

JULY 2022

# **LOUISIANA ELK'S NEWSLETTER**



*A News Publication of the*  
**LOUISIANA ELK'S ASSOCIATION, INC.**

**A Five Star Publication**

\*\*\*\*\*

Hon. Millard Pickering PGER, sponsor

*Published on behalf of Louisiana Elks, in support of Louisiana Elks and for  
Elks*

**Published by:**  
**Editor:**  
**Reporters:**

**Louisiana Elks Association**  
**Buddy Hartle**  
**Exalted Rulers and LEA Chairman**



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## **EDITOR'S COMMENTS**

This bulletin will only be as good as the information submitted by you, a member of the Louisiana Elks Association. Articles for the October bulletin are due by September 10, 2022.

Please send them to:

[mrb.hartle3574@hotmail.com](mailto:mrb.hartle3574@hotmail.com) or [elksoflouisiana@hotmail.com](mailto:elksoflouisiana@hotmail.com)

# OFFICERS 2022-2023:

## **PRESIDENT:**

Rene Pelanne (Laurie)  
PDD, New Orleans #30

## **VICE-PRESIDENT**

Wayne Landry (Bella)  
PDD, Slidell #2321

## **TREASURER**

Andy Austin (Rebecca)  
Shreveport #122

## **TILER**

E.J. Ward (Gwen)  
New Orleans #30

## **PRESIDENT-ELECT**

Don Baye (Karen)  
PDD, New Orleans #30

## **SECRETARY**

Buddy Hartle (Judy)  
PDD, New Orleans #30

## **PARLIAMENTARIAN**

Kenneth Lafleur (Pat)  
PSP, Opelousas #1048

## **SERGEANT-AT-ARMS**

Sharrieff Armstead (Connie)  
New Orleans #30

## **CHAPLAIN**

Lyman Ryan  
New Orleans #30

## **LOUISIANA ELKS ASSOCIATION TRUSTEES:**

### **1-YEAR:**

Henry Daigle (Toni)  
PSP, Plaquemine #1398

### **3-YEAR:**

Armand Buuck (Debbie)  
PSP, New Orleans #30

### **2-YEAR**

Beulah Rodrigue  
PSP, Houma #1193

### **4-YEAR**

Jim Cade (Lisa)  
PSP, Shreveport #122

### **5-YEAR:**

Charlesray Neight (Cathy)  
PSP, Slidell #2321



# COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

## **Accident Prevention Safety, Insurance & Risk Management**

William Boudreaux, PSP  
New Orleans #30

## **Advisory Chairman**

Bernie Mathais, PSP  
Shreveport #122

## **Adopt-A-School**

Randy Bergeron, PSP  
Shreveport #122

## **Americanism**

James Hester, PSP  
New Orleans #30

## **Business Practices**

Chris Hymel  
New Orleans #30

## **CLMS**

Buddy Hartle, PDD  
New Orleans #30

## **Disaster Relief**

Puddy Gondrella, PER  
N.O. Westbank #2496

## **Drug Awareness**

Armand Buuck, PSP  
New Orleans #30

## **Elks National Foundation**

Brian Baye, PER  
New Orleans #30

## **Elks National Veterans Service**

Don Baye, PDD  
New Orleans #30

## **Elks & Scouting**

Sonya Belgard  
N.O. Westbank #2496

## **Food Bank**

Richard Conran, SDGER  
Plaquemine #1398

## **Government Relations**

Puddy Gondrella, PER  
N.O. Westbank #2496

## **Hoop Shoot**

Greg Hanrahan  
Slidell #2321

## **Lodge Activities**

Betsy Ibos, PER  
New Orleans #30

## **Membership**

Wayne Landry, PDD  
Slidell #2321

## **Newsletter**

Buddy Hartle, PDD  
New Orleans #30

## **New Lodge Development**

Armand Buuck, PSP  
New Orleans #30

## **Public Relations**

Tom Cressione  
New Orleans #30

## **Resolutions**

Armand Buuck, PSP  
New Orleans #30

## **Ritualistic**

Randy Bergeron, PSP  
Slidell #2321

## **Scholarship**

Charlesray Neight, PSP  
Slidell #2321

## **State Convention**

Buddy Hartle, PDD  
New Orleans #30

## **Elks Training**

Richard Conran, SDGER  
Plaquemine #1398

