

Ohio Elks News

Volume 4, Issue 1

January 2013



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Ohio Elks,
I hope all of you and your Lodges are enjoying good health and prosperity. The winter months are typically a good time to rejuvenate your members with holiday fellowship and planned events and activities at the lodge. It also happens to be the best time of the year to sell calendars. Exalted Rulers if you have not appointed a calendar chairman, then it is your responsibility to see that your lodge does its part to support this important fund raiser for the Ohio Elks. Members be sure to ask about purchasing a calendar the next time you visit the lodge.

Mary and I had an enjoyable trip to Bedford, Virginia in December as we represented the Ohio Elks at the National Home. The Christmas lighting, fellowship, and weather were all extraordinary. It was announced that weekend that the Home will now be accepting residents who are not Elk members in the hope of filling the available apartments.

The Interim Governing Board has been working diligently this year to improve the uniformity, structure, and budget requirements of the Ohio Elks Association, their committees, and Chairman. As a result there will be amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws presented at the April convention for discussion and vote.

As we begin the final months of this Lodge year I want to thank you for all you have done, and will continue to do for your Lodge, and for this Organization. Working together we will become that Beacon in our neighborhoods, and further the generosity of the Ohio Elks----- Building Stronger Communities.

Fraternally, Dan Beaston

2012 Ohio Elk's Association Officers

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Dan Beaston

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Trustee Chairman

Roger L. Martin

Trustee

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Harold "Red" Kehler

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Jim Schank

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Secretary/Treasurer

Lee Young

**" Elks Care
Elks Share "**

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NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT NEWS

Marion #32

In November we reinstated our Buckeye Bash to celebrate

Galion #1191

In October we had an adult Halloween party (with prizes for costumes) and started special pricing for all OSU games. In November we participated with the Bucyrus Elks in the Crawford County Community Care March to fight drugs and aid drug awareness. We started collecting for our Adopt-a-Family and gift delivery to Nursing Homes (over 200 gifts!) programs. In December we had our Elks Memorial Service and both a Kids Christmas and an Adult Christmas Eve party and a New Years Eve party. We started January with Pork & Sauerkraut on New Year's Day. We continue to send birthday cards to the veterans in the Veterans Home in Sandusky every month. January will bring a Cornhole tournament and the start of our Euchre League. Special Valentine's Day dinner is planned in February, and we continue to have member Texas Hold 'em on Tuesday nights.

Lorain #1301

In October we had our annual Halloween Costume Party. In November we hosted our 3rd annual Chili Cook Off, and a 66 Tournament (not sure what this game is? Ask us!). Our Perch Fishing Tournament netted over 600 lbs. of fish for our monthly fish fries. We also had a very successful Customer Appreciation Night with free food and reduced drink prices. December was the Memorial Service, the Hoop Shoot, our annual Tom & Jerry Party, and a visit from Santa at our Children's Christmas Party. We will have a Valentine's Day Dinner/Reverse Raffle and a Super Bowl Party in February. And on Saturday, March 23 starting at 7 pm the Lorain Elks will be having our 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!!!!

Wooster #1346

In October we had a Halloween party for adults and fed the local football teams, coaches and cheerleaders. In November

was our Annual Chili Cook-off (combined with the OSU – Michigan game) and a special dinner for the veterans. December brought the Elks Memorial Service, Hoop Shoot and Bell ringing day for the Salvation Army. We also had a Kids Christmas Party...

Sandusky #285

In November was our annual Reverse Raffle to support the Building Fund, and we enjoyed special festivities surrounding the OSU-Michigan game. We started December with our Memorial Service and Hoop Shoot. The adults had a Holiday Ball, and Santa visited at our Christmas party just for them. We proudly continued our tradition of delivering Christmas baskets for the elderly in December, and had our Officers Cocktail Party. January brings the start of Cornhole league and Texas Hold 'em tournaments twice a month on Saturdays. We will also be having a Casino Fun Night to raise money for Elks Charities. We are proud to be hosting the District Winter Meeting at the end of the month.

Elyria #465

We ended September with a Clam Bake and a CP Golf Outing. In October we hosted the North Central District Meeting, complete with golf outing and state officer visitation...all to rave reviews! We managed to work in our 150 Club kick-off and a Sweetest Day event, too. The Elks Sleigh started collecting gloves, hats, boots and coats, food and toys for the less fortunate in November. We also had our annual PER Barnyard Party and a Toys-for-Tots Pancake Breakfast that month. December started with the AOL (Advancement of the Lodge) Christmas Gala and Reverse Raffle. We also had our Children's Christmas Party, our Elks Memorial Service, a Co-Ed Tom & Jerry party and ended December with New Year's Eve at the Elks. In January we had our PER Reverse Raffle and in February there will be a Mardi Gras party and a Valentine's party.

Norwalk #730

In October we had a Kid's Halloween Party, and in November we had a Veteran's Fish Fry. December brought our annual Hoop Shoot and Memorial Service. We also had an adult and a children's Christmas Party. In January we are having a Chili Cook-off, a Super Bowl party and a "Frank and Dean" Show and dinner. Please visit us on Facebook! The Norwalk Elks continue to recognize a local Student of the Month.

Bellevue #1013

In October we had a Halloween Party, a Perch Dinner and Wings served by the BBC Boys. In November we had an OSU Michigan party and had planned to host the veterans from the OVH for lunch and a day of bingo – we had to move the event to November so we could all go root for our High School football team in the state finals! Also in December we had the Elks Memorial Service and our Hoop Shoot. We had an adult Christmas Party and ended the month with our annual Red Solo Cup New Year's party. The band Cruisin' will be playing for our annual Winterfest in January. Don't forget we have Bingo on Tuesday nights and we have a breakfast buffet once a month!

. In November we had veterans dinner and participated in the Willard Holiday Parade with a drug awareness float. December New Year's Eve party was a steak and lobster dinner followed by DJ Dan Brown. In January the Willard Elks officers donated 5 American flags to Mercy Willard Hospital. Winter Euchre League starts January 21st. Eighth annual Gun Raffle is coming soon!

