



TEXAS ELKS CHILDREN'S SERVICES, INC.



Sweetheart Manual

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The Sweetheart Program is a very important part of what we “DO” as Texas Elks! Family is the cornerstone of Elkdom. When we improve the life of a child – we also improve and impact their families as well.

The Sweetheart Program raises monies for our State Major Project. The Sweetheart for each Lodge in Texas is tasked with fundraising and educating their Lodge members about the important work we do for Texas Elks Camp and Special Needs Grants. Each lodge turns in Sweetheart monies from 3 categories that is turned in to TECSI:

- Red Pig Donations
- State Fund Drive Raffle Tickets
- General Sweetheart Funds raised in a variety of ways!



KEYS TO A SUCCESSFUL SWEETHEART YEAR:

- I encourage each Sweetheart as well as the Exalted Ruler to attend their Interlodge meetings to network and share resources. I plan to attend at least one Interlodge meeting in each district during the year.
- Make a plan and set a goal based on last year's figures. Sit down with your Exalted Ruler and Board of Directors to plan events in your Lodge.
- Attend one of the six camp graduations during the summer on a Friday afternoon! Gather a group of members for a road trip and see first hand what Texas Elks Camp is all about. It is an experience you will never forget.
- Attend Homecoming in September at the Texas Elks Children's Camp in Ottine. Have a booth with raffles, silent auction items, games, or merchandise for sale. Bring a Live Auction item. Details can be found at texaselkscamp.com.
- Read the Sweetheart Manual! It is a fabulous resource to learn about the history of our State Major Project and how it has evolved over time.
- Join *Texas Elks Sweethearts* private Facebook group. Share your events and ask for ideas.
- Like the *Texas Elks Children's Services Inc.* Facebook page. The camp staff do a fine job of sharing information, videos and pictures of Texas Elks Camp. Use these videos and pics to educate your Lodge members and community.
- Have business cards made with your name and contact information. These are inexpensive and you can give them to businesses in your community.
- Utilize social media throughout the year. Publicize and recognize what you are doing as Sweetheart. You can start



your own Sweetheart Page or use your personal one to share out to the community what you are doing.

- Recognize members as they make donations to the Red Pig Program. Give them a Red Pig Pin for filling a pig with \$100. Present them with their pin or a certificate at a Lodge meeting or event.
- Get involved with the Special Grants Committee at your Lodge. This will give you great insight into the grant selection process and the different types of assistance we have to offer children with special needs.
- OPM- Other People's Money! Share your events and what we do as Elks with your community.
- Form a Sweetheart Committee to help you! Do not be afraid to ask for help. Get some new members involved!

I have a variety of resources to help you through your Sweetheart year. Please feel free to contact me for ideas and help in any way. If you need Red Pigs I can have those shipped to you from the Camp. I have the Red Pig pins and certificates, as well.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication to raising the funds needed to support the Texas Elks Children's Camp and Special Grants in your communities. **We are all working for the children!**



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SWEETHEART PROGRAM OVERVIEW

SWEETHEART PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Texas Elks Sweetheart Program was started in 1979-80. A Sweetheart works hard for a period of one year representing his/her Lodge. Since 1979 the hard work of all past Sweethearts in the state of Texas has earned a total revenue of over \$13 million dollars for the Texas Elks State Major Project.

During the year, the Lodge Sweetheart that raises the most money within each district becomes the Sweetheart for the District. At the State Convention in June each year, it is then determined which District Sweetheart raised the most money. The District Sweetheart then becomes the State Sweetheart for a period of one year and will represent all the Sweethearts across the state.

SELECTION OF A LODGE SWEETHEART

The selection of a Sweetheart may vary from Lodge to Lodge. This ranges from the Exalted Ruler picking the Sweetheart to the selection being made by the Members of the Lodge.

All Sweethearts should keep a complete record of income, expenses and hours which is submitted to the lodge Secretary on a regular basis. Receipts should be provided for monies turned in for deposits. It is very important to keep good records.

Recommended guidance for Lodge Sweetheart expenses are as follows:



- Sweetheart fundraising expenses- only expenses to be deducted from Sweetheart fundraising income are those related to the activity. The cost of the items to be raffled or the cost of having an event such as the food costs for a fundraising dinner.
- Expenses of being the Lodge Sweetheart- these may be handled by the individual or the Lodge may choose to reimburse for them. This may include travel and hotel expenses. How expenses are to be borne should be fully understood by the Sweetheart prior to the individual accepting the position.

SELECTION OF A DISTRICT SWEETHEART

At the end of the Lodge Sweetheart's year he/she turns in all monies raised for his/her Lodge at a special District Sweetheart function or Interlodge. A District Sweetheart is then determined by that District's selection process. This may be based upon total dollars, per capita, lottery, etc.

It is recommended that each Lodge Sweetheart have a Committee that includes a Red Pig Chairperson and State Fund Drive Chairperson. The Lodge Sweetheart should meet with their committee to set goals and plan activities and fundraisers.



SUGGESTIONS FOR FUNDRAISING

When a Sweetheart begins their year, one of the first questions might be “How can I ever do this successfully?” This can be an overwhelming experience but a very rewarding one. Your number one resource is your past Lodge Sweethearts. Ask for their suggestions and guidance.

Wear your nametag identifying you as the Lodge Sweetheart. Get to know the members of your Lodge and educate them on what the Sweetheart program is all about. Don't hesitate to ask Lodge members for their support. You are working for the lodge, and most people will help and support you, if asked.

As you plan your activities for events in the Lodge, also plan and ask for help in your community. When visiting businesses, wear your nametag, pass out **your business card** and **take Texas Elks Children's Services, Inc. brochures**.

Promote yourself and the Sweetheart Program. Write monthly articles for the Lodge newsletter to explain your project and advertise your events. Utilize social media such as Facebook to educate your community. Leave fliers for businesses to post in their window.

There are many ideas for fundraising. Do not be afraid to try something new. Use your imagination! If your Lodge is hosting an event such as a Casino Night, ask if you can do a 50/50 raffle to benefit Special Needs Children. Apply online to companies using their charitable donations section on their website. Some applications are easier than others, but a number of companies have a certain amount of money to give to charitable organizations.



IDEAS FOR FUNDRAISING

- 50/50 Drawings
- Card Raffle – use a full deck of cards and sell each card for a fee; as you sell the card, cut the card in half, giving one to the buyer and keep the other half for your drawing; when all cards are sold, have the drawing; the card that matches the card drawn will be the winner; if you sold them for \$5 each, that would be \$140 for you and the same for the winner
- State Fund Drive Tickets – sell them as raffle tickets; list them as an add-on in your annual dues renewal notice to your members; advertise a sweetheart meal free with the purchase of a fund drive ticket – ask for the meal to be donated
- Penny Raffle Board – A Penny Raffle is a money-making project that may take weeks or a couple of months to sell out, but is a good source of profit. First, select an item that would be of interest to a lot of people for your raffle. The object is to sell the squares. If they draw #1, that will cost a penny; if they draw #300, that will cost \$3.00. That is why it is called a Penny Raffle. To draw attention to the board which you have posted in the Lodge, you may want to decorate a section at the top with a picture of the raffle item and decorate with some pennies. Keep numbers that have not been drawn yet in a safe place.

You will make a poster board divided into squares of 300, 400, or 500. Number each square starting with #1 and continue till the board is completed with the number of squares you have selected. Proceeds from the squares are: 300 squares = \$450.00; 400 squares = \$802.00; and 500 squares = \$1,256.00.

The size of your Lodge may determine the size of board you want to make. Next, you will need to make two sets of numbers to be cut into squares – the same numbers as you have on your board. Keep one set of numbers in a container from which they can draw and another set to have to draw from when the raffle board is sold out. Do not mix the two. After a person draws a number and pays the amount drawn, write his/her



name in the square and tear up the number. Make sure you have the name in the correct square.

Another option on your board is to select three (3) squares to be your “Mystery Prize Square”. Circle these in bright red. If a person draws one of those numbers, he/she wins that mystery prize, but still has to pay the number drawn. Small bottles of liquor work well for these prizes. A Penny Raffle can be a lot of fun.

Another way to run the Penny Raffle is to have one set of numbers and have them sign the back of the number once they draw. Use heart shaped stickers to cover the drawn square. Put the signed numbers in another container and once all squares are drawn you have someone draw one number for a gift card. The gift card can be purchased with part of the proceeds. Also you can get donations for little drawing prizes and put little stars or other stickers on random squares. Members will love the chance to get a prize when they draw.

- Online Charitable Donations – go to corporate websites and apply for charitable donations using the forms included in this manual (501c# status)
- Reverse Raffle – sell raffle tickets and pull them out one by one; however, each one you pull will not win and will instead be pulled from the running; keep pulling numbers throughout the night and whichever one is left is your lucky winner!
- Silent or Live Auctions – in your Lodge or promote online as well through Social Media
- Tournaments – if your Lodge has shuffleboard, darts, or cornhole, arrange tournaments for fun and to raise money
- Rib or Brisket Sale
- Liquor Basket Raffles or Auctions – use the Internet to research themes and ideas; pet baskets are always popular
- Gift Card Raffle Board – solicit gift cards from businesses or have members donate them; make a display board and put each card in an envelope and mark the amount on the outside of the envelope; attach all to the display board in rows; sell tickets, for example 3 for \$20 or 6 for \$30; when



you have sold the desired number of tickets, draw tickets one at a time and tape them to each envelope going down the line; then allow the corresponding tickets to pull their envelope off the board and see what they have won! You may also offer an additional big prize and draw for that first.