## **Webmaster**

Richard Conran, SDGER  
Plaquemine #1398

## **Youth Activities**

Brian Baye, PER  
New Orleans #30

## **LODGE DIRECTORY**

New Orleans Lodge #30, 2215 Cleary Ave.,  
Metairie, LA 70001-1628

504-888-8152 [noelkslodge30@yahoo.com](mailto:noelkslodge30@yahoo.com)

Shreveport Lodge #122, 310 E. Preston,  
Shreveport, LA 71105-5303

318-868-5301 [elkslodge122@gmail.com](mailto:elkslodge122@gmail.com)

Opelousas Lodge #1048, 207 N Union St  
Opelousas, LA 70570-1146, 337-942-2341  
[elks1048@gmail.com](mailto:elks1048@gmail.com)

Donaldsonville Lodge #1153, 115 Railroad Ave  
Donaldsonville, LA 70346-0545, 225-715-7389  
[info@elksdonaldsonville.org](mailto:info@elksdonaldsonville.org)

Houma Lodge #1193, 7883 Main St, Houma,  
LA. 70364-0348, 985-232-4248,  
[houmaelks@gmail.com](mailto:houmaelks@gmail.com)

Plaquemine Lodge #1398, 23420 Railroad Ave  
Plaquemine, LA 70764, 225-921-5525  
[hdaigle23060@loutlook.com](mailto:hdaigle23060@loutlook.com)

Slidell Lodge #2321, 34212 Elks Road,  
Slidell, LA. 70460, 985-641-1266  
[bpoe2321@aol.com](mailto:bpoe2321@aol.com)

New Orleans West Bank #2496, 900 Monroe  
St., Gretna, LA 70053, 504-367-8793  
[elks2496nowb@gmail.com](mailto:elks2496nowb@gmail.com)

Louisiana Elks Association  
P.O. Box 409  
Hahnville, LA 70057-0409  
[elksolouisiana@hotmail.com](mailto:elksolouisiana@hotmail.com)

## **STATE PRESIDENTS MESSAGE:**



I would again like to thank all my Elk Brothers and Sisters for giving me this opportunity for serving as your state president for 2022-2023. Laurie and I have been busy the last couple of months traveling to our neighboring states, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Texas as well as our state convention in Lafayette.

I am looking forward to visiting all the lodges around the state but would rather come for fundraisers or a social. Please continue recruiting new members and reach out to the members that have strayed. We had a good year last year so let's keep going in that direction. We will be attending the Grand Lodge Convention in Atlanta and it will be an honor to wave our Louisiana Flag!

Please reach out to me by email at [rpelanne@cox.net](mailto:rpelanne@cox.net) or by phone at 504-460-2861. I hope to see y'all soon!

Fraternally yours,

Rene J. Pelanne Jr., State President

## **SPECIAL DEPUTY MESSAGE:**

Members,

July 4<sup>th</sup> is our country's 247<sup>th</sup> birthday and as you celebrated it, I want to remind all of you to remember what our forefathers had in mind when they wrote The Declaration of

Independence.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable enable rights that among these rights are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." (The Declaration of Independence)

This month we recall the eloquence with which our ancestors articulated our national identity and the thought which must have gone into the formulation of this credo to be inherited by so many succeeding generations.

It is interesting that the signers of this document and the founders of our order were in agreement that the sources of our most cherished values namely life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, is not just for one person, but for all people. This is why we as Elks must speak up for Elkdom even as we fulfill our duty to our country.

