

Journal of
PROCEEDINGS
Forty-eighth Annual Session of the
New York State Aerie
Fraternal Order of Eagles



1954
Held at Oneonta, N. Y.
June 25, 26, 27

STATE OFFICERS — 1954 - 1955

JUNIOR PAST STATE PRESIDENT LOUIS ASTIFAN
Watertown 782

STATE PRESIDENT HAROLD F. CRAWFORD
Fort Hamilton 2621

STATE VICE-PRESIDENT KEENE M. BROWN
Ithaca 1253

STATE CHAPLAIN FRANK H. LEWIS
Middletown 544

STATE SECRETARY WALTER J. HOGAN
Johnstown 1575

STATE TREASURER LOREN A. SWANSON
Jamestown 2145

STATE CONDUCTOR CHARLES P. EDWARDS
Schenectady 514

STATE INSIDE GUARD ALTON CORNEBY
Endicott 2269

STATE OUTSIDE GUARD ROBERT MAGNAN
Montreal 2130

STATE TRUSTEES

Chr. LOUIS ASTIFAN, JR., P.S.P Watertown 782

RAY BOEHL Rochester 52

JOHN EGGLESTON Oneonta 1260

WILLIAM HARRIS Dunkirk 2447

KENNETH SNYDER Binghamton 2119

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1954 STATE CONVENTION

The 1954 New York State Aerie Convention opened with the Annual State Officer's Dinner and Meeting, at 6 p.m., Thursday, June 24th, in the Home of Oneonta Aerie. Registration of Delegates started at 7 p.m.

Friday, June 25th

A general "get acquainted" meeting of all State Leaders, Committee Chairmen, Committeemen and Delegates desiring to attend, was Called To Order at 10:30 a.m. by State President Louis Astifan. The State President stated the purpose of the meeting was to make possible the early meeting of the various committees in order that the business of the Convention could be scheduled in a manner most conducive for harmony and progress.

State President Astifan read his Committee appointments, requesting those present to rise when called in order to get acquainted. The respective Chairmen arranged for meetings of their committees during this order of business.

State Secretary Ayers was then introduced and advised those committees present that he had available all necessary material for their committees. Requested all committees and persons scheduled to appear on the convention floor to be ready on schedule in order that the sessions would not drag.

P.S.P. Decker was then introduced and read the Order of Business for the convention. Following which the meeting adjourned.

FIRST SESSION

FRIDAY, JUNE 25th, 1954 — 1 P. M.

The First Session of the 48th Annual Convention of the New York State Aerie was called to order by C. J. Secord, Worthy President of Oneonta Aerie #1260.

Reverend James Alcock delivered the Invocation.

W. P. Secord introduced Mayor Roger Hughes, of Oneonta, who welcomed all present to the city and expressed best wishes for a successful convention and an enjoyable visit by all.

W. P. Secord then introduced Grand Aerie Representative Al Williams, PSP of Pennsylvania who expressed his pleasure at being present and extended his best wishes for a fine, successful Convention.

W. P. Secord then introduced Grand Aerie Representative Michael Gaffney, who extended greetings to all his New York friends and expressed his confidence that a progressive convention was being held.

W. P. Secord then presented Jack Eggleston, State Trustee and Chairman of the 1954 Convention who outlined the program of the convention and stated everything possible would be done to secure the utmost success and a good time by all.

The gavel was then turned over to State President Louis Astifan, who cleared the Auditorium of all visitors and proceeded to officially open the Convention in accordance with the Ritual of the F.O.E.

The Roll Call of State Officers was completed, following which P.S.P. Ken Decker gave the Obligation to all members of the State Aerie.

The following Committee appointments were announced by State President Astifan:

COMMITTEES
48th ANNUAL NEW YORK STATE CONVENTION

CREDENTIALS

Chr. Carl Astifan 782
Ernest Ford 1575
Harold Gore 782

AUDITING

Chr. David Brownell 482
Herman Cassidy 941
Charles Sherman 97

FINANCE

Chr. Charles Lake 514
Aaron Siegler 543
Fabian Glaser 52

GRIEVANCE & APPEALS

Chr. Frank Pelley 543
Edward Pollard 491
Harold Dunham 2333

RESOLUTIONS

Chr. Wayne Harris 52
Al Lane 0473
Frank Lagonegro 941
George Esse 52

OLD AGE & SOCIAL SECURITY

Chr. Edward Madden 97
Harry Dietrich 1042
Harold Britton 88
James Black 482
Al Schraft 1043
Frank Peck 2299

LEGISLATIVE

Chr. John Taggart 46
Walter Hogan, Co.-Chr. 1575
Miles Burke 514
William Mostyn 52
Verle Argetsinger 941

RITUALISTIC

Chr. William Harris 2447
Alton Corneby 2269
George Sattler 941
Milford Hall 825
Thomas Philippott 2311
Leon Barringer 514
Joseph Sanborn 544

