



The TESA News

Official Publication of the Texas
Elks State Association
Flag Day Edition - July 2018



Flag Day

She Flies Over Us
By Hubert E. Cormier II
Katy Elks Lodge 2628.

When she is flown, we always stand,
We each place, over our hearts, a hand.
For the respect that she does command,
For she is the symbol of this great land.

Old Glory is her given name,
Her free spirit, no one can ever tame.
Just as the burning light of an eternal flame,
She will always fly high, without shame.

Her stars and stripes are a beautiful sight,
She stands for what is good, what is right.

She always leads the way into the fight,
Through the darkest of times, to victory's light.

Her majestic beauty shines brightly when unfurled,
For she flies over the greatest land in the world.

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A message from our State President



Let's Work Together to Put Texas Elks on a Path to Long Term Growth

Fred Adams , President 2018-2019 Texas State Elks Association

First, I want to thank my partner in life, Deb, her support is key to me being your President. I can't emphasize enough how honored Deb and I are to serve as your President and First Lady. We want to thank Big John and Renea Oswalt, we have enjoyed working with them. They are two of the greatest Elks you'll ever meet.

Big John says have fun and be loud-be proud! I could not agree more. I feel fun and pride are the two strongest drives for members. You have fun in your lodge, all your problems will go away. Pride is the second strongest drive, a proud member will stay a member.

My plan builds on Big John's and Renee's hard work. Couple their values with my plans detailed below, I'm convinced we can put Texas Elkdom on a path of long term growth. And I don't just mean Elks National Foundation, State Major Project, veterans, youth, I mean all areas including membership!

Texas Elks has tremendous potential for growth. This includes community support, fun and fellowship in our lodges, membership and even in the number of lodges. We all take great pride in the tremendous work Elks do. Texas Elks donated over \$26 million cash and in-kind to our Texas communities last year and of course we all want to see this grow. This was never more evident than how our lodges supported their neighbors during Hurricane Harvey last summer.

My first priority is all lodges fully implement the Elks Membership and Planning Program. Membership is critical to the survival of the Elks. Texas Elks have lost about 600 members in the last four years. How can we maintain our community support if our membership shrinks-we can't let this happen!

Next build pride, a proud member stays a member. Key to this is communicating the great things Texas lodges do with our members. This is very important as most new members come from friends, family or co-workers. A strong newsletter, e-blast, text system coupled with multi-media programs will effectively communicate the great things we all do.

Texas Elks State Major Project, the summer camp and special needs grants are highly visible programs. Everyone who attends a graduation at summer camp or sees a special needs child helped with our grants will have such pride in their heart we never have to worry about them paying their dues. Plus sweetheart fund raising activities supports fellowship, fun in your lodges and generates business for your Clubs. My goal is to provide more support to our sweethearts.

I will also increase support of Elks National Foundation and my goal is to fully utilize their grants. These grants are great tools helping families, first responders, veterans and others in need. These grants build pride and again these activities also support fellowship, fun in our lodges and business for our Clubs.

Continue support for the efforts in developing new lodges. This support needs to be state wide. All Texas Elks need to recommend friends, family and co-workers for proposed members in the new lodges.

I believe we can never close another lodge. We must use all the tools to support our current lodges. The key is identifying lodges at risk, to help I developed the VP Survey. We need to help lodges before they get into trouble. This will need the support of the entire TESA team.

Business Practices are the key tool. We need to continue development of District business practices groups. This support works best when we help ourselves.

We have lost lodges because their Officers have just run out of gas. They have had to repeat roles to the point they give up or others won't step up. This softer side of management development needs to be added to Business Practices. An easy metric is, does the lodge have an ongoing succession plan.

While attending a Friday graduation at our summer camp a parent once told me, "thank you" for their child attending camp. But it is I that should thank them because the pride I feel from this program gives me greater satisfaction and happiness than winning the lottery ever would. This is why we are Elks. The rewards are tremendous.

Texas Elks excel in ENF, State Major Project, community support and we are knocking on the door of membership growth. I am confident we can put Texas Elkdom on a path of long term growth, Let's Work Together to Make This Happen!

Borger Lodge #1581



Beautiful flag day ceremony presented by the Borger Elks Lodge. Great job guys! "I believe our flag is more than just cloth and ink. It is a universally recognized symbol that stands for liberty, and freedom." — John Thune



**TEXAS ELKS CHILDREN'S
SERVICES, INC
GOLF TOURNAMENT AT
HOMECOMING**



TEXAS ELKS CHILDREN'S SERVICES IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THIS YEARS HOMECOMING GOLF TOURNAMENT WILL BE SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 22ND AT THE BEAUTIFUL INDEPENDENCE GOLF COURSE IN GONZALES, TX.



