

FALL CONVENTION STATE YOUTH ACTIVITIES REPORT

Good morning Mr. President. First off, I'd like to apologize to those Lodges whom I've yet to directly communicate with. I've spent 4 of the past 6 months in the hospital and unfortunately, I've been unable to get a hold of all of you. It is my intention to get with each of you in the coming months to see where your youth programs have found success, where your areas of struggle are, and what I can do to help your programs become more successful.

After the Spring Convention, we had a number of great Youth Activity Program Brochures turned in, showing some amazing programs put on by our Lodges for the youth of Missouri. The things these Lodges do for the youth in their communities will make you proud to be an Elk. I'm very proud to announce that Warrensburg Lodge #673 won First Place for Division Two, Columbia Lodge #594 won First Place for Division Three, and Osage Community Lodge #2705 won First Place for Division Four. The overall State winner for the 2012-2013 Youth Activities Program Brochure goes to Osage Community Lodge #2705. Please join me in congratulating them on their accomplishments. Because I am unable to attend this convention, I will have plaques to present to these Lodges at the upcoming Spring Convention. All these Lodges turned in great Youth Program Brochures. It was very rewarding to judge these brochures and see what they do for the youth in their communities. I would like to see more Lodges step up and participate in this contest. Plan now to bring your Lodges Youth Program Brochure to the next Spring Convention for Judging, and show all of Missouri what your Lodge does for our youth.

Speaking of great youth programs, I would like to encourage every Lodge to participate in the Teenager and Student Recognition Programs set-up by the Grand Lodge. The Program is designed to recognize outstanding young men and women for their achievements in both school and community life. The goal of the program is to seek out students whose accomplishments deserve public recognition and praise. Those who excel in fine arts, athletics, church, clubs, community service, industry and farming are just a few examples. This is an easy program to administer monthly and will promote a partnership between local schools, scouting groups, service organizations and your Lodge.

I have certificates available for any Lodge who wishes to participate in the program and will gladly mail them to you. Each certificate is simply signed by the Lodge's Exalted Ruler and Youth Activities Chairman, and can be presented at a luncheon or dinner to which the parents, Lodge Officers, the Youth Activities Committee and media representatives are invited. Not only are we recognizing these youth for contributions to their community, in doing so, we're also sharing our Elk values and principles with our communities.

Once again, thanks for all you do for the youth of Missouri. If there is anything I can do for you in the meantime, please feel free to contact me at elkslodge594@gmail.com or you can find my information in the State Directory.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brandy Parrack,
State Youth Activities Chair