- Queen of Hearts
- T-Shirt/Ball Cap Fundraiser – sell customized items to commemorate an event
- Talent Show – organize with a dinner and a 50/50 raffle
- Trivia Night
- Chicken Bingo – this can be fun if you can find a chicken and cage; on a poster board cut to the size of the cage bottom, mark off squares, write a number on each square and place in bottom of the cage; on paper have squares marked equal to the same amount of squares as the poster board; sell your squares then place the chicken in the cage and let the chicken do the rest; make sure he eats well; the number he leaves his drop on is the winner of half the pot and the rest goes to the Sweetheart; remember to do this in a well lit room, as chickens do go to roost at dusk
- Golf Ball Drop
- Rubber Duck Race
- Poker Run
- Craft or Holiday Markets
- Sweetheart Meal Night
- Take & Bake Meals to go – prepare an entrée such as baked ziti in foil pans and ask for pre-orders; give them a date and time to pick it up; write the cooking and freezing directions on the foil lid; be sure to prep an entrée that is fairly inexpensive and easy to prepare in large quantities
- Sell squares for a football pot
- Pass the Pig
- Garage Sale
- Dessert Raffle or Auction
- Breakfast & Picture with Santa



- Pig Races
- Bake Sale
- Barbecue, Chili, Tailgate Cook-offs
- Super Bowl Party
- Themed dinners and parties! Elks love to eat! Examples can include Oktoberfest, a Luau, or Sock-Hop. Give prizes for best costume.
- Facebook Fundraiser with TECSI – online fundraiser through Facebook that does not take a percentage; contact Director Loretta Shirley to let her know you are having one so that she can get your funds to you



TECSI 501C3 STATUS

USE OF TECSI 501c3 STATUS TO REQUEST CHARITABLE FUNDS

Fundraising for the Texas Elks Children's Services Inc. may be used under the non-profit 501c3 exempt status to raise funds for the Sweetheart Program. Various companies and corporations offer grant programs. Go to the company's website and search for their charitable donations information. It can take some time to fill out the requested information and upload the forms but it can be worth your time. You may receive a gift card or a check. Companies that have contributed in the past include: Walmart, Sam's Club, Costco, HEB, Market Street.

If you are successful in securing a contribution through the 501c3 process, please notify Loretta Shirley at Texas Elks Children's Services Inc. Some companies will only issue funds directly to TECSI and not to the individual Lodge Sweetheart. If TECSI is not aware of the funds requested, they will not know which Lodge Sweetheart to send the contribution to. If you need additional information, contact Loretta Shirley at lorettas@gvec.net or 830-875-2425.



SOCIAL MEDIA

Posts on Facebook are very visually engaging and are easily shared – which means it can be a great tool to raise money for Sweetheart. The key is to know how to **engage people** so you can use social media for fundraising. What does that look like?

Your fundraising success is about the **relationship you build** with donors and supporters and the way you communicate with them, inspiring them to give to your cause! It gives you one more way to connect with people.

The benefits of Social Media:

- 1) Update your supporters instantly – your followers and donors can check in as often as they want and you can update them as you need to. Through images, photos and video, it is easy to keep people informed and aware of events and current needs.
- 2) Establish a large peer-to-peer fundraising network – supporters, followers, volunteers can all do some of the work for you by sharing your posts and adding their own excitement. Their friends and followers may share with their friends and so on until your audience grows, filling up with people you might never have met otherwise.
- 3) Make it easier for donors, members and potential members to connect. Many look for causes and nonprofits they care about on Social Media out of curiosity or to see how they can get involved. Being part of a Facebook group feels much more rewarding than a monthly newsletter, especially if you respond to conversations that spring up under your posts.
- 4) Have a plan! Do you need to start talking about an event a month in advance? Three months? *How* can you get their attention? Share an actual video from the TECSI Facebook page. Facebook is a great place to showcase photos and videos.
- 5) Provide a hook - choose content that will catch their attention. Nothing you say will matter if no one stops to read it.



- 6) Tell a story – share information about our State Major Project that tugs at the heartstrings. You can utilize images, photos, infographics and videos.
- 7) Convey urgency – explain to your audience what you are fundraising for and how you are going to do it.
- 8) Include a call to action by letting them know exactly what you need them to do. Provide a one-click link or include a specific digital payment method such as Venmo or Zelle.
- 9) Be ready to respond to messages quickly. People will reach out to you if they see you have a quick response time.
- 10) Using social media for fundraising may seem overwhelming at first but being connected to your donors can be a lot of fun! Plus it helps you raise the support and awareness for our State Major Project that we need in our communities!**



MISSION STATEMENT



Texas Elks Children's Services, Inc.

Servings Texas Children Since 1946

*To provide services for children with disabilities that promote higher levels of independence, self-esteem and success; to ensure that children with special needs are afforded the same opportunities to be thriving, productive members of society; **to reinforce a belief that having a difference doesn't make a difference**; and to demonstrate through our benevolent programs and dedicated support from the members of Texas Elks that **Elks Care and Elks Share**.*



TEXAS ELKS CHILDREN'S SERVICES, INC. HISTORY

Texas Elks Timeline & Evolution of Serving Children with Special Needs

TIMELINE:

1946 – Texas Elks Facility, located in Ottine, Texas, was built to serve in its first mission as a hospital for children with Polio.

1976 – Elks turned their attention to children with special needs and began the diagnostic program, in which children came to the facility for diagnostic testing and therapy.

1987 – The Summer Camp program started as a 4-week program that took place in the month of July that served approximately 96 children each summer and ran in conjunction with the diagnostic program.

1997 – Elks decided to discontinue the diagnostic services and focus their efforts on expanding the summer camp program, creating a summer long camp that ran for seven weeks and served approximately 350 kids each summer.

1999 – Elks formed a second state major project that offered grants to children in need of specialized equipment and services

2000 – The first grant in the amount of \$1,000 was awarded.

2020 – The grant program has grown to provide \$300,00 to \$400,000 of allocated funds to Elks lodges across the state of Texas and the summer camp program is still going strong, serving 240 kids between the ages of 7 and 16 every summer.



EVOLUTION:

The Texas Elks facility, located in Ottine, Texas was completed in 1946. Its first mission was a hospital for children with Polio. Elk's Hospital for Crippled Children offered the best possible treatment to children afflicted by this crippling disease but with the advent of the Salk vaccine in 1955, the number of Polio victims began to drastically decrease and over time led to the elimination of the disease as well as the need for a hospital to care for the diseases victims.

The Elks Hospital for Crippled Children was closed in 1976 and Elks turned their attention to children with special needs. They implemented services that would be referred to as the diagnostic program. Children were invited to the Ottine facility to have their learning disabilities diagnosed and very specialized learning plans were developed and fully implemented. This service made a tremendous difference in these children's' ability to learn and opened a pathway to success for them. While this program proved to be extremely beneficial to its recipients, the services also came at a great financial demand due to the need for in house staff ranging from caretakers, teachers, nurses and physicians and the expense of long term patient stays.

In 1997 Elks decided to discontinue their diagnostic services and refocus their primary efforts on a program that would continue to benefit special needs children. Thus began the structuring and implementation of our existing Summer Camp program for special needs children.

Summer camp was not a new concept, it actually started in 1987 as a 4 week program that took place exclusively in the month of July and hosted approximately 24 special needs children each week for a total of 96 attendees. With the cessation of the diagnostic services, camp became the primary state major project and grew into a summer long program spanning over 7 weeks, hosting 50 special needs children for a total 350 attendees and served as the primary State major project.

With the camp program going strong, Elks once again began looking for additional ways in which they could be of service to special needs children. In their search they realized that children with special needs resulting from birth defects, accidents, or other trauma often face life-altering limitations and that so often early intervention with prosthetic equipment, assistive and/or adaptive devices, therapy and technology would allow a child to lead a much fuller and



complete life. Unfortunately, so many of these very special children in need have no one or nowhere to turn for assistance. To that end, In June of 1999, Texas Elks formed a second state major project to help these children live life to its fullest by offering grants to children in need of such specialized equipment and services. In June of 2000 the first grant in the amount of \$1,000.00 was awarded. Today the program has grown to provide more than \$300,000.00 of allocated funds to Elks lodges across the state so that they may help children in need within their communities.

Currently the summer camp program runs for six weeks each summer and hosts 40 kids per week, 20 boys and 20 girls. Children with special needs and children in foster care participate in a fun filled week of activities. The camps principal purpose is to teach children with special needs that **having a difference doesn't make a difference** and gives our campers the opportunity to learn new skills and become more secure in their own abilities. Based on parent surveys, Elks camp has proven to make a positive difference in the lives of their children, especially in areas dealing with overall attitude, self-esteem and socialization.

No charge has ever been made for any service provided any Texas Elks children's program. Annually Texas Elks spend close to \$1 million to support the projects carried out by Texas Elks Children's Services, Inc.

Throughout the years Texas Elks members have dedicated a tremendous amount of support and enthusiasm for their State major projects. Due to these efforts, our Camp and Grants programs have continuously grown and flourished, further allowing Elks to aide children in need across the state.



O.J. BEHRENDT, HISTORY

O.J. Behrendt Personally Written History, 1945-1988

My name is O.J. Behrendt. Vearle Cane, Wife of Director, Richard Cane asked me to write the history of the Texas Elks Crippled Children's Institution, Inc. The names and dates stated in this history are probably ninety percent correct.

In December 1945, my father-in-law who resided in the community of Ottine, asked me to go with him to look at the new hospital that was under construction in the community. I was surprised to see such a large project being built in such a remote area. The building was approximately seventy five percent finished at the time.

As we toured the building, we met three men and one lady. We introduced ourselves and before we knew it, we were involved in quite a lengthy conversation - - as they were as eager to learn the history of Ottine as we were to learn as much as possible about the new hospital. These men turned to be M.A. De Bettencourt, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the hospital; Walter G. Jones, Secretary-Treasurer; and Mr. Wilcox, son-in-law of Mr. Jones. The lady was Mr. Wilcox's wife, Jo Jones Wilcox and of course, the daughter of Mr. Jones. Jo Wilcox wore a long leg brace and walked with a cane as a result of polio. She was approximately thirty-eight years old at the time of our meeting. Later on, I will explain the role she played during the early stages of this project.

During our lengthy conversation, the two directors asked me if I would be interested in working for the Texas Elks Crippled Children's Institution, Inc. (as it was chartered and named). I asked them what my position would be, and they told me Maintenance Engineer. I told them that I might consider it but would like to think about it. They agreed that I should think it over, and they said they would be back next week to discuss it with me.

At that time, I was working in Orange, Texas at the Consolidated Ship Yard. I was experienced in construction and electrical work and felt that I was well qualified for the position. My wife was from Ottine, and I was from Seguin, and we had hoped to someday settle closer to home. We felt that this position would be our opportunity to be at home again. Therefore, we came back the following weekend, and I was interviewed and hired by M.A. De Bettencourt and Walter G. Jones - - I was to start working on January 15, 1946, which I did.