Lexington/Shelby #2554

In October we had a Halloween Party and collected non-perishable items for 6 local food pantries. In December we had the Memorial Service and two gun raffles (our third will be in January) and raised over \$1,000 for our scholarship fund. Pork and sauerkraut were served on New Year's Day. We are hosting the 2013 North Central District Bowling Tournament in January, and then on the 26th we're celebrating the New "New Year's Eve" with a Turduck'n dinner and other festivities! Our new renter, the Santa Fe Grill is opening soon (you won't believe what they've done to the place next door!) See us on Facebook!



Dan Starcher photo/www.buydrphotos.com

ELKS DISTRIBUTE ANNUAL DONATIONS TO LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

The Wooster Elks held its annual charity fund giveaway on Dec. 13. This year, the organization raised and donated \$40,000 through lodge activities. Recipients in attendance were: Cheryl Berlin (front left) for cerebral palsy; Dave Winner, Elks National Foundation; Dan Berlin, Hilltop Veterans Home; Casey Followay, ASPO-Sled Hockey; Tammy Cruise, Hospice & Palliative Care of Greater Wayne County; Tim Frye, Ida Sue School; Robert Kramer, Salvation Army of Wooster; Wooster Elks Trustee Rod Hotte (back left); Jaime Parsons, Viola Startzman Free Clinic; Jim Swinehart, Wayne County Crippled Children; Connie Kittle, Wooster Emblem Club; Lisa Followay; Brennan Frederick and Lexi Nolletti, Edgewood Middle School representatives for Camp Nuhop; and Elks Exalted Ruler, TJ Shamp. Also receiving donations were Boy Scouts of America, Field of Dreams, Wooster Youth Baseball, Wooster Quota Club, Muscular Dystrophy, Wooster Rotary Club, Kristen Jackson Foundation, Chuck Cicconetti Scholarship Fund and Give Pets a Chance.

SOUTHEAST DISTRICT

Coshocton 376 - The lodge turned the lower level into a Haunted House for Halloween. It was open for 6 evenings with partial proceeds going to the Coshocton High School Key Club. The Annual Veterans Dinner, held on November 12. There were 184 veterans and spouses who enjoyed the dinner. This was a 120% increase from 2011! On December 8th, the lodge distributed over 200 smoke detectors. Thanks to a Beacon Grant, many families will now have a detector in their homes. Lodge members carried our 30' flag in the Christmas Parade on November 17th. The Veterans Committee distributed 138 Christmas gifts to local veterans. Twenty "new" veterans got a hand quilted lap robe while the other 118 got a gift bag filled with a personalized card, calendar, candy, popcorn, hot chocolate mix, crackers and pears. Eleven members volunteered to deliver the gifts. Hoop Shoot was held on December 30th with 51 participants. Breakfast with Santa was held on December 22nd with 109 in attendance and 6 members and 2 helpers serving.

Ohio River Valley 231 - The lodge's annual "Boo in the Park" was funded by a Promise Grant and the lodge distributed 800 bags of Drug Awareness material along with gum and pencils. The lodge received a Freedom Grant and used it for a turkey dinner for veterans and their spouses. It was held on November 10th. The Grant is also being used to donate gas cards for travel to the VA hospital in Pittsburg and to mail care packages to the troops in Afghanistan. The lodge teamed with local schools in a special November Veterans Project. The children were asked to donate personal hygiene products, socks, books, etc. for veterans in local nursing homes and for the troops. At Christmastime, Tom Cusick, Veterans Chair, took Christmas gifts to Martins Ferry Long Term Care to four hospitalized veterans.

Hundreds of items were also donated from the area schools. Some were bagged and delivered to four nursing homes and the rest was taken to Wheeling to Boatsies Boxes, along with a check for \$160.00 for postage, and delivered to our front line troops. It was a very successful season for the veterans and those in need of warm winter clothing.

Urichsville 424 - The "Ole Timers Celebration Dinner" was held on December 2nd following the Memorial Service. This free dinner was for all members to celebrate the continued membership of the lodge's long time members. Hoop Shoot was held on December 15th. The annual Children's Christmas Party was held on December 22nd. The lodge is a proud sponsor of the "Miss Clayland Scholarship Pageant" where Mackenzie Bart was crowned. She advances to compete in the Miss Ohio pageant in June. The lodge's own Thomas R. Morris Scholarship Award will be available on January 2nd. The lodge distributed 196 dictionaries to Claymont School's 3rd Graders. Second graders got coloring books and bookmarks. Drug Awareness filled backpacks were distributed to the school and the Urichsville and Dennison branches of the local libraries.

East Liverpool 258 - On October 27th, the lodge, with the cooperation of the East Liverpool City Fire Department and the Liverpool Township Fire Department distributed 298 smoke detectors to members of the community. These smoke detectors were paid for by raffle tickets for a BBQ and meat package. Leading Knight Bobby Rufener was named "Officer of the Year" and member Chad Prologo was named "Elk of the Year". The lodge held "A Night at the Races" to benefit their Children's Christmas Charities. Hoop Shoot was held on December 1st. Lodge members participated in the Christmas Parade on December 8th. On December 15th a "Christmas Extravaganza" was held with drawings and a Chinese Auction benefitting the Christmas Charities. The East Liverpool Elks Children's Christmas Charities handed out toys, sports balls, hats, gloves, treat bags, wrapped games and drug awareness material to approximately 250 children in our community on Christmas morning. Approximately 60 members their family and friends assisted in handing out the items, including a mother with her 6 and 8 year old daughters. The lodge raises over \$12,000 annually to fund our local charity. The fund raising activities include pasta dinners with committee members donating the food, a night at the races, a 6,500 ticket raffle drawing and a Chinese auction all culminating a week before Christmas with a Christmas extravaganza at the lodge for all the members.

Marietta 477 - A Kids Halloween Party and the Haunted House was held on October 20th. A Veterans Dinner was held on November 11th with 60 veterans and their spouses attending. One lucky veteran won a gas card. A Children's Christmas Party was held on December 15th. The Trustees provided a free ham and turkey dinner on Christmas Eve to all members.

New Philadelphia 510 - The Holiday Craft Fair was held on November 17th and was a big success with 38 vendors and over 200 customers. Many vendors and local artists offered their products. A bake sale, lunch and raffles were held during this event. The lodge sold raffle tickets with proceeds used to purchase Christmas baskets for needy families. These were distributed to 60 families with 33 Elks delivering on December 23rd. The Annual Veterans Breakfast was held on November 11th. The 5th Annual Christmas Lunch was held on Christmas Day and open to anyone in need of a meal. Delivery was available as well. The lodge served 157 lunches. Member Nick Carter got Officers and Veterans from the A.I.C. Club and the Eagles #582 to help carry the big flag in the Soldiers Festival Parade in Dennison.

