



October 2009

To: District Drug Awareness Chair-person(s),
Lodge Drug Awareness Chair-person(s)

Where is your Enrique S. Camarena Award nomination? It's easy to do; it's fantastic publicity and it lets your community know that you take a stand. It's also a great way to recognize and support law enforcement. Lodges should make their selection of a nominee in October and forward the application on to Frank Burr. Please work with your local Law Enforcement Agencies and nominate an officer for this award. I would like to see one from every Lodge or at least one from every District. **I have attached the necessary forms.**

Red Ribbon Week, a national drug prevention observance reaching millions of youth, is almost here. There are countless opportunities for organizations such as yours to participate and conduct activities that raise awareness about the tragic consequences of underage alcohol use. Help prevent underage drinking today and encourage youth to live a healthy, alcohol-free lifestyle.

Underage drinking prevention materials to support the [2009 Red Ribbon Week](#) observance are available

The Elks new Drug Awareness Video has been posted to the Illinois Elks Association Web page and is on YouTube. The link to the video on YouTube is:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vd3XK6czbO4>

At the session DAP session held at the State meeting on Saturday, September 26th, it was announced that the 5th Elroy custom is on its way and that the 5th Drug Awareness Trailers should be ready by November 1st. We are waiting for the lumber that is being donated to finish the inside of the trailer. We also reviewed the current location of the 4 Drug Awareness Trailers and Elroy costumes and the areas that we are looking at for the 5th trailer and costume.

We covered which pamphlets are still available, which ones have been discontinued altogether, and which ones can only be downloaded from the Elks web site.

In response to the need for year-round prevention ideas and materials, Drug-Free Action Alliance recently launched the creation of www.DrugFree24-7.org, a website dedicated to providing these needed materials.

Drug Free 24/7 is encouraging all segments of a community throughout the country to become involved in the planning, implementation and recognition of the importance of being alcohol, tobacco and other drug free. The newly redesigned website, www.DrugFree24-7.org, serves as a resource for schools, businesses and community groups to implement substance abuse prevention activities throughout the year.

The important message of prevention should not be limited to only one week or month, but all year round. There are numerous opportunities to promote healthy lifestyles and send the message that substance abuse is something that needs to be avoided. The goal of www.DrugFree24-7.org is to provide resources to help spread the prevention message and to provide resources to reinforce your message whether it is Red Ribbon Week, Alcohol Awareness Month, the Great American Smoke Out, World No Tobacco Day or any other prevention observances.

To assist your prevention efforts, Drug-Free 24/7 supplemental materials have also been developed. Items include stickers, posters, red ribbons, pencils and more.

For questions about ordering or to talk to a Drug-Free Action Alliance representative, contact us at (614) 540-9985 or Contact@DrugFreeActionAlliance.org.

News of Interest:

TULSA, Okla. – There is the new formula for methamphetamine: a two-liter soda bottle, a few handfuls of cold pills and some noxious chemicals. Shake the bottle and the volatile reaction produces one of the world's most addictive drugs.

Only a few years ago, making meth required an elaborate lab — with filthy containers simmering over open flames, cans of flammable liquids and hundreds of pills. The process gave off foul odors, sometimes sparked explosions and was so hard to conceal that dealers often "cooked" their drugs in rural areas.

But now drug users are making their own meth in small batches using a faster, cheaper and much simpler method with ingredients that can be carried in a knapsack and mixed on the run. The "shake-and-bake" approach has become popular because it requires a relatively small number of pills of the decongestant pseudoephedrine — an amount easily obtained under even the toughest anti-meth laws that have been adopted across the nation to restrict large purchases of some cold medication.

"Somebody somewhere said 'Wait this requires a lot less pseudoephedrine, and I can fly under the radar,'" said Mark Woodward, spokesman for the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control.

An Associated Press review of lab seizures and interviews with state and federal law enforcement agents found that the new method is rapidly spreading across the nation's midsection and is contributing to a spike in the number of meth cases after years of declining arrests.

The new formula does away with the clutter of typical meth labs, and it can turn the back seat of a car or a bathroom stall into a makeshift drug factory. Some addicts have even made the drug while driving.

