

GEORGIA *Elks* NEWS

OCTOBER 2022

Meet President
Knighton and First
Gentleman Ronnie
on pages 10 & 11

Highlights from
Jekyll Island
pages 6-9

National
Convention
in Atlanta
pages 12 & 13

Albany Fall
Meeting
Schedules
page 20

*Welcome to the Georgia Elks
Association's First Woman
President, Nita Knighton*



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We had a great annual convention on beautiful Jekyll Island in June and welcomed our First Lady President, Nita Knighton, and “First Dude”, Ronnie to their leadership roles for the 2022-23 year. You can meet Nita, Ronnie and family and learn more about them on pages 10 & 11.



Lynda Lewis
Editor
Ga Elks News

The Grand Lodge National Convention was held in Atlanta in July and thank you to all of our volunteers who took time to come and help. Great job everyone! Some of the highlights from the convention are on pages 12 & 13 for those of you who were not able to attend.

So far it has been a busy summer for our Georgia Elks and we are not slowing down. By the time you read this we will have held the Aidmore Golf Fore Kids Tournament on September 16 and will be on our way to Albany in October for our fall meeting. The schedules for the meetings on October 21st and 22nd are on page 20.

As most of you know, Calvin and Sue Sneed, Past Auxiliary President, were in an accident on their way home from Jekyll in June and we lost a wonderful woman in Sue. Please continue to remember Calvin and Sue's family in your thoughts and prayers.

Also, not long afterward, we were saddened to learn that we had lost another great lady and Past Auxiliary President, Mary Louise Clements. Please continue to remember her family in your thoughts and prayers as well. Tributes to these wonderful ladies are on page 25.

Enjoy the fall and hopefully cooler temps, stay safe and I will see you in Albany.



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or postal mail to:
Georgia Elks News
6350 Lake Oconee Parkway
Ste 110 PMB 165
Greensboro, GA 30642

PAGE 3

Lynda Lewis
EDITOR
PHOTOGRAPHER
John Helgesen
EDITOR EMERITUS



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Nita Knighton
GEA President

Thank You, Thank You and Thank You for allowing me the privilege and honor of being installed as the State President of the Georgia Elks Association this past June at our Jekyll Island State convention.

Then July arrived and we had the honor of being the host state for our BPOE National Convention. The joy and pride I experienced in carrying our State Flag across the Dias is truly beyond simple words. I thank everyone for this honor you bestowed on me. Waiting for the start of the ceremony, I had the opportunity to view the packed auditorium and thought, how Blessed I was to have this honor.

Our National Convention was a huge success and could not have been accomplished without the Leadership and dedication of the convention team. Thank you, Chairman Tim Whalen and your support committee, of Bruce Hayden, Steve Petrie, Bob Colie and Tobin Sexton. Without the team leads, Stan Jones, Bill Lewis, Beth Colie, Dan Tatum, Junior Roberson, Brian Russell, Bethany Jackson, Larry Pope, Lynda Lewis and all the rest of the support team we could have never pulled it off. Thank you all, who sacrificed their time and adjusted personal schedules to make Georgia a glowing success to the rest of the country.

Our focus this year remains increasing Membership and retaining our current members. We have already had a gain in membership this year of 229, however, we have delinquents of 669. We must focus on retaining those 669 members. We have the opportunity this year to increase our standing nationally and finish better than in 20th place. Our DD's, VP's and State Advisors are all working together to accomplish this task.

Please do not forget our State project Aidmore! Please consider signing up for our \$8.00 for Aidmore monthly deduction. Our annual Golf Tournament was September 16th at Hard Labor Creek State Park. If you did not golf, I hope you sponsored a team or sponsored a sign on a green. Our commitment to Aidmore is a year round one. Please continue keeping it one of the nations best programs as our state project.

Has your Lodge applied for all the ENF Grants that they are qualified for? ENF helps our lodges to continue helping our communities. Our programs for kids, as hoop shoot, soccer and education are funded through ENF. Has your Lodge met the Grand's dollar quota? Our programs for Veterans would not be possible without the funds from ENF. I encourage all lodge ENF chairpersons to challenge your members to donate just \$10.00 per person per year. You can make a difference.

Our Fall meeting is in Albany Ga., on Oct 21 & 22. Please go to the Ga. Elk's Website for registration and hotel information. Looking forward to seeing everyone there.

God Bless our military serving around the world and their families. Thank you to our Veterans and their families for the sacrifices they have made.

God Bless all till we meet again.

Fraternally,
Nita R. Knighton
GEA State President
770-337-7256



Mike Smith
PGER, PNP

CONGRATULATIONS GEORGIA ELKS ASSOCIATION AND THANK YOU !!

What a fantastic National Convention you hosted. I have heard nothing but good as far as the Convention. Thanks to all of the volunteers for going above and beyond!

State President Nita Knighton, and her husband, Ronnie, are about midway through their year and has the GEA on track for another great year. We are over fifty percent of our membership goal and as of this writing **#2 in ENF donations per capita**. We need to stay focused on positive growth and promoting Elks purpose. Keep in mind that the seating at next years National Convention will be based on the percentage gained over the previous year. Keep the GEA as a leader not a follower.

A special congratulations to Special Deputy, Bruce Hayden, to being appointed as Grand Lodge Esteemed Grand Tiler at the National Convention in Minneapolis, MN in July of 2023. Please give your thanks to the District Deputies for their dedication and laborious tasks of keeping our Lodges on the right track for success. Give them the support they deserve and let them assist your Lodge in improving. We are in an exciting era in the Order of Elks as we are moving mountains to achieve membership pinnacles. Lets be a part of the excitement and enjoy the ride. Have Fun, Enjoy, and stay Focused. Be attentive to your delinquent members. If your Lodge is not on the new Billing System offered at NO cost to you, it is your

loss. This proven system reduces your delinquent list and sends reminders to those who are not current. It is truly a "no brainer". If you need help ask for it. Let's Grow!!

Sandra and I look forward to seeing and visiting with everyone in Albany on Oct. 21st and 22nd at the Fall Conference. We are honored to be your sponsor. I am optimistically looking forward to some very positive updates on the GEA. Keep up the momentum and stay in the "LEAD PACK". Our Order is in a Great place and it is full throttle ahead. Stay healthy, happy, and God Bless you and your family and our nation.

"BE LOUD, PROUD and VISIBLE"

Michael F. Smith, PGER/PNP
GEA State Sponsor



Deborah Johnson
Auxiliary

I am honored to assume the role of your State Auxiliary President for 2022-2023. We all had a great year under Sarah Hendricks as "Guardians of Aidmore". Now let's all help and work together to "Create A Brighter Tomorrow" for our Aidmore girls and our Therapeutic Care Foster children.

Our annual meeting, installation ceremony, and luncheon at Jekyll was all I hoped it would be. Thanks Abe Wilkinson, now former CEO of Aidmore, for installing me and the Officers. It was Certainly a privilege and bitter sweet to be the last installation for you. We wish you and Teresia all the BEST! And for Dr Vickey Hale who is your replacement, good luck in all your endeavors for Aidmore. We are all behind you 100%. A BIG thanks to the Valdosta Auxiliary ladies who helped with the decorations and set up at the luncheon and the reception for incoming Presidents. Also all the past Presidents and Auxiliary ladies who provided food for the reception. We can always count on you to go over and beyond!

After arriving home from Jekyll we got the devastating news about Sue and Calvin Sneed's accident and her passing, then less than a week later news of Mary-Louise Clements passing. Two beloved Past Presidents gone within a week of each other. I attended both services which were beautiful and unique. We can all continue to remember these ladies and their contributions of love and giving by keeping their memories alive in our minds and hearts. We must also continue to keep their family and friends in our prayers.

In July Mike and I attended the National Convention in Atlanta and helped work the Merchandise booth and a couple of others. The Aidmore booth looked great and got lots of traffic. Heather Hickey's daughters Christo and Beatrice did an amazing job of selling tickets for our State project, the round diamond necklace. Great job girls!! I hope everyone else is working just as hard to get their tickets sold.

On August 13th I had the Executive Board Workshop at our Valdosta Lodge. The auxiliary ladies prepared a delicious lunch for us! Thanks to all who attended and a special thanks to Dr. Vickey Hale our new CEO of Elks Aidmore for coming and giving us a very informative talk and question time on Aidmore and the Therapeutic Care program.

Sept 16th is Golf for Kids. I will be there to assist in any way I can. Mike will have a golf team and I also hope to follow them around some. I will interject here a minute to also thank my husband Mike for his support and help! It means the world to me!! Love you dear! This event is always a good time and good money maker for Aidmore.

Now looking forward to the Fall Meeting in Albany October 21st. A lot of work goes into preparing and Hosting a quarterly. Let's give them a good showing for their efforts! We will draw for the diamond necklace after the General Meeting on Saturday.

See you there!
Deborah Johnson
Auxiliary President



Bruce Hayden, PSP
Special Deputy

DISTRICT DEPUTY VISITS

We are at the time of the year when the District Deputy Grand Exalted Rulers will be making their visits to your Lodge. Please make sure that you are prepared for their visit and have all of the appropriate Officers, Committee Chairs and records at the Lodge as well. The Exalted Ruler and Secretary should be working together in preparation for all of the required documents as well as ensuring all of the Lodges records are in order. By having everything ready in advance you will save yourself time and a lot of unnecessary aggravation as you definitely don't want to extend this past one visit. The DDGER will be reviewing all of the minutes from all Lodge Meetings, House Committee Minutes, BOD Minutes and Auditing & Accounting Minutes & Reports. Along with the DDGER, they will have their Auditor who will be going through all of the Lodges financial information. One of the key components will be reviewing the FRS entries, check-books, vouchers and bills paid. Accompanying these items will be your vouchers to verify proper procedures are being followed. Also the Auditor will be examining the books of the Lodge and club, making sure they are current, complete and readily available; that a budget has been adopted and is being followed; that the statutorily required audits have been performed by the Lodge Auditing & Accounting Committee. In examining the Lodge, the DDGER will have their Esquire that will use a checklist centering on cleanliness, safety, attractiveness and efficiency of the Lodge property and facilities. Once these things have been

accomplished the DDGER and their team will be staying for your Lodge Meeting. Please make sure that the Officers are prepared to properly open, perform and close the meeting. The DDGER will need to properly be introduced granting them the Grand Lodge honors that they deserve and they should also be called upon to address the Lodge during the meeting.

