
February 2018

Celebrating a Bright Future for Elks

February is a cold, wintry time for many, with the hustle and bustle of the holiday season long gone, but it is a bright, optimistic time for Elks. This month we celebrate the birthday of our order, which began 150 years ago on February 16, 1868. While Elks will mark this significant milestone in our history throughout the year, with special events in San Antonio this July, I urge you all to take the time this month to celebrate your Lodge's contributions to the Order, as well as reflect on our mission as Elks and the future of this organization.

Amidst these celebrations, some of you will prepare to leave your positions as officers as our fraternal year nears its end, while others will consider starting a new journey as leaders in their lodges; but no matter your path, the success of your Lodge relies on this leadership, both past and present. Retiring officers, your knowledge, contributions, and experience will live on as a valuable resource to those that come after you. New officers, take inspiration from your predecessors to impact positive change and make your own mark on your Lodge.

Both past and current leaders must come together to engage members and set Lodge goals, and there is no better time to do so than this pivotal anniversary time. As I blow out the candles on the Elks birthday cake this year, it is my wish that each and every Lodge continue to spread our causes of charity, education, and Americanism that our founding members set forth. What is your Elks birthday wish?

During our travels in the coming months, Pat and I look forward to meeting more members of this incredible organization and seeing how you are strengthening Elkdom in your communities as we embark on the next 150 years and beyond.