

COVINGTON ELKS #1806

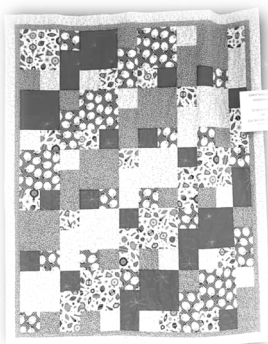
135 CROWELL ROAD · COVINGTON, GEORGIA 30014

WWW.COVINGTONELKSLODGE1806.ORG · (770) 787-9499

NEWSLETTER ▪ DECEMBER 2020

WELCOME TO THE ELK HERD!

Please welcome our new Elk members that were initiated on Nov. 1, 2020: **Kevin Barclay, Kimberly Butler, Stephanie Edwards, Nicole Malik, Ed Miller, and Debbie Miller!** As of Dec. 2020, our Lodge is home to 176 Elks!



CHRISTMAS QUILT RAFFLE

Our Lodge is excited to raffle off another beautifully handcrafted Christmas quilt, donated by **Pat Telley** and his family. This quilt measures 62"x74" (almost twin size, large throw) and pictures just don't do it justice, so stop by the Lodge to see it in person, and buy yourself a ticket for \$2 each or \$10 for 6 tickets! Proceeds from ticket sales will go to the Elks National Foundation (ENF) which supports many of our community donations and projects.

HOLLY JOLLY LODGE CHRISTMAS PARTY

Join us at the Lodge on Friday, December 4th for dinner, dancing, & a holly jolly good time! Wear your favorite ugly Christmas sweater or dress up in traditional holiday attire. Happy Hour starts at 5:00pm, a delicious Babyback Rib Dinner will be served at 6:30pm, with Christmas music and dancing to follow! To make your reservations, please call/text Renee at 770-362-4485.



LODGE OFFICERS

EXALTED RULER

Chuck Myers (470) 538-3040

LEADING KNIGHT

Larry Denny (770) 900-9248

LOYAL KNIGHT

Dennise Myers (706) 474-3910

LECTURING KNIGHT

Pat Telley (770) 639-0031

SECRETARY

Carol Barclay (770) 865-1633

TREASURER

Anita Denny (770) 787-1020

LODGE TILER

Bruce Jackson

LODGE ESQUIRE

Tim Myers

LODGE CHAPLAIN

Ed Whitcomb

LODGE INNER GUARD

Joyce Mayo

BOARD CHAIRMAN

Cyrus Wolverton

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

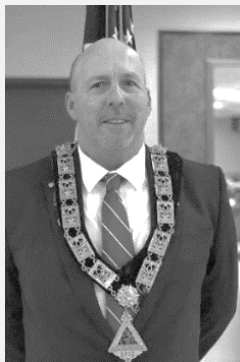
Jack Wheeler (5yr)

Cyrus Wolverton (4yr)

David Mayo (3yr)

Sid Reagan (2yr)

Billy Mashburn (1yr)



EXALTED RULER'S MESSAGE:

December is finally here, Christmas time is upon us, and just as the song says, "It's the most wonderful time of the year!" This is truly a time for family and friends to gather, to renew cherished traditions, and for peace and good will to all! Christmas means all of those things to me personally, but even more importantly, I believe that it's a time to rejoice and celebrate the blessed birth of our Lord and Savior.

As we reflect back on the year's accomplishments, we should also be anticipating the coming new year, and thinking about the ways we can continue to serve our community as good Elks. Despite the shadow cast upon us by the COVID-19 pandemic, we Elks persevered. We showed compassion to those who fell ill, and came together to support those who suffered. We introduced and initiated many new members, we exceeded our per capita goals for ENF, and we were awarded all of the ENF grants that we applied for. Our Lodge's events continue to be successful and attendance is steadily growing. In July, we were honored to have been a part of the 2020 *Tribute to Fallen Soldiers Memorial Torch Motorcycle Ride* by providing accommodations and hot meals for these dedicated individuals. In October, we broke ground on our Memorial Brick Garden, added our magnificent new bronze Elk statue to the Lodge's landscape, and successfully hosted an enjoyable, informative quarterly Fall Meeting for our Georgia Elks.

