

**PHILADELPHIA ELKS 1955 CONVENTION CORPORATION**

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**COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN**

Awards ..... Glenn E. Kester  
 Badges ..... Meyer A. Abrams, P.E.R.  
 Band ..... Clarence Bertolet, President;  
 Benjamin R. Marley, Conductor; William Reynolds, Secretary  
 Boy Scouts ..... Robert Skipp  
 Church Services ..... E. Walter Hudson  
 Contest Prizes ..... Louis N. Goldsmith, Furey Ellis, Murray Liss  
 Drill Corps Contest ..... Capt. Alvin J. Herr  
 Chorus and Quartet Contest ..... Vincent McNichol,  
 Dr. Leopold Syre, Henry Williams  
 Guard of Honor ..... Capt. Robert Kline  
 History of Elkdom in Philadelphia ..... Louis N. Goldsmith  
 History of Elkdom in Pennsylvania ..... Howard R. Davis, P.G.E.R.  
 Housing ..... Franklin J. Fitzpatrick  
 House Committee No. 2 ..... Russell Bryant  
 House Maintenance ..... Clyde D. Berger, P.E.R.  
 Information and Complaints ..... Morris L. Wolfe  
 Ladies ..... John A. Dervin  
 Memorial Services ..... Hon. Charles H. Grakelow, P.G.E.R.  
 Motion Pictures ..... Charles Zagrans  
 Outing, Grakelow Farm ..... Ray Gillen  
 Police Detail ..... Joseph Matchinsky  
 Program ..... Martin J. Ellis  
 Publicity ..... William Hagerly  
 Reception, Delegates ..... Edward J. Browne, P.E.R.  
 Reception, Distinguished Guests ..... Hon. Albert M. Greenfield  
 Chairmen } Hon. Adrian Bonnelly  
 Registration ..... Joseph F. Doyle, P.E.R.  
 Street Decorations ..... Joseph F. Doyle, P.E.R.  
 Transportation ..... Frank Nocitra

**ELKS NATIONAL CONVENTION COMMITTEE**

GEORGE I. HALL, P.G.E.R., *Chairman*  
 JAMES T. HALLINAN, P.G.E.R., *Secretary-Treasurer*

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 CHARLES H. GRAKELOW, P.G.E.R.  
 MICHAEL F. SHANNON, P.G.E.R.

*Program*  
 OF

**91st GRAND LODGE CONVENTION**

OF THE

**BENEVOLENT and PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS**  
 of the United States of America

HELD UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE

**GRAND LODGE**

**NATIONAL CONVENTION COMMITTEE**

AND

**PHILADELPHIA 1955 CONVENTION CORPORATION**



**PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA**

July Tenth thru July Fourteenth

1 9 5 5

# Welcome

Dear Brother Elk Visitor  
To Our 1955 Convention:

**THRICE WELCOME TO THE CITY OF BROTHERLY LOVE** which William Penn saluted "Philadelphia Maneto—Let Brotherly Love Continue" and this week you will realize how true it is by the cordial reception you receive and the completeness of detail for your every comfort and happiness and variety of program that will keep you extremely busy.

You will find every officer and member of Philadelphia Lodge most cooperative. Read very carefully the contents of the envelope you receive when you register, particularly your "Coupon Book" for the varied entertainment. Several of the coupons must be exchanged for tickets that we may know the exact number participating in that particular function and make complete provision that you may have fullest enjoyment thereof.

Wear your badge, have your questions answered, follow directions, it will add so much to the 100% happiness and we shall have accomplished our objective, that is, to have the finest convention in the history of our entire Order and believe me to be

Fraternally yours to command,



CHARLES H. GRAKELOW, P.C.E.R.  
Director General.

"A HEARTY WELCOME TO THE CITY OF BROTHERLY LOVE"

## 91st GRAND LODGE CONVENTION PHILADELPHIA 1955 CONVENTION PROGRAM

NOTE: All activities scheduled are on  
Eastern Daylight Saving Time

### SATURDAY, JULY 9th

- Reception:** Arrival of Grand Exalted Ruler and Grand Lodge officers, delegates, members and ladies.
- 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Ritualistic Contest:** Begins at the Adelphia Hotel (North Roof Garden) 13th and Chestnut Streets.
- 9:00 a.m. Registration:** Grand Lodge Officers and delegates at headquarters hotel, the Bellevue-Stratford, Broad and Walnut Streets.
- 9:00 a.m. General Registration:** Visiting brothers and ladies and brothers and ladies of No. 2 at Elks Home, 1320 Arch Street.
- Sightseeing Tours:** Privately conducted tours to historical points of interest in Philadelphia and vicinity. (Information available at your hotel).
- Open House:** All day in delightful, air conditioned atmosphere of Elks Home, 1320 Arch Street.
- Evening:** Continuous Entertainment, Music and Dancing at Elks Home, 1320 Arch Street.

