come. In the meantime, thanks for your patience and understanding—and unless a new convention plan is developed for this year's Session, we look forward to seeing you all in Tampa, Florida, for next year's Grand Lodge Session which will be held from July 4 to July 7, 2021!

Stay Safe and Stay Healthy!

Fraternally,

James L. Nichelson, PGER Elks National Convention Commission Chairman

Tina M. Haran Convention & Meetings Director



## *Assistant State Treasurer Dwight Hall*



John Dwight Hall, 81, of Reidsville, NC, was born on November 11, 1938, and died on April 2, 2020. He was the son of the late John Zachariah Hall and Frances Pegram Hall. He retired from American Tobacco Company of Durham and Reidsville. He was a supervisor in the mechanical and manufacturing divisions. In his later years there, he traveled the world representing the company in various endeavors. Dwight was a former elder in the First Presbyterian Church of Reidsville and later an active member of Woodmont United Methodist and Mission First. A former Rotarian, he was a Paul Harris Fellow.

A Member of the Reidsville Lodge, he held many offices locally and on the state level. Dwight graduated from Reidsville High in 1957, and from NC State in 1964. He loved the Wolfpack and attended many sporting events. Survivors include his wife of 53 years, Dianne Sacrinty Hall, his son, Dr. John Zachariah "Zack" Hall, II (Rachel Rhodes Hall), his sister, Vickie Hall Gallagher (Jon), his sisters-in-law: Sandra Sacrinty McCollum (John), MaryJon Sacrinty Love (Danny), and Catherine Sacrinty Hall (Greg).

The real loves of his life were his three grandchildren: John Zachariah "Zack3" Hall, III, William "Bill" Pierce Hall, and Miriam "Mimi" Sacrinty Hall. He was "Papa" to them and loved spending time and traveling with them. Dwight will be remembered by his family and friends for his sense of humor and his good-natured, teasing spirit



## Message from Membership Chairman Kevin Black

# CONGRATULATIONS

## North Carolina Lodges

In a time we are all looking for some good news, I am pleased to say the **North Carolina Membership increased by 71 during the past Elks year**. This is amazing work considering the uncertainty and craziness of the past few weeks.

The 71 increase is better than the prior year increase of 43. 20 of our 33 Lodges stayed even or increased during the past year.

This accomplishment of 2 straight years of positive membership growth is a cumulation of everyone's effort and focus on membership. Every Lodge had a hand in this accomplishment and should be celebrated by all Elks across the state.

With that being said, we have a major hurdle for this current Elk year. With Lodges closed and many members facing financial and employment uncertainty due to the pandemic, Membership is going to be facing a constant uphill battle to retain current levels.

We need to stress to all incoming ER's that they need to be reaching out to their memberships constantly. ER's need to be communicating updates and letting their membership know that the Lodge is there to help their membership. ER's need to be meeting with all officers and trustees to determine what the Lodge can do for their members and maintain their operations. This is truly a time where Lodges need to show that Elks Care, Elks Share to their own members. This dilemma will be as big an undertaking our organization has ever faced. Lodges need to show that the Elks is of value to our members and that Lodges will be there for their members to help as much as possible.

Thanks for all your hard work over the pass year in getting the word out.

Everyone please stay safe, sane, and healthy.

Fraternally,

Kevin Black  
NCSEA Membership

# **2019-2020 Exalted Rulers of the Year**

## **EAST DISTRICT**

**DOUGLAS McGRATH      GOLDSBORO LODGE**

## **EAST CENTRAL DISTRICT**

**NATHAN COCHRANE      SANFORD LODGE**

## **WEST CENTRAL DISTRICT**

**NORMAN MARION      MT AIRY LODGE**

## **WEST DISTRICT**

**MARK COUCH      HICKORY LODGE**

## **2019/2020 NORTH CAROLINA STATE EXALTED RULER OF THE YEAR**

**NORMAN MARION      MT AIRY LODGE**

As we all continue to deal with the Covid-19 virus and with Governor Cooper's Stay at Home Order in place, the State Elks Association has cancelled the Spring Convention. Normally at the Spring Convention the State PER Association announces the winners of the Exalted Ruler of the Year for the each of the four District and the State Exalted Ruler of the Year. Unfortunately, this year we are not able to do this in person, but we know how hard the ER's have worked this year and we want to bring a moment of positive light into everyone's life by announcing this year's Winners. We will be holding on to the winner's plaques until the Fall Convention so that we can have a formal announcement at that time.

