

**Kevin Kennedy - State President – 2011-2012**  
**Illinois Elks Association**



**A Message From Your State President, Brother Kevin**  
**September - October 2011**

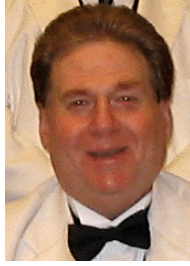
It was my honor to represent the State of Illinois as your IEA State President in Phoenix at the Grand Lodge Convention. My first task as state president was to carry in the Illinois state flag at the opening ceremony. I also had the honor of nominating Bryan R. Klatt for Grand Secretary. Thank you, Bryan, for asking me.

I would like to thank Illinois Elks lodges and members who donated to the Joplin Missouri fund. Through your generosity, I was able to present a check for \$12,500. The State Officers and I, along with several other Elks, went to the Missouri hospitality room to present the check. Their state president was overwhelmed with the amount. He said this really shows that Elks Care – Elks Share. I would like to thank Bob and Kelly Eckoff for running our hospitality suite in Phoenix. WHAT A GREAT JOB THEY DID. We received nothing but compliments on the room, the food and the selection of beverages. Kristi Weeks and Chuck Pearson and my wife Janet helped Bob and Kelly a great deal and I want to thank them.

Thanks goes to all the members of The Illinois Elks Association who chipped in and helped to make the hospitality room run smooth. The hotel thanked us for keeping the balcony and hallway so clean. While we were in Phoenix, we had a miniature golf tournament run by First Vice President Larry "Fun Size" Smith, along with his assistant Jeff Rodier from Springfield. We had 31 members who golfed in the "dry heat" of 109 degrees.

I have been hearing from a lot of Elks telling me that they are going to collect coats for our Coats for Kids program. Please keep up the good work.

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I would also like to compliment the Illinois Elks delegation for coming to the meetings dressed in business casual. Past Grand Lodge Lecturing Knight, Marvin the "Glue Man" Leathers, wore socks five days in a row to the Grand Lodge Session. I believe that is a new record! Grand Lodge Judiciary member

Jerome Shapiro came to the hospitality room and went over the resolutions with everyone so they knew what they were about. Thank you, Jerry, for taking that time. While we are "Helping America," let us keep up the good work and get all lodges involved in the Dictionary Program, Hoop Shoot, Soccer Shoot, Veterans, SOS, and the Children's Care Program.

**Remember, keep your eye on the big picture: Have fun, get along, help those who need help, and get the word out about Elkdom.**

My email is [K.Kennedy@illinois-elks.org](mailto:K.Kennedy@illinois-elks.org) and my telephone number is in the IEA State Directory.

Fraternally,

*Kevin*

Kevin Kennedy