



New York State
Elks Association

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The Empire State Elk is published bi-annually on newsprint and bi-annually in electronic format and financed by the New York Elks Major Projects, Inc. and circulated to all members of New York State Elks Lodges to promote our program goals and objectives by reporting on lodge, state and national programs developed to enhance patriotism and give assistance to our veterans, the handicapped, youth, elderly, victims of disasters and others in need.

This publication will take no partisan stands or furnish space for political, sectarian or personal prejudice.

The paper is published following the Spring, Grand Lodge and Fall Conventions. Electronically following in the

Winter following the holiday season and in May. All copy intended for publication must be in the hands of the District Editor by the end of January, March, June and September. Photographs accompanying articles may be rejected for poor quality, poor contrast, etc. and will be returned only if requested. Photos of or references to alcohol use, gambling and non-Elk activities are not acceptable. **Photos printed on personal computer printers are not suitable for newsprint reproduction.** Photos sent in PDF format to your district editor are acceptable.

Members who do not receive the *Empire State Elk* should contact their District Editor. **ADDRESS CHANGES OR CORRECTIONS** should first be sent to your **SUBORDINATE LODGE SECRETARY**, who should correct the Lodge records and then inform the Grand Lodge of the change.

NY ELKS MAJOR PROJECT



Our Major Project Home Service is strictly a New York State Elks Association Program which consists of 27 Home Service Directors and the vans that the directors use to provide individualized services to disabled people and their families. We began to support this program in 1966 and annually contribute about \$500,000 for salaries and vans.

Funding for our State Major Project comes from individual donations, Lodge donations, the Elks National Foundation, and from various other groups such as Ladies' Auxiliaries and PER Associations. We have a goal this year of \$8.00 per member.

Our State Chairman is Richard DeSilva of Yorktown Lodge #2324.

Our State Major Project is administered by the **NY Elks Major Projects, Inc.**, a 501(c)(3) corporation, and contributions are tax exempt. The Corporation also supervises funding provided by the **Elks National Foundation** for

- Educational purposes in the form of scholarships.
- Charitable activities and programs including, but not limited to, Americanism, Community Projects, Veterans, Hoop Shoot, Other Youth Programs, Drug Awareness, Scouting and Disaster Relief as may be recommended and approved by the Board of Directors.

The members of the Board of Directors are:

PSP James Peace, Chairman,
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Letter from the Editor

To Members of the New York State Elks Association,

After eight years as Editor – Publisher of the Empire State Elk, I am stepping down.

It has been a pleasure to serve on this committee. The District Editors have been the best that any committee chair could ask for. Thank you all.

I would like to thank the Honorable, PGER Leonard J. Bristol and the Honorable, PGER Peter T. Affatato for their guidance and faith in me.

A Special Thank You to PSP, PGELK Ernest Southworth, Eva, PSP Jamie Peace, Yvonne and the members of the Major Projects Board of Trustees, present and past. Your support has been invaluable.

A Thank You goes out to the Past State Presidents of the advisory board, State President Dave Carr Penny, and the members of the State Trustees.

A Thank You to Past State President, Joe Petriello, for his support and confidence in me to hold this position.

Our Empire State Elk publication has received seven Grand Lodge 'Four Star Awards' and one 'Five Star Award' during my eight years of service to this committee. Believe me when I tell you that this was due to the outstanding work of our district editors.

I will be available to carry on until a new Editor has been appointed. This committee has been a "Labor of Love" for me, but there comes a time when other priorities prevail. Thank you New York State Elks Association for the opportunity to serve.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

Jack McClurken
Jack 'Tex' McClurken, PDDGER

P.S. Anyone interested in holding this position should contact your District Sponsor.

