Maine Elks Association

Fall Meeting

Millinocket Elks # 1521

August 5, 2018

**Call to Order State President** Sue Piper called the Meeting of the Maine Elks Association to order at 10:00 a.m.

**Invocation** – State Chaplain Eric Butters gave the Invocation.

**Pledge of Allegiance** – All present.

**Roll Call of Officers**, **Secretary Dwayne Guy**: Absences noted Roger Sicard, Jim Ferland, Ned Hodgins, Sandra Welch, David Merrill, Paul Roy, Shelly Goodwin and Donald Piper.

**State President** asked that all past and present State Presidents, District Deputies, Grand Lodge Committee Chairs and Grand Lodge Officers stand and be recognized, twenty-two were present.

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

**Sickness and Distress:** Portland #188 Carl Guimond, LM; Robert Raftice, Sr.; Eleanor Leary; Wayne Campbell, LM; Bangor #244 Joseph Tremble, LM; Michael McNamara, LM; Joyce Crawford; Arnold Byers, LM; Houlton # 835 Aliston Jewell, LM; Anson Taber, LM; Morris Cote, LM; Waterville # 905 Julian Veilleux, LM; Bath # 934 Albert Paine; Augusta # 964 Frederick Weston Jr, HLM; Rockland #1008 John Ludwig, LM; Sanford # 1470 Annmarie Day; Millinocket # 1521 Arthur Comstock, LM; Clifton Harris, LM; Michael Pulkkinen; Biddeford-Saco # 1597 Edward Caron Jr, LM; Rocco Deluca Sr; Ronald Blow, LM; Brunswick # 2043 Dann Pulsifer, LM; Farmington # 2430 Arthur "Buster" Deroche, LM; Ellsworth # 2743 Vicki Smith. Moment of silence was observed. Remember; Sickness and Distress is always in order.

**Reports of Officers:**

**State President** Sue Piper, PDDGER, PER: First visit as State President was to Waterville Elks #964 for a MCCP Fundraiser which raised $3,000. On June 14th observed Flag Day at Togus with other MEA Officers and observed Rockland Elks donating $500 to MEA Veteran’s Chair David Hassen toward the storage containers. We watched Sanford perform during the Ritual Contest, I couldn’t ring the bell, it’s now automatic. At Grand Lodge I was proud to carry the Maine Flag to the stage. Entertainment after the Opening Ceremony was Gary Sinise and the Lt. Dan Band. Monday was opening ceremony with resolutions presented, nominations held and election of Michael Luhr as GER. Accepted an award for Maine which was 11th in the country in membership gain.

**President-Elect** John Desjardins: Hospitality sold all 500 tickets, with many being sold at the Booth, many thanks to all helped, overall income was $3,883 against expenses of $4,090 for a net loss of $207.

 **Scholarship Chair** John Desjardins: Changes in deadlines this year, secretaries make sure contact information for Lodge’s Scholarship Chairperson is correct in CLMS2 as Grand Lodge gets their information from there. Application process opens August 15th, October 1st Lodge judges can access the site, November 15th is application deadline, with Lodge Judging December 4th - 20th, District Judging January 3 – 14, finishing with State judging from February 7th through the 25th. Anyone with questions should contact John or District Chairs.

**First Vice-President Anthony Gause:** No report.

 **Drug Awareness** Anthony Gause: Anthony’s work phone has changed, it is now 629-2137. Still have some 2018 MEA Calendars for sale at $10.00, see me after the meeting. Two Drug Awareness Seminars have been scheduled, September 9 in Augusta from 9:00 to noon, where they’ll also be having a lobster feed. The second seminar will be September 16th in Bangor also from 9:00 to noon. Drugs Take Back Day is October 27th. New motto is “Drugs Take Away?” Central District Drug Awareness person is Jessica Voisine of Skowhegan-Madison Lodge.

**Second Vice-President Scott Monroe:** The Calendar Raffle has begun, they are blue this year. Each State Trustee has a packet, please pick up your lodge’s calendars and start selling now.