BY-LAWS

Chr. Walter J. Hogan 1575
Kenneth Decker 1253
Michael T. Gaffney 96

JUDICIARY

Chr. P.S.P Kenneth Decker 1253
Walter J. Hogan 1575
Joseph L. Wurzer 52

ELECTION

Chr. Harold Britton 88
Clarence Layton 782
Fabian Glaser 52

PUBLICITY

Chr. C. J. Secord 1260
Pete Salisch 1260
Peter Raymond 2424

STATE OF THE ORDER

Chr. Edward Costello 1117
Clifford Brookins 616
A. L. Schroul 1166
Charles Michaud 2130
Kenneth Baker 1575

YOUTH GUIDANCE

Chr. Charles Edwards 514
Alton Corneby 2269
Lester Bloom 2119
William Fields 2590
Edward Marcott 2130

NOMINATING

Chr. Edward Kames 941
Joseph Wurzer 52
Donald Manzer 97
Aaron Siegler 543
Ernest Ford 1575

IN MEMORIUM

Chr. Merle Canfield 482
Keene Brown, Co.-Chr. 1253
Karl Herrmann 583
Herbert Old 2621

CIVIC AFFAIRS

Chr. Frank Lewis 544
Charles Korherr 1253
Chris Mitchell 1545

FIRST REPORT OF CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE

Grand Aerie Representatives 2
State Officers 13
Past State Presidents 6
Delegates 109
Alternates 5
Past Worthy Presidents 50

TOTAL Credentials Issued 185

Brothers Brown, #1253 and Canfield, #482 moved the adoption of this report. Carried.

State Secretary Paul M. Ayers was called upon to read the Minutes of the previous convention. After the reading started, Brothers Seigler, #543 and Myers, #1924 moved that the reading of the minutes be dispensed with, same carried unanimously.

REPORT OF JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

Read by P.S.P Kenneth Decker:

RULES OF CONVENTION:

1. Credentials for Admission: Properly accredited Delegates and the Past Worthy Presidents shall obtain their Credentials from the proper Committee upon presentation of their official receipts showing they are in good standing in their Aerie.

2. No person shall be allowed a vote, or voice, unless he is a Delegate or Past Worthy President and he must display his Credentials, depositing the daily attendance stub with the proper State Aerie Officer.

3. A Delegate desiring to be heard on any matter which is properly before the State Aerie, shall rise, give the salutation sign, and address the President, giving his name and the number of his Aerie. When he is recognized by the President, he may proceed.

4. A question indefinitely postponed shall not again be considered except by the action of two-thirds of the Delegates present voting to again take up such questions.

5. Voting shall be by the voting sign of the Order, except upon roll call then it shall be an Aye and Nay vote. Any 30 members may demand a roll call on any question, but such demand must be made before the voting on the question.

6. Nominating speeches shall be limited to 3 minutes each, and seconding speeches to two minutes.

7. The Election Committee shall convene at its official quarters at the Home of Oneonta Aerie No. 1260 on Sunday, June 27th, 1954 from 8 a.m. until 11 a.m. Only official ballots to be received. The count shall begin promptly and continue until the completion thereof.

8. Delegates must present their Credentials and deposit same in ballot box, first ascertaining that the number of votes indicated on the Credential is identical with that indicated on the ballot, and that no erasures appear thereon.

9. All resolutions shall be reduced in writing (typewritten and in triplicate if possible) and delivered to the State Secretary for distribution to the proper committee. No resolutions shall be debatable until the same has been reported by the proper committee. The committee on Resolutions will, at the proper time, report all resolutions to the Convention with recommendations thereon.

10. Any point of issue not covered by the Rules of the Convention or the Laws of the Order, shall be governed by Roberts Rules of Order, Revised.

ORDER OF BUSINESS, FRIDAY, JUNE 25th, 1954

1. Call to Order
2. Opening Exercises of Convention
3. Roll Call of State Officers
4. Admission of New Members to State Aerie and Obligation
5. Announcement of Committee Appointments
6. Report of Committee on Credentials
7. Reading of Minutes of previous convention
8. Report of Judiciary Committee and Rules for the Convention
9. Reading of Communications
10. ADDRESS: G. A. Representative Michael Gaffney
11. Report of Auditing Committee
12. Report of Resolutions Committee
13. Report of State President
14. Report of State Treasurer
15. Report of State Trustees
16. Report of By-Laws Committee
17. Report of Memorial Foundation Committee
18. Announcements
19. Good of the Order
20. Recess until 9 a.m. Saturday, June 26th, 1954

ORDER OF BUSINESS, SATURDAY, JUNE 26th, 1954

1. Call to Order
2. Opening Exercises
3. Admission of New Members to State Aerie and Obligation
4. Second Report of Credential Committee
5. Report of State Bowling Committee
6. Report of State of the Order Committee
7. Report of Resolutions Committee
8. ADDRESS by G. A. Representative Al Williams
9. Report of Ritualistic Committee
10. Report of Civic Affairs Committee
11. Report of Judiciary Committee
12. Report of Grievance and Appeals Committee
13. Report of Youth Guidance Committee
14. Report of Old Age and Social Security Committee
15. Report of State Secretary
16. Report of State Membership Director
17. Report of Nominating Committee and Nomination of State Officers
18. Announcement of Time and Place of Election
19. Report of By-Laws Committee
20. Announcements
21. Good of the Order
22. Recess until 9 a.m. Sunday, June 27th, 1954

