

# BILL & IDA MOON

Mentions in [The Daily Herald-Tribune](#), Grande Prairie, Alberta, Canada



**NEW EXECUTIVE** — The new Elks executive was installed recently. It included Harold Webb - Loyal Knight (front row left), Albert Rohne - Leading Knight, Joe Leitgeb - secretary treasurer, Bernie Fortowsky - Exalted Ruler, Ernie Oman - District Deputy, Larry Plishka - Lecturing Knight, Bill

O'Toole - Esquire, Art Whitlock - Historian (back row left) **Bill Moon** - Chaplain, George Wiens - Trustee, Jim Spencer - Tyler, Corny Martins - Past Exalted Ruler, Marv Dyer - Trustee, Walter Durda - Trustee, Mel Quick - Publicity and Pete Stashko - Inner Guard.

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# City hosts annual Elk convention

By BILL SCOTT  
of our staff

Grande Prairie will play host to more than 400 Elks plus their wives this week as the city lodge hosts the annual Alberta convention.

The three-day event, which combines business with fun, starts tomorrow evening, with the last delegates leaving Sunday.

Lodges from across the province, the B.C. Peace Country and Grand Lodge officials from other parts of Canada will attend the affair — the first of its kind in Grande Prairie since 1964.

"We're getting a good, big crowd this time," convention publicity officer Mel Quick said. "It's going to be much larger than the one we hosted eight years ago, and larger than the 1971 event.

"We've reserved every available hotel and motel room, but I think

we're going to have to go to some billeting to handle the delegates."

The convention is based at three sites — the Elks' Hall, the Composite high school and Harry Balfour school. The schools are available Friday because of the Farmers' Day holiday.

Registration starts tomorrow night while Friday and Saturday are taken up with business sessions, patrol team competitions and the inevitable frivolities and socialities that accompany Elks' conventions.

Convention chairman is George Wiens of the city, while the local lodge's Exalted Ruler is Bernie Fortowsky.

The Elks were first formed in Grande Prairie in 1928. It later faltered and was re-chartered in 1940. The oldest chartered lodge in the Peace Country, including the B.C. side; is Rolla, near Dawson Creek. The first district meeting was

held in Hythe in 1935 with representation from Hythe, Rolla, Beaverlodge and McLennan.

Grande Prairie is not new to provincial Elks. The first convention was held in 1950 at the Armories. The local lodge had many meeting places, and plans for meeting places, but finally moved into a \$90,000 structure in late 1964 — several months after hosting the annual convention for the second time.

The other major Elks event here was the Corby Cup curling final in 1966.

Elks were founded in Canada in 1912, with the first Alberta lodge — Lethbridge — established in 1928. There are Peace Country lodges at Grande Prairie, Beaverlodge, Hythe, Sexsmith, Dawson Creek, Rycroft, Eaglesham, Chetwynd, Fort St. John and Fort Nelson.



**ELKS CONVENTION** — Grande Prairie hosts provincial Elks convention starting tomorrow and more than 400 delegates are expected for the three-day event, first here since 1964. City BPOE executive will play an active part and includes publicity officer Mel Quick (left), Lecturing Knight Larry Plishka, Chaplain Bill Moon, Loyal

Knight Harold Webb, Outer Guard Jim Spencer, Leading Knight Albert Rohne, Tyler Peter Stashko, Exalted Ruler Bernie Fortowsky, trustee Walter Durda, past Exalted Ruler Corney Martens, historian Art Whitlock and secretary-treasurer Joe Leitgeb. Missing are trustees George Wiens and Marv Dyer, and Esquire Bill O'Toole.



**BPEO DRILL TEAM** — Grande Prairie Elks drill team will be one of several competing during the Alberta Elks convention in the city Thursday to Saturday. Team members include Art Wiens (left), Corney Martens, **Bill**

**Moon**, Bernie Fortowsky, pianist Clarence Sjerdal, Alex Kowalchuk, Harold Webb, Albert Rohne, Mel Quick and leader Deb Crough. Missing are Bill O'Toole and Alex Lazaruk.

