



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



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E. R. MESSAGE — APRIL

Hello Fellow Elks,

Murphysboro Elks Lodge #572 is ending another year on a strong, positive note! As the new E.R. for this coming year, I would like thank this year's Officers and Board of Trustees for their hard work in continuing to make our Lodge one of the best in the State of Illinois! I would also like to thank all of our Committee Members and Volunteers who make our Lodge and our events successful, year in, and year out. I'd also like to thank those of you who have supported me in this new endeavor as E.R., and thank those of you who have already stepped up to assist.

We just completed another very successful Luck of the Lodge event this past weekend! While our total dollar amount raised is not yet known, it looks to be another great event. Thank you to all of the volunteers who made it a successful event yet again! This was the 30th anniversary of our Illinois Elks Children's Care Corporation Dart Tournament (Thanks again to BJ Wyatt and Lynn Porter for all their hard work). This year, the amount raised between the Dart Tournament and other campaigns by our members was \$20,152.75!

Thank you to all of our Members for frequenting our dining room and bar. I know we have many great choices of dining in Murphysboro, but, please remember your dining/entertaining visits only help make our Lodge stronger.

Thanks also to our outgoing E.R., Todd Doody. He has dedicated four years to this position, and has done an outstanding job leading Lodge #572.

Lastly, I know that I have a lot to learn about the E.R. position. I will work hard to help our Lodge continue to grow, and be an example to other Lodges by our great work on our charitable mandate.

Fraternally yours,
Jay Wittenborn, 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.



PATRICK POITER

September 21, 1958 - March 8, 2026

JERRY P. WILLETT, PER

September 24, 1948 - March 23, 2026

RAYMOND C. BURROUGHS

March 28, 1931 - March 24, 2026

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 01 Barge, Jesse F
- 02 Lewis, Ernie
- 02 Malin, Michael E
- 02 Nimlos, Jake
- 02 Spears, Jason
- 03 Fager, Cynthia
- 03 Harsy, Charles Dennis
- 03 White, Lee Ann
- 04 McClerren, Jerald L
- 04 Phoenix, Roger
- 06 Uffelman, Mike
- 07 Grammer, John
- 07 Ince, Thomas S
- 08 Cripps, Troy M
- 09 Perschbacher, Sandra
- 09 Tweedy, Joanna Beth
- 11 Doody, Fredia
- 11 Korando, Gary
- 11 Noble, Paul
- 14 Barone, Michael H
- 14 Etherton, Clinton
- 14 Gilbert, Fred
- 15 Beckmann, Michael R
- 15 Marnati, Jeffrey A
- 15 Raines, Harry
- 16 Gordon, Apryl M
- 16 Kirschbaum, Robert
- 16 Lustig, Tina
- 16 Rakers, Joshua J
- 17 Wright, Mark J
- 20 Endres, Cory
- 20 Fager, Nancy L
- 20 Farrish, John
- 20 O'Donnell, Edward F
- 20 Schnautz, Fred R
- 21 Blessing, April
- 21 Hartman, Dennis
- 22 Cook, Garrett
- 23 Joiner, Steven
- 23 Phoenix, Tina
- 24 Hobbs, Cynthia
- 24 Parmley, Daniel R
- 24 Paul, Christine L
- 24 Rinehart, William
- 24 Sendek, Ruby
- 27 Polete, Paul C
- 28 Davis, Marty
- 28 Williams, Richard C
- 29 Arnold, Audrey
- 29 Desett, Michael A
- 29 Saunders, John
- 29 Tanner, Clifford E
- 30 Layne, Michael L

ELKS OF #572 CONTINUE TO ENJOY QUEEN SEARCH

Starting with the Queen of Hearts Drawing at 7:00 pm on Tuesdays, followed by 50/50 at 7:15 and 2 Meal Vouchers at 7:30, it is always an enjoyable evening for Lodge members & card holders. And, regular menu items + specials are always available! Miss Queen is still hiding....but you can join the search at \$1 per ticket. (They may be purchased any time you are in the Club Room.) As of this publication, her value stands at \$7,789. Here are results, since the last Newsletter:

3/03	Heather Boucher	\$50 on Name Draw	No Win on Card Draw
3/10	Eddie Taylor	\$50 on Name Draw	No Win on Card Draw
3/17	Ryan Schular	\$50 on Name Draw	No Win on Card Draw
3/24	Bruce Francis	\$50 on Name Draw	No Win on Card Draw
3/31	Dave Cronin	\$50 on Name Draw	No Win on Card Draw

MEMBERSHIP GROWTH & HOW IT HAPPENS

Our Lodge started the 2025-2026 Lodge year with 698 members and ended with 738, **for a total gain of 40!!** *We are now the 3rd largest Lodge in Illinois.*

Without members sponsoring new candidates, a Lodge cannot grow, or even continue to exist. We want to thank and recognize the following individuals who led the way in bringing in new candidates during the 2025-2026 Lodge year: Jim Ferguson (7), Todd Doody (6), Christopher Doody (5), Jay Wittenborn (5), Gene Schwebel (4), Linda Harnetiaux (2), Timothy Rogers (2), and Patty Grammer (2).

We also want to thank each of the following members who each sponsored one new candidate: Kathy Guetersloh, Christine Nolan, Ruby Sendek, Tonya Knust, Bob Hall, Dan Nolan, Merle Evans, Darrell Ewbank, Jeff Carter, Debbie Sauer, Samantha Williams, Steve Schemonia, Jim Jenkins, Joshua Hamilton, Richard Layne II, Edward Miller, Norman Wayman, Michael Lewsader, Richard Clover, William Korando, Kendra Evans, Michael Dosch, Jay Ziegler, Sandra Herring, and Steven Shields.