Now I will go back in time a few years to 1941 to tell you how the Texas Elks Crippled Children's Institution, Inc. originated as the story was told to me by the above gentlemen and one great Elks' lady.

For several years, the Elks of Texas had been trying to come up with a state project. During this time, polio was in an epidemic stage. After meetings and discussions, it was decided that rehabilitation facility was to be built for their state project. The Gonzales Warm Springs Foundation, which was also a polio hospital, already existed in Ottine. However, at that time, it only consisted of one small unit that was built by the National Youth Administration, more commonly known as the N.Y.A. This unit only housed about sixteen patients who received physical therapy treatments daily in the hot water (106 degrees F) that flowed from an artesian well that was completed February 23, 1910 by H.H. Jones (no relation to Walter G. Jones). This well was similar to the hot flowing well in Hot Springs, Arkansas. This well made Ottine the ideal location for the Texas Elks' project. Thus, their project began to materialize.

In June 1942, at the Texas Elks' State Convention in Corpus Christi, Texas they adopted the plan to build a forty-two bed hospital in Ottine on four acres of land leased from the City of Gonzales for ninety-nine years.

So, from the 1942 State Convention until 1944, Walter G. Jones and his daughter, Jo Jones Wilcox, blazed the state of Texas raising money for this great project. They visited every lodge in Texas (we only had 16,000 Elks in the state at that time). Jo, a proficient speaker, who had survived the disease of polio wearing a long leg brace and walking with a cane brought tears to the eyes of every Texas Elk as she spoke of the great need for this facility. They dug deep into their pockets, and the money poured in for the project.

Jo was also in charge of the Mile of Dimes Rally in Houston, which also raised a lot of money. Jo continued to help in this capacity until her father no longer served on the Board of Directors. During those years, Jo also earned the distinction of being the only lady to ever address a Grand Lodge Session. The Foundation has a portrait of this great lady and her dog, Prince Jo, that she gave to the children of the hospital after its completion.

In early 1944, World War II was still in full force and labor and materials were hard to come by. However, the Texas Elks were ready to proceed with their state project. Therefore, John Marriot an architect from San Antonio, Texas was hired to draw the plans for their new project. In a short time, Mr. Marriot submitted the plans to the Board, which were approved and shortly thereafter, their dream began to be a reality.

On January 15, 1946, I went to work at this facility for the exorbitant salary of \$150.00 per month. However, in the plans, I was to build a caretaker's house for my family and me to live in, which I did and we moved into the house



December, 1946 and my wife and I are still living in it forty-three years later. The house was originally built on Park Road 11 and was moved to its present location on June 30, 1957 after two water wells failed to produce an adequate water supply.

Prior to building the house, I had to clean the hospital and get everything in shape for operation and the official opening day. I hired some domestic help, and we all went to work scraping paint, washing windows, and scrubbing every little nook and corner. The furniture arrived in Luling, Texas in eight rail freight box cars. I rented a flatbed truck and hauled all of the furniture to the facility.

The hospital had four wards - - boys, girls, junior, and baby wards, and four isolation rooms. Each room in the entire building had a brass plaque 5" X 9" on the door with a person's name, a business, a lodge, or in memory of someone on it. The plaques meant that the furnishings in the respective rooms were donated by the names on the plaques. Jo Jones Wilcox was responsible for most of the paperwork such as correspondence, collecting donations, etc. She sent the information and plaque to me which I installed on the respective doors. Most of these plaques no longer exist due to the numerous changes that have been made over the years.

By April 1946, the furniture and equipment was all in place, and the building was sparkling clean and ready for operation. At this time, the Board acquired Duncan C. McKeever, M.D., who was an orthopedic surgeon from Houston, Texas as Medical Director. He, in turn, hired Dorothy Bovey, R.N., as Supervisor of Nurses. Miss Bovey then hired two young registered nurses, Eva Katherine Leslie and Frances Zapolac. The entire nurses' staff, plus some of the domestic help, lived at the hospital.

Each person had their own private room. Shortly after the nurses arrived, the Board purchased a 1946 Willys Jeep Station Wagon to be used by authorized personnel.

In July 1946, the Texas Elks Crippled Children's Institution, Inc. was dedicated. Some six hundred Elks from all over the state attended the official ceremony.

After the dedication, many things were yet to be done before the first patients could be admitted. More staff was needed, as well as much publicity to let the public know what type of patients we were prepared to treat. After accomplishing these things, the patients began to arrive in August 1946.

Dr. Duncan McKeever, Medical Director and Dr. Duff, also an orthopedic surgeon from Houston, Texas, came to the hospital bi-weekly and examined the children thoroughly to determine the type of treatment each one needed. Some of the children needed surgery before treatment was prescribed. In this case, a member or members of the hospital staff would transport the patients to St. Joseph's Hospital in Houston where they would undergo more examinations



and tests prior to surgery. After several weeks stay in Houston, they were transported back to the Elks Hospital for treatment prescribed by the doctors. In most cases, the treatment prescribed was physical and hydrotherapy.

Most of the children needed some type of brace or various kinds of supports. Woody Hargroves, a bracemaker from Austin, Texas, came to the Hospital on the days that Dr. McKeever and Dr. Duff were there, and he followed their prescriptions and made the necessary braces and supports that each child needed.

In 1949, Dr. McKeever hired Fannie Fox, R.N., as Administrator of the Hospital. Prior to this time, all of the Hospital's business such as bills, correspondence, payroll, etc. was handled by Walter G. Jones, Secretary-Treasurer in Houston. However, after Miss Fox arrived, all of the business records were moved to the Hospital and were handled by her.

In 1953, it became evident that the children housed at the Hospital, some for a number of years, needed to continue their education. Therefore, a school was built and staffed by three special education teachers from the Gonzales Independent School District at no cost to the Hospital.

Also in 1953, Floyd Ford, Chairman of the Board, and his wife, Annie Mae from Dallas were instrumental in organizing the first Homecoming. It was held on the Hospital grounds with everyone bringing a box lunch. Approximately one hundred people attended the first Homecoming. The next two were held at the Palmetto State Park, and since then, all Homecomings have been held on the Hospital grounds in the month of September.

In 1954, the Board of Directors purchased five acres of land northeast of the Hospital from John Lampkin for \$1,250.00. A 1,601 foot water well was drilled, and the same flow of water was hit as the Gonzales Warm Springs had. It flowed at 98 degrees F, and if pumped for some time, the temperature rose to 103 degrees F.

During the fifties, the budget began to increase considerably, and at that time, the lodge quotas were \$5.00 per capita, but all lodges did not pay their quotas. The Endowment Fund was a mere \$50,000.00; therefore, there was no alternative but to seek other means of providing money for the operation of the Hospital. At this point, the Permanent Benefactors' Certificates (PBC) \$175.00 each, and the Honorary Founders' Certificates (HFC) \$1,000.00 each were born. All monies raised from these certificates were put into the Endowment Fund. In the early sixties, Interlodge functions were organized to help the Hospital, and these functions exist today, which helps tremendously.

In 1959, Dr. Duncan McKeever was killed by an oncoming automobile while he was putting gasoline in his car on the side of the highway.



Richard Epright, M.D., replaced Dr. McKeever as Medical Director. He too was from Houston, Texas. After Dr. Epright came on the staff, the children were taken to the Methodist Hospital in Houston for all surgery.

Early in 1963, Fannie Fox hired Frances Ince as Secretary to the Board of Directors and Bookkeeper, and Sally Miller, L.V.N., as Supervisor of Nurses.

At the State Convention in Harlingen, Texas in 1965, it was approved to build a Recreation Room in memory of Fannie Fox. The building was built by the Maintenance Department under the direction of Marvin Hamilton, Past State President. It was completed for the Homecoming in 1965 and was dedicated in November 1965.

After the death of Miss Fox in 1964, The Board decided to continue the operation of the Hospital by placing Sally Miller in the position of Medical Administrator; Frances Ince, Business Administrator; and yours truly, O.J. Behrendt, as Maintenance Administrator. Each Department Head was responsible for his/her own budget, attended all Board Meetings, and we worked directly under the supervision of the Board of Directors.

At this time, it was also decided to hold at least two Board Meetings annually at the predetermined lodge in order to create more interest in the Hospital in the lodges.

Around 1965, the Hospital received one of the largest contributions to the Endowment Fund that they have ever received - - \$360,000.00 was received from the Loudermilk Estate.

In 1969, the Staff began having a problem getting children with the type of physical handicap that the Hospital was originally designed to treat, which was primarily polio. The Salk vaccine developed by Jonas Edward Salk soon prevented the dreaded disease of poliomyelitis; therefore, the Hospital became a longterm babysitting facility and remained in that status for several years. The Board, along with the help of many others, continued to search for a new program that would help more than just a handful of handicapped children.

In 1976, the Board hired Barney Rankhorn as Administrator. He was a psychologist and was to gradually phase out the old program and submit recommendations to the Board for three alternative programs. He accomplished the Board's request, and after much discussion and consideration, they chose to convert the Hospital to a diagnostic clinic for handicapped children. This conversion would allow the staff to help more handicapped children annually than the old program did over a period of several years. Barney implemented the new program, which is still functioning well; however, he resigned in 1978 and was replaced by Robert Curry, who was also a psychologist. Robert continued to improve the program, but his tenure



was also short - - he left in 1980. Donald Fox, another psychologist, was the next Administrator; however, he only stayed one year.

In 1981, after contending with the transitions of several administrators over a period of a few years, the Board decided to revert back to operating by Department Heads as it did following Miss Fox's death. At this time, Lisa Cowan was made Director of the Diagnostic Clinic, Mary Williams was made Director of Business Office/Support Services and yours truly, O.J. Behrendt, was made Director of Physical Plant. Each one of us was in charge of our department under the supervision of the Board of Directors. We functioned in this capacity until January 2, 1987, when the Board hired Leroy Haverlah as Project Manager.

In June and July 1987, Leroy implemented a summer camp for handicapped children. This program has been a huge success as the Foundation can serve roughly another sixty children each year. These handicapped children who attend the camp would experience the excitement and pleasure of going to camp like other children do each year. The Elks can be proud of Leroy for such a fine project.