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## *OORP executive*

The annual joint installation of officers for the BPO Elks and the Order of Royal Purple was held at the Elks Hall last week. Officers for the OORP for 1978 are (back row, from left) Lil Nedohin, treasurer; Marie Lobb, two-year trustee; Jean Lowe, one-year trustee; Betty Norton, three-year trustee; Sandra Switzer, chaplain; **Ida Moon**, inner guard, Florence Hannam, historian; Helene Stretch, pianist; Judy Vigan, conductress (front row) Heather Fedoruk, secretary; Carol Ruch; immediate past honored royal lady; Barbara Childs, honored royal lady; Dianne Hansen, district deputy; Alene Hodgson, associate royal lady and Anna Steeves, lecturing lady. Absent are Lile Young, loyal lady; Iris Rockarts, outer guard and Elsie Lazaruk, publicity director. Elk officers for this year are Jack Lobb, exalted ruler; Art Wiens, immediate past-exalted ruler; Richard Annis, leading knight; Archie Donison, loyal knight; Ted Barker, lecturing knight; Jim Smith, secretary; Cornie Martens, treasurer and past-exalted ruler; Ed McDaid, inner guard; Colin Hrychiw, tyler; Bill O'Toole, three-year trustee; Kim Fedoruk, esquire; Neil Thomson, chaplain; Lorne Moshuk, publicity director; Dick Moore, historian and Clarence Sjerdal, pianist.

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# O.O.R.P. has busy fall

The Grande Prairie Order of the Royal Purple have had a busy fall since resuming their sessions in September. October brought visiting members from Fort St. John, Valleyview, High Prairie, Beaverlodge, Sexsmith, Rycroft and Eaglesham to celebrate Past Honored Royal Ladies' Night. Highlighting the evening was the presentation of 20 year service pins to Marion Shofner, Hilda Groner, Florence Knox and Lucille Thornton and ten year

pins to **Ida Moon**, Elsie Stashko, Germaine Chamberlain, Carol Ruch, Muriel Gaboury and Hazel Quick. Reports of a very successful Flea Market and a Pirio Lisa Clothing show were heard.

Sandra Switzer working on Meals on Wheels reports a busy time with 8 or 9 meals being delivered. Of main interest at last week's meeting was District Deputy Kae Whitlock doing the annual inspection.



### *New executive*

The new executive of the Grande Prairie Elks for the 1980-81 term is composed of, from left to right front row, Lecturing Knight Ed McDaid, Loyal Knight Ken Fedoruk, Exalted Ruler Archie Donison, Immediate Past Exalted Ruler Richard Annis and Leading Knight Ted Barker. In the back row from the left are Trustee Colin Hyrchiw, Trustee Bill O'Toole, Inner Guard Richard Moore, Publicity Director Art Wiens, Tyler Bob Sellar, Pianist Clarence Sjerdal, Treasurer Cornie Martens and Historian Hans Ruch. Missing are Chaplain **Bill Moon**, Trustee Larry Plishka, Esquire Butch Robideau and Secretary Jack Lobb.

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# OORP, Elks install officers

By Elsie Lazaruk  
of the OORP

The joint installation of the officers of the Grande Prairie Order Of the Royal Purple (OORP) No. 107 and BPO Elks No. 285) was held in the city recently.

Installing officers were District Deputies Myrtle Webb and Jim Smith.

The OORP officers for 1983-84 include:

Pat O'Toole, Honored Royal Lady; Rebecca Schmidt, immediate past HRL; Heather Fedoruk, Associate Royal Lady; Muriel Rorem, Loyal Lady; June Hurley, Lecturing Lady; Rita O'Toole, secretary; Lillian Nedohin, treasurer; Martha Head, Conductress; **Ida Moon,**

chaplain; Ellen Gutteau, three-year trustee; Patricia Jeffcoat, historian; Linda Robideau, Inner Guard; Jean Donahue, Outer Guard; Helene Stretch, pianist.