ORDER OF BUSINESS, SUNDAY, JUNE 27th, 1954

1. Call to Order
2. Opening Exercises
3. Admission of New Members to the State Aerie and Obligation
4. Report of Judiciary Committee
5. Report of Hyde Park Committee
6. ADDRESS by PGWP William H. Mostyn
7. Report of Legislative Committee
8. Report of Finance Committee
9. Final Report of Resolutions Committee
10. Final Report of Credentials Committee
11. Presentation of Awards
12. State President's Presentation
13. Report of Election Committee
14. Selection of Representatives to Grand Aerie
15. Final Report of Committees
16. Results of Ritual Competition
17. Installation of State Officers
18. Introduction of State Officers
19. Good of the Order
20. Adjournment

Chairman Decker read two additional paragraphs the Committee desired the Delegates to consider:

- a. State Officers shall be entitled to their individual vote as State Officers regardless of standing of their local Aerie.
- b. With respect to Aeries not in good standing for failure to pay State per capita tax, we feel the matter should be left to the democratic action of the delegates.

PSP Decker moved the adoption of the Report, same was seconded by Brother Lake, #514 and Manzer, #97 and carried.

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS

State President Astifan called upon the State Secretary who presented the following Communications:

From Mark Twain Hotel Elmira expressing best wishes and inviting 1955 Convention

From Elmira Convention Bureau expressing best wishes and inviting 1955 Convention

From Frank Murray (Montana) Extending greetings and urging Safe Driving

From Grand Treasurer Guenther Extending greetings and Best Wishes

From Grand Secretary Watson Extending greetings and Best Wishes

From Grand President Hansen Extending greetings and Best Wishes

From Grand Trustee Splain Extending greetings and Best Wishes

From Family of Late State Trustee DiMaggio expressing appreciation for Condolences.

It was moved by Seigler, #543—seconded by Wurzer, #52 that the communications be received and filed. Carried.

State President Astifan called for a report from the Resolution Committee. Bro. Wayne Harris, Chr. stated there was no report for the present. The chair was turned over to PSP Kamas who called for a report of the Auditing Committee. The committee was not ready to report and PSP Kamas called upon State President Astifan for his report.

STATE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

To the Delegates of the 48th Convention
New York State Aerie—Fraternal Order of Eagles

This past year of 1953-54 has been a new and grand experience for me and a great honor that I shall always remember. I will cherish the privilege that was extended to me as your State President. On visitations throughout New York State and Canada large and small Aeries I wish to thank the members for their kind hospitality. It has been an experience otherwise I would have never known.

I wish to thank the State Officers in this past year. They have been very co-operative and helpful to me in every way.

I have travelled many miles this past year and made visitations seeing a great many new members initiated into this great order of Eagles. I only regret that on some occasions I was not able to attend visitations to some Aeries as I had other appointments scheduled before hand.

I pledge my loyalty to New York and support to the New State President and State Officers and wish them every success in this great order of ours in the coming year.

Once again Mrs. Astifan and myself would like to extend our Greatest thanks for this past year and to all who helped make it one that will always be remembered.

Respectfully Submitted,
LOUIS ASTIFAN, State President

State Secretary Ayers stated that State President Astifan endeavored to serve the N. Y. State Aerie to the utmost degree in every possible respect and was deserving of a vote of thanks for his efforts, and moved the report be accepted with a rising vote of appreciation. Same was seconded by several Brothers and all present arose and applauded.

PSP Kamas called for the State Treasurer's Report:

REPORT OF STATE TREASURER

June 25th, 1954

New York State Aerie
Fraternal Order of Eagles

To the Officers and Delegates assembled at the 48th annual session
At the home of Oneonta Aerie #1260, Oneonta, N. Y.

Brothers:—

I hereby submit my report as your State Treasurer for the year 1953-54.

Balance on hand June 12th, 1953	\$1,412.51
Receipts thru May 31st, 1954	5,744.05
1st total	\$7,156.56
Less disbursements	5,343.02
Balance as of May 31st, 1954, deposited in the First National Bank of Jamestown, N. Y.	\$1,813.54

Respectfully submitted,
LOREN A. SWANSON, Treasurer

It was moved by Lewis, #544 that the report be accepted, seconded by Madden #97 and carried.

PSP Kamas announced the Nominating Committee would meet immediately following the Session and requested the cooperation of all Delegates. He then turned the gavel back to State President Astifan who called for the report of the State Trustees. Same was not ready and SP Astifan stated that he was appointing Bro. Aaron Siegler #543 as Trustee for the balance of the Convention, to replace Bro. John DiMaggio, deceased.

REPORT OF MEMORIAL FOUNDATION COMMITTEE

Read by Keene M. Brown, Chr.

To The Officers and Delegates:

Your Memorial Foundation Committee, appointed by the State President Louis Astifan, sent a letter to the Aeries of the State asking for a donation for the Foundation Fund.