**State Secretary** **Dwayne Guy:** Good morning, we’re doing better this year compared to last. The directories are printed and are here today. They are in stacks of 10, and each Lodge gets one stack, that’s 210, books, each person at the head table gets 1 book, another 15 books gone, each MEA chairman gets one and only one, regardless of how many committees you chair, about another 23 books and each District Deputy gets one, if they don’t already qualify for one. So that’s about 250 and we ordered 300 because last year we did 400 and had a lot left over. Again, I must express my gratitude to Carlette Eaton of Waterville for the hugh amount of work she performed on this endeavor. During the meeting Carlette will be at table handing out, not passing out, the directories to each lodge that comes to her and asks for a stack. You’ll either write your name beside your lodge or Carlette will write your name down. Kristie Durgin will be at another table handing out directories to chair persons. And directories will be handed out to the head table, checking your name off. While we’re talking about the directories, I want to emphasize the great need for YOU to keep your secretary informed of changes to your contact information. It is not enough to tell me, so I can correct the directory, you also need to tell your lodge secretary. Because next year, when it’s time to do the directories again, I will run the report from the Grand Lodge site which they get from your lodge’s site, which comes from you. Thank you and your assistance is greatly appreciated.

**State Treasurer** **Felecia Gaulin:** Still getting acquainted with the process, Balance Sheet and Budget are on the table.

**Administrative Assistant** **Claris Ranger:** Good morning, glad to be here. Sue is getting her visits scheduled. Two Elk Learning Seminars are scheduled early next year, the first is Saturday, February 2nd in Augusta and the 2nd Seminar follows on Sunday, February 3rd in Bangor.

**State Tiler** **Eric Hoard**: Selling 50/50 tickets for ENF, have collected over $300 so far.

**State Chaplain** **Eric Butters:** No Report.

**Sergeant at Arms** **Shawn Stacey:** Will be coming around with the 50/50 tickets.

**State Trustee Chairman** **Tom Chase:** Seven MEA Trustees are absent today, we need to make greater effort to attend and be ready to do business.

**GL Special Deputy** **Andy Constantine:** Deferred comments until Good of the Order when he will talk about Charitable Records for State Meetings and visits.

**State Sponsor Michael Zellen, PGER:** Greetings, GER MICHAEL Luhr from Alaska whose motto is “Working Together to Make a Difference”. PGER Mike asked Lodge Secretaries to include him in emailing your Lodge’s newsletter. Expressed congratulations to current DDs and he emphasized Elkdom is more than a “social club”. Last year Maine donated over $8.00 per member to ENF! Per Capita remains $4.75 this year. Thanked us for the invitation to be here and to Millinocket Lodge for their hospitality.

**District Deputy Coastal** **Shelly Goodwin, DDGER:** Bruce Brunelle spoke for Shelly, there’s a Coastal DD Clinic on September 23rd, at 10:00 at Sanford. The letters were mailed August 1st. Working on scheduling Lodge visitations/inspections.

**District Deputy Northern Alan Harding, DDGER:** DD Clinic for Maine North at 10:00, in Millinocket August 19th.

**District Deputy Central David Anderson, DDGER**: Central DD Clinic will be in Waterville September 9th from 9:00 to noon.

 **Activities Chairman David Anderson, DDGER:**  Bulletin Contest information will be coming shortly, submit 3 bulletins that were published between April and December 2018. Memorial Service and Community Image Programs working with Wayne Cotterly and you’ll be receiving more information. Best Business Practices, make sure you’re completing the 990 and 990T.

**Business Practices Chairman David Anderson**, **DDGER:** Make sure you file the 990 and 990T tax reports. Chubb Insurance be aware what’s in the Policy. One other insurance your Lodge might want to look at is Volunteer Workman’s Comp Insurance, our volunteers are aging and we need to make sure they’re taken care.

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**Special Rep James Ferland:** No report.

**Special Rep Roger Sicard:** No report.

 **Credentials Committee Roger Sicard**: No report

**Special Rep Robert Drisko,** PGLI, PGLCM:

**Government Relations Committee** Robert Drisko, GL Tiler: There are packets on the back table which includes important information on reporting charitable works, which secretaries should enter into the system monthly. Lodges need to include all charitable activity to ward off attempts to remove our status as a charitable non-profit organization. When a committee holds meeting at the Lodge for charitable events, time and mileage for the participant should also be recorded, GL has authorized an average of 15 miles per participant if true mileage is unknown. SDGER Andy Constantine emphasized that just for today’s meeting alone, your travel to here, the time spent, and time for the function last night are reportable values.

