



Charity....Justice....Brotherly Love....Fidelity



**ELKS LODGE #572
P. O. BOX 787
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MURPHYSBORO, IL 62966**

www.elks572.org

APRIL 15, E. R. MESSAGE

Murphysboro Lodge #572 is ending another year, and a good year it has been!

We have again achieved a major reduction in the Lodge's Bank Mortgage (See related article.). Furthermore, it is our hope that we will be able to totally pay down this loan, in the next year or so!

For the 3rd consecutive year, we will show a positive gain in membership. Beginning the year at 618, we should end up at **632**, for a positive increase of 14! Thanks to you, our loyal members, only 9 individuals will be dropped for non-payment of dues (1.6%), which is below the Grand Lodge goal of 2%. And, there are currently 7 new applications on the Secretary's desk, thanks to you, our members, who have been, and are very active in proposing new members, or promoting reinstatements! From Grand Lodge down, the year's emphasis has been on reversing the 30-year trend in Elks' membership decline - and here at #572, we are one of the Lodges bucking that that trend. Thanks to ALL who have helped achieve this!

New Lodge Officers will assume their duties on the 1st of April. Look around and see if there is something you can do to help these people, in the upcoming year

We held the 20th Children's Care Corporation (C. C. C.) Benefit Dart Tournament / Auction on 3/7/15. And, as always, it was a great success! Thanks to ALL those who participated, donated, sponsored, or volunteered to work. A Special Thanks to **B. J. Wyatt** for stepping up to so ably chair the event. We can see that it has been left in good hands!


On March 15th, we held the 3rd annual Luck of the Lodge Raffle. We sold all 800 tickets and had a phenomenal turn out for the drawing / party. After all winners and sellers were paid, we were able to immediately pay \$8,100 on the Mortgage. (In fact, we added an extra amount to our normal \$2,000 loan payment, and wrote the Bank a check for \$11,070. Now that reduces the mortgage in a hurry!)

Again, thanks to ALL of you who bought and sold Raffle tickets - and thus again made this a super-successful event.

On to April. We are trying to schedule some music in the Club Room on Friday nights, after dinner. Zak Fager is doing a great job. He will be here again on the 17th of April. Come on in and let us hear you sing - - - or just relax, and listen to others who do! Once again, I want to applaud everyone for a great Elk year. Furthermore, I hope this upcoming year will be even better. We Officers are always open to new ideas, so come to a Lodge, House, or Board of Directors meeting if you want to offer one that you think might work for the Lodge or Club Room.

We are looking forward to another successful and productive Elk year, here at #572. Hope you will plan to join in - be active - support the BPO Elks - enjoy your membership! Elks Care ~ Elks Share!

Steve Schemonia, E. R



In vain we call. They have passed into the light which is beyond the valley of the shadow of death. The places that have known them shall know them no more; but their virtues are written upon the tablets of love and memory.

Philip A. Spielmacher, Life Member
Past Lodge Treasurer
June 21, 1940 - December 21, 2014

After being voted to candidacy status and completing their indoctrination session, we are very pleased to have received into membership on March 18, 2015, the following new members: Jeremy Norman, Kenneth Akins, Stephen Jines, Heather Spradling, Steve Schemonia (Exalted Ruler), Sue Nordstrom, Edward Taylor, and Neal Schemonia.





BIRTHDAYS

- 4/1 Jesse Barge
- 4/2 Jason Spears
- 4/3 David Phillips
- 4/3 Edward Tennant
- 4/4 Jerald McClerren
- 4/4 Roger Phoenix
- 4/6 Mike Uffelman
- 4/7 John Grammer
- 4/7 Sharon Leggans
- 4/8 Gary King
- 4/9 Jonathan Tremblay
- 4/10 Richard Adams
- 4/10 Donald Payne
- 4/11 Fredia Doody
- 4/11 Gary Korando
- 4/12 Henry Leischner
- 4/13 Lofton Atnip, Jr.
- 4/13 Troy Biggs
- 4/13 Edilberto Del Carmen
- 4/14 Fred Gilbert
- 4/14 Mary Korando
- 4/14 Leigh Ann Stokes
- 4/16 Tracy Ferguson
- 4/16 Robert Kirschbaum
- 4/16 Tina Lustig
- 4/17 Eden Thorne
- 4/17 Mark Wright
- 4/18 Leroy McDonald
- 4/19 Rebecca Atkinson
- 4/19 David Watt
- 4/20 Fred Schnautz
- 4/21 Jeremy Pierce
- 4/22 Max Doerr
- 4/22 Edward Fisher
- 4/22 Donald White
- 4/23 Steven Joiner
- 4/23 Lucy Mitchell
- 4/24 Cynthia Hobbs
- 4/24 Daniel Parmley
- 4/24 Christine Paul
- 4/25 Tina Carter
- 4/27 Paul Polete
- 4/27 John Uffelman
- 4/27 James Wille
- 4/24 Kathy Lynn Wills
- 4/28 Marty Davis
- 4/28 Richard Williams
- 4/29 Robert Bolinski
- 4/29 John Saunders
- 4/30 Michael Layne