Congratulations to all the winners and we look forward to seeing everyone at the Fall Convention.

Fraternally,

Dennis Dowling

President, North Carolina State PER Association



# FROM THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE PAST EXALTED RULERS ASSOCIATION

First for all the new Exalted Rulers. The form that will be used for the ER of the Year awards for this fraternal year can be viewed on the state website under members only.

Everyone has a head start because the questions about attending the April DD Clinic and the spring state convention will be automatically credited.

Next, we are sorry to announce this, but due to not being able to hold an auction and raise funds, the PER Association will not be in a position to issue grants this year. So the state PER grants for 2020-2021 have been suspended.

Last, the Secretary/Treasurer has announced he will retire after this fraternal year. Please accept this as an announcement that this position will be open and we will vote on candidates at the October PER breakfast in Atlantic Beach.

If you are interested in running, please contact Joe Clancy at [clancyj2@yahoo.com](mailto:clancyj2@yahoo.com)

Have a great summer everyone and stay health and safe.

Mike McGraw

## Stay Safe My Fellow Elks





# 11 O'clock Toast Ritual Contest



Even with the cancellation of the spring convention, the 11 O'clock Toast competition happened on Saturday, May, 16. The four contestants included Mark Alderman (Mount Airy), Bob Shields (Wilmington), David VanDerwerken (Newton), and Norman Marion (Mount Airy). David King (Elizabeth City) and John Lawrence (New Bern) served as judges. Marty Dunbar (Mount Airy) attended as a spectator. In a tight competition, Mark Alderman came out the winner. If the national convention were being held, Mark would have the honor of representing North Carolina at the Grand Lodge competition.

We will have a toast competition again at the 2021 spring convention. Start working on the toast so you can compete! The highest scoring ER/PER will get to represent The Old North State at the national convention in Tampa.

David King,

Ritual & Protocol Committee Chairman

# Fall NCSEA Meeting to be Held in Atlantic Beach



While the Spring meeting of the NCSEA had to be cancelled in Atlantic Beach, the Convention Committee has made arrangements for us to reconvene there for our Fall Meeting. Currently the convention is scheduled for October 30th thru November 1st. Mark your calendar and make arrangements to attend. Registration forms will be online at [ncelks.org](http://ncelks.org) later this Summer.

## Future Conventions

<b>NCSEA</b>	<b>Fall 2020</b>	<b>Atlantic Beach</b>	<b>October 30 - November 1</b>
	<b>Spring 2021</b>	<b>Wilmington</b>	<b>April 30 - May 2</b>
<b>Grand Lodge</b>	<b>Baltimore MD</b>		<b>July 5 - 8, 2020</b>
	<b>Tampa, Fl</b>		<b>July 4 - 7, 2021</b>



# JUNE 14th



# FLAG DAY

While your Lodge may or not be open, there are many ways to honor our Flag on June 14th. While we must still practice social distancing, consider a venue that will emphasize Elks commitment to our Flag and the communities in which we live. Consider a public ceremony, get the local Boy or Girl Scouts involved, invite the Veterans in your area, and most of all **HONOR our FLAG.**



**2020-2021**

**“Americanism Essay Contest”**

Even though schools are not open and the new school year is a few months off, now is the time for your Americanism Committee to start preparing for the Americanism Essay Contest. The theme for the 2020/2021 year is **“How can Patriotism be Demonstrated”**. This contest is open to all students in 5th - 8th grade. Contact your local schools now to get the essay contest as part of the class agenda.

# News From the Lodges

## Shallotte Elks Donate to Camp Methodist Church Food Pantry

The Shallotte Elks Lodge donated \$2,500.00 from their Beacon Grant to Camp Methodist Church Food Pantry for their Easter Dinners. The Food Pantry distributes meals every Saturday. On April 4, 2020 they distributed 268 meals, which is up 66% from last year.