The pills are crushed, combined with some common household chemicals and then shaken in the soda bottle. No flame is required.

Using the new formula, batches of meth are much smaller but just as dangerous as the old system, which sometimes produces powerful explosions, touches off intense fires and releases drug ingredients that must be handled as toxic waste.

"If there is any oxygen at all in the bottle, it has a propensity to make a giant fireball," said Sgt. Jason Clark of the Missouri State Highway Patrol's Division of Drug and Crime Control. "You're not dealing with rocket scientists here anyway. If they get unlucky at all, it can have a very devastating reaction."

One little mistake, such as unscrewing the bottle cap too fast, can result in a huge blast, and police in Alabama, Oklahoma and other states have linked dozens of flash fires this year — some of them fatal — to meth manufacturing.

"Every meth recipe is dangerous, but in this one, if you don't shake it just right, you can build up too much pressure, and the container can pop," Woodward said.

When fire broke out in older labs, "it was usually on a stove in a back room or garage and people would just run, but when these things pop, you see more extreme burns because they are holding it. There are more fires and more burns because of the close proximity, whether it's on a couch or driving down the road."

After the chemical reaction, what's left is a crystalline powder that users smoke, snort or inject. They often discard the bottle, which now contains a poisonous brown and white sludge. Dozens of reports describe toxic bottles strewn along highways and rural roads in states with the worst meth problems.

The do-it-yourself method creates just enough meth for a few hits, allowing users to make their own doses instead of buying mass-produced drugs from a dealer.

"It simplified the process so much that everybody's making their own dope," said Kevin Williams, sheriff of Marion County, Ala., about 80 miles west of Birmingham. "It can be your next-door neighbor doing it. It can be one of your family members living downstairs in the basement."

A typical meth lab would normally take days to generate a full-size batch of meth, which would require a heat source and dozens, maybe hundreds, of boxes of cold pills.

But because the new method uses far less pseudoephedrine, small-time users are able to make the drug in spite of a federal law that bars customers from buying more than 9 grams — roughly 300 pills — a month.

The federal government and dozens of states adopted restrictions on pseudoephedrine in 2005, and the number of lab busts fell dramatically.

The total number of clandestine meth lab incidents reported to the Drug Enforcement Administration fell from almost 17,400 in 2003 to just 7,347 in 2006.

But the number of busts has begun to climb again, and some authorities blame the shake-and-bake method for renewing meth activity.

The AP review of 14 states found:

- At least 10 states reported increases in meth lab seizures or meth-related arrests from 2007 to 2008.
- The Mississippi State Crime Lab participated in 457 meth incidents through May 31, up from 122 for the same period a year ago — a nearly 275 percent increase.

- Several states, such as Oklahoma and Tennessee, are on pace this year to double the number of labs busted in 2008. The director of Tennessee's meth task force said the pace of lab busts in his state is projected to be about 1,300 for 2009, compared with 815 for all of 2008.

Some states lack a central database to monitor cold medicine sales, so meth cooks circumvent state laws by pill shopping in multiple cities and states — a practice known as "smurfing" that allows them to stay under restrictions placed on sales.

Traci Fruit, a special agent with the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, said law enforcement officials are becoming increasingly frustrated because there's no way to tell who is buying what "unless we go from store to store ourselves and pull up the records."

Historically, rural states like Oklahoma, Missouri and Kansas have been hotbeds for meth use because an important ingredient in the traditional method, anhydrous ammonia, was easily available from tanks on farms where it's used as a fertilizer. But the new formula does not need anhydrous ammonia and instead uses ammonium nitrate, a compound easily found in instant cold packs that can be purchased at any drug store.

Data from the Justice Department and the DEA data suggest the method could only be in its early stages, and "shake-and-bake" labs have recently been discovered as far north as Indiana and as far east as West Virginia.

States surveyed by the AP also included: Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, Florida, Tennessee, Kansas, Missouri, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, New Mexico, Arizona and California.

While many law enforcement agencies are just learning how to spot the new labs, other states are rushing to close loopholes in laws limiting the sale of meth ingredients.

