



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



ELKS LODGE #572
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E. R. MESSAGE - MAY

Members All,

It is the end of the Elk year once again, and unfortunately it is ending at a difficult time for many people around the world. The hardships at this moment are prevalent, but let us not forget the good that we have done over the past year, and let us try to be positive as we look ahead into the forthcoming year.

I would like to start by thanking our Past Exalted Ruler, Richard Martin, for the time and effort he has put into the operations of the Lodge over the last year. I would additionally like to thank the rest of the Lodge Officers and Trustees, many of whom are also Past Exalted Rulers, for setting an excellent example and continuing to serve the needs of the community. I have quite the reputation to uphold as these men and women have helped lay the foundations for the "Lodge of the Universe." Finally, I would like to thank all of those who have volunteered and donated over the past year. The shutdown of Illinois prevented us from holding our Volunteer Appreciation Night, but all of you kind-hearted Elks do not volunteer for recognition anyway! In all seriousness, I hope you know how many people are grateful for the extra time and effort, no matter how small it may seem.

I would next like to acknowledge the creator and maintainer of our Murphysboro Elks website, Steve Zak, for producing **one of four 5-star Elks websites in the country**. Usually the calendar is posted on the website before newsletters arrive, so be sure to bookmark <http://www.elks572.org/> for the quick and accurate information! Thank you, Steve!

For those who participated in our dinner fundraiser on Thursday, April 2nd, we are very appreciative. The overwhelming response led to over \$2,000 to aid our employees who have been unable to work! I would like to thank those who ordered for your patience; the pace and quantity of orders was not expected. To the members who volunteered, we are very grateful for your efforts to make the lives of our employees a little easier.

The ENF Spotlight Grant was received by our Lodge, resulting in \$2,000 of supplies packed into backpacks and delivered to local veterans. This project was very successful, and a special thank you goes out to Darcie Hastings, Sandy Schenk, Tonya Knust, and Tammy Ryan for its planning and execution.

Many are probably wondering when the Lodge is set to open again, but sadly that date has not yet been determined. What we do know is that the reopening of our country's establishments will be carried out in a 3-phase plan. If the first phase goes well, bars and restaurants, including ours, will be allowed to open their doors in phase two. We will be sure to abide by all standards set forth by legislation at that time, so that everyone feels safe returning to our beloved Lodge when the time is right.

It is not out of place to be concerned about the well-being of our Lodge in this difficult time, but this is not the first time that Lodge #572 has faced adversity. In the past 120 years (since being established in July, 1900) our Lodge has been through two World Wars, the Great Depression, the 1918 Spanish Flu, and the deadliest tornado in the history of America (1925 Tri-State Tornado). Through all these challenges, the Elks of Murphysboro have still managed to contribute over **4 million dollars** to improving the world around us through volunteering and charitable donations. The resilience of the Murphysboro Elks Lodge has been proven time and again, and we fully intend to continue our operations long after Covid-19.

Although our doors are not open, there has not been any change to the due date of our per capita membership dues. I know that this is a trying time for many, but if it is possible please send your dues payment as soon as you can. Our Lodge must pay per capita to the South District and the State, as well as to the Grand Lodge, for each active member of our organization. This becomes very difficult without the timely submission of each individual membership payment, so we need your help. This money is redistributed in the form of grants that help countless underprivileged Americans every year; many of these grants return to Murphysboro and help build the community around us, so please take the time to renew your membership!

Looking into the next year, there are a few things we would like to focus on improving. You may have seen our new Point-Of-Sale system behind the bar, which we look forward to implementing as soon as possible. This transition will allow us to manage inventory far more efficiently and hopefully reduce waste. On the topic of reducing waste, if you are interested in purchasing any of our leftover inventory at our cost, please contact Richard Martin at 618-791-9245. An additional improvement you may have noticed is the appearance of LED lighting in our Lodge Clubroom, and I would like to carry this eco-friendly trend into other areas of our building as well, if possible.

