



*New York State Elks Association
Drug Awareness and Education Newsletter
January/February 2012*



“Prevention through Education”

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A Message from the NYSEA DAE Chair

Now that the holidays are behind us we can get back to the tasks at hand. Remember the Poster/Essay Contest is coming to a close, Lodge entries must be to the District Chairs by February 15th and District winners must be to me by March 15th. The guidelines and labels are again in this edition of the Newsletter.

As the Lodge year comes to a close, perhaps your Lodge or District knows someone who is deserving of the “**President’s Volunteer Service Award**”. The criteria and candidate form are also in this edition.

Some of you did not receive the December DAE Newsletter. I had a problem with several e-mail addresses. Most came back as ‘mailbox full’ or ‘file to large’. You can always find the NYSEA DAE Newsletter on www.nyselks.org.

Please be sure to read about ‘Bath Salts’ and spiked gummy candy and spread the word. Even though most of us do not have a degree in education, we are still educators and need to educate our fellow Elks, parents and children about these dangers.

As always, keep up the great work.

Mission Statement

The Drug Awareness Program of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks is dedicated to preventing the use of illicit drugs by the youth of our country as well as informing them of the dangers of caused by the use of legal drugs, such as alcohol and tobacco. This mission will be accomplished by directing resources to our various targeted audiences, both young and old, based upon set priorities and with the assistance of our committed partners, we will be able to actively educate our communities by providing them with scientific-based prevention programs and drug awareness information.

Beliefs and Principles

The mission statement is based upon the following beliefs and principles:

- Elks believe that a civilized society will organize to protect its children.
- Elks support, facilitate, train and empower individuals and communities to be drug free.
- Elks are committed to prevent the damaging effects of drug abuse.
- Elks are opposed to the legalization of any illegal drug.
- Elks believe that well-educated parents and children will strive for a society free from illegal drug use.
- Elks believe the first defense against drug abuse is stronger values for families and communities.
- Elks make a difference through innovative partnerships.
- Elks are dedicated to establishing environments conducive to personal growth within our communities.
- Elks believe that if not the Elks D/A Program then “who” will carry the drug awareness message to our communities?

We are a “grass roots” connection!

President's Volunteer Service Award

In his 2002 State of the Union Address, President George Bush issued a challenge to all Americans to make time to help their neighbors, communities, and Nation through service.

He called on each person to dedicate at least 4,000 hours – or two years – to service over the course of their lives.

He created the USA Freedom Corps to help all Americans answer his call to service and help foster a culture of service, citizenship, and responsibility.

In 2003, President Bush created the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation to find ways to recognize the Valuable contributions volunteers are making in our Nation. The Council brings together leaders from the worlds of business, entertainment, government, nonprofits, and the media.

The President's Council on Service and Civic Participation created the President's Volunteer Service Award program as a way to thank and honor Americans who, by their demonstrated commitment and example, inspire others to engage in volunteer service.

Recognizing and honoring volunteers sets a standard to others. It encourages a sustained commitment to civic participation and inspires others to make volunteering a central part of their lives.

The President's Volunteer Service Award recognizes individuals, families, and groups that have achieved a certain standard – measured by the number of hours served over a 12 month period or cumulative hours over the course of a lifetime.

Making the Application

- Determine that the candidate has accumulated in excess of 4,000 hours of volunteer community service.
- Carefully fill out the candidate form Legibly.
- The candidate's name must be PRINTED as they would like it to appear on the award.
- Include a check with your candidate applications (The cost is \$4.75 per candidate).
- Checks made payable to "Elks National Foundation" and show PVSA in the memo line.
- Fill out the candidate form and mail to:

William J. Bryan
Assistant Director, Elks Drug Awareness Program
366 Vermont Route 313W
Arlington, Vermont 05250



The President's Volunteer Service Award

Date Form Submitted: ___ / ___ / _____

Applicant's Name: _____
(As you would like it to appear on the Award)

Applicant's Street Address: _____

Applicant's City of Residence: _____

Applicant's Zip Code: _____

Applicant's Phone Number: _____

Lodge Name and Number: _____
(If applicant is an Elk)

Total Number of Volunteer Hours: _____
(Must Meet or Exceed 4,000 hours)

Attest

I attest that the above named individual has completed the number of volunteer hours as noted above.
(Hours are not limited to Elks charitable works, but include all volunteer work done by the individual).