Although 2020 has been a challenging year for us in so many ways, it has been a remarkable year for our Lodge. Each and every member of this Lodge played a part, either physically or financially, in this year's achievements. There is much to be proud of and all the praise goes to our hardworking and dedicated members. *You* are truly the heart and soul of this Lodge.

In closing, Cathy and I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a blessed and happy New Year. I am honored to represent this Lodge as your ER, and I'm beyond grateful for all the good you do for this community.

Chuck Myers

BINGO NIGHT!



**MONDAYS & THURSDAYS
@ 7:00PM**

Doors open @ 5pm, so come enjoy our Georgia Lottery slot machines & great snack bar!
First BINGO number called at 7pm.



Covington Elks Lodge
135 Crowell Rd. Covington, GA 30014

DON'T FORGET ABOUT OUR CORNHOLE CONTESTS TOO!

Games are on Mon. & Thur. before BINGO, so get here early to buy your tickets for \$1 each! (*Limit 10 tickets per person*) If your ticket is drawn, you'll earn 3 throws on the cornhole board. Each beanbag that makes it in the cornhole wins 25% of the money taken in that night.

**REMEMBER, THERE WILL BE
NO BINGO on DEC. 24TH or 31ST**



December 1

New Member Orientation &
Installation @ 5:30pm
Dinner & Lodge Meeting @ 6:30pm

December 4

Lodge Christmas Party- Rib
Dinner & Dancing @ 6:30pm

December 6

Elk Memorial Service @ 2:00pm

December 8

Board Meeting @ 10:00am
All members are welcome to attend.

December 15

House Committee Meets @ 5:45pm
Dinner & Lodge Meeting @ 6:30pm
Auxiliary Meeting @ 7:30pm (*porch*)
Deadline for Americanism Essay entries!

December 18

Friday Night Supper @ 6:30pm

December 20

Deadline for January Newsletter
**Please email photos, announcements,
and articles to elks1806news@gmail.com*

December 25

MERRY CHRISTMAS ELKS!

January 5

Dinner @ 6:30pm
Lodge Meeting @ 7:30pm

*Merry
Christmas*
AND HAPPY NEW YEAR



FRIDAY NIGHT SUPPER MENU

NOTICE: Friday Night Suppers will only be served on the 1st and 3rd Friday of the month until further notice.

DEC. 4th - Babyback Ribs
(Lodge Christmas Party)

DEC. 18th - Pot Luck

Please call or text by Wednesday of each week to reserve your dinner spot:

Sande @ 706-318-4862
or Renee @ 770-362-4485

Sickness and Distress PRAYER Requests

Please pray for our members who are unwell at this time. Pray especially for those who are suffering from Coronavirus, may they know God's healing touch. Pray for peace to bring comfort, courage to face the day ahead.

LODGE MEETINGS

Regular Meetings
First & Third Tuesdays @ 6:30pm

House Committee
Third Tuesday @ 5:45pm

Board of Trustees
Second Tuesday at 10:00am

Auxiliary (Elkadettes)
Third Tuesday @ 7:30pm



LODGE DRESS CODE REMINDER

Please remember that our Lodge *does* have a dress code. Whether attending a Lodge meeting, function, or public event, we should all look neatly put together. We want to set a good first impression for all of our new members!



MEETINGS: Officers are required to wear their Elks blazer & khaki/dress pants. If the ER waives jackets for a meeting, then we ask that you wear your Lodge polo shirt, no jeans please.

