



WHAT CAN MY LODGE DO?

Since we are in these uncertain times and our Lodges have so much to do right now, what can you do? We want to outline a list of things that your Lodge can easily do during the “shelter in place” order.

- 1) First & Foremost, get the new Officers installed today! This can be done over the phone by any PER of the Lodge. Do each officer individually or on a conference call. Use one of the two following services:

<https://zoom.us> It is free to a point

<https://hello.freeconference.com/conf/conferences/create> This is free and easy to do

To make it easy for you here is the minimum process to get the Officers installed:

Do you each accept the office for which you have been chosen?

**You will each place your left hand over your heart, raise your right hand, and repeat after me:
In the presence of God and this Lodge of Elks, I solemnly promise and swear to conform with and maintain the Constitution, Statutes, Rules and Regulations of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and the By-Laws of _____ Lodge, No. _____; to practice the virtues of Charity, Justice and Brotherly Love, and with Fidelity to perform the duties of the office for which I have been chosen to the best of my ability. May God help me and keep me steadfast as an Officer of this Lodge. Amen. At ease.**

Now in the name and by the authority of the Grand Lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America, I do proclaim and declare the Officers of _____ Lodge, No. _____, duly installed.

- 2) Hold your Board of Directors meetings via conference call and get the budget ready for approval. By doing so you will stay ahead of the curve.
- 3) Hold your Lodge Meetings via conference call, get approval of the budget from the membership, use emails to send information.
- 4) This idea came from Valdosta Lodge. Get the Secretary to get a contact list of all members and disburse it among the officers. Use it to make contact via a phone call to the members first to check on them and make sure they are safe and healthy. Next let them know that the Lodge is in great shape and you will be hosting meetings. Leave them a contact phone number so if they do need anything they can easily reach someone.
- 5) Read and know the Georgia “shelter in place” order. It clearly states what charitable and fraternal organizations can do during this time. NO, you cannot open your lounges or bars, no you cannot open your dining rooms, that is very clear. We do not want anyone going into an unsafe situation, abide by the social distancing and 10 person rules.
- 6) Keep us all as Elks in the know, communicate with Steve Petrie at steve@mypsite.com and he will send an email across our state. Let everyone know about the good and bad that is happening. I do know that many of our members are looking to hear from their fellow Elks across the state. Lets share the news and start a chain of communication.

- 7) Use the Georgia Elks Facebook site and post messages, share news, become part of the group and use it to keep your mind fresh.
- 8) How about the Lodges start a trivia contest within their Lodge or even with the state, it will give some a release from the stress we are going thru. A little positivity will go a long way in todays climate.
- 9) Share your other ideas with us and we will gladly get them out to everyone.

MOST IMPORTANTLY, BE SAFE, STAY HEALTHY AND DON'T BE AFRAID TO ASK FOR HELP

Fraternally,

Bruce Hayden

Bruce Hayden
President – Georgia Elks Association