**CCC Donations Generated by Our Lodge
For The 2025-2026 Year**

Each year every Lodge in Illinois raises money for the Illinois Elks Children's Care Corporation (CCC). The totals for our Lodge over the past year are as follows:

Dart Tournament & Auction.....	\$16,338.75
C.C.C. Calendar Sales (by our Members).....	\$1,380.00
C.C.C. Coin Boxes at Lodge (Game Room).....	\$75.00
C.C.C. State-wide Drawing (by our Members).....	\$1,090.00
C.C.C. Annual Appeal (by our Members).....	\$1,155.00
Special Donations by #572 Members.....	\$113.75
Total.....	\$20,152.50

Chicken Dinner & Auction Fundraiser for Tunnel to Towers Foundation by the Volunteers of Southern Illinois

Saturday, April 25th in the Lodge Hall

Food will be served 4:00 — 7:00 PM

Auction — Raffles — 50/50

Take-out food will be available

For more information call 775-385-1341 or 618-615-3502

“Since 9/11, we has been helping America’s heroes by providing mortgage-free homes to Gold Star and fallen first responder families with young children and by building specially-adapted smart homes for catastrophically injured veterans and first responders. We are also committed to eradicating veteran homelessness and helping America to Never Forget September 11, 2001.”
(from t2t.org website)

2025-2026 OFFICERS ELECTED OR APPOINTED

As prescribed by Grand Lodge Statutes, nominations were made at the February 4th Lodge meeting, and finalized by unanimous ballot or individual ballot, if needed, at the February 18th Lodge meeting. Here are Lodge #572 elected officers for the upcoming year:

- Exalted Ruler - Jay Wittenborn
- Leading Knight - Steven Zak
- Loyal Knight - Dennis Hartman
- Lecturing Knight - Dan Nolan
- Secretary - Merle Evans
- Treasurer - Sandy Schenk
- 5-Yr. Trustee - Todd Doody

Continuing Trustees are:

- 4-Yr. - Gene Schwebel
- 3-Yr. - Darcie Hastings
- 2-Yr. - Jim Ferguson
- 1-Yr. - Bob Hall

The following positions have been appointed:

- Inner Guard – Gary Chamness
- Esquire – appointment upcoming
- Chaplain - Dianne Chamness
- Tiler - Jeff Harmon

After completing their orientation, we initiated into our Order on March 25th the following nine new members (L-R): Randall G. Popejoy, Amy M. Auton, Larry L. Chambers Jr., Dale Hartmann, E.R. Todd Doody, Dylan Craig, Mary Kay Campbell, Harriet Thomas, Chris Burton, and Donna Burton.

Be sure to introduce yourself and make them feel welcome when you see them in the Lodge.



ELKS CLUB ROOM HOURS

MONDAY ~ THURSDAY 2:00 PM ~ 11:00 PM
SATURDAY 2:00 PM ~ 12:00 AM

FRIDAY 2:00 PM ~ 12:00 AM
SUNDAY 12:00 — CLOSE

KITCHEN HOURS

MONDAY 5:00 PM — 8:00 PM
TUESDAY—FRIDAY 5:00 PM — 9:00 PM

April 2026

COMING EVENTS

MAY 8-10...ILLINOIS ELKS STATE MTG, SPRINGFIELD
MAY 10...MOTHERS DAY BRUNCH
JUNE 13...BOCCE TOURNAMENT

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>EVERY WEDNESDAY WINGS APPETIZERS SANDWICHES SALAD BAR</i>			<i>1 HOUSE MTG 6:45 PM LODGE MTG 7:30 PM CHICKEN POT PIE \$12.00</i>	<i>2 LASAGNA \$13.00</i>	<i>3 ALL YOU CAN EAT FISH \$13.00 FROG LEGS \$16.00 FISH & FROG LEGS COMBO \$16.00</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>5</i>	<i>6 WEEKLY DRAWING 7:00 PM BURGERS & FRIES BY VOLUNTEERS</i>	<i>7 QUEEN OF HEARTS 7:00 PM TACO TUESDAY</i>	<i>8 HAM STEAKS \$13.00</i>	<i>9 ALL YOU CAN EAT FRIED CHICKEN \$15.50</i>	<i>10 BOURBON GLAZED PORK CHOPS \$14.00</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>12 SOUTH DISTRICT ELKS MEETING @ BENTON LODGE</i>	<i>13 WEEKLY DRAWING 7:00 PM BURGERS & FRIES BY VOLUNTEERS</i>	<i>14 QUEEN OF HEARTS 7:00 PM ITALIAN BEEF \$11.00</i>	<i>15 BOARD MTG 6:45 PM LODGE MTG 7:30 PM CHICKEN PARMESAN \$14.00</i>	<i>16 MEATLOAF \$13.00</i>	<i>17 RIBEYE \$23.00 FILET \$25.00 SIRLOIN TIPS \$17.00 GRILLED SHRIMP \$17.00</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>19</i>	<i>20 WEEKLY DRAWING 7:00 PM BURGERS & FRIES BY VOLUNTEERS</i>	<i>21 QUEEN OF HEARTS 7:00 PM HOMEMADE SLOPPY JOE \$10.00</i>	<i>22 STEAK FAJITAS \$14.00</i>	<i>23 ALL YOU CAN EAT FRIED CHICKEN \$15.50</i>	<i>24 LONDON BROIL \$18.00</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>26</i>	<i>27 WEEKLY DRAWING 7:00 PM BURGERS & FRIES BY VOLUNTEERS</i>	<i>28 QUEEN OF HEARTS 7:00 PM CHICKEN SALAD SANDWICH OR WRAP \$11.00</i>	<i>29 BEEF STROGANOFF \$13.00</i>	<i>30 STUFFED PORK CHOPS \$13.00</i>		