Submitted by Marilyn Griffis, PER, Coshocton #376





The Fremont Lodge is honored to have an Adopted Veteran, Howard Foos, resident of Bethesda Care Center. We make frequent visits taking Goodies and remember each Holiday, Birthday with our well wishes and Thank You.

On Sunday October 28th we hosted our Annual visit of Veterans from Ohio Veterans home out of Sandusky Ohio. There were 20 Veterans that joined us in enjoying a home cooked meal. Afterwards we entertained with playing bingo with prizes awarded among 3 homemade walking sticks donated by PER Ray Toeppe. Each were given a goody bag, & new hats provided by the Elks National Service commission.

Every Year we make a visit to the Ohio Veterans Home to see our 25 Sandusky County Veterans, this was done on Monday December 17th.

We distributed a personal certificate thanking our Veteran with our sincere gratitude for the sacrifice and dedication that they gave to the United States of America as a proud member of each of their individual branch of service.

Among those we seen were our own Rolly Morgan whom we found in good spirits and glad for the visit.

We were rewarded the \$1000.00 Beacon Grant that will be used this year 2013 for our many Veterans projects.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Beaston Committee Chair
Esteemed Loyal Knight



Veterans Dinner: The Veterans Committee hosted a Spaghetti Dinner on Sunday, November 11th. Veterans received a complimentary meal and special door prizes. Members donated door prizes and sponsored veterans to help offset the cost of the dinner. The event was successful and was a great way to honor our Veterans.

Cerebral Palsy Fundraiser: Parma Lodge held its 27th Annual CP Fundraiser on November 17, 2012. The \$13 ticket included a pasta dinner and beverages along with the opportunity to win many door prizes. The door prizes were generously donated by area merchants and Lodge members. The more dollars donated to Cerebral Palsy, the more door prize tickets you receive. The event raised a total of \$2,698.00. Chairs Karen Kupchik and Rosemary Selepena made the event an enjoyable evening for all!

Give a Christmas: Parma Lodge members provided food and grocery store gift cards to 25 needy families for Christmas. Our Boy Scout Troop, Cub Scout Pack, and Venture Crew assisted in collecting food throughout the neighborhood. Our members assisted in the collection and distribution and also showed their generosity with their donations.

Lori Sottosanti, PER
Parma Lodge Ohio Elks News Chair

SOMETHING NEW FOR FUN NITE

This year, for the after dinner entertainment for Fun Nite at the Ohio Elks Spring Convention, we will be featuring “Dueling Pianos”. This 2 person group has performed several times at the Van Wert Elks to sell-out crowds and has also been featured entertainment on cruise ships. Consisting of a father/daughter team, “Dueling Pianos” gets the audience involved in the show. If you have never experienced a “Dueling Pianos” show, you are in for a treat. They will play plenty of rock & roll and country but love to take requests....any requests! It is truly a combination of a comedy show with a great musical performance!

Ticket sales for Fun Nite are by pre-sale only. Watch for registration information to be coming in the near future. Let your Lodge Secretary know that you don’t want to miss out on the fun! Registration forms will also be available on-line at the Ohio Elks Association website. Not only do you get this superb show but your ticket also includes a great buffet dinner and complementary draft beer. A cash bar is also available.

If you have attended Fun Nite in the past and were let down by the food or music, now is the time to join the party. The Marriott Hotel provides excellent food and as stated above, you can’t beat the entertainment. “Dueling Pianos” is not just a band, it’s an entertainment experience! See you there!



DON'T MISS
“DUELING PIANOS”

PERFORMING FOR YOU AT THE FRIDAY FUN NITE

AT THE SPRING CONVENTION ON APRIL 12TH

FROM 8:00 until 11:00 pm

This acclaimed father/daughter team features a show heavy in audience participation with lots of rock & roll, country and plenty of requests. If you have never experienced “Dueling Pianos”, don’t miss this opportunity!

Not just a band . . . an entertainment experience!



On November 10, 2012, the Willoughby/Cleveland Elks Lodge #18 Officers and members presented a Veterans' Day of Remembrance at the Breckenridge Village Osborne Community Plaza in Willoughby, Ohio. Along with the members of the Elks, Breckenridge Veterans and staff, Robert Mastronicola- V.E.T.S Coordinator from Lake Erie College, LaBena Fleming-Provider Relations Manager for the Hospice of the Western Reserve, Michael Warner-Chief of the Concord Township Fire Department, George "Duke" Miller-District Deputy to the Grand Exalted Ruler and Willoughby Mayor David Anderson were in attendance. The program was dedicated to honoring those Americans who served while defending our Nation and its values. Willoughby/ Cleveland Emblem Club #508 also helped to serve the refreshments after the program. A flag was also donated to the Village.

GL Newsletter, February 2013 Veterans Message: Lifeline to veterans

by **ROBERT M. HENNINGS**
Commission Director

Anyone who has been hospitalized for a length of time will understand the loneliness and depression experienced by veterans who either live in a facility or are confined to their homes. Visits from family and friends may be infrequent or non-existent. Elks Veterans Volunteers make special efforts to visit, call, send cards, and bring them to special events. This personal contact we call adopting, for these are the actions of a family reaching out to loved ones.

Stewart G Israel, of Plymouth, Michigan Lodge No. 1780 is Chairman of the Adopt-a-Veteran Program. Brother Israel, as a dedicated VAVS Representative, also takes an active part in adopting veterans in hospitals and working closely with the homeless.

It is estimated that almost 200,000 Veterans are part of our Adopt-A-Veteran program nationwide. Adopting a Veteran is our way of saying 'Thank you for your service to this country, and we will always remember you'. We are grateful for the commitment of Brother Israel, and the volunteers at the Lodge, District, and State level who so willingly adopted these men and women.

To find out how your Lodge can take part in this program, including where to find veterans in need of adoption and how to adopt, visit our website at <http://www.elks.org/vets/AdoptAVeteran.cfm> or contact Stewart Israel directly.