(Signature of Individual Certifying hours)

Please send the Award to:

Note: A \$4.75 check made payable to: "**Elks National Foundation**" must accompany the above application. Completed forms should be sent to:

William J. Bryan
Assistant Director, Elks Drug Awareness Program
366 Vermont Route 313W
Arlington, Vermont 05250



Parent's Beware

Teens want to drink, and they find new tricks to hide liquor from parents. While whimsical, the new trend of spiked gummy candy is actually more dangerous than drinking straight liquor in many aspects.

Teen alcohol abuse is not a new concern. Parents try to set a good example and keep the alcohol out of reach of children. This once meant keeping the liquor cabinet locked or making sure a parent was at any parties. However, we must not underestimate the resourcefulness of teens that want to drink.

Take spiked gummy candy, for instance.

Teens are taking gummy candy and soaking it in alcohol to consume liquor more discreetly. The spiked gummy bears are significantly larger than their non-alcoholic counterparts and are usually made with vodka, meaning that it may be difficult to smell the alcohol in the candy but easy to spot the oversized pieces. Recipes vary, but all of them require the gummy bears be soaked in a refrigerator for at least one day, though some recipes ask for longer, up to 3 weeks.

Savvy teens already have a trunk-full of tricks to get alcohol past watching parents. Still, parents have a few advantages with tracking this method.

Since the gummy bears must be chilled, teens need a refrigerator. Likewise, the gummies must be consumed in large quantities, so teens that don't normally eat candy and suddenly consume a lot of gummy bears or similar treats should be a warning to observant parents.

The liquor gummy candy carries additional risk. Unlike chugging beer or doing shots, a teen getting drunk using gummy candy is at an increased risk of choking. While alcohol poisoning or even getting lightly drunk can make someone vomit or choke, using gummy candy as a vehicle adds food to the equation. When someone gets inebriated enough, it's not just liquid coming back up, but soft, rubbery bits that can make a bad situation worse.

Teen alcohol statistics and the ingenuity with which they hide their drinking should enlighten us to the mental state of our youth. Figuring out you can hide alcohol in candy, for example, is a fairly inventive way to hide dangerous behavior. It's not the kind of thing someone discovers accidentally.

Do You Have Input??

If you have anything you would like to share with the DAE Chairs of New York State, feel free to e-mail it to me. Events, programs, ideas, questions...anything goes!! This should be where we connect to improve our programs and share our successes.

***Thanks to all of you. Kathleen
nyseadaechair@stny.rr.com***

Below you will find the Poster Essay Contest Guidelines, the Poster Essay Labels and the Hold Harmless Agreement. All entries sent to me must have a label and a signed Hold Harmless Agreement attached. Grand Lodge will not accept entries without them and the Empire State Elk publication will not print a list of winners without each winner having a Hold Harmless Agreement attached.

Any questions about the Poster Essay Contest feel free to call or e-mail me.

Guidelines for Poster and Essay Contest

2011-2012

| | | |
|---------------------|-----------|-------------------------|
| Poster Contest for: | Group I | Kindergarten |
| | Group II | First and Second Grades |
| | Group III | Third and Fourth Grades |

POSTER SIZE: Minimum 8 ½ x 11 inches
Maximum 22 x 28 inches

| | | |
|--------------------|----------|---------------------------|
| Essay Contest for: | Group IV | Fifth and Sixth Grades |
| | Group V | Seventh and Eighth Grades |

