



ASSURED LIFE  
ASSOCIATION

Camp/Lodge  
Officer  
Newsletter

# the fraternal link

## We are on Facebook

With our name change behind us, we have created a Facebook page to engage with our members in social media.



Some of you may recall that we tried this a few years ago with little or no success; probably due to the

confusion our old name had with other societies.

We created this space to inform members about Assured Life's national member service campaigns, member benefits, events and volunteer activities as well as provide

a place for members to interact and share their experiences.

We hope that you will participate in our community and **like our page.**

**Please share this with your members.**

Find us at [www.facebook.com/assuredlifeassociation](http://www.facebook.com/assuredlifeassociation)

## Is Your Camp/Lodge Having a Food Drive?

*We will invite unaffiliated nearby members to your camp/lodge food drive. Just let us know when and where!*



Our National Member Food Drive is in full swing! With the fall season approaching, please consider having a Camp/Lodge Food Drive this year. It is probably one of the easiest community service events for your camp/lodge to do; especially if you are already gathering for a camp/lodge meeting or other member social event.

**If your camp/lodge is having a Member**

**Food Drive on a specific date or meeting, please let Jerry know about it.** We will invite "orphaned" members (members no longer attending or affiliated with a camp/lodge) living near your lodge meeting location to participate in your food drive. We will reach out to them via email, *and possibly regular mail.* We also have Medicare Supplement members in certain State Lodges that may live close by

that we can also invite to be a part of your drive. You might even gain a new member or two as a result. Again, just let us know when your camp/lodge member food drive will be, the location and times, and we will do the rest.



August 2016

*Special points of interest:*

With a simple "Like" of our Facebook page you can help the hungry. Check out page two of this Newsletter!

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## Facebook Page “Like” Campaign Up to a \$198 Donation to Feeding America



We like that! The “like” our Facebook page campaign is reaching success. For every Page “Like” our Facebook page received, and will receive through September 1, Assured Life is donating \$2 to Feeding America (up to \$1,000). To date, we are up to 99 page “likes.” So close to the 100 mark! As a result, the Society and all those mem-

bers who have “liked” our page have thus far provided 2,178 meals to those struggling with hunger! If you are on Facebook and have not visited and liked our page, help the hungry by simply becoming a fan of our page.



## No One is Using the Online Camp/Lodge Activity Tracking Form

*Walk through the online activity tracking program on the following pages.*

In January 2016, we introduced a new Online Camp/Lodge Activity Tracking Tool. The tool is to help your camp/lodge track its activities and report them directly to the home office throughout the year. Use of the tool would eliminate a camp/lodge from having to summarize its activities in the Annual Camp/Lodge Report or Survey.

To-date, no one has taken advantage of

this tool.

It may be too late to utilize this program now as we are over half way through the calendar year for camp/lodge activities. But you should check it out and try it for one of your upcoming activities.

Once submitted the information is automatically downloaded by the fraternal department into each camp/lodge activity file. The home office will combine all activi-

ty reports for your camp/lodge throughout the year and tabulate the number of events or activities, attendance, hours, etc. At the end of the year, the home office will already have the information necessary for the camp/lodge annual report/survey. Therefore, camps/lodges that utilize the tracking form throughout the year will not be required to complete the annual report/survey.

## Online Camp/Lodge Activity Tracking Tool - Step-By Step

Find the Online Camp/Lodge Activity Tracking Program by clicking the Camp/Lodge Leaders link at the top of Society's home page. Then click on the Online Camp/Lodge Activity Tracking System link on that page.

The first thing to determine with respect to your camp/lodge activity is whether the activity is a Fraternal Social/Fellowship Activity or Community Service Event or both.

**Fraternal Social/Fellowship Activities** are those activities necessary to maintain the local lodge as an organizational unit such as camp/lodge business meetings or officer meetings and those undertaken for the socializing and fellowship of members like anniversary parties, celebrating ethnic traditions, attending a baseball game, etc.

**Community Service Events** are those activities that assist needy individuals, non-profit organizations or improve the community-at-large, including all planning and organizing meetings. Complete a separate submission for each separate activity if they happen on different dates; planning/organizational meeting, event itself, delivery of collected items (for food drives, school supply drives, toy drive, etc.) are all separate activities and should be reported separately. If any of these activities are combined with a camp/lodge business meeting you can include both on one report.