Stewart Israel, Chairman
Adopt-A-Veteran Program
40225 Newport Drive
Plymouth, MI 48170-4739
e-mail: stewizzy@yahoo.com

Adopt-A-Veteran certificates are available from the Chicago office at no cost.



GL Newsletter, February 2013 GER Message: Sprint to the finish line of successful Lodge year

Message from the Grand Exalted Ruler THOMAS S. BRAZIER

February brings an awareness of the limited time remaining to achieve our goals for the year. It is not too late to complete many of those goals, but it will require a concerted effort if you are going to finish strong before the new Officers are installed.

First, has your Lodge met the per capita goal of \$4.50 for ENF? If not, there is still time to publicize where you are to your Members and make a special push to achieve that goal. Look at having a special event targeted to benefit the ENF. Include a special ENF donation request in your March newsletter with a form that the Members can use to donate. Include the online donation information to make it even easier for them to donate. Make special announcements and pass the hat at your Lodge dinners and meetings. All of this will add up in the long run and help you meet your goal.

This is also the time of year when the membership renewal forms go out. Your lapsation committee should be in high gear to ensure that you don't lose Members during this process. It is unfortunate when a Lodge works so hard to bring in new Members, but then doesn't do the work to keep them nor pay attention to those who are not renewing. Don't let this happen to your Lodge. Make personal contact. Call the Members who have not paid and find out both why they have not renewed and what might be done to bring them back into the Lodge. Always keep in mind our goal of +1 and work toward that end.

You should also be working to complete next year's budget. Look at where your Lodge was successful this year and expand on areas. Look at where the budget was not sufficient for Lodge needs and adjust accordingly. Finally, work out how you might increase revenues to ensure that your Lodge will have the monies to operate successfully and perhaps even expand its offerings for the upcoming year.

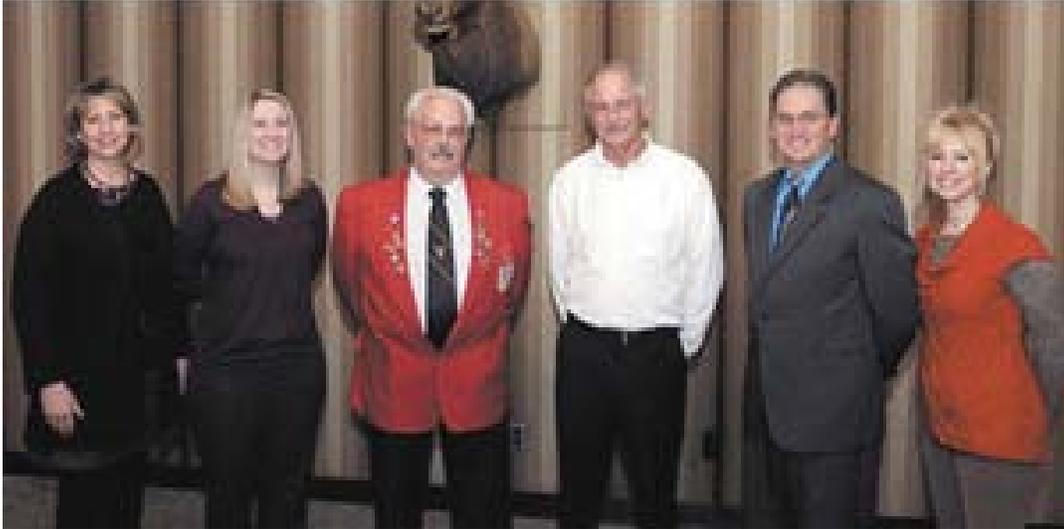
Finally, take time to enjoy the completion of another year. Celebrate the 145th birthday of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks on February 16. How lucky we all are to be a part of this great Order. Pat yourselves on the back. You are all "A Beacon of Hope" in this world.

New Year's Resolution: Build Stronger Communities

What's your New Year's resolution? The Elks National Foundation has resolved to build stronger communities throughout 2013. Here are some of the ways the ENF will accomplish this:

1. **Get in shape.** Throughout 2013, the ENF-funded [Elks National Hoop Shoot Free Throw contest](#) will inspire youth to stay active and healthy.
2. **Learn something new.** By providing nearly \$3.6 million in [college scholarships](#) this year, the ENF will help tomorrow's leaders attend the colleges of their dreams.
3. **Serve others.** By funding programs and projects that [support veterans](#), the ENF will help Elks provide care and comfort for these heroes.
4. **Stay healthy.** The [Elks Drug Awareness Program](#), funded by the ENF, will teach youth the dangers of drug and alcohol use and abuse, providing them with the information they need to lead healthy lives.
5. **Invest wisely.** By offering [Community Investments Program](#) grants, the ENF will help Lodges serve their communities in ways that will raise the Lodge's profile, energize the membership, encourage former members to return to the fold, and gain the notice of people who want to be part of an organization that's doing great things.

With all of these programs in place, the ENF is confident it will fulfill its New Year's resolution. To follow the ENF's progress in building stronger communities throughout 2013, visit www.elks.org/enf regularly.



Elks strive to help others through local charities

By Laurie HuffmanThe Review Published: January 10, 2013 3:00AM

People who are homeless, or near to it, those who can't afford their medicine, and women and children seeking shelter from domestic violence will be given a hand this year due to the generosity of the members of Alliance Elks Lodge No. 467. Scott Cully, chair of the Charities Committee, presented \$1,000 to three local agencies on Wednesday, which was a portion of the money he collected in November and December during the club's annual charity fundraising drive.

There to accept the donations at the Elks Lodge were Kim Stanley, executive director of the Alliance Area Domestic Violence Shelter; Shirene Starn-Tapyrik, CEO of Alliance for Children and Families, which provides emergency, temporary and long-term housing to those who are homeless; and Jeff Caldwell, pastor of Serving Hands Ministry.

Cully reported the Alliance Elks has about 1,000 members, and from that membership enough money was raised this year to give the \$3,000 out to three agencies on Wednesday, to feed more than 400 people through a Christmas food basket program, distribute \$900 to the area veterans hospital, and distribute more than \$70,000 in scholarships to young people in the community.

"I'm very proud of what our members do because that's people that live in the Alliance community that want to help other people in our community," said Cully. "That's our members coming forward and saying they want to help and then following through with their donations from their own pockets."

