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| ElksUSAred&blue628.bmp  | *Maine Elks Association*John Desjardins28 Locke StSaco, ME 04072 “Maine Elks Stronger Together.” |

Maine Elks Association

Fall Meting

Skowhegan-Madison Lodge #2531

January 19, 2020

**Call to Order State President** John Desjardins called the Winter Meeting of the Maine Elks Association to order 10:00 a.m.

**Invocation**–State Chaplain David Guay gave the Invocation

**Pledge of Allegiance** – Americanism Chairperson – David Hammond

**Roll Call of Officers**, Secretary Dwayne Guy: Absentees noted: Administrative Assistant Claris Ranger, GL Sponsor PGER Michael Zellen, Past Grand Loyal Knight James Ferland, Past GL Administrative Assistant Roger Sicard, Past Grand Tiler Robert Drisko and Trustees Portland #188 Kristie Durgin, Bangor 244 Michael Whitman, Bath 934 David Merrill, Rockland 1008 Pamela Heal, Sanford 1470 J Andrew Bolz, Millinocket 1521 Ronald Darling, Biddeford-Saco 1597 Roger Sicard, Brunswick 2043 Tammy St Jean, Ellsworth 2743 Eric Hoard and York 2788 Dennis Venuto.

**State President** John Desjardins asked that all past and present State Presidents, District Deputies, Grand Lodge Committee Chairs and Grand Lodge Officers stand and be recognized, 14 were present.

**Reading of the minutes of the previous meeting:** Dwayne Guy moved the minutes be accepted as emailed and printed, seconded by Corey Dewitt and approved.

**Sickness and Distress**: State Secretary Dwayne Guy read the names of recently departed members: **Bangor #244**: Marshall M Strout, LM, Kerry D Dalton, L Scott Stevenson, Sharon L Desmond, Thomas A Lawson, Jr., **Waterville #905**: Lucien A Loubier, LM, Charles F Landry, LM, Malcolm S Charles, Philip P Simonds, LM, Norman R Pelletier, Ronald Kershner, Harlan H Parsons, Joanna Veilleux, **Bath #934**: David F Snow, LM, Milton N Mac Donald, LM, Laura Murray, **Augusta #964**: Walter D Nixon, LM, Rebecca Toman, **Rockland #1008:** Harry P Earl, LM, **Old Town #1287**: Richard M Burr, LM, Israel E Guthrie, LM, **Gardiner #1293:** Rodney L Woodrum, PDDGER, LM, PER, **Sanford #1470:** Eric Howes, Alan St Laurent, Phyllis Elliott, Former 1st Lady MEA, **Millinocket #1521**: John M Pierce, LM, Helen Blanchette, **Presque Isle #1954**: William J Hay, Rebecca Boucher, **Brunswick #2043**: Joan L Gerrish, **Farmington #2430**: Lee E Pease, LM, Harold O Small, Sr., PDDGER, CM, LM, PER, Danny Maillet, LM, **Skowhegan-Madison #2531**: Douglas R Reid, LM, Adrian Brochu, **Ellsworth #2743:** Wilbur N Ranney, LM, PER, Jack Wentworth, Donald Clark, Ralph Edgcomb, William Lyons, **Wells #2788**: Dellie Kitchen and Kenneth Branco. Alan Harding of Presque Isle #1954 reported PSP Jim Ferland’s wife, Verna, is in Hospice Care.

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| Anthony D. GausePresident-Elect | Scott Monroe1st Vice-President | Albert Ingraham2nd Vice-President | Dwayne R. GuySecretary | Felecia A. GaulinTreasurer |

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| David GuayChaplain | Gail HowesTiler | **Maine Elks Association November 18, 1928** | Floyd HowesSergeant-At-Arms | Claris RangerAdministrative Assistant |

**Reports of Officers:**

**State President John Desjardins:** Reported on his continuing journey after his liver transplant last summer, positive progress continues. Thanked all for their patience, understanding and cooperation.

Visit at Farmington Elks on October 26th, visited and participated in their Haunted House and was presented the embroided Elk President’s jacket.

November 1st-3rd President-Elect Anthony and Linda represented Maine at the Regional Soccer Shoot in Rhode Island. Our Maine Elk’s kids did pretty well.

