

From: Elks National Veterans Service Commission vets@elks.org
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To: billb2@me.com

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How can an average citizen support local veterans? Find out in this email!

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The Elks' Turn to Serve

Elks National Veterans Service Commission May Newsletter



ENVSC in Houston

Will you be attending the 2016 Elks National Convention in Houston? Stop by the ENVSC booth!

- Visit with program volunteers and pick up Veterans Leather and Playing Cards order forms.
- Learn about our Veterans Volunteers of the Year, the 2015-16 Freedom Grant Lodges and Leather Program Winners.
- Bid on a painting commemorating the Vietnam War. Funds raised go to ENVSC programs.
- Add your name to our veterans volunteer wall, and tell us why you give your time to serve veterans.
- Meet Sancy Childers, the Elks Scholar Fellow who will be heading up the Welcome home program for the ENVSC for the next two years.



And don't forget to attend our seminar on how your Lodge can help homeless veterans through ENVSC programs! The **Ending Veteran Homelessness: How the Elks Can Help** seminar will take place on Monday, July 4, 2016, 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM George R. Brown Convention Center in Room 361B.



A Lifetime of Dedication

Today, many in the Elks know Stewart Israel as an ENVSC Veterans Programs Chair, assisting with the VAVS and Adopt-a-Veteran programs at the national level. He's also a VAVS Representative, District Chair and past State Veterans Chair.

Still, those titles only scratch the surface of his service. [Read more](#) about Israel's 40 years of experience serving veterans, including 2,700 hours of service at the VA, for which he was recently honored.

"We all profess our patriotism," Israel says. "Let's put our actions into effect."



Rehab, Recover and Thrive

Speaking of outstanding volunteers, Leather Program Chair Dennis McAleese and Vice-Chair Chuck Mudge will both be attending Elks-sponsored VA Adaptive Sports events this summer to distribute leather gloves to veterans and spread the word about Elks programs.

The [National Golden Age Games](#) are an annual event designed to help older veterans stay active and embrace a healthy lifestyle. The [National Veterans Wheelchair Games](#) are a rehabilitation and wheelchair sports program that empowers veterans with disabilities to lead active lives.

Stay Informed

The [Warrior Summit Coalition](#) was founded to increase veterans' awareness of veteran benefits while increasing veteran enrollment in VA services through peer mentoring, workshops, and congressional mandated Welcome Home Celebrations.

The organization's Welcome Home Celebrations take place around the country. They also partner with the VA and other organizations on many national events. [Learn more about the organization on their website](#), and [use their benefits webpage](#) as a resource for veterans in your community.

Follow us on social media!

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***NEWSFLASH:* [Check out this BuzzFeed article about Ballard Elks Lodge and "How your grandfather's club became cool again."](#)**

Questions? Contact us at 773-755-4736 or Vets@elks.org.

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