One of the local Elks' biggest charity efforts is for the veterans. The Alliance Elks took \$900 worth of supplies to the veterans hospital near Cleveland after receiving a list of items that were needed by the patients, such as toothpaste and socks. Cully reported Serving Hands Ministries was chosen as a recipient this year, in part, because it has started a new program to help people who can't afford their medicine. The ministry also has staff trained that go out to people's homes and take their blood pressure and perform well checks. He said Caldwell told him Serving Hands created the new program after becoming more familiar with the needs in the community through its food ministry. "They feed the same people year after year, and, like us, they don't just want to provide meals for people, they want to help them with other needs too," said Cully.

"My gratification in helping the club do all of this each year is to see people getting the help they need when they're having a tough time. We also try to take our assistance one step further when we see extra help is needed. We took 12 food baskets to the homeless shelter this year at Christmastime and when we saw the children in need there, we came back later to bring them some toys," said Cully.

Cully said people don't forget the help they receive during times of hardship. "I have one guy who drove all the way up here from Florida this year to give us \$300. He's doing well now and is living in Boca Raton, but he said we gave him a food basket about three years ago, and he never forgot it," Cully closed.

GL Newsletter, February 2013 Activities Committee: Lodge Activities Awards near

**by JOHN V. MINARCHICK, SR.
Committee Member**

Although it is still the beginning of a new calendar year, we are approaching the end of the Lodge year. And one of the year-end duties of the Lodge is the presentation of the Lodge Activities Awards.

Probably the most recognizable are the "Citizen Of The Year", "Elk Of The Year" and "Officer Of The Year" Awards. Although each Lodge probably has a procedure that they utilize in judging these recipients, additional guidelines are available in the Grand Lodge "2012-2013 Lodge Activities Program Contests and Grand Exalted Ruler Awards" brochure.

So that an inscribed citation may be issued to the honoree, the full name (no nicknames) of the person selected should be submitted to the Grand Secretary in writing. The postmark deadline is March 31, 2013.

There are also Grand Exalted Ruler Awards for Outstanding Members, Exalted Rulers and Local Lodges. The specifics are available on the Grand Lodge Web site and in the Lodge Activities brochure, but here is a brief overview of the awards that are offered:

- **Outstanding Members – Two awards are available. One is for a Member who brings in three new or reinstated Members (postmark deadline of June 15, 2013, to Grand Secretary), and the other for two Members who perform outstanding Lodge service (postmark deadline of March 31, 2013 to Area Member of Grand Lodge Fraternal Committee).**
- **Exalted Rulers – Special Citations will be awarded to Exalted Rulers who participate in specified programs during the year. Written requests have a postmark deadline of March 31, 2013, to the Area Member of the Grand Lodge Fraternal Committee.**
- **Local Lodges – Two Special Citations are available. One is for a Lodge that participates in six specified programs, and the other for a Lodge attaining two specified goals. These certificate orders have a postmark deadline of March 31, 2013, and should be sent to your Area Grand Lodge Fraternal Committee Member.**

A GER Special Citation will be determined by the Grand Secretary from the Lodge final membership report for the period ending March 31, 2013. And, although the deadline has passed, there is a Citation available for a Lodge that has a full complement of elected and appointed Officers who are not Past Exalted Rulers.

I encourage you to recognize and reward those Officers and Members who contribute their time and talents to our organization. They are a Beacon Of Hope in sustaining our Order.

GL Newsletter, February 2013 Grand Secretary: Lodge Committee Chairpersons Report

by Bryan Klatt, Grand Secretary

After the Lodge Officer elections in February and before April 15, you must enter your 2013-2014 Lodge Committee Chairpersons in CLMS2Web and confirm acceptance. You may have or shortly will receive a worksheet that will assist in compiling the needed information. REMEMBER: this information is to be filed online via CLMS2Web. No mailing to Grand Lodge or your District Deputy is required.

As of this writing, 1,989 (98.8%) of Lodges have submitted their November Membership Report; 24 have not. Of those Lodges who have submitted, the Order shows a gain of 18,837 (2.2%) Members, but a delinquency of 81,243 (9.4%) Members. Personal contact is a must in retaining those delinquent Members.



Van Wert Lodge No. 1197, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks have selected Andrew A. Todd, Senior at Van Wert High School and Taylor Jo Miller, Senior at Lincolnview High School as the recipients of the Student/Volunteer of the Month for January.

Students are nominated by their high schools to receive this award. Each Student/Volunteer of the Month receives a monetary donation along with a certificate from the Van Wert Elks Lodge No. 1197 with the possibility to be named the Student/Volunteer of the Year. Many students do community work which is a requirement to graduate. This time is definitely considered; but more weight is given to students who give their “unrequired” time to their community.

Besides the community service, the students are scored on their work experience, honors and awards, leadership, extracurricular activities, and an essay.

Pictured left receiving her certificate is, left to right, Taylor Jo Miller and Linda J. Stanley, Lodge Student/Volunteer of the Month Chair.

Pictured right receiving his certificates is, left to right: Andrew A. Todd and Linda J. Stanley, Lodge Student/Volunteer of the Month Chair.



Van Wert Elks Lodge 1197, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks recently donated \$50.00 to the Van Wert Youth Bowling League. The monies will be used to help sponsor a team.

The Youth Bowling League comprised of young boys and girls, bowls each week on Friday evenings as well as Saturday mornings and afternoons. The State of Ohio has made bowling an official high school sport. Van Wert Lodge has helped to sponsor this league for several years.

Pictured is Lodge Secretary Michael C. Stanley with members of the Youth Bowling League.

Northwest District

Fremont Lodge #169

On Sunday October 28th we hosted our annual visit of Veterans from the Ohio Veterans home in Sandusky Ohio. We do frequent visit to our local nursing homes among those to our Adopted Veteran. We marched in our Holiday parade that was video and shown on our local TV Station.

On December 17th we visited our Sandusky County Veterans at the Ohio Veterans Home where we presented each with a personalized certificate thanking them for their service to our country along with a holiday treat.

We again had our 2nd annual Soup cook off on January 5th. The receiving of the \$1000 enf Beacon grant money to be used for our ongoing Veterans Events and projects.

