



A Fraternal Organization

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To: All Elks Lodge Exalted Rulers and Secretaries

Subject: Community Project Contest

An obvious problem facing the Order of Elks is decreasing membership. This unfortunate trend is in part due to the fact that much of the general public in our communities is not aware of the great works of Elksdom. We need to be loud, proud and visible.

The Grand Lodge Activities Committee wants to encourage your Lodge to conduct a project in your community. The project focus should be one that fills a need in your community and makes a difference to those you serve. Some successful project ideas recently have focused on youth, veterans or others in need. The goal is to enhance community awareness of the good work we do as Elks and to have the community associate that good work directly with your Lodge. These projects can help the community better understand who we are and what we do as a fraternal organization and as such, develop membership in your Lodge.

To help fund a project in your community, your Lodge can apply for a \$2,500 Beacon Grant from the Elks National Foundation (ENF). Other ENF grants such as the Gratitude, Promise and Impact Grants may be available if your Lodge qualifies.

The Grand Lodge Activities Committee will award first, second and third place winners in each of the six membership size categories. Certificates will be awarded to the winning Lodges at the Elks Grand Lodge Convention in Reno Nevada.

To enter the contest, the Exalted Ruler of the Lodge must complete the attached Lodge Community Project Contest Entry Form. The completed form is due by May 1st, 2017. Please send the contest entry form to David Lake, Area 3 member of the Grand Lodge Activities Committee. His contact information is listed on the attached entry form.

We wish you a successful community project!

Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steven A. Davis".

Steven A. Davis
Grand Lodge Activities Committee, Chair