Make this visit one to be proud of and show off your Lodge to the DDGER as the more prepared the Lodge is the better they are able to report the visit.

Beast Buggy tickets will go on sale soon and the drawing will be at the Aidmore Christmas Party.

Jekyll Island Convention Highlights

Georgia Elks and Auxiliary members met on beautiful Jekyll Island in June for our annual convention. A good time was had by everyone as we said goodbye to now PSP Bob and Beth Colie and welcomed our First Lady President, Nita Knighton and First Gentleman, Ronnie. The Ladies Auxiliary also said goodbye to now PSP Auxiliary, Sarah Hendricks and welcomed Auxiliary President Deborah Johnson.

There were meetings and parties as everyone got to visit with friends from around the state. Jesup provided a wonderful picnic dinner on Friday night under the tents and then things wrapped up Friday night with a dance. On Saturday, the ladies played horseshoes, the men cornhole, and we held our annual Memorial Service for our departed members. The Americanism Program was presented and there were GEA Awards for Americanism, Public Safety, Scholarships, Veterans and Youth Activities. On Saturday evening came the Installation and Awards Banquet at the Jekyll Island Convention Center. Congratulations to all of the folks receiving awards at the banquet pictured on the next page.

The Parties



The Awards



Lake Oconee Lodge #2849, Lodge of the Year, ER Scott Pitocchelli & right, GEA Pres. Bob Colie



To the right, Vance Rhodes, PSP, Dalton Lodge #1267, Elk of the Year with GEA Pres. Bob Colie



GEA Pres. Bob Colie and left, Wally Binns, ER of the Year from Albany Lodge #713



Ned Thompson, Dalton, Past State Presidents Award with Mike Bailey, PSP, presenter



Bill Lewis, PSP presented Renee Black, Secretary, Eatonton Lodge #2549, with the Secretary of the Year Award. Harry Gorge pictured in back



Left, Brian Russell, NE VP, Toccoa Lodge #1820 Pres. Appreciation Award from GEA Pres. Bob Colie



ER Marilyn Roland, Calhoun Lodge #1883, Pres. Appreciation Award from GEA Pres. Bob Colie



ER Brenda Sailors, Brunswick Lodge #691, Pres. Appreciation Award from GEA Pres. Bob Colie



Jane Santee, Camden Co. #2820 recieved the Pres. Appreciation Award. Pictured with Jane is Stanley Santee, PSP



Nita Knighton, Pres. Elect, Marietta Lodge #1657, Presidents Appreciation Award from GEA Pres. Bob Colie



Left, Bill Becker, South VP, Savannah Lodge #183, Presidents Appreciation Award from GEA Pres. Bob Colie



Left, Greg Shelby, NW VP, Marietta Lodge #1657, Presidents Appreciation Award from GEA Pres. Bob Colie



Beth Colie, Auditor, F.R.S., NE, Lake Oconee Lodge #2849, Presidents Appreciation Award from GEA Pres. Bob Colie



Scholarship Chair Junior Roberson presented Jenna Williams, Douglas, with a Scholarship Award from the State

Jimmy "Spud" Bowen received a Presidents Appreciation Award but was unable to attend.



Scholarship Chairman Junior Roberson presented Zoey Johnson, Union City, with a Scholarship Award. Not pictured Enzo Hines, Marietta Lodge



The Public Safety Officer of the Year Award went to Detective Jason Robinson of the Dalton Police Department. Pictured L-R: Vance Rhodes, PSP, Mrs. Jason Robinson, Detective Jason Robinson, Piker Penn, Chairman, presented the award, and Junior Roberson from Dalton Lodge #1267



Junior Roberson from the Dalton Lodge won 1st place in the NW District for the most Good Fortune Tickets sold.



Gary Fowler from the Albany Lodge, won 1st place in the South District for the most Good Fortune Tickets sold.

Steve Petrie, DD NE, from the Lake Oconee Lodge was unable to attend, but won 1st place in the NE District for the most Good Fortune Tickets sold.

Americanism



U. S. Army, Bill Becker, Savannah Lodge #183



U. S. Air Force, Stanley Santee, PSP, Camden Co. Lodge #2820



U. S. Coast Guard, Curtis Hart, LaGrange Lodge #1084



U. S. M. C. Piker Penn, Calhoun Lodge #1883



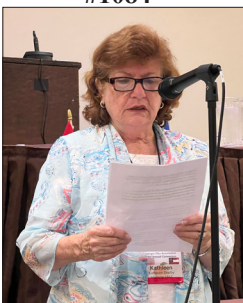
U. S. Navy, Steve Shirah, Savannah Lodge #183



POW/MIA, John Yost, PSP, Albany Lodge #713



Above far left, Suzy Lindsey, from the Atlanta-Northlake Lodge #78, gave the Tribute to the Flag. Center, Gary Fowler, Albany Lodge #713, read the winning Americanism Essay by Samiya Slaughter (sponsored by the Albany Lodge) and above right, Kathleen Shelby, Marietta Lodge #1657, read the winning Essay by Miranda Dankwa (also sponsored by the Albany Lodge).



To the Left, Keynote Speaker, Senator Sheila M. McNeill, the Past National President of the Navy League of the United States. On her left is GEA President Bob Colie.



Now Retired CEO of Aidmore Abe & Teresia Wilkinson at the Installation Banquet. Abe was Aidmore CEO for over 29 years.



Charlene, PSP Aux. & Larry Westberry Brunswick Lodge #691



Linda & Mike Bailey, PSP, Dalton Lodge #1267



Stan Jones, PSP & Margie, Albany Lodge #713



Gary Robinette, PSP & Linda, Cartersville Lodge #1969



Vance Rhodes, PSP & Peggy, Dalton Lodge #1267



Harriet Thompson, PSP Aux., & Charlie Watson, Albany Lodge #713



Bobby Carter, PSP & Charlene Brown Carter, Lake Oconee Lodge #2849



Lake Oconee Lodge L-R: Bob Colie, PSP & Beth, Mary Zachary, Tracey Pitocchelli, Bill Lewis, PSP & Lynda, Maureen Brower & ER Scott Pitocchelli



Aux. Pres. Deborah Johnson & Mike, Valdosta Lodge #728

Installation of Officers



GEA President, Nita Knighton escorted by First Gentleman Ronnie Knighton on the left and Grand Esquire Tim Whalen on the right



President-Elect Junior Roberson escorted by Mike Bailey, PSP



Valdosta Lodge #728 - Cheryl Johnson, Mike Johnson, Aux. Pres. Deborah Johnson & Jackie Curran



Atlanta-Northlake Lodge #78 Members



Dr. Vickey Hale, CEO Aidmore & Rev. Dr. Keenan Hale, Sr.



Savannah Lodge #183 and Brunswick Lodge #691



Toccoa Lodge #1820 - Seated to the right are Cyndi Russell, DAP Chair & Brian Russell DDGER NE



Covington Lodge #1806 Elks & Auxiliary Members



Center President-Elect Junior Roberson, Dalton Lodge & Bethany Jackson, VP NW, Cartersville Lodge #1969



Marietta Lodge #1657 members came out in full support of their own President Nita Knighton and First Dude Ronnie.



Albany Lodge #713, John Yost, PSP, and Petite Yost

Meet President Nita Knighton, First Gentleman Ronnie and Family



GEA President Nita Knighton and “First Dude” Ronnie at the convention on Jekyll Island.

says she has big shoes to fill and her main goal this year is to continue the State’s Membership growth and work hard on the delinquents. She feels it’s great having new members but “we must also focus on keeping the ones we have”. Nita thinks the Elks organization is the best and she loves everything; volunteering, meeting new Elks and visiting other lodges. Nita isn’t sure if there is anything she would like to change as her year as President, as she stated in her acceptance speech “Be Kind, Respect and Get Along”. As always, Membership is at the top of her list as well as Aidmore, ENF and our Veterans.

Nita loves spending time with her family especially during the holidays. Her favorite hobby is decorating, especially during the holidays. She and Ronnie love summertime and spending time at the pool and beach, but as most of you know, they are huge Georgia Bulldog fans and also love fall and football! In the fall and winter they enjoy watching the DAWGS play and always enjoy the holidays with friends and family. Las Vegas and Tahoe are two other places they love to visit. Nita also likes to travel as long as she can find the back roads!! She is not a fan of interstates at all!

If you are friends with Nita on facebook, there is no doubt you will have seen plenty of pictures of the famous wonderdog Trigger! Nita says Trigger is not a normal dog. She honestly thinks sometimes he really thinks he’s a human. Trigger is a rescue and they have had him 10 years. Nita has had bassets most

Nita Knighton, the Georgia Elks Association’s First Woman President was born in Colorado Springs, Colorado at the Air Force Academy Base on June 12, 1962. When Nita was only 3 months old, her Dad was transferred to Valdosta, Georgia and later to her family’s hometown Marietta. She has lived in Marietta her entire life.

The Georgia Elks Association’s First Gentleman (aka First Dude) is Ronnie Knighton. Ronnie graduated from Woodrow Wilson Law School in June 1968 and started his practice in June 1971. Ronnie still practices law today and he is known in Marietta as Marietta Matlock. He specializes in Criminal and Personal Injury law. Our First Gentleman is a life member of the State Bar of Georgia, Cobb Bar Association, American Bar Association, Georgia Trial Lawyers, US 5th District Court of Appeals, Georgia Court of Appeals and in 1985 he was sworn into the United States Supreme Court in Washington DC. Ronnie also serves as Special Master for Cobb County Government. He is a 49 years life Member of Marietta Lodge. Although he only served as Loyal Knight and 5 year Trustee, he is always giving advice to those who ask. Nita has worked part time for Ronnie since 1994 and in 2020 during Covid, she started working full time as his Legal Assistant due to his Secretary of 27 years retiring. She also is Nita’s cousin so it has been a family affair.

After women were voted on to become Elks in 1996, and being involved since 1985, Nita decided to become a member. Her interest in Elks are Community Activities, Veterans, Aidmore and helping those less fortunate at Christmas. Nita became an Elk in 1997 and has served every office with the exception of Esquire. Nita has been the Elk of the Year, Officer of the Year (several times), Citizen of the Year and she was named Cobb County Schools Volunteer of the Year in 2021. She has received 10 Grand Lodge Outstanding Services awards, and was District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler in 2017-2018. After being asked by several Past State Presidents and others in 2016 about running for State President, she decided to announce her candidacy in 2019.

