

**West Virginia Elks Association
State Convention
Pipestem State Park, WV
May 6-9, 2010**

State Ritualistic Committee Report

PGER Hess, State President Vince Gurrera, State Officers, Visiting Dignitaries and Members all:

At this time I would like to recognize the members of the State Ritualistic Committee and our certified judges: from Sistersville Lodge #333 **Don Stokes, PSP**, Committee Advisor and **James L. McIntyre, PDD**; from Grafton Lodge #308 **Bill Lambert, PSP**; from Huntington Lodge #313, **Harry Palu, PER** and **Carl Mooney, PDD**; from Charleston Lodge #202 **PM Carper, Jr., PSP** and **Stephen Janney, PER**; from Beckley Lodge #1452, **Bill Sutphin, PDD**, and myself **Jack Bailes, PSP**

The Ritual Contest was held at Morgantown Lodge #411 March 4 & 5, 2011. The Ritualistic Committee sincerely thanks Morgantown Lodge for hosting the contest, for their participation, and especially for their hospitality. Only two teams participated in this years' contest: Morgantown #411 and Sistersville #333.

For this contest, the committee provides the ground rules, brings in out-of-state judges to judge the contest, and calculates the scores from the judge's worksheets. This year we had only one out-of-state judge: John McCabe from Ohio. Our in-state judges were Bill Lambert, Don Stokes, Bill Sutphin and Carl Mooney. Word judges were P.M. Carper and Happy Pancake. Computers were Don Stokes, and myself.

Morgantown finished in second place with a score of **83.6957**. Will their Exalted Ruler or representative please come forward to accept their trophy? The winner of this years' contest was Sistersville Lodge #333. With a score of **94.7363**, they will be representing the WV Elks Association in Phoenix. Will their Exalted Ruler or representative please come forward to accept their trophy? We truly thank the teams that participated, and encourage all the other Lodges to become involved with Ritual in the future.

The following are winners of individual awards. We want to recognize their dedication and present the All-State Award winning Officers:

Exalted Ruler	Sue B, Stone, Sistersville #333
Leading Knight	James L. McIntyre, PDD, Sistersville #333
Loyal Knight	Heidi Hubbard, PER, Sistersville #333Charleston #202
Lecturing Knight	Roger Suter, Sistersville #333
Esquire	Craig Grimm, Sistersville #333
Chaplain	Michael J. Herrick, PER, Sistersville #333
Inner Guard	Curtis Heintzman, PER, Sistersville #333
Candidate	Wayne Martin, PER, Sistersville #333
Coaches	Michael J. Herrick, PER and James L. McIntyre, PDD, Sistersville #333

An additional award is being presented again this year. It goes to the Officer that has the highest overall point total. The award, the HIGH-POINT OFFICER goes to Heidi Hubbard, PER, Esteemed Loyal Knight from Sistersville Lodge #333, with an individual score of **94.376**.

This year we sent one judge out of state - in April Carl Mooney judged the state contest in Ohio.

This past August the winner of the Eleven O'clock Toast Contest was Joseph Heintzman, Leading Knight from Sistersville Lodge #333 and the winner of the Tribute to the Flag Contest was Walter Ice, PER from Charleston Lodge #202.

Announcements:

At the Mid-Year Meeting in August, the Eleven O'clock Toast Contest will again be held. The contest will be open to all Leading Knights, Exalted Rulers and Past Exalted Rulers. Please be sure you have the most current Contest version to review. In addition, we will again be conducting the Tribute to the Flag Contest, which is open to all Elks. As always, the notification, entry form and current wording will be sent to the Lodges before the contests and will again be posted on the WV Elks website and message board.

The Officers' and Judges' Clinic will be held at Charleston Lodge #202 on Saturday and Sunday, May 21 and 22, 2011. Grand Lodge Area Committeeman Jim Warren from Indiana will conduct this clinic. Written test for Word Judge, Computers and Floor Judges will be given on Saturday. The Charleston Lodge Ritual Team will perform for the Floor Judges' test on Sunday morning.

The State Ritual Contest will be in the South District in March 2012. The exact dates and location will be announced at the Mid-Year Meeting in August.

Thank you.

Respectfully Submitted,

John C. Bailes, PSP, Chairman
WV Elks State Ritualistic Committee