Mississippi Sen. Sid Albritton, said that state's law — modeled after Oklahoma's — forces buyers to show identification and makes stores keep a log of cold medicine sales. But the problem in Mississippi is lack of technology to instantly log purchases in a central database.

"You have to understand going in that drugs are an evolutionary process," said Albritton, a former police detective and narcotics officer. "The day after we pass a law, they are going to look for ways to circumvent that."

Always remember, participation in a positive Drug Awareness Program enhances the lives of Americans at all levels and helps shape the future of young Americans.

Sincerely:

Frank J. Burr

CC: F. Louis Sulsberger (State Sponsor – Past Grand Exalted Ruler),
John Horkay (IEA State President),
IEA State Officers

Enrique S. Camarena Award Criteria
Elks Drug Awareness Program

Enrique S. "Kiki" Camarena was an 11 year veteran agent of the DEA, who was kidnapped, brutally tortured and then murdered in Mexico in 1985. Prior to serving with the DEA, Agent Camarena was a firefighter, a criminal investigator and a narcotics officer. He was a loving husband and a father of three children. His death has inspired millions of Americans to lead a drug-free life and the Elks celebrate his commitment to this effort with an annual award.

October is traditionally Red Ribbon month, a time when people wear red ribbons to commemorate Agent Camarena's ultimate sacrifice. The millions of Americans who wear these ribbons visibly take a stand that they are opposed to illicit drug use and commemorate all of those who have been tragically affected by the results of use and abuse.

Each year, the BPO Elks present the Enrique S. Camarena Award to a member of law enforcement who best exemplifies the qualities and principles for which Agent Camarena gave his life. Nominees should be involved in their communities in efforts to make them drug-free. Nominees should have the support of their agency and respect of their community.

Nominations should be submitted to the local Elks Lodge by October 15, 2008. National selection will take place in December and the award will be presented at an appropriate setting during 2009.

Basic Criteria

- This award should be presented to an individual and not an organization. Consideration will be given to a "team" within an organization, but ideally the award should go to an individual.
- The individual should be living, but consideration will be given to presenting this award posthumously.
- The nominee should be involved in law enforcement
- The nominee should be a positive role model committed to a healthy lifestyle
- The nominee should have made an outstanding contribution in the field of drug awareness/prevention
- Ideally, the nominee has been identified as someone who has gone "above & beyond" their normal duties – someone who has made a difference
- The nominee must have the support of their superiors
- If selected, the nominee must be willing to attend an awards ceremony
- Nomination must be in narrative form and include endorsements & recommendations from appropriate sources (Departments, Governments, Citizens etc)
- Nomination should contain a list of nominee's previous awards & accomplishments
- Lastly, the nominee should exemplify the standards by which Enrique Camarena lived, worked and died – that one person can make a difference

Time Line For Enrique Camarena Award 2008-2009

August - This is a good time to get the information to your Lodges. (hint: District Deputy Clinics is an excellent opportunity as all Lodges must be present.)

October 15- Lodges should select their nominee and should forward that selection to you.

November 15 - You should select your state winner and forward it to:

*William J. Bryan
366 Vermont Route 313W
Arlington, Vermont 05250*

(EACH STATE WINNER WILL RECEIVE A "RUNNER-UP" AWARD)

November 30 - National Winner will be selected and will be invited to attend A National Ceremony along with sponsoring State Chairman

December 15 - All National Runner-ups will receive a letter from the Directors.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING STATE NOMINATIONS IS NOVEMBER 15TH!

**Elks Drug Awareness Program
Enrique S. Camarena Award
Nomination Form**



THIS FORM SHOULD BE RETURNED TO STATE CHAIRMAN BY OCTOBER 15, 2008

NOMINEE: _____

TITLE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

WORK TELEPHONE: _____

HOME TELEPHONE: _____

NOMINEE'S EMPLOYER/AGENCY: _____

IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR: _____

SPONSORED BY LODGE NAME & NUMBER:

Nomination form should be accompanied by letters of support for the nominee, providing reasons why nominee would be a good selection and what they have done to deserve recognition.

THIS FORM, ALONG WITH SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION MUST BE RETURNED TO STATE DRUG AWARENESS CHAIRMAN BY OCTOBER 15, 2008.