**C. C. C. PLAQUES REFLECT #572 COMMITMENT
TO OUR STATE MAJOR PROJECT!**

If you have recently been in the main Lodge hallway, you probably could not help but notice the many award plaques now neatly and orderly on display. They have been awarded, by the Illinois Elks Children's Care Corporation, to Murphysboro #572, starting in 1996 - 1997. Each Lodge year has at least 1 award, and some have as many as 4! These plaques represent our state-wide or District standings for the given year, in terms of total donations, or for our per-capita amounts. We had not been able find a feasible way to display these awards, due to sheer volume - there are now **40** of them! Fortunately, member, Chuck Fager, stepped forward and devised / carried out a plan to accomplish this task. Come and see, for yourself, if you have not already done so. These items represent some \$398,349.24 in donations, over the last 19 years. The Lion's share has come from our Annual Dart Tournaments (& associated Auctions), started and chaired by Keith Roberts. A portion of these amounts also came from C. C. C. State-wide fund raising; Ho-Do Pins; Calendar sales; and Coin Boxes. In addition, Memorial donations from our departed members, spouses, or families are included. So, in the final analysis - these donations came essentially from you, our members - for Children who have physical and health needs, and for youth who need Scholarship help to pursue a career in Physical or Occupational Therapy. Good Cause - Good Job, #572! Elks Care - Elks Share.

**MEMBERS DESERVE THANKS
FOR MORTGAGE PROGRESS!**

Since March of last year, Lodge #572 has paid some \$40,521.91 on Principal alone, at our lending institution. As you know from your statement sheets, any additional, voluntary donations sent in with dues payments have been, and continue to be directed to mortgage reduction. Last year's extra payments are included in the payment amount just mentioned. As the major percentage of dues payments will soon be submitted to the Lodge Secretary, our May Newsletter will include a to-date figure for this current year, which will be forwarded to our bank for loan reduction. Furthermore, the \$8,100 just earned, from this year's Luck of the Lodge Raffle, helped with the aforementioned principal reduction. Member participation in the Club Room and Video Game room has also been very good, and has helped out in this super effort, over the past 12 months. So, members, you well deserve credit and a big "Thank You" for achieving this level of mortgage



Member, Charles Johnson, holds his Elk-of-the Year Plaque, which was awarded at this year's Volunteer Appreciation Dinner. This award is given, annually, to a member who has given support and service to the Local Lodge.



Receiving a Grand Exalted Ruler's Special Commendation Award for outstanding service to Lodge #572, is Rick Ehlers, Right. (B. J. Wyatt has also received a G.E. R. Award, but was unavailable for photo.) E. R., Steve Schemonia presented the award.



Receiving a Citizen-of-the-Year Award is #572 Elk member, Bob Hall. This Grand Lodge honor was awarded to Bob, for his many years of involvement in Community Service, especially Kiwanis and Key Club.

BINGO VOLUNTEERS

- 04/06 M. Leslie, J. Clover (Evans)
- 04/13 C. DeWulf, C. Canning (Paul)
- 04/20 K Evans, C. Myers (Hines)
- 04/27 J. Wayman, M. Leslie (Evans)
- 05/04 C. DeWulf, C. Canning (Paul)

PULL TAB VOLUNTEERS

- 04/06 L. Brown, S. Wheeler
- 04/13 G. Wilcox, D. Siefert
- 04/20 L. Elliott, T. Ferguson
- 04/27 L. Brown, S. Schemonia
- 05/04 T. Ferguson, S. Wheeler

Elks #572 Easter Bunny Set to Hop Again



Our well-know Easter Bunny will travel to Manor Court, at Liberty Village, in Carbondale, on Easter Sunday, April 5th, at 1:30 p.m. Any Elk is more than welcome to help the Bunny greet residents and generally bring cheer to everyone around. For additional information, just see, or call our Lodge Easter Bunny Chairperson, Debbie Sauer, at 618-319-2657.