We are well aware of the financial standings of most of the New York State Aeries. Therefore, keeping in mind the slogan "Giving the Aeries back to the Aeries," we did not make a high-pressure request for donations.

To give you an idea of what the Foundation is doing at the present time, I might mention that all of the children are receiving physical and dental examinations once each year. Also, the children's eyes are being examined and glasses are provided, if necessary, by the Foundation.

It may be interesting for you to know that now, twenty-four of our children are attending schools of higher education including colleges, universities, seminaries, nurses training schools, and technical schools.

We, the committee, wish to take this opportunity to thank the Aeries who generously contributed to this great cause. And, at this time, we would like to present our State President with a check for \$304.10.

If there are any additional donations, they may be forwarded to the Grand Aerie.

Respectfully submitted,

KEENE M. BROWN, Chairman
FRANK H. LEWIS
ULISSES CANALE
VINCENT M. SCHARF
ARNOLD CLARK
FRANCIS BONNEY
GODFREY BENEDETTO

Moved for adoption by Brown, #1253—seconded by Glaser, #52 and carried.

State President Astifan called for the Report of the Ritual Committee. None being ready announcements were in order.

State Secretary Ayers stated a new policy had been adopted regarding space in the Grand Aerie convention program booklet, each State Aerie being offered space at a cost of \$200.00 per page. This proposition was discussed at the last meeting of the State Officers, and it was unanimously approved that all N. Y. Aeries be asked to make voluntary donations to finance a New York page. To date, several Aeries have joined

the project, but a lot more are needed. Our suggestion is that an Aerie subscribe up to \$10.00, thus if 20 Aeries contribute the page will be paid for. The deadline is June 30th, so early action is imperative. If any of the Aeries represented are interested, please see me at once. All Aeries joining in will be listed on the New York page. Remember this is not mandatory, but a voluntary proposition to all Aeries interested.

Bro. Siegler, #543 inquired if a letter has been sent out to the N. Y. Aeries. The State Secretary advised that a letter containing a green mimeographed form had been mailed to all Aeries several weeks ago. Any Aerie desiring to join the program could so inform the State Secretary and forward their check later. Mid-Island Aerie #3116 announced they would contribute \$10.00.

State President Astifan introduced PSP Michael T. Gaffney, of Milwaukee, Wis., now serving as assistant to the Grand Worthy President:

PSP Gaffney: I possibly could take up a great deal of time making a long speech but this I am not going to do. I have been away from home for the past two weeks, attending conventions, and I am rapidly running out of voice. But I do, however, want to deliver a message from Bob Hanson. He asked me to forward to each and everyone of you his sincere and warm personal regards, and his deep personal regrets on being unable to appear at this Convention in person. Bob has tried to go to every Convention, if he possibly can, but this weekend he is tied up in another Convention. It is needless for me to tell you that it has been a pleasure for me to have this opportunity to visit the New York State Aerie for the first time since 1950. I have missed those intervening conventions and you can definitely rest assured that my thoughts and heart were with you.

It was with deep regret that my wife and I had to establish our residence in Milwaukee. In the last year and a half great publicity has come to the City of Milwaukee. I have been asked how the people of Milwaukee feel about McCarthy, the Braves, and about the product which has made Milwaukee famous. We reluctantly admit that McCarthy is the Junior Senator from that State but, if anyone else wants him, they can have him. Their famous product is palatable but not a bit better than in New York. And if the Braves don't start playing ball pretty soon, Boston can have them back, too.

I am privileged to have the opportunity of being associated with a man who has made the giving of the Eagles back to the Eagles a reality and not just a dream. That man is Bob Hanson. We may have made mistakes and the job is not completely finished but, with your indulgence, and with the help of the delegates, I can definitely assure you that the tempo of this year will be completely changed. We will be operating on the basis that the Eagles of 56 years ago intended it to be. The road has been hard but it has been a pleasant task in rebuilding this Order along the lines that you men will like. Never in the history of the Order has so much been accomplished for the amount of money being spent. No man is being paid a fabulous salary. Pay is not the primary interest of these men. They are interested only in building a great and true Democracy. This Order is going out of the Christmas Card business. We are definitely out of the Insurance Business, and definitely telling no one where to buy. We are definitely out of the Stock Market Business, the Real Estate Business. In a few short months we expect to be out of every type of business we have been plunged into and back in the field of Fraternal Business. Much has been accomplished and much remains to be done. I sincerely trust that we are doing the job in the manner in which you would like to have it done. If not, do not fail to criticize and drop us a line.

Again I say it is nice being back and visiting with you boys in the State of New York, and it is nice that we have your solid support in the forthcoming months. If you like the Order as operated, then stand up and fight for the continuous building of the organization, so that we can be proud of our membership in this great Fraternal Order, and we can again shout from the rooftops that we are members of this great fraternal society. (APPLAUSE)

S.P. Astifan: We've been glad to have you back again, Mike, and to hear your voice as we have in the past.