**GL Activities Committee Member Wayne Cotterly:** This GL Committee’s responsibilities include Antlers, Dictionary Project, Junior Golf, Elks Soccer Shoot, Elks in Scouting, Teen-ager and Student of the Month and Year, Elks National Youth Week, Community Project Contest, Medals of Valor and Service and Junior ROTC. Each committee member is responsible for all these programs in their area, additionally I am responsible for the Soccer Shoot Program nationally. This program has been in decline since 2010, when we had 151,000 participants, last year there were about 40,000. This loss is partly attributed to lack of reporting by Lodges and State Associations in the Charitable Records. Purpose of these programs is to get the ELKS into the communities. A lot of information is available on elks.org 🡪 Grand Lodge Activities 🡪download forms and manuals. Each Lodge should have its own major project in the communities that reflect its image in the communities. Talk to your community leaders, find a need that your Lodge can help fill, use CIP Grants to fund those projects.

Newest GL Program is Junior ROTC, many high schools have ROTC, great way to recognize cadets and doesn’t cost a lot. Information is available on elks.org. Source of volunteers in some of your programs, i.e. Flag Day, Patriot Day, etc.

**Accident Prevention/Insurance Risk Program** Darryl Nadeau No report.

**Americanism Committee** Shelly Goodwin: Bruce Brunelle spoke for Shelley, the theme this year for the Americanism Essay Contest is “What makes you proud of America?”. Please get into the schools, entries are due to local Lodges December 15th, to District Judges by January 31st and to State Judges by February 28th.

**Antlers Program:** Mike “Shu” Michaud we have several Lodges who have contacted us regarding the Antler’s Program, we have a packet available with information to start. Besides Augusta Elks, Millinocket, Ellsworth and Waterville have expressed interest in starting the program.

**Auditing Committee** Scott Gray plan to schedule a meeting in late August or September with the MEA secretary and treasurer.

**Convention** Kathleen Cotterly reported the 2018 MEA Convention is behind us, there were 210 Elks Registered and 130 guests. The 2019 Convention will be at the Lewiston Ramada Inn from May 3rd through the 5th, 2020 will be May 1st through May 3rd, open to site, committee recommending Lewiston Ramada again. Proposals for MEA Convention 2021 are due by February 28, 2019, dates are April 30th to May 2nd.

**Credentials Committee** Roger Sicard, PGLIG, PDDGER, PSP no report.

**Elks Education Seminar Committee** Roger Sicard & Claris Ranger reported the Elks Seminars are scheduled for February 2nd in Augusta and February 3rd in Bangor. Question was asked why the seminars are held before Lodge elections when members might be more motivated to attend and pay attention? Claris answered that the seminars are open to everyone, not just the officers. There’s always an opportunity to learn something you didn’t know.

**Elks National Foundation Committee** Albert Ingraham reported some Lodges are already over $4.00 of the $4.75 per member goal, Wells, Waterville and Millinocket. Four Lodges have not donated anything yet, Skowhegan-Madison, Rumford, Old Town and Gardiner. Al awarded Scott Monroe ENF District Chair for meeting the GER’s goal and District Leadership program.

**Endowment Fund** Darelyn Kearns has Hoopah pins for sale at $5.00 each with $1.00 going to the MCCP and the rest to the Endowment Fund.

**Hoop Shoot Committee** George Jones was absent but in his place Shawn Stacey said the District Hoop Shoots will be on January 6, 2019, at Bangor, Skowhegan and Bath; followed by the State at Bangor High School on January 27th.

**Legal Justice** Alan Harding no report.

**Major Project Committee** Michael Desjardins, PER**:** MCCP: Sanford Golf Tournament on September 7th and 8th; MCCP Walk on September 15th in Portland, Rockland, Waterville and Rumford. Introduced Matt Parks who has worked at MCCP for 6 years, is a 2-year member of Sanford Elks and he stated the Elks are the largest single contributor. The MCCP license plate will be available October 1st and is expected to generate $200,000 in annual revenue.

Merchandise order form for t-shirts, sweatshirts, etc, $5.00 of every order goes to MCCP. Biddeford-Saco Lodge is raffling off a cruise, tickets available today.

 Clynk – No report

 Elliott the Elk no report.

 Grand Lodge Booth Awarded a 5-star for the booth, thanked Sandi Anderson for manning the booth while Mike was doing ER duties, presented Sandi a Certificate of Appreciation to MCCP.

**MCCP Cartridge/** Debi Briggs No report.

 **Youth Activities Committee** Debi Briggs No report.

**Membership Committee** Kristie Durginhas prepared packets for each Lodge on the back table.

**Memorial Service** Sandi Anderson, PER No report.

**Motorcycle Riders** Rod Bauer: Melinda Voisine stated the ride on July 21st raised$3,105 with stops at Farmington Elks, Waterville and Skowhegan.