In 1988 and 1989, Doris Wells, wife of State President Ez Wells, successfully launched a project in which she raised approximately \$20,000.00 to renovate the old x-ray room and purchase an Electroencephalograph (E.E.G.) Machine which is being used to test the children. This machine will save money, time, driving miles, and most of all wear and tear on the children and personnel since they no longer have to be transported to and from San Antonio for these tests.

Doris is to be commended for a job well done that will save the Elks many dollars in the future, and we appreciate all the help that we can get. It would be hard to put an exact dollar figure on the amount of money that this machine will save the Foundation over the years.

The Elks have always strived to come up with ways to generate money. Over the years, in addition to the PBC and the HFC Certificates, Memorials, and Interlodge Functions, the Pledge Books were born. This bright idea was originated and implemented by Doyle Pollard in 1981, which generates a considerable sum each year. Another means of extra revenue is the Love Certificate that originated in 1987 since Leroy Haverlah became Project Manager. This too has proven to be a big success.

As the history of this fine organization is nearing a climax, I need to mention that shortly after the program converted to a diagnostic center, the name of the facility was changed from the Texas Elks' Crippled Children's Institution, Inc. to the Texas Elks Foundation for Handicapped Children, Inc. The Gulf Coast District donated and erected a Red Texas Granite monument near the property line on Farm Road 1586, which reads 1942-1976 Texas Elks Crippled Children's Hospital. 1976 – Texas Elks Foundation for Handicapped Children, Inc.



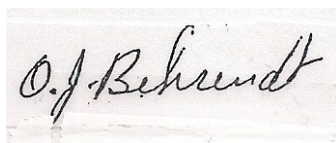
Another important project that originated during a Board Meeting in 1982 by Ellis Leatherwood and Olley Anderson is the Elks Care R.V. Park. Many Elks have motor homes and travel trailers, and these two men felt that an R.V. Park would be utilized throughout the years. Doyle Pollard was Chairman of the Board at that time; therefore, he was made chairman of getting the project done. Money was raised by selling the property by the square foot for \$5.00 a square. Construction for 34 hook-ups began in 1982 and were ready for Homecoming in September of that year. A statewide contest was held for naming the park. The winning name was Elks' Care R.V. Park. As time passed, there was a need for additional hook-ups. In the spring of 1987, eleven FULL hook-ups were added and were used at Homecoming that year. C.D. Russell was chairman of construction of hook-ups. He also donated and constructed the sign for the park. Since Doyle Pollard had passed away and had worked so hard on the project, the Park was renamed in his memory.

This history completes almost half of a century that I was associated with the Foundation as an employee, as well as dedicated Elk for some thirty-five plus years. I enjoyed my tenure at the Foundation and will always give it my utmost support. I was both happy and sad and March 31, 1988, when I walked out of that old building that I had spent a great part of my line in - - happy that my daughter, Debbie Everett, would carry on as an employee of the Foundation and sad that I had to walk away.

So, my Brothers and Ladies, as I have now completed my part of the history of this great Foundation, I ask that you keep up the good work; for no person stands as tall as he/she does when they stoop to help the hand of a handicapped child.

God bless you.

Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "O.J. Behrendt". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured paper background.

May 5, 1989



TEXAS ELKS GRANTS FOR SPECIAL CHILDREN PROGRAM

Special Grant Program Eligibility and Application Process Effective June 1, 2020

Texas' Elks realized that children with special needs resulting from birth defects, accidents, or other trauma often face life-altering limitations. They also realized the fact that so often early intervention with prosthetic equipment, assistive and/or adaptive devices and technology would allow a child to lead a much fuller and complete life. Unfortunately, so many of these very special children in need have no one or nowhere to turn for assistance. To that end, In June of 1999, Texas' Elks joined together and formed a State major project to help these children live life to its fullest by offering grants to children in need of such specialized equipment and services.

Eligibility Criteria

Eligibility criteria are written to be as inclusive as possible. All children having special needs will be considered for grant assistance providing the following criteria are met:

1. A resident of Texas,
2. Up to age 18 or extended to age 21 if still enrolled in school,
3. whose special needs are neither fully covered by a private or public insurance carrier,
4. whose special needs are not fully met by either a state and/or federal agency,
5. whose special needs are not fully met by another grant program,
6. whose financial needs justify assistance.



Application Process

The application process is designed with two purposes in mind: first, to allow the local Lodge maximum flexibility to meet the needs of those in a particular area, and two, to streamline the process to ensure that assistance arrives in the briefest time period possible.

The application process follows:

1. All applications will be available at the local Lodge or online at texaselks.org and texaselkscamp.org. The format will be a paper application. The design is intended to be user friendly, but at the same time provide all the necessary information to allow the Lodge to make an informed decision.
2. The local Lodge, under the direction of the Exalted Ruler, will appoint a committee to receive and evaluate all requests for grant assistance. This responsibility can be delegated to a single person provided the lodge votes to do so and records it in the lodge minutes. It is the responsibility of the individual Lodge to write the local selection criteria it feels will best meet the needs of the local area.
3. Once the local Lodge committee has approved an application, it will be brought before the Lodge membership for approval. After approval from the Lodge, the application, the Lodge certification form, and the specific particulars regarding the grant will be forwarded to TECSI for processing, ordering, and proper crediting of the Lodge's account. The TECSI staff will evaluate the application to ensure that it follows the grant guidelines and has gotten the best buy to staff's knowledge. Questionable applications will be forwarded to the Grant Committee on the TECSI Board of Directors for evaluation.
4. The TECSI staff will place the order for the equipment, and have it shipped directly to the grantee's address as it appears on the grant application, unless written instructions from the Lodge request an alternate shipping address.
5. TECSI will notify the Lodge, the vendor and the applicant, once the processing of the application and the order has been placed.
6. Payments are only authorized for vendors, healthcare providers or medical service providers. Payments to lodges or individuals must be approved by the TECSI Board of Directors.



Deadline for application and processing of Grants

1. At the beginning of February, any Lodge that has not expended 100% of their allocated funds will be notified that their allocation will be redistributed to other Lodges if grant activity does not increase.
2. If, on the last day of February, a Lodge has not expended all of their allocation, the remaining money, will be reallocated to other Lodges who have expended their grant allocation, and have requested additional funds. **(See *reallocation of funds for explanation of process*)**
3. Unspent money is transferred to the reserve account on March 1st. At this time these funds are no longer considered to be allocated money for any one specific lodge no matter what they had left as of the February deadline. If an approved grant request is received after the last day of February, based on the discretion of the appointed three-member committee, it may be considered for funding from the reserve funds or returned to the submitting lodge. **In order for a lodge to ensure processing of an approved grant from the lodges available, allocated funds, the approved grant MUST be received on or before the last day of February.**

Allocation of Funds

1. Funds for the Texas Elks Grants for Special Children Program for the grant year will be allocated based on a formula of 25% per capita share of membership and 75% total donations within each lodge (less the proposed 5% to remain in the grant reserve fund). Of note: All donations to Texas Elks Children's Services and also Texas Elks Endowment are included in the calculation of the grant money allocations as well.
2. As soon as possible after the membership has approved the TECSI operating budget in June, Lodges will receive notification of the grant amount available to that Lodge for the fiscal year. Each Lodge will have access to the application form on the TESA website to provide to prospective recipients.
3. The TECSI staff will provide accounting of ALL allocated Lodge funds, and the status of each Lodge's activity throughout the year. Once the allocations have been determined, the grant allocation report is mailed to all Lodges and the TECSI Board of Directors as well as posted on the TESA website for viewing by all members. Following the beginning of the grant year in June, a monthly report is generated thereafter and emailed to the TECSI Board of Directors with exception to the 2 weeks prior to any scheduled Board meeting in which case the



report is mailed out in the Board meeting packet. Generating this updated information on a monthly basis is done so that Directors may keep all Lodges in their district informed of how much of the Lodge allocations have been spent and what remains available. However, a Director or Lodge member may call TESCO at any given time if deemed necessary and receive a verbal update on the phone. TESCO strives to keep the membership informed of how well the state project is being received across the state during the entirety of the grant year.

Reallocation of Unused Funds

Should a Lodge, for whatever reason, find that they have not allocated their grant money to families; a process must be in place to reallocate those funds.

The following process will be utilized:

1. The Chairman of the TESCO Board has appointed a special four-person committee to act in an over-sight capacity to monitor allocation of grant funds.
2. The TESCO Board will hold 5% of the total grant allocations in a reserve account fund. These funds along with any unspent Grant money are pooled and used after the February deadline to process selected grants that were received from submitting Lodges that did not have the necessary allocated funds available to process them. The special four-member committee, selected by the TESCO Chairman will review a list of unfunded Grants and will determine which applications can be funded from these left over funds. Due to the distances involved and the infrequency of the TESCO Board meetings, this process may be carried out by fax, email, or telephone.
3. Once all funds have been expended through this process, any Grant that has not been funded is then returned to the submitting lodge with a letter of explanation. If the lodge determines that the applicant is still in need of the requested grant funds, they may resubmit the lodge approved grant application in June so that the funds may be taken from their new allocated amount.



Program Review

A formal review of the Grants for Special Children program will be conducted once the grant season is over by a Grant Audit Committee, to be appointed by the board chair consisting of no less than three directors or alternates. The committee will report its findings to the board of directors no later than April 1. The members of this committee should be different than the members of the Grant Committee.

Evaluation and Record Keeping

The Grant Coordinator will conduct an evaluation with the recipient family on each grant received. At six months the recipient family will be asked to respond to an evaluation instrument designed to measure the client satisfaction with:

1. the grant application process,
2. the service from TECSI staff,
3. the service from the vendor and the quality of the product or service provided, and
4. the difference the product has made in the life of the client.

Annually, the evaluations will be compiled, and a written report will be provided to TECSI Board and Alternate members. A copy of the report will also be forwarded to all Elks Lodge in Texas.



TEXAS ELKS CAMP FOR SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN

Texas Elks have served Special Needs children through the Elks summer camp program since 1987 without regard to income, ethnic origin, race, creed, color or religion. Any child with special needs age 7 to 16, who is a resident of the state of Texas is eligible for admission to Texas Elks Camp. There is no fee. Campers are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Needs are reviewed on an individual basis.

