



# the fraternal link

ASSURED LIFE  
ASSOCIATION

July 2019

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Where are  
our Golfers  
out there?

## NO COMPETITORS FOR SCRAMBLE TO END HUNGER GOLF TOURNAMENT

There is still time, of course, but we have yet to receive any registrations or team scores for our Scramble to End Hunger Golf Tournament benefiting Feeding America. Where are our golfers out there? You have until August 31, 2019 to register your foursome and play your tournament round of golf; please register BEFORE you golf your round.

You will find all of the details on our website at <http://assuredlife.org/Volunteer/Food-Drive/Scramble-to-End-Hunger>. Don't forget to purchase some of those opt-out-of-the-rules options!

Remember, just one registration of \$100 will provide 1,000 meals or 1,200 lbs of food through the Feeding America network of food banks. Considering 1 in 8 people in the United States struggles with hunger, every little bit helps. So, let's Scramble to End Hunger!



## 2018 FRATERNAL YEAR IN REVIEW A COMMENTARY ON OUR ACTIVITIES



**What counts  
as volunteer  
events and  
hours bears  
repeating.**

The 2018 Fraternal Year in Review is available online for downloading and viewing. The report is found on the Chapter Leaders page of our website.

You will recall this report represents a summary of the totals of all Chapter activity surveys/reports and financial reports received for last year. It represents very important statistics of what we do collectively as a Society through our local Chapters and is the strongest argument we have to governmental policymakers that fraternalists give back more in volunteer hours and community contributions than federal or state governments would receive if fraternalists were subject to taxation.

As you review the 2018 Fraternal Year in Review you will see at the end of the report that we experienced a significant increase in community volunteer service events and hours. This is largely due to one chapter. DBIA Santa Barbara Lodge 322 in Santa Barbara, California reported that lodge members knit and sew items for Veterans once a week all year long, participate in Stand

Down for Veterans once a year as well as serve meals to Veterans and the homeless once per month all year long. These activities obviously racked up quite a few events and hours of service.

Whether our article in last year's July issue of *the fraternal link* reminded this chapter of these activities, we can't say. But they do account for the significant increase in our volunteer events and hours reported for 2018.

In 2018 chapters reported 173 community service events as opposed to 64 the previous year. Additionally, you reported 18,529 hours of volunteer service last year whereas the year before 2,329 volunteer hours were reported. Finally, you reported \$112,575 in charitable donations and service expenses last year compared to \$96,641 in 2017.

**What counts as volunteer events and hours probably bears repeating.** Remember, the first determination for your chapter to count events and hours for community service or volunteering is **the event**

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## 2018 FRATERNAL YEAR IN REVIEW CON'T

*(Continued from page 2)*

**or service must be sanctioned or sponsored by your chapter.** In other words, you may have a couple of members that volunteer at a food bank every week. Unless this service is a chapter-sponsored or chapter-sanctioned event, you should not count it in your total community service events and hours. However, if your chapter says, for example, we are going to send members to volunteer at the food bank every week, and you have a couple of members that religiously do so, then you count the service as part of your chapter's community service events and hours. In fact, each time, in this case each week, you would count this service as 1 event and total the hours the 2 members volunteered; say 10 hours. If the service is done 24 weeks out of the year, you count 24 community service events and then the grand total of hours volunteered; 240 hours (24 weeks times 10 hours each week = 240 hours).

It is important to not just report

an activity as a weekly event all year. There are 52 weeks in a year, and unless you report the actual number of weeks your activity took place, we will scale the number of weeks down to eliminate weeks with holidays such as Christmas and New Years. It is your responsibility to keep track of the number of weeks or times the activity actually occurs.

The second determination for your chapter to count events and hours for community service or volunteering is **2 or more members must be involved in the event.** Your chapter can't sponsor a single member in his or her volunteer effort and count it as a chapter community service event.



**It is important to not just report an activity as a weekly event all year. It is likely that there are weeks during the year that the volunteer activity does not happen due to holidays, illness, or for some other reason. Take the time and count up the number of times the event actually took place or mark your calendar each time.**



## 2018 FRATERNAL YEAR IN REVIEW CON'T

Last year, chapters reported a total of 290 chapter business meetings and 135 social events. This compares to 300 chapter business meetings reported in 2017 and 167 social events. It would appear that perhaps some chapters took our advice and converted some social events to volunteer events.

Total business meeting hours were reported at 5,700 last year with 15,967 hours taking up social events. In 2017 the hours reported respectively were 6,004 and 20,223.

As you can see from the reporting, having accurate numbers is very important in culminating into our final, overall report. That is why we instruct you to not put in a range for number of members attending a specific event, like 35-50. Rather, report one number, 45 for example; even if it is your best guess.

The same goes with the average number of hours your specific event lasts. Again, don't report a range, such as 2-3 hours. Report one number; 3. Also, don't use 1/2 hour increments. Report on the hour increments only.