State President announced that the State Convention Class Initiation would be held in this room promptly at 8 p.m. and urged the attendance of all delegates.

State Membership Director Ken Decker of Ithaca Aerie #1253 was introduced for his report.

NEW YORK STATE AERIE MEMBERSHIP DEPT. REPORT FOR 1953-54

The year 1953-54 will go down in the history of Eagledom as the year of the great Revolution and the slogan of "Let Freedom Ring" will linger long in the memory of us who have taken an active part in the movement.

The historical Grand Aerie Convention of Indianapolis, August 1953, left the Officers and Leaders of New York Aerie a little confused.

The Freedom movement was a reality, but most of us who had served under a Fraternal Dictator were waiting to hear Grand Worthy President Robert Hansen, set up his line of action.

On September 27th, a meeting was held in Rochester Aerie #52 with a number of State Officers present. Arthur Erhman, Editor of the Eagle Magazine, was present representing G.W.P. Hansen. He outlined the position of the new Grand Aerie and stressed the "Give the Eagles back to the Eagles" attitude.

In regards to membership activity and programs, he suggested the revival of the old Zone and District Director set up with plenty of Freedom on the part of the State Officers and local Aeries.

He also suggested that the State and local Aeries adapt such programs as were most suitable to the particular time and locality. With these thoughts in mind, your State Officers went to work.

Remember, four months of our fiscal year were now past with practically no membership activity.

Your State President, Louis Astifan asked me to head up the State Membership Department.

On October 11, 1953, the first of a series of meetings to reorganize our State Membership Dept. was held in Ithaca Aerie #1253. Zone #2 was born, comprised of 3 Districts. E. Leroy Miller, P.W.P. of Aerie #1253 was named Zone Director.

District #1—Binghamton #2119—Norwich #1043—Oneonta #1260—Cortland #2191—Endicott #2269—Johnson City #2644 and Owego #2333. Kenneth Snyder of Binghamton Aerie #2119, District Director.

District #2—Ithaca #1253—Elmira #941—Corning #2299—Hornell #2640—and Watkins Glen #2590. George Sattler of Elmira Aerie #941, District Director.

District #3—Watertown #782—Oswego #2870—Syracuse #053 and Auburn #96. William Churchill of Auburn Aerie #96, District Director.

On October 18th, the same type of meeting was held at Tonawanda Aerie #1411 for Zone #1. Frank Donovan of Rochester was appointed Zone Director, this Zone was divided into 2 Districts.

District #1—Rochester #52—Medina #2424—Albion #2628—Batavia #2348—Lockport #825—Buffalo #46—Depew—Lancaster #2692—Tonawanda #1411—Niagara Falls #88—Riverside—Kenmore #2448 and Toronto #2311. Daniel Burd of Tonawanda Aerie #1411, District Director.

District #2—Jamestown #2145—Dunkirk #2447—Olean #616 and Westfield #2855. Glen Coleman of Olean Aerie #616, District Director.

Continuing our reorganization program, on October 25, 18 Aeries of lower New York met at Tarrytown Aerie #1042 and Zone #4 was formed with P.W.P. Alfred Lane of Yonkers Aerie #0473 as Zone Director. The set up was 3 Districts.

District #1—Tarrytown #1042—Yonkers #0473—Middletown #544—Port Chester #1166—Ossining #1545—Poughkeepsie #2687 and White Plains #2948. Lloyd Ryerson of Tarrytown Aerie #1042, District Director.

District #2—Flushing #583—Northport #1815—Long Island City #1509—Rockaway Beach #1544 and College Point #2065. Ben LaStella of Flushing Aerie #583, District Director.

District #3 — Brooklyn #393 — Staten Island #543 — Washington Heights #1117—Bay Ridge #1924—Bronx #491 and Fort Hamilton #2621. Herbert Olds of Fort Hamilton Aerie #2621, District Director.

On November 1, the last organization meeting was held in Utica Aerie #97, to form Zone #3. Charles Lake of Schenectady Aerie #514, was selected as Zone Director.

The selection of District Directors was left until a later date. Bro. Lake was given full power to make the appointments. This meeting completed the reorganization of the State.

On November 8th, a State Officers meeting was held in Ithaca Aerie #1253. At this meeting, the State Officers approved the program and State President Astifan made the appointment of a State Membership Director official with the approval of the State Aerie.

Former State Organizer Michael T. Gaffney, now assistant to Grand Worthy President Robert Hansen was present to O.K. our program and to give us some first hand information from the Grand Aerie. Mike also gave us the green light to revive and hold classes in his honor during the month of January 1954.

The ground work for our January Campaign was laid and your State Membership Director was instructed to go to work.

Our State Membership fund was less than \$100.00 and on November 1st, we had reported less than 300 new members for the first 5 months.

During November this office visited Utica #97—Ithaca #1253—Elmira #941 and Endicott #2269.

One of the first general complaints received in this office was that the quotas of most Aeries were beyond reach and that this feeling was unhealthy as a lot of Aeries just gave up without trying.

With this thought in mind, we revised the New York State Quotas to make them workable. This gave the Aeries something to shoot at and most of them went to work.