November 4th-6th hosted GER Duitsman and his wife in Maine, banquet on November 5th at Biddeford-Saco Lodge, visited MCCP where we performed check presentation of last year’s donation.

November 17th there was a Learning Seminar in Brunswick and Financial Reporting System by Sue Piper followed by question and answer period. President John thanked all presenters and all in attendance.

January 4th, MCCP fundraiser hockey game, followed by District Hoop Shoots and next weekend, January 26th (John’s birthday) State Hoop Shoot in Bath also Area 1 Ritual Interstate Relations in Auburn, MA.

Coming up, February 29th, State Budget Meeting at 10:00 in Biddeford Saco and the Spring Meeting follows on Sunday, March 1st, MEA Trustees at 9:00 and State at 10:00.

**President-Elect** Anthony Gause: Mentioned he missed October’s Meeting in Portland due to the storm that had occurred, he wasn’t on the poles, he and heights don’t agree. MEA Meetings and relevant visitations for 2020-2021 are as follows: August 8th & 9th at Millinocket, October 24th & 25th in Sanford, Rockland hosts the Winter meeting on January 9th & 10th, then the Spring Homecoming will be in Augusta on March 6th & 7th.

Please consider these dates when scheduling other events or functions.

 **Drug Awareness** Anthony Gause: Coloring Contest is over, should now be in District Chairs for judging.

We have a winner for the Enrique Camarena Winner, Mike Coty will inform the Police Chief of Millinocket.

**First Vice-President** Scott Monroe: Speaking on behalf of Claris Ranger regarding the Pennies for Pearl on the Pearl Harbor Restoration Project, PGER Luhr asking Elks to donate $783,000, $1 for each Elk member, so far $244,000 has been raised with Maine collecting $3,600, one-third of the way towards Maine’s $10,000 goal. Deadline is June 1st, so Claris is suggesting lodges submit donations at MEA Convention in Lewiston.

**Second Vice-President** Albert Ingraham: Thanks to all for calendars, all stubs must submitted by end of the month will be available to be drawn and win. Payout is $13,175, this morning’s receipts brings us to over $13,900, so every calendar sold from now on is our profit. Please continue to sell for the Maine Elks Association, still have some available.

 **Elks National Foundation Committee** Albert Ingraham: Maine has met the GER’s goal of $4.75, we’re at $4.95 per member, ranking 34th with $52,730.91 raised thus far. Don’t sandbag, get money in before the March 15th mailing deadline.

**State Secretary** Dwayne Guy: Please complete the Activity Reports on your table and turn them into me, will review these reports and update the Attendance Book which I did not bring today.

**State Treasurer** Felecia Gaulin: Handed out January 1st balance Sheet and December 31st P&L, more work needs to be done to include all accounts, i.e. Past State President asset account, PER accounts, etc. Will work with David Guay to establish a reserve asset account for PER. Felecia still does not have access to the MEAGER account.

**Administrative Assistant** Claris Ranger absent**:** Andy Constantine reported for Claris, Wants to thank everyone for being so understanding of President John’s situation. The lodges that need to reschedule, don’t give up. Please book another date for John and Jessica.

**Elks Education Seminar Committee:** Andy Constantine continued to report from Claris. The seminar that was held on November 17th in Brunswick was very well attended. There were 90 people present representing 16 lodges. Thank you, Sue for your presentation.

Dates to set aside for next year:

April 19th – District Deputy Clinics for all 3 districts, mandatory attendance of Exalted Rulers, Leading Knights, Secretaries and Chairman of the Trustees, unless written excuse by District Deputy for absence is given.

MEA State Convention – May 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

October 4th – State Soccer Shoot.

October 17th and November 15th - Learning Seminars.

February 28, 2021 – State Ritual Contest.

It is important to try and not have conflicting events at your lodge. Thank you for working with us.

