

the fraternal link

Camp/Lodge Officer Newsletter



ASSURED LIFE
ASSOCIATION

Happy New Year!



We at the home office wish all of our camp/lodge officers a happy and prosperous 2016! We value your service to this Society and to your camps/lodges. Please let us know if we can be of any assistance in this new year.



New Camp/Lodge Activity Tracking Tool

The Home Office has developed an online activity tracking tool for camps and lodges. Use of this tool throughout the year, will eliminate the need for camp/lodge secretaries to track and tabulate events, hours, attendance, etc. The home office will do that for you. Here's how it works.

After each camp/lodge activity, a camp/lodge officer or assigned member will go online at the Society's website and enter the information for the activity on the Camp/

Lodge Activity Tracking Form. Once submitted the information is automatically downloaded by the fraternal department into each camp/lodge activity file. The home office will combine activity reports and tabulate the number of events or activities, attendance, hours, etc. throughout the year. 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 through-

out the year will not be required to complete the annual report/survey. The only reports that will be required will be the Financial Report and the Report of Officers.

Take advantage of this tool for your camp/lodge. You can even upload pictures of your activity or event right on the activity tracking form. This also gives the fraternal department immediate notification of the activities camps/lodges are participating in. A win-win.



The Camp/Lodge Activity Tracking Form can be found under the Camp/Lodge Leaders link at the top of the AssuredLife.org webpage. Select "Camp/Lodge Activity Tracking Form" from the drop-down menu.

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National Military Family Association's Operation Purple

The first national service campaign of the year is Operation Purple. Please consider helping us help the National Military Family Association's "Operation Purple" summer camp program! Funds raised will help to send the children of our nation's military families to "Operation Purple" summer camps in the summer of 2016.

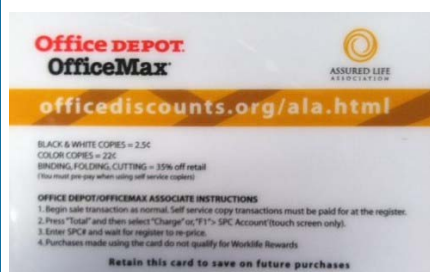
Donations are needed by Wednesday, March 11, 2016 but accepted throughout the year. You will find an Operation Purple donation form for your use in this newsletter. Be sure to designate your donation to the Operation Purple

program. Remind your benefit members to utilize the Growth Ring Matching Gift program to increase their donation.



Let's serve our military families by sending their kids to summer camp .

Get Your Camp/Lodge Office Supplies at a Discount



Last summer, each camp/lodge secretary should have received a laminated Office Depot discount card. Use this card to save on office supplies for your camp/lodge; or use it for personal needs at home as well.

There are thousands of products discounted at below retail. AND you can shop online or in stores. Remember, Office Depot and Office Max are one company now, so your card gets you discounts at both stores.

The Benefits

- ⇒ Up to 80% off preferred products
- ⇒ 93,000 products discounted below retail pricing
- ⇒ FREE next-day delivery on online orders over \$50 (excluding furniture)
- ⇒ Shop online or in store
- ⇒ Exclusive low printing costs
- ⇒ 100% satisfaction guaranteed

Office DEPOT®



National Military Family Association Individual Contribution Form

\$35___ \$50___ \$100___ \$250___ \$500___ \$1,000___ \$5,000___ Other Amount \$_____

I would like the donation applied to the following needs:

___ Military Family Children's Initiatives

___ Military Spouse Scholarship Program

___ Operation Purple Program®

___ A Tribute/Memorial Gift (include note with name of honoree and address)

Note (Please Print)

Contact Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Please mail your check to:
National Military Family Association
3601 Eisenhower Ave Suite 425
Alexandria, VA 22304

Questions? Please call 703.931.6632
Or email Donations@MilitaryFamily.org

2015 CAMP/LODGE FOOD BUILDS

As part of its annual Veteran's party to honor new 25, 50 & 60 year members, DBIA Lodge 29 in Seattle, Washington had its Harvest Food Drive and Food Build; "Madfigur" (Food Figure). The food and money collected during the event was donated to HopeLink in Redmond, WA.

In addition to the 481 pounds of food collected valued at \$962, members donated \$230 in cash, for a total value of \$1,192. The event was held on October 24, 2015 and the Madfigur was their rendition of

the Tivoli Gardens Gate in Copenhagen, Denmark.

As part of its Lodge Christmas party, DBIA Lodge 348 in Eugene, Oregon had its annual food drive and food build event. The canned and food items were made into a winter, Christmas scene designed by members Joan Cavin and Mary Stefansen.

Each julebuk (Christmas goat) took 5 pkg of Spaghetti, 4 pkg of Ramen, 3 fruit rolls and 1 pkg of soup. Each lamp post took 3 large cans of Chili

topped with a lantern. The trees in the background were cans of food wrapped in colored paper.

A total of 369 pounds of food was collected during the event; valued at \$738. The food was donated to Food for Lane County.

As a result of their efforts, DBIA Lodge 29 and DBIA 348 earned a \$250 donation from the Home Office to their respective food banks/programs. Great job!



Member Benefits

Assured Life Association is organized to give back revenues to its members through direct benefits such as college scholarships and summer camp grants for youth and discounts on other products and services as well as member-directed matching charitable giving. Check out these benefits and discounts on our website at:

www.assuredlife.org

Direct Member Benefits

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

National College Scholarship Program - cash scholarship awards ranging from \$500-\$2,500.

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.

Information for Life Kit - The Information for Life kit is a tool that allows members to put together a comprehensive compilation of their personal, legal, medical and financial information all in one place. This kit is a specially designed product from **Society of Certified Senior Advisors** replacing our *My Final Wishes* booklet.

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.

Member Discounts

American Hearing Benefits Discounts - This free hearing benefits program gives you and your immediate/extended family access to free hearing consultations and discounts on hearing aids through American Hearing Benefits' nationwide network of hearing professionals

MetLife Auto & Home Insurance Discounts - The Society offers exclusive discounts and savings to members through MetLife Auto & Home, a leader in quality auto and home insurance.

PerksCard Network Savings Program - PerksCard gives you hundreds of ways to save on everything from local restaurants, gift cards and movie tickets to special insurance and benefit plans.

Member Discounted Travel Programs - The Assured Life Member Discounted Travel Programs make your travel and vacation planning easy and affordable! Take advantage of exclusive member savings on travel.

Philips LifeLine - A medical emergency personal response service that ensures that older adults and those with chronic medical conditions living at home get quick assistance whenever it is needed at the press of a button.

Enhanced Benefits Card - A multi-product health care services discount savings program.

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® Discount - The Society has partnered with Office Depot® to bring you a FREE national discount program. Save up to 80% off preferred products! Download and print an Office Depot Store Discount Card.

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.



College Scholarship Application Deadline March 15, 2016

The College Scholarship application deadline is March 15, 2016. This deadline has a tendency to sneak up on us, so make sure your kids and grandkids are reminded of this date! The guidelines and application can be found on our website under Member Benefits at the top of the home page.





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Camp/Lodge Annual Reporting Due March 31, 2016

All camp/lodge reporting is due March 31, 2016. Hard-copy forms were mailed on January 4th to each Camp/Lodge Secretary and/or Banker/Treasurer. You can report using the hard-copy forms or you can report online. If you have any questions at all about the reporting, please contact Jerry at jlc@assuredlife.org or call 800-777-9777 ext 3773. You can also

reach him on his cell at 303-908-4446. Online Reporting Forms are located on the Society Website under the Camp/Lodge Leaders link at the top. Hover your mouse over Camp/Lodge Leaders and select "Camp/Lodge Reporting."

Instructions for Camp/Lodge Reporting 2015
ASSURED LIFE ASSOCIATION ASSURED LIFE ASSOCIATION CAMPS/LODGES

Please read through these instructions before starting your report!

We want as many camps/lobges as possible to complete the annual reporting online. It's easy and less time consuming than the paper forms, especially if you put your information together before you start input. You will find the various reports on our Website:

<http://assuredlife.org>

When you get to our website, hover your mouse over the Camp/Lodge Leaders link at the top of page and select "Camp/Lodge Reporting" from the drop-down menu.

Each report has its own link on the Camp/Lodge Reporting page. All 3 reports must be completed.

If you have any trouble with the website reporting forms, please feel free to call Jerry Christensen at (800) 777-9777, ext. 3773 or on his cell at (303) 908-4446. His email address is jlc@assuredlife.org. If he is not available by phone, please leave a message as he will call you back.

A Couple of Hints: First-Although it is easy to do out of habit, DO NOT HIT YOUR ENTER KEY when completing the online reports. This actually submits what you have entered thus far and your data is lost. Second-if you want a copy of your online submission, PRINT BEFORE YOU HIT THE SUBMIT button. If you forget, the home office can provide you a copy of your submission for your files.

Quick Tips
Here are some more quick tips to keep in mind as you begin completing the Camp/Lodge Reporting, especially the Camp/Lodge Report/Survey.

1. Again, do not hit "enter" when going to the next question of the form as this submits the report and all values entered will be lost.
2. Glance through the reports to see what information is necessary and gather that information together before you start.
3. When the question asks for a number or average of a number, record one whole number rather than a range. For example, for average attendance, record 25 rather than 20-25. The same goes for questions regarding hours. Record 2 rather than 1-2. For reporting hours, do not put "hours" or "hrs" behind your number. Just the whole number, please.
4. If you are not sure of the answer, use a best guess. For example, the monetary value of food collected during a food drive. Use an average price per pound and multiply by the number of pounds collected.
5. If the answer to a question is "NO", please answer "NO" and go to the next question, or category, rather than leaving the question blank.
6. Remember, PRINT BEFORE YOU SUBMIT.

Hospitality . Service . Loyalty . Protection

REMEMBER THE FRATERNALIST OF THE YEAR

We are a ways out from the deadline for nominations for the Fraternalist of the Year award, but with 2015 in the record books, were there any members that stood out with respect to their service to the camp/lodge and community?

If so, please nominate them for the Fraternalist of the Year! The deadline is not until June 1, 2016, but it is never too early to start thinking about honoring one of your members in this way.

You will find the guidelines and nomination form on our website under Camp/Lodge Leaders. You can also submit a short, online nomination form, also available on our website under Camp/Lodge Leader.



Last Year's Fraternalist of the Year—Moe Nielsen of Des Moines, IA Lodge 15.

Hospitality . service . loyalty . protection