Kenton # 157

Teen of the month for Nov-Jan Elks and Y sponsored teen dance Hoopshoot winners Veteran's Day breakfast Memorial day Service. We had a display at The Lake of Lights. We also made some donations to: A local Boy Scout troop, The local chapter of the Blue Star Mothers, Two families at Christmas. We also had a clothing swap to benefit CP

Mercer County 2170



Mercer County Elks once again were pleased to provide the **Challenger Baseball League** with their annual banquet dinner. This year's league included six teams with over 60 participants. The dinner was held in the Elks banquet room.

We would like to thank all those who helped make this league a success this year for these kids and their families, and to the Lodge Staff, notably Gary Depweg and Gary Broering for all their help. The cost for this program is provided by the Elks Promise grant provided by the National Elks Foundation



Friday Night Golf and Cookouts were a great time: For those of you that never made one of the Friday night golf outing you missed a great time. From out standing food, specially made by an arrangement of groups, to great evening golf with music on the course by Bubba himself.



The Ladies Elks Golf Association sponsored the 2012 Breast Cancer Awareness Outing.



On December 13 & 14 Marysville Elks Lodge #1130 presented dictionaries to all of the third graders in the Marysville, North Union, Fairbanks, Jonathan Alder, St. Paul, St. John, and Trinity school systems. These third grade students at Navin Elementary School were excited to receive the dictionary and were equally excited to learn that it was theirs to keep and take with them to the fourth grade. This marks the 6th year that the Marysville Elks has participated in the Dictionary Project. According to Kermit Morse, III the Dictionary Project manager “We feel that a child cannot do his or her best work without a dictionary and that’s why we do this annual project. We are also extremely grateful to the Elks National Foundation because if we had not received a Gratitude Grant, it would have been difficult to purchase the 800 dictionaries for the students

Toledo Elks #53 welcomes the State of Ohio Elk Bowlers

Toledo Elks #53 welcomes the State of Ohio Elk Bowlers , this being the 72nd tournament of its kind. Bowlers are treated to a great time here in Toledo, Dinners are being served on Saturday nights from 5:30 - 8-30 , dinners will be available throughout the tournament even on Friday nites with another menu. Saturdays menu are Elks prime rib cut for \$10.95, P.E.R. fish dinner \$7.95, and our HALF POUND Angus steak burger for \$7.95, all meals are served with coleslaw and fries or baked potato. The house will offer a variety of board and table games for all. Come to Toledo and enjoy our Lodge. Tournament runs Feb. 9 to March 24, Se you here.

Northeast District

Lakewood Elks Lodge #1350

In September, 2012, Lakewood Elks Lodge #1350 held a "Night At The Races" fundraiser. Over \$3,000 was raised for the Elks state major charity, United Cerebral Palsy. The Lodge Hall was filled with about 140 people, cheering for race horses with names such as "Beefcake Stanley" and "Exhausted Rooster". The energy in the room was amazing and lasted the entire night to the delight of all the committee people. It was a sign that all of their hard work had paid off. The guest speaker was Trish Otter (pictured below with ER, Ken Ermlich & his wife Bridget), President of United Cerebral Palsy of Greater Cleveland. Her presence was a tribute to the hard work and dedication that our members and volunteers have for the continuing support of those with CP.

Many local companies helped to support the event with generous donations: Giant Eagle, Bakers Square, Fatheads, Plant Crafters, Bally's, and Rozi's Wine & Liquor Store. In addition, the Cleveland Browns donated an autographed football that was raffled to help CP. Lakewood #1350 is looking forward to another successful race in 2013 and hopes to make this a yearly fundraising event.



2012 Lakewood Elks Lodge #1350 in Westlake Annual Christmas Assistance.

The members of Lakewood Lodge # 1350 (and their friends) deserve a "pat on the back" for donating and gathering prizes at the annual Turkey Trot held in November 2012. These prizes helped us earn over \$ 7,000.00 for our Christmas Cheer Delivery Fund!

Food boxes were assembled for 180 families, which included 365 children, plus an additional 22 bereavement baskets and nursing home comfort baskets. The 180 boxes were packed in record time by a small army of volunteers comprised of Elks, their family members, and friends. The young athletes who play on the Lakewood Elks Girls Softball Team, many of whom are daughters of Elks, created the beautiful gift baskets for the widows/widowers and members currently in nursing homes.

The Lakewood Emblem Club provided hats/gloves and gifts for the children. They were assisted in wrapping all the gifts by Girl Scouts from the 6th Grade Girl Scout Troop #455 from Parkside School, the 7th Grade Girl Scout Troop #1349 from Burneson School, as well as Elks, their family members and friends.

The following morning, a snowy Saturday just three days before Christmas, the gifts were delivered by even more volunteers. Many were wishing for larger vehicles! The stories they had to tell when they got back are inspiring and remind us of why we do this each year.



Volunteers wrapping gifts for Christmas Baskets



Kathy Henson, Member of Lakewood Lodge #1350 prepares one of the many baskets for delivery to those in need.



The Salem Elks Lodge #305 presented a check for \$1,000 to the Salem Salvation Army on December 5th.

The funds were used to purchase coats, mittens, scarves and hats for local children. Pictured are (from left) Cadet Christopher Hinzman, Elks Exalted Ruler; Lisa Wadlow and Lieutenant Jason Price. The Salem Elks have given out over \$13,000 to during the 2012 year to charities.



The Salem Elks Lodge #305 presented a check for \$549 to the Salem Community Pantry (serving the Salem area for the past 2 years) on December 5th. The funds were used to purchase food through the 2nd Harvest Food Bank. Each \$1 will purchase up to \$15 worth of food. Pictured are (from left) Treasurer of the Pantry; Gary Dean, Elks Exalted Ruler; Lisa Wadlow. The Salem Elks have given out over \$13,000 to during the 2012 year to charities.

Kent Lodge #1377

The Kent Elks hosted a dinner for the successful Kent Roosevelt High School football team at the end of their season. The coaches and team were honored with a free meal.

