

Thank you Shelly for reading the newsletter and responding

May 17, 2005

Ann Marie Lamphier, PER  
Rochester Elks Lodge #2225  
P.O. Box 80333, 1002 N. Main St  
Rochester, MI 48308-0333

Dear Ann Marie,

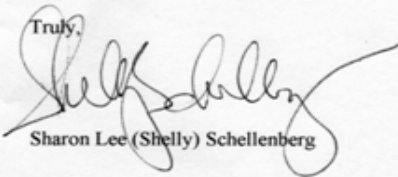
In the May edition of the *Hour of Eleven* Elk's newsletter, you asked members to let you know their answer to "why did you join the Rochester Elks?" and this is my answer.

I joined the Rochester Elks because many of my friends and co-workers were members, or their husbands were members. For fourteen years, we spent time at the Elk's Club enjoying lunch during the work week and attending special functions including the Valentine's Day dances and the Poor Man's After Tax party. My business organization held frequent meetings, luncheons, and training sessions at the Rochester Elks and my sister had her wedding reception there. The food was good and the atmosphere congenial. I played Bingo with my mother on Wednesday nights, and would have liked to take her and my father to the club on Friday nights for dinner and dancing when there was entertainment. I believed that the Elks Club provided a valuable service to the community, and that every pair of helping hands would be a welcome asset.

More importantly, I believed that "all men are created equal" as stated by the U.S. Constitution includes all women. I have absolute faith in our legal system but learned that the wheels of justice grind slowly. It has been nearly ten years since I became the first female Elk.

While I don't know you, or the current Exalted Ruler Sandy Catanese, I have watched the progress of women like you, who have move up through the ranks in the Elks. I am pleased to see that many lodges have discovered that women can come out of the kitchen, and become officers, sponsor new members, vote, and help to direct the future of the organization.

Best wishes to you and the other women who have taken up the reins of leadership, and to the men who have learned to accept and appreciate you as teammates. It seems that one my reasons for joining the Elks has been fulfilled.

Truly,  
  
Sharon Lee (Shelly) Schellenberg

**Don Iodice**, a member for 31 years had worked with and belonged to the same church as Frank Clark (Wagonmaster for the Sundowners) who was ER at that time. He joined because he thought it would be a nice place to have lunch. Now a PER himself and wife Amanda a member who works closely with the Jr Elks

**Sandy Catanese** our current ER stated that the first interest in our Lodge began after we redesigned an old hang out for her friends (Scallops) and wanted to come back. She said to her friends "Don't worry I'll do everything" Now friends and new members Dorthy Hadrill, Lecturing Knight, Joann Pioletti, Chaplain, and others are positive forces in our Lodge

**Charlie Weaver's** wife Sandy wanted to be a K'lette. K'lettes were the woman of the Lodge at that time before they could join. And of course we know Charlie is a PER himself and a current Trustee.

**Darin Lamphier**, PER joined since he was in a fraternity in college and was looking for the same brotherly love as an adult as he had then

**Ann Marie Lamphier**, PER joined because she fell for the Exalted Ruler who brought stuffed animals to the local hospital at Christmastime



**Bob Young III** is a 3rd generation Elk

**Why did you join the Rochester Elks?**  
The answers are numerous but it seems a common result is that great things come of it. So remind yourself why you joined and come and fulfill a possible awesome destiny

Once again this year we will be collecting sweaters at our Lodge for the **V e t e r a n s**. You can drop off clean men's, women's, and children's sweaters and sweat shirts in the collection box at the Lodge.  
Thank You - Jim Purdom



Interested in Elks Fantasy Football this year? New league forming now. Looking for 8 - 10 new teams. Contact Brian Dittmer at [info@rochesterelks2225.org](mailto:info@rochesterelks2225.org) or just call the office and leave your info