Nita says she is very honored to serve as the First Lady President of the Georgia Elks. She

L-R: Granddaughter Sydnie, GEA President Nita Knighton, First Dude Ronnie and Marietta ER and niece Taylor Levy at Ronnie’s 10th anniversary re-birth celebration





GEA Pres. Nita Knighton & Niece, Taylor Levy, Marietta Lodge ER, at the convention in Atlanta



Daughter Kamee King and Granddaughter Syndie at Syndie's graduation from KSU

of her life. Her uncle raised them when she was a child. They also have 2 Granddogs, Kane and Enzo who are both Kane Korsals. The Knightons have 2 Granddaughters, Syndie 22, a Graduate of KSU with a degree in Business Management and Peyton who is 10 and in the 5th grade. Her daughter Kamee is a Mortgage Broker.



Granddaughter Peyton

The ER of Marietta this year is Nita's niece, Taylor Levy. Nita says she is so proud of Taylor and looks forward to see what the future holds for her with Elkdorm. Nita has 3 siblings, sisters Terri and Cindy and brother Charlie Wayne. She lost a sister (Patti) in 2010 to cancer.



Left, Wonderdog Trigger ready for the Georgia game to start, center, Granddog Enzo is 1 & weighs 60 lbs. & right, Granddog Kane is 4 & weighs 160 lbs.

Nita is not sure what her plans will be after her year as State President, she says "we will just have to wait and see".

Nita was asked if there was anything people don't know about her that she would like them to know and she said that when she was 12 years old she told her grandmother that she was going to marry Ronnie one day. Ronnie was the Family Lawyer. They started dating in 1982 and married on January 25, 1985.

We wish Nita and Ronnie a fantastic year as President and First Dude! They have been and will continue to do a terrific job, so continue to give them your support and help as the year goes on.

Nita and Ronnie's home lodge, Marietta Lodge #1657, is known as the "Little Lodge with a BIG Heart"! Marietta members have been serving their community for 79 years. They are open on Saturday and Sunday from 1:00 - 5:00 PM and they meet on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM. Plan to stop by for a visit when in the Marietta area. The members would love to have you.



(Taken from the Marietta Museum of History & Marietta.gov) Before there was an Atlanta or a Chattanooga there was Marietta, Georgia. A small cluster of homes near the Cherokee Town of Kennesaw that were reported as early as 1824. An early road in what would become Cobb County crossed the "Shallow Ford" of the Chattahoochee and ran just south of these settlers. The Georgia legislature legally recognized the town on December 19, 1834.

Marietta has seen more history than most towns see in a century. Witness the history of the city at the exciting Marietta History Museum on the second floor of the Kennesaw House. See the room where Andrew's Raiders finalized their plans for the Great Train Robbery. Visit the Cherokee section and learn about the "removal" on the Trail of Tears.

Left, Nita's Granddaughter Syndie

Right, GEA President Nita Knighton waits for the Parade of Flags to begin in Atlanta



One Hundred Fifty-Seventh Grand Lodge Session Atlanta, Georgia



The 157th Grand Lodge Convention was held in Atlanta, Georgia July 3-6, 2022. Thank you to all of our Georgia volunteers and also our out of state volunteers that took time to come and help make this a convention to remember. Great job everyone! Below and next page are some of the highlights from the convention. Hope you didn't miss this one!



Welcome to Atlanta!

GEA President Nita Knighton and Grand Esquire Tim Whalen welcome the nation's Elks to Atlanta and a big crowd of Georgians showing some Georgia spirit!



The opening ceremony had President Nita Knighton carrying the Georgia Flag in the Parade of Presidents, Bill Becker, Larry Pope, Piker Penn and Al Deutsch were the color guard and Bill Lewis, Curtis Hart and Cassie Demand from Michigan carried the Public Safety Flags. L-R: Bill Becker, Savannah Lodge, Larry Pope, Valdosta Lodge, Bill Lewis, PSP, Lake Oconee Lodge, Nita Knighton, GEA President, Marietta Lodge, Piker Penn, Calhoun Lodge, Curtis Hart, LaGrange Lodge and Brenda Sailors, Brunswick Lodge. Below, far left, President Nita Knighton & James Barfield, Eatonton Lodge, below middle Pipes and Drums entertain guests and far right L-R: Bill Becker, Larry Pope, Piker Penn and Al Deutsch





Pres. Nita Knighton walks in the Parade of Flags



Grand Esquire Tim Whalen escorts Grand Exalted Ruler Bruce Hidley to the podium



Bill Lewis, PSP with the Fire Services Flag, Curtis Hart with the Public Safety Flag and Cassie Demand from Michigan carrying the EMS Flag



Manning the Aidmore Booth L-R: Laura Nichols, CEO Dr. Vickey Hale, Teresia Wilkinson and Abe Wilkinson



District Deputies Grand Exalted Rulers L-R: Dan Tatum, Larry Pope & Brian Russell



Adrianna Watkins, Marietta



Charlene Carter, Lake Oconee, entertained the diners with beautiful music



Bruce Hayden, PSP, Valdosta, with his volunteers in the merchandise booth



Curtis & Penny Hart, LaGrange, hand out vests to the volunteers



L-R: Keynote speaker Lieutenant General (Ret) William B. Caldwell IV with Bob Colie, PSP

Below, in the manpower room L-R: Bill Lewis, PSP, Lake Oconee, John Findley from Alabama, James Lakeman and Dave Tateyama, Lake Oconee

Scott Pitocchelli, Beth Colie and Tracey Pitocchelli, Lake Oconee

Dwaine Lovingood, PSP & Molly Nobles, LaFayette



Committee Reports

Hoop Shoot



Vance Rhodes, PSP
Hoop Shoot
Chairman

We are moving ahead with a full Hoop Shoot season. **Please note some rule changes, specifically the 10 second rule and doing away with counting the number of dribbles.** This year may prove to be a bit challenging due to the Covid Virus, but we will adhere to the CDC and Grand Lodge guidelines. Due to the lingering effects of the pandemic, setting Lodge and District contest dates may prove to be difficult with some areas experiencing possible disruptions. Lodges will need to check with schools, private academies, county recreation centers, etc. to find a location to hold their local hoop shoot. Please contact your District Director for more information about the changes to the Hoop Shoot Program.

Be sure to post your contest dates on your Lodge and the National Websites. Please check the GA Elk Website for periodic updates. If you need assistance, please contact your District Director or myself.

I want to thank all of the Volunteers for giving their time to make this past year a success. We are getting ready for this year's season and several more Lodges in our state are committing to holding local shoots. It is a great opportunity to reach out into our communities to show them the good work that we as Elks do for our Children. Special thanks to Chuck Myers for serving as the NE Director last year.

Georgia's National Winner

Congratulations to Brendan Smith, from the Marietta Lodge who won the National Finals in Chicago in April. He shot a 25/25 free throws to win not only his age group 12/13 boys, but also won the Getty Powell Award for the highest scoring boy shooter, Frank Hise Champion and the Emile Brady Awards for perfect score.

Bill Cook was posthumously installed into the Elk's Basketball Hall of Fame that was created this year. Bill served as the Regional Director for 25 years and was a member of the Dalton Elks Lodge 1257.

GEA Hoop Shoot Directors: Bob Colie, PSP, Lake Oconee Lodge, NE District Director; Randy Keener, Dalton Lodge, NW District Director; Robert Reardon, Albany Lodge, South District Director; Vance Rhodes, PSP, State Hoop Shoot Director

Drug Awareness



Cyndi Russell
864-247-5768
Cyndilay@yahoo.com
Facebook
Cyndi Lay-Russell

Hello my fellow Elks,

I am happy to be the state DAP chair this year. I was fortunate to attend the national convention in Atlanta and be a part of the DAP training. I came away with a lot of knowledge and look forward to sharing with our lodge chairmen. I hope you are planning to incorporate the Drug Awareness program in your events at your own lodge. Remember I will be looking for Drug Awareness activities during the upcoming weeks, share to Facebook. The poster, essay and video contest theme this year is **"ONE PILL CAN KILL"**. The contest rules are on GAELKS.ORG, in the DAP folders, and can be found on elks.org. During the DD Clinics you were provided a **DRUG AWARENESS** folder and a **LODGE ACTIVITY** folder with dates, contest and information, please look at these and participate in all the activities. Please let me know if your lodge needs any coloring books and book marks. I can order them and it typically takes 10 days to deliver. Also - The Lodge Activities Contest is due October 1st. Choose between the events you have held since April 1st, fill out the contest form and email those with photos to me. This is a fun way to show other lodges what was successful for your lodge. We all need new fresh ideas. Start working on those Contest A forms, time flies when we are busy.

I look forward to seeing you all in October in Albany!!

Fraternally,
Cyndi Lay Russell

Scholarship



Junior Roberson
President-Elect
Scholarship &
Soccer Chairman

Scholarship time is here again. The Elks National Foundation will give 2.44 million in scholarships this year, second to only the federal government. Most Valuable Student (MVS) applications open 8/1/22 and close on 11/14/22 at 11:59 pm Pacific time. Any High School Senior can apply. Legacy Scholarships opened 9/1/22 and close on 2/6/23 at 11:59 pm Pacific time. These scholarships are for children, grandchildren, stepchildren, or step grandchildren of Elks members. Emergency Educational Grants can be requested 5/1/22 - 11/1/22. These Grants are for undergraduate students of Elk parents or stepparent of deceased or totally disabled Elks. For complete guidelines go to elks.org under programs then click scholarship. I would like to congratulate the 3 Legacy winners for the 2022 year. Beatrice Hickey Brunswick 691, Brad Irrardi Jesup 2133, and Kathryn Stroud Toccoa 1820. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Phone 706-847-7122 Email willierobersonjr@gmail.com

Soccer



Soccer season has begun and is in full kick. By now lodges should be working on their soccer shoot program in preparation for a successful soccer shoot. This program helps keep youth focused and away from undesirable activities. Here are some dates of importance: NW district is Sunday 11/6 at 2 pm in Calhoun, NE district is Sunday 11/20, State contest is 11/20 at 2pm. Both the NE and State contest will be in Conyers at Adimore. The Regional contest is 1/28 - 1/29 at the Florida Elks Youth Camp. The Soccer Shoot program is growing year by year, and I would like to thank a couple of lodges and people; Toccoa Lodge and Brian Russell and Covington Lodge and Anita Denny who have started participating in this great program. Please feel free to contact me if you have any question. Phone 706-847-7122 Email: willierobersonjr@gmail.com.