We as Elks also have the right to work and dream about happiness, regardless of our social standing or intellectual capabilities. We as members of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks who are so richly blessed in so many ways have a special responsibility to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, aid those in distress and to prove ourselves friends to all in need.

Membership is the lifeline of our Order and Lodges and last year we had an increase of 130 members, and I congratulate all of you for this. Now as we all know retention of membership plays a big part in whether we have an increase or not. And, as I reviewed the CLMS II membership reports through June 25, 2022, I see that we have 424 members who have not paid their due as of June 21<sup>st</sup>, which is and improvement, as last year we had 637 delinquent members at this time of our Lodge year, but we still have to many delinquent members. Our membership count now stands at 2213, less 424 delinquency members = 1789. (Continued page 4)

**3.**

## **SPECIAL DEPUTY MESSAGE**

### **continued:**

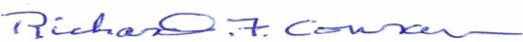
Following is the number of delinquent members each Lodge has and whether they are six (6) twelve (12) eighteen (18) months in arrears:

N. O. Lodge 30, 42 members 6 months in arrears.  
Shreveport Lodge 122, 207 members 6 months and 1, 18 months in arrears.  
Opelousas Lodge 1048, 32 members 12 months in arrears.  
Donaldsonville Lodge 1153, 64 members 12 months in arrears.  
Houma Lodge 1193, 25 members 12 months in arrears.  
Plaquemine Lodge 1398, no members in arrears.  
Slidell Lodge 2321, 35 members 12 months in arrears.  
N. O. West Bank 2496, 18 members 12 months in arrears.

I ask everyone to work with the Lodge Lapsation Committee and see if we cannot reduce this to zero members in arrears.

August 13, 2022, is our next DDGER Clinic and it will be held at Opelousas Lodge 1048 starting at 10:00 AM, please remember the Exalted Ruler, Leading Knight, Lodge Secretary and Chairman of the Board of Directors are required to attend this clinic. All other Elks are welcome to attend it. Let's have a great turn out for Jeff Wheat's DDGER first clinic.

Fraternally,

  
Richard F. Conran, SDGER

## **SECRETARY'S MESSAGE:**

Greetings,

Our State Convention is now behind us. During the roll call of Lodges on Saturday, it was reported that 87 Elks were present and 28 guests for a total of 115. The attendance continues to be low for this event. We need to increase the attendance for our state convention. We need your help. Please talk about the convention at

upcoming meetings and encourage the younger members to attend the convention. We hope to have information on the 2023 state convention in the very near future.

Also at this year's convention, Richard Jones, the Treasurer for the LEA announced that he was retiring and would not seek re-election. Richard has served as Treasurer for over the last three decades. Please join me in thanking Richard for his service and dedication to the LEA. Our new Treasurer will be Andrew "Andy" Austin from Shreveport Lodge 122.

We also learned that Richard Conran has decided not to chair the State Convention in 2023. Richard has chaired this event for the last 23 years. We also thank him for his service and dedication to the LEA. I will be assuming the duties of chairman of the state convention. I welcome any suggestions that you might have regarding the convention.

The Grand Lodge Convention for 2023 will be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The date for this convention is July 2-5, 2023. This year, we experienced some problems with the hotel in Atlanta. Thus, some changes will need to be made regarding the registration process. I will send a letter and hotel room reservation form regarding next year's convention to each Exalted Ruler. I ask that you discuss this convention with the members of your Lodge. If any members are genuinely interested in attending the convention have them complete the room reservation form and return to me. The deadline is August 10 (at the District Deputy Clinic) unless Grand Lodge wants the information sooner.

Please continue to work on bringing new members into our order and try to reduce the lapsation. Find out why these members have neglected to re-new their membership.