In December this office borrowed enough money from the State Aerie to under-write the January Drive.

A letter and a campaign poster was sent to every Aerie promoting the project. A follow up letter came out of the State Presidents office.

The Zone Directors and District Directors were busy doing the leg work—New York State was on the move.

December visitations from this office were Cortland #2191—Watkins Glen #2590—Elmira #941 and Syracuse #053.

By December 31, with 7 months of our fiscal year behind us, we had reported 464 new members.

January was our Big Month—while only 2 official visitations were made from this office, Elmira #941 and Ithaca #1253, every State Officer and the entire Membership Organization was busy. The results speak for themselves. We reported 355 new members for the month and placed 3rd in the Big Ten nationally.

A word of thanks should go to our 3 Canadian Aeries who contributed generously to this total and who, at last we had made an official part of our State Aerie.

Poughkeepsie Aerie #2687 was the winner of the Michael T. Gaffney Cup and the State Membership Cup with a membership gain for the month of January of 46.5%. Syracuse #053 was runner up with a 29% gain. Schenectady #514 reported the most new members with 30.

Brother Charles Lake of Schenectady Aerie #514 found it impossible to continue as Zone Director of Zone #3 and it was with regret that we accepted his resignation.

All Zones except Zone #3 were now going good. Meetings were being held and all Directors doing a fine job.

On February 21, a meeting was held of the State Executive Board in the home of Rochester Aerie No. 52. State President Astifan presided.

It was decided to transfer the State Membership fund from the bank in Lockport where it was under the jurisdiction of State Secretary Ayers to a bank in Ithaca. The fund then to be handled by the State Membership Director.

The State Membership Director was authorized to proceed with such Membership promotion and programs as he deemed best until the State Convention in June.

P.G.W.P. William Mostyn outlined a membership campaign and contest between Toronto #2311—Montreal #2130 and Rochester #52, to be known as the International Good Will Campaign.

The contest to run from January 1, 1954 until June 1, 1954. Rules and prizes had been set up and the winner would be announced at the State Convention.

The Membership Dept. set aside a check of \$25.00 to be presented to the winner at the same time.

Upon recommendation of Al Lane, Zone Director of Zone #4, and with the sanction of this office, on February 12, John Gabriel of Hicksville, Long Island, was granted a commission to form a new Aerie at Hicksville.

This was to become our first and only new Aerie for the year.

A letter of thanks, along with a report of the January Drive and a complete report of new members reported for the year, was mailed to all Aeries and State Officers from this office.

February visitations from this office were: Auburn #96—Endicott #2269—Rochester #52—Elmira #941 and Watkins Glen #2590.

State President Astifan also handled one assignment to Syracuse #053 on February 24th.

March found us missing the Big Ten by one place—we placed 11th in the Nation.

This office continued to move with visitations to Norwich #1043—Oneonta #1260—Ithaca #1253—and a meeting held in Ithaca on March 10th with Bro. George Sattler of Elmira #941, who was handling Waverly Aerie #2691 on assignment. Zone Director Leroy Miller of Zone #2 and Jerry Hanahoe of Elmira were also present.

The Waverly situation looked bad and Bro. Sattler was going to try and wind up their affairs.

Good reports were coming in from John Gabriel of Hicksville that a new Aerie was to become a reality.

On March 25, Godfrey Benedetto of Staten Island was granted a commission to form a new Aerie at South Shore, Staten Island, again the recommendation came from Zone Director Al Lane of Zone #4 and was approved by this office. Another new Aerie was in the making.

On April 1st, a complete report on membership, along with a letter urging every Aerie to endeavor to finish its quota during April and May, went out to all Aeries.

April visitations from this office were Toronto #2311 and Watkins Glen #2590.

State Chaplain Keene Brown of Ithaca #1253 was assigned by this office to visit Johnson City Aerie #2644 on April 25th.

The final report for April found New York State again in the Big Ten of the nation.

May was a busy month.

First, a State Officers meeting in Johnstown #1575 on May 2nd.

Our record looked good and with only 30 days left, all State Officers pledged their support of an all out effort for May.

The results speak for themselves. 376 new members reported, the record month of the year. We were again listed with the Big Ten.

This office made 6 official visits—Johnstown #1575—Middletown #544—Ossining #1545—Cortland #2191—New York City, Grand Aerie Activities Meeting and Schenectady #514.

At the Schenectady meeting, May 23rd, Zone #3 was set up with 3 Districts.

District #1—Utica #97—Gloversville #482—Johnstown #1575—and Amsterdam #2420. P.S.P. George Green of Gloversville #482, District Director.

District #2—Schenectady #514—Albany #2430—Hoosick Falls #2467 and Cobleskill #2695. Thomas Mahoney of Albany #2430, District Director.

District #3—Montreal #2130—Royal (Montreal) #3020—Saratoga Springs #2586 and Glens Falls #2486. Charles DuFour of Glens Falls #2486, District Director.

The appointment of a Zone Director to replace Charles Lake was withheld awaiting suggestions and approval of the Aeries involved.