News From Lodges Around The State



Albany Lodge #713 on May 8th presented its annual Mother's Day Celebration. Gary Fowler presented "Tribute to Mother". Pots of beautiful flowers were presented to Mothers that traveled the longest distance, the youngest and the oldest. The Mothers of an Elk member were treated to a delicious lunch and door prizes were presented to all the Mothers in advance. L-R: Chaplain Steve Hurley, Esquire John Yost, Lecturing Knight David Dougherty, Loyal Knight Debbie Dougherty, Leading Knight Bob Reardon, ER Wally Binns, Lodge Sec. Gary Fowler who gave the tribute.



Albany Lodge #713 presented the GEA Americanism Essay Contest Winners with a certificate and a \$100 check that was presented at Jekyll Island by Chairman Greg Shelby. Miranda Dankwa, 5th grade and Samiyah Slaughter, 8th grade won First Place in the State contest. Samiyah won 3rd place in the National Contest that was displayed at the National Convention in Atlanta. Pictured L-R: Albany ER Wally Binns, Americanism Chair Greg Shelby, Samiyah Slaughter, Albany Americanism Chair Marilyn Fowler and Lincoln Elementary Principal Dr. Shumate who accepted the award for Maranda Dankwa.



Albany Lodge #713 received the Freedom Spark Grant for \$1000. Albany Lodge partnered with the American Legion Post 30 and the American Legion Auxiliary in order to increase the funds available to help as many vets as possible. We held a meeting at the American Legion Post and donated a total of \$2500 to help lady vets pregnant or have recently given birth. L-R: American Legion Senior Vice Richard Stowe, American Legion Aux. District Pres. Deanna Nicholson, Chief Keith Griffin, Carl Vinson VA Med. Cen., Albany Elk ER Wally Binns, American Legion Commander Dan Brewer, Albany Elks Grant Committee members Marilyn Fowler and Robert E. Reardon Sr.



Augusta Lodge #205 received the Boost Grant from the Veterans Service Foundation. They bought 18 medical overbed tables for the Georgia War Veterans Nursing Home.



Augusta Lodge #205 hosted an open house on August 14th to meet and greet members of their community and have some family fun. The theme was "Welcome to Safari". There was face painting and a petting zoo for children and Karaoke and games for the adults. There was a contest for members who invited the most guests and the winner received a \$50 gift card. Augusta Lodge had 4 people sign up to become part of the lodge.



Left, **Brunswick Lodge #691** made a donation to the Sparrows Nest, the lucky recipient of \$3000 from the Elks National Foundation Community Investment Gratitude Grant. The continued support allows the Sparrows Nest to feed and provide hygiene items for those in the community.

L-R first row: Margie (Bingo Player), ER Brenda Sailors, Mr. Crosscabbage (Bingo Player), Saber Slader-Sparrows Nest and Mrs. Crosscabbage (Bingo Player)

L-R second row: Treasurer Patti Barber and Marvin Reese, member. Thank you to Doug Einsel.



Brunswick Lodge #691 made a donation to Castaways Animal Rescue. Larry Westbury and ER Brenda Sailors made the presentation.



Calhoun Lodge #1883 held its Junior Golf clinic in June. There were 39 kids participating. This year a new station was added indoors that included tutorials in safety, etiquette, scoring and the history of the game. In keeping with tradition, the annual event closed with a pizza & pool party enjoyed by all. Many thanks to the Elks National Foundation whose Community Investments Program's Gratitude Grant sponsored this year's event.



Covington Lodge #1806 hosted their annual special needs dance. There were a good number of special needs students, some family members and many volunteers. Each child was introduced, escorted down the red carpet and had their picture taken. While they danced the pictures were printed and placed in a Covington Elks Lodge photo to frame. Trophies were given out to dancers and a King and Queen were crowned. Each student received photos, a \$50 Amazon gift card and a book bag filled with supplies plus many novelty items.



Covington Lodge #1806 donated gift cards to homeless veterans through Ann Brown, Atlanta Medical Center Director and Dr. Anthony Conner, Department of Veterans Affairs Chief. Presenting the gift cards Covington Elk Kat Whitcomb.



Dalton Lodge #1267 donated supplies valued at over \$1500 to Eastbrook Middle School. They will be distributed to students in need. Pictured Dr. Calhoun and Dr. Schneider with the school. Thanks to everyone that made it possible.



Dalton Lodge #1267 presented a Dedication of Service Certificate from the Dalton Lodge to TFC Shackelford of the Ga State Patrol. In addition to her regular duties, she is a member of the Swat and Dive Teams for the GSP. Pictured is SGT. Kennedy, Vance Rhodes, PSP and TFC Shackelford.



Douglas Lodge #1286 held its first paint and sip party and it was very successful. Vincent Van Gogh got some steep competition with these artist. Thank you to our artist Clinton Hobby.



Eatonton Lodge #2549 held its annual Junior Golf Clinic on June 6th and 13th. Everyone had a great time.



Jesup Lodge #2133 donated backpacks and school supplies to three elementary schools in Jesup, Georgia. Jesup Elks Lodge members and other volunteers helped organize the backpacks. Members that assisted were John Carter, Payton Lang, Garrett Lewis, Delane Crawford, Denny Frazier, John Westberry, George Stafford and Chad Swanson. Volunteers were Abby Swanson and Erin Lang. Pictured above is Martha Rawls Smith Elementary School. L-R: Kimberly Ryan (Counselor), Chad Swanson (Elk Member), Denny Frazier (Elk Member), Gladwin Harper (Principal) and John Westberry (Elk Member).



Jesup Lodge #2133 also delivered backpacks to Jesup Elementary School pictured above L-R: John Westberry (Elk Member), Nicole Lynn (Counselor), Chad Swanson (Elk Member), Cheryl McReady (Principal), and Denny Frazier (Elk Member).



Jesup Lodge #2133 also delivered backpacks to James E. Bacon Elementary School pictured above L-R: Jamie Ellis (Principal), Alicia Spivey (Counselor), Chad Swanson (Elk Member), Denny Frazier (Elk Member) and John Westberry (Elk Member).



LaFayette Lodge #2018 hosted a foster kids and their families day at the pool. Goodie bags were given to each child. Thank you ER Nate Ballinger and Activity Chairman Heather Ballinger and the members for being there and helping give these kids a fun day.



Lake Oconee Lodge #2849 hosted a hotdog cookout for the area 4H Club kids that had received archery equipment thanks to the Gratitude Grant. Pictured L-R in back in red shirts: Jodie Haynes, Harry Russell, Bubba Massey and Wendy Dill. Kids in the front are Jasper & Brock Copeland and Brandon Benbow from the 4H Club.



Lake Oconee Lodge #2849 used the Beacon/Spotlight Grants to purchase 150 backpacks filled with school supplies for the students in M.E. Lewis Elementary School. Principal Anton Anthony was thrilled to get the much needed bags and supplies. Pictured with Principal Anthony in the red shirt is Bill Lewis, PSP.



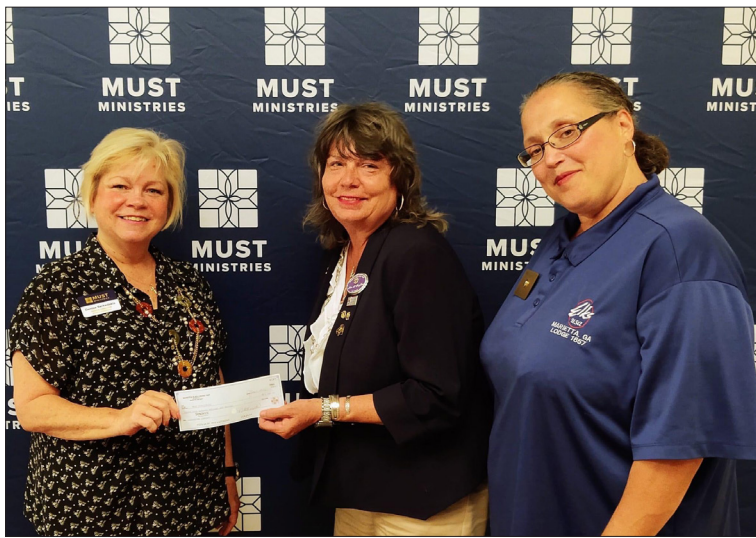
Lake Oconee Lodge #2849 received the Freedom Spark Grant to help off set the cost of 4 laptop computers, 2 printers and office supplies for an internet cafe at the new area of the Ga War Veterans Home for younger brain injured veterans transisioning to go home. Pictured L-R: Russell Feagin with the Veterans home, Lynda Lewis, Mary Zachary, chairman of the Veterans committee, Bill Lewis, PSP, Dennis Mize, Director of the Veterans home and Wanda Blackwell, Program Services Director at the home.



Lake Oconee Lodge #2849 bought and delivered a variety of snacks and drinks for the Vets at the Ga War Veterans home. The Vets are in restriction again due to a Covid outbreak. Pictured L-R: Charlotte Boone, Vets home, Mary Zachary, chairman, Chuck Brake and Charlotte Merlin with the veterans home.



Marietta Lodge #1657 made snack packs on the Memorial Day weekend for the USO in honor of May being Military Appreciation Month. Adrianna Watkins with the Marietta Lodge delivered them to the USO at Hartsfield-Jackson airport. Pictured is Adrianna Watkins, far left, with some of the USO members.



Marietta Lodge #1657 used the Gratitude Grant to make a donation to MUST Ministries. MUST addresses the basic needs of individuals, families and children. Their mission is serving neighbors in need... transforming lives & communities in response to Christ's call. Pictured are GEA Pres. Nita Knighton & Adrianna Watkins presenting the check.



Marietta Lodge #1657 had a great day dunking for kids. Pictured L-R: ER Taylor Levy, Greg Shelby, PER, PNWVP, Brian Russell, DDGER NE, Cyndi Russell, GEA Drug Awareness Chairman, and Nita Knighton, GEA President.