We do appreciate the effort that you all put into the annual reporting process. In the last 10 years alone, chapters have reported a total 1,375 volunteer service events for a total of 45,512 volunteer hours. Even more impressive, chapters and members have contributed \$961,293 in charitable donations and service-related expenses! Just think of that. Chapters, through chapter scholarships, funds spent on community service events, chapter charitable donations, and chapter in-kind gifts and donations and members, through the member portion of matching gift donations, have contributed nearly \$1,000,000 to charity over the last 10 years!

So, keep up the good work and use this information as motivation to keep up with your reporting to the home office.



## ASSURED LIFE MEMBER BENEFITS & DISCOUNTS



Check out these benefits and discounts on our website at **assuredlife.org**. Social members are welcome to take advantage of any of our member discounts.

Contact Jerry Christensen at [jlc@assuredlife.org](mailto:jlc@assuredlife.org) with any questions.

### Member Discounts

**Hear In America Hearing Benefits Discounts** - As a member of Assured Life Association, you are eligible for Hear In America hearing care benefits with no enrollment fees and no premiums. You and your immediate/extended family now have access to free

hearing consultations and discounts on high quality hearing aids through their nationwide network of hearing professionals.

**Enhanced Benefits Card** - Multi-Product discounts provided through the EBC Card; prescription drugs savings, dental savings, vision savings and hearing savings. Get the EBC Card on Assured Life's website under benefits or call the home office to have one mailed to you.

**Auto & Home Insurance Discounts** - MetLife Auto & Home, a leader in quality auto and home insurance, has been selected to provide Assured Life members with exclusive discounts and savings.

**PerksCard Network Savings Program** - As a valued Assured Life member, PerksCard gives you hundreds of ways to save! Once you have registered online, you'll have access to exclusive discounted gift cards, printable coupons and discounts at participating merchants in your area. Find over 300 web based savings from national partners like Overstock, FromYouFlowers, AVIS and more.

**Member Discounted Travel Program** - The Member Discounted Travel Program makes your travel and vacation planning easy and affordable! Take advantage of exclusive member savings on Cruises, Tropical fun-in-the-sun Caribbean Getaways, Escorted Tours to Worldwide Destinations, Hotels, Vacation Property Rentals, Car Rentals and Orlando Vacations.

**Phillips Lifeline** - A 24-hour a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year personal response service when medical assistance is needed. Activation fee waived for Assured Life benefit members.

**Emergency Assistance+** - Providing emergency assistance during your travel in the United States and abroad: Emergency Medical Evacuation, Transportation Back Home, Travel Assistance, Personal Security Services and many other benefits!

**Office Depot-OfficeMax® Discount** - Because you're a member of the Assured Life Association you now have access to exclusive members only discounts at Office Depot and OfficeMax - Save up to 80% off.

**Life Line Screening** - Life Line Screening's services are designed for early detection of potential health problems leading to stroke, aortic aneurysms, arterial disease and osteoporosis. Assured Life Members have the opportunity to detect life-threatening conditions, at an affordable cost of only \$135. To find a screening location convenient to you, call 888-763-4161.

**LifeLock Identity Theft Protection** - You could miss certain identity threats by just monitoring your credit. LifeLock sees more\*\*, like if your personal information is sold on the dark web. And if there's a problem, they'll work to fix it. Get 30 Days Free and 10% off your first year of LifeLock identity theft protection.\* Call 1-800-LifeLock (543-3562) use Promo Code AFFINITY30. \*Terms apply. \*\*LifeLock does not monitor all transactions at all businesses. See all footnotes and disclosures on LifeLock website.

Social  
members can  
take advantage  
of these  
member  
discounts as  
well.

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## ASSURED LIFE MEMBER BENEFITS CON'T

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### Direct Member Benefits

**Seniors' Scholarship Program** - \$100 scholarship for seniors 55 and older taking a short-term educational class.

**National College Scholarship Program** - cash scholarship awards ranging from \$500-\$2,500. Application deadline is March 15 every year.

**Educational Online Resource Toolkit** - additional college scholarship search engines and other resources for college-bound students.

**Summer Camp Grant Program** - \$100 maximum camp grant awarded to each camper. Application deadline is May 15 every year.

**Information for Life Kit** - a tool that allows members to put together a comprehensive compilation of their personal, legal, medical and financial information all in one place.

**Assistance to Orphaned Children** - financial assistance to the guardians of orphaned children of benefit members.

**Newborn Protection Benefit** - death benefit of \$2,500 upon the death of benefits newborn child - stillborn and/or miscarriage benefits of \$1,000 or \$1,500 as well.

**Medical Assistance Benefit** - provides up to \$2,500 in out-of-pocket expenses relating to diagnoses and disability from MS or Tuberculosis.

**Growth Ring Matching Gift Program** - Society matches charitable giving up to \$250 per member per year.

**Seniors' Investigative Team** - research benefit for seniors regarding issues related to being a senior.

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## Hospitality | Service | Loyalty | Protection

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