Parents can complete camp applications beginning in January. Camp applications are online, parents can visit texaselkscamp.com to create an account and complete the application. Please contact Texas Elks Camp Staff with any questions, staff is ready and available to answer any questions! Texas Elks Camp office hours are 8 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday. Contact by calling 830-875-2425 or emailing txelks@gvec.net.

Eligibility Criteria

Eligibility criteria include but are not limited to the following:

1. A child with a diagnosed special need or condition or who is in foster care.
2. Between the ages of 7 and 16 years of age.
3. A resident of the state of Texas

There is no fee. Campers are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Needs are reviewed on an individual basis.



Eligible Diagnosis

ADD	Fetal Drug & Alcohol Syndrome	Neurofibromatosis
ADHD	Fragile X Syndrome	Non-Verbal
Amputee	Hearing Impaired	Perthes Disease
Asperger's	Hydrocephalus	Scoliosis
Arthritis	Learning Disability	Spina Bifida
Asthma	Intellectual Disability	Stroke
Autism	Developmental Disability	Tourette's Syndrome
Birth Defect	Multiple Sclerosis	Tumor Having Physical Effect
Burn Survivor	Muscular Dystrophy	Visually Impaired
Cerebral Palsy		
Down Syndrome		

Campers Not Eligible

Children requiring one-on-one attention are not eligible. Also, children with the following diagnoses are not eligible:

Self injurious behavior	Seizure episodes within 12 months
Contagious Diseases	Unable to follow 1-2 step prompts
Insulin Dependent Diabetes	Receives nutrition enterally
Osteogenesis Imperfecta	Uses a wheelchair for all mobility
Prader Willie Syndrome	Physically or Sexually Aggressive Toward Peers or Staff

Application Process

1. The camp application for the current camp year is available beginning January 1, online at the Texas Elks Camp website. The format is all online. The design is intended to be user friendly, but at the same time provide all necessary information to ensure staff can properly care for the child while at Texas Elks Camp.
2. The application must be filled out in its entirety and submitted to Texas Elks Children's Services for processing. Along with the completed application, parents must upload a current photo, a copy of the child's shots records and a health evaluation form that must be completed by a healthcare professional.
3. The application cannot be processed until it has been reviewed and is deemed complete. If an application is deemed incomplete, a request for additional information will be made to the submitting party.



Deadlines for application

Camp Applications will be made available and accepted after the first working day in January of each year. The application process is a “first come, first serve” basis. Applications will be reviewed and processed in the order that complete applications are received. Once the available openings have been filled, a waiting list is started. If there are any cancellations during the summer applicants on the waiting list will be contacted. Applications will be accepted until the week prior to the summer programs conclusion.



NON-PROFIT STATUS DETERMINATION LETTER

The following pages contain the documentation required to show proof of the 501c3 non-profit status for Texas Elks Children's Services, Inc.

USE OF TECSI 501c3 STATUS TO REQUEST CHARITABLE FUNDS

Fundraising for the Texas Elks Children's Services Inc. may be used under the non-profit 501c3 exempt status to raise funds for the Sweetheart Program. Various companies and corporations offer grant programs. Go to the company's website and search for their charitable donations information. It can take some time to fill out the requested information and upload the forms but it can be worth your time. You may receive a gift card or a check. Companies that have contributed in the past include: Walmart, Sam's Club, Costco, HEB, Market Street.

If you are successful in securing a contribution through the 501c3 process, please notify Loretta Shirley at Texas Elks Children's Services Inc. Some companies will only issue funds directly to TECSI and not to the individual Lodge Sweetheart. If TECSI is not aware of the funds requested, they will not know which Lodge Sweetheart to send the contribution to. If you need additional information, contact Loretta Shirley at lorettas@gvec.net or 830-875-2425.



Internal Revenue Service

Date: October 5, 2006

TEXAS ELKS CHILDRENS SERVICES INC.
1963 FM 1566
GONZALES TX 78629-5231

Department of the Treasury
P.O. Box 2508
Cincinnati, OH 45201

Person to Contact:
Ms. Lumpkins 31-08344
Customer Service Representative
Toll Free Telephone Number:
877-829-5500
Federal Identification Number:
74-2584826

Dear Sir:

This is in response to your request of October 5, 2006, regarding your organization's tax-exempt status.

In October 1989 we issued a determination letter that recognized your organization as exempt from federal income tax. Our records indicate that your organization is currently exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Our records indicate that your organization is also classified as a public charity under sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Our records indicate that contributions to your organization are deductible under section 170 of the Code, and that you are qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the Internal Revenue Code.

If you have any questions, please call us at the telephone number shown in the heading of this letter.

Sincerely,
Janna K Skufca

Janna K. Skufca, Director, TE/GE
Customer Account Services



ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

The following pages contain the Articles of Incorporation for Texas Elks Children's Services, Inc. and the amendments to those Articles of Incorporation.



**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
OF
TEXAS ELKS CHILDREN'S SERVICES, INC.**

Secretary of State of Texas

OCT 19 1:989

Corporations Section

ARTICLE ONE

NAME

The name of the corporation is Texas Elks Children's Services, Inc.

ARTICLE TWO

NONPROFIT CORPORATION

The corporation is a nonprofit corporation.

ARTICLE THREE

DURATION

The period of its duration is perpetual.

ARTICLE FOUR

PURPOSES

The corporation is organized and shall be operated exclusively for charitable, religious, scientific and educational purposes; to engage in activities relating to the aforementioned purposes; and to invest in, receive, hold, use and dispose of all property, real or personal as may be necessary or desirable to carry into effect the aforementioned purposes; including but not limited to:

- (1) providing diagnostic and consultative services to Texas children who are affected by disabling diseases or afflictions and subject to physical and/or psychological infirmities or disabilities; and
- (2) establishing and maintaining facilities for the purposes of diagnosing, treating, caring for, and rehabilitating Texas children who are affected by disabling diseases or afflictions and subject to physical and/or psychological infirmities or disabilities.

ARTICLE FIVE

POWERS

The corporation shall have all powers conferred upon non-profit corporations under Art.1396-2.02 of the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act so long as the same do not disqualify said organization under Sec. 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code or other law as an exempt organization.

The powers of the corporation, however, shall be limited in that:

(1) No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of any director of the corporation, officer of the corporation, or any private individual (except that reasonable compensation may be paid for services rendered to or for the corporation affecting one or more of its purposes), and no director or officer of the corporation, or any private individual shall be entitled to share in the distribution of any of the corporate assets on dissolution of the corporation. No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting, to influence legislation, and the corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publication or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

(2) The corporation shall distribute its income for each taxable year at such time and in such manner as not to become subject to tax on undistributed income imposed by Section 4942 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws.

(3) The corporation shall not engage in any act of self-dealing as defined in Section 4941(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws.

(4) The corporation shall not retain any excess business holdings as defined in Section 4943(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws.

(5) The corporation shall not make any investments in such manner as to subject it to tax under Section 4944 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws.

(6) The corporation shall not make any taxable expenditures as defined in section 4945(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws.

(7) Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles of Incorporation, the corporation shall not conduct or carry on any activities not permitted to be conducted or carried on by an organization exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and its Regulations as they now exist or as they may hereafter be amended, or by an organization, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code and Regulations as they now exist or as they may hereafter be amended.

(8) Upon dissolution of the corporation or the winding up of its affairs, the assets of the corporation shall be distributed exclusively to charitable, religious, scientific, testing for public safety, literary, or educational organizations which would qualify under the provisions of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and its Regulations as they now exist or as they may hereafter be amended.

ARTICLE SIX

MEMBERSHIP

The corporation shall have no members; however, there is a mutual interest in its philanthropic purposes by all the members of the Texas Elks State Association who are represented by members elected to the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE SEVEN

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The management of the affairs of the corporation is to be vested in its Board of Directors. The number of directors shall be set in the bylaws, which in no event shall be less than three nor more than fifteen in number. The initial Board of Directors and their respective addresses are as follows:

Al Frazier	1017 Wick Street San Benito, Texas 78586
Wayne Spivey	1013 Bazzell Longview, Texas 75604
John C. DuBose	1726 Gardien Street Gonzales, Texas 78629

ARTICLE EIGHT

INITIAL REGISTERED AGENT AND OFFICE

The initial registered agent of the Corporation is John C. DuBose. The registered office of the corporation is 826 Sarah DeWitt Drive, Gonzales, Texas 78629.

ARTICLE TEN

INCORPORATOR

The name and address of the incorporator is John C. DuBose, 826 Sarah DeWilt Drive, Gonzales, Texas.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this the ___1_6___ day of
October ,1989.



ARTICLES OF AMENDMENT
OF THE
TEXAS ELKS CHILDREN'S SERVICES, INC.

FILED
In the Office of the
Secretary of State of Texas
OCT 02 2012
Corporations Section

•••

Pursuant to the provisions of the Texas Business Organizations Code, the undersigned corporation adopts the following articles of amendment.

1. The name of the Corporation is the Texas Elks Children's Services, Inc., and the file number issued to the Company by the Secretary of State is 11300434.
2. The following amendments to the certificate of incorporation, deleting all contrary provisions, were adopted on March 12, 2011.

Article Six "Membership" is amended to read as follows:


The Corporation shall have members.

3. This amendment has been approved in the manner required by the Texas Business Organizations Code and governing documents of the entity.
4. This document becomes effective when filed by the Secretary of State.

The undersigned signs this document subject to the penalties imposed by law for the submission of a material false or fraudulent document.

TEXAS ELKS CHILDREN'S SERVICES, INC.

Date: March 12, 2011


By: Don Pepper
Its: Board of Directors Chairman



In the Office of the
Secretary of State of
Texas

APR 29 2013

ARTICLES OF AMENDMENT
OF THE
TEXAS ELKS CHILDREN'S SERVICES, Inc.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Texas Business Organizations Code and a resolution of the Board of Directors dated 4/25/13 the undersigned corporation adopts the following articles of amendment.