Toccoa Lodge #1820 attended a Hope for a Drug Free Stephens candle lighting event for National Overdose Day on August 31. Pictured L-R: Toccoa's Drug Awareness Chairman Nicole Heaton and State Drug Awareness Chairman, Cyndi Russell.



Toccoa Lodge #1820 Elk and Auxiliary members packed food for Food2Kids once a month. This is a backpack food program for students who are food insecure to have over the weekend.



Toccoa Lodge #1820 donated personal hygiene items and \$1000 to the food pantry to The Hope Center using the Gratitude grant valued at \$2500. Pictured (not in order), DDGER Brian Russell, ER Stacey Simmons, Cyndi Russell Grant Chair, members Missy Payne & Payton Ridgon with Auxiliary member Martha Dysinger & The Hope Center manager Ms. Cherry.

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Valdosta Lodge #728 had 40 people in attendance as they paid tribute to the Flag during their annual Flag Day Service. A big Thank You to the Lowndes County Fire Department and the local Boy Scouts for helping with this great event.

GEA FALL MEETING October 21 & 22, 2022

Albany Lodge #713
3213 Gillionville Road
Albany, Georgia 31721

Friday, October 21 All events at Albany Lodge Dress for Friday is Casual

10:00 - 4:00 Registration Desk Open
3:00 - 4:00 Lodge Secretary/Treasurer Meeting
4:00 - 5:00 Past State Presidents Meeting
4:00 - 5:00 ER/Leading Knight Meeting
5:00 - 6:00 GEA President meeting with VPs & President-Elect
6:00 - 7:00 Meet/Greet President-Elect Candidates
7:00 - 11:00 Dinner/Dance at the Lodge

Saturday, October 22 Breakfast on your own. Dress: Casual for the Meeting

8:00 - 2:00 Registration
8:30 - 11:30 Committee Meetings
8:30 - 8:45 Lodge Activities/Drug Awareness Cyndi Russell
8:45 - 8:55 FRS Ned Thompson
8:55 - 9:15 Auditing & Accounting Jane Santee
9:15 - 9:45 Leadership Academy Jane Santee
9:10 - 9:20 Budget Tobin Sexton
9:20 - 9:30 Business Practice/Disaster Relief Dan Tatum
9:30 - 9:40 Elks National Foundation Jim Klynman
9:40 - 9:50 Elks National Veteran's Service Maureen Manning
9:50 - 10:00 Fundraising Bethany Jackson
10:00 - 10:10 Hoop Shoot Vance Rhodes, PSP
10:00 - 10:10 Youth Activities Wendy Morris
10:10 - 10:20 Leadership Training Cliff Arden
10:20 - 10:45 Membership/Lapsation
Public Relations Steve Petrie
10:45 - 11:15 Convention Tim Whalen, PSP
10:45 - 11:00 Athletics Activities Mike Johnson
10:45 - 11:00 Grants Larry Pope
11:00 - 11:10 Public Safety Officer Piker Penn
11:10 - 11:20 Ritual/Technology Bruce Davis
11:10 - 11:30 Scholarship/Soccer Junior Roberson, Pres.-Elect
11:30 - 1:30 Lunch at the Lodge
11:30 - 12:30 GEA Board of Directors Meeting
1:00 - 1:30 PER Association Meeting
2:00 - 4:00 GEA Business Meeting
4:00 - 5:00 Cornhole Mike Johnson
5:00 - 6:30 Free Time
6:30 - 7:00 Cocktails
7:00 - 11:00 Banquet and Dance (Dress: (Men - Coat & Tie, Ladies Dressy))

GEORGIA ELKS AIDMORE AUXILIARY

Fall Meeting Albany, Georgia
October 21-22, 2022

Friday, October 21

10:00 - 4:00 Registration Desk Open
11:00 Past State President's Luncheon
(Bianca's Restaurant, 2401 -T1 Dawson Rd. Albany)
1:30 Executive Board Meeting, Albany Elks Lodge
2:00 Auxiliary Past Presidents Meeting, Albany Elks Lodge
3:00 Horseshoes, Albany Elks Lodge
6:00 - 7:00 Meet/Greet Pres.-Elect Candidates, Albany Elks Lodge
7:00-11:00 Dinner/Dance at the Lodge

Saturday, October 22

8:00 - 8:45 Credentials Desk Open, American Legion Post 30
9:00-11:30 General Business Meeting, American Legion Post 30

NECKLACE RAFFLE FOLLOWING BUSINESS MEETING

11:30 - 1:00 Lunch, Albany Elks Lodge
6:30 - 7:00 Cocktail Hour, Albany Elks Lodge
7:00 - 11:00 Banquet & Dance, Albany Elks Lodge

BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA

SATURDAY OCOTOBER 22, 2022

2:00 - 4:00 PM

Call to Order Nita Knighton, President
Presentation of Colors Lake Oconee Lodge #2849
Pledge to Flag Junior Roberson, Pres.-Elect
Invocation Jane Santee, Chaplain, PDDGER

Introduction of Grand Lodge Officers Nita Knighton, Pres.

Mike Smith, PGER & State Sponsor
Bruce Hayden, SDGER
Tim Whalen, Past Grand Esquire & GEA Sec/Treas.
Brian Russell, DDGER NE
Dan Tatum, DDGER NW
Larry Pope, DDGER South

Intro of GEA Officers (Head Table) Nita Knighton, Pres.

Junior Roberson, PDDGER President-Elect
Vance Rhodes, PSP, Parliamentarian
Jane Santee, PDDGER, Chaplain

Recognition of Past State Presidents
Recognition of District Vice Presidents

Spud Bowen, VP South
Bethany Jackson, VP NW
Steve Petrie, VP NE

Recognition Albany ER Wally Binns Nita Knighton, Pres.

Roll Call

State Officers & Lodges Tim Whalen, Sec/Treas.
Minutes of Previous Session Tim Whalen, Sec/Treas.

Sickness & Distress

Nita Knighton, President

Introduction of State Sponsor
State Sponsor Remarks

Bruce Hayden, SDGER
Mike Smith, PGER

Reports

President Nita Knighton
President-Elect Junior Roberson
Chairman, Board of Directors Stan Jones, PSP, Chair
Aidmore Stanley Santee, PSP, Chair
DDGERs - South, NE, NW Pope, Russell, Tatum
District VPs - South, NE, NW Bowen, Petrie, Jackson

Reports of Committees

Audit & Accounting Jane Santee
Leadership Academy Jane Santee
Business Practice Dan Tatum
Membership Steve Petrie
Drug Awareness Cyndi Russell
Veterans Maureen Manning
Convention Tim Whalen, PSP
Elks National Foundation Jim Klynman
Fundraising Bethany Jackson
Grants Larry Pope
Hoop Shoot Vance Rhodes, PSP
Scholarship & Soccer Junior Roberson, Pres. Elect
Youth Activities Wendy Morris
Athletic Activities Mike Johnson
Credentials Rick Corbett

Old Business

New Business

Announcements

Good of the Order

Resolutions Vance Rhodes, PSP
Benediction Jane Santee
Adjournment Nita Knighton, President

NEWS FROM AIDMORE



**Message from
Aidmore CEO
Dr. Vickey Hale**

TRANSITION IN LEADERSHIP

Webster and Google describe transitioning as the process or a period of changing from one state or condition to another. Elks Aidmore Inc. has transitioned in leadership, we have shifted from twenty-nine years of phenomenal leadership from Abe to continued growth, a commitment to maintain the core values and integrity of the agency, and a vision to see the strategic plan move from paper to fruition.

The leadership team is dedicated to our mission and the safety, health, and well-being of every child in our programs. We are determined to provide the highest quality of care that we are known to provide. Our goal will continue to become the premier agency in the state of Georgia, providing hope and guidance towards an abuse free future for the children and families we serve. While this transition was well planned, we will still miss Abe. But, we will use every day to move this agency towards its future.

AIDMORE AT JEKYLL

\$7,486.50 was raised for Elks Aidmore during the Georgia Elks Association annual convention held on Jekyll Island in June. The Silent and Live Auctions generated \$6,203.50. Ladies Horseshoes raised an additional \$450 that was donated to Abe's retirement. The remainder of funds, \$1,268.00 were from individual contributions. Our special thanks to the Auction volunteers: Wally Binns, Mickie Emmett, Bruce Hayden, Judy Norrell, Piker Penn, Junior Roberson, Dean Rosier, Jane Santee, Stanley Santee, Steve Shirah, Angela Spivey, Pam Steward, and Larry Westberry.



Ladies Aidmore Auxiliary President Sarah Hendricks and President-Elect Deborah Johnson, on behalf of the auxiliaries, presented Abe and Teresia Wilkinson with a gift for their many years of service to Georgia's children. Pictured L-R: Sarah Hendricks, Aux. Pres., Deborah Johnson, Aux. Pres. Elect, Teresia and Abe Wilkinson, June Smith, PSP Aux., Peggy Rhodes, PSP Aux., Harriet Thompson, PSP, Aux., Mickie Emmett, PSP Aux., Petite Yost, PSP Aux., and Charlene Westberry, PSP Aux.



Left, ER Brenda Sailors presented Abe and Teresia with a gift from the Brunswick Lodge and right, Teresia & Abe Wilkinson, Laura Nichols, Dr. Vickey Hale and Dr. Keenan Hale, Sr. enjoy the banquet.



AIDMORE AT THE ELKS GRAND LODGE CONVENTION

The Elks Grand Lodge Convention was a first and excellent learning experience for me and Ms. Laura. We represented Elks Aidmore daily at the booth along with Abe and Teresia, and we had an opportunity to visit other state projects and learn about their services. At the Aidmore booth, we had our newly designed (by Ms. Laura) Aidmore lapel pins and sold personalized cups and mugs. Elks Aidmore raised \$1,409 for the lapel pin and \$790.00 for the customized cups and mugs. We also received a donation of \$1,000 from Lieutenant General William B. Caldwell IV, current President of the Georgia Military College. The check was presented by Grand Lodge.

The Aidmore booth fulfilled its long-standing commitment to excellence by receiving the Five Star Rating.

