

Virginia Elks Association News

July 12, 2015

GER Ron Hicks' Letter of Appreciation to Virginia Elks



To all Virginia Elks:

What a great National Convention for the Elks of Virginia!!! Indianapolis was a wonderful Host City and it was a great place to hold a convention with the hotels being so close to the Convention Center, and many good restaurants and activities within walking distance. I hope everyone enjoyed the experience!!

Nancy and I are so appreciative and humbled by the efforts of all Virginia Elks in coming together, unbelievably united in such a short time, in support of my campaign for GER and to help make things run exceptionally smooth during the convention. To name just a few: Bobby and April Fender hosted a great Virginia Hospitality Room; Paul and Bonnie Shoemaker, and crew, prepared the food and hosted the Virginia Reception on Saturday (the food and fellowship

were fabulous); Buddy and Bobbi Deese, (along with Howard Diehl from Michigan) organized and, with the help of many Elk friends, executed a great GER Reception on Monday and the Grand Luncheon on Thursday; Pete and Linda Decatur delivered all of our wine, celebration, gift and other items to Indianapolis; Jeh and Tee Hicks (along with Ric Mulholland of Michigan) gave heartfelt nomination speeches; Roger Highfield and Tim Knotts organized and led hundreds of Elks in a lively demonstration/celebration following the election; Roger and Barbara Monger helped keep all Virginia Elks informed on Convention happenings; and everyone contributed in some meaningful way, including their participation in the Demonstration/Celebration. And, a good time was had by all.

The Elks of Virginia were clearly out front and shining throughout the entire convention. And, believe me, you were noticed!!!

We are so grateful to the members of the Fredericksburg Elks Lodge and the other Virginia Lodges who supported us by holding fundraisers and making contributions to the campaign, as well as to all Elks for their individual efforts and contributions. Also, to Faye Willard for handling the accounting and shipping of the pins, to Katie Leary for designing the official GER and First Lady pins, the invitations and the other designs used in the campaign, and to my Administrative Aide, Ray Dameron, and his wife, Elizabeth, for everything they did and will be doing in the coming year.

Special thanks also to: Mike, Pete, Don, Bill, Geoff, George, Maxine, Fran, Steve and Steve, Carol and Carol, Ed, Bev, Travis, Jeremy, Christine, Shelby, Judy, Ronnie, Patti, VictoriaLynn, Richard, Buster, and so many, many others. We are humbled by your support and grateful for your friendship.

With much love and appreciation,

Ron and Nancy Hicks, Grand Exalted Ruler and First Lady and Proud Virginia Elks