Willoughby – Cleveland Lodge # 18

On November 10, 2012, the Willoughby/Cleveland Elks Lodge #18 Officers and members presented a Veterans' Day of Remembrance at the Breckenridge Village Osborne Community Plaza in Willoughby, Ohio. Along with the members of the Elks, Breckenridge Veterans and staff, Robert Mastronicola- V.E.T.S Coordinator from Lake Erie College, LaBena Fleming-Provider Relations Manager for the Hospice of the Western Reserve, Michael Warner-Chief of the Concord Township Fire Department, George "Duke" Miller-District Deputy to the Grand Exalted Ruler and Willoughby Mayor David Anderson were in attendance. The program was dedicated to honoring those Americans who served while defending our Nation and its values. Willoughby/ Cleveland Emblem Club #508 also helped to serve the refreshments after the program. A flag was also donated to the Village.

Berea Elks #1815

Community

A food drive was held in November and December, with lots of food and gift certificates donated to the Berea Food Pantry before Christmas.

A \$750 Elks grant was presented to the Olmstead Township police chief at a lodge meeting. He was very appreciative, as their annual budget is very small and many needed items are not part of the budget.

Veterans

In November, our lodge hosted 36 Veterans from the Wade Park VA Hospital for a chicken dinner and bingo. The chicken was donated by a local restaurant. Cash prizes were given to the bingo winners.

On Veterans Day 5 Elks and 2 ladies visited the VFW #6676 to pay respects to our Veterans and to attend their Veterans Day ceremony.

Berea also attended a Veterans dinner in December at Lakewood lodge, and helped run the Bingo games for the Vets,

Youth

A Hoop Shoot was held at the local recreation center in December, and a dinner is scheduled in later January for the winners and their families.

Scholarship applications were judged and winners chosen from many fine applications which made selecting winners a very difficult task.

More than 200 Americanism essays were judged, with 6 winners chosen.

The Lodge Esquire regularly helps youth groups on fishing days and also demonstrates how to fish with fly rods and tie flies.



Painesville Lodge #549.

Many Elks wish to wear the old symbol of Elkdom, an elk tooth medallion. This tradition started in the very early 1900's and continues today. But they are not easy to find and cost a lot of money when you do. If you have ever wanted an elk tooth, you might be in line to win one. Painesville, OH Lodge 549 has started a special fund raising project, called "Ray's Tooth", to benefit the Elks National Foundation. 549's Life Member Raymond McLeod has donated his unique elk tooth medallion as the grand prize of a drawing to be held on November 21, 2013, at the annual Painesville 549 member/guest Turkey Party. But, Ray's Tooth is not your average elk tooth medallion. It measures 2 inches tall by 15/16 inches wide, significantly larger than most other elk teeth medallions. Here, it is pictured next to a U.S. quarter.

80 year old LM McLeod has owned the tooth for 40 years, inheriting it from his grandfather who acquired it 40 years earlier. Ray recently approached Painesville PER Scott Daniels with the offer to donate the unusual tooth to Painesville 549 for a special project. Daniels, being the lodge's ENF chairman, suggested that the Elks National Foundation should become the focus of the lodge's fund raising project. LM McLeod quickly agreed and presented the tooth to the lodge. The Painesville lodge hopes to make a sizable donation, in LM Ray McLeod's name, from the proceeds of a drawing for the medallion. Also, Painesville will make a \$100 donation to ENF in the name of the winner of Ray's Tooth. If the winner is an affiliated Elk, the Painesville lodge will also make a \$100 donation to ENF in the name of his or her home Elks Lodge. Entry coupons can be obtained by going to www.bpoe549.com or the [Painesville Elks Lodge 549](http://www.PainesvilleElksLodge549.com)

Facebook page and following the instructions. Entries are \$10 each. You may purchase as many entries as you wish. Also, further details can be gathered by emailing 549elks@sbcglobal.net. Painesville lodge 549 is looking forward to widespread support of this special project on behalf of the Elks National Foundation.



Speaker: Greater pool of soldiers needed

By Stephanie ujhelyi The Review Published: November 10, 2012 3:00AM

Taking care of those who take care of Americans should not be an afterthought, explained a retired U.S. Army general during the annual Fraternal Order of Elks veterans dinner Nov. 3.

Brigadier Gen. George Landis, who is working as a defense industry management consultant in Florida, told the crowd, "We cannot do enough for our wounded warriors," urging that the Army is too small to keep the rotation going.

"These folks now are serving five to eight years in combat. Otherwise, if we have to keep these rotations going, incidents of post-traumatic stress disorder will continue to escalate," Landis continued.

Prior to moving to Sebring, where he graduated from high school, Landis acknowledged that he had moved to Alliance, where he attended Franklin Elementary School as a first-grade student in 1946.

"Last year, something really got my attention on the front page of the USA Today. There was a small story on Sgt. Dakota Meyer, winner of the Medal of Honor, while most of the front page was dominated by a story on (former "American Idol" judge) Simon Cowell," the general continued.

"I wanted to throw up. I am tired of seeing Lindsey Lohan and Charlie Sheen taking up the newspaper when we should be focusing on the real heroes instead of Hollywood."

Landis served for three decades in a variety of command and staff assignments in the United States and international locations, served for three years in West Berlin during the Cold War, two years in southeast Asia during the Vietnam War and four months recovering equipment and redeploying forces from Desert Storm battlefields.

Landis' awards, decorations and honors include the Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (three OLC), Air Medal, Army Commendation Medal (three OLC), Joint Service Achievement Medal, Master Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, Army Staff Identification Badge, Ancient Order of St Christopher, Order of St. Barbara, Royal Thai Army Balloon Parachutist Badge, NDTA Distinguished Service Award and Distinguished Member of the Regiment (Transportation Corps).

Back this year were Augie Grove playing taps, Josh Jacobs on the bagpipes and Chelsea Jez singing "The Star-Spangled Banner."

Veterans in attendance were asked to wear their uniforms and to march in under the colors of their branch of service at the conclusion of the evening. Entertainment was provided by the Uptown Saturday Night band.

Elks strive to help others through local charities

By Laurie HuffmanThe Review Published: January 10, 2013 3:00AM

People who are homeless, or near to it, those who can't afford their medicine, and women and children seeking shelter from domestic violence will be given a hand this year due to the generosity of the members of Alliance Elks Lodge No. 467. Scott Cully, chair of the Charities Committee, presented \$1,000 to three local agencies on Wednesday, which was a portion of the money he collected in November and December during the club's annual charity fundraising drive.

