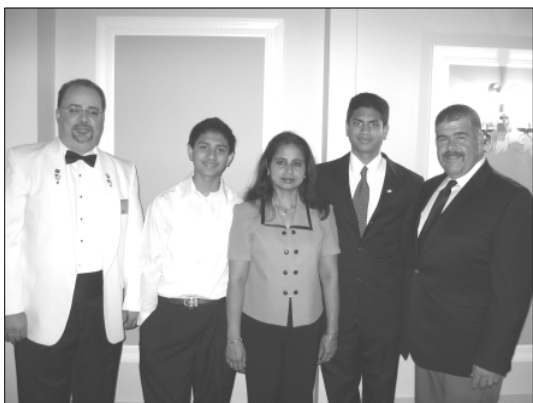




Ossining Lodge #1486 continued their youth benefit programs by again presenting dictionaries/thesaurus's to the students in the local schools. This is the fifth year that the Lodge has donated books to assist the students. In March the Lodge presented over 300 Webster Thesaurus's to the sixth grade classes at the Anne M. Dorner School in Ossining. This year the program was expanded by giving out over 50 Webster Dictionaries to the fifth grade students at Pierre Van Cortlandt School in Croton-on-Harmon. The dictionary committee is chaired by PER Ed Turenchalk and includes PDD Robert Desiderio, SVP Jayson Bock and Leading Knight John Brown. Turenchalk (left) and Brown (right) are pictured above during the visit to the Croton school.



Liverpool Lodge #2348 presented a \$1,000 scholarship to a student from Baldwinsville's Baker High School at Moving Up Day. That same day, the Ladies Auxiliary presented the \$1,000 Theresa Sullivan Scholarship to another student. The lodge and auxiliary also presented Liverpool High School with the same scholarships. Pictured above, Robert B Inman, Exalted Ruler, Liverpool Elks presenting the scholarship.



New Hyde Park Lodge #2107 recently presented its annual Henry Wessels \$4000 college scholarship award to Thomas Joseph a graduating senior from Floral Park Memorial High School where he is the class saledictorian, AP Scholar with Distinction and President of both the Foreign Language Society and Science Olympiad team. Thomas is a National Merit Scholar and has also achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. Pictured (L-R) James Unger, ER, John Joseph (brother), Valsamma Joseph (Mom), Thomas Joseph, Dean Lykos, Lodge Sholarship Chair.

Oswego Lodge #271 held a dinner to honor the top 25 students from the 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grades at Oswego High School. The students received a certificate from the Principal of the High School. There were over 320 in attendance for the event. The students and there families enjoyed a

buffet dinner before the award ceremony. Also present for the ceremony were the President of the Board of Education, Superintendent of Oswego Schools and the principal of the Oswego High School.

Smithtown Lodge #2036- Smithtown Lodge held the first, in a sequence of three luncheons, in order to raise money toward their Scholarship Fund. Scholarship Chairman, Charlie Ruggeri, along with his Co-Chairman, Chris Beatrice will hold two others scheduled for the Fall and Spring. This luncheon raised approximately \$125 and they are confident that the good news will encourage higher participation going forward. This is not only a great way to raise funds for the program, but a wonderful social event for the Lodge.

Liverpool Lodge #2348 - Leading Knight Patricia McKenna and Lodge Secretary Barbara Bury present a check in the amount of \$ 500.00 to help fund Baldwinsville's Van Buren Elementary school Summer Reading Project. This will help pay for books for all the students so they can participate in the NYS Assembly's Summer Reading challenge.



Kevin Merriam ER of **Syracuse Lodge #31** was joined by **Camillus Elks #2367** member Diane Daniels at McKinley-Brighton Elementary School in Syracuse, NY. They are pictured reading a storybook to a 1st Grade class at the school during literacy week.

Colonie Lodge # 2192 has a State Champion in the Hoop Shoot! Logan Polsinello proudly brought the New York State Hoop Shoot Championship 2008 to Colonie Lodge #2192!. Logan competed in the boys 12-13 years bracket. He won the lodges contest by making 23 out of 25 free throws and then securing the title by going 5 for 5 in a tie breaker. He then won the district title by shooting 23 of 25 free throws. In the state finals, he downed 25 straight shots and was given the game ball. In the Tri State Regional contest (New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania) he bested the competition by shooting 24 of 25 free throws. Logan is 12 years old and seventh grade student. He stated that he has enjoyed competing in the Hoop Shoot and looks forward to next year's event. In the Elks National Finals, held in the basketball hall of Fame in Springfield, Ma. , Logan shot 21 of 25 and placed eighth in the nation.



Syracuse, New York recently held its Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade. It is the largest per capita St. Patrick's Day parade in New York State outside of New York City. Over 130

Floats participate in the parade. The **Ontario District** recently entered a float in this parade. Member from each of the lodges in the district helped construct the float and had representatives marching. The District was fortunate enough to have the Drug Awareness Trailer along with Elroy the Elk join them in the parade. The children along the parade route were thrilled as the member from the district passed out Drug awareness literature and Elroy (ER Elizabeth Malone Oswego Elks Lodge) visited with them.

Members from **Queensborough Lodge #878** and their Antlers junior club participated with several community organizations in a community cleanup effort in the Maspeth Industrial Business Zone. About 80 volunteers worked together to collect and remove forty seven bags of refuse and ten bags of recyclable materials. Sanitation Commissioner John J. Doherty was present and said, "New Yorkers are known for great pride in their neighborhoods, and nothing says it better than a good old-fashioned neighborhood cleanup."

WILKES-BARRE, Pa. - Rome's Teresa Anken captured the Elks Hoops Shoots Northeast Central Regional Championship in the 10-11 age division over the weekend to advance to the national finals. Representing the **Rome Elks Lodge No. 96**, Anken sank 17 out of 25 foul shots in regular competition before making all five of her attempts in an overtime shootout against a Pennsylvania opponent. According to local Elks officials, she is the first Rome girl to advance to the National Free Throw Shooting Finals to be held in Springfield, Mass. on April 25. Anken became the state champion after qualifying in local, district and state regional competition and bested over 11,000 other girls in the state that competed in her age group. Anken is a member of the Rome Spangles basketball team. The regional champion will now compete against 11 other competitors for the national crown. At the National Hoop Shoot Finals Anken placed 5th. And shot 20 for 25.

Staten Island Lodge # 841 held its annual Youth Week Awards Ceremony. Honored during the ceremony were the lodge picks for the "Americanism" What Freedom Means to Me" with the 1 51 place winner, Shannon Quirk in attendance. The 6 winners from Hoop Shoot were honored as well as 5 Junior ROTC Cadets for Community Service. Lodge scholarship winner, Joseph Marinaro was also present as well as his family. Recognition was given to these young men and women by Robert Giglio, PER SE District Americanism and Flag Day Chairman, US House of Representatives Hon. Michael Cusick and NY State Assembly Hon Lou Tobacco. Also during the ceremony, Jane Frangos was named Citizen of the Year by the lodge. Ms. Frangos, a teacher at IS 24, works tirelessly with the lodge each year in response to the Americanism Essay Contest. Following the ceremony, the children and their families were treated to a pizza party. All in all, 82 guests and 20 ELKS attended the ceremony and looked on with pride as these young men and women graciously received recognition so well deserved.

Cairo-Durham Lodge #2630



Presented Youth Activity Awards on March 14th at the Lodge. Shown are the Children who received a framed certificate and a check for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in both the Drug Awareness Essay contest and the Poster contest. Two awards were presented to 1st place finalists in the annual hoop shoot contest.