Have a Super Elk Day!!  
Sincerely and Fraternaly,

Buddy Hartle, State Secretary

## **GRAND LODGE CORNER**

### **Time, money, miles count for reporting by Glenn E. Foster:**

Exalted Rulers, you have been the leader of your Lodge for about three months. Talk with the person you have chosen to be the Chairperson of your Lodge Government Relations Committee. Stress that he or she hit the ground running with the duties charged to that position. Please ask him or her to contact the District Chairperson or the State Chairperson for more information.

The most important item is charity records reporting. Ask for a list of reasonable events, including hours spent, money donated, etc., which will help when filling out these reports. Have these reports done soon after the event while everything is still fresh in the minds of the committee working each event.

Our charity reporting will ensure our continued not-for-profit status with the Internal Revenue Service. Here are some examples of things to report.

If a Lodge donated its banquet room for a charity Bingo, the normal room rental rate is reportable charity. If you have Lodge Members working the Bingo games, their donated time is reportable too. If Lodge Members go around town collecting donated items for the Bingo prizes, the time spent, and miles driven are also reportable. If your Lodge holds a dinner for veterans, the meal costs and hours spent preparing the food, if done by volunteers, may be reported, as well as any volunteer time spent setting up before and during, and cleaning up after the dinner.

There are many more examples so please, ask the district or state leaders for more information to give to your Government Relations Chairperson.

To be a good Elks Member, surround yourself with good Elks Members. Volunteer. It is not only fun, but you will get to know your fellow Members much better. Remember, you only get out of your Membership as much as you put into it.

**Elks Care---Elks Share.** Report what your Lodge has done.

### **Students, parents, Lodges all benefit from Antlers by Richard Bard:**

Here's a question. What do Broken Arrow Lodge No. 2673 in Oklahoma, Bergenfield Lodge No. 1477 in New Jersey, and Viera Lodge No. 2817 in Florida all have in common? The answer here is they have all recently started an Antlers program.

They are all up and running and enjoying all the benefits of a successful Antlers group. As you might have heard me say before, starting a program might take some work, but the benefits are worth it. I have talked at length with the advisors of these three Lodges and many more across our great Order. Everyone I have spoken with is extremely happy they made the effort to get the ball rolling.

Why, may you ask? Kids need positive outlets. Community service is an important part of a college application or a job resume. Being that positive force is what we do as Elks.

It is also a great recruitment tool. Parents of Antlers, who are not already Elks, see the good work we are doing and can't help but to want to be involved. In addition, Antlers often do become Elks. Don't take my word for it; reach out to Antler advisors of other Lodges in your State or Area, they will tell you firsthand.

One of the beauties of an Antlers Lodge is that it is our program. We as Elks run it, we control it. The Activities Committee is currently working hard at expanding and enhancing our youth protection guidelines, and our hope is to have it ready and approved in the coming year. This will be one more tool in your toolkit.

Should you have any questions or concerns, reach out to me, or your Area Committeeperson. Information can also be found on the Grand Lodge website. Now is the perfect time. Let's meet the challenge.

## **ELKS NATIONAL VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION:**

### **Veterans express their gratitude for Elks' assistance by Nadezh Mulholland:**

In 2015, the ENVSC pledged to partner with the Department of Veterans Affairs to help end veteran homelessness. Our Emergency Assistance Fund offers a lifeline for veterans in need. The fund pays for essential housing expenses such as security deposits, rent, and utilities to help veterans exit or prevent homelessness.

We often receive notes of appreciation from veterans who benefit from our homelessness programs. Every veteran has a unique story, and we love having the chance to hear from veterans in their own words.

Now, we're excited to share some of those words with you!

After the Emergency Assistance Fund paid the security deposit for her new home, one Los Angeles-based veteran wrote, "I wish to express my overwhelming gratitude and thanks to you. I can't completely put into words how it feels to "have a beautiful, secure place to live and to know that there are people in the world who are concerned about the rest of us and are taking action to ensure our well-being."

