Maine Elks Association

May 6, 2017

MEA Annual Convention Meeting

Augusta Lodge, #964

State President J. Andrew Bolz called the Annual Convention Meeting of the Maine Elks Association at 10:00 am. Chaplain Shelly Goodwin gave the invocation and as chairperson of the Americanism Committee led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag. Interim Secretary Dwayne Guy gave the roll call of officers.

Absent: Richard Bragg State Trustee Farmington Lodge

State President J. Andrew Bolz asked all past and present PDDGERs, DDGERs and PSPs rise introduce themselves and be recognized. There were 23 present.

Dwayne Guy moved that the minutes of the previous session be accepted as printed. The motion was seconded by Andrew Constantine and the motion carried.

Sickness and Distress: Lodge of Sorrow for Phil O’Brion, PGLC, PDDGER, PSP, MEA Secretary from Farmington Lodge #2430. David Berry, PER, from Gardiner Lodge, # 1293 and Rene Goodine, PER, rom Lewiston Lodge, 3371.

Reports of Officers:

State President J. Andrew Bolz reported all visitations are complete and he and Trica had a great time, travelling 12,000 miles in Maine alone.

President-Elect David Anderson Looking forward to tomorrow’s Installation of Officers and the coming year.

First Vice President Sue Piper stated her report is in the convention book and thanked everyone for their support of the bells.

Second Vice President John Desjardins stated his report is in the convention book and MEA Calendars are still available for purchase.

State Secretary No report.

Credentials Roger Sicard With the assistants of the Vice Presidents, voting members were counted and totaled.

Treasurer Jeff Neal said the 2017 Budget is in the convention book, the Treasurer’s Report is on the table.

Administrative Assistant Claris Ranger stated his report is in the convention book.

MEA Sergeant-At-Arms Irving Pillsbury reported he’s still selling 50/50 tickets. Irv also stated the MEA Memorial Service is tomorrow at 10:00, with dress rehearsal, in Summer Formal and gold jewels at 9:00.

MEA Tiler Rene Thibeault no report

Chaplain Shelly Goodwin Thanked President Andy for the opportunity of serving as MEA Chaplain. Shelly also reported on Americanism, 13 Lodges participated and there were 2 winners.

State Trustee Chair Tom Chase stated the budget as recommended by the State Trustees is in the convention book and will be presented under new business. Tom reiterated the importance of have State Trustees in attendance at all MEA meetings.

Special Deputy Andy Constantine Introduced PGER Ron Hicks, our Sponsor, who said Amos is still with us in spirit we are currently 15th in ENF, we are on pace to have a membership gain, our Veterans program is on target. Augusta has received an Impact Grant and more lodges need to apply for grant, it’s free money. If your request is denied, ask why, what needs to be changed? PGER Ron thanked the District Deputies, Brian Horseman, Rod Bauer and Corey Day.

Congratulated the incoming District Deputies, Coastal - Irving Pillsbury, Central - Kathleen Cotterly and welcomed returning DD for Northern, Corey Day. PGER spoke of the hundreds of insurance claims submitted each year against Elk Lodges, most are slips and falls, so make sure your facilities and parking lots are kept up. Increase in self-insurance of $1.5 million and there’s been another major lawsuit concerning an alcohol related death in Kentucky. PGER Ron emphasized Membership Director Rick Gathen’s mantra “Change your Sign, Change your Image”. Maine is doing well with the veterans and our major project, Maine Children’s Cancer Program. He thanked Sanford Elks #1470 for carrying on the Ritual competition, urged lodges to appeal more to our communities, include pictures and community articles in your newsletters – “Be Loud – Be Proud”. Maine is a great Elk state, and he thinks we can do better? Mentioned he’s conducting the Memorial Service at Grand Lodge Convention in July and it will be difficult for him with so many great Elks passing away this past year, including 3 PGERs.

Special Deputy Andy Constantine Congratulated Maine Elks for reaching the $4 million mark for donations to MCCP, there will be a $4,000,000 Toast this afternoon. Andy also congratulated Elk of the Year Bruce Brunelle, Spouse of the Year Linda Gause, Officer of the Year Dave Anderson, Committee Person of the Year John Desjardins and Veteran Volunteer of the Year Sandi Anderson and Henry Breton. Tonight we will honor youth and their families urged everyone to be responsible.

