

The Empire State Elk Youth Activities

Elk's Northeast/Central Regional Hoop Shoot Results

The Northeast/Central Regional Hoop Shoot was held on Saturday, March 26, 2011 in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. The event was hosted by Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Elks Lodge #109 and was coordinated by NEC Regional Director Frank Bonner. The event was very well organized. The contestants and their family members were treated to a complimentary breakfast at the Ramada Inn the morning of the contest and a send-off award luncheon following the contest.

The NYSEA was represented by our six State champions. When the contest ended, three of our shooters achieved Regional championships. They are **Riley Tuper** in the girls 8-9 division, **Jackson Watson** in the 8-9 boys division and **Grace Thomas** in the girls 10-11 division. Jackson Watson made 14 consecutive free throws to force a shootout before achieving his championship by a 5 to 2 score in the shootout. The day's most exciting contest occurred in the boys 10-11 division. Our State champion, Joseph Girard, lost his bid for a regional championship, taking second place honors after losing in 4 shootouts by a score of 20 to 19. Our other State Champions, Ryan Rolland (boys 12-13) and Lilia Cerreta (girls 12-13) each achieved third place honors. Congratulations are extended to our National Regional champions. They will now advance to the National Finals to be held in Springfield, Mass.

Several NYS Elks were in attendance to support our state hoop shooters including Past State Presidents Donald Fisher, Tim Kelly and Richard Wunder. Past State President Fisher served as Master of Ceremonies throughout the Day. The Honorable Carlon O'Malley, Past Grand Exalted Ruler from the State of Pennsylvania was present at the contest and assisted with the award presentations. Past State President Wunder and State Hoop Shoot Director John Edinger presented the awards to our State contestants.

State Hoop Shoot Director John Edinger did an outstanding job in coordinating both our NYS Hoop Shoot contest and in assisting our State champions and their families with travel arrangements for the Regional contest. He and his wife Barb also made arrangements so that each of our Champions was provided a complimentary warm-up suit and state hoop shoot shirt prior to the regional event. Each proudly displayed their warm-up suits during the morning breakfast and during the pre-contest warm-up.

Final results from the contest are as follows:

8-9 Girls Sponsoring Lodge Score

1st - Riley Tupper,	South Hampton, NY
#1547 (23)	
2nd - Marissa Trivelpiece,	Hazleton, PA
#200 (20)	
3rd - Maddie McCracken ,	N. Wildwood, NJ
(18)	

8-9 Boys

1st - Jackson Watson,	Olean, NY #491
(21) (5/5)	
2nd Trevor Arico,	Ridgewood, NJ
#1455 (21) (2/5)	
3rd - Westley Butler,	Reading, PA #115
(18)	

10-11 Girls

1st - Grace Thomas ,	Owego, NY #1039
(16)	
2nd - Kate Carnevale,	Tarentum, PA #644
(15)	
3rd - Olivia Machado,	Stirling, NJ #2392
(14)	

10-11 Boys

1st - Jerrick Rydbom,	Blairsville, PA #406
(22) (20/20)	
2nd - Joseph Girard,	Glens Falls, NY
#81 (22) (19/20)	
3rd - Mack Bloom,	Princeton, NJ
#2129 (19)	

12-13 Girls

1st - Monica Davison,	Pitt South Hills, PA
#2213 (21)	

Page 5

2nd - Tess Korinko,	Pompton, NJ
#1895 (19)	
3rd - Lilia Cerreta,	Bronx/ New Rochelle,
NY #758 (18)	

12-13 Boys

1st - Matt Haughey,	Madison, NJ
#1465 (23)	
2nd - Drew Magestro,	Sharon, PA #103
(21)	
3rd - Ryan Rolland,	Syracuse, NY #31
(15)	

Respectfully Submitted,
Timothy Welp, NYSEA Youth Chair

Successful Year For Americanism Committee by Lawrence Contratti, PDDGER, Chairman, NYSEA Americanism-Flag Day Committee

The 2009 - 2010 fraternal year began promisingly with all seventeen districts of the NYSEA reporting on impressive and moving Flag Day services throughout the Empire State. Of our 127 lodges, 118 reported that they held ceremonies, with 112 of those open to the public. 12, 616 people attended these Flag Day services with 2,680 Elks in their midst. For Flag Day 13,820 Elk miles were covered and 7,922 Elk hours devoted. We can, indeed, all be quite proud of this achievement.

The essay contest this year was entitled "Why I am Proud to be an American" and we received 125 essays from throughout the State of New York. We had the essays judged by two English teachers, one Social Studies teacher and two Past District Deputies Grand Exalted Ruler. The two top winners from each division were sent on for the Grand Lodge Essay Contest.