There to accept the donations at the Elks Lodge were Kim Stanley, executive director of the Alliance Area Domestic Violence Shelter; Shirene Starn-Tapyrik, CEO of Alliance for Children and Families, which provides emergency, temporary and long-term housing to those who are homeless; and Jeff Caldwell, pastor of Serving Hands Ministry.

Cully reported the Alliance Elks has about 1,000 members, and from that membership enough money was raised this year to give the \$3,000 out to three agencies on Wednesday, to feed more than 400 people through a Christmas food basket program, distribute \$900 to the area veterans hospital, and distribute more than \$70,000 in scholarships to young people in the community.

"I'm very proud of what our members do because that's people that live in the Alliance community that want to help other people in our community," said Cully. "That's our members coming forward and saying they want to help and then following through with their donations from their own pockets."

One of the local Elks' biggest charity efforts is for the veterans. The Alliance Elks took \$900 worth of supplies to the veterans hospital near Cleveland after receiving a list of items that were needed by the patients, such as toothpaste and socks.

Cully reported Serving Hands Ministries was chosen as a recipient this year, in part, because it has started a new program to help people who can't afford their medicine. The ministry also has staff trained that go out to people's homes and take their blood pressure and perform well checks. He said Caldwell told him Serving Hands created the new program after becoming more familiar with the needs in the community through its food ministry. "They feed the same people year after year, and, like us, they don't just want to provide meals for people, they want to help them with other needs too," said Cully.

"My gratification in helping the club do all of this each year is to see people getting the help they need when they're having a tough time. We also try to take our assistance one step further when we see extra help is needed. We took 12 food baskets to the homeless shelter this year at Christmastime and when we saw the children in need there, we came back later to bring them some toys," said Cully.

Cully said people don't forget the help they receive during times of hardship. "I have one guy who drove all the way up here from Florida this year to give us \$300. He's doing well now and is living in Boca Raton, but he said we gave him a food basket about three years ago, and he never forgot it," Cully closed.



Elks provide food baskets for those in need

By LAURIE HUFFMAN The Review Published: December 24, 2012 3:00AM

While Alliance Elks Lodge 467 Exalted Ruler Jeff Dillon was the only one donning a Santa hat, there were about 100 members of the club who joined him in playing Santa Claus this weekend as they packed and delivered Christmas baskets of food to people in the community who are having a rough time financially right now. Scott Cully, Christmas Charities Committee chairman, reported the group delivered 92 baskets filled with fresh fruit, bread, desserts, meats, vegetables and other healthy food items. "That's a little more than last year, and it represents food for 400 individuals. That's a lot of people, and a lot of food," said Cully.

Cully said the situations his fellow Elks members have seen people suffering through include just about anything you can think of. "From grandparents who are taking care of three grandkids to a pregnant girl who is 17 and trying to get along with no help to people who have been unemployed for up to a couple of years. If you can think of a story, it's probably one we already have here," said Cully. "Last year, we had one little boy who wanted to know where all the food came from. We told him from the Elks lodge, and he asked us if that's where Santa lives. They didn't have a Christmas tree and had no heat. So, we went out and got them a tree and had the heat put back on for them. We end up doing a little bit more than just delivering food sometimes."

Yet, for the bulk of the families who received food baskets on Saturday, that may have been all the Christmas magic they needed or hoped for. There were all types of food items in each gift basket and the operation was extremely well organized. After years of practice, the Elks members had a virtual assembly line going as they moved the baskets up and down both sides of the tables, picked up each item to be included and marked it off their lists.

Cully reported the food was purchased with money donated by the Alliance Elks club members, with the help of some special donors, including Jim Uller, Green Farms and Arrowhead Orchard. There are currently about 1,000 members in the local Elks lodge, and 75 of those helped pack the baskets on Friday, while about 100 came out on Saturday to deliver them door-to-door. Cully and Elks member Bill Willis picked up the food and brought it to the pavilion and sorted it on Thursday night.

"We had phenomenal support from the Elks members. We're not just serving people for Christmas Day, we're serving them enough food for the whole week. And the food is as fresh as it can get. We did everything but pick the apples off the tree," Cully concluded with a characteristic grin.

CUYAHOGA FALLS-AKRON-BARBERTON ELKS CLUB MEMBERS "SIGN" UP FOR VETERANS

By today's standards, perhaps, it was a simple sign. There was no lavish illustration or eye-catching lettering that drew attention to it. But when the message on the sign carries real weight, none of that is necessary.

It was that sign and its message that provided the impetus for members of Cuyahoga Falls-Akron-Barberton Elks Lodge #1923 to begin a collection campaign that benefited local veterans and their families during the holidays.

The collection drive was spearheaded by the Haven of Rest, an Akron ministry that provides shelter for the homeless. But Elks Past Exalted Ruler Michael Hill, Sr. wanted to spread the word to the members of his Lodge. So, he enlisted the help of Dave Chisnell, who owns a printing shop in Akron. Chisnell quickly agreed to help and in a matter of one day, provided several signs promoting the collection campaign...at no cost.

The result was prompt and plentiful. In less than a week, the Lodge collected over twelve large bags of clothing and personal items that were turned over to the Haven of Rest for distribution to veterans. The items were valued at \$125. But you can't put a price tag on generosity and kindness, both qualities embraced by Mr. Chisnell and the members of the Elks Lodge.

"I was confident that our members would respond to the request," said Hill, who chairs the Lodge's Veterans Service Committee. "We have many members who served in the Armed Forces and we are very active in supporting our veterans."

In a season marked by the spirit of giving, that spirit lives in a Lodge on State Road and a print shop in Akron, all from a simple sign that spoke volumes to the people who wanted to help and to the people who needed it. What better way to celebrate the holidays?

But, apparently, the effort has demonstrated to have some staying power. The Lodge has continued to accept items that have been turned over to the Haven of Rest and there doesn't seem to be any sign, so to speak, of the effort waning.

At the Cuyahoga Falls-Akron-Barberton Lodge #1923, the season for giving appears ready to last the entire year.

Massillon/North Canton

Veterans Service at Two Nurse Home service for over 60 vets

Hoop Shoot contest at the local school over 100 kids shot

Santa was at the local bank for the kids(30 kids) received a candy cane and a photo with Santa

Essay Forms received from 7 school (Over 800 of them)

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Mailing Address
Street Number and Name
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