

**Virginia Elks Association, Inc.
Doubletree-Blue Ridge Shadows**

Virginia Elks Association, Inc.

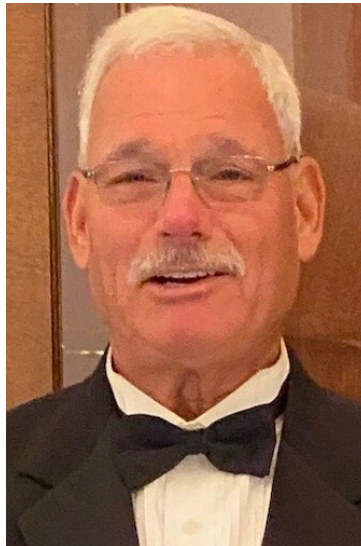
Spring Meeting – Front Royal, VA

Front Royal, VA-June 15, 2024



Ronald L. Hicks. PGER

Virginia State Sponsor



Dennis Henline

Front Royal Lodge #2382

**VIRGINIA ELKS ASSOCIATION
SPRING BUSINESS MEETING
JUNE 15, 2024**

Welcome: Vice Mayor of Front Royal

Call to Order: Dennis Henline, 9:00 a.m.

Invocation: Cliff Bocchicchio, Chaplain

Pledge of Allegiance: All

Roll Call of Officers: Tammy Symons, Secretary

Mr. President, All officers are present except Parliamentarian George Hartsell, Legal Advisor Joseph "Jeh" Hicks and 1 year Trustee Paul Shoemaker

Roll Call of Lodges: Tammy Symons, Secretary

Mr. President all lodges are present except Lynchburg 321

Report on Credentials: Tammy Symons, Secretary

166 Voting Delegates

Minutes of the Last Session: , Secretary

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to dispense with the reading of the minutes

Convention Committee Report-Tammy Symons

186 registered Elks

67 PER Breakfast

16 Guests

49 Ladies Breakfast

Treasurer's Report-

Account Balances:

Virginia Elks Association	\$125,675.45
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Virginia Elks Fund	\$169,440.07
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Safety Glasses	\$ 37,013.63
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Youth Camp	\$ 42,974.32
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Convention Account	\$ 41,370.03
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UBS Accounts:

Charitable Trust	\$577,306.39
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Defunct Galax Lodge	\$655,215.83
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Youth Camp

\$480,928.46

Head Table Introductions:

Chaplain Cliff Bocchicchio ; North Carolina State President Joe Clancy, Bob Hinkle who introduced GL Membership & Marketing Committee Geoff Cox, GL Trustee John Owen, GL Esteemed Lecturing Knight Elect Ray Dameron and State Sponsor Ron Hicks, PGER who introduced; GER Randy Shook.

First Vice President Report

Second Vice President Report

2024 Virginia Hoop Shoot Champs to compete in Regional Championship

Woohoo! Another successful Virginia State Hoop Shoot was held in Waynesboro, Virginia on Sunday, February 11, 2024 despite the drizzle of rain! We were determined not to let it dampen our spirits! This year we had 23 District Champs attending. Contestants checked in at the Waynesboro Elks Lodge # 2270 with Bobbye Kimbrough Netschke and Gigi Jones of Staunton Elks 351. Gigi had put together gift bags for the "Elks Youth Camp and Drug Awareness". They were distributed to our District Champs and their siblings attending our Virginia Hoop Shoot. Gigi also had Youth Camp applications! A delicious luncheon was prepared by Waynesboro 2270 Elk members Tim Childress, Janice Knott, Maryjane Fretwell, Jean Reece, and Sandy Landes.

Past Grand Lodge Inner Guard Don Netschke announced that the 2023 "Donald E. Netschke Sportsmanship Award" winner was Rory McNerney. A surprised Rory accepted his award while Don spoke about the importance of sportsmanship. Rory competed in the 8-9 Boy Division in 2023. Virginia Director Lynn Rutherford-Snow presented our Virginia Elks President Dennis Henline the traditional Hoop Shoot jacket.

