

# The Lodge Bulletin – An Important Tool

by James A. Ferland

Lodge Activities/State Associations Committee Member

Lack of communication between the Lodge and its members is a serious and never-ending problem. Even regular Lodge attendance does not keep that limited number of members informed. What about the majority of members who are not regular in attendance?

Every Lodge needs a bulletin of some sort. Some Lodges feel that this effort is important enough to have a Bulletin Committee to gather the news, put it together and assist in the mailing. A good bulletin should contain adequate local Lodge coverage, with space also devoted to State Association and Grand Lodge programs.

**All Lodges are encouraged to enter Contest “D”**— the Lodge Bulletin Contest sponsored by the Grand Lodge Activities/State Associations Committee. The Lodge Bulletin Contest is easy to enter. It requires that you:

- Choose and submit three (3) consecutive issues of your Lodge Bulletin published between April 1 and December 1, and bind them together in a folder (only the bulletins are judged, not the folder). **NOTE: This year only the top ten entries in each division will be brought to the National Convention for display at our Grand Lodge Booth.**

- Have Lodge Secretary certify in writing the number of members in your Lodge as of March 31, 2009, and include the certification in your folder so that your entry will be judged in the proper division.

- Combine the above and mail your entry, postmarked no later than January 15 to either, James A. Ferland, 7 Littlefield Trl, Sidney, ME 04330-2618 for Divisions 1-2-3, or Harry Hartley, PO Box 287, Condon, OR 97823-0287 for Divisions 4-5-6.

Judging is based on design, timeliness, quality of articles, and overall message portrayed. **NOTE: This year points will be subtracted from final scores for lodges using “unauthorized” Elks logos in their publications.** Awards will be presented to the First place winners at the Grand Lodge Convention. Second - and - Third place awards will be mailed to the appropriate State Associations for presentations.

Good Luck to All!!!!!!!!!!