I would like to take this chance to present the 2020/2021 Officers, Trustees, and Chairpersons for our Murphysboro Lodge #572. These members will be installed as soon as meetings can continue

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**BIRTHDAYS**

5/1 William Pittman
 5/3 James Deming
 5/3 James Rosson
 5/5 Michael Barone
 5/5 Scott Imhoff
 5/7 Mike Sherman
 5/8 Tom Pulcher
 5/8 Rebecca Stokes
 5/9 Beth Hartman
 5/10 Dale Korando
 5/10 Robert Roach
 5/10 Jessica Morse
 5/12 Julio Figueroa
 5/13 William Jones
 5/13 Landess Mills
 5/13 Linda Polete
 5/14 Michael Marks
 5/14 Jesy Phoenix
 5/15 Pamela Reed
 5/17 Russell Miner
 5/17 Ron Tuttle
 5/18 Mike Bastien
 5/18 Jim Ferguson
 5/18 Keith Rendleman
 5/19 Lauralee Ryan
 5/21 Robert Allard
 5/21 Debbie Humm
 5/22 Eric Sumner
 5/23 Blake Canning
 5/25 Dan Leslie
 5/25 Norman Wayman
 5/28 Richard Blake
 5/28 Keith Harris
 5/29 Charlie Eisert
 5/29 Chris German
 5/30 Richard Cox

Murphysboro Elks Committee Chairpersons

Committee	Chairperson
Accident Prevention	Richard Martin
Government Relations	Richard Martin
Americanism	Nicole Byrley
Insurance	Nicole Byrley
Antlers	Apryl Gordon
Youth Activities	Apryl Gordon
Athletics/Recreation	Tonya Knust
Business Practices	Jim Ferguson
Membership	Jim Ferguson
Children's Care	Patty Stokes
Drug Awareness	Darcie Hastings
PER Association President	Darcie Hastings
Fraternal Committee	Darcie Hastings
Easter Bunny	Jeff Eliassen
Hoop Shoot	Chris German
Indoctrination	Steve Zak
Ritual	Steve Zak
Flag Day	Steve Zak
Lapsation	Christian Rose
Newsette	Christian Rose
Public Relations	Christian Rose
Soccer	Christian Rose
Lodge Activities	Kathy Guetersloh
National Foundation	Merle Evans
Scholarship	Merle Evans
National Veterans Service	Steve Schemonia
Auditing	Rene Evans
Elks Memorial Day	Sue Givens

Murphysboro Elks Officers

Position	Officer
Exalted Ruler	Christian Rose
Leading Knight	Steve Schemonia
Loyal Knight	Nicole Byrley
Lecturing Knight	Joanna Beth Tweedy
Secretary, PDDGER	Merle Evans
Treasurer	Sandy Schenk
Esquire	(Currently Unoccupied)
Inner Guard	Dianne Chamness
Tiler	Alex White
Sue Givens	Chaplain
One-Year Trustee	Jim Ferguson
Two-Year Trustee	Patty Stokes
Three-Year Trustee	(Currently Unoccupied)
Four-Year Trustee	Darcie Hastings
Five-Year Trustee	Richard Martin

If you have an idea for one of these committees or would like to contribute, please contact the respective chairperson and ask about joining, they would love the help! Joining a committee is a straightforward way of aiding your community, whether serving veterans in need at the Haven or bringing cheer to elderlies during Easter.

One last notice to our members - it is time for the revision of our Lodge By-Laws, as mandated by the Grand Lodge. Each suggested revision will be announced to all members before final approval. The date of these revisions is not yet known, but keep an eye on the upcoming newsletters and website for more information.

I am greatly looking forward to serving as E.R. this year, and I hope that I can maintain the current standard of excellence at our Lodge. Please stay safe during this time, help others when you can, and try to make the world a better place. Remember: Elks Care ~ Elks Share!

Sincerely & Fraternaly,
Christian Rose, E. R. Elect