After our luncheon, everyone headed over to Fishburne Military School for the contest. Our Flag presentation was led by Past Grand Lodge Inner Guard and Virginia Elks Association Past President Don Netschke carrying the United States of America flag and our VEA President Dennis Henline carrying Commonwealth of Virginia flag. Exalted Ruler Lennie Hutton of Bedford 2844 sang the National Anthem. Everyone had said the Pledge of Allegiance prior to leaving Waynesboro Elks Lodge. We were honored to have some of our former contestants as our guests: Sophia Palladino, Ford Cook, Hope Drake and her brother Jack Drake. Sophia was National Hoop Shoot Champion in 2011 and 2014. Ford placed third at the National Hoop Shoot in 2016. Hope Drake was a 2019 National Finalist and her brother Jack Drake was 2021 National Finalist.

After several roll-offs, we now have six new Virginia Champions who will represent us at the Regional Contest. The Regional Contest will be held March 8-10, 2024 in Charlottesville, Virginia. Our 2024 Virginia Champions are: Brantley Cottrell / Bedford Elks #2844, Eva Reed / Winchester Elks #867, 'Ty' David Willard / Bedford Elks #2844,

Ann Greer 'AG' Dryden / Richmond Elks #45, Ty'Shir Rhone / Winchester Elks #867, and Kinslie Winterfeldt / Bedford Elks #2844. I know our beloved Past State President Darryl Myers and Past Exalted Ruler Jim Chitwood are beaming in Heaven as we have three Virginia Champions who are from the Southwest District and heading to Regionals!

I was pleased and honored to present Senior Hope Drake a framed 12 x 18 momento of her attendance at the 2019 National Hoop Shoot in Chicago and wished her well. Hope has volunteered at the Loudoun 2406 Local contest, the North District contest, and my Virginia Hoop Shoot since she aged out in 2020. Hope will be attending Washington University in St. Louis and playing basketball for them. Hope is also the VHSL Leader in consecutive free throws made. As of our 2024 Virginia Hoop Shoot, Hope has made 47 consecutive free throws in a varsity game breaking the all-time record for the state of Virginia! No WBB player has ever made more consecutive free throws than Hope in the entire history of VA High school basketball. She finished her career with 50 consecutive free throws! Amazing!

Thanks a million for all my Elks Brothers and Sisters who traveled across our great Commonwealth plus locally to assist with our Virginia Hoop Shoot! All were presented certificates prior to the presentation of trophies to the contestants. Volunteers are a vital part of any organization and we LOVE our Elk volunteers. Again, special thanks to my Waynesboro Elks Lodge #2270 for helping me to host our District winners and their families for 2024!

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to be your Virginia Hoop Shoot Director for the past 16 years! It has been an amazing ride with beautiful memories of my Elk family who have always had my back and stepped up to do any task I ask of them. I am hereby stepping down as your Virginia Hoop Shoot Director. My North District Chair Geoff Cox will be taking my place as your new Virginia Hoop Shoot Director. Please extend to Geoff the same courtesy you gave me these past 16 years. I will still be involved in our Hoop Shoot Program as I will continue in my role as the Southeast Central Region 10 Director for MD/DE/DC, NC, VA, and WV. From my Elk family/Peeps to all the thousands of contestants and their family who have made this ride enjoyable and became my extended family once they won the Virginia Hoop Shoot! I LOVE being an Elk and all we stand for! Thank you from the bottom of my heart! Much love to all!

Lynn Rutherford-Snow, PDDGER
Virginia State Hoop Shoot Director
Southeast Central Region 10 Director

Third Vice President Report

I, Vicki Kincaid, was sworn in at the Fall VEA convention as VEA 3rd VP. Since then, I have worked closely with our VEA State President Henline on his goals for the year and planning of future trainings to members at the state conventions and assisted in

organizing and implementing a separate training in the spring for all Elks. I had attended several virtual meetings with our state president and other VPs for planning sessions.

Through communication and follow up, all of the committees that I oversee have submitted their reports (if any) for the Spring 2024 state convention into our secretary Tammy Symons for record. I did attend the DD Clinic held for our district at the Norfolk Lodge lead by DD Ken Vaden. I organized and attended 1 Minor League baseball game(the Norfolk Tides((Orioles farmteam)) with the VA Hospital Veterans so far this Lodge year. We had a great time and more than 30 vets were in attendance. I plan to attend the National Convention in July 2024 in TX.

I have no further updates.

