

YELL! Newsletter

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New Lodge Award Update

Western will be implementing a new lodge awards system beginning January 2017. The new system will be based on activities and the points they are worth. The secretaries of your lodges have been sent information about the details of the program and have been given the opportunity to join in on conference calls if they have questions or concerns. Final information about the new lodge award system was sent to secretaries and treasurers in August.

While the awards will no longer have a level to earn by having a YELL! group, the awards will still reward lodges that have YELL! groups. YELL! group lodges will have the opportunity to earn additional points for each activity the YELL! groups participate in.

The current lodge awards will still need to be done as they always have and turned in by January of 2017. For this year, continue filling out the forms as you have in the past. If you have questions about this, please email Kelsey Logan.

YELL! Groups Highlighted

The *Fraternal Herald* will be highlighting YELL! group Feature stories in the future. To learn more about what the group did, who was involved, why they got involved, etc. please be prepared to answer questions from the Fraternal Department. If there is a story you would like featured, please send an email with the subject: YELL! feature story to wflains@wflains.org.

Halloween Bags Available

If you'd like a Halloween bag please send or email your request by October 15 - one bag per child. If your YELL! group is giving them for a project, please send \$.20 per bag (limit 100 per YELL! group).

Email us at wflains@wflains.org or call the Fraternal Department at 1.877.935.2467 to order your bag. You can also find an order form in the latest *Fraternal Herald*.



Online Auction Fundraiser

Recently, Lodge 7 held a rummage sale to fundraise for the Cedar Valley Humane Society. Held on a beautiful August day, the fundraiser didn't draw in as many as was hoped. Being only a hundred or so dollars short of the goal, to raise \$500 to get the Community Matching Funds, lodge members decided to do an online silent auction.

Lodge members and friends donated talents and services to be auctioned off on an online auction site. Services ranged from hemming clothes and lawn mowing to trumpet lessons and baby sitting. Items to purchase included pies, gift baskets, and yard decor.

The site is free to use and allows you up to 20 items or services to be auctioned off. It allows you to set a minimum bid, a "buy now" price, and a value of item price.



The auction administrator can set up each item and upload a photo to display the item or service. If a photo can not be found, using a photo from Google Images helps to give the bidders an idea of the item.

Once all the items have been added by the administrator, the auction can be opened. The administrator can set the date and time of when to open and close the auction. Bidders create a sign in profile and can bid on as many items as they like.

To get to your auction, you can create a weblink to share via email or Facebook. The site used, called 32 Auctions, is free to use but has features that can be added for a fee such as the ability to pay online and to add several photos.

If your lodge is interested in doing a fundraiser that can be shared with members far and wide, consider this unique alternative to an in-person silent auction. If you have questions or would like assistance in setting up your own, contact Kelsey Logan.

Contact me: Kelsey Logan

klogan@wflains.org or toll free: 1-877-935-2467