

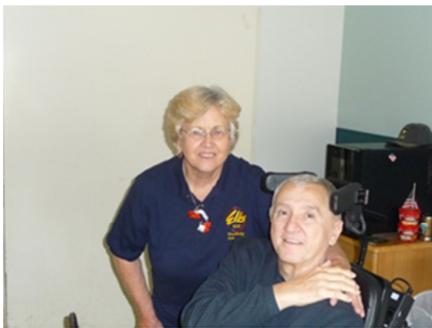
# Woodbridge 2355 Report of Recent Lodge Activities

## Lodge's Scout Troop Replace Flag Pole Halyard



November started off with a bang. While utilizing the Lodge's flag pole for training Boy Scout Troop 1390 (chartered by the Lodge) noticed that the halyard was becoming worn. After completion of their training, Scoutmaster Doug Doer and the troop worked with meticulous precision and ensured our flag pole was treated with respect. The photo shows the Scoutmaster and Scouts replacing the halyard.

## Woodbridge Elks Lodge 2355 visits McGuire Veterans Hospital



Lodge Veteran's Chairman Mary Louise Mawn visits with a Veteran during the Lodge's visit to McGuire VA Hospital.

Woodbridge Elks Lodge 2355's McGuire Team visited 70 hospitalized veterans at McGuire Veterans Hospital. While there they visited the nursing home ward and the hospice facility delivering playing cards from the Elks Playing Card Program and canteen books for the veteran's use in the hospitals exchange and commissary along with various personal care items and four beautiful hand-made quilts donated by the Quantico Church Quilters. This is the Lodge's 28<sup>th</sup> consecutive year visiting McGuire. Veteran's Chairman, Mary Louise Mawn, commented that "You prepare yourself for what you are about to witness," but, "It seems the Veterans here raise your spirits more than you raise theirs."



Robert Nelson, Past North District DDGER visits with a Veteran during Woodbridge Lodge's visit.

## Troop 1390 Elevates Four Scouts to "Eagle" Rank.

During November Woodbridge Elks Lodge 2355 attended Eagle Scout Courts of Honor for four Scouts from Troop 1390 (Chartered by the Lodge). The newly promoted Eagle Scouts were: Alex Turner, Conner Perry, Lukas Eggers and Andrew Boisvert. During the ceremonies, individual achievements, including merit badges, milestone and achievements, were highlighted. Each scout spoke of their Eagle Scout Project and walked those in attendance through every aspect of the project from the planning stage through completion. Each project was large in scale, made a tremendous impact and improvement within the community and was labor intensive. Exalted Ruler Mike Johnson presented each Scout with their Grand Exalted Ruler Letter of Congratulations and Grand Lodge Eagle Scout Certificate. The Lodge presented each Scout with a Lodge Eagle Scout Certificate and an American Flag. The flag's presented were embarked upon the future

USS SOMERSET (LPD 25) during her builder's trials, typically the first time the ship goes into the open ocean under her own power.

### **Woodbridge Elks Lodge holds Annual Senior Citizen Thanksgiving Luncheon**



Lodge Veteran's Chairman Mary Louise Mawn visits with participants during the Senior Thanksgiving Dinner

This year's Woodbridge Elks Lodge Senior Citizens Thanksgiving Luncheon was held on November 20<sup>th</sup> and brought out more than 135 senior citizens. All enjoyed a thanksgiving lunch, complete with all the trimmings. Luncheon Chairman, Roger Highfield, PDDGER, commented "Many of these Senior Citizens would have no Thanksgiving Dinner were it not for this event. For more than 22 years Woodbridge Lodge has provided this Luncheon to ensure all enjoy a Thanksgiving meal". DJ

Michael Perry, a member of Arlington-Fairfax Lodge, volunteered his time and shared his talent after dinner was completed.

### **Woodbridge Elks Lodge participates in Wreaths Across America**

Members of Woodbridge Elks Lodge 2355 along with other Fraternal and Volunteer organizations descended upon Quantico National Cemetery for Wreaths Across America. Wreaths Across America is an extension of the Arlington Wreath Project. That project was started by Morrill Worcester of Worcester Wreath Co., a family-owned business in Harrington, Maine. In 1992, faced with a large overstock of balsam wreaths, Worcester decided to donate 5,000 to be placed at graves in Arlington National Cemetery. He quietly continued the tradition each year thereafter.



### **Woodbridge Elks Lodge Celebrates Christmas Early - December 15, 2013**



ARC members enjoy the festivities

Woodbridge Elks Lodge 2355 in conjunction with The ARC of Prince William held their Annual Christmas party on December 9th for approximately 120 individuals who live in one of seven group homes supported by The ARC throughout the county. For many of these residents this was their only Christmas, some have no families at all, while others have no families that live in the area.

Named the Margaret Colley Annual Christmas Party in honor of the longtime driving force for the event; it has evolved into a Christmas tradition and has established a bond between The ARC of Greater Prince William and the Woodbridge Elks Lodge. If one stopped and counted the number of people who have been touched by this event, over the years, one would be amazed