Thank you

**Vicki L. Kincaid, PDDGER, PER
VEA 3rd VP
Portsmouth-Chesapeake Lodge 082**

Contest A Recognition

2023-2024 VEA Lodge Activities Committee Report - Front Royal, VA

June 15, 2024

Submitted by Robert Hinkle, Chair

Acknowledgements

Thank you to the District Chairs (Deputy Esquires) for their efforts and to Virginia's District Deputy Exalted Rulers for fulfilling their role including verifying the accuracy of lodge applications.

Virginia All American Lodge Contest - Summary 2023-2024

17 of 26 Virginia lodges submitted applications - 14 in Contest Form & 3 in Lodge Form

14 were in GL Contest Format including supporting documentation

3 in Lodge Format with all data entered but without documentation

11 lodge applications were forwarded for GL Contest Competition

Congratulations

It has been announced that **Norfolk #38** has been rated in the Top 10 Finishers for GL Membership Division 1. We wish them well as the Top 3 Lodges are announced at the GL Convention in Austin TX

Applause to **Roanoke #197** for achieving the highest Virginia score of 897!

VEA High Scores by Division

Division 1 (1-150 Members)	Norfolk #38	Score 709
Division 2 (151-225)	Virginia Beach #2268	Score 781
Division 3 (226-300)	Loudoun #2406	Score 739
Division 4 (301-450)	Woodbridge #2355	Score 779
Division 5 (451-700)	Front Royal #2382	Score 800
Division 6 (701+)	Roanoke #197	Score 897

Youth Camp Maintenance Report

June 14, 2024 **VEYC Maintenance Committee Report- June Convention Meeting**

On May 17-19th we held our camp work weekend for all lodges to assist in cleaning up the camp in preparation for our children in July. We had a very successful turnout with 42 Lodge members and volunteers participating.

Each cabin was attended to and worked on as per the work lists established by the camp ranger and me. Every cabin has been completed with the installation of new ceiling fan/light combos donated by Home Depot. Included in this year's work was the replacement of a broken basketball breakboard, tree trimming throughout the camp, and past State President Mike Miller ran all new electric and outlets in the Alexandria Lodge cabin. The camp has installed new solar motion-sensor lights on each cabin and several other buildings along with new locks.

Plans are in the works for building new ramps to replace the steps for better access to each cabin. Resealing of the basketball, tetherball, and volleyball courts has been scheduled and will be completed by camp opening this year. ***Please keep an eye out for the announcement of another Camp Cleanup date prior to the August 17th 75th Anniversary Celebration.***

This report respectfully submitted by,

Larry Fisher

VEYC 1st V.P. & Maintenance Chair

ENF Report

Elks National Foundation Report

June 14, 2024

Grand Exalted Ruler Randy Shook, Past Grand Exalted Ruler Ron Hicks, State President Dennis Hemline, Honored Guests and Brothers and Sisters, I want to thank all of you for Virginia having another outstanding year with donations totaling \$102,701.65. Our State Per Capita total this year was \$12.728 per member. We donated this past year \$9,655.38 less than the past year ending the year in 12th place in Elkdom (Nation). I would like to thank, our Grant Coordinator and North District Chairman Judy Kerns – Loudon Lodge #2406, Central District Chairman Lynn Rutherford-Snow – Waynesboro Lodge #2270, SW District Chairman Barbara Brandtner - Roanoke Lodge #197 and I'm your SE District Chairman for a job well done. The mission of the ENF is to help Elks build stronger communities. We fulfill this pledge by investing in communities where Elks live and work. We help youth develop lifelong skills, send students to college, meet the needs of today's veterans, support the charitable work of the state Elks associations, and fund projects that improve the quality

of life in local Elks communities. It is our donations to the ENF that support these activities and the ENF gives back to Virginia through their Community Investments Program (CIP) grants

When you give to the Elks National Foundation, you're doing more than funding the Elks National Drug Awareness and "Hoop Shoot" programs. You're doing more than supporting the Community Investments Program and providing Emergency Educational Grants to the children of deceased or totally disabled Elks. You're doing more than meeting the needs of today's veterans and maintaining the Elks National Memorial.

- For 2023-2024 we had 24 Lodges awarded \$208,500 in CIP Funds (Community Investment Program).

