



NEW YORK STATE ELKS ASSOCIATION MAJOR PROJECTS



JAMIE PEACE, PSP MAJOR PROJECTS MESSAGE TO MEMBERS

Dear Members,

As summer comes to a close, so do all of the events lodges have held to help with our Home Service Program. The car shows, Music Fests, golf tournaments, and many other events helped raise funds for our Major Project. The Major Projects Chairman Irene Pashley continues to think "outside of the box" to help raise funds in addition to our per-capitas. The newest fundraiser is through the travel company *Fundraiser Rewards*. When members book travel plans through *Fundraiser Rewards* Major Project will receive 5% of each at the conclusion of your travel. This is in addition to the percentages earned through *igive.com*, Amazon Smile, and Schwanz. Also, all donations can be made through credit cards, which is as easy as a click on the New York State website.

Our National Convention in Indianapolis was a great success. Our Major Project booth was awarded a 5-Star Award. Great job, Irene and Jan Pashley! While at the Elks National Convention, all of New York's delegates had the pleasure of meeting our National Scholarship winner Sarah Giudice, sponsored from Southampton Lodge #1574. As Sarah was a scholarship winner during our last fiscal year, our State Scholarship chairman Jennifer Neaton is working diligently to have another great class of winners for our upcoming year.

Also, **don't forget** our Emergency Grants Scholarships! If you are not familiar with these scholarships, please be sure to ask your local scholarship chairman.

The Major Projects Grant Program continues to grow. What started a few years ago with a \$5,000 grant to help with a playground at Cerebral Palsy of Westchester has grown annually. This year the Major Projects Board awarded \$15,000 to four very deserving programs:

- C.P. of the North Country, for their outdoor recreation program
- C.P. of Ulster County, to assist in the construction of an ADA compliant sidewalk
- Able2 is embarking on the first step toward a community garden, and Upstate Cerebral Palsy's grant will help make an equine-assisted therapy center a reality.

Our Public Relations Chairman Michael Jones, along with the *Empire State Elk* publication Chairman Tim Welpé did a terrific job with our insert in the Albany Times Union paper that was published on September 18th. As we have done in the past, the insert is published when our Fall Conference is attending. This year's insert promoted all that the New York State Elks do to help our veterans. Speaking of veterans, remember that November is National Veterans Month.

Many of our programs are in full swing – our Soccer Shoot is moving along, and when it comes to a close, it will be time for the Hoop Shoot competitions to begin. Our Drug Awareness program progressing along with the Quiz Show, and October 23rd through October 31st is Red Ribbon Week. The Americanism Committee is working with local schools to promote its essay contest. Long-time Internet Chairman Matt Intrieri has dedicated many years and hours to make our website one of the finest within any State Association. And, members, don't forget to donate to the Elks National Foundation – the Crown Jewel of Elkdom.

Thank you to all of the chairpersons for all your hard work and dedication.

In conclusion, on behalf of the Major Projects Board, we wish to express a huge THANK YOU to all of our members for your donations to your Major Project, the Home Service Program, and to the Elks National Foundation.

Sincerely,
Jamie Peace, PSP

MAJOR PROJECT—CREDIT CARD DONATIONS

DID YOU KNOW—Our Major Project is now able to receive donations directly through credit cards. The link is on our website nyselks.org. It is a button just below the ENF donation button and it reads "donate to MP" As you will see if you check it out, your Lodge # is required and any donations will be credited to your Lodge per capita. Many people are looking to donate before the end of the year for tax purposes. (You can also print out a receipt at the time of donation)

Myers Park in Herkimer was filled with music, activities and most of all Classic Cars as the **Herkimer Elks Lodge #1439** sponsored their annual classic car show to benefit CP. We top out at 50 car chairman PDDGER Roy Henry stated when asked on how many cars were on hand. The annual car show helps Herkimer Elks Lodge #1439 meet its obligations to the New York State Major Projects.

Johnson City Lodge #2821 recently held an event at "Uncorked Creations" in Binghamton NY. A talented artist guides participants step by step during a 3 hour class to complete a painting that each participant keeps. Members Ben & Lori Cabot coordinated the event which raised \$250 for Major Projects.



More than 600 people attended **Liverpool Elks Lodge #2348's** 27th annual Music Fest to benefit Access CNY. Approximately \$8000 was raised at this event. Four bands played music throughout the course of the day. Plenty of food was available as well as raffles and games. Access CNY had one of their Home Service Vans present and set up a very informative display. CP ambassador Allie Comfort, accompanied by her family, mingled with the participants throughout the day. Past NYS Elks Association Presidents Dan Capella, Jamie Peace and Tim Kelley were in attendance. A large contingent of people from Rotterdam Lodge boarded a bus and traveled approximately 130 miles in one direction to support Liverpool Lodge as well as our State's Major Project. Lodges throughout the Ontario District and the entire area had a visible presence. It was wonderful to see the support from members along with the public.

NEW MAJOR PROJECT PARTNERSHIP

We have partnered with Touraid Travel Inc. Cruise & Vacation Group to increase our income for Major Projects. Touraid Travel, Cruise and Vacation group is a full service travel agency/reservations center operating exclusively in the rewards, loyalty and fundraising space. Working in conjunction with the Signature Travel Network, they provide a comprehensive reference and booking mechanism for individual vacation brands and destinations. They offer the lowest available pricing on all of today's top cruise brands, two worldwide escorted tour companies and more than 600 resort properties throughout the Caribbean, Hawaii, Mexico, Florida, Bermuda and the Bahamas. In addition to special low pricing, they negotiate special offers on a monthly basis such as upgrades, onboard and resort credits and even free stays. The most substantial benefit of the program, however, is the 5% contribution which they extend following the completion of travel. That means that 5% of the base fare of every booking through them goes to support the Elks Major Projects Program.

The process is easy. Just go to nyselks.org and click on the banner reading "Support Major Projects when you Vacation". This will bring you to a website dedicated to NYS Elks Major Projects. If you prefer to do your vacation planning by phone, the information is right there also.

I am very enthusiastic about this opportunity and hope that you are also. The 5% could end up as a significant amount just for traveling as you normally would.

Please note. This donation cannot be used towards per capita. There is no vehicle to track that. But, please consider this a part of the puzzle to raise funds painlessly for our Major Projects.

Please share this with your friends, family and other contacts. You do not have to be an Elk to participate in this effort.

Fraternally

Irene Pashley, NYS Elks Major Project Chair



This past spring, our Major Project Syracuse Affiliate Enable merged with TLS to become AccessCNY. As part of their ceremony celebrating the merger, **NYS Elks Major Projects** was given a Special Recognition Award for our 50 year partnership and especially for the close relationship our Ontario District Elks have had with Enable. Picture L-R are Al Shibley, Vice President of Communications for CP of NY, Major Project Chair Irene Pashley, Past District Deputy Jan Pashley and Ontario District Major Project Chair Carol Dillabough

