

VINCENT P. DITTA
EAST CENTRAL DISTRICT VICE PRESIDENT
MESSAGE FOR FEBRUARY

Despite being in the middle of winter, February is a special month, a busy month and the shortest month. Of course there is Valentine's Day and President's Day, and in Elkdom, we celebrate the birthday of our Order on February 16th.

Also in February there is the Peer Leadership Conference at the Ocean Place Resort in Long Branch from 2/1 to 2/3. This weekend students from all over the State learn about the dangers of drugs and how to be good citizens in school and everyday life.

Then the following weekend, on Saturday 2/9, is the John Sentner Memorial Plunge. The plunge will take place in Point Pleasant Beach at Martell's Tiki Bar with festivities starting at 10 am. This is one of the major fund raising events for Camp Moore. If plunging into the icy Atlantic isn't for you, make a donation to sponsor an Elk who will be jumping in.

On the following day, Sunday February 10th, is the State Hoop Shoot Finals at the South Plainfield High School starting at 10 am. Those Lodges with participants should make every effort to attend and support them.

February is known for hearts and with the Elks we have the "Biggest Heart" contest. Stop by your Lodge to support the Elks National Foundation and buy a heart for you and your Valentine.

February also signals that the Elk year is drawing to a close. There is still work to do as we strive to bring in new members and elect new officers to replace those who are either moving up or stepping down. I, know this has been a challenge, however, besides attending meetings or being on a committee, as an Officer you will learn how our Lodge runs on a day to day basis.

Lastly I would like to end by wishing a Happy Birthday to our Order and hope we all are able to spend Valentine's Day with family or that special someone.

Fraternally,
Vince Ditta
Vice President
East Central District

“New Jersey Elks....where the remarkable happens!”