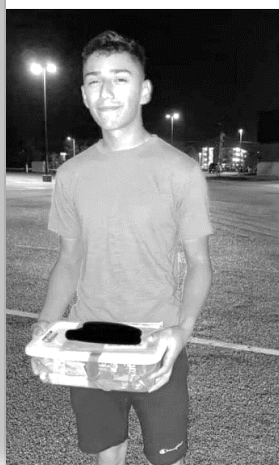
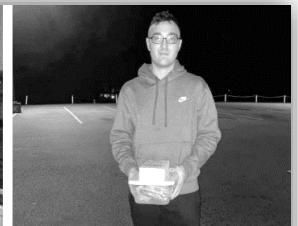
FRIDAY NIGHT DINNERS/DANCES: Officers and Members are asked to wear "dressy/smart casual" attire. For the men, this means khakis, trousers, and collared shirt. For the ladies, this means slacks, skirt, or nice pair of dark denim dressed up with a classy top. No t-shirts or jeans please.

VOLUNTEERS: If volunteering at an Elk event (festival, dance, anything open to the public), please wear your "STAFF" shirt with the Covington Elks logo on them. This is a wonderful way to spread our message about our work in the community. (STAFF shirt are available for \$10, see the snack bar or office)

ATTENTION LODGE OFFICERS: If you are currently (or have previously been) an officer with the Covington Elks, and are either no longer an officer or no longer able to fulfill your duties, please donate your officer's jacket back to the Lodge so it can be passed on to the officer who is replacing you at our meetings. Thank you!

MISSION COMPLETE: SHOE BOXES FOR SOLDIERS

On November 7th, our Elks packed over 100 shoe boxes filled with goodies for our military personnel. Thank you to all the great Elks that volunteered, and especially to **Ed & Kat Whitcomb** for taking on this project and delivering these boxes to the marines in training at Camp Lejeune!



GRANTS AWARDED TO COVINGTON LODGE

Our Lodge has been approved for all three of the grants that we applied for this year, including the ENF Beacon, Spotlight, AND Gratitude Grants! Take a look at the deserving groups in our community that we will be helping with this grant money and get involved with one of them!

\$2,000 SPOTLIGHT GRANT

This year's Spotlight Grant will continue to serve the needs of **The Refuge Center** in Conyers by providing much needed baby supplies to moms in need. We will be organizing another group baby shower in the spring for the mothers-to-be and could use some volunteers! Please contact **Cathy Myers** at (770) 880-8672 if you are interested in helping with this project.



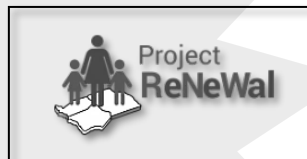
\$3,000 GRATITUDE GRANT

This year's Gratitude Grant will be awarded to the **Rainbow Community Center** on Turner Lake Road. The homeless shelter was severely damaged by a tornado that ripped through Newton County as the remnants of Tropical Storm Delta moved through the area.



\$3,500 BEACON GRANT

This year we will be awarding our \$3,500 Beacon Grant to **Project Renewal**, a domestic violence intervention program serving Rockdale, Newton, and Walton counties. We are excited to help a "new" charity (one that we haven't helped before) and are glad that this particular organization was recently brought to our attention. Project Renewal also serves as a shelter for victims of domestic violence right here in our community. In addition to donating grant money to this deserving organization, we would also like to take this opportunity to raise awareness about family violence and encourage our Elk members to volunteer with this program. Let's get a few volunteers together to represent our Lodge and let them know that the Covington Elks are here to help! The shelter currently needs volunteers to work with the children's program, assist with childcare, help coordinate donations, and assist with fundraising. If you would like to volunteer your time, please send a text to **Kim Butler** at (770) 356-4645 or email kimbutler530@gmail.com to coordinate a date to volunteer as a group.

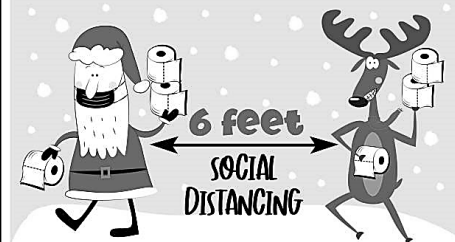


IMPORTANT: Due to Project Renewal being a shelter for victims of domestic violence, volunteers are required to: (1) Maintain strict confidentiality, (2) make at least a 6-month commitment, and (3) complete a volunteer training session and necessary follow-up.