Additionally, we would like to thank everyone who stopped by to visit and check in on us at the Aidmore booth. We would also like to recognize our volunteers, Greg and Heather Hickey, and their daughters, Christo and Beatrice (Brunswick Lodge). Al Deutsch (Savannah Lodge), Penny Hart (LaGrange Lodge), and Deborah Johnson (Valdosta Lodge). (Continued on page 22)

Celebrating Milestones

Elks Aidmore continues to celebrate our high school graduates.

Carolyn from the Residential Program graduated from Heritage High School. She has decided to delay college and is currently working a full-time job.

Zykeria, also known as Junior Staff, graduated from Heritage High School. She is enrolled in Georgia Gwinnett College and is pursuing a degree in Business Management.

Joshua from Dalton graduated from N. Cobb High School. His goal is to become a chef, he is currently working at Thatcher Barbeque.

Respectfully Submitted by
Dr. Vickey Hale

AIDMORE OPEN HOUSE



Stanley Santee, PSP, announced they were changing the Willis Building to the Abe Wilkinson Building. Pictured Stanley Santee, PSP, Teresa & Abe Wilkinson



Queenyona Boyd is a former Aidmore resident that came to talk about how Aidmore had changed her life. Pictured with Queenyona on the right is Dr. Vickey Hale



ELKS AIDMORE INC.

THERAPEUTIC FOSTER CARE



**CALL 770-547-5905 NOW AND
GET INFO ON BECOMING A
FOSTER PARENT!**

We are located in Valdosta, Savannah, Dalton and
Conyers

Healing Hearts, Restoring Hopes, Rebuilding Lives

AIDMORE HONORS & MEMORIAL GIFTS

HONOR AND MEMORIAL GIFTS

The staff and youth of Georgia Elks Aidmore, Inc. gratefully acknowledge the financial support of every donor. The following lists those whose recent gifts honor both living and deceased friends. For convenient reference, the list is printed in alphabetical order. We apologize should any names be omitted and if you call such errors to our attention, we will gladly make an appropriate correction in the future. Donations are from April 1, 2022 through August 31, 2022

HONORS

ABE AND TERESA WILKINSON

Michael Bailey

HOWARD HAMILTON

Michael Bailey

MEMORIALS

JACK BRAND

Stan & Margie Jones

ZACKERY BROOKS

Dwaine Lovingood

DON CARPENTER

Wayne & Charlotte Johnson

MARY LOUISE CLEMENTS

Don & Roberta Furlong

Wayne & Charlotte Johnson

John & Petite Yost

Patricia Harper

Pat Craven

Union City Elks Auxiliary

Savannah Elks Auxiliary

Charlie & Sarah Hendricks

Nancy Strickland

ROBERT "ROB" COKER, JR.

Dwaine Lovingood

PHILIP CRAIG

Tobin Sexton & Family

RANDALL ELLIS FOSTER

Charlie & Mollie Foster

Stan & Margie Jones

Herbert & Pat Malcolm

John & Petite Yost

KAY FOWLER

Flippin McDaniel

Melanie Hicks

W.B & Mary Chitwood

Randy & Kim Bramlett

Michael & Janice Slaton

BOB FORESTER

Dwaine Lovingood

RICK FRANKLIN

Wayne & Charlotte Johnson

Charles & Sarah Hendricks

SARAH "SALLIE" GARVIN

Dwaine Lovingood

JERRY GRUBBS

Larry Poole

Wayne & Charlotte Johnson

Dwaine Lovingood

Jim & Debra Pilgrim

Clark Randall

Charles & Debbie Head

Sean A. Block

Missy Payne

Toccoa Elks Auxiliary

Charlie & Sarah Hendricks

Carole & Bob McCorkle

Curahee Quitters

Pinky & Susan Dill

HONORS Continued

JOHN HENSLEY

Pine Forest Ladies Gold Association

James & Julia Carter

Ned Nichols

Diana Davis Madray

Tom & Vicki Freeman

Mickey & Linda Whittington

Latter and Bum Realtors

Jesup Elks lodge

SONNY HUNT

Wayne & Charlotte Johnson

Stan & Margie Jones

GUY MCGIBONEY

Jack & Miriam Wheeler

MICKEY NORTON

Michael Bailey

VIVIAN OWNBEY

Dwaine Lovingood

BUDDY RENTZ

Stan & Margie Jones

JOHN HOWARD SPERRY

Stan & Margie Jones

KAYLA SMITH

Dwaine Lovingood

SUE SNEED

Don & Roberta Furlong

John Hope

Charlie & Sarah Hendricks

Wayne & Charlotte Johnson

Patricia Harper

Morris & Jane Hollingsworth

Pat Craven

Union City Elks Auxiliary

Angela Stanley

Gene & Jan Cobb

Savannah Elks Auxiliary

Mickie Brinson

Mason & Alex Bennett

Stan & Margie Jones

Donald Reynolds

Valdosta Elks Auxiliary

Rebekah Thompson

John & Petite Yost

Sandy Whiten

Peter & Linda Novak

Nancy Strickland

Dwaine Lovingood

SAM TATE JR.

Dwaine Lovingood

BOB THOMPSON

Jack and Miriam Wheeler

PHILLIP W. "BILL" TURNIPSEED

John & Petite Yost

Stan & Margie Jones

Albany Elks Aidmore Auxiliary

SUSAN DEBORD WALLIN

Dwaine Lovingood

ROBERT LEE WESTMORELAND

Patricia Collins

Larry Poole & Rhonda Wheeler

Pinky & Susan Dill

HONORS continued

MARTHA WHITLEY

Michael Bailey

Wayne & Charlotte Johnson

Stan & Margie Jones

GLENN WILCOX

Tobin Sexton & Family

BRICK DONORS

We wish to recognize the following donors to the Elks Aidmore Brick Plaza. The Patrons have purchased bricks in their own names. Honor bricks can be purchased in recognition of another person and Memorial bricks are purchased in the name of deceased relatives and friends. We apologize should any names be omitted and if you will call such errors to our attention, we will gladly make an appropriate correction in the future. Donations are from April 1, 2022 through August 31, 2022

IN MEMORY

PSP DUNCAN P "TOMMY" THOMPSON JR.

Albany Elks Lodge 713

RICK FRANKLIN

LaGrange Elks Lodge #1084

ALMS

We wish to recognize the following donors to the Aidmore's Living Memorial program. A tree has been planted or bench has been placed along the Ed Hixon Walkway of Merit in honor or in memory of the following people:

IN HONOR

DWAINE LOVINGOOD

LaFayette Elks lodge # 2018

EIGHT FOR AIDMORE

Toccoa Elks Auxiliary

Kenneth Little

Piker and Brownie Penn

Hollie Treadwell

Union City Elks Auxiliary

Auxiliary Installation of Officers

The Georgia Elks Aidmore Auxiliary Installation Banquet took place on June 10, 2022 at the Jekyll Island Convention Center. Auxiliary President Sarah Hendricks passed the gavel to Deborah Johnson, the incoming Auxiliary President for 2022-23. Deborah chose the sunflower as her symbol "Creating A Brighter Tomorrow". Abe Wilkinson conducted the Installation of Officers ceremony. Below are the Auxiliary Officers for the year 2022-23.



Sarah Hendricks, out going Aux. Pres. escorted by Charlie Hendricks, PSP



Deborah Johnson, in coming Aux. Pres. escorted by Mike Johnson



Jenny Taylor, Aux. President-Elect escorted by Len Taylor



Harriet Thompson, PSP Aux., VP South escorted by Charlie Watson



Kathy Carpenter, VP NE escorted by Jimmy Carpenter



Barbara Burnett, VP NW



Heather Hickey, PSP Aux., Record Sec. escorted by Greg Hickey



Pam Stewart, PSP Aux., Treasurer



Judy Arden, Correspond. Sec. escorted by Cliff Arden



Nancy Strickland, PSP Aux., Parliamentarian escorted by Len Taylor



Mickie Emmett, PSP Aux., Chaplain escorted by Jane Santee



Attending the luncheon Dr. Vickey Hale, Aidmore CEO and Teresia Wilkinson



L-R: Pres. Deborah Johnson, Pres. Elect Jenny Taylor, Kathy Carpenter, Barbara Burnett, Harriet Thompson, PSP Aux., Heather Hickey, PSP Aux., Pam Stewart, PSP Aux., Judy Arden, Nancy Strickland, PSP Aux., Mickie Emmett, PSP Aux., and Sarah Hendricks, PSP Aux.



Pam Parker & Peggy Rhodes, PSP Aux. enjoy the luncheon

We Say Goodbye to Two Lovely Ladies



Sue Sneed
PSP Auxiliary

Sue Fowler Sneed, 80 of Gainesville passed from this earth and into the presence of the Lord on June 12, 2022.

Sue was born February 26, 1942 in Hall County. She was a graduate from Gainesville High School and received a bachelors degree in Home Economics Education from the University of Georgia and a masters degree in Middle School from Brenau University. She was an active member of Gainesville First Baptist Church for 30 years serving as Georgia's Director and WMU Director, later becoming a member of Lakewood Baptist Church for over 32 years.

She taught Home Economics at East Hall High School, and Science and Home Economics at Gainesville Middle School. Sue retired after 30 years of teaching with the Gainesville City School system.

Sue was a member of Phoenix Society, and President of the Girls Club. She was active in Elks Auxiliary along with a number of other committees. Sue was also a Past State President of the Elks Aidmore Auxiliary.

Sue loved playing cards, traveling and being with her friends from the Class of 1960, where she worked on every class reunion and get togethers for the class. This always meant a lot to her.

She is survived by her husband of 32 years, Calvin Sneed, children, Derek Fowler and Amanda Moore (Jasen), grandson, Fowler Moore (Elena), great grandsons, Tripp Moore and Jett Moore, step children, Cheryl Underwood and Kim Sneed, step grandchildren, Adison, Preston and Brinly, sister and brother in law, Mary and Hartwell Mayfield and a number of nieces and nephews.

A celebration of life was held on Saturday June 18, 2022 at the Lakewood Baptist Church. Sue was a wonderful and kind lady and she will be greatly missed. (taken from obituary)



Mary Louise Clements
PSP Auxiliary

Mary Louise Youmans Clements, 70, of Chula passed away on Saturday, June 18, 2022 at St. Joseph's Hospital in Savannah, Georgia.