1. The name of the corporation is the Texas Elks Children's Services, Inc., and the file number issued to the corporation by the Secretary of State is I 1300434.
2. The following amendments to the certificate of incorporation, deleting all contrary provisions, were adopted 4/25/13

Article Four, "Purposes" is amended to read as follows:

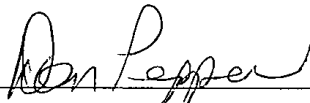
ARTICLE FOUR
PURPOSES

- 1) To benefit the public through charitable means, which include but are not limited to providing recreation, services and equipment to better the lives of the children of Texas with special emphasis on special needs, under the rules and regulations governing a 501(c)(3) organization.
- 2) To raise and hold funds and/or property essential to the successful operation thereof
- 3) To perform all other lawful acts consistent with its mission as a "charitable organization."
4. This amendment has been approved in the manner required by the Texas Business Organizations Code and by the governing documents of the entity.
5. This document becomes effective when filed with the Texas Secretary of State.

The undersigned signs this document subject to the penalties imposed by law for the submission of a false or fraudulent document.

Date: 4/25/2013

TEXAS ELKS CHILDREN'S SERVICES, INC.


By: _____
Its: Chairman of the Board



TESA OPERATING PROCEDURES FOR INTERLODGE

Texas Elks State Association Operating Procedures for Interlodge

Revised November 2013

Section 2.010: PURPOSE:

Section 2.010.1: The Interlodge Committee is established to promote harmonious relations and goodwill between the Lodges and Members of such Lodges in each District of TESA.

Section 2.010.2: To raise funds to assist in the financial needs toward the operation of the State Major Projects and "Texas Elks Children's Services, Inc.".

Section 2.010.3: To promote and encourage District Members and their spouses to meet and enjoy mutual fellowship within the District.

Section 2.010.4: To promote and encourage District Members and their spouses interest and participation in the efforts to raise funds to further the goals of the State Major Projects, and of Elks toward the accomplishments the goals specified above.

Section 2.010.5: To encourage the Ladies organization, in whatever form, within the Lodges to become a working part of the District Interlodge Activities to raise funds for which such committees are established.

Section 2.020: RESPONSIBILITIES:

Section 2.020.1: The District Interlodge Committee will be established as a working committee under the District Vice President in each District.



Section 2.020.2: The Committee will consist of individuals from all TESA member Lodges within the District. It will be organized with a District Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and Chaplain.

Section 2.020.3: The Officers will hold office for the same period of time as the District Vice President and will be elected and/or appointed at the January Vice President's Clinic each year. The option of election or appointment by the Vice President rests with the individual District.

Section 2.020.4: The District Secretary and Treasurer will be required to be under a bond of a minimum of \$30,000.00. The TESA Trustee will provide the bond under a state wide blanket bond. The cost of the Bond to be paid for from the State Interlodge funds collected.

Section 2.020.5: All funds raised by this committee will be received by the District Secretary, who in turn will receipt same and turn over to the District Treasure who will receipt same to the Secretary.

Section 2.020.6: The District Treasurer will deposit all funds received in an account in the name of the District.

Section 2.02.7: Each District Interlodge Committee will be allowed \$200.00 expense money for reproduction, postage and supplies. This will be deducted from money raised.

Section 2.020.8: All monies collected by the individual District will be turned in to the TESA Trustees at the Annual Convention no later than Saturday on a time established by the Trustees at the Convention. The money should be turned in by the District Chairperson. If the Chairperson is unable to attend the Annual Convention the District Secretary and/or Treasurer be responsible.

Section 2.020.9: Each District will establish and maintain a set of Interlodge guidelines, fully aware that the problems of administration and operation may not be the same in all nine (9) Districts the guidelines will be designed to fit the District's particular needs.

Section 2.020.9.1: The guidelines must in no way conflict with the general rules set forth in this Operating Procedure and these By-Laws. The guidelines will

identify the weekends each Interlodge social/fund raising function will be held. Every effort should be made to make these dates consistent each year.

Section 2.020.9.2: To reduce the number of required meetings for members it would be advantageous to meet the same weekend as the District Vice President conducts his Clinic. Each Lodge is requested not to schedule a Lodge social activity on those designated weekends.

Section 2.030: LODGE-DISTRICT-STATE SWEETHEART CONTEST:

Section 2.030.1: Each Lodge is encouraged to select a Sweetheart and enter the Sweetheart Contest. The rules for the selection of a State Sweetheart are in the following sub-paragraphs.

Section 2.030.2: PURPOSE: These rules are intended to establish a procedure for the collection of Interlodge money and determine the State Interlodge Sweetheart at the Annual Convention. It is necessary for the procedure to be followed so that the State Interlodge Sweetheart contest will be as fair as possible to all Districts.

Section 2.030.3: LENGTH OF CONTEST:

Section 2.030.3.1: The official end of the State Interlodge Contest will be at the end of the Trustee collection period on Saturday afternoon at the Annual Convention, as noted in 2.020.8 above.

Section 2.030.3.2: Any funds collected after the contest closes will go into unaffiliated Interlodge funds.

Section 2.040: INTERLODGE MONEY:

Section 2.040.1: All funds from Lodge/District functions (i.e.: Red Pigs, 52 Club, etc.) can be used as Interlodge funds.

Section 2.040.2: Funds cannot be re-allocated from one account to another after they have been received by the Trustees or Texas Elks Children's Services, Inc.

Section 2.040.3: Payment of assessment in full and fund drive participation will earn points per Section Stad.2.060.

Section 2.040.4: Money derived from the Special Children's Fund Drive can be included in the accounting for Sweetheart Contest Fund.

Section 2.050: COLLECTION PROCEDURE:

Section 2.050.1: A room manned by two (minimum) Trustees will be open at a time announced at the Annual Convention to receive funds.

Section 2.050.2: Only Trustees and Lodge and/or District Representative will be allowed in the room while funds are being received.

Section 2.050.3: Trustees will provide a receipt for funds received. Lodge and/or District Representative will sign allocation form indicating amount turned in.

Section 2.050.4: The Chairman of the Trustees or a Trustee designated by the Chairman will collect all money, receipts and allocation forms. A ledger will be maintained by the Chairman or his designate of money received by source and amount. This information will be regarded as confidential until the State Interlodge Sweetheart is announced.

Section 2.050.5: In a situation not covered by this Operating Procedure, the situation will be reviewed by a majority of the Board of Trustees at the Annual Convention for a final decision.

Section 2.050.6: When funds from all Districts have been collected the Chairman of the Trustees or his designate will deliver all allocation forms to the State Interlodge Chairman.

Section 2.050.7: A committee composed of the State Interlodge Chairman, State Projects Chairman, Special Children's Fund Drive Chairman and Endowment Fund (PBC/HFC/LOVE) Chairman will determine the State Interlodge Sweetheart using the allocations forms provided, and Bonus points allowed in Section Stand.2.060.

Section 2.050.8: Each member of the committee will sign a final tally sheet and receive a signed copy and the conclusion of the selection of the Sweetheart.

Section 2.050.9: Each member of the committee must understand that the tally sheet is confidential information until the Interlodge Sweetheart has been announced at an open session of TESA.

Section 2.050.10: A copy of the Tally sheets will be provided to the District Vice Presidents after the close of the Convention.

Section 2.060: SWEETHEART SELECTION:

Section 2.060.1: TO QUALIFY: Each District shall in order to obtain the first 100 points, be required to turn in on behalf of its Sweetheart, \$1.00 per member on the District rolls as of March 31st the proceeding lodge year.

Section 2.060.2: POINT VALUE OVER QUALIFYING: Each dollar turned in above those required for the first 100 points shall count one (1) point.

Section 2.070: STATE SWEETHEART: The State Interlodge Sweetheart shall be selected on the basis of the largest number of points earned by a district.

TECSI HOMECOMING STANDARD #10

Texas Elks Children's Services, Inc. Homecoming Standard #10,
Revised, February 2025

Section 10.010: INTRODUCTION: Texas Elks Children's Services, Inc. operates Elks Camp and the special grant program. Homecoming is an annual open-house activity. The purpose is to provide an opportunity for Elks, their spouses and supporters to view the facility first-hand and to have an old-fashioned family reunion.

Section 10.010: INTRODUCTION: Texas Elks Children's Services, Inc. operates Elks Camp and the special grant program. Homecoming is an annual open-house activity. The purpose is to provide an opportunity for Elks, their spouses and supporters to view the facility first-hand, have an old-fashioned family reunion and raise money for TECSI, lodge sweethearts and the first lady project.

Section 10.020: HOST DISTRICT: Each District serves as Host on a rotating basis. The TESA President and Director from the current year Host District serve as Co-Executive Chairpersons. The Assistant Chairman is the Alternate Director from the Host District. The committee consists of all interested Elks and their spouses from the Host District. The Immediate Past State President will serve the Chairman as an advisor.

Section 10.030: HONORARY: Each year an individual may be selected by the Board of Directors who will be honored during the weekend.

Section 10.040: POLICY AND PROCEDURES: Homecoming became a two-day event in 1983. Since then, participation has increased year by year in most years. RVs start arriving as early as the weekend before. Activities start for early



arrivals Friday evening with a “potluck” type dinner. The Friday dinner is sponsored by the Host District.

Section 10.040.1: Sale of Alcoholic Beverages: Sale of any alcoholic beverages by the drink is strictly prohibited at the Homecoming event.

Section 10.040.2: Planning: Substantial efforts go into making the weekend successful. Planning by the President-Elect and the Host District may begin at the conclusion of Homecoming weekend. The TESA President and Host District Director will communicate with each other and work together to put on a successful event. The TESA President will focus on sweetheart fundraising activities and will communicate with the TESA Interlodge Chair, the Host District Director will focus on organizing and finding volunteers for other events such as cook offs, golf tournament, meals, RV Park Host, etc.

Section 10.040.3: Activities: In addition to renewing old friendships, many activities are conducted on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Activities will vary from year to year, but some are: silent auction/auction, a golf tournament, a Chili, Beans and Barbecue cook-off, horseshoes, etc. Special activities are usually scheduled at the local Lodges on Friday and Saturday evenings. Ideas and suggestions for new activities should be communicated to TECSI Staff. TECSI Staff will gather ideas and suggestions and send information on to the Homecoming Chairs.

Section 10.041: SWEETHEART BOOTHS AND GAMES:

Section 10.041.1: Sweetheart Booths: Each lodge sweetheart will be provided one six-foot table and two chairs under the pavilion. A sweetheart may not request additional tables, chairs or space under the pavilion.