The Following is How Each District did on Grants

- Total Grants for North District \$47,000
- Total Grants for Central District. \$50,500
- Total Grants for Southeast District \$63,500
- Total Grants for Southwest District \$47,500

Virginia Lodges received in Grants this Year the following

- 23 Gratitude Grants \$54,500 (12 Lodges Qualified for the \$500 Membership Bonus, 11 for the Fidelity Bonus and 2 for the Chairman's Challenge Bonus)
- 24 Beacon Grants \$92,000
- 08 Freedom Grants \$ 8,000
- 22 Spotlight Grants \$44,000

Total Above Grants awarded \$208,500

This is \$1,000 decrease over last year's Grants.

New in FY2025! Fundraising Increase Bonus: Lodges that increase their giving by 10 percent over the previous year will receive a \$500 bonus

Membership Support Bonus: Lodges in which more than 15 percent of members donated at least \$10 to the ENF in the prior fiscal year will be eligible for a \$500 bonus.

Fidelity Club Bonus: Lodges in which 5 percent of the prior year's donors were members of the Fidelity Club, the ENF's sustaining giving program, will receive a \$500 bonus

Chair Challenge Bonus: This opportunity specifically recognizes Lodges that have strong, broad-based fundraising programs. Lodges that attain a score of 550 points or higher in the prior fiscal year's Chair Challenge will be eligible for a \$500 bonus.

This year we missed having 100% participation in GER Randy Shook PerCapita by one Lodge, and we had two Lodges not apply for Grants. I am pleased to report that all Lodges are in compliance this year.

The Top Lodges in each District are:

Totals are Rounded

North District	Front Royal Lodge #2382	Per-Capita \$19.53
Central District	Richmond Lodge #45	Per-Capita \$24.87
Southeast District	Newport News Lodge #315	Per-Capita \$87.58

Southwest District Danville Lodge #227 Per-Capita \$16.75
 Our top 3 Lodges in the State

Newport News Lodge #315 Per-Capita \$87.583
 Virginia Beach Lodge #2268 Per-Capita \$78.796
 Hampton Lodge #366 Per Capita \$47.554

Safety Glasses

Report of the VEA Safety Glasses Project 2023-2024

June 15, 2024 Front Royal, VA

Submitted by – Robert R Hinkle

Since 2008 the Virginia Elks Safety Glasses Project has distributed a total of 217,353 pairs of safety glasses to schools and first responders in Virginia with a fair market value of approximately \$2,447,954. The 2023-2024 project year total was 14,466 pair.

The project is supported by district chairs: Jason T. Hicks, Central; Stephen T. Culbert, North; Vicki Kincaid, Southeast; and Vince Brandtner, Southwest. Thanks to these Elks!

Looking forward to the 2023-2024 project effort, the charity effort will continue with 144 pairs of regular glasses FREE to each lodge and additional glasses at a lodge cost of \$2.50 for regular glasses and \$7.00 for over-the-glasses glasses. Depending upon lodge interest, the project will continue to try to develop fund raising component – direct sales. Regular safety glasses are available for direct sale to school divisions at a unit price of \$3.50! The Virginia Elks Charitable

Trust Fund will be the recipient of this fund raising activity!

The following data sheets provide detailed distribution data.

LODGE			2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
ALEXANDRIA	758		288	696		0
ARLINGTON-FAIRFAX	2188		1,044	0		864

BEDFORD	2844		432	144	144	144
CHARLOTTESVILLE	389		2,256	1316	1040	1,380
CLIFTON FORGE	1065		0	1144	1175	1,414
DANVILLE	227		720	0	144	144
FREDERICKSBURG	875		720	1608	726	864
FRONT ROYAL	2382		1,260	1908		432
HAMPTON	366		932	144	144	144
HARRISONBURG	450		864	400	864	720
LOUDOUN	2406		344	0		0
LYNCHBURG	321		720	0	144	144
MARTINSVILLE	1752		525	144	144	0
NEWPORT NEWS	315		720	0		144
NORFOLK	38		0	0		144
ONANCOCK	1766		1,584	144	144	0
PORTSMOUTH- CHESAPEAKE	82		720	0		0
PULASKI	1067		720	0		0
RICHMOND	45		576	576	576	432
ROANOKE	197		864	576	576	1,440
STAUNTON	351		3,198	2736	3168	2,256
SUFFOLK	685		0	0		0
VIRGINIA BEACH	2268		72	0		0
WAYNESBORO	2270		882	0	576	576
WINCHESTER	867		432	1440		2,000
WOODBIDGE	2355		864	1440	2202	1,224