**National Veterans Service Commission** David Hassen**:** FIRST QUARTER 2018 REPORT: Storage Containers. The $8000 loan is paid off, including the $630 in process. Thank you for all of your support. The donations are as follows:

**Cabin in the Woods:** 21 cabins getting ready for veterans to move into. The first 6 are anticipated prior to the 15 August. Furniture is being delivered now. All completely furnished including large flat screen TV. They are looking for donations from the local community for the normal kitchen, bedroom and bath items. Individual items are being sought as the donations are coming in small quantities and random items. The current needed items may be found on [www.voanne.org](http://www.voanne.org) or email me. Dedication Ceremony for Cabin in the Woods 21 September 10:00 to 12:00, all Elks are invited. Debbie will be providing the music.

Fisher House - Ground breaking 8 August 10:30 Togus, Bob Drisko and I will have the honor of being ushers. There will be 16 suites on Togus for relatives of patients.

Debbie Myers - Veterans Fund Raiser August 24th at her house from 11:00 to 5:00.

Freedom Grant - So far, we know that Waterville, Augusta and Portland have been notified that they were selected.

Other items: If Veteran Chairs or anyone else are interested in meeting downstairs after this meeting?

* VA 2k was successful with over $31,000 collected in cash and items.
* Storage, Presque Isle has garnered a tractor trailer for item delivery.

**New Lodge Committee** Sandi Anderson, PER No report.

**Nominating Committee** Glenn McCallum: We need a candidate for 2nf Vice President for the MEA.

**Public Relations Committee** Leon "Mac" McCreary, PER No report.

**Ritual Committee** Frank Ricker, PDDGER, PSP: The PER Ritual contest scheduled for June 24th was cancelled because no other teams participated. At the GL Convention in San Antonio, Sanford represented Maine, coming in 4th in the Eastern Division with Frank Ricker, Andy Bolz and Bruce Brunelle winning their chairs. The Area 1 Roulette Contest is September 16th. On October 28th, Ken Rice, Area 1 Ritual GL Committeeman will be presenting judges clinic. Computer judges’ clinic will be in Sanford starting at 9:00, inviting New Hampshire to join. This year’s State Contest will be held February 24, 2019, which may be at Sanford.

**Soccer Shoot Committee** Lisa Brunelle report has been placed on your tables.

**Have I missed anyone?**

**Unfinished Business:** none.

**New Business:** Tom Chase moved the 2020 MEA Convention be held at the Lewiston Ramada Inn, seconded by Ron Darling and approved.

**Good of the Association:** Mike ‘Shu” Michaud said Augusta received a $1,500 Anniversary Grant for “Back to School” over 400 kids showed up, 60% at or below poverty level, this year over $13,000 from business and civic groups for the event scheduled for August 25 from 10:00 – 2:00 at Augusta Elks 964.

Andy Constantine announced a “Surprise” 70th Birthday Party for Tom Callahan at Augusta Elks on August 12th.

Al Ingraham is a candidate for Vice President from the Coastal District.

Ellsworth ER Eric Butters said they’re having a Membership Drive on August 11th, pig roast and street dance. Dennis Venuto announced candidacy for 2nd Vice President from Coastal District. Frank Ricker and President Sue presented an award, Bronze Circle of Giving for ENF to Bruce Brunelle who has donated over $5,000. President Sue also awarded the ENF Bronze Circle of Giving to Claris Ranger. President Sue announced another achievement, Certificate of Merit for Improvement in Membership, Maine was in 11th place with a gain of 68. Sue will present the award to Ron Voisine at visitation to Skowhegan or sooner. Sergeant-At-Arms Shawn Stacey said the 50/50 is $361 with $180 going to the MEA and $181 going to John Desjardins who donated it to ENF in Sue Piper’s name. PER Eric Robinson of Bangor #244 raised nearly $3,000 to MCCP; David Hammond and Felicia have passes for Flagship Cinema with proceeds going to ENF; Mike Desjardins said Matt Parks has information from MCCP for each Lodge to pick up. Andy Bolz announced a PSP Meeting following immediately after this meeting.

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The next state meeting will be the MEA Convention at the Rockland Elks at 10:00 on Sunday, October 28, 2018.

There being no further business to come before the Association State President Susan Piper proceeded to close the meeting.

State Chaplain Eric Butters gave the benediction followed by one chorus of God Bless America.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00.