Pictured L-R Warren Foust Lodge Member, John Alcorn Exalted Ruler, Mary Pritchard Director of the Food Pantry, Rick Picarno Lodge Member, and Sam Johnston Inner Guard



## Oak Island Lodge Donates to Interchurch Fellowship Food Pantry

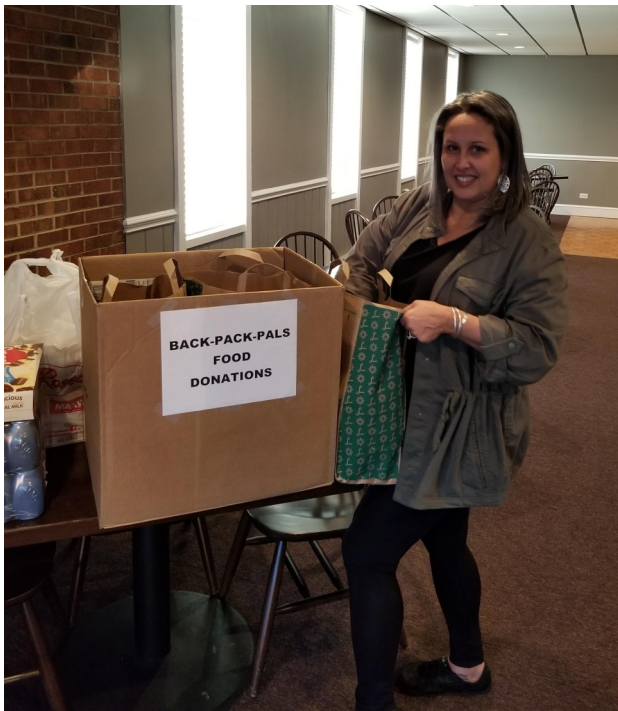
The Oak Island Lodge used a Gratitude Grant to donate \$2,500 to the Southport Oak Island Interchurch Fellowship Food Pantry. The food pantry supports our local youth, elderly and families in need. The donation will help them respond to the increased needs as a result of the COVID-19 crisis. They have sources for purchasing food and essentials in bulk at a lower cost than we could provide and are already set up to distribute to those in need.



## Sanford Elks Lodge Donates to Back Pack Pals of Lee County

The Sanford Elks Lodge is proud to support the Backpack Pals of Lee County. We donated \$2,540 in April to help feed children during the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition to giving a cash donation, we also donated food items that were collected via a Food Drive held at the Sanford Lodge.

Lee County's Backpack Pal program sends home food for Lee County Elementary school children who would otherwise have little to nothing to eat. Backpack Pals sends home non-perishable, easy to open, and easy to fix lunches and breakfast items. Over 60,000 Backpack Pals received weekend nutrition during the last 5 years!



Chanda Coomer, Lecturing Knight packs up food items to deliver to Backpack Pals.

Chanda Coomer, Lecturing Knight, presents check for \$2540 to Teresa Dew Kelly Executive Director at Christians United Outreach Center (Backpack Pals).



## Morehead City– Beaufort Lodge Serves Meals to Health Care Workers With Funds From Gratitude Grant

The Morehead City – Beaufort Elks Lodge recently provided meals for local healthcare workers at Carteret Health Care courtesy of the Gratitude Grant it received from the ENF. With the grant, along with other donations from community members and businesses, the Lodge provided approximately 1600 go meals to the hospital employees. In addition, several law enforcement members as well as fire and rescue personnel were served.



Photo L to R, top to bottom:

1. Elk Sarah Willis headed the cooking team in planning the meals and in prep.
2. Elks Sally Byrd and Jane McClughan along with volunteers plated meals.
3. Elk Bob McClughan, PER helped deliver bags to the cars.
4. Volunteer George Byrd delivers directly to health employees.