Division I - 5th and 6th grades
First Place - **Brooke Brisko, 11** ~
Mechanicville-Stillwater # 1403 of the
Northeast District,
Brian Gustas, District Chairman
Second Place - **Samuel Hardman, 11** ~
Carthage # 1762 of the North Central District,
William S. Venton, District Chairman
Third Place - **Jessica Slack, 12** ~ Syracuse #
31 of the Ontario District, Thomas
Conley, Chairman

Division II - 7th and 8th grades
First Place - **Tylor Bell, 12** ~ Canajoharie-
Fort Plains # 2621 of the Central District,
Robert E. Paulson, District Chairman
Second Place - **Maizy Ludden, 13** ~
Liverpool # 2348 of the Ontario District,
Thomas Conley, District Chairman
Third Place - **Sarah Geertgens, 13** ~
Mechanicville-Stillwater # 1403 of the
Northeast District, Brian Gustas, District
Chairman.

These six top finalists received bonds of varying denomination from the NYSEA in honor of their fine achievement. All 125 essays were gratifying evidence that the spirit of patriotism and national pride are alive, well and thriving in our younger generation.



Syracuse Lodge #31

E.R. Don
Clookey along
with Trustee
Kevin Merriam
PER handed

out dictionaries to elementary schools throughout their immediate area. The Lodge also handed out the dictionaries in Roxboro Rd. Elem. School in Mattydale, N.Y. as well as the 3rd graders in St. Rose of Lima School in North Syracuse, N.Y. and Huntington School in Syracuse. In all, Syracuse Lodge has given out over 500 dictionaries every year for each of the past 5 years to area schools much in need of resources.

New York State Elks Association Youth Activities, Tim Welp, Youth Activities Chair Report given at NYSEA Convention

Good Morning! I need to begin my presentation today with an update. At the fall

convention I made you aware of the challenge faced by one of our Jr. Golfers - Brock Marvin from Plattsburgh NY. At the time, Brock, then 17, had just competed in our state tournament and was awaiting a heart transplant. I had asked each of you for a prayer. I'm pleased to report that those prayers were heard and answered. On December 11th Brock underwent a successful heart transplant. He emerged from surgery with both a new heart and the gift of life. Following three months of rehabilitation, Brock was able to return home. He is currently back in school, has been running and is now looking forward to a great golf season. He plans on playing soccer in the fall for Elizabethtown-Lewis Central School. To all of you that said a prayer on Brock's behalf, all I can say is Thank You!!!

With Brocks success noted, let me share with you a few other Youth Activity accomplishments since the last convention. During the fall and winter months, children from around the state participated in our Soccer and Hoop Shoot programs. I congratulate Soccer Chair Mike Neaton, Hoop Shoot Chair John Edinger and all our District and Lodge chairs for a job well done in promoting these programs. Our State Soccer Championship was held October 24th and hosted by Oswego Lodge #271. The State Hoop Shoot Contest was held February 26th, 2011 and was hosted by Poughkeepsie Lodge #275. I would like to recognize Soccer Chair Michael Neaton and Championship Chair Michael Coad for their outstanding effort in planning the State Soccer Shoot Championship and Hoop Chair John Edinger and Richard Long for their efforts with the State Hoop Shoot. A special thank you is extended to the members of Oswego Lodge #271 and Poughkeepsie Lodge #275 for their hospitality and for all their volunteer efforts at these contests. Both events were extremely well organized.

Our Associations commitment to the Dictionary project was evident during the 2010-2011 school year with 77 Lodges distributing 28,577 dictionaries. Watertown Lodge #496 led the way distributing a remarkable 1,512 dictionaries, followed closely by Rotterdam Lodge with 1,224. And in partnership with another community organization, Utica Lodge #33 assisted with the distribution of 1,272 dictionaries.

With summer fast approaching, the fifty-sixth Annual New York State Junior Golf Tournament will soon be hosted by Mechanicville-Stillwater Lodge #1403. This event will take place August 14th and August 15th. Registration forms and other event information will be available at today's workshop and has been posted on the State website. At this time, a host site is needed for next year's contest. If any Lodge or District is interested, please contact me or my successor, Jeffery Smaldon of Rome Lodge #96.

A Youth Activities workshop is scheduled for 3:00pm this afternoon in the Carlson Room. There will be an overview of our various youth opportunities and Soccer Shoot Chair Mike Neaton will be presenting information on this year's Soccer Shoot competitions, including the Area 1 Competition that will be hosted by NYS. Following our presentations, Awards will be presented to Oswego Lodge #271 and Poughkeepsie Lodge #275 for hosting the State Contests. Oswego Lodge #271 will also be recognized for having the best overall Youth Brochure. This afternoon, we will also be presenting individual achievement awards to four individuals for their commitment to the Youth of their communities. They are:
Lolly Malone - Oswego Lodge #271
Kevin Merriman - Syracuse Lodge #31
George Manor - Esperance Lodge #2507
Richard Long - Poughkeepsie Lodge #275

Continued on page 6