



NOMINATION SPEECH FOR Grand Exalted Ruler, Delivered by PSP Jamie Peace.

Grand Exalted Ruler Smith, Past Grand Exalted Rulers, Grand Lodge Officers, Members, and Guests:



It is indeed an honor and distinct pleasure for me to come before you today to place into nomination for our Order's most respected office – that of Grand Exalted

Ruler, the name of David R. Carr of Ticonderoga Lodge #1494. Dave is a man whose family life, along with his association in Elkdom makes him truly qualified and worthy to assume this noble office.

As with all members, David's journey to this pinnacle began with his Initiation at the local lodge level in February of 1975 into Whitehall, NY, Lodge #1491. He later transferred to Ticonderoga Lodge #1494 in 1978 where he proceeded through the chairs and was elected Exalted Ruler in 1987. In 1988 he chaired the Lodge PER Association, served as Lodge Trustee from 1988 – 2005, and during his career served as District Coordinator for several committees.



David served the New York State Elks Association with distinction in many capacities, starting in 1990 as State Vice President. He later served as NY Elks Community Activities Chair and as State Editor for the award-winning *Empire State Elk* newspaper. Dave's longest tenure was as State Secretary from 1999 to 2009.

He knew that this job was more than one person could perform with any degree of success, so he chose the most capable assistant that he knew – his wife Penny, a retired high school English teacher. David had one more duty to complete on the State Level - - in 2009 he was unanimously elected to serve as President of the New York State Elks Association. Dave strongly believes that Elkdom, like patriotism, is in the hearts and souls of our members. As President, he chose the motto, "Elks Give from the Heart".

David's Grand Lodge service began in 1994 when he was appointed District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler by then-Grand Exalted Ruler Kenneth L. Moore. In 2006 he was elected to the Board of Grand Trustees and

served as Board Secretary, Home Member and Vice Chairman.

During his service on the Board, Dave was instrumental in initiating the "Buy a Brick" Program in an effort to help the Elks National Home become financially self-sustaining. In addition, just eight years ago, Dave learned about a program initiated in South Carolina called the Dictionary Project that made it possible for organizations to purchase dictionaries at the manufacturer's wholesale price for presentation to third grade students. Elated with the support provided by members of his Lodge, he promoted the program to Lodges throughout his District. He then presented the program to the Elks attending the 2003 NY State Elks Association Fall meeting. Since that meeting, Elks Lodges throughout New York have provided nearly a half-million dictionaries to children across our State. Dave didn't stop there, however. He presented the Dictionary Project in July of 2004 to the Grand Lodge Youth Activities and Public Relations Committees who, with support of the Grand Lodge Advisory Board, adopted it without hesitation. I'm sure that most of you here are at least familiar with the Program, if not actively involved. Since 2004, Elks Lodges throughout America have given the "Gift of Words" to hundreds of thousands of children in our schools. This program continues to grow each day, thanks to one man who saw a great idea and decided to make a difference. Dave is a man who not only believed that Elks can achieve more than we thought possible, but who spearheaded this endeavor and made it happen.

The accolades of David's Elks career could continue, but the fact that he is being nominated for the highest office of our Order certainly attests to his great accomplishments. Born and raised in Port Henry, NY, David has lived in the Adirondack Region all of his life. After high school graduation, he successfully completed a four-year New York State accredited Industrial Electronics Apprenticeship course, as well as courses conducted at North Country Community College in Ticonderoga, Multi-Amp Institute in Dallas, Texas, and several Labor/Management, Industrial Safety, and Business courses. David also attended numerous electronics seminars conducted by companies such as Toshiba, Cutler-Hammer, Texas Instrument, Reliance Electric, Westinghouse and General Electric. He retired from International Paper in Ticonderoga after thirty-seven years of service dedicated to industrial electronics, health and safety, and industrial relations.



David has been involved in many ways in his local communities. With regard to conservation, he served as secretary of the Lake Champlain Fish & Game Club, as Town Delegate to the Essex County Affiliation of Sportsmen, as a member of the NYS Conservation Council, and as a member of the Lake Champlain Restoration Association. With regard to emergency services, David served as Secretary and Lieutenant of the Skenesborough Volunteer Fire Company in

Whitehall, NY, as a member of the Washington County Chiefs and Fire Officers Association, as a member of the Crown Point Board of Fire Commissioners, and as a member of the Ticonderoga Hospital Board of Directors. He also served as a member of the Crown Point School Board, as Secretary of the Whitehall Jaycees, as President of the Ticonderoga Kiwanis Club, and is a lifetime member and former officer of the Knights of Columbus. In addition, David has actively served as a United States Coast Guard Auxiliary officer since 2001 and as a founding member of the Department of Homeland Security since 2003.

David and Penny are active in the Sacred Heart Church where Penny sings in the choir and David serves as Choir Accompanist. David resides in Crown Point, NY,



with his wife, Penny. They have four children and eight grandchildren scattered throughout the United States in New York, Vermont, Oklahoma, and California. He and Penny spend several weeks during the summer at their cottage on the banks of Lake Champlain. Many memories have been made there with friends from the NYS Elks Association who have had the privilege of enjoying the warm hospitality as guests of Dave and Penny. My family has been included in that list of friends for several years and we have greatly enjoyed being part of their family circle.

Dave, it makes us wonder how you ever had time for Elkdom. But, obviously you did, and we all are the better for it!

And now, with deep pride, on behalf of Past Grand Exalted Rulers Leonard J. Bristol and Peter T. Affatato, and all the Members of the New York State Elks

Association, it is my honor and pleasure to nominate my good friend, David R. Carr, of Ticonderoga, New York, Lodge No. 1494, for the office of **Grand Exalted Ruler for 2011 – 2012.** **Thank you!**