**State Tiler** Gail Howes: No report.

**State Chaplain** David Guay: No report.

**Sergeant-At-Arms** Floyd Howes: Will be going around selling the 50/50.

**State Trustee Chairman** Tom Chase:No report.

**State Sponsor** PGER Michael Zellen: Shared by SGER Andy Constantine: Greetings to All from GER Duitsman and thanks for all Maine Elks do for Elkdom. Just over 2 months remaining in the Lodge year, please continue your hard work. Congratulated all the Exalted Rulers and their Officers for continuing support of GL Programs and ENF. Lodges are doing great adding members, currently net gain of 376, with 1027 in arrears. In the past Maine members have supported the endorsed candidate for GER by purchasing a pin or pendant for $100 or $150 for the pair. Anyone purchasing a pin will be invited to a cocktail party during the GL Convention. Expressed thanks for the courtesies and friendship to Donna and him throughout the years, it will be always appreciated.

**GL Special Deputy** Andy Constantine: Will announce the District Deputy Designates at the March meeting. Special Reps are: Coastal Roger Sicard; Central Jim Ferland and Northern is Andy Constantine. Special Reps to Lodges on probation or defunct will remain the same.

GL convention in Baltimore, July 5-8, New England Tour at Lord Baltimore for $720 for 1 or 2 persons, arriving 7/4 and leaving 7/9. Lodges must elect an Alternate to GL Convention and that must be a PER to be able to attend and vote.

Financial Reporting System, all Lodges need to change by April 1st this year.

Bryan Klatt sent notice to all Lodge Secretaries on required material for Hearings, please share with Governing Body and Presiding Justice.

**Special Rep James Ferland,** PGELK, PGLCC: absent no report.

**Special Rep Roger Sicard,** PGLIG, PAAGER: No report.

**Special Rep Robert Drisko,** absent no report.

**GL Activities Committee Member Wayne Cotterly:** The Community Project contest deadline will be May 1, 2020. If your Lodge has done work on a Community Project, then now is a great time to start working on the Community Project Contest form. This one-page form is available on the Activities Committee page of Elks.org. It would be great to see more Maine Lodges get recognition for the work they do in their communities.

If your Lodge has yet to work on a Community Project, then there is still time to put something together before the end of the year. Simply determine what is needed in your community. Talk to your local government and organizations to see what might be needed or even partner with them. Funding for many of the community projects can be done using ENF money through the Community Investment Grant Program. This is money that can be used to not only help your community, but you can use it to help yourselves as doing a community project will provide you with public relations opportunities that allow you to interact with the public, and let them know who we are and what we do. If done right, you can perhaps encourage others to join your Lodge to do more of this work in the future.

Another reminder is that Youth Week will be the first week in May. While we are often focused on the MEA State Convention at that time, there are things you can do now to prepare your Lodge to do something to recognize the youth in your community and to show our support. Ideas include:

* Having the mayor of your town, the Town Council, or Board of Selectmen issue a Youth Week Proclamation. A template for the proclamation is available on the Activities Committee page of Elks.org. If you get one signed, make sure to distribute it to the media so that everyone knows that the Elks and your community support our youth.
* A celebration of all the Youth Winners of the various youth programs is also a great project for Youth Week. Hold a recognition dinner at your Lodge during the week to recognize your Hoop & Soccer Shoot winners, Scholarship Recipients, Drug Awareness Contest winners, Antlers (perhaps an Antler of the Year), Eagle Scouts, Girl Scout Gold & Silver recipients, Participants in the Elk youth sports programs such as a Youth Golfing program, Bowling program, Tennis program, etc. The Jr ROTC program award could be presented at that event as well. Also, include your Americanism Essay winners and any Student/Teenager of the month & year recipients as well. With all of the parents of the award recipients attending this event, it will show them all of the programs that we have to offer, and perhaps encourage them to have their children participate in the future. In addition, it is a great time to talk to them about all of the other things that the Elks do, including our support of our communities, charities, and our veterans. By doing so, you may pique their interest in perhaps joining the Lodge. Don’t let the opportunity go to waste. Also, if you do hold an event like this, make sure to get the information and photos to your local newspapers.

So, while we still have a few months to go in the Lodge year, now would be a great time to start working on plans for Youth Week and your Community Projects so that your Lodge can show the community that Elks Care—Elks Share.

**Accident Prevention/Insurance Risk Program** Darryl Nadeau expanded on his personal injuries, surgery and recovering to emphasize dangers inherent with falling on ice or slippery surface. Clean up after storms, clear emergency pathways and perform monthly inspections, follow up on areas of concern.