Section 10.041.11: Outside of Pavilion: If the sweetheart activity/sales requires more than one six-foot table can accommodate, requires any part of the activity to be set up in the isle, requires cooking equipment or a generator he/she must contact TECSI Staff no later than the Monday prior to homecoming

to discuss arrangements for set up outside of the pavilion. If the sweetheart is setting up outside the pavilion, he/she will need to bring their own tables and chairs.

Section 10.041.2: Electricity: Limited availability, electricity is available on a first come first served basis. Electricity is only available on the perimeter of the pavilion. No extension cords will be allowed across the floor of the pavilion. Generators or any type of cooking equipment may only be used outside of the pavilion, in designated areas, and far enough away that noise will not interfere with normal activities taking place under the pavilion.

Section 10.041.3: Booth Setup/Operating Time: Sweethearts will be allowed to begin setting up their booths/activity Friday morning. Sweethearts booth operating times will be published in the printed program.

Section 10.041.31: Pet Policy: No pets allowed under pavilion during operating times.

Section 10.041.4: Payment: Sweethearts can determine which forms of payment they will accept at their booth and will provide their own supplies/devices

Section 10.041.5: Commercial Vendors: All rights to Grand Lodge logos belong to Grand Lodge, only Grand Lodge approved vendors may produce Grand Lodge logo material. Sweethearts who bring vendors to produce NON-Grand Lodge Logo products are welcome. See Section 10.041.2 above for electricity limits. Because space is limited, notification to the TECSI staff is REQUIRED no later than 30 days prior to Homecoming to ensure availability. Commercial vendors cannot conflict with anything that is listed in the current standards. Commercial vendors must be approved by the Homecoming Chair Persons.

Section 10.041.6: Sweetheart Reporting: Each sweetheart will submit a report of total sales to TECSI Staff by the end of the day on Saturday.

Section 10.041.7: Live Auction: Each lodge sweetheart will be permitted to bring one live auction item. A description of the item will need to be provided. The auction item and description is to be brought to the stage by 10:00 am. (Weather permitting. In case of inclement weather other arrangements will be

announced on Saturday morning.) TESA President and Interlodge Chair shall appoint a committee to work with TECSI Staff to manage the live auction record keeping and payment.

Section 10.041.71: Auction Start Time/Booths Close: The auction start time will be published in the printed program. All sweetheart booths/activities will cease 30 minutes prior to the start of the auction. Sweethearts will post winners of their drawings at their booth. The winners will not be announced over the speaker.

Section 10.041.72: Auction Checkout/Payment: Payments will be processed by the assigned volunteers and TECSI Staff. Cash and check payments will be turned over to the respective sweetheart by end of day Saturday. Credit card payments will be processed through TECSI, and a check will be mailed to the respective lodge.

Section 10.041.8: Bidders Must Register: Bidders will be required to register and pick up a numbered auction paddle by 2:00 pm. Auction paddles will be available from assigned volunteers and TECSI Staff.

Section 10.041.9: Silent Auction: A silent auction may be held. Each sweetheart will be required to provide his/her own auction bid sheet and will be responsible for collecting from the winning bidder.

Section 10.050: DISTRICT ROTATION FOR HOMECOMING HOST

North Central	2019	North Central	2027
East	2020	East	2028
PanWest	2021	PanWest	2029
Gulf Coast	2022	Gulf Coast	2030
North	2023	North	2031
Southwest	2024	Southwest	2032
South	2025	South	2033
Northeast	2026	Northeast	2034

Section 10.060: HOMECOMING PROGRAM: The following schedule may be used, it is not required, and may be completely eliminated by agreement of the TESA President and the Director of the host District. A Sunday program may be held. It is not a requirement and can be changed to fit the needs of the attendees.

TYPICAL HOMECOMING PROGRAM

Saturday, September **, 20**

- Flag-raising – 9:00 a.m. Host District
- Main program starts at 9:30 a.m.
- Presentation of Colors
- Welcome by Homecoming Chairman
- Master of Ceremonies (if one designated)
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Invocation
- Introductions:
 - TECSI Board of Directors/Alternates Chairman of the Board
 - State and District Sweethearts TESA Interlodge Chairman
 - State Officers TESA President
 - Introduction of State Elk of the Year State President
 - Past State Presidents Chairman, TESA Advisory Comm.
 - Grand Lodge Representatives A Past GL Officer or Committeeman
 - Introduction of PGER A Past GL Officer or Committeeman
 - Guest Speaker(s)
 - Recognition of recent gifts PSP Host District
 - Announcements
 - Benediction

NO ONE WILL BE ALLOWED TO BE PLACED ON THE PROGRAM EXCEPT BY PREVIOUS ARRANGEMENTS. EMERGENCIES EXCEPTED.

Section 10.061: COMMUNICATION/NOTICE TO LODGES: The Host District Director, TESA President and TESA Interlodge Chair will work with TECSI Staff to create a letter or email to be sent to the lodges and sweethearts 60 days prior to Homecoming. The letter/email will contain dates, a tentative/preliminary schedule of events and activities and other pertinent information.

Section 10.070: PRINTED PROGRAM: The Director from the Host District shall communicate with TECSI Staff at least three weeks prior so they can prepare a printed program with the schedule of activities.

Section 10.080: AREA MOTELS: The TECSI staff will provide a current list of area hotels and prices.

Section 10.090: RV PARKING FACILITIES

Note: This section is a guideline for park usage during Homecoming. For all other times of the year, please refer to Standard #12.

Section 10.090.1: Hook-ups: There are 40 hook-ups available in the Doyle Pollard RV Park during Homecoming. **These are available on a first-come-first-serve basis.** Elks are not allowed to park their RVs and leave them unattended; when the vehicle is parked, you must be staying in the park. Only the President, President-Elect and Director from the host district are allowed to reserve an RV Space or leave a vehicle unattended for as long as deemed necessary. After all hook-ups are taken, self-contained units may be parked on the grounds as space permits.

Section 10.090.11: Spots Reserved for Cook-Off Participants: Space numbers 41-46 will be reserved for cook-off participants who are not staying in an RV. These spaces will not be available for RV stays during homecoming.

Section 10.090.2: Fee For Parking: In the month of September for Texas Elks, the fee will be \$20 per day. From October 1 to August 31, the fee will be \$25 per day for Elks and the general public.

Section 10.090.3: Additional Parking: Additional parking spaces may be found nearby at Palmetto State Park. For information and/or reservations, contact:

Park Ranger
Palmetto State Park
78 Park Road 11 South
Gonzales, Texas 78629
Telephone: (830) 672-3266

Section 10.090.4: Pets: Pets must be kept on a leash and monitored at all times. Leashes OVER SIX-FEET long are NOT PERMITTED. Noisy, vicious, or dangerous animals are not permitted. Owners must clean up after their pets. Please note designated walking/bathroom areas provided for pets.

Section 10.090.5: Trash: The Director from the Host District shall appoint a committee to empty trash receptacles and help keep the RV Park and TECSI grounds policed and clean.

Section 10.090.6: Communications: Telephone communications are not available at the RV Park. For an emergency you may be contacted through TECSI. The telephone number is (830) 875-2425.

Section 10.091: TEXAS ELKS CHILDREN'S SERVICES, INC. ROOMS

Section 10.091.1: Reservations: A written room request must be sent via United States Postal Service. (Email requests allowed beginning December 1, 2021 for Homecoming September 2022.) Room requests must be received on or after December 1 prior to homecoming. The room request needs to include number of guests and if you would like a private bathroom. Note: Not all who request them will receive private bathrooms. Rooms are assigned by TECSI Staff on a first come first served basis. Rooms are automatically reserved for the state sponsors, TESA President, President-Elect, TESA Interlodge Chair and State Sweetheart. One dorm room is automatically reserved for the host district volunteers. A waiting list will be established, if there are room cancellations rooms will be assigned to those on the waiting list on a first come first served basis.

Section 10.091.2: Fee For Stays: The fee to stay in the building is \$10 per night per person. Room fees can be paid with card, cash or check in the TECSI Camp Store.

Section 10.100: SATURDAY ACTIVITIES

Section 10.100.1: Attendance: The Host District Chair will assign volunteers to run the registration booth so that we can track attendance.

Section 10.100.2: Games (benefiting First Lady): Optional games are listed in Appendix "B." Set up for horseshoes, washers, dominoes, volleyball, cake/refreshment wheel, and other entertainment as desired. The Center has most of the equipment for on-site activities. The Host District pays for the awards out of the proceeds. The remaining proceeds go to the First Lady.

Section 10.100.3: Games (benefiting TECSI): Other fun activities and games include the Homecoming Café, Golf Tournament, Blue Bell Ice Cream, etc. All expenses are deducted from the proceeds of these events. The remaining proceeds go to TECSI. All money collected from the Friday Potluck, Saturday Breakfast and Sunday noon meal, should one be served, is also given to TECSI.

Section 10.100.4: Cook-offs: The Cook-Off Chairperson or Persons shall set up and provide/purchase all necessary supplies for cook-offs. Host district pays for the supplies and awards out of the proceeds. The remaining proceeds go to TECSI. TECSI staff will provide registration forms and copies of the rules.

Section 10.100.5: Proceed Distribution: All proceeds of the games, cook-offs and meals are given to TECSI. All proceeds of the First Lady games/booth go to the First Lady. Proceeds from sweetheart booth sales, silent auction and live auction will go to the Sweetheart.

Section 10.110: PERSONNEL REQUIRED TO CONDUCT ACTIVITIES: The Host District provides the personnel to properly direct and conduct all activities.

Section 10.110.1: Committees: Each activity should have a Chairperson and a committee to organize and distribute a schedule of play for each event. Upon completion of the event, the Chairperson should collect the winner(s) names and report to the Host Chairman for the awards presentation. The Chairman must be patient, have good organizational skills, be able to “think on his feet,” and come up with new ideas if necessary.

Section 10.110.2: Registration: The Host District Chairperson will establish a Registration Committee with a Chairperson and supporting committee. The Center will provide the registration materials.

Section 10.110.3: Officials: The Host District Chairperson will arrange for officials for each game/tournament who have knowledge of the rules of the game they are assigned to and who are confident in their judgment and officiating skills. The number required is at the discretion of the President and Host District.