ESSAY SIZE: No more than 200 Words

THEME: "I CHOOSE NOT TO USE" for Poster & Essay

Judging criteria: Closeness to theme
Originality
Neatness

All Posters and Essays must have the Identification Label affixed to the back
Winners submitted must have the Hold Harmless Waiver attached.

| | | |
|------------|----------|-------------------|
| Deadlines: | Lodge | January 15, 2012 |
| | District | February 15, 2012 |
| | State | March 15, 2012 |

| | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| State Prizes for each Group are: | 1 st place | \$500 Savings Bond |
| | 2 nd place | \$300 Savings Bond |
| | 3 rd place | \$100 Savings Bond |

Poster/Essay Contest Entry Label

Student's Name: _____

Grade: _____ Age: _____

Home Address: _____

Student's Phone: _____

Name of School: _____

Student's Social Security Number: (Only needed if Savings Bond might be issued and will only be used for that purpose): _____

Lodge Submitting Entry: _____

Lodge Number: _____

District: _____

Poster/Essay Contest Entry Label

Student's Name: _____

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Lodge Submitting Entry: _____

Lodge Number: _____

District: _____



POSTER CONTEST & ESSAY CONTEST
Hold Harmless Agreement
-WAIVER-

My child _____ is the recipient of an Elks award through the Drug Awareness Poster/Essay Contest. I hereby give consent to the use of his or her name, photo and or Poster/Essay in The Elks Drug Awareness Coloring Book, *The Elks Magazine* or other Elks' publications (including all forms of media) in furthering the programs and works of charity for the Order of Elks. I further consent that the Essay/Poster shall become the property of the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks of the United States of America.

Dated this _____ day of _____ 20_____.

Parent/Guardian's Signature



Witness

Witness

(This document should be signed by the parent/guardian of any person under the age of 18)

'Bath Salts' Growing Drug Abuse Problem

Makers of the product call it 'bath salts,' but it's anything but a soothing way to relax in the tub. Instead, these little packets of powder carrying names like Ivory Wave, Bliss, White Lightning, Hurricane Charlie and Vanilla Sky are akin to synthetic cocaine or methamphetamine – and very dangerous.

The American Association of Poison Control Centers issued a press in 2011 raising the alarm about toxic substances marketed as 'bath salts' and said states are beginning to take action. The products cause increased blood pressure, increased heart rate, agitation, hallucinations, extreme paranoia and delusions.

'Bath salts' contain powerful stimulants methedrone and methylenedioxypropylamphetamine, also called MDPV, and there have been scattered reports across the country of drug-induced deaths accidental overdose or suicide.

How are these chemicals used? According to the American Association of Poison Control Centers, most patients calling the poison centers have snorted the substances. In at least one instance, the substance was injected into the individual's veins.

The big difference between 'bath salts' and cocaine and methamphetamine, which are classified as controlled substances by the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), is that this latest designer drug – marketed as something not for human consumption — is still legal to be sold in the U.S. The same chemicals in the so-called 'bath salts' have also been sold as plant food, pond scum cleaner, and insecticide.

MDPV and mephedrone, according to the DEA, are chemicals of concern, but the agency is currently studying them. The result is that they're legal at the federal level and in states that haven't yet specifically prohibited them.

Always on the hunt for ways to skirt laws, makers of these designer drugs try to stay one step ahead of laws on the books and enforcement to catch offenders. It's a frequently noted problem. By the time laws catch up to the producers of such drugs, the perpetrators have switched the formulation and morphed the substance into something new.

Still, this issue isn't going to fade away anytime soon. People can easily buy these 'bath salts' at any age. They are available on the Internet for about \$20. Parents should be especially cautious and monitor their children's spending closely, especially if there have been any reports of 'bath salts' usage in the area, if the kids talk about the latest cool and cheap way to get high, or parents notice unusual behavior that could indicate drug use.

Poison control centers across the country are ready to answer questions about 'bath salts' or any other product that could pose harm to users.

Contact the poison control center at 1-800-222-1222.