

## New York State Elks Donate

New York State Elks Association President Larry Contratti announced today the donation of \$2,500 to the Salvation Army for the victims of Hurricane Sandy in the New York metropolitan area. He noted that the local Elks Lodges have also been providing assistance to the Red Cross by providing staging areas for relief efforts and temporary shelter for volunteers. Lodges throughout the state have been collecting needed supplies and coordinating the delivery of those items to affected areas.

NYSEA Major Projects Corporation Chairman James Peace also announced that all donations received by the Elks Association for Sandy Disaster Relief will be sent to the Salvation Army. Anyone wishing to donate through the Elks to help the victims of Sandy can mail their donation to: The New York State Elks Association, Major Projects Corporation, 33 Holcomb Road, Averill Park, NY 12018. Checks should be made out to NYSEA Major Projects Corporation – Sandy Relief. The NYSEA Major Projects Corporation is designated as a 501 c (3) corporation by the IRS.

The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks is a fraternal organization which is dedicated to Patriotism, Community Service, and the Development of our Youth, through the principles of Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love and Fidelity.



As we celebrate our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary,



remember 25 years ago when 1<sup>st</sup>. class postage was 6 cents. How times have changed

### Future Conventions Announced

The New York State Spring convention is in Albany, NY at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. May 16, 2013 to May 19, 2013

The Grand Lodge Convention is in Reno, NV July 14, 2013 to July 18, 2013.

The New York State Fall Conference is at the White Plains, NY Crowne Plaza Hotel Sept. 17, 2013 to Sept. 22, 2013.



State President Larry Contratti visits **Watervliet Lodge #1500** on Saturday, September 28, 2012. Pictured from Left to Right back row: District Deputy Ernest "Jay" Heassler, Cobleskill #2040; PSP Bruce Hidley, Watervliet #1500; PDD Joseph Benoit, Watervliet #1500; Tiler Gerry Stevers, Watervliet #1500; Loyal Knight Paul Harko, Watervliet #1500; PDD Tony Thanopoulos, Watervliet #1500; Leading Knight Colleen Quackenbush, Watervliet #1500; PSVP Tim Gardner, Watervliet #1500; PDD Walter Ellis, Watervliet #1500. Front row, L-R: PDD Robert St. John, Watervliet #1500; PER/ER Edgar

Quackenbush, Watervliet #1500; State President Larry Contratti, New York Lodge #1; PDDGER Peter Roach, New York Lodge #1; State Vice President John Kochan, Colonie #2192; PER Tracy Maloney, Watervliet #1500; PER Patricia Moran, Watervliet #1500.

**Southwest District** - NYSEA President Lawrence Contratti visited the Southwest District November 9 - 11. Because of Hurricane Sandy, SP Contratti waited in line at a gas station in his area for over 3 hours in order to be able to travel to the SW District. SP Contratti visited all five lodges during his visit. On Friday night he enjoyed dinner at the **Jamestown Lodge #263** and toured the historic Lodge building. The Lodge presented him with a gift. Saturday's visits included the **Olean Lodge #491**. ER James Theodore Jr. presented SP Contratti with a Cutco knife set. The next stop on his district tour was a visit to **Wellsville Lodge #1495**. The Lodge presented him with a basket of local vendors' items. The day concluded with a Harvest Dinner at **Hornell Lodge #364**. The Lodge celebrated the 100th anniversary of their Lodge building. President Contratti was given a numbered print of the Lodge building. The weekend's visit culminated with his visit to the Veterans' Day carnival at the **Bath VA Medical Center**. NYS Veterans' Chairman Robert Wheeler, DDGER, lead a guided tour of the grounds and Pres. Contratti visited the 28 graves of the Unknown Soldiers from the War of 1812. Pres. Contratti greeted the Veterans at the carnival and then returned home.



**Jamestown Lodge #263** members welcomed NYSEA President Larry Contratti at dinner Nov. 9, 2012 at the lodge. "It is an honor to visit Jamestown, NY Lodge #263 with all of its historic associations: deceased lodge members Jerome B. Fisher, Grand Exalted Ruler of the United States in 1900, Supreme Court Justice Robert Jackson and even former city resident Lucille Ball," Contratti said. "It was a pleasure to host Elks President Contratti and his guests," said Gregory Noon, Jamestown Lodge Exalted Ruler. Noon presented a check for \$200 to Contratti for the Veterans' Day Carnival at the Bath VA Medical Center. Photo -(L-R) PSP Jamie Peace, Gregory Noon, ER Jamestown Lodge #263, Frank Ludu, DDGER, Lawrence Contratti, President NYSEA, William Day, Jr. SVP, Paul Hill, Est. Lect Knight, Jamestown Lodge and Walter Gaczewski, Est. Leading Knight, Jamestown Lodge.



**Watertown Lodge #496** - Esteemed Leading Knight Paul Nutting presents New York State Elks Association President Lawrence Contratti with a pasta basket during his recent visit to the Lodge. Also in the photo is State Vice President Tom Portolese and Past State President Tim Kelly.



**Watertown Lodge #496** - Exalted Ruler Mike Forcier accepts an award after the Watertown Elks Lodge tied for 1st place with Johnson City Lodge #2821 in the NYSEA Website Contest. Our congratulations go out to Johnson City Lodge. Pictured above L to R; ER Mike Forcier and Matthew Intriери State Internet/Electronic Media Chairman.



**Potsdam Lodge #2074** was honored by the Potsdam Chamber of Commerce Lodge with a distinguished Commitment to Community Award. The Lodge was presented the award during the Chamber's Annual Community Dinner. The Lodge was recognized for its commitment to youth and Veteran programs and charitable contributions to Potsdam and the surrounding communities. Pat Brady, District Superintendent of Potsdam Central Schools, presented the award, saying, "With their long established reputation for providing valuable community service to the Potsdam Community, specifically our youth and veterans, there are few more deserving to be recognized for this award." On behalf of the Potsdam Elks 835 members, the award was accepted by Exalted Ruler Wayne Boak and District Deputy Tim Welpe. A group of Lodge members proudly gather for a photo following the award presentation.

## NEW GRAND LODGE/LOCAL LODGE COMMITTEES

### ACTIVITIES FRATERNAL RESPONSIBILITIES

<b>PUBLIC RELATIONS</b>	<b>FLAG DAY</b>
<b>DRUG AWARENESS</b>	<b>PATRIOTIC ACTIVITIES</b>
<b>YOUTH ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>ELK MEMORIAL DAY</b>
<b>COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>MEMBERSHIP*</b>
<b>COMMUNITY PROJECTS*</b>	<b>AMERICANISM</b>
<b>HOOP SHOOT</b>	<b>LODGE ACTIVITIES</b>

\* Includes Recruiting, Investigation and Orientation  
 \* One program solely identified as Elks  
 Sponsored within the jurisdiction of the Lodge and developing other community projects that emphasize the charitable works of the Order.