It is possible your camp/lodge activity is both fraternal and community service; a business meeting or camp/lodge social event in which you combine a camp/lodge food drive for example.

It is also possible that your activity is two fraternal social or fellowship activities; a business meeting followed by a social gathering of members.

Once you have this determination, you can begin to record your activity into the online form.

1. Camp/Lodge Information—the first section of the form is like all other camp/lodge reporting forms; identification of the camp/lodge.

<b>Camp/Lodge Number:</b> <input type="text"/>
<b>Camp/Lodge City:</b> <input type="text"/>
<b>Camp/Lodge State:</b> <input type="text"/>
<b>Name of Individual Reporting:</b> <input type="text"/>
<b>Date of Activity:</b> <input type="text"/>

2. Major Category of Activity/Event—having determined the major category of your activity, select which category applies to your activity; remember, it could be both.

Major Category of Activity/Event (check both if they apply - a business meeting followed by a community service event, for example):

Community Service Event

Fraternal Social/Fellowship Event

3. Type of Community Service—IF your activity involved community service, select the type of service from the list or select “other.” If your activity did not involve community service, you leave this section blank.

If your activity is a community service event, select the type of service below:

Educational Program (school supply drive, book drive, adopt-a-school, student mentoring, etc.)

Patriotic-Related Project (service to Veterans or Military Families, Flag Day program, etc.)

Service for the Elderly

Ethnic/Cultural Volunteer Activity

Other

4. Specific Activity Type—The next section (**shown on the following page**) is where you will identify the specific type of activity from the list provided. **Remember, check all of the activities that apply.** If you had a camp/lodge business meeting followed by a social or fellowship gathering, select both “Camp/Lodge Business Meeting” and “Member Social/Fellowship Activity.”

Or if you had a camp/lodge business meeting followed by a member food drive and food build, select both “Camp/Lodge Business Meeting” and “Camp/Lodge Food Drive.” If none of the specific activity types apply, use “Other Fraternal Social/Fellowship Related Activity” or “Other Community Service Related Activity.”

Then provide a short description of your activity, whether or not other organizations were involved in your activity and the total camp/lodge funds spent to put on the activity. If your activity involved community service, the camp/lodge funds spent will be applied to community service rather than fraternal.

Specific Activity Type (check all that apply):

- Camp/Lodge Business Meeting
- Member Social/Fellowship Activity
- Social Event Committee or Organizing Mtg
- Officer/Board Mtg
- Camp/Lodge Fundraising for Operations
- Other Fraternal Social/Fellowship Related Activity
- Community Service Committee or Organizing Mtg
- Camp/Lodge Food Drive
- Camp/Lodge Operation Santa's Elves Event
- Join Hands Day
- Camp/Lodge Fundraising for Scholarships
- Other Community Service Related Activity

Short Description of Activity (provide the details of your activity/event - please be specific):

  

Other organizations involved in your event (if any):

  

What was the total Camp/Lodge Funds spent to put on the activity/event (do not include camp/lodge donations here):

5. Camp/Lodge Business Meeting—the next section is specifically for Camp/Lodge Business meeting information. If the activity was not a business meeting, skip this section.

**For Camp/Lodge Business Meetings:**

1. Number of Members Present (enter a whole number NOT a range - i.e. 50 NOT 40-50):

  

2. Number of Guests or Non-Members Present (enter a whole number NOT a range; i.e. 15 NOT 10-15):

  

3. Length of Business Meeting to the nearest Hour (enter a whole number NOT a range; i.e. 2 NOT 1-2; if less than 1 hour enter 1):

  

4. Total Hours = (1+2) X 3:

- 6. Social/Fellowship Activity/Event—the next section is specifically for Camp/Lodge fraternal social or fellowship activity information. If the activity was not social or fellowship skip this section.

**For Member Social/Fellowship Activity/Event:**

1. Number of Members Present (enter a whole number NOT a range - i.e. 50 NOT 40-50):

2. Number of Guests or Non-Members Present (enter a whole number NOT a range; i.e. 15 NOT 10-15):

3. How many kids were involved in your event?:

4. Length of Social/Fellowship Event to the nearest Hour (enter a whole number NOT a range; i.e. 2 NOT 1-2; if less than 1 hour enter 1):

4. Total Hours = (1+2+3) X 4:

- 7. Community Service Activity—the next section is specifically for community service activity information. If the activity was not community service, skip this section.