**Activities Chairman** Debi Briggs: Reported by President John, Debi will be emailing information to all the Lodges.

**Americanism Committee** David Hammond says Americanism Essay Contest entries for contest to District Chairs by end of this month, other flyers on the table in the hallway.

**Antlers Program:** Michael Michaud reported still only 2 Lodges participating in the Antlers Program. Many kids are eager to become Elks and continue helping when they turn 21.

**Auditing Committee:** Scott Gray says Area 1 Auditing and Accounting member William Chinn will conduct a special meeting, if the Lodges so desire, consensus was yes. Tentatively for late February or early March.

**Business Practices Chairman** David Anderson**:** Reminded about issue of overpouring and how many problems can result for Lodges, bartenders, members and families. TIPS = **T**raining for **I**ntervention **P**rocedure**S**.

Question asked how Lodges know when a person barhops and appears at your lodge with no prior knowledge of drinks consumed. Answered that this is a challenge, but bartenders should be trained to evaluate sobriety, TIPS will help address this situation.

**Government Relations Committee** David Anderson no report.

 **Fraternal Committee** David Anderson January 30th is deadline for Bulletin Contest. Other contest and recognition deadlines are quickly approaching as well.

 Veterans Committee is continuing to work with and help veterans throughout Maine.

**Convention** Kathleen Cotterly: Minor issue discovered on student forms not correct, but corrections will be mailed to lodges. April 1st deadline on registration and hotels, Convention is May 1st – May 3rd. Hotel rooms are $89 get confirmation number, if you don’t want to be near a Hospitality Room, let the hotel know. Kathleen needs name of Lodge and person running the Hospitality Room. Lodges are responsible for student winner’s family, not the State’s responsibility. Completed registrations should be sent to Tamy Colfer of Augusta by April 1, 2020 while booklet ads go to Carlette Eaton of Waterville at editor@waterville905.com by March 15th.

Still seeking proposals for 2022 convention hosts or the State will have to do it again.

**Endowment Fund** Melinda Voisine: Craft Brew planned for early February is postponed, February 22nd’s Cupcake and Beer at Portland Elks is still a go. In discussion with the Mariners for a couple of fundraisers.

**Motorcycle Riders** Mindy Voisine**:** Owie Box Ride is scheduled forJuly 11th.

**Hoop Shoot Committee** George Jones (absent) SGER Andy reporting State Hoops at Bath Middle School next Sunday, January 26th, (President Johns B-Day) registration is at 9:00, hooping begins after registration’s complete. Back to Lodge for awards presentation.

**Legal Justice** Alan Harding no report.

**District Deputy Coastal** Corey Dewitt inspections completed, some personality issues ongoing, watch overserving avoid lawsuits or claims. Get former members back in, work on lapsed members, all must be dropped by March 31st. DD Clinic in Portland on April 19th.

**District Deputy Northern** Shawn Stacey absent: Scott Monroe reports Shawn’s visits are complete, April 19th clinic at Millinocket. Continue working on the FRS.

**District Deputy Central** Carlette Eaton reported her Clinic on April 19th at Augusta. Still working on the conversion to the FRS.

**Major Project Committee MCCP** Mike Desjardins absent: Northern District Mike Hanigan, event planned for January postponed due to scheduling conflict.

**Membership Committee** Kristie Durgin:

**Memorial Service** Sandi Anderson, In preparation for the Convention’s Service on Sunday, May 3rd. She will be sending information to Lodge Secretaries seeking names and information. Send responses to her home email. Reminder that attire is white jacket and tuxedo shirt, black slacks/pants, black bowtie, black shoes and black socks, along with GOLD JEWELS.

**New Lodge Committee** Sandi Anderson, (First report ever from her) Corey Dewitt of Sanford is suggestion there might be enough interest in the Oxford area to investigate forming a new lodge. Sandi will give him information to share. Sandi expressed hope that Lodges currently struggling will be supported by everyone.

**National Veterans Service Commission** David Hassen: The Program to Prevent and End Homeless Veterans

1. Summary and where we are now Personnel, funding and Shelter shortage:
2. Short coming of program is response time impact on volunteers

Homeless Statistics:

 Housed last 90 days: 61 New Identified Homeless: 72

 Housed 2019 total: 253 New identified Homeless: 331

 Current homeless: 78

Furniture Status:

 Storage: Container purchased by Elks moved to Augusta Lodge.