LODGE OFFICER UPDATE

Elected to the position of Lecturing Knight, at the March 18th Lodge Meeting, was Bobby D. Skidmore. Appointed by Exalted Ruler, Steve Schemonia, were: Chaplain, Marilyn Zak; Esquire, Christine Paul; Inner Guard, Steve Zimmerman; Tiler, David Marks, and Presiding Justice, Edward Fisher.

NUT CLOSE-OUT SPECIAL

Yes - due to Elk "Squirrels" not getting into English Walnuts as much as anticipated, in this year's Holiday Nut Sales, we still have some left. Come get em, at the Lodge, for a reduced price of \$7.00 / Bag! (Remember - the Early Squirrel gets the Nut!!)

April 2015

ELKS CLUB ROOM HOURS

MONDAY ~ THURSDAY
2:00 P.M. ~ 11:00 P.M.
A.M.

SATURDAY
12:00 P.M. ~ 12:00

FRIDAY
2:00 P.M. ~ 12:00 A.M.

SUNDAY
12:00 P.M. ~

COMING EVENTS

Wed. Apr. 1 - Installation of Officers 7:30 PM
Sun., Apr. 5 - Elks Easter Bunny-Manor Court at Liberty Village
Sun., April 12, - So. Dist. Elks Mtg., Cairo #651
Fri., April 17, D. J. Zak in Clubroom (8:00-12 pm)
May 15-17 IEA State Mtg., Springfield

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 LODGE MTG. 7:30 PM INSTALLATION of OFFICERS HOT WINGS .50 EA. 6-8 P.M. (Eat in or take out)	2 10 OZ NY STRIP STEAK <u>\$14.95</u> ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT FRIED CHICKEN INC. MASHED POT., GRAVY/VEG. & ROLL SALAD BAR \$8.00	3 SPECIAL! ALL YOU CAN EAT CATFISH W/FRIES, SLAW & HUSH PUPPIES \$8.00 + LENT SPECIALS	4 BACK ROOM RENTED
5 CLUB CLOSED EASTER BUNNY AT MANOR COURT (1:30) 	6 BINGO 7:00 P.M.SPECIAL 5:30—8:00 PM BBQ SAND. W/FRIES \$4.50 & FULL BINGO MENU	7 BABY ELK BURGER, FF \$7.00	8 BOARD OF DIRECTORS 7:00 PM HOUSE MTG. 7:30 HOT WINGS .50 EA. 6-8 P.M	9 10 OZ NY STRIP STEAK <u>\$14.95</u> ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT FRIED CHICKEN INC. MASHED POT., GRAVY/VEG. & ROLL SALAD BAR \$8.00	10 BLAKENED TILAPIA, RICE, VEGGIE, ROLL \$9.50	11 TESTY FESTY-SIU BLOCK & BRIDAL
12 SOUTH DIST. ELKS MTG. AT CAIRO LODGE	13 BINGO 7:00 P.M.SPECIAL 5:30—8:00 PM BBQ SAND. W/FRIES \$4.50 & FULL BINGO MENU	14 CHICKEN CLUB FF \$7.95	15 LODGE MTG. 7:30 PM HOT WINGS .50 EA. 6-8 P.M (Eat in or take out)	16 10 OZ NY STRIP STEAK <u>\$14.95</u> ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT FRIED CHICKEN INC. MASHED POT., GRAVY/VEG. & ROLL SALAD BAR \$8.00	17 OPEN FACE TURKEY, ROLL & VEGGIE \$8.00 <hr/> DJ ZAK FAGER 8:00 - 12:00	18 BACK ROOM RENTED BLACK ALUMNI
19	20 BINGO 7:00 P.M.SPECIAL 5:30—8:00 PM BBQ SAND. W/FRIES \$4.50 & FULL BINGO MENU	21 ITALIAN BEEF, FF \$7.95	22 HOT WINGS .50 EA. 6-8 P.M (Eat in or take out)	23 10 OZ NY STRIP STEAK <u>\$14.95</u> ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT FRIED CHICKEN INC. MASHED POT., GRAVY/VEG. & ROLL SALAD BAR \$8.00	24 CHICKEN POT PIE, ROLL \$8.00	25 BACK ROOM RENTED ST. FRANCIS TRIVIA NITE
26	27 BINGO 7:00 P.M.SPECIAL 5:30—8:00 PM BBQ SAND. W/FRIES \$4.50 & FULL BINGO MENU	28 SLOPPY JOE, FF \$7.00	29 HOT WINGS .50 EA. 6-8 P.M (Eat in or take out)	30 10 OZ NY STRIP STEAK <u>\$14.95</u> ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT FRIED CHICKEN INC. MASHED POT., GRAVY/VEG. & ROLL SALAD BAR \$8.00		