## SUNDAY, JULY 10th

### Religious Services:

Churches of various denominations with time of Services posted in each hotel and on a separate sheet in your Convention envelope.

### 9:00 a.m. Registration Continues:

Grand Lodge officers and delegates will register at headquarters hotel, the Bellevue-Stratford, Broad and Walnut Streets. General Registration of visiting brothers and ladies, and brothers of No. 2 and ladies at Elks Home, 1320 Arch Street.

### 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Ritualistic Contest:

Continues at Adelphia Hotel (North Roof Garden) 13th and Chestnut Streets.

### Sightseeing Tours:

Privately conducted tours to historical points of interest in Philadelphia and vicinity. (Information available at your hotel).

### 5:30 p.m. Grand Exalted Ruler's Dinner:

Dinner to Grand Exalted Ruler, Grand Lodge officers and Past Grand Exalted Rulers in the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel (Rose Garden).

### 8:00 p.m. sharp Opening Ceremonies:

Official Public Opening of 1955 Grand Lodge Reunion in the air-conditioned Convention Hall, 34th Street below Spruce. All Elks and ladies are invited. Outstanding artists of radio, stage and television will take part in the program and welcomes will be extended by officials of city, state and nation, with response by our Grand Exalted Ruler.

### Open House:

All day in delightful, air conditioned atmosphere of Elks Home, 1320 Arch St.

### Evening:

Continuous Entertainment, Music and Dancing at Elks Home, 1320 Arch Street.

## MONDAY, JULY 11th

### 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Ritualistic Contest:

Continues at Adelphia Hotel (North Roof Garden) 13th and Chestnut Streets.

### 8:00 a.m. Registration Continues:

Grand Lodge officers and delegates will register at headquarters hotel, the Bellevue-Stratford, Broad and Walnut Streets. General Registration of visiting brothers and ladies, and brothers of No. 2 and ladies at Elks Home, 1320 Arch Street.

### 9:00 a.m. sharp Grand Lodge Sessions:

Opening of Grand Lodge Sessions at Convention Hall. Election of Grand Lodge officers for ensuing year.

### 12:30 noon Grand Exalted Ruler's Luncheon:

Grand Exalted Ruler Jernick's Luncheon tendered to his District Deputies at Convention Hall, followed by clinic.

### 12:30 noon Grand Exalted Ruler-Elect's Luncheon:

Grand Exalted Ruler-Elect's Luncheon tendered to Incumbent Exalted Rulers at Convention Hall.

### 2:00 p.m. Ladies Fashion Show and Tea:

Spectacular Ladies Fashion Show and Tea at Kugler's Restaurant, 1339 Chestnut Street. (Card of admission procured at the registration desk, Burgundy Room, Bellevue-Stratford Hotel).

### 7:00 p.m. State Dinners:

State Associations Dinners and Banquets.

### Open House:

All day in delightful, air conditioned atmosphere of Elks Home, 1320 Arch St.

### Evening:

Continuous Entertainment, Music and Dancing at Elks Home, 1320 Arch Street.

## TUESDAY, JULY 12th

- 7:30 a.m.  
State Assn.  
Breakfasts: Breakfast of State Associations (Note places posted in your hotel).
- 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Ritualistic Contest: Continues at Adelphia Hotel (North Roof Garden) 13th and Chestnut Streets. (No contest during the Memorial Services at Convention Hall at 10:45 a.m.). Ritualistic resumes at 1:00 p.m.
- 8:00 a.m.  
Registration Continues: Grand Lodge officers and delegates will register at headquarters hotel, the Bellevue-Stratford, Broad and Walnut Streets. General Registration of visiting brothers and ladies, and brothers of No. 2 and ladies at Elks Home, 1320 Arch Street.
- 9:00 a.m. sharp  
Grand Lodge Sessions continue at Convention Hall.
- 10:00 a.m.  
Band Contest: Reyburn Plaza, Broad and Filbert Streets.
- 10:45 a.m.  
Memorial Services: Memorial Services in reverent remembrance of our departed brothers at Convention Hall. All Elks, their ladies and general public invited.
- 12:30 noon  
Drill Corps Contest: In the Armory, S. E. Cor. Broad and Callowhill Streets.
- 2:00 p.m.  
Glee Clubs Contest: In the Auditorium of the Y.M.C.A., 1421 Arch Street.
- 7:00 p.m.  
State Dinners: State Associations Dinners and Banquets.
- Open House: All day in delightful, air conditioned atmosphere of Elks Home, 1320 Arch St.
- Evening: Continuous Entertainment, Music and Dancing at Elks Home, 1320 Arch Street.

