

President Message for May

Members,

New Mexico Elks stayed busy in the month of April. We had two DDGER clinics in April with the Northern Districts Meeting In Santa Fe on the 23rd and the Southern Districts meeting in Alamogordo on the 24th. Congratulations to DDs Phil Emig, Daniel Gutierrez, Kent Hitchens, and Glenda Green for facilitating these clinics which were well attended and very informative and I believe everyone in attendance left as a better elk.

The week prior to the DD clinics I sent out a message to each lodge informing them of the fire in Ruidoso and informed them that Ruidoso lodge 2086 was providing shelter and aid to their community and any assistance we could extend to them would be greatly appreciated. During the DD clinics New Mexico Elks Lodges showed that Elks care Elks share. During the clinics we collected \$20,307 in cash and supplies to assist Ruidoso Lodge in providing aid to their community. I know some Lodges have donated even more since then but this is the total I have from the clinics. Way to go, New Mexico!

Remember the first week of May is National Youth week and Mothers day is May the 8th. I hope each Lodge has made plans for these two events. Also I hope each lodge is making plans for Memorial Day. Remember if possible get out and support your community during any parades or events they may have, and fly as many flags around your lodge as possible to show your patriotism.

Flag Day is coming up soon on June 14th, and this month is the time you should be making plans for this important event, and to start practicing your ritual parts so you can make a good impression upon your lodge. Don't forget to invite your community to your Flag Day ceremony.

Hope each Lodge has a good and fun May. Enjoy your lodges and show your communities the good times you're having and the good causes you're supporting.

Warm Regards to All
Jerry Hitchcock
NMEA President