



**A Message from Major Projects Board Chairman PSP, Jamie Peace**

Dear Members,  
In my last written article I attempted to more clearly explain to you our Major Project history and provide some education of the Home Service program. The Major Projects Board hopes that this helped enlighten all of the members on all of the good work that Home Service Directors do for their clients.

It's hard to believe that our Ambassadors are in their last six months of their three-year terms! Our membership has seen many changes with both Caitlin and Joseph in the last 2 ½ years. Both have undergone surgeries to help with walking and it has been a pleasure to see both of them grow and advance. We have seen Caitlin graduate from high school and enroll as a freshman at Daemen College. Joseph has gone from his wheelchair to a walker. It has been a true pleasure to meet and become friends with both families as they are also Ambassadors for our Major Project, as both Caitlin and Joseph have worked very closely with their Home Service Directors within their Affiliates.

I would also like to thank our Major Project Committee chairman Lou Withiam, as well as his wife Fran, for all of their hard work and dedication to help make your Major Project a success.

The Major Projects Board knows that all of the lodges and districts are working hard to make their per capita.

The second Major Projects grant was awarded to help provide disability sports training for Affiliate staff of C.P. of New York. This grant has been successful and the Board hopes that more centers will apply next year. The Major Projects board oversees many other programs that are in these actions this time of the year. Scholarships, which are administered through our State chairman, are very important to our Order as well as our state. October was Elks National Foundation month. November was for Veterans Remembrance. The essay contests, for Americanism, along with Drug Awareness. Soccer contests are ending; Hoop Shoot contests are beginning, with our Youth Activities chairperson involved with events throughout the year. Chairpersons of the programs mentioned should be working with your Public Relations committee, to let your community know what we do and what we as Elks are all about.

Thank you to all of the chairpersons that fall under the Major Projects umbrella for all of the great work you do to make these programs the best that they can be.

The Major Projects Board and I would like to wish everyone a very happy and safe holiday season and a Happy New Year.



**Ithaca Lodge #636** submitted a Gratitude Grant to the Elks National Foundation asking for support of Franziska Racker Centers' "Making Room" Capital Campaign. A grant of \$2,000 was received, and will support needed renovations for the Racker Centers' special education preschool building and will also help build a new Learning Center where best practices for helping people with special needs can be shared with the community. Franziska Racker Centers has a long partnership with the Elks and greatly appreciate the ongoing

support the Elks have shown Racker Centers over the years. "We couldn't ask for better friends" say Executive Director Roger Sibley, "Together we are able to assist many people in our community, helping them have happier more productive lives. We are grateful for this gift to our "Making Room Campaign."...Pictured above; Roger Sibley of Franziska Racker Centers (tan coat) accepts a check from Robert Boothroyd, Exalted Ruler of the Ithaca Elks Lodge #636, as Elks members Lou Withiam (far left), and Gary Carlson (far right), look on.



**Port Jefferson # 2138 donates to family of child with brain cancer**

The Port Jefferson Lodge #2138, before a recent meeting of the lodge, presented a check for \$3,500.00 to a family that has a 7 year old son that has been undergoing treatment for a rare form of brain cancer. The youngster, Ryan Zinna has been putting up a valiant battle with the disease. Shown in the photo (l. to r.) is the lodge's Chairman of the Trustees, Robert McClean, the boy's father Darren Zinna and Exalted Ruler Anthony Florio, PER. Brother McClean was the chairman of the 13th Annual Stick Ball Tournament that raised \$11,800.00 net profit that was used to assist both local Veterans and families in need of financial assistance. In the 13 years that the tournament has been ran, the Lodge has raised over \$110,000.00 for this cause.



**Liverpool Lodge #2348** recently held their annual Music Fest. They had several bands playing different types of music throughout the day. They served great food and held a number of raffles. It was truly a pleasure to have New York State Ambassador for C.P., Caitlin Schulerin attendance. Sen. John DeFrancisco, and Past State President and his wife, Phil and Sue Holowacz were also in attendance. Approximately \$13,000 was raised for New York State Major Projects CP at this event.



**Beacon Lodge #1493** held a car show to benefit cerebral palsy and the lodge raised \$ 1,000.00.



**Wolcott Lodge #1763** On August 3-5 Wolcott Lodge 1763 held its firsts Annual Camp-a-Rama. Thirteen campers attended the fun filled week-end. Friday: August 3, campers checked in and then enjoyed a delicious dinner in the lodge at our regular Friday night Dinner service. Saturday: August 4 campers started the day with free breakfast and donations were collected and \$40.00 was donated to Major Projects. There was a horse shoe tournament followed by a successful Pig Roast where over 100 dinners were sold, the evening party on the patio was moved inside the air conditioned lodge because at 6:00 PM the temperature was 92 degrees. This ended up being a wonderful weekend of fellowship. Webster Fairport, PDDGER Don and Bonnie Williams attended the weekend festivities along with PSVP Canandaigua Lodge Vern and Doreen Thompson. ER Brad Whitaker from Newark lodge took time out of his busy schedule to come for the pig roast. This will be an annual event and next year we hope to host many more campers!



Each year the Elks of **Staten Island Lodge #841** throw the UCP of NYC Staten Island Children's Program a family-fun filled barbeque to celebrate the summer season. This year's Summer Bash, held in June, was attended by over 100 family members. In addition to great food from the grill, the event featured carnival activities, water-play, spin-art, and even a visit from a clown. With heat indexes at a summer high, attendees cooled down with sweet frozen treats donated by Ralph's Famous Italian Ices. As part of the Elks, sponsored event, the UCP of NYC team showed off the beautiful new Elks Home Service van purchased in part by a grant program created by the New York State Elks Association (NYSEA). Each year, Elks Lodges across the state raise almost \$500,000 to help fund the CP of NYS Home Service Program. Part of the Elks' commitment is a \$25,000 fund used to assist with the purchase of vehicles for the Home Service programs in affiliates across the state. The NYSEA Major Projects Inc. has helped raise more than \$20 million in the past 48 years to support the Home Service program.