## Morganton Elks Lodge Volunteers at Soup Kitchen

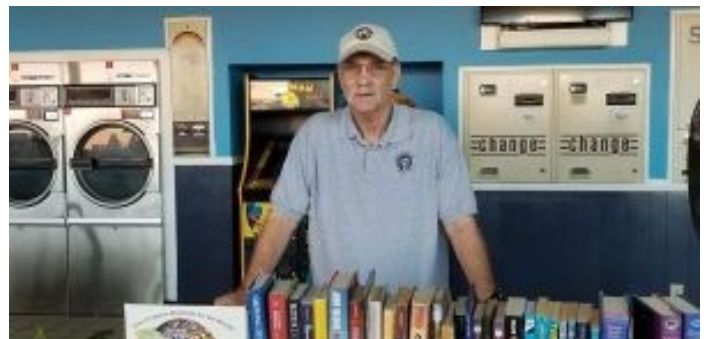
Morganton Elks Lodge Soup Kitchen team volunteered their service to the Burke United Christian Ministry soup kitchen program. The Morganton Lodge has been serving the community in this fashion for a number of years now. They serve as many as 200 plus adults and children on any given 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month. This team is so highly regarded that they are given the most difficult meals to prepare for our lunchtime clients.



Pictured from left to right- Dean Simon, Alice Smith, Steve Coley, Arlene Coley, Robin Morley (team leader), Bill McCurry, Nellie Whisnant, Chuck Epstein, Trice Giles, John Carpenter (PER), Loretta Moses (ER).

## Statesville Elks Helping Homeless

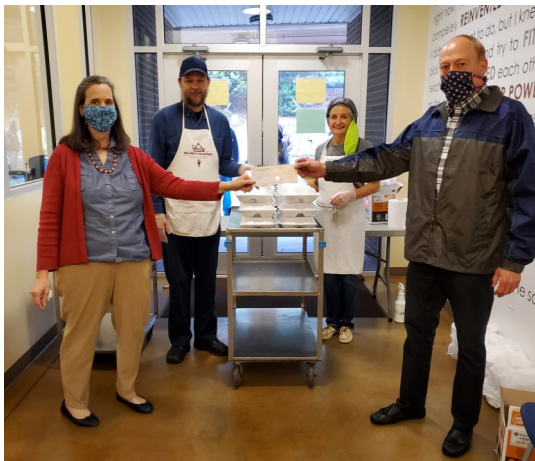
Statesville Elks Lodge put grant money to work, The Elks hosted a Soap and Suds with a local laundry mat to help homeless wash clothes. The Elks also had story time while the adults washed clothes, handing out books for the kids to take home. Great day proving Grants help the communities and Elks Care Elks Share!





## Winston Salem Elks Donate to Samaritan Ministries Soup Kitchen and the Salvation Army Shelter

The Winston-Salem Elk Lodge used the Gratitude Grant funding to support the Samaritan Ministries Soup Kitchen and the Salvation Army Shelter. According to the US Census Bureau, the poverty rate for Winston-Salem is 21% (51,000 people). Homelessness is also a significant community problem with 453 homeless individuals on any given night needing shelter. This funding helped us address the community needs related to hunger and homelessness. Due to the “Shelter in Place” we were only able to deliver checks this year. Randy Zigmunds, Grant Committee member, delivered a check for \$1,500 to help with immediate needs for mattresses and \$1,000 to help with immediate needs for cleaning, sanitation and food supplies for their Soup Kitchen.



## High Point Lodge Donates to Salvation Army



Although the High Point Lodge is closed they are still active in the community. Recently, they used our ENF Gratitude Grant to give the High Point Salvation Army a donation of \$2,000 to help local families during the impact of COVID 19.

Pictured: L-R Antoine Dalton, Director of Social Services at The Salvation Army of High Point; Phil Driscoll, Board Chair and Leading Knight; Tim Hight, Exalted Ruler; Shari Driscoll NCSEA State President; and Britt Moore, Trustee.

## Morganton Elks Donate to Outreach Center Food Bank

Morganton Elks Lodge made a \$2000. donation to the Outreach Center to support the Food Bank in Morganton. Feeding the hungry is one of the Lodges many projects. The check was presented to Director Holly Johnson.

