

NYSEA Drug Awareness and Education Program

Welcome to the New York State Elks Association Drug Awareness Program. Whether you are a District or Lodge Chair, or a member interested on making a difference in your community, you are here because you care. The Elks Drug Awareness Program is first of all the hardest working program in Elkdom, second in my opinion, the most important program in Elkdom. We have a huge problem in our communities and our job is to try to educate ourselves, other members, neighbors, parents and most of all, our children on the hazards of illegal and prescription drug use, alcohol and tobacco use and the newest threat to our youth synthetic and designer drugs.

My children and grandchildren have always the source of my passion for the DAE program. My children have worked with me on all of my DAE Programs and kept me educated on what they were hearing and learning in and out of school. They keep my eyes open to what issues are of greatest concern in their lives and in our community.

Included in this packet are many tools to help make a successful DAE Program. Please look it over and pass along anything that might be beneficial to others.

1. Information regarding [Red Ribbon Week](#) (Last week in October) and the Elks Enrique (Kiki) Camarena Award
2. [Poster/Essay Contest](#) information, Poster/Essay Labels and [Hold Harmless Agreement Waiver](#)
3. [Data Collection Survey of Volunteer, Youth, Charitable and Community Service](#) Programs. This form should be filled out for each Lodge event and given to the Lodge Secretary for the Charitable Records book. DAE Chairs should fill one out for each event/program and keep a copy so the information for the Annual Report is ready for your District Chair.
4. [Literature Order Form](#) Used to order Grand Lodge literature. Each Lodge is entitled to 1 box of each item. Districts 2 boxes of each item. Exceptions are made for stocking trailers and special events. I also have a State allotment and can use it for events if needed.
5. ["Parenting is Prevention"](#) video series overview by world-renowned inspirational speaker Milton Creagh. The video series is available through Grand Lodge and is a great learning tool for students, teachers, parents and community leaders. Also available are Grants to host "Big Milt" in your community (if you are interested in hosting Big Milt, contact me personally)
6. ["Hard Choices"](#) Comic Book Program which partners Marvel Superhero's with our very own Super hero "Elroy the Elk" in a battle against peer pressure and underage drinking. "Hard Choices" comic books are now available for Lodge use. Orders must go through me.
7. The President's [Volunteer Lifetime Service Award](#) is for anyone who has volunteered 4,000 hours or more in their lifetime.
8. [NYSEA Trailer and Elroy the Elk](#) are available for use. Specifics are attached. Contact me to schedule dates...

Any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me.
Sincerely and fraternally Kathleen Neiss



Watervliet Lodge #1500 - PER Johanna Baniak & PSVP Edward Baniak visited Menands, Heatly & Watervliet Elementary schools to hand out dictionaries to a total of 161 3rd grad students on October 24, 2012. Also attending was Nancy Caswell, Publicity Chairman



Beacon Lodge #1493 gave tribute to Red Ribbon Week at the District Deputy Visitation with the distribution of red ribbons for 70 members and a special guest appearance of Elroy the Elks. The lodge presented a certificate and American Flag to Eagle Scout John Burneson from Boy Scout Troop #41



Norwich Lodge #1222 with the help of the **NYS South Central District PER Association** awarded scholarships to two local youths. Derrick T. Talbot and Jaime L. Berger were both awarded a \$500 scholarship on behalf of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks to help further their educations. Derrick resides in Norwich with his mother, Denise and will be attending Sage College in Albany. Jaime also resides in Norwich with her parents, Robert and Cathy, and will be attending College at Brockport NY. Pictured above from left to right, Jeff Cola, Exalted Ruler of Norwich Lodge, Derrick Talbot, Jaime Berger, Jaime's mother, Cathy and Bill Aitken, Norwich Lodge Scholarship Chairman. The Elks award scholarships annually and are open to any students to apply. Contact the Norwich Lodge for more information on how and where to apply."

Recently Norwich Elks Lodge 1222 held a Chicken BBQ for the Norwich High School Girls Softball Boosters to raise money. Budget cuts have forced many of the High Schools teams to run separate fund raisers to help pay for uniforms, equipment & travel expenses. The Boosters support both Middle & High School programs. The Norwich Elks presented the Boosters with a check for \$500.00.



Potsdam Lodge #2074 sponsored an NFL Punt, Pass and Kick contest. The contest was co-chaired by Lodge member Dave Dorothy and District Deputy Tim Welp. 42 children between the ages of 6-15 participated in the contest. Nine children earned championships in their age divisions and advanced to a regional contest in Liverpool, New York where three of the children, Karley Green (girls 8-9), Kelsey Green (girls 14-15) and Brennan LaShomb (boys 6-7) became Regional Champions. Each earned an opportunity to participate in a Team championship at Rich Stadium prior to a Bills Football game. Co-chair Dave Dorothy is pictured with some of the boy's 10-11 group during the Potsdam contest.



State Soccer Chair Mike Neaton and District Deputy Tim Welp represented the **North Central District** at the St. Lawrence Seaway Polar Plunge. The Polar Plunge is a statewide fundraiser sponsored by Special Olympics New York. Thanks to contributions from District Elks and community members, \$525 was donated on behalf of the North Central District to benefit Special Olympics. As part of a District fund raising challenge, Neaton and Welp plunged into the St. Lawrence River wearing a Tux. In total, the event raised over \$20,000. They are pictured with Special Olympic Event Coordinator Erin McCartan and the Polar Bear mascot prior to the plunge.



Lyons Lodge #869 once again recently sponsored their annual Halloween Hayride for the children of Lyons. The Hayride began at the Lyons Elks Lodge on Church Street in the Village of Lyons and traveled throughout the northern and western part of Lyons. During the hayride, the children were treated to refreshments at the home of Keith and Suzie Wagner on Armitage Road. This annual hayride is one of a wide variety of activities for the youth of Lyons sponsored by the Elks Lodge.

