



# NEW YORK STATE ELKS ASSOCIATION MAJOR PROJECTS



JAMIE PEACE  
MAJOR PROJECTS  
MESSAGE

Once again, for our Major Project, you have come through to accomplish our goals for another year, even though it did take the entire fiscal year. State Chairman Irene Pashley was ecstatic the goal was met! This is our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Partnering with C.P. of New York. As happy as we were to make our goal, we are also very disappointed that 6 lodges were unable to contribute. Many lodges and members are unaware that 100% of their donations go directly to each affiliate's Home Service Director and program. The Home Service directors are unique to each affiliate and to each area of the Home Service director to do the important work that makes all of them so special. Whether taking a client to an appointment in a Metro area or taking clients in the North Country. In all areas of the state these Home Service Directors are doing an unbelievable job, making sure that their clients with developmental disabilities live a life that is much better. Congratulations to Major Project Chairman Irene Pashley for a job well done. She received a 5-Star Award at this year's Grand Lodge Convention in New Orleans.

We welcome new *Empire State Elk* editor Tim Welp. Tim is taking over for Jack (Tex) McClurken who has provided his expertise for the past 14 years. Tex has done an unbelievable job with our publication over the years and now we want to say *THANK YOU*.

Your Major Projects Board has made changes to our annual grant for the affiliates in that we increased the amount to be given out from \$5,000 to \$10,000. The Board also approved a new \$4,000 scholarship in honor of PGER David R. Carr. In addition, the New York Elks Major Projects Corporation Board, with the support of the New York State Elks Association Advisory Board, has established the Army of Hope. This program is to assist the men and women in our nation's military and their families at home. The Army of Hope Program has established a fund dedicated to helping those lodges that are undertaking a project to assist a veteran or family that costs more than the lodge can afford. This fund will match the lodge funding up to \$1,000.00.

Again, *thank you* to all of our chairmen for their hard work and dedication to make all of our programs so successful. And thank you to our loyal members, because without all of you, none of these programs would be possible.



On July 20, 2014, members of Ontario District partnered with our CP of New York Affiliate, Enable for their 3rd annual "Anything that Rolls" fundraiser. Teams walked, ran, rolled in wheelchairs, on adaptable bikes and even roller-skated their way down Onondaga Lake Parkway to raise money for Enable. Team Ontario raised over 1000.00 which Enable has so graciously allowed us to raise specifically for the Home Service Program, our Major Project. A great time was had by all and we are looking forward to joining next year's fundraiser with even more members of Team Ontario.



During his tenure as State President, Martin Rosenthal, along with his wife Terri, joined the Kennedy family and attended a Major Projects fundraiser sponsored by the Ladies of the East. They are pictured with the Kennedy family during the fundraiser.



Do you ever wonder if your donations to the NYS Elks Major Projects are put to good use? While camping at Coles Creek State Park in Waddington, NY PER Philip A. St.Amand of Massena Lodge #1702 saw a NYS Elks Association sponsored van arrive with a trailer in tow carrying a half dozen canoes. PER Phil later visited the campsite of Home Service Director Jim Williams and his clients. They had just returned from a canoe trip to Long Lake, NY and were spending a few days camping at the State Park campground. Jim works out of the Cerebral Palsy Association of the North Country's Canton office. Jim is the Coordinator of Disabilities Awareness Program, Coordinator of Outdoor Recreation Program for People of All Abilities, and works with Family Support Case Management. He expressed his thanks to the Elks for the support given to UCP. The van provides transportation for many of the recreational and therapeutic activities of the organization. The attached pictures illustrate one of the many uses of the transportation vehicles provided by NYS Elks' donations to the Major Projects funds. In the group photo, Home Service Director Jim Williams is the third person from the left.



At the Spring convention, Louis Withiam was announced as the CP Person of the Year for the year 2013-2014. Past State President Donald Fisher accepted the award on Lou's behalf as he was unable to attend the convention. His award reads "To Louis Withiam for Outstanding Service, Dedication and Support of New York State Elks Major Project". He is a past Major Projects chair and current Major Projects Corporation Board member. Congratulations Lou!!!



Liverpool Lodge #2348 holds an annual Music Fest to raise funds that support the Major Projects program. Ambassador Allie Comfort has had the opportunity to attend the Music Fest. Allie Comfort is pictured with Dave Selover, a representative of Enable, a CP of NY affiliate in Onondaga County. He is teaching her how to operate an adaptive bike. The bike is just one of many developmental tools developed to enhance the quality of life for people with disabilities.