Pictured L-R ENF Chairperson Eddie Hicks; Treasurer Gayle Brown; Dr. Holly Johnson; and Exalted Ruler Loretta Moses



## Calabash Lodge Donates to Senior Center

The Calabash Elks Lodge recently donated \$3,000 to the Brunswick County Senior Resource Center in Calabash, NC to support their Meals' Programs, which are currently stressed during the State-Imposed COVID-19 Virus "Stay-at-Home" order. The project was funded by a grant provided by the "Elks National Foundation" the Charitable Arm of the Order of Elks.

During "Normal" times, the center serves about 70 "Congregate Lunches" at the Center in Calabash each weekday to seniors over 60-years old, and delivers "Meals-on-Wheels" to those home-bound seniors who qualify for the service. During this special "Stay-at-Home" time, Courtney Bledsoe, the Center's Director, told us they are supplying 130 Meals/Day for Curb-Side Pick-Up, and delivering another 70 Meals/Day to shut-ins.



Pictured L-R: David Foulds, Lodge Treasurer; PER Bob Paoletti, Trustee; Courtney Bledsoe, Senior Center Director; Tom Friewald, Exalted Ruler; Mark Kerr, Chairman, Board-of-Directors; and Juanita Adams, PER and ENF Chairperson.

## Roxboro Elks Kick Off National Youth Week

The Roxboro Elks Lodge proudly kicked off its annual National Youth Week from May 1<sup>st</sup> – 7th. Reggie Horton presented proclamation on behalf of the City of Roxboro and County Commissioners Kyle Puryear and Derrick Sims presented a proclamation on behalf of the County. Afterwards, Commissioner Puryear and Sims gave a keynote speech to the Elks in attendance on the importance on being involved with the youth in our community.

The Roxboro Lodge has partnered with Person County Parks and Recreation this year to give kids an opportunity to participate in outdoor recreation activities. These activities give another recreational perspective from athletics or arts programming and can lead to an appreciation and respect for the natural world.

## Roxboro Elks Announce Essay Contest Winners

The Roxboro Elks Lodge would like to announce the winners of the 2019-20 Americanism Essay Contest. This year's theme was "What Does Freedom of Speech Mean to Me?" and over 170 local students participated in this year's contest and the Roxboro Lodge Americanism Committee had a tough task in selecting the top essays since they all were all outstanding.

In Division I for East Central District, Caroline Cates had the third place entry. Luke Lappin finished second place. Sophie Erdner took first place honors in the District. In Division II for East Central District, John Turner had the third place essay. Rose Kamel took second-place honors, and Olivia Ess had the first place entry and also finished in Second Place for the State of North Carolina. The Roxboro Lodge is exceptionally proud of all of the participants and would like to thank Beth Stultz, Anna Foster and April Cobb for encouraging their students to participate in the contest.

## Morganton Elks Provide Meals for "Options" Shelter



The Morganton Elks Lodge provided dinner for "Options", a relief shelter for abused and battered women and children. As has been reported during this pandemic there is more abuse happening and people seeking help.

This delicious pan of spaghetti was prepared and delivered by Chef Cathleen. Morganton Elks are always ready to assist the community in times of need.



## Mount Airy Elks Grant Supports Local Charities

The Mount Airy Elks Lodge was able to continue supporting our community after receiving the Gratitude Grant from the ENF. The lodge has provided food, cleaning supplies, blankets, sleeping bags, clothing and personal hygiene items to three different groups in our community for several years. The groups are Maranatha Homeless Outreach Ministries, The Shepherd's House and the St Lutheran Church Outreach Ministries.

Normally the lodge is directly involved in purchasing and helping distributing these items but due to the pandemic it was not feasible to be hands on. The ENF allowed us to make monetary donations to these groups, so they could continue to serve our community. The lodge split the \$ 2500.00 grant between these three groups.



Above:

Chrissy Daughenbaugh with  
Maranatha Homeless Outreach  
Ministries



Above:

Joshua Edwards with The Shepherd's House

Right:

Judy Park, Gay Matthews, and Pastor Rosa  
Erickson with St Andrew Lutheran Church  
Outreach Ministries



## Bonnie & Clyde?

No, just Ann & John dressed up for a trip to the grocery store.



This publication is produced for and by the  
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encourages all member Lodges and  
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