Section 10.110.4: Cake/Refreshment Wheel: The Gulf Coast District is responsible for the set-up, stocking and operating the Cake/Refreshment wheel. The public address system should be on. All proceeds go to the First Lady.

Section: 10.110.5: Saturday Breakfast: The Director from the Host District shall appoint a committee with sufficient experience to prepare breakfast on Saturday. The center’s kitchen may be used for preparation of the meal. The Host District pays for the food served. All proceeds go to TECSI.

Section 10.120: RECREATION/ENTERTAINMENT SATURDAY NIGHT: A Saturday evening meal may be prepared and served by the Host District. Entertainment and/or a program may be provided as specified by the President and Director from the Host District.

Section 10.130: Sunday Breakfast Optional: The Director from the Host District may appoint a committee with sufficient experience to prepare breakfast on Sunday. The center’s kitchen may be used for preparation of the meal. The Host District pays for the food served. All proceeds go to TECSI.

Section 10.140: INVITATION LETTER: A written invitation will be sent to the Past Grand Exalted Ruler state sponsor or sponsors. TECSI Staff will send the necessary written invitations.

Section 10.150: CONCLUSION: TECSI Staff is requested to prepare a report indicating the results of the Homecoming. The report should, as a minimum, contain the following:

- (1) Total number in attendance;
- (2) Total number of Lodges represented;
- (3) Total number of first time visitors;
- (4) Number of contestants in each game and/or cook-off;
- (5) Number of RV/tent campers.
- (6) Total Sweetheart Table Sales
- (7) Total Live Auction Sales
- (8) Total Income from Event

NOTE: Any circumstances that occurred or recommendations that would be beneficial to other District Chairmen will be included in the report.



TECSI RV PARK STANDARD #12

Texas Elks Children's Services, Inc. Doyle Pollard Elks Care RV Park
Operating Standard #12, Adopted September 15, 2017

Section 12.010: DOYLE POLLARD ELKS CARE RV PARK POLICIES AND GUIDELINES

Section 12.010.1: Reservations: None accepted at any time. The rule is always first-come, first-served.

Section 12.010.2: Hook-ups: There are 45 hook-ups (the dump station is also a full hook-up) available in the Park on the grounds. **These are available on a first-come-first-serve basis.** RVs may not be parked and left unattended for more than a 24 hour period; when the vehicle is parked, you must be staying at the Park.

Section 12.010.3: Park is Closed at Certain Times: In September, two full weeks before the third weekend in September.

Exceptions: Members of Elks Lodges and parents of children in residence across the street at Texas Elks Children's Services are not excluded from the Elks Park at any time.

Section 12.010.4: Length of Stay: Long term stays can happen with approval from the TECSI Executive Director and approval from the TECSI Chairman. Any period of time exceeding 14 days in a month is considered long term. In no case will visitors be allowed to stay during the closed periods in number 3 above.

Section 12.010.5: Registration: Considering the above guidelines are met, please self-register and pay in the booth, using the form, envelope, and metal depository; or online at <https://texaselks.org/pollard-rv-park/>.



Section 12.010.6: Fee for Parking: \$20 per night for Texas Elks during the month of September. From October 1 to August 31, the price will be \$25 per day for Elks and the general public. Preapproved long term stays will be \$450 per month. Payment is due in advance.

Section 12.010.7: Payment by Credit Card: Payment by MasterCard, Visa, Discover, or American Express is accepted across the street at Texas Elks Children's Services, Inc. in the Bookkeeper's office, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, or online at <https://texaselks.org/pollard-rv-park/>.

Section 12.010.8: Reduced Noise Levels and Traffic: 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. Respect other guests at all times. Do not play loud music. Drive under 5 mph through the park.

Section 12.010.9: Pets: Pets must be kept on a leash and monitored at all times. Leashes OVER SIX-FEET long are NOT PERMITTED. Noisy, vicious, or dangerous animals are not permitted. Owners must clean up after their pets. Please note designated walking/bathroom areas provided for pets.

Section 12.010.10: Removal from Park: Any person directly or indirectly responsible for disruptive, destructive, or violent conduct which endangers property or the health, safety, or lives of persons or animals may be removed from the Elks Park, with or without prior notification.

Section 12.010.11: Garbage: Please use the provided cans or dispose in the dumpster provided in the RV Park. Any pickup of loose trash in your area would also be appreciated.

Section 12.010.12: Additional Structures: No permanent structures such as porches, storage buildings, additional tents/awnings will be allowed. Nothing is to be placed outside unit such as refrigerators, ovens, storage bins, etc.

Section 12.010.13: Mechanic/Repair Work: No mechanic or repair work, such as oil changes, RV repairs or other types of work may be performed on RVs or vehicles in the park. All RVs must be in good working condition while in the park.

Section 12.010.14: Washing: Washing of vehicles or RVs is strictly prohibited.

Section 12.010.15: Firearms: No firearms of any kind are allowed to be used in the park, including handguns, rifles, BB guns, pellet guns, bow and arrows, or crossbows.

ADDITIONAL RULES PERTAINING TO:

SEPTEMBER (Homecoming)

1. REGISTRATION UPON ARRIVAL MUST BE WITH THE HOST IN THE PARK.
2. RV's MUST BE OCCUPIED AFTER BEING REGISTERED. Early drop-offs are not allowed, unless permission to do so has been granted by the RV Park Host.
3. INCOMING PHONE CALLS: No staff is provided to run messages to the Park if calls are made to TECSI. Messages will be taken and kept in the office, and may be picked up or checked at any time between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.
4. GARBAGE: Please empty garbage cans daily from your area into the dumpster to minimize risk of small animals at night scattering garbage.
5. ALL OTHER RULES, numbers 1 through 11 above, apply during these special times.

Adopted by the Texas Elks Children's Services, Inc.

Board of Directors

February 2021

PAST STATE SWEETHEARTS

Total \$\$	All	Fiscal	State Sweetheart	DISTRICT	REPRESENTING LODGE
		1979-80	Birdie Hudson	Northeast	Longview Lodge # 1128
\$117,801.01		1980-81	Ray Duplissey	Northeast	Longview #1128
\$121,431.00		1981-82	Kathy Inks	Northeast	Tyler Lodge # 215
\$219,574.63		1982-83	Pat Thomas	North	Sherman Lodge #2280
\$209,025.54		1983-84	Johnie Dufie	Northeast	Longview Lodge #1128
\$237,834.00		1984-85	Bonnie Clark	North	Sherman Lodge #2280
\$279,787.19		1985-86	Jane Spivey	Northeast	Longview Lodge #1128
\$222,917.04		1986-87	Dot Lancaster	Northeast	Paris Lodge #2433
\$224,238.46		1987-88	Shirley Robertson	Northeast	Longview Lodge #1128
\$224,343.04		1988-89	Jeri Stanford	Northeast	Longview lodge #1128
\$231,064.70		1989-90	Barbara Garrett	South	Weslaco Lodge #2057
\$262,651.75		1990-91	Patsy Lomas	South	Corpus Christi #1628
\$237,117.63		1991-92	Vera Heflin	Northeast	Marshall Lodge #683
\$290,715.96		1992-93	Patsy Davis	East	Liberty Lodge #2019
\$280,702.00		1993-94	Audrey Bracewell	East	Liberty Lodge #2019
\$291,818.00		1994-95	Connie Owens	Northeast	Longview lodge #1128
\$310,533.00		1995-96	Reita Tanner	East	Beaumont Lodge #311
\$262,926.00		1996-97	Glenda Shannon	East	Liberty Lodge #2019
\$285,409.00		1997-98	Dot Eubanks	North	Plano-Richardson Lodge #2485
\$216,409.00		1998-99	Vicky Mullican	North	Sherman Lodge #2280
\$186,456.00		1999-2000	Helena Phelps	Gulf Coast	Katy Lodge #2628
\$214,779.00		2000-01	Debbie Britton	Gulf Coast	Clear Lake Lodge #2322
\$174,136.00		2001-02	Donna Powell	Gulf Coast	Katy Lodge #2628
\$274,353.00		2002-03	Judy Blair	North	DeSoto Lodge #2552
\$312,050.00		2003-04	Elaine Meyers	North Central	Grapevine Lodge #2483
\$316,714.33		2004-05	Sandi Boyett	Gulf Coast	Katy Lodge #2628
\$384,882.62		2005-06	Janet Syper	Gulf Coast	Katy Lodge #2628
\$405,248.10		2006-07	JoAnne Veitenheimer	North Central	Wichita Falls Lodge #1105
\$437,291.73		2007-08	Cindy Gall	Gulf Coast	Katy Lodge #2628
\$406,331.87		2008-09	Irma Poorman	Gulf Coast	Katy Lodge #2628
\$441,432.91		2009-10	Darlene Crisamore	Gulf Coast	Katy Lodge #2628
\$420,700.71		2010-11	Kelli Rene Frizzell	Gulf Coast	Katy Lodge #2628
\$424,979.16		2011-12	Terry Doig	Gulf Coast	Houston Lodge #151
\$430,600.59		2012-13	Sandy Keisling	North Central	Grapevine Lodge #2483
\$449,915.98		2013-14	JoAnn Maddux	North Central	Grapevine Lodge #2483
\$487,620.12		2014-15	Jenny French	North Central	Wichita Falls #1105
\$478,863.02		2015-16	Tammy Lund	Gulf Coast	Katy Lodge #2628
\$511,540.56		2016-17	Ann Powell	Gulf Coast	Katy Lodge #2628
\$501,091.32		2017-18	Kent Fletcher	Pan West	Amarillo Lodge #923
\$434,112.00		2018-19	Karen McCrary	North Central	Grapevine Lodge #2483
\$482,979.00		2019-20	Penny Wharton	North Central	Grapevine Lodge #2483
\$453,778.00		2020-21	Brenda Fuller	North Central	Grapevine Lodge #2483
\$474,410.00		2021-22	Rebecca Suttle	North Central	Grapevine Lodge #2483

\$13,630,573.94

Total Raised To Date!

ATTACHMENTS

Special Grant Applications and Camp Applications are attached.

The current Grant Application is effective June 1, 2020. Please check the texaselks.org website or contact TECSI staff to make sure you have the most current grant application.

The camper application is updated annually, please check for the most current version of the camper application at texaselkscamp.com or request it from TECSI Staff.