Mary Louise was born August 29, 1951 in Buffalo, New York. She attended St. Williams Catholic Church in Fitzgerald where she was very involved with Sunday School as the Director (CCD) for the past ten years. She was a 1970 graduate of Tift County High School as well as a graduate of ABAC and Georgia Southwestern with a Bachelors Degree in Physical Education. Mary Louise was a Past State President of the Elks Aidmore Auxiliary.

She was an outdoors enthusiast who loved scuba diving, hunting, fishing and and motorcycle riding. She was the best dance grandmother ever to Gracie. She enjoyed the martial arts and had achieved the black belt status in Taekwondo. Her calling in life was coaching girls' sports including basketball, soccer and track for the Tift County School district.

Mary Louise is survived by her husband, Richard Douglas Clements of Chula, her two children, Jeanne Michelle Clements of Fredericksburg, Texas and Mary Beth Clements of Ft. Myers, Florida, her granddaughter Andrea Grace Avalos, her sister Shelia O'Neal of Tifton, her four brothers, Richard Youmans of St. Augustine, Florida, Robert Youmans of Upstate New York, John Youmans of Middleburg, Florida and Michael Youmans of St. Augustine, Florida.

A memorial service was held on June 24, 2022 in the chapel of Albritton Funeral Home. Mary Louise was another wonderful and kind lady that will be greatly missed by everyone. (taken from obituary)

A Poem from Sue Sneed's Service, Miss Me-But Let Me Go, Author Unknown

*When I come to the end of the road
And the sun has set for me,
I want no rites in a gloom filled room;
Why cry for a soul set free?
Miss me a little - but not too long
And not with your head bowed low;
Remember the love that we once shared.
Miss me - but let me go.
For this is a journey we all must take
And each must go alone.
It's all a part of the Master's plan,
A step on the road to home.
When you are lonely and sick of heart,
Go to the friends we know
And bury your sorrows in doing good deeds.
Miss me - but let me go.*

Auxiliary News Around the State



Above, the ladies from around the state enjoyed playing horseshoes on the island. The winners of the horseshoe tournament are pictured to the right. In the top photo are the first place winners, congratulations to Deborah Johnson, Aux. Pres., Valdosta and Cheryl Johnson also from Valdosta. In the bottom photo are the second place winners, congratulations to Charlene Westberry, PSP Aux., Brunswick and Heather Hickey, PSP Aux., also from Brunswick.



On behalf of **Brunswick Elks Aidmore Auxiliary**, Sandra Abel, PSP Aux. left & Charlene Westberry, PSP Aux. right, presented a Winn-Dixie gift card to Donna Howard, Assistant Director for Saved By Grace of Glynn which is a 14 bed all male shelter providing 90 days transitional housing for men looking to transition out of hopelessness & homelessness. Basic needs such as shelter, food, clothing and social service assistance are provided.

Lake Oconee Auxiliary (LOLA), presented a \$10,000 check to Laura Nichols for Aidmore. L-R: Georgi Nour, Lake Oconee, Laura Nichols, Aidmore & Leslie Stewart, Lake Oconee

Lake Oconee Auxiliary (LOLA), donated items to Circle of Love. Thank you to all who contributed. Pictured are Amy Champion, LOLA President and Kimberly Bennett with Circle of Love. There was so much donated, it wouldn't all fit in the photo.



Progress is being made with the Children's Closet at the Savannah Therapeutic Foster Care office. Thank you to all the members of the **Savannah Elks Auxiliary** for their donations. Pictured far left is Tina Matias, center are donations and far right are L-R: Savannah Auxiliary President Cherie Becker, Dyshawna Wilson and Sarah Hendricks, PSP Aux. So many donations they wouldn't all fit in the photo.



Savannah Auxiliary - This year's recipient of the Pearl-
ie Cosgrove Nursing Scholarship is Haley Rey. A check
was presented to her by Chairman Dorothy Sili. Pic-
tured L-R: Cherie Becker, Aux. Pres., Dorothy Sili,
Haley Rey and Fran Johnson



Toccoa Lodge Auxiliary members, Juanita, Marion, Vickie, Pat & Becky packed
bags for Food 2 Kids, helping children in the community and supporting our
Toccoa Elks.



Valdosta Auxiliary - Thanks to this beautiful group of ladies for attending the Executive Board workshop held at our Valdosta Elks Lodge. We were honored to have Dr. Vickey Hale, CEO of Elks Aidmore as our guest speaker. Also a BIG thanks to the Valdosta Auxiliary ladies that took care of the food, preparation, and serving! We had a delicious lunch! And a great meeting! Pictured to the right is Aidmore CEO Dr. Vickey Hale.



Installation of the Past State President Association Officers was con-
ducted by Cheryl Wilson, PSP Aux. L-R: Barbara Burnett, Sheila Platt,
Dannie Anderson, Stephanie West and Shirley Cuzzick



To the left, Peggy Rhodes, PSP Aux. Dalton, and right, Harriet
Thompson, PSP Aux. Albany, fishing at the Elks Past State Presi-
dent's retreat held in August in south Georgia.

Georgia Elks Association Annual Meeting 2022, Jekyll Island, Georgia



The Georgia Elks Association met for its regular Annual Meeting Friday, June 10th & Saturday, June 11th, 2022; President Bob Colie presiding. President Colie opened the meeting by calling on the Lake Oconee Color Guard to present the flag of the United States of America. The pledge to the flag was led by President-Elect Nita Knighton. President Colie then called on Chaplin Tobin Sexton to deliver the Invocation. Introductions of Grand Lodge officers, Past State Presidents & State officers then followed.

Secretary Tim Whalen was called upon to call the roll of the Association officers & of the Lodges. Officers present were Bob Colie, Nita Knighton, Bill Becker, Greg Shelby, Brian Russell, Tim Whalen, Tobin Sexton, Vance Rhodes & Lynda Lewis. Absent were Steve Shirah, Kathy Myers & John Helgesen. Present for the Lodge roll call were Atlanta-Northlake, Savannah, Brunswick, Albany, Valdosta, LaGrange, Elberton-Athens, Tifton, Gainesville, Griffin, Dalton, Douglas, Union City, Marietta, Covington, Toccoa, Calhoun, Cartersville, LaFayette, Jesup, Eatonton, Camden County & Lake Oconee. One Lodge, Augusta, was absent from the roll call. A motion was made by Vance Rhodes, seconded by Piker Penn to dispense with the reading of the minutes from our spring meeting. The motion was adopted.

Sickness & Distress

The following were remembered: Steve Petrie, D.D.G. E.R.; Roy Spiker, P. S. P. & Ben Brown, P. S. P. Florida.

Past Grand Esquire,

PSP Tim Whalen's State Sponsors Remarks Minutes

President Colie called on our Special Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler, Bruce Hayden, to introduce our State Sponsor, Mike Smith. Mike reported that he & Sandra had been traveling for most of the spring & early summer. They are getting ready for the Grand Lodge Convention to be held in Atlanta this coming July. Mike said that Georgia achieved a per capita total of \$10.73 for the prior year. We receive 2X in return from the E. N. F. for what we give. This helps to fund our State Charities across Georgia. Membership growth was fantastic. Georgia had the 3rd highest increase in membership in the country. Georgia will be in the spotlight during the upcoming Grand Lodge convention. Many workers will be needed in various capacities for the week's events. Please sign up to help. The issue of the Boy Scouts is currently being dealt with. Be careful what your Lodge does with Scouting. There is much liability & issues that may cause problems. Mike has pins for the Endorsed Candidate for G. E. R. They will be available after this meeting.

Reports

President Colie: Bob thanked all for coming to this meeting. His priorities for the year were membership & Grand Lodge convention preparation. He thanked all for their hard work on membership. Georgia had a net gain of 316 new members. This gives us a current membership of 4208. Tifton Elks had a 28.5% gain in members. Dalton had 69 new members. For the Grand Lodge convention, we have over 200 persons signed up to help. Applications for Grants went well this past year with the requests being up significantly from prior years. We have a new website that has won a 5 Star Award from the Grand Lodge. Georgia had a National Hoop Shoot winner in the 12-13 Boys Division. Georgia Elks had a great year but there is still room for improvement. Please support our Veterans & keep your priorities high.

President-Elect Nita Knighton: Nita will give her report at tomorrow nights Installation Banquet. She stressed that membership will be her top priority for the coming year.

Board Chairman Bruce Hayden: Bruce reported the Board met on April 9th in Warner-Robins to discuss the FY2023 budgets. Vance Rhodes has been working on updates to the Convention Manual & on several By-Law proposals for upcoming meetings.

Parliamentarian Vance Rhodes: Vance is working on proposed By-Law changes for the Association. One proposal is to change our meetings from 3 to 2 per year, doing away with the fall meeting of the Association. We will vote tomorrow morning on these proposals. Vance made a motion to limit the number of speakers, 5 for & 5 against each proposal. There will be questions allowed for clarification of each proposal. A 2nd was made by Piker Penn. The motion was approved.

Aidmore C. E. O. Abe Wilkinson: This will be Abe's final meeting as C. E. O. of the Georgia Elks Aidmore Childrens Center. Over the years, Aidmore has grown to serving over 300 boys & girls across the state of Georgia. We now offer residential & therapeutic foster care services. Our budget has grown from \$500,000.00 to over \$10,000,000.00. Aidmore is home to our children. Abe introduced Dr. Vickey Hale, our new C. E. O. & Laura Nichols, Financial Director to the membership.

District Deputies Grand Exalted Ruler Larry Pope & Dan Tatum both reported from their visits to the Lodges and the Lodges status.

Vice Presidents Bill Becker, Greg Shelby & Brian Russell all complimented their Lodges and the hard work they have done in the past year.