HERE IS WHAT WE "NEED" FROM EACH LODGE:

- 1. MINIMUM 1 HOLE SPONSOR \$150**
- 2. GOODIES FOR THE GIFT BAGS (snacks, koozies, etc)**

HERE IS WHAT WE NEED FROM EACH DISTRICT:

- 1. MINIMUM OF 3 PLAYERS**
- 2. ONE CASE EACH OF BEER, SODA, AND WATER**
- 3. DISTRICT SWEETHEART OR DESIGNATED OFFICER TO DELIVER DISTRICT LODGE GOODIES AND DRINKS TO GONZALES BY FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 21st.**

ALL SPONSOR INFORMATION AND MONEY MUST BE SUBMITTED BY AUGUST 31st TO

**BOOKKEEPER, 1963 F.M. 1586 GONZALES, TX
78629.**

**CHECKS PAYABLE TO TECSI HOMECOMING
GOLF TOURNAMENT. MORE INFO CONTACT
JOHN CROUCH GOLF CHAIRMAN 956-357-4273.**

[Click here for Entry form and Information](#)

**DeSoto Lodge 2552
"Best L'Il Lodge in Texas"**



Honoring the History of our great Flags and our scholarship winner Harrison Van Cleve. Back row, Left to Right: Harrison Van Cleve, Harley Brown, ER, Larry Zmolik, Kent Blanch, James Jones, Diane Hardy. Front row: Tony Hernandez, Gary Gale, Kathy Tobar, Bonnie Woolever, Mary Macias, Kay Hernandez.

**Plainview Lodge #1175
ELKS HOST ANNUAL COMMUNITY FLAG RETIREMENT
AND FLAG DAY CEREMONY**



On Saturday, June 16, 2018 the Plainview Elks Lodge #1175 hosted the annual Community Flag Day Events. Community partners with the Plainview Elks Lodge #1175 are Kiwanis Club of Plainview, Boy Scout Troop 253, Cub Scout Pack 252, and Girl Scout Troop 6151. This event is held on the parking lot of the Plainview Elks Lodge. The Flag Day Retirement Ceremony was held at 9:00 am with the Elks Flag Day Ceremony held inside the Lodge immediately following.

In the Flag Day Ceremony the history of the flag is given with each flag that has ever flown over the United States of America being presented and the history of each one is given. Plainview High School NJROTC and Boy Scout Troop 253 presented the flags for this ceremony. Exalted Ruler Mark Nelms presided over the ceremony and gave the response to the history of the flags. Trustee Kenneth Hooper gave the history of the flags.

We would like to thank each of the community partners for their help, and participation. We would also like to thank Eagle Scout Zack McDonough, Doug McDonough, Gebo's, the Plainview Fire Department and 910 Smokehouse for their participation, input and assistance in these events. We especially want to thank the Elk Members that put in their hard work and time to make these events possible.

Beaumont Lodge #311



Beaumont Elks Lodge celebrated National Flag day on Sunday, June 3rd at 2:00 pm. The Navy JROTC of Central High School presented the flags and Boy Scouts Venture Crew conducted a Flag Retirement ceremony.



Elks in the Community

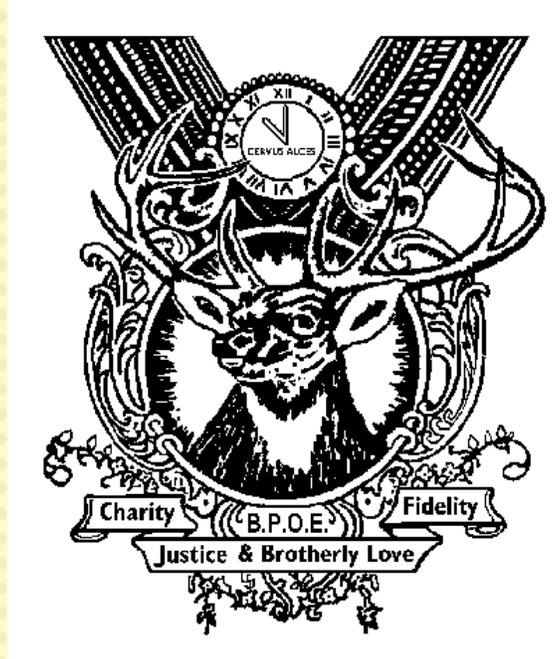


Jana Cannon, Elk member and project director of the State Veterans Grant speaks to the Rotary Club of Plainview



Kay Brotherton from Central Plains Center who is a community partner with the Plainview Elks #1175, speaks to the Rotary Club of Plainview about Veterans Grant that the Plainview Elks lodge is the lead applicant on

Texas Ritual



You have heard many times that “ENF is the great heart of Elksdom,” quickly followed by “Membership is the life blood.” Elks cannot do any of the great work we do without membership in our Lodges. Membership starts at initiation, the first Elks ritual most people see.