Jim Brown
Robert Mitchell
Terry Moore
Dan Ragsdale
Steve Garrett
Jerry Humphries
Bobby Lassiter
Robert Lunsford
Tina Lunsford

Happy Birthday Elks!



Thank you to **Scott Costley** for making and hanging our new **ENF HONOR ROLL BOARD** that is now displayed in the Lodge lounge, it really looks fantastic! (Deceased Member Board will be added soon)



The Bulletin Board

Office Staff:

At the Nov. 11th Board Meeting...
**the board approved the purchase
 a highly efficient, NEW COLOR
 LASER PRINTER for the office!!!**

This might not seem like a big deal to many of you, but if you've ever worked "behind the scenes" at the Lodge, this is very exciting news!



All Lodge Members:

- Please take a moment to add the **Covington Elks Phone Message (877) 698-3261** to your phone contacts. We don't want you to miss our important weekly call out with reminders on it! If you need to get a message out Elks, let us know.
- Please note that checks will no longer be cashed at the Lodge unless they are written by **ELK MEMBERS ONLY** and for the exact amount of purchase.
- If you haven't already, please **LIKE** us on Facebook! This is one of the best ways to stay up to date with Lodge events, news, and happenings.



facebook.com/CovingtonElks1806

NEWS FROM GRAND LODGE: MEMORIAL SERVICE TRADITION DATES TO BEGINNING OF ELKS

by Mike Chamernik, Publications Coordinator

The most festive month of the year begins with a solemn event: The first Sunday of every December is Elks Memorial Day. The day is commemorated to the memories of departed Members. Per Section 2.020, the service is mandatory, even if there were no deaths within a given Lodge during the year. The service consists of a speech from the Exalted Ruler, a prayer from the Chaplain, a roll call of the deceased, and an offering of a forget-me-not, an amaranth, and ivy to the Altar. "Auld Lang Syne" is then sung. Additional songs, processions, and the lighting of candles are all encouraged. The ceremony is public (and can even be held in a church), but the Club and Social Parlor of a Lodge are closed.

The tradition is almost as old as the Order itself. According to the History of the Order of the Elks, the first such memorial services were performed in 1870, when two Members of New York, NY Lodge No. 1 died. Fellow Brothers suggested honoring them with a "Lodge of Sorrow" by decorating the Lodge and holding a session with songs and a eulogy. In 1889, Exalted Grand Ruler (as the position was known then) Hamilton E. Leach recommended that the Memorial be observed annually, and the resolution was unanimously adopted at the Grand Lodge Session of 1890.

"The Elks Memorial Day is important because we use this day to honor and cherish the memories of those Elks who have passed away," said Mark Bump, PDDGER and Lodge Secretary for Joliet, IL Lodge No. 296. "It is one of the most moving ceremonies in all of Elkdom." Bump said that he wasn't involved with the Elks until the death of his father, a Member for 11 years. Bump attended a Memorial Day ceremony where his father was honored and it helped inspire him to join. "I never went to the Lodge or wanted to get involved with the organization until his passing and I am grateful that I did," Bump said. "As I have moved up the ranks in my 26 years as a Member I have learned more and more about this organization every day. I am thankful for the people I have met, not just from my own Lodge but Elks across the state of Illinois and the country."

*The Officers, Board of Directors, and
Memorial Service Committee of the Covington
Elks Lodge would like to warmly invite you,
your family, and your friends, to our annual*

Elks Memorial Service

Sunday, December 6, 2020
at 2:00pm
Covington Elks Lodge 1806
135 Crowell Road
Covington, GA 30014

Please RSVP to the Lodge Secretary
(770) 865-1633