**For Community Service Activity/Event:**

1. Number of Members Present (enter a whole number - NOT a range - i.e. 50 NOT 40-50):

2. Number of Guests or Non-Members Present (enter a whole number NOT a range; i.e. 15 NOT 10-15):

3. How many kids were involved in your event?:

4. Length of Community Service Event to the nearest Hour (enter a whole number NOT a range; i.e. 2 NOT 1-2; if less than 1 hour enter 1):

5. Total Hours = (1+2+3) X 4:

- 8. Additional Information for Member Food Drive or Operation Santa’s Elves—the purpose of the next two sections is to gather additional information about a Camp/Lodge Food Drive or activity in support of Operation Santa’s Elves.

**Additional Information for Member Food Drive:**

Number of pounds of food collected during your food drive (enter a whole number NOT a range; i.e. 350 NOT 300-350):

What was the estimated value of the food collected?:

What other items were collected/donated at your food drive?:

What was the estimated value of the other items collected?:

**Additional Information for Operation Santa's Elves:**

How many toys/gifts were collected/donated for your Operation Santa's Elves Event?:

What was the estimated value of the toys/gifts collected?:

How many children benefited from your event?:

What other items were collected/donated at your Operation Santa's Elves event?:

What was the estimated value of the other items collected?:

- 9. The last section is for you to upload pictures of your event. **Please provide us with pictures as it helps us to tell the story.**

## No 2016 Fraternalist of the Year Nominees

We did not receive any nominees for the Fraternalist of the Year this year; even with the extended deadline. So, let's remember some of our first recipients of this award.



The late John R Vaughn had the distinction of being the first Fraternalist of the Year for Assured Life Association in 1993; at least as best we can determine from early issues of the Society magazine. John passed away on January 16, 2008 at the age of 86 and is well remembered for his lifetime history with this Society having served as a member of the Society's Board of Directors for 23 years and as its Vice-Chairman for 11 years; not to mention his 61 years of dedication and involvement in his local camp, Magnolia Camp 92 in Riverside, California, as well as the district level of the Society.

The late Robert Weitzel was selected as the 1994 Fraternalist of the Year for Assured Life Association. Robert passed away October 4, 2004 at the age of 88. Robert is well remembered as being the backbone of his camp, Rose City Camp 77 in Portland, Oregon, and his dedication and commitment to this Society. His dedication was honored by Rose City Camp 77 when it donated \$25,000 to the Assured Life Association Scholarship Endowment program in December of 2008, establishing the Robert Weitzel Memorial Scholarship.



Robert W. Westphal was the 1995 Fraternalist of the Year for Assured Life Association. In the article announcing this honor, commitment, service, leadership and achievement were all terms used to describe him. Westphal is probably best known for his commitment to help older Americans; especially the frail. This commitment led to the creation of the American Legion "Care Team" which helped older adults with minor home repairs, bills and transportation. Robert has been a dedicated member of Puget Sound Camp 937 for about 72 years, until it closed in 2015.

Just as we do not want to forget these early honorees for the Fraternalist of the Year, we do not want to lose sight of the importance of this award to the Society. It is important to recognize an individual for his or her service to this Society and their respective camp/lodge.





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### Online Resources

[assuredlife.org](http://assuredlife.org)

[assuredlife.wordpress.com/](http://assuredlife.wordpress.com/)

[www.facebook.com/assuredlifeassociation](http://www.facebook.com/assuredlifeassociation)

## Hospitality | Service | Loyalty | Protection

### Benefit Member Vote on Amended Bylaws and Election of Board of Directors Coming Soon



VOTE

The Nominating Committee has already rendered its report to the membership as printed in the Spring Issue of the *Life Assured* member magazine.

Now, the Committee on Legislation will begin its task to review the proposed amendments to the Society's Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws we have received and make a recommendation to the membership.

Benefit members will vote on the election of Board Member position numbers four, five, six and seven as well as proposed changes to bylaws in the fall of this year. Voting will once again take place online unless a printed ballot is requested. The goal is to have voting notices printed and mailed to all benefit members before October 1, 2016. Online voting is targeted to begin October 1 and conclude on October 31, 2016. These dates may vary slightly depending upon scheduling.

Watch your regular mailboxes, email inboxes and the Society website for details as they become available.