By April, all the leading Aeries of the State were going full speed, so a special effort was made to help our weak Aeries. 18 had reported no new members.

Upon recommendation from this office, 14 State Officers and Leaders were given an assignment from the Grand Aerie Membership Dept. to visit these Aeries.

Some results are already showing up—3 Aeries have reported new members and a number are becoming active.

A letter went out from this office urging all Aeries and members to help in this revival of weak Aeries. The cooperation has been gratifying.

On May 23rd, our first baby was born. Mid Island #3116 was instituted by State Vice-President Harold Crawford. 96 new members were reported on the Charter.

John Gabriel did an outstanding job as Aerie Organizer. Congratulations Bro. Gabriel.

Godfrey Benedetto continued to report progress and new members for South Shore Aerie, Staten Island, and in the near future that Aerie will also be a reality.

The final report on membership is now in the hands of all delegates. 1649 new members were reported for the year. Of these, 1188 have been reported in the last 5 months.

8 Aeries filled their Grand Aerie Quotas

20 Aeries filled their State Aerie Quotas

15 Aeries reported no new members

This shows that 77% of our Aeries reported new members and that 46% filled their Quotas. Our 3 Canadian Aeries all filled their Grand Aerie Quotas.

Rochester #52 leads with the most new members reported—182. Followed by Montreal #2130 with 127. Poughkeepsie showed greatest per centage gain, 100% by doubling its membership.

Thirty-three visitations were made by this office—21 Aeries were visited.

Two assignments from this office were handled by others. State President Astifan visited Syracuse #053 on February 24, 1954 and State Chaplain Keene M. Brown visited Johnson City #2644 on April 23, 1954. This does not include all the visitations and meetings made by Zone and District Directors.

Earlier in my report, the mention was made of borrowing from the State Aerie to finance our January Campaign—this loan was repaid to your State Secretary on March 14, 1954 by check #3 in the amount of \$142.50.

In hopes of getting an early start and to stimulate some membership activity for the new year, on May 20th a letter went out from this office urging all Aeries to endeavor to report some new members for June.

Two prizes of \$25.00 each were set up for the month—one for the Aerie first to report its Quota for the new year and one for the Aerie reporting the most new members. The results will be interesting.

This my Brothers, completes the report of your State Membership Department. Thanks for bearing with me.

Now, may I take just a moment of your time to thank each and every one of you for the part you have played to make this report possible.

I know the importance of leadership. Your State Officers have done a fine job. To my Zone and District Directors let me say, without you our program could not have functioned.

And last but not least, let me mention the most important men of all, the local Aerie Officers, the Membership Chairman and all the producers who got the signatures on the dotted line.

Yes, to you all, let me say, you made it possible. Thanks a million.

In closing, let me say a word about the Grand Aerie—our New Grand Aerie—they don't want any praise, they just want to do a good job. They feel that the Eagles belong to the local Aeries.

But let me thank G.W.P. Bob Hansen and Mike Gaffney for their help and cooperation from the main office. And Maury Splain, Jr., for his guidance and help from the Grand Aerie Membership Department.

Brothers, God Bless you all and the best for 1954-55.

Signed:

KENNETH DECKER
State Membership Director

Legend: G.A.Q.—Grand Aerie Quota
N.Y.Q.—New York Quota
M.R.—Members reported for year.

No.	Aerie	G.A.Q.	N.Y.Q.	M.R.	No.	Aerie	G.A.Q.	N.Y.Q.	M.R.
46	Buffalo	264	12	0	2311	Toronto	60	48	**74
52	Rochester	168	132	**182	2333	Owego	36	24	11
053	Syracuse	36	24	12	2348	Batavia	36	24	9
88	Niagara Falls	48	36	33	2420	Amsterdam	36	12	0
96	Auburn	48	36	*39	2424	Medina	36	24	8
97	Utica	36	12	3	2429	Troy	36	24	4
393	Brooklyn	36	12	0	2430	Albany	36	12	0
0473	Yonkers	36	12	0	2447	Dunkirk	36	24	*31
482	Gloversville	84	48	28	2448	Kenmore	36	12	3
491	Bronx	36	12	0	2467	Hoosick Falls	36	24	14
514	Schenectady	84	60	45	2486	Glens Falls	36	24	*26
543	Staten Island	48	36	26	2586	Saratoga	36	12	0
544	Middletown	48	36	23	2590	Watkins Glen	36	24	19
583	Flushing	36	12	7	2621	Fort Hamilton	36	24	*31
616	Olean	72	48	18	2628	Albion	36	12	0
782	Watertown	84	60	*76	2640	Hornell	36	24	**41
825	Lockport	72	48	29	2644	Johnson City	36	12	*25
941	Elmira	72	48	*49	2687	Poughkeepsie	36	24	**54
1042	Tarrytown	36	24	*30	2692	DePew-Lan'ster	36	12	2
1043	Norwich	36	24	13	2695	Cobleskill	36	12	2
1117	Wash. Heights	36	12	0	2855	Westfield	36	12	0
1166	Port Chester	36	12	2	2870	Oswego	36	12	0
1253	Ithaca	108	72	*81	2917	New York City	36	12	0
1260	Oneonta	72	60	**77	2948	White Plains	36	12	1
1411	Tonowanda	48	36	11	3020	Montreal-Royal	36	24	**42
1509	Long Island	36	12	1	3116	Hicksville			Charter 96
1544	Rockaway Bch.	36	12	5					
1545	Ossining	36	12	*12					
1575	Johnstown	108	48	23					
1815	Northport	36	12	0	**Grand Aerie Quota				
1924	Bayridge	36	12	0	*State Aerie Quota				
2065	College Point	36	12	0	8 Aeries filled their Grand Aerie Quota.				
2119	Binghamton	48	36	**83	20 Aeries filled their New York Quota.				
2130	Montreal	72	60	**127					
2145	Jamestown	60	48	38					
2191	Cortland	36	24	10					
2269	Endicott	48	36	*36					
2299	Corning	48	36	*37	15 Aeries reported no members.				
					TOTAL				1649

