



**New York State Elks Association
Drug Awareness and Education Newsletter
October 2011**



“Prevention through

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A Message from the State DAE Chair

It was so great meeting those of you that attended the NYSEA Fall Conference in Albany last month. It was refreshing to see your enthusiasm and dedication to the Drug Awareness Program. I also want to thank all of the District Chairs that responded to my questionnaire for the Grand Lodge Annual Report. The consensus was that better communication would surely improve all of our programs. My plan is to reach all District and Lodge Chairs and other interested parties with this publication and therefore improve our communication. This will be an e-mail publication only so if there is a District or Lodge Chair with no access to e-mail I will send it to the Lodge e-mail and hope it gets to the Chair. I will also include some of the information that I handed out at the Conference. One of the most important sections in this newsletter will be Lodge and District input, events, programs, questions...all will be shared in the Newsletter. My hope is to have enough information to publish monthly. I am very excited to share what you are doing in your DAE

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 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!



October 23 – 31st is RED RIBBON WEEK

Special agent Enrique Camarena was a DEA Agent brutally tortured and murdered by a Mexican Drug Cartel in 1985. His tragic death opened the eyes of many Americans to the dangers of illegal drugs and the international scope of the drug trade. Red Ribbon Week is the oldest and largest drug prevention program. By wearing a red ribbon during the last week in October and throughout November, Americans demonstrate their ardent opposition to drugs. They pay homage not only to Special Agent Camarena, but to all men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice in support of our nation's struggle against drug trafficking and abuse.

For information about the Elks Enrique Camarena Award visit:
<http://www.elks.org/resources/dap/downloads/enriqueCamarenaAward.pdf>

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

Be sure to register on

www.elks.org

For access to tons of valuable information.

Please consider supporting The Drug Quiz Show

The Drug Quiz Show was developed by an insightful middle school student that saw the need for a drug prevention program in her school. The Drug Quiz Show was formed in 1986 and has continued growing for 25 years. The program encompasses 32 regions throughout New York State involving 200 schools and over 30,000 middle school students every year.



The Drug Quiz Show is a jeopardy style game show competition with 32 regional competitions, winners advance to the playoffs and the top 4 teams go on to the finals which are televised on PBS. The Drug Quiz Show supplies study materials and questions for competition to the schools involved. The study materials are scrutinized for accurate, up to date and non-threatening information. Subjects not only contain illegal and prescription drug abuse, alcohol and tobacco use, but include information on bullying, grief, conflict resolution, tattoos and body piercing, just to name a few.

The Drug Quiz Show lost their major sponsor and is currently looking for funding. They have approached the New York State Elks Association for help. Not only is financial help needed but volunteers are also necessary for the continuation of this program.

The South Central District Elks Lodges have held a Drug Quiz Show Regional competition for 8 years and is very concerned about the loss of this program.

I have encouraged the Regional Coordinators to contact their local Elks Lodges to see if there might be help through you. Please, if you are approached regarding this very successful and vital program give consideration to getting involved. It is an innovative, exciting and worthwhile program. Thank you. Kathleen

If you are interested in getting involved in the Drug Quiz Show, contact me for a list of Drug Quiz Show Regional Coordinators in your area.

The following is an excerpt from a Grand Lodge Program Update

We all knew the challenges we have to face as a program when we left Phoenix. We cannot always get what we want and things are not always perfect but because we are resourceful we can meet those challenges and still continue to grow. The D/A Program has set some very high standards and I am confident that all of us will work hard to meet those standards and continue to take this program to even a higher level. It is going to take a lot of dedication but I am confident we are able to set even a higher standard of service to our children and to the Elks. I am asking you to remember that we answer to the "person in the mirror," who we see in the mirror knows the truth about our dedication and the resolve we all need to continue to be the best there is.

**Thanks
Kent Gade
Elks Drug Awareness - National Director**

Literature Orders

I speak from experience when I say, please do not order more literature than you need. When I became my Lodge DAE Chair, I ordered everything I could get from Grand Lodge, after all it was FREE. Well after years of housing cases of Literature in my house because I had a problem finding appropriate places to display and hand it out. Not to mention that some of the literature is updated and old pamphlets become obsolete. I had to purge all the outdated information. What a waste! It is easy to distribute coloring books and bookmarks, Kids Love Them! But some of the other information is intended for adults and they are not always grabbing them up. One of our District Chairs does it right. She orders 1 case of each and splits it among her Lodges, so everyone has some of everything but not full cases. More can always be ordered if needed.

Grand Lodge does an amazing job with the Literature program, but it is not cheap. The printing and shipping costs are increasing. They have cut back on quantities as much as they can but when Lodges order excessive quantities it hurts the program. Please be sparing and only order what you think you will need. Do Not Stockpile!!

Thank you all, Kathleen

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

Please feel free to print the NYSEA DAE Newsletter and leave in you Lodge for any interested members.

Any information or clipart in this Newsletter may be used for Lodge Bulletins or other publications.

Jan Burling (Central District Chair) printed this Great Information for her Lodge Newsletter

As the newly appointed Central District Drug Awareness Program (DAP) Chairperson, I've been busy familiarizing myself with the resources available from the State and Grand Lodge. I had seen brochures and coloring books at our lodge, however I was very pleasantly surprised at the other offerings.

For example, did you know that the Elks Drug Awareness Program teamed with Marvel Entertainment and the federal government's Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services to create the *Hard Choices* comic book featuring Marvel Super Heroes and Elroy the Elk in a battle against underage drinking? This comic is designed to educate fourth thru eighth graders about the dangers of underage drinking. To see a digital copy of this comic go to <http://marvel.com/news/story/1735/spider-man-and-the-fantastic-four-in-the-elks-drug-awareness-program-video-comic> or hold your smart phone over this QR



code: (I developed the QR codes for the smart-phoniacs. If you aren't familiar with them – ask your children or grandchildren or great-grandchildren!).

For parents there are pdf files and videos available at <http://www.elks.org/dap/parent.cfm> with subject matter on a variety of subjects, including “How Can I Tell If My Child Is Using Drugs” and “A Parent's Guide to Preventing Inhalant Abuse”.

For educators, there is a Teacher's Guide pdf available at <http://www.elks.org/dap/pdfs/teachersguide.pdf>



Or . There are essay contests open to grades sixth through eighth. There are poster contests open to grades third through fifth. For more information, please see: <http://www.elks.org/dap/contests.cfm>.



There is an interactive Drug Quiz available at

(<http://www.elks.org/dap/quiz.cfm>). It's interesting to find

Our children are this nation's greatest resource. Please take advantage of the vast amount of information our Order has to offer to educate and protect them.

Sincerely,

Jan Burling
Central District DAP Chairperson