A veteran in Miami expressed similar sentiments. He wrote, "Thank you much! I appreciate everything you have done for me. The past eight years have not been easy for me. After losing several jobs as a result of my injuries from the military, I have been forced to survive with just over a thousand dollars a month. Some days seem impossible. But I know giving up is not an option as I have two sons, one who's still in high school. Sometimes it's not easy to reach out for help. No one likes to be turned down. So on behalf of all the veterans and service men and women you have given so many reasons for hope and to look forward to the future, I am eternally grateful."

Recently, we assisted a veteran in San Diego. He was behind on rent and feared a budgeting mistake would lead to homelessness.

He explained, "I'm thankful that my life is content, but I recently made some errors in judgement, and you rescued me within a matter of days. Without your assistance I would have groveled and skimped for a couple of months to get back on track. I'll show my gratitude by not repeating myself. I can't give enough thanks for helping me."

### **ENVSC sets another high mark with Welcome Home Kit by Nadezh Mulholland:**

Every veteran should have a safe and comfortable home, but too many people who have served our country have no place to call their own. The ENVSC is fighting to change that. Committed Elks volunteers make our fight possible.

The Welcome Home Kit program is a popular and assessable way to help. We reimburse volunteers up to \$300 for buying a kit of household for a newly housed veteran, and up to \$500 for a kit that includes a bed. Common items include kitchenware, dishes, bedding, cleaning supplies, and furniture.

During the 2021-2022 fiscal year, the Welcome Home Kit program hit another milestone. Together, Elks across the nation provided household supplies for more than 1,900 veterans--our highest number ever! The Welcome Home Kit program reaches more veterans each year, and we're excited to continue the trend in the new year.

Welcome Home Kits mean a lot to veterans who receive them, but they also touch the hearts of Elks who provide them. After helping a mom and her 3-year-old child, Ron Weigel from West Shore, PA Lodge No. 2257 wrote, "It is an honor to be able to so quickly meet this urgent need. Thank you." (Continued page 7)



**ELKS NATIONAL VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION continued:**

If you're ready to help homeless veterans in your area, Welcome Home Kits are a great place to start. Because many veterans enter housing with few or no belongings, the program is a straightforward way to meet a tangible need. Kits can even be personalized to meet each veteran's unique needs and preferences. For example, a veteran who is focused on eating healthy meals might ask for a crockpot, while a veteran with a child on the way may need some baby supplies included in their kit.

Recently, volunteers from El Paso, TX Lodge No. 2636 accompanied a veteran on his journey from homelessness to housing. When they met Justin, he was living on the street. The Lodge helped him get the necessary paperwork so he could bring his service dog with him to the shelter. When Justin finally entered permanent housing, the Lodge provided a Welcome Home Kit to ensure he and his dog had everything they needed.

**ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION:**

**ENF programs receive funding boost with 2022-23 budget by Cathleen Draper:**

In February, the Elks National Foundation Board of Trustees approved a total budget of \$42.5 million---including \$39.8 million for program services---for the 2022-23 fiscal year: a 7% increase from the 2021-22 budget.

The Foundation's largest program, the Community Investments Program, offers one of the most direct ways for Elks to build stronger communities. The CIP now offers \$15.7 million in grants, Beacon Grants, available to every Lodge, are now worth \$4,000, and a third bonus was added to the \$2,000 Gratitude Grant, which is available to Lodges that reached the GER's per-Member giving goal in the previous year. The \$500 bonus recognizes Lodges with broad-based fundraising programs. Lodges that earn all three bonuses could receive a \$3,500 Gratitude Grant.

The Elks National Veterans Service Commission also got a boost in the budget. The Commission's Welcome Home program will expand into Orlando and phoenix in 2022-23. The ENVSC will continue to help veterans exit or avoid homelessness with a \$4.6 million grant from ENF.