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 13th

- 7:30 a.m.  
State Assn.  
President's Breakfast: Breakfast of State Association Presidents.
- 8:00 a.m.  
Registration Continues: Grand Lodge officers and delegates will register at headquarters hotel, the Bellevue-Stratford, Broad and Walnut Streets. General Registration of visiting brothers and ladies, and brothers of No. 2 and ladies at Elks Home, 1320 Arch Street.
- 9:00 a.m. sharp  
Grand Lodge Sessions: Grand Lodge Sessions continue at Convention Hall.
- 9:00 a.m.  
Special Reports and Awards: Open Session at Convention Hall. All Elks, ladies and public invited. Reports and Awards by the Elks National Service Commission, the Elks National Foundation and the Committee on Youth Activities.
- 12:00 noon sharp  
Picnic at Grakelow's Farm: Buses for all at Convention Hall direct to Grakelow's Farm for Outing and Picnic. Buses for other Elks and ladies will also leave at 11:30 a.m. sharp from the Bellevue-Stratford, Adelphia and Benjamin Franklin Hotels for Grakelow's Farm for luncheon. Returning as buses are filled.
- 8:00 p.m.  
"New Year's Day in Philadelphia": Grand Exalted Ruler Jernick earnestly requests the presence of all for the greatest show on earth—"New Year's Day in Philadelphia" at Convention Hall. 18 prize-winning Mummer's String Bands, followed by the Grand Ball to Grand Exalted Ruler and Mrs. William J. Jernick.

**Sightseeing  
Tours:**

Privately conducted tours to historical points of interest in Philadelphia and vicinity. (Information available at your hotel).

**Open House:**

All day in delightful, air conditioned atmosphere of Elks Home, 1320 Arch Street.

**Evening:**

Continuous Entertainment, Music and Dancing at Elks Home, 1320 Arch Street.

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**THURSDAY, JULY 14th**

**7:30 a.m.  
State Assn.  
Breakfasts:**

Breakfast of State Associations (Note places in your hotel).

**9:00 a.m. sharp  
Final Grand  
Lodge Sessions:**

Final Grand Lodge Sessions at Convention Hall. Installation of Grand Exalted Ruler and Grand Lodge Officers for 1955-1956.

**Sightseeing  
Tours:**

Privately conducted tours to historical points of interest in Philadelphia and vicinity. (Information available at your hotel).

**Open House:**

All day in delightful, air conditioned atmosphere of Elks Home, 1320 Arch Street.

**Evening:**

Continuous Entertainment, Music and Dancing at Elks Home, 1320 Arch Street.

(For further information consult the Convention Hostesses in every hotel)

# Greeting

To Visiting Elks, their  
Families and Friends:

Meeting in the birthplace of our Nation's Independence, your presence will help impress, once again, upon our fellow citizens throughout the country, that we are living in a land where men are really free to follow the dictates of their hearts. Where political beliefs are their own secrets, religious worship of their own choice and where fraternal orders are a part, and an important one, in the American way of life.

Your participation in the Grand Lodge Convention will emphasize to the entire Nation that the Elks are a part of that way of life. You will help call attention to the excellent ideals to which every Elk is dedicated the year round.

Philadelphia is rich in historical places of interest and I know you will want to visit Independence Hall, the Betsy Ross Home and many other points of interest to all Americans.

Please remember, our Home at 1320 Arch Street is also your Home. Come in and tell us who you are, we will be glad to see you. An excellent program of entertainment has been arranged for your pleasure.

Philadelphia Lodge No. 2 is glad to be your host and once again, we extend a hearty welcome.

Fraternally yours,

*George T. Bowers, Jr.*

Exalted Ruler