Committee Reports

- Auditing & Accounting, Jane Santee: The committee is always available to helping Lodges in need.
- Leadership Academy, Jane Santee: We had 143 attending the Academy in Warner-Robins this year. In 2023, we will meet at the Covington Elks Lodge for the Academy. Housing will be available at local motels. More information to come at the fall meeting.
- Drug Awareness, Cyndi Russell: Cyndi will attend Grand Lodge training at the Grand Lodge session in Atlanta. Please send Cyndi your local Lodge chairman's name & contact information.
- Lodge Activities, Cyndi Russell: We have good Lodge activities across the state. Facebook is a good medium for showcasing these activities.
- Elks National Foundation, Ned Thompson: Contributions to the E. N. F. have been good this year. Please continue to contribute. The Grants program is also doing well. This is available money to the local Lodges to be used in our local communities.
- F. R. S., Ned Thompson: There are some accounting problems that exist with our Lodges. Accounts must balance with F. R. S. totals. Please call your district representative for help with this important program.
- Good Fortune/Shoot Out, Bethany Jackson: We had a good year with the Shoot Out. Tickets for next year will be available in Albany at the fall meeting. Gary Fowler, Southern district & Junior Roberson, NW district were top ticket salespersons in Georgia.
- Grants, Larry Pope: Georgia Lodges are early recipients of the Grants from the E. N. F. this year. Freedom grants are going fast. To date, we have 47 total applications so far.
- Hoop Shoot, Vance Rhodes: Georgia has a National Champion in Brendan Smith from the Marietta Lodge. Brenden won the 12-13 Boy division in Chicago this past spring. Georgia had 10 Lodges compete in the Hoop Shoot this year. Vance hopes for more to participate in the future. The late Bill King, former Hoop Shoot director, was installed in the initial Hoop Shoot Hall of Fame in Chicago.
- V. A. V. S., Maureen Manning: This committee does fine work in the Veterans hospitals across the state. There are many needs for our Veterans today. Please help Maureen as you can.
- Soccer, Junior Roberson: There is no participation in the Southern district for this worthy program. Junior offers his help in setting up your committee & Soccer shoot. The state competition will be held on Sunday, November 20th on the Aidmore campus.
- Ritual, Bruce Davis: The Tribute to the Flag & Eleven o'clock Toast contest will be held this afternoon at 2 pm at Tribuzio's Grill on the island.

Old Business

An election was held to fill the vacant position of Vice President, Georgia Northeast. One candidate, Steve Petrie from the Lake Oconee Lodge, was nominated & elected without opposition. Steve will be sworn in at the fall meeting in Albany.

New Business

Tobin Sexton presented the preliminary 2022-2023 Association & Charity budgets to the membership for their approval. The budgets will lay over until the Saturday morning meeting for a final vote.

Good of the Order

Tim Whalen, Convention Chairman, gave an overview of the upcoming events for the afternoon & evening.

The business session was put in recess by President Colie until Saturday morning at 8:30 A. M. The Annual Memorial Service will follow this session at 11:00 A. M.

Credentials Report

Northeast	24 delegates	26 total
Northwest	47 delegates	52 total
Southern	36 delegates	42 total
Total Lodges		23
Totals	107 delegates	120 total
P.N.P.		1
Grand Total		121

The Saturday morning session of the Annual Meeting of the Georgia Elks Association was called back to order by President Colie at 8:30 A. M. President Colie turned the program over to Greg Shelby, Chairman of the Americanism program. The flags of the United States Military Branches were presented. Our Keynote Speaker was Senator Sheila M. McNeill, Past National President of the Navy League of the United States. The service closed with the singing of "God Bless the U. S. A."

Our Public Safety Officer of the Year program was presented by Chairman Piker Penn. Our Officer of the Year was Detective Jason Robinson from the Dalton Police Department. Detective Robinson was presented with several gifts from the Association & local Lodges. The Dedication Plaque went to Game Warden 1st Class Mark Moyer. He was sponsored by the Dalton Elks Lodge #1267.

Our three state Youth Scholarship winners were presented \$2,000.00 checks from the Association by Chairman Junior Roberson. The students were Zoey Johnson, Union City; Jenna Williams, Douglas & Enzo Hines, Marietta.

Bruce Davis presented the Ritual Awards from yesterdays contests. The Tribute to the Flag contest was won by Suzi Lindsey, Atlanta-Northlake #78. The Eleven o'clock Toast contest was also won by Suzi Lindsey, Atlanta-Northlake #78. Suzi will present the Toast at tonight's Awards Banquet. The Dalton Elks Lodge Ritual Team will represent Georgia in the National contest in Atlanta in July.

Maureen Manning presented the Veterans Special Recognition award to Vance Rhodes for his work & dedication to the Veterans of the United States Military.

This concluded the special programs for the session and the business session for the Association resumed. President Colie called on Secretary Whalen for the roll calls. Officers marked absent were Steve Shirah, John Helgesen & Kathy Myers. Lodges absent were Augusta & Eatonton.

State Sponsors Remarks

Mike Smith reviewed several Resolutions of interest that will be voted on at the Grand Lodge session in Atlanta. These range from the filing of on-line reports instead of paper filings, adding the Lodge Secretary & Treasurer to the Board of Directors and changing the requirements for a member to achieve Life Membership status in the Lodge.

Parliamentarian Remarks

Vance Rhodes stated that, according to our By-Laws, to be eligible to vote, a voting delegate must have paid convention registration fees. This will be in effect for today's voting session.

Old Business

- Jane Santee, Auditing & Accounting Chairman, reported that the 2021 year-end audits for the Association & Charity accounts were complete and found to be in proper form. Jane made a motion to accept, seconded by Stanley Santee. The motion was approved.
- Tobin Sexton made a motion to approve the Association & Charity budgets as submitted at yesterdays' meeting. A second was made by Nelson Lawson. The budgets were approved by the membership.

New Business

Nominations for the following officers of the Association were made:

President-Elect: Vance Rhodes nominated Willie Roberson, Jr.

Secretary/Treasurer: Piker Penn nominated Tim Whalen

Bd of Directors – 4 Yr., @ Large Position 1 - Piker Penn

Bd of Directors – 4 Yr. @ Large Position 2 - Bill Becker

As there were no contested races, the nominees were elected by single vote.

Vance Rhodes presented the By-Lay change proposals. There will be 5 speaking for the motion, 5 opposed to the motion with a 2-minute limit for each speech. The By-Law proposal, to delete the fall meeting of the Association & have only the spring meeting & the Annual meeting was presented as a motion. This was seconded by Terry Bennett. Speaking against the motion were Charlie Hendricks, Ned Thompson, Marilyn Roland, Jim Klynman & Vickey Dougherty. Speaking for the motion were Linda Robinette, Bob Colie, Terry Bennett & Larry Pope. Terry Bennett asked for a review of "who can vote" on this motion. By a vote of the qualified voting delegates, the motion was defeated. The Association will continue to hold three meetings per year.

Good of the Order

- In his final report, President Bob Colie said that he has had a wonderful three years, a true learning experience. He & Beth have enjoyed their travels to Florida, Alabama & Mississippi & have made many life-long friends
- Larry Pope announced the candidacy of Dan Tatum for President-Elect of the Georgia Elks Association for 2023-2024.

Resolutions

The Resolutions for the Convention were read by Chairman Vance Rhodes.

A motion to approve was made by John Yost, seconded by Piker Penn. The Resolutions were approved by the membership.

There being no further business for the Association to consider, President Colie called on the Lake Oconee Color Guard to retire the Colors. He then called on Chaplain Tobin Sexton to deliver the Benediction. The meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Whalen

Tim Whalen, Secretary/Treasurer
Georgia Elks Association

Credentials Report

Northeast	21 delegates	21 total
Northwest	51 delegates	59 total
Southern	35 delegates	39 total
Total Lodges		20
Totals	107 delegates	119 total
P.N.P.		1
Grand Total		120



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Meals Served On Those Evenings at 6:30
Food Served Every Friday Night at 6:30
Dinner and Dances On Special Occasions

AUGUSTA LODGE #205

205 Elkdome Court
Augusta, GA 30907

Meetings
1st & 3rd Thursday @ 7:00 pm
Call for open hours schedule
706-726-2070



BRUNSWICK LODGE #691

1509 Union Street, Brunswick, GA 31520
Phone (912) 264-1389
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706-278-6565

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30501
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770-532-1404

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Griffin, GA 30223
Meets 2nd & 4th Monday @ 7:00 pm
Call for operating hours
Monthly dinners- Call for information

JESUP LODGE #2133

Lodge Location: 1802 US Hwy 301
Jesup, GA 31546
Mailing Address: P O Box 154
Jesup, GA 31598
912-427-3339
Meets 1st & 3rd Tuesday @ 7:30 pm
Open: 1st, 3rd & Last Tuesday of month
Open Meeting nights only 7:00-10:00 pm

LAKE OCONEE LODGE #2849

1116 Lake Oconee Parkway Suite 2070
Eatonton, GA 31024
706-991-1499 after 3:00 pm
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Mon-Fri 3:00 pm Mon-Fri 5-9:00 pm
Sun 1:00 pm Sat & Sun Bar Menu
Sat. 3:00 pm
(Weekend hrs. subject to change)

MARIETTA LODGE #1657

Location: 1706 Powder Springs Rd.
Marietta, GA 30061
Mailing Address: P O Box 34
Marietta, GA 30061
770-337-7256
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Open: Saturdays 1:00 - 5:00 pm
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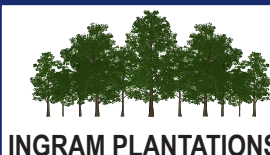
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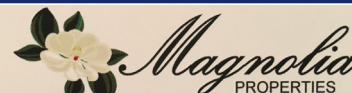
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Stan Jones

Cell: 229-435-0871
Warwick: 229-535-4261

sljones@planttel.net

Dan L. Tatum

Candidate
President-Elect

Georgia Elks Association
2023-2024

(404) 357-3057

dtatum@synergys.com



Bill Lewis, PSP
&
Lynda Lewis

Lake Oconee Lodge #2849

770-337-9010

blewiselk2849@gmail.com



Gary Robinette
Past State President

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foundation of all
honorable endeavors."

Member of Cartersville Elks
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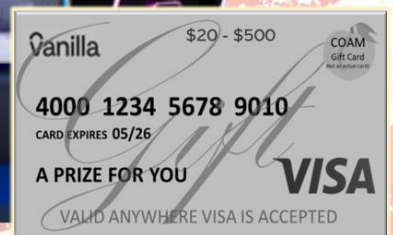
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Above, Veterans' Appreciation Day cookout at Fort McPherson in Atlanta. Lodges from Atlanta-Northlake, Dalton, Cartersville & Lake Oconee participated. Thank you to the Veterans and Volunteers headed up by Maureen Manning and Tobin Sexton from the Atlanta-Northlake Lodge #78.

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