Elks' scholarship received a total of \$4.9 million, including \$2.8 million for MVS scholarship and % 1.6 million for Legacy Awards. The ENF doubled the number of Gunther & Lee Weigel Medical School Scholarships it awards to 20, and the scholarships are worth \$22,000. And more than \$130,000 was allocated to Emergency Educational Grants for the children of deceased or disabled Elks.

The budget allocates \$1.4 million to the Hoop Shoot, an increase for the national program's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The Drug Awareness Program received \$1 million, including a \$225,000 grant from the DEA. The ENF also granted \$10.4 million to Elks State Associations. Each year, the ENF strives to grant more money back to each state than it received from that state in donations.

As of June 30, 2020

Rank	Lodge	Donation	Per Capita
1	Houma	\$ 335.00	\$ 3.19
2	Slidell	\$ 160.00	\$ .75
3	New Orleans	\$ 100.00	\$ .26
4	Opelousas	\$ 50.00	\$ .21
5	N.O. Westbank	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
6	Plaquemine	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
7	Shreveport	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
8	Donaldsonville	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00

**GRAND EXALTED RULER BRUCE HIDLEY  
ANNOUNCED THAT HIS GOAL THIS YEAR FOR  
THE  
ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION  
WILL BE \$4.80 PER MEMBER**



The LEA Officers for the 2022-2023 Elk Year are:

- Rene Pelanne.....President
- Don Baye.....President-Elect
- Wayne Landry.....Vice-President
- Buddy Hartle.....Secretary
- Andy Austin.....Treasurer
- E.J. Ward.....Tiler
- Sharrieff Armstead.....Sgt-at-arms
- Lyman Ryan-----Chaplain
- Kenneth Lafleur.....Parliamentarian

**LEA TRUSTEES:**

- Henry Daigle.....1 year
- Beulah Rodrigue.....2 year
- Armand Buuck.....3 year
- Jim Cade.....4 year
- Charlesray Neight.....5 year

**LEF TRUSTEES:**

- Butch Barron.....1 year
- Tracey Bellanger.....2 year
- Randy Bergeron.....3 year
- Brian Baye.....4 year

**MID-SEASON CONFERENCE:**

The membership voted to change the format of the conference from a two-day event back to one day. The conference will be held the third Saturday in January at Opelousas Lodge 1048.

**STEVE JENKINSON ELK OF THE YEAR:**

Bobby Guidroz, Opelousas #1048

**VETERANS VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR:**

- Brandi Wendt—Shreveport #122
- Randy Bergeron—Slidell #2321

**RITUALISTIC:**

- Exalted Ruler Toast—Bob Rapps—New Orleans #30
- Open Toast—Donell Baye—New Orleans #30

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION:**

Richard Jones for his service and dedication serving as the State Treasurer of the Louisiana Elks Association for the last 38 years.

**COMMITTEE NEWS:**

**DRUG AWARENESS:**

A new Lodge year is upon. I know this is a very busy time of year for everyone. As you set your Lodge Calendars for the next year try and find time to add one more Drug Awareness activity to your busy schedules.

It is never too early to start talking to your local schools in an attempt to get on their schedule. If your community still has a DARE or similar program, reach out to the coordinator and see if there is a way to work together on a project or provide literature to help the program.

The Drug Awareness program includes a variety of chances to participate – if your Lodge is already participating in all of these congratulations, if not, think about adding at least one new activity during the next year. Drug Awareness activities include:

- Poster Contest (3rd – 5th)
- Red Ribbon Week (October 22 – 30)
- Enrique Camarena Award
- Prescription Drug Take back days
- Literature (Free within program limits)
- Guest Motivational Speaker

Armand Buuck, Chairman

## **COMMITTEE NEWS continued:**

### **VETERANS:**

For those of you that were not at the State Convention this year, it gives me great pleasure to announce the male and female Louisiana Elk Veteran Volunteer of the Year winners for 2021-2022. Our male veteran volunteer of the year was none other than Brother Randy Bergeron of Slidell Lodge #2321, and our female veteran volunteer of the year was Sister Brandi Wendt of Shreveport Lodge # 122.

