

Fellow Elks, members of the Albany Schenectady HOG Motorcycle Club toured the East Coast on Memorial Day, visiting the Gettysburg Battle Field in PA, The D-Day Memorial in Bedford VA, (background), the Viet Nam Memorial ("The Wall") and WWII Memorial in Washington DC. One of the highlights of the ride was a stop at the **Elks National Home** in Bedford VA. The riders refreshed themselves in several of the guest rooms. Later in the evening, a small gathering hosted by Maria Powers and several of the women was held at one of the open-air pavilions that surround the property, pleasantly adorned with fresh blooming flowers, comfortable chairs and refreshments. PDD Ray Slingerland and Rod Burr gave several of the women, many of which had never been on a motorcycle before, a chance to take a ride. Once on the bike and over their initial reservations, it was difficult to get them off. "We rode to the activity center, to several of my friends houses, even down town" said Nancy Scott. "I wanted to find someone I knew to show off that I had finally had a chance to ride on a motorcycle, and such a pretty one at that".



Elk members and motorcycle enthusiasts visit the Elks National Home for Memorial Day, Left-Right Paul Engle (Lodge 2530), PDDRay Slingerland (Lodge 2157), Bill Wink (Lodge 2466), Jim Spath (Lodge 2073), Rod Burr (2157), poug Catharine (Guest), Doug Catharine Sr (2157). Vince Castellano (Guest), Front Row Maria Powers.

The evening weather was ideal for a fine motorcycle ride as the ladies rode along the 9 hole golf course that surrounds the home, and then with newfound spirit, off into the warm Virginia evening to tour the surrounding countryside. It appears the ladies felt more adventurous than their male counterparts, and before too long, each took their turn and hopped on the back of the large bikes and disappeared into the setting Virginia evening.



The evening ended late, Ray, and one of Bedford's finest ladies, Nancy Scott, with jokes about new takes a motorcycle tour into the summer evening tattoos, an a toast by '99 year old Bill Kesler that left the younger riders trying to remember the words for future use. The short visit turned out to be an experience for more than the new riders, "My evening spent with these ladies and gentlemen from the Elks Home was an eye opener for me" said rider Bill Wink "Never did I imagine the vitality, cheerfulness, and humor. It's given me new hope to the enjoyment for my retirement years."

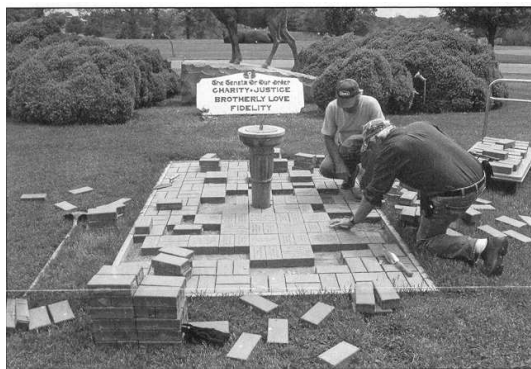


One of the "new motorcyclists", Margret Englehart poses after an evening ride. "Now I understand why you men ride these things, that was fantastic... lets go again".

Buy-A-Brick at the Elks National Home

The Buy-a-Brick program that was initiated by David Carr, Home Member of the Board, is going great. So far, we have sold 259 bricks, and the orders are still coming in. The photos above show the patio in progress and as it looks now. We will expand as more bricks are purchased.

If you haven't ordered your brick it is certainly not too late. Fill in the form elsewhere in this newsletter and send it to the Elks National Home, 931 Ashland Ave., Bedford, VA 24523, along with your check for \$100.00 (or \$200.00 for a larger brick with 6 lines of text). *Thank you, to all who have participated.*



Maintenance Supervisor; John Herring, and Ron Salkowitz organizing and laying the first order of bricks.



Executive Director, Dr. Ronald Plamondon, putting his brick in place on the patio. A close-up of the bricks in the patio, so far.



This is the setting of the patio at the front of

the administration building, where the first orders of bricks are being placed.

Historical Elks Home Facts

The Grand Lodge purchased the Hotel Bedford at a public sale on June 16, 1902.

The Home was dedicated May 21, 1903 by Grand Exalted Ruler George P. Cronk.

The new Home was dedicated July 8, 1916 by Warren G. Harding, US Senator at that time. Warren G. Harding went on to become this Nation's 29th President (March 4, 1921 to August 2, 1923).

The Elks Rest Cemetery in the City of Bedford was in use from 1903 to 1980.

The cemetery on the Home's grounds was dedicated May 11, 1980. It covers 3 acres, will accommodate 1428 graves and has 100 spaces in the cremation garden.

The Fred Harper Memorial Theater was dedicated Sunday afternoon, May 22, 1938. The building was the gift of Past Grand Esteemed Leading Knight, Dr. Robert South Barrett, PER of Alexandria, VA Lodge No. 758.

The bronze Elk in front of the home was a gift from John Schmitt of New York Lodge No. 1. It was placed into its current position December 9, 1937. The Elk is from the studios of the Gorham Manufacturing Co. from Providence, RI. The Elk weighs 1950 lbs. and its base, made of Georgia Granite, weighs about two tons.

Consider the Elks National Home In Bedford, Virginia

For a more carefree and secure lifestyle

Where Elk members have found happiness and companionship
For over 100 years..... 1903 – 2009

Rooms are available!

Available rooms are for single occupancy – men or women, who are elk members. They are furnished, have private baths, air conditioning, and a small refrigerator. The monthly rate of \$1,216 for these particular rooms includes three meals a day, utilities (except telephone and cable TV), laundry, housekeeping, and free parking.

Contact the Elks National Home today. It could open the door to a completely new and wonderful world for you. You may write to: Elks National Home, 931 Ashland Avenue, Bedford, Va 24523; telephone 1-800-552-4140 and ask for marketing, visit our website at www.elkshome.org, or email us at enhome@elkshome.org

For more information contact:

Elks National Home Coordinator

NEW YORK

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NEW ARRIVAL AT THE HOME

Eugene Kosa

from Beacon, NY
Arrived 10/1/08

ELKS NATIONAL HOME
RETIRE AMONG FRIENDS
931 Ashland Avenue
Bedford, VA 24523
1-800-552-4140
www.elkshome.org

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