For the first time in many years, the two lodges have a husband-and-wife team presiding. William O'Toole is heading the Elks this term. Both expressed gratitude at being elected as well as their desire for assistance and guidance from all members in order to enjoy a successful and rewarding term in office.

The Royal Purple has been busy as usual, having provided and served lunch and tea to the folks at the Golden Age Centre during senior citizens' week. When the work was done, they entertained the seniors with some enjoyable song and music.

This week's special event will be a luncheon provided annually to all members of the Peace School of Hope and Swan Industries. The event is scheduled tomorrow, Royal Purple Day.

Looking forward into June, the OORP is busy

making plans to assist the Elks with a three-day provincial convention in Grande Prairie on June 9-11.

Provincial president Jake Fast of Dawson Creek attended the recent installation of officers and expressed pride in the progressive manner in which the Grande Prairie lodges operated.

Both the Royal Purple and Elks recess for the summer. However, many members plan to attend the national convention which will be held in Red Deer the last week of July.

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The new executive of the **Grande Prairie Order of the Royal Purple 107** was also sworn in on that evening. Members are: **Honored Royal Lady Alaire Roberts**, **Judy Vigen**, **Alvina Grove**, **Jane Hurley**, **Mary Marcy**, **Opal McMilan**, **Lillian Nedohin**, **Ida Moon**, **Martha Toffer**, **Nellie Smashnuck**, **Roxanne Wozniak**, **Marion Shofner** and **Helene Stretch**.

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# Golden Age Centre is a busy place

By BETTY WELTER

Activities at the Golden Age Centre continue at a rapid pace – just note how full the parking lot can get!

On Feb. 2-3, the alumni from the Vermilion School of Agriculture – now Lakeland College – held a very successful reunion, a first for the north.

Over 90 grads attended from all over the Peace, Keg River, Fort St. John, etc. It will be held again in 1992.

The Fiddler's Jamboree on Feb. 17 had 30 fiddlers participating – weren't your toes tapping?

They came from all over the Peace Country – one from the Northwest Territories – and were of all ages from 10 years old to

over 70 years young.

A chuckwagon dinner was served to over 350 people following the musical performances.

In other news:

- A seniors duplicate bridge tournament was held on Feb. 25. Norman and Gibby Hudson had the high score.

- Work crews for March are: Jean Conrad, Joan Dredger, Frank and Mary Pisatsky, Rose Metcalfe, Morris Roy, **Ida Moon** and Agness Lissoway.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Irish stew supper, program and dance will be held on March 8 at 6 p.m.

- Zone 8 floor curling competition is planned for the Golden Age Centre on March 22.

- An old-time dance is planned

## SENIORS

for the Golden Age Centre on March 22 at 8 p.m.

- Camp Tamarack is planning a seniors' dine and dance at their facility on April 19. Tickets are \$15 per person. More details later.

- The Golden Age Centre will hold its annual Spring Tea and Bake Sale on April 27 at 2 p.m.

### Did You Know:

1. The Golden Age Centre now has over 200 members in 1991 including over 30 new members. Memberships are available at the office any time.

2. Program booklets for 1991 are available at the Golden Age Centre office listing the work crews for each month.

3. The tourist information centre needs 120 people a month to man it during June, July and August to maintain two shift a day. They are from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. every day.

4. The information centre had 2,416 visitors from the United States during the 1990 tourist season, 25 per cent of our total visitors.

5. The busiest day ever at the tourist booth was July 2, 1990 with a total number of 211 visitors, three bus loads of tourists stopped. Many questions were answered, maps given out, souvenirs sold, numerous cups of pop and coffee consumed – all complimentary.

*Anyone wanting to include an item of interest in this seniors' column can contact Betty Welter at the Golden Age Centre at 532-5818.*

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## PRUNE JOB

**Ida Moon** trims the wilted blooms from the plants in her Highland Park- area front yard flower bed Sunday afternoon. Moon was cleaning up her flower beds getting ready for winter.

Staff photo by Mark Evans