

# *the fraternal link*

## Camp/Lodge Officer Newsletter

Issue: # 4

### Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Merry Christmas to all of our Camps/Lodges, and best wishes for a prosperous and successful 2012! We appreciate all that you do throughout the year to support our national service campaigns. We hope that this Holiday season will bring you joy and happiness.

Much of this issue of *the fraternal link* may be repeat information for you as camp/lodge leaders. **Refer to the Table of Contents in the right-hand panel for news that may be new to you.**

### CanStructure Contest a Huge Success

Thank you to the following DBIA Lodges for participating in our first-ever CanStructure Contest:

DBIA Seattle Lodge 29, Seattle, WA  
 DBIA Haabet Lodge 32, New Haven, CT  
 DBIA Centennial Lodge 348, Eugene, OR  
 DBIA Gimle Lodge 95, Ferndale, CA

A total of 1,513 pounds of food valued at \$2,399 was collected through this project. In addition, a total of \$450 in cash donations, including Growth Ring Matching Gifts made by the Society, were collected for the respective food banks/pantries. A huge success! If you have not done so already, go [DenverWoodmen.com](http://DenverWoodmen.com) under Fraternal Focus and read the details of each lodge's report.

### Operation Santa's Elves Underway

Operation Santa's Elves is our final national service campaign for the year designed to help bring the joy of Christmas and Santa to the lives of needy children right in our own neighborhoods. These economic times have created more

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#### **Growth Ring Matching Gift**

Remember the Growth Ring Benefit Member Matching Gift Program to make

need among families unable to provide their children with Christmas gifts than ever before; enter, Operation Santa's Elves!

Seek out a local organization or program that assists in providing Christmas gifts to kids that would not otherwise receive anything for Christmas. Regardless of the program or its name (Adopt-A-Family, Salvation Army Programs, Toys for Tots, Operation Christmas Child), we want to count it towards Operation Santa's Elves. Resources can be found at [DenverWoodmen.com](http://DenverWoodmen.com).

## Camp/Lodge Annual Reporting

I know I may be hounding a bit on this, but don't let the deadline for annual camp/lodge reports sneak up on you! Start organizing your data now and be ready when the 2011 reporting forms are available. We are working on updating the forms and posting them to the website and will let you know when they are ready to download, or input online.

**The Deadline for reporting is March 31, 2012.** We will send the financial reports directly to the Camp/Lodge Bankers/Treasurers this year; unless you tell us otherwise. In past years, we have sent all forms to the Camp/lodge Secretary.

I do not anticipate any changes to the camp/lodge activity report for this year. Community Service events will be categorized as follows (you report your events in only one category, even if they may apply to more than one):

1. Join Hands Day Project
2. Educational Program or Project (e.g., adopt-a-school program, school supply and backpack programs, etc.)
3. Patriotic-Related Project (projects that support our troops or veterans and their families or organizations that help our troops or veterans)
4. Service Projects for the Elderly (projects that help the elderly or organizations that help the elderly)
5. Ethnic or Cultural Activity (projects such as volunteering at an ethnic festival, supporting a special ethnic program or event, etc.)
6. National Member Food Drive
7. Operation Santa's Elves (Christmas/Holiday projects to help the needy such as Adopt-A-Family, Toys for Tots, Salvation Army, etc.) So be thinking about your events

an impact in your community. Up to \$250 per benefit member per year is the current Society match. Request funds today!

### **Advantage Benefits Card (ABC Card)**

The ABC Card is a multi-product savings program offering Prescription Drug Savings, Dental Savings, Vision Savings and Hearing Savings. **Available to benefit and social members.** AND it's **FREE!** [Click Here](#) for details and sign up today.



for this year and start to accumulate the information now.

So be thinking about your events for this year and start to accumulate the information now.

## **Nominating Committee Seeking Board Member Candidates**

In accordance with the Society's Bylaws, the Nominating Committee is currently accepting nominations for the four board positions up for election in 2012; board position numbers four, five, six and seven.

Society Directors receive compensation as determined by the Committee on Legislation and are reimbursed for expenses incurred in connection with official business of the Society.

Benefit Members meeting the board membership criteria and qualifications who are interested in the position of Director must submit references and resumes of their qualifications and background to the Nominating Committee no later than January 31, 2012. Details of the criteria and qualifications for board nominees developed by the Nominating Committee can be found [here](#).

