

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITIES



Troops T & F - Sergeant Station Commander William Collins, SP New Rochelle, and Investigator Miguel Osoria, SP Monroe, attended the 43rd Annual Law Enforcement Recognition Night sponsored by the **Haverstraw Elks Lodge #877**. Sgt. Collins (left) and Investigator Osoria (right) received the William Conklin Memorial Award for their efforts during a pursuit which resulted in the capture and arrest of a suspect charged with multiple felonies. Both Sgt. Collins and Investigator Osoria sustained non-life threatening injuries during the incident.



Kinderhook Elks #2530 PER Association served a free dinner for approximately 60 local residents. PDD Leo Buell prepared the meal in the Lodge kitchen and brought it to St. Luke's Church in Valatie, where it was served by PDD Carman Esposito, PER Chris Akers, and Leo's wife, Irene. The Community Dinner is a weekly event, sponsored by St. Luke's and catered by local organizations.



Fulton Lodge #830 held a Valentine's Day Dance for people with special needs. This was the first time the lodge has held this event. Approximately 108 people were in attendance. The event was hosted and coordinated by the Fulton Elks in cooperation with several community organizations who serve the special needs community. A young man named Andrew attended the event; he is a fantastic singer. He loves to sing and "rocks" singing Journey songs! He came to the dance with his sister. They had a great time. Andrew was such a gentleman and made sure his sister was watched over. Scented roses were distributed for guests and Andrew was kind enough to ask for one to bring home for his mom. I am sure she was surprised and delighted. There were several girls and their helpers who never left the dance floor. Favorite songs included the Macarena, Electric slide and the chicken dance. We especially loved our little friend who was decked out in her best Minnie Mouse Valentine garb. She danced in the back with her grandpa and stole a cookie whenever she could get away with it. Pictured are the event volunteers.



NYS Elks Association Jerry Shook recently visited **Oswego Elks Lodge #271** and the Ontario District. Oswego Lodge held a Public Service Awards Dinner to honor law enforcement as well as fire fighters in the City of Oswego as well as the surrounding communities. The Chief of each recipient read the nomination letters. Pictured are the honorees and dignitaries: Public Safety Award Ceremony Chairman PER Michael Coad, NYS Elks Past President Daniel Capella, from Oswego Lodge, Honorees Past Chief Donald Forbes of Mexico Vol. F.D., Minetto Vol. F.D. Firefighter Tyler Vosseller, NYS University at Oswego Police Officer Daniel McCarthy, Oswego Fire Dept. Lt. Paul Conzone, Oswego County Sheriffs Sgt. Richard Crisafulli, Oswego Police Office Justin D'Elia, and NYS Elks President Jerry Shook.



As an annual community activity, **Ithaca Lodge #636** members ring bells for the Salvation Army Red Kettle Bell. Members Tony Joseph and Dan Jones are pictured as they take their turn at Tops Friendly Markets.

Albany Lodge #49 provided donations totaling \$2,370 to support area families and charitable organizations in need. Donations were made as follows: \$700 was spent on our four "adopted children" from two families of Blessed Sacrament Parish. Each child received three or four toys, pajamas, at least four outfits and other warm winter clothing and both sets of parents were given a box of candy and \$100 Price Chopper gift card. \$1,400 in contributions were made to the following local charities: \$500 to Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Capital Region, \$300 to Make a Wish of Northeast New York, \$200 to Community Maternity Services, \$200 to the Refugee and Immigrant Support Services of Emmaus to assist them in their fire recovery efforts, \$100 to the Salvation Army of Albany County and \$100 to the Homeless Action Committee to assist them in purchasing a new outreach van.

"ELKS CARE, ELKS SHARE"



Potsdam Elks Lodge #2074 donated \$350 to support PJs 4 X-MAS, an area organization whose mission is to provide each needy child with Christmas pajamas. In addition to a monetary donation, Lodge members filled a box with PJ's. Lodge Members Sally Boslet (Trustee), Paul Covey (Inner Guard) and Tim Welpe are pictured presenting the donations to PJs 4Xmas co-founder Camille Marshall.

Beacon Lodge #1493 hosted a holiday dinner for 65 senior citizens who are residents of two public housing complexes for people with limited income. The event also featured live musical entertainment.

Ilion Lodge #1444 recently held a fundraiser for the Catholic Charity Food Pantry. The Lodge raised \$1500 and Exalted Ruler Chuck Panko proudly presented the donation to Deana Charles who accepted on behalf of Catholic Charities.