District Deputies Central Brian Horseman report in book but also mentioned the Spring Clinic recently held with the new slate of officers. Coastal Rod Bauer appreciated the opportunity to serve, said this year’s Owie Box will be on Saturday, August 12th and will begin in Rockland at 10:00, going to Gardiner Elks for lunch, then to the clinic in Scarborough and ending at Biddeford-Saco Elks for with a pig roast. Northern Corey Day was absent.

Auditing Committee Chair Scott Gray Thanked all who helped and advised him, it has been a real eye-opener how money is handled.

Drug Awareness Chair Anthony Gause stated his report is in the convention book.

Elks National Foundation Chair Albert Ingraham Ellsworth paid online for last minute donations, Maine donated more than $95K. But $6K did not get counted for 2016-2017, hurts us this year but gives us a good start for next year. Make sure your lodge’s ENF Chair is registered online at Elks.org. October is ENF Month, use Orientation to introduce new members to ENF.

Government Relation Chair Robert Drisko stated his report is in the convention book.

Fraternal Committee Chair Robert Drisko Thanked Jim Ferland for his help thoughout the year. Thanked the following for their help with the Essay Contest, Jim Ferland, Cheryl Joy, Dave Anderson, and Sandi Anderson. Only 35 State Associations participated in the essay contest.

Grand Lodge Convention Booth Barb Guy stated her report is in the convention book with the additional information that the Clynk program raised $305.00 for MCCP.

Hoop Shoot Director George Jones stated his report is in the convention book, it was another successful year with Faith Sjoberg from Presque Isle Lodge #1954 finishing 3rd. George thanked the District Chairs.

Knights Seminar Claris Ranger stated his report is in the convention book.

MCCP Cartridge Program Debi Briggs thanked everyone for bringing in their printer cartridges.

MEA Endowment Fund Chair Darilyn Kearns No report.

Convention Coordinator Kathleen Cotterly speaking on behalf of the Convention Committee, thanked Augusta #964 for hosting the convention, specifically mentioning ER Michael “Shu” Michaud, Gary Cooper, Tamy Colfer, and Ralph Colfer. Tonight is Youth Night and the wait staff will be teens, not professionals so be kind, patient and generous as this is a fundraiser for them. A hugh crowd is expected tonight. Please don’t move furniture or utensils. Awards to be presented tonight include Americanism, Drug Awareness and Scholarships.

Membership Chair Ron Voisine stated his report is in the convention book. As of March 31st Maine had a gain of 40 members. Maine’s top recruiter was Carol Gillespie of Portland Elks #188, with 16, followed by Roger Perry with 14 and Alan Harding with 12.

National Veterans Service Commission Chair David Hassen stated his report is in the convention book.

New Lodge Development Sandi Anderson No report but did announce there’s a MCCP Benefit on June 24th being held at Waterville Elks Lodge #905.

Nomination Glenn McCallum Nomination Committee put forth the following names for offices: President-Elect Sue Piper, 1st Vice President, John Desjardins, 2nd Vice President Anthony Gause and Treasurer Jeffrey Neal.

Ritual Chair Frank Ricker April at St Johnsbury., VT which amassed a score of 93.1109 to Sanford’s 92.8343. The PER Ritual Contest will be in Sanford on June 25th, currently there are 3 signed up and looking for 4 more. Today at 1:00 Sanford Ritual Team will perform the Ritual in August’s Lodge room. All members are encouraged to witness the event and support the team.

Soccer Shoot Bruce Brunelle speaking for Lisa Brunelle Looking for a Northern District Chairperson and would like to see more Lodges participate.

Past State Presidents President John Nicholson reported the Past State Presidents are still selling the President’s coin, only 35 remain.

Unfinished Business: Barb Guy, Exalted Ruler at Rockland Elks reminded all of the 150th Anniversary of the Elks at Rockland on February 15-16, 2018. She’s asking all Lodges for a bit of history of their Lodge and submit by January 10th.

New Business: Tom Chase, Chairman of the MEA Trustees, moved to amend the budget to increase Public Relations, budget remains balanced, seconded by Ron Voisine, Skowhegan-Madison Lodge #2531, approved. Tom Chase then moved to approve the budget as amended, seconded by Ron Voisine and approved.

Election of Officers: Nominees President-Elect Sue Piper, 1st Vice President, John Desjardins, 2nd Vice President Anthony Gause, Secretary Dwayne Guy and Treasurer Jeffrey Neal. Claris Ranger moved to have Special Deputy Andy Constantine cast 1 ballot for all unopposed offices, which Mr. Constantine did and all were elected. Congratulations to all and to David Anderson who will automatically advance to MEA President at tomorrow’s Installation of Officers.