 Two in place at Augusta –one 75% full and the other one 90 % full.

 Veterans Inc. in Lewiston provided space to store our furniture. Users may pick up at that location

 A big plus for state distribution due to location.

Bags of Surplus items left over from Stand Down

Some serviceable items most of it is used. Back packs most are in good condition. May be given to anyone doesn’t need to be a veteran. We needed room in the storage containers, put items in bags. Do as you want with it. If you do not want your bag leave it, I’ll take it to Veterans Inc. Motel renovations allows for supply to non-veteran organizations. Fresh Start in Augusta: Furniture Friends Westbrook Fisher House will have open house in spring. Guitar class performed for first annual open house. Excess grant available for state veterans’ chairs. Due Feb. Veteran Volunteer of the Year nominations due me 31 Jan. VA Volunteer Services need volunteers and drivers. Volunteers for Fisher House, process sign up at VAVS. Volunteers to distribute Welcome Home Kits. Reimbursable Shopping trips may be done when welcome home kits run out.

**Nominating Committee** Glenn McCallum, absent: SGER Andy reported the Nominating Committee will meet Friday afternoon on May 1st. Anyone running for office needs to let Glenn know. Each Lodge should designate somebody to that meeting as next year’s endorsed nominees will be chosen to represent all Maine Elks.

**Public Relations Committee** Leon “Mac” McCreary absent. President John read brief report - As we enter the last quarter of year Mac is looking at websites and profiles for the Online Presentation Award. Routine mailings are sent to secretaries, ERs, Committee Chairs as listed in the Directory.

**Ritual Committee** Frank Ricker: Absent, Dwayne Guy read Frank’s report.

 On October 27th GL Ritual Committeeman Ken Rice held a judge’s clinic at the Sanford Lodge #1470. Judges from Maine and New Hampshire were in attendance.  The Sanford Officers performed for the Live judging test.  In all 11 judges were recertified in floor, Word and Computer judging.

 This year’s state contest will be held on February 23rdat the Sanford Lodge #1470. Any teams wishing to compete please contact me as soon as possible.

 The Eleven O’clock Toast contest will be held at the Bangor Lodge #244 on Sunday, March 8, 2020 at 10 am. This is open to all Lodge Exalted Rulers and Past Exalted Rulers.  The winner of the contest will represent Maine at the National Contest in Baltimore at the Grand Lodge Convention. Details and instructions have been sent to each lodge and will be posted on the MEA website.

 Upcoming events include Area I Inter-lodge relations committee meeting January 26h in Auburn, MA.

 The Area I lodge champion contest will be held in April date to be announced and Area 1 PER contest in June.Any PER’s interested in competing at the June contest please let me know.  No experience is necessary we will train.

  The purpose of the Ritualistic committee is to assist lodges in making impressive presentations to new members and I will be glad to assist any lodge asking for help please feel free to call on me. Anyone wanting more information on ritual, competing in the contest or just being part of our ritual please contact me.

**Scholarship Chair** Lina Michaud MVS judging at state level is happening in February, 109 applicants. Some lodges did not have any applications, each lodge can submit applications for 3 females and 3 males. Would really like to see Maine represented at the national level. Please contact Lina if any questions. Encourage students to apply for all the different scholarships, Legacy deadline is January 31st, children and grandchildren of Elks. Emergency Education Grants, awards of up to $5,000, renewable for 4 years, children of deceased or totally disabled Elks. More information on all scholarships is at: <https://www.elks.org/scholars/default.cfm?m=enf>

**Soccer Shoot Committee** Lisa Brunelle, absent, no report.

**Have I missed anyone?**

**Unfinished Business:** none**.**

**New Business:** MEA Trustee Chair Tom Chase moved that monies refunded from New England Tour be allocated to the Grand Lodge Hospitality Room account to be used if annual donations is insufficient to cover costs of future hospitality rooms at National Convention, motion was seconded and approved.

**Good of the Association**: “Shu” Michaud, Augusta #964, distributed flyer from Maine Governor Janet Mills inspiring each lodge to host a “Bicentennial Saturday Night Supper” on March 14th in recognition and honor of Maine’s 200th Anniversary of Statehood, which actually falls on March 15th.