Please send your information to:

Diane L Muller, Secretary  
8000 East Maplewood Ave., Suite 105  
Greenwood Village, CO 80111  
[dmuller@denverwoodmen.com](mailto:dmuller@denverwoodmen.com)

**Deadline for submission is January 31, 2012, postmark shall govern.**

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Diane at (800) 777-9777, extension 3830.

## **Camp/Lodge Matching Gift Program Discontinued**

As you know, we have suspended the camp/lodge matching gift program for the last couple of years. We have now decided to discontinue this program to budget more funds to the Growth Ring Matching Gift program for benefit members.

To-date, we have matched 72 benefit members' donations to

90 charities in the amount of \$14,344; \$4,344 over budget. So, our society and benefit members have donated a total of \$30,488 to charity through the Growth Ring Matching Gift program. Quite impressive. The Board has also approved a \$20,000 budget for the matching gifts in 2012; with no limitation to that budget amount should requests for matching exceed it.

## **2012 - The Year Ahead Opportunity for Service**

Now is the time to get your calendars out and plan your camp/lodge activities, fund-raising efforts, community service projects and member social events for 2012. As you do so, please remember our national member service campaigns.

### **Operation Purple**

Consider helping us help National Military Family Association's "[Operation Purple](#)" summer camp program! Funds raised will help to send the children of our nation's military families to "Operation Purple" summer camps in the summer of 2012.

Donations may be sent to the home office through Wednesday, February 29, 2012. **Make your checks payable to Woodmen of the World and/or Assured Life Association.** Be sure to **designate your donation to the Operation Purple program.** For benefit members, remember to utilize the Growth Ring Matching Gift program. Thank you for your support of this important new fund-raising opportunity for our Society.

Remember the following service opportunities for the balance of the year:

1. May 2, 2012 - Join Hands Day
2. Summer - Fall 2012 - National Member Food Drive
3. November - December 2012 - Operation Santa's Elves

Remember to check the calendar of events on our website throughout the year. Its located at the bottom of the left-hand panel of the homepage. Upcoming events are displayed there. You can also view all events by month by clicking the link "See all events." This is a great tool for you and your camp/lodge and for members.

## **Board Update - December 9, 2011**

The Board of Directors met for its regular meeting on Friday, December 9, 2011 in Denver, Colorado. All directors were present for the meeting as well as the society officers.

Actions of the Board included the following:

- 1.) Received and accepted reports from the Executive Committee and Audit Committee.
- 2.) Reviewed and discussed September 30, 2011 financial reports for the society including the Quarterly Statutory Statement for the period ending September 30, 2011.
- 3.) Ratified the investment transactions for the third quarter of 2011.
- 4.) Ratified acquisition cost for the Home Office.
- 5.) Received and discussed reports from society officers.
- 6.) Approved new fraternal benefits for the Society.
- 7.) Adopted annual resolutions regarding Provisions for Refunds payable, Annual Renewal Term and Five-Year Term premium scales as well as the cost of insurance rates for Universal Life certificates.
- 8.) Approved 2012 operating budgets.
- 9.) Ratified the Addendums to the Policy on First Liens on Real Property.
- 10.) Approved changes in the various interest crediting rates paid by the Society.
- 11.) Approved a discretionary nonelective contribution to the Woodmen of the World Qualified Savings and Retirement Plan for employees.
- 12.) Authorized Society officers to execute Uniform Consent to Service of Process for compliance with state laws.
- 13.) Ratified request by Directors to waive board compensation.
- 14.) Approved to donate the amount equal to unpaid director compensation for the 2011 calendar year to the Society's Scholarship Fund on behalf and in the name of the directors waiving receipt of board compensation.

## **Fraternal Benefits To Be Added**

Watch our website and emails for future announcements of new fraternal benefits being added for members.

The Board has approved a discounted Auto/Homeowners Insurance Program, a nationwide discount shopping/restaurants/hotels program (complete with a downloadable mobile app) and our very own Travel Center for member-only discounts not available to the general public through a number of travel companies; discounts on cruises, sightseeing packages to destinations worldwide including North American tours, discounted trips to the Caribbean, Bermuda, Mexico, etc. Additionally, this program offers discounts at the Wyndam hotels, offers various Orlando vacation deals and discounts on car rentals.

Once we have the details we will let you know how to access the multiple programs being offered.

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ASSURED LIFE  
ASSOCIATION

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