TOTALS		20,737	14,416	11,767	14,466
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Lodge	Lodge \$	Lodge \$	"Apr 1-Mar 31	Regular	Special	Total
FREE 144 pair Annually	Regular	Special	2008-2009	3065		3065
			2009-2010	4826		4826
			2010-2011	7942		7942
			2011-2012	8601		8601
			2012-2013	8546		8546
			2013-2014	11001		11001
			2014-2015	13448	468	13916
			2015-2016	16465	498	16963
			2016-2017	18104	493	18597
			2017-2018	20730	380	21110
			2018-2019	24547	801	25348
			2019-2020	14458	1546	16004
	\$1.00	\$4.00				
	\$1.60	\$5.00				

	\$1.60	\$5.00	COVID -19	15,756	37	15793
	\$1.60	\$5.00	2020- 2021	4386	606	4992
	\$1.60	\$5.00	2021- 2022	12716	1700	14416
	\$2.50	\$5.50	2022- 2023	10359	1408	11767
	\$2.50	\$8.00	2023- 2024	14250	216	14466
			Total	209200	8153	217353
			Value	\$11.00	\$18.00	
			Charity Value	\$2,301,200.0 0	\$146,754.0 0	\$2,447,954.0 0

11 O'Clock Toast Contest

Don Kidd-The contest is 3:30. Some lodges need to sign up. Thanked his District Chairs and Judges. PER Association will donate \$1000 to GL Ritual Contest.

Andy Awards

Awards will be given in October for the year ending 3/31/24. Discussion regarding criteria-John has info sheets.

Trustee's Report

John Rosenberger presented the budget and moved for the adoption of the VEA and VEF budget. Motion was seconded and passed.

Golf Report

15 teams, 20- hole sponsors

Awards:

Longest drive-Mike McDermott

Closest to the pin-Robert McDowell

2nd Place-Team Rudy-Woodbridge

1st Place-Staunton Lodge-team Rader

Recognition Certificates-Dennis Henline

Wanda Fritts-Presidential Aide

Paul Shoemaker-PSP, Trustee, Convention Chair

Veterans Report-Vicki Shiflett

Veteran Volunteer of the Year-Erin Strickland (Virginia Beach) & David Brooks (Roanoke)

By-law Changes

1)to bring PER Assoc elections in line with VEA elections

2)VEA Officers must reside in state of Virginia or adjoining state.

3)Put Youth Camp Maintenance committee under Youth Camp-not State President

These changes will be voted on at the October 2024 meeting.

Youth Camp-President Gigi Jones

Invited all to the 75th Anniversary Celebration.

Parade of Heroes-Ray Dameron

Thanked Woodbridge Lodge for Breakfast and Alexandria and Arlington/Fairfax for dinner. Please write a thank you note to our veterans.

Good of the Order –

Tshirt sales proceeds will go to Charitable Trust. Chris Demery spoke about Flag Day Service.

Ron recognized District Deputies. Congratulations on a membership gain. Rick Gathan will not be attending the GL Convention-heart surgery. Encouraged Contest A. Norfolk Lodge is an All American Lodge finalist. Lynchburg Lodge is merging with Bedford Lodge. All but Lynchburg lodge met ENF goal. Virginia is doing well with getting ENF Grants. The goal for Charitable Trust is 2 million. Youth Camp is doing well-come to the 75th Anniversary Celebration. Orientation is the first step toward member retention. GER Randy Shook will be the auctioneer today to raise money for Charitable Trust. Insurance will increase-be aware of alcohol service and repairs needed at your lodge. GL is doing new appraisals on lodges. Please vote against terminating our insurance program if voted on at the GL Convention.

ER Walk for Charitable Trust -Rod Jones

Meeting Adjourned at 10:45.

Flag Day Service

Memorial Service

Charitable Trust Auction

Banquet

Installation of Officers-Ron Hicks

Secretary/Treasurer-Tammy Symons

5 year Trustee-Dennis Henline

4th Vice President-John Hutchison

3rd Vice President-Lani Cadow

2nd Vice President-Vicki Kincaid

1st Vice President-Lynn Rutherford-Snow

President-Vince Brandtner

Tiler-Elizabeth Brandtner

Sergeant-at-Arms-Stephen Brandtner

Inner Guard-Theresa Ann Fahy

Presidential Aide-John Hutchison

Legal Advisor-Joseph "Jeh" Hicks