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A Fraternal Organization

GRAND LODGE
YOUTH ACTIVITIES
COMMITTEE

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Dear State Youth Activities Chairman,

Grand Exalted Ruler Arthur H. Frost III, has requested all Subordinate Lodges set aside the **first week in May** as **Elks National Youth Week.** All Lodges are urged to sponsor programs throughout this week dedicated to the youth of our country.

The Grand Lodge Youth Activities Committee has asked each Exalted Ruler to see that a committee is appointed to conduct an appropriate program for Elks Youth Week. Elks National Youth Week should be the culmination of the 2006-07 Lodges' Youth Programs. Programs such as luncheons or banquets honoring outstanding students, local Hoop Shoot® winners, Soccer Shoot® winners, Drug Awareness poster contest winners, are just a few examples of the activities that can be held during the week along with other scheduled events.

The Youth Week promotion will be conducted on a contest level with recognition and awards to the Subordinate Lodges who present written evidence of the best and most constructive Youth Week Program. Contest details are on pages 20 and 21 of the Youth Activities Manual. As State Youth Activities Chairman, your help in promoting and stimulating this program in your state is essential to its success.

The ***deadline for the contest entry*** from your Subordinate Lodges is **May 29, 2007** and must be mailed to Jack C. Warter, Jr., P.O. Box 160, Claypool, AZ 85532-0160 or shipped to 5822 South Old Oak Street, Claypool, AZ 85532. Be sure Lodges know to include a letter from the Lodge Secretary as to the current membership total of the Lodge as of April 1, 2007.

Please give this youth activity promotion your immediate attention. Be sure to brief your State Committee on the program and urge all your Lodges to participate in making our Grand Exalted Ruler's request a success and every Lodge a contender in this rewarding contest!

Quality Youth Activities Programs such as Elks National Youth Week will enable us to become an important link of volunteers and leaders in the USA demonstrating that ***ELKS CARE – ELKS SHARE.***

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Jack Warter Jr

Jack C. Warter, Jr., Member
Grand Lodge Youth Activities Committee

ELKS NATIONAL YOUTH WEEK

IDEAS—SUGGESTIONS—RECOMMENDATIONS

FOR PLANNING ELKS NATIONAL YOUTH WEEK

BEGINNING THE FIRST WEEK IN **MAY, 2007**

We are submitting herewith for your use and guidance some Elks National Youth Week Program ideas, suggestions and recommendations, which have been used effectively in the past by Lodges and State Associations.

1. Have the mayor of your city or the president of your town or city council issue a Youth Week Proclamation. It is suggested that the request be made by the Exalted Ruler or Chairperson of the Youth Activities Committee.

2. Governors of states should likewise proclaim the **FIRST WEEK in MAY 2007,** as Elks National Youth Week. This request should be handled by the State Association Presidents or the State Association Youth Committee Chairpersons.

3. Suggested drafts of a Mayor's Youth Week Proclamation and a Governor's Youth Week Proclamation are made a part of this release.

4. A determined effort should be made by each of our more than 2,100 Subordinate Lodges throughout the country to stage a Youth Week Parade, with all high schools, public, parochial and private, within the jurisdiction of each Lodge, invited to participate with their bands, drill teams and cheerleaders. An invitation should be extended to all Boy Scout and Girl Scout Troops, and any other organized groups, such as church groups, to march in uniform. Prizes should be awarded to the school or troop with the best drill team, for the greatest number in line of march, for the best band and the best in appearance. Every type of media, newspaper, radio and television should be requested to give your Lodge the coverage that such a promotion deserves. Such a demonstration would prove to the citizenry of this great country that the Grand Lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks with the cooperation of the Subordinate Lodges are doing their part, in a big way, to combat juvenile delinquency.

5. Suggest to your city or state officials for a Student Government Day. The boys and girls could take over the offices of the Elected Officials for one day.

6. Arrange with your Chief of Police to engage and swear in high school seniors to work on school patrols, ride with police in police cars, observe handling of cases at headquarters and spend an entire day in the police department to observe its various functions, and in that way learn about what goes on in this department of government.

7. Sporting events are another project that creates public interest and in which boys and girls are eager to participate, such as track and field meets, basketball, baseball, boxing, fishing tournaments and road races.

8. There are many other suggestions as to how Youth Week can be served in the Youth Activities Manual.

The Committee realizes that the success of this Youth Week Program depends on the measure of cooperation received from the Subordinate Lodges and the State Associations. We feel confident of that cooperation and pledge again the assistance of our Committee in every possible way. Make Elks National Youth Week, the **1st Week in May,** an outstanding youth observance and one that will reach out to more boys and girls and serve them in a helpful, honorable and constructive way.

We again reiterate that you are at liberty to adopt such Elks National Youth Week Programs as best meet the need in your area and such as your facilities and budget will permit. We do urge that each and every Exalted Ruler plan some appropriate observance of Elks National Youth Week and strive for its recognition in the Grand Lodge Contest.

GRAND LODGE
YOUTH ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

James R. Pilgrim

JAMES R. PILGRIM, *Chairman*

Elks Care — Elks Share

YOUTH ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

JAMES R. PILGRIM
Chairman

GRAND LODGE
Benevolent and Protective
ORDER OF ELKS
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Suggested Youth Week Proclamation

FOR LODGE USE

WHEREAS, The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks has designated the first week in May, as Youth Week to honor America's Junior Citizens for their accomplishments, and to give fitting recognition of their services to Community, State and Nation; and,

WHEREAS, (name of your Lodge) will sponsor an observance during that week in tribute to the Junior Citizens of this Community; and,

WHEREAS, no event could be more deserving of our support and participation than one dedicated to these young people who represent the nation's greatest resource, and who in the years ahead will assume the responsibility for the advancement of our free society; and,

WHEREAS, our Youth need the guidance, inspiration and encouragement which we alone can give in order to help develop those qualities of character essential for future leadership; and go forth to serve America; and,

WHEREAS, to achieve this worthy objective we should demonstrate our partnership with Youth, our understanding of their hopes and aspirations and a sincere willingness to help prepare them in every way for the responsibilities and opportunities of citizenship:

NOW THEREFORE, I (name of your town's mayor here), Mayor of (name of your town here), do hereby proclaim the first week in May as Youth Week, and urge all departments of government, civic, fraternal and patriotic groups, and our citizens generally, to participate wholeheartedly in its observance.

_____
Mayor of

_____

FOR STATE USE

Following is a suggested copy of a Governor's Elks National Youth Week Proclamation:

WHEREAS, The Elks Lodges of the State of (name of your state here), will observe the first week in May as Elks National Youth Week in tribute to our Junior Citizens, honoring them for their achievements and contributions to the life of the Community, State and Nation.

WHEREAS, it is our responsibility to guide, inspire and encourage our youth, to go forth to serve America, our privilege to manifest a lively interest in all their activities and ambitions, and help prepare them for the duties and opportunities of citizenship, which is the objective of Elks National Youth Week.

NOW THEREFORE, I (name of Governor of your state here), Governor, do hereby proclaim the first week in May as Elks National Youth Week, and I call upon all citizens and all departments of state and local governments to cooperate in the observance, that we may attain these worthy objectives.

_____
Governor

Elks Care — Elks Share