Within the last two months all Elks nationwide have been busy celebrating and supporting our veterans. In May we celebrated Memorial Day. On June 14<sup>th</sup> we celebrated Flag Day.

In July of 1908, the Elks Grand Lodge provided for the annual nationwide observance of Flag Day on the 14<sup>th</sup> of June each year, making it mandatory for each subordinate Lodge in the Order. Celebrating Flag Day is one more way to honor our veterans how fought and died for our Flag and Country.

On July 1<sup>st</sup> I'll be leaving for the Grand Lodge Convention in Atlanta, Georgia. After a few years off ENVSC has reinstated its annual training seminar. I'll be attending the training seminar on July 2<sup>nd</sup> before the convention gets underway. Once I return, I will provide everyone with any new information that we receive at the seminar.

Don Baye, Chairman

### **GOVERNMENT RELATIONS:**

The new government relations lodge report available this summer, has been designed to aid the chairperson by providing suggestive insight for their committee position.

We need to ask ourselves if any communications have been sent to your local government in the last month, because effective government relations require constant contact. A chairperson

should always be providing updates to your local officials on events the lodge has been planning.

Don't forget to report on the grants and scholarship opportunities for the students in your town. The new report has incorporated the items necessary for a successful Government Relations Chairperson.

Let your local officials also know that the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks has made more than 12 billion dollars in donations since we first started 154 years ago. Last year alone, the Elks donated approximately \$400 million in cash, gifts, and time to make our communities better places to live. The Elks are one of the premier patriotic and charitable organizations in the United States of America.

This year at the Grand Lodge Convention, Puddy Gondrella, PER from New Orleans Westbank Lodge #2496 will be attending the Government Relations training seminar in my place. Once Puddy returns she will distribute any valuable information that she received from the seminar.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

Don Baye, Chairman



## LODGE NEWS:

### Opelousas Lodge 1048:



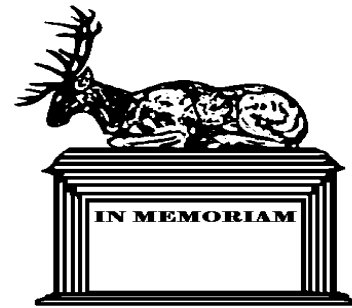
Elks National Veterans Affairs Volunteer Service Deputy Representatives Tommy McGinty and Maryann Yelm presented the Elks Wreath during the Memorial Day Services conducted at the Alexandria National Cemetery. Both are members of Opelousas Lodge #1048.

### Donaldsonville 1153:

Donaldsonville Elks Lodge #1153 in Louisiana hosted its annual Memorial Day Service. The event featured guest speakers from numerous elected officials, clergy, members of the American Legion Post 98 and the Veterans of Foreign War (VFW) Post 3766. During the service, a memorial wreath was placed in Louisiana Square in front of the monument of those service men and women who gave their lives to protect our American democratic way of life.

The names of the fallen were read in observation of their sacrifice and was accompanied by a gun salute and playing of TAPS. 52 members of the lodge participated in the planning and execution

of the event and 23 members were in attendance during the ceremony. One of the Lodge's elder members, Charles "Jay" Lemann participated as an honored guest and read an epitaph of the meaning of Memorial Day.



### *To Our Absent Members:*

In vain we call. He has passed into the light which is beyond the valley of the shadow of death. The places that have known him shall know him no more; but his virtues are written upon the tables of love and memory.

*Martin Eilers, New Orleans 30*  
*Matthew King, New Orleans 30*  
*William Walsten, New Orleans 30*  
*Daniel Scott, Shreveport 122*  
*Franklin Courville, PSP, Opelousas 1048*  
*Jason Thomas, Opelousas 1048*  
*Bertrand Facianne, Slidell 2321*  
*Malinda Shano, N.O. Westbank 2496*