Good of the Association: President Andy announced next meeting of the Maine Elks Association will be on August 6th at the Old Town Lodge. President Andy asked Monique Laflamme to come to the podium who then asked Anthony Gause to come forward where she presented Anthony with an ENF Certificate for his recent donation.

Wayne Cotterly announced the roaming Elk Project has completed its 6th year and minor reconstructive surgery has been performed on all 2 elks. This year’s winners were Coastal “Rocky” – York Lodge #2788, Central “Romeo” – Waterville #905 and Northern “Pielk” – Presque Isle #1954. Starting off the new year with the Roaming Elks, “Rocky” will wake up tomorrow at Brunswick #2043, Romeo at Rumford #862 and Pielk at Sebasticook # 2713.

Augusta PERs are hosting lunch today, serving hot dogs and hamburgers with all the fixings for $5.00. Sanford Elks performing Initiation Ritual at 1:00 this afternoon. Tonight’s Entertainment by The Gardiner Players. MCCP Four Million Dollar Toast at 4:00. Tom Chase reminded MEA Trustees to be installed tomorrow, short meeting following Installation to elect Trustee Chairman and Secretary. Roger Sicard reminded everyone to pick up the MCCP packet about the license plates, 2000 needed, passenger cars only.

Jim Ferland said it’s your last chance for a raffle ticket on the car. Sandra Welch has 2 white dinner jackets size unknown, $20 each. Ron Voisine said there’s a Member Appreciation Day at the Skowhegan-Madison Elks Lodge members from all Lodges are invited on July 28th. They also have a pig roast on June 25th. Tim Rodrigue said the Augusta Lodge will be hosting the Elks Music Fest August 12th & 13th to benefit MCCP and Canine with Frontline. There will be a Super drawing. Gary Cooper said there will be a MCCP Golf Tournament on August 19th, T-Time at 1:00. Shu Michaud said on 9/10 there’s an over 35 coed softball tournament and Family Feud $100 to participate benefits Travis Mills. Pre-Convention Meeting at 2:00 today.

Site of the next State Meeting: Old Town Elks Lodge, #1287, on August 6, 2017.

Donations:

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| Houlton Elks Lodge #835 | Major Project | MCCP | $400.00 | 607527 |
| Ellsworth Elks #2743  | Major Project  | MCCP | $3,000.00 | 607528 |
| MEA Past State Presidents | ENF | ENF | $200.00 | 607531 |
| MEA Past State Presidents | Endowment Fund | MEA | $200.00 | 607532 |
| MEA Past State Presidents | Major Project | MCCP | $200.00 | 607533 |
| Bath Elks #934 | Major Project | MCCP | $3,375.99 | 607534 |
| Farmington Elks #2430 | Major Project | MCCP | $161.00 | 607535 |
| Piper Trust | Major Project | MCCP | $4,500.00 | 607536 |
| Sanford Elks #1470 | Major Project | MCCP | $117,695.00 | 607537 |
| Augusta Elks #964 | Major Project | MCCP  | $2876.50 | 607538 |
| Steve Horn & Andy Bolz | Major Project | MCCP  | $200.00 | 607539 |
| Barb Guy | Clynk | MCCP | $305.00 | 607506 |
| York Elks #2788 | MCCP | MCCP | $300,00 | 607507 |
| James Ferland  | MEA Car Raffle | MCCP | $2,815.00 | 607508 |
| James Ferland | MEA Car Raffle | MCCP | $535.00 | 607509 |
| John Desjardins | MEA Calendar | MEA | $20.00 | 607510 |
| James Ferland | MEA Car Raffle | MCCP | $120.00 | 607511 |
| James Ferland | MEA Car Raffle | MCCP | $160.00 | 607512 |
| Andy Constantine | Past State President Coin Sales | PSP | $1,500.00 | 607513 |
| Nancy Hicks | Major Project | MCCP | $250.00 | 607514 |
| Barb Guy | Straw Raffle | MCCP | $1000.00 | 607515 |
| David Anderson | Major Project | MCCP | $100.00 | 607516 |

There being no further business to come before the Association State President J. Andrew Bolz proceeded to close the meeting. State Chaplain Shelly Goodwin gave the benediction then followed with one chorus of God Bless America, joined by other.

The meeting was closed at 12:10 PM

Respectfully Submitted

Dwayne R Guy, PDDGER, PSP, HLM, PER

State Secretary-Interim, Maine Elks Association