



EMPIRE STATE ELK

Official Publication of the New York State Elks Major Projects, Inc.
Winter 2017 Issue



STATE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE WILLIAM REEDY Jr. 2016-2017

“ELKS BELIEVE,
ELKS ACHIEVE!”

Bill Reedy Jr
NYSEA President
ESE Winter 2017

As Lisa and I continue our visits to your lodges and districts, we continue to be blown away by the camaraderie we have observed and the hospitality that has been shown to us. Wherever we have visited, the warmth has been sincere and the accomplishments, tremendous. Be proud my brothers and sisters, Elkdom is alive and doing very well in New York State.

Although this year has been an enjoyable experience, the realization that we are heading down the homestretch of this Elk year has begun to cause some concern for me. That is because there is so little time to finalize our many programs. As our Elk year approaches its end, I ask that each of you please, make every effort to achieve the goals of our lodge programs, which translates into achieving the goals of our State Association. Remember, our number one goal is to achieve a positive membership growth. We need to work on increasing our initiations and lowering our delinquency. Be loud and be proud and with one voice, tell everyone what Elkdom is all about and what we do for our communities. Your enthusiasm is contagious, so spread it around and don't forget to ask, "Do you want to become a member?"

Also, strive to meet your per capita goals for Elks National Foundation and Major Projects and don't forget, the work is not done unless the paperwork is filed. Make sure all program results are sent, on time, to the proper district and or state chairs so that your lodges receive credit for the work that took place. Once that is done, it will be time to look back and enjoy the success of the 2016-2017 Elk year. Of course, don't relax too long because in a short time, we will begin a new year, one in which every committee and every program will need to Prepare, Plan and Perform so as to insure success in the 2017-2018 Elk year. If you remember that a successful lodge has strong community ties, desire, and teamwork, chances are very good that your lodge will prosper.

I want to thank all of you for your dedication, enthusiasm, hard work and commitment to your lodges and our Order. We have a great organization and we have every reason to be very proud of all we accomplish and the lives we change.

“IF WE BELIEVE IT, WE CAN ACHIEVE IT”

NYSEA State President William Reedy Jr. Upcoming Visitation Schedule

West Central District	February 3-5, 2017
Ontario District	February 10-12, 2017
Southeast District	February 17-19, 2017
East District	May 5-7, 2017
Spring Convention	May 18-21, 2017



State President Bill Reedy, Past State President Tim Kelly, North Central District Deputy Philip St_Amand, North Central District State Vice President Chip George, Past State Tiler William Reedy Sr, Syracuse Exalted Ruler Shelia O'Connor, and ESE Editor Tim Welp, visited the Fort Drum USO. Past State President Tim Kelly and State President Bill Reedy presented USO staff member Luis_Figueroa (Also Lowville Lodge Leading Knight) with donations totaling \$4093. Potsdam Lodge provided a \$326 donation that was raised by State Veteran's Chair Ernie Charleston during a basket fundraiser at Potsdam Lodge, Ticonderoga Lodge provided a \$150 donation and the NYSEA provided a \$3,617 donation. The State Association donation was from the basket raffle fundraiser held at the Fall convention that was coordinated by State Veterans Chair Charleston. Following the presentation of donations, the group received a tour of the USO facility from Luis Figueroa and Joshua Thomas, Center Operations and Program Manager for Fort Drum USO. During the tour, Luis provided a detailed presentation on the USO Transition 360 Alliance Program. Following the USO Tour, the group received a tour of the Fort Drum Museum from Curator Kent Bolke, a retired Lt. Col. The group then proceeded to the Fort Drum Commons for a lunch at Busters Brew Pub.



State President Bill Reedy was a special guest at the Watervliet Elks Ladies Auxiliary 80th Anniversary Dinner Dance Celebration. The Watervliet Ladies Auxiliary was established in 1936. He is pictured presenting a proclamation to Watervliet Lodge Ladies Auxiliary President Margaret Gras on the occasion of their 80th Anniversary during the ceremony.



State President Bill Reedy, along with First Lady Lisa and his travel team of Shelia O'Connor and Mindy Johnson are pictured during their visit to Saratoga Wilton Lodge #161 during his visit to the Northeast District.

STATE PRESIDENT HOMECOMING

The Homecoming for State President Bill Reedy is scheduled for Saturday, April 22, 2017 at Camillus Lodge #2367. Dress will be Business Attire. Cocktails (cash) are scheduled for 5PM and Dinner is scheduled for 6PM. Dinner will be Prime Rib or Chicken Francaise. Dinner cost is \$35 Per Person. Homecoming Reservation Forms will be sent to each Lodge.