Following the reading of the report Bro. Decker expressed his appreciation to all Aeries and Eagles for their efforts in making the past year successful and solicited their continued efforts in the future. Bro. Costello, #1117 inquired why no report of members reported were credited to Washington Heights Aerie? Bro. Decker advised that apparently no report had been received by the Grand Aerie. Bro. Gaffney moved the report of the State Membership Director be accepted, same seconded by Bro. Olds and carried.

REPORT OF F.O.E. STATE BOWLING ASSOCIATION

Read by Bro. Wurzer #52:

June 25th, 1954
Oneonta, New York

Balance 3/1/54	\$ 38.64
1954 Tourney Receipts	5,443.50
Cash Available	\$5,482.14

EXPENDITURES:

Prizes	\$3,093.00
Bowling Fees	1,387.05
Salary of Ass. Secretary	25.00
Expenses of Ass. Secretary	5.27
Tourney Sec. Salary	302.18
Scorekeepers	196.60
Issuing checks	15.00
Replacing void checks 319 thru 401	21.00
Expenses of meeting in Lockport 6/14/54	165.30

Total Expenses \$5,210.40

Balance 6/25/54 \$ 271.74

Signed:

PAUL M. AYERS,
State Secretary

JOSEPH L. WURZER,
Bowling Assoc. President

It was moved by Bro. Wurzer that the report be accepted, seconded by Bro. Ayers and carried.

Bro. Walter Hogan of #1575 stated that as State Legal Advisor he had attended a meeting of the State Bowling Assoc. and was prepared to submit a new set of up-to-date By-Laws for the New York State Aerie Bowling Assoc. replacing those drawn up in 1947 and since amended several times. Stated if there was no objection he would read only the changes in as much as they would be printed in the proceedings in their entirety. There being no objection the changes were read.

CONSTITUTION

N. Y. State Aerie Bowling Association

Article I

Name and Objects

Section I. This organization shall be known as The New York State Aerie Bowling Association, Fraternal Order of Eagles.

Section II. The object of the Association shall be to unite all individuals and bowling clubs, composed of members of the Fraternal Order of Eagles in New York State and to promote the best interests and ideals of the game of American tenpins. To adopt rules and create interest in the bowling game. To hold, conduct and supervise Statewide tournaments and establish the qualifications for those participating therein.

Article II Membership

Section I. Any bowling club in the State, composed of Eagles 18 or more years of age and who are IN GOOD STANDING in their respective Aeries are eligible to bowl in any tournament of the Association.

Section II. All association tournaments must be sanctioned by the American Bowling Congress (moral sanction) and conducted under the rules of the American Bowling Congress.

Section III. All Tournaments shall be on a handicap basis. The handicaps shall be fixed or changed from year to year by the Board of Directors of the Association.

Article III Management

Section I. The governing body of the State Association shall be composed of five directors. Three of such directors shall be elected by the Association. The remaining directors shall be the currently serving State President and State Secretary of the New York State Aerie. No Aerie shall be represented by more than one elected director.

Section II. The Board of Directors shall supervise all matters pertaining to the Association and its tournaments and the rules and regulations of the Association in harmony with the rules of organized bowling as promulgated by the American Bowling Congress. They shall endeavor to harmonize and promote the bowling game and adopt measures to advance the same.

Article IV Officers and Election

Section I. The officers of the Association shall be three elected directors, and the currently serving State President and State Secretary of the New York State Aerie, and an Association Secretary.

Section II. One director shall be elected each year at the annual meeting of the Association for a term of 3 years, except where a vacancy occurs between Association meetings in which case the Annual meeting shall elect a director to serve the unexpired term of the director whose office has become vacant in addition to the successor to the director whose three year term has expired.

Section III. The Association Secretary shall be elected at the annual meeting for a term of one year.

Section IV. To be eligible to the office of elected director the Community of the candidates home Aerie must have had at least three (3) teams entered in the Association Bowling Tournament just preceding his nomination and election. Such candidate shall also have been approved by his home Aerