

# Virginia Elks Association News

October 10, 2014

## Richmond 45 Welcomes DD Ray Dameron and Staff



Richmond Lodge 45 welcomed Central District Deputy Ray Dameron, Jr., Central District Deputy Esquire Lynn Rutherford-Snow, Central District Deputy Auditor Barry Groves, VA Drug Awareness Chair Pete Decatur, III, and VA Veterans Chair Vicki Shiflett to their lodge on October 7, 2014. Ray, Barry, and Pete are members of Fredericksburg Lodge 875 and Lynn and Vicki are members of Charlottesville Lodge 389. After conducting business on hand with ER Donnie White, Secretary Faye Willard, and Trustees, a delicious meal was enjoyed by all in attendance.

Central District Deputy Dameron spoke to Lodge members about GER Amen's message of "Elevating America." Ray stated we need to grow our order to turn our "bleeding membership" around by having strong community presence. By telling people who we are, we will be showing "Elks Care ~ Elks Share." Ray conveyed we want to be known as a GREAT Fraternal organization and not "just a bar." Ray told the members present we can promote Legacy by asking our spouse, brothers, sisters, etc to join our order of Elkdom. He commended Richmond 45 for being a very active lodge and impressed how they have met challenges in doing away with their Bingo. He also commended them for being out in the community with their popular "Turkey Shoot" and "Corn Hole" tournaments.

In closing Ray thanked the lodge for their hospitality and to be known for various slogans "Good Neighbor" (State Farm) and "When you care enough to send the very best" (Hallmark). He reminded them to keep moving forward to promote our Great Order of Elkdom.