Alan Harding led the assembly in a rendition of Happy Birthday to SGER Andy Constantine, followed by a impromptu collection to be donated to MCCP.

Floyd Howes announced 50/50, $130 to MEA, $129 to winner, and the winner is #175062 = David Guay.

Duane “Kip” Clark asked for information on the proper hand salute to the US Flag, it was mentioned that thumbed should be tucked. One explanation offered was the tucked thumb enabled holding a hat over the heart. For Elks, it is in the Ritual Manual as part of the ritual.

Kip #2 Question: Can we get better, more thorough dispersing of information when a State Meeting or other event is cancelled or postponed? Perhaps published on the MEA website?

Kip #3, Farmington’s 50th Anniversary on March 7th. Information available on maineelks.org.

David Hammond mentioned Waterville Lodge has a couple events going on, February gun raffle, Bruins Cornhole Boards raffling off February 14th and March 8th Chili – Chowder Challenge,

Arthur Anderson’s (Rockland) phone entertained us for a few brief moments of money, huh, time.

**Receipts listed below.**

The next state meeting will be at Biddeford-Saco Elks #1597 on March 1, 2020 at 10:00, Trustees at 9:00.

MEA Budget meeting on Saturday, February 29th at 10:00. All State Trustees should be there.

There being no further business to come before the Association, President John Desjardins proceeded to close the meeting.

State Chaplain David Guay gave the benediction followed by one chorus of God Bless America.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45.

Respectfully,

Dwayne R. Guy

Dwayne R. Guy, PDDGER, PSP

MEA Secretary

**Receipts:**

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| Amount | Received From | GL Name |
| 79.00 | Waterville Elks #905 | Endowment Fund |
| 129.71 | Wingnut Hospitality | GER Visit REFUND |
| 5,573.00 | New England Elks Tour | GL Hospitality Room |
| 39.00 | Wells Elks #2738 | MCCP |
| 481.00 | Millinocket Elks #1521 | MCCP |
| 2,590.00 | Sebasticook Valley Elks #2713 | MCCP |
| 332.00 | Houlton Elks # 835 | MCCP |
| 795.00 | Portland Elks #188 | MCCP |
| 2,088.00 | Waterville Elks #905 | MCCP |
| 25.00 | Arthur Anderson (#1008) | MCCP |
| 130.00 | MEA 50/50 | MCCP |
| 124.00 | MEA Andy C’s Birthday | MCCP |
| 280.00 | Al Ingraham | MEA Calendar 2020 |
| 60.00 | Al Ingraham | MEA Calendar 2020 |
| 120.00 | Sanford Elks #1470 | MEA Calendar 2020 |
| 640.00 | Al Ingraham | MEA Calendar 2020 |
| 280.00 | Sebasticook Valley Elks #2713 | MEA Calendar 2020 |
| 60.00 | York Elks #2788 | MEA Calendar 2020 |
| 140.00 | Brunswick Elks #2043 | MEA Calendar 2020 |
| 20.00 | Susan K Moore | MEA Calendar 2020 |
| 740.00 | Bath Elks # 934 | MEA Calendar 2020 |
| 40.00 | Katherine Hopkins | MEA Calendar 2020 |
| 460.00 | Bangor Elks #244 | MEA Calendar 2020 |
| 240.00 | Wells Elks #2738 | MEA Calendar 2020 |
| 40.00 | Felecia Gaulin | MEA Calendar 2020 |
| 720.00 | Houlton Elks # 835 | MEA Calendar 2020 |
| 1,560.00 | Waterville Elks #905 | MEA Calendar 2020 |
| 1,460.00 | Millinocket Elks #1521 | MEA Calendar 2020 |
| 800.00 | Portland Elks #188 | MEA Calendar 2020 |
| 140.00 | Rockland Elks #1008 | MEA Calendar 2020 |
| 120.00 | Biddeford-Saco Elks #1597 | MEA Calendar 2020 |
| 250.00 | Sebasticook Valley Elks #2713 | Pearl Harbor Restoration |
| 60.00 | Bethany Craig | Soccer Shoot |
| 30.00 | Ronald Darling | Unknown |
| 78.15 | Andrew Constantine |   |
| **MCCP** | **TOTALS** | **MEA Calendars 2020** |
| **6,604.00** |  | **7,920.00** |