Texas ritual was well represented at the national convention by the Houston Lodge. I have seen some very good initiation ritual in my travels around the State and look forward to seeing many more renditions. As the new TESA Ritual chair, I hope we can renew the TESA tradition of ritual competition.

Over the next several months, you will receive information about two new ritual contests to help TESA lodges’ get back into the tradition of ritual competition, the Texas division and Reading division. The Texas division is for teams who perform the initiation ritual to national standards, but do not qualify to compete at the nation level. Degree teams of non-officers or teams put together from several lodges are perfect for this division. The Reading division is for Lodge teams who haven’t fully memorized their parts but perform outstanding initiation ritual. Division winners will receive team and individual awards. These teams do not have to worry about representing Texas at the national convention.

Great achievements start with small steps. ERs, make it a goal to participate in the Reading division. PERs and degree team members, make it a goal to participate in the Texas division. TESA VPs, make it a goal to hold district competitions at the April InterLodges. We will have ritual clinics and training at the State convention followed by ritual competitions. I need to have several teams compete in each division!

Mike Callahan, PDDGER
TESA Ritual Chair

PS – I am always available to come to the lodge and help train.

Brain Teaser - Matching socks

You're up early for work and don't want to awaken anyone by turning on the lights; however, you need to get a matching pair of socks from your drawer. You know there are 10 black socks and 10 gray socks in the drawer. How many socks do you need to remove to ensure you have a pair of matching socks? (see the answer at the bottom of the page)

A note from the TESA News Editor

Thank you to everyone that submitted articles for this newsletter. The next newsletter will focus on Elk involvement in the Community and Building Membership. I would like to see every lodge turn in ONE article with three pictures demonstrating their involvement in the community or what they are doing to build their membership. The article does not have to be long. One paragraph with three to five sentences is all I need. I know many of us use Facebook to tell our story's at our Lodge, but not everyone does Facebook and certainly we can't keep up with every lodges Facebook page on a daily basis.

This newsletter is used to capture - briefly - what the lodges are doing in their communities, how they are building membership and what they are doing as Elks. It is also a forum for our Texas President and President-Elect to get their message out to all of us! Texas Committees can use this newsletter to talk about their programs and to advertise upcoming events such as scholarship deadlines and Elks National Foundation progress. There are many forms of communications that our lodges can use to "get the word out" the Texas Elks State Association Newsletter is just one more way we can educate the public and our members about what Elks do.

I encourage all Texas committee Chairmen to get an article into the newsletter so that Elks know what is happening at the state level. District level chairmen are also encouraged to submit an article. Finally, if any member would like to submit an article that they believe would benefit Texas Elks you are welcome to do so. The next deadline for articles relating to Elks community and membership and all committee chairmen is August 4th. I hope to see many more submissions.

Ella Johnston-Leger, PDDGER

TEXAS ELKS STATE ASSOCIATION Elected Officers 2018-2019

President: **Fred Adams** First Lady: **Deb Adams**
President-Elect: **Andy Mishaga** First Lady Elect: **Ramona Misaga**
Secretary: **Orville Weiss, PGE**
Treasurer: **Steve Weatherly**

Appointed Officers 2018-2019

Chaplain: **Debbie Salazar**
Sgt-At-Arms: **Robert 'Bob' Tiffany**
Tiler: **Billy Bryan**
Photographer : **Gordon Daniels**
Vocalist: **Harvey Brown**

Vice Presidents

Central: **Bob Patterson**
East: **Tim Kinkelaar**
Gulf Coast: **Sally DiPalma**
North: **Jennifer Moore**
North Central: **Bill Flourney**
Northeast: **Mike Cropp**
PanWest: **Becky Bridges**
South: **Pamela Crouch**
Southwest: **Joy Streater**

Trustees

Gulf Coast: Kenneth 'Ken' Boyd - Chairman
Central: Jim DeHart
East: Wayne Culver
North: Mark Powell
North Central: Duke Lane
Northeast :Fred Crabtree
PanWest: Grant Vaughn
South: Moseh 'Moe' Solomon
Southwest: Jim Stansbury



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(Answer to the brain teaser - You only need to remove three socks to ensure you have a matching pair. If your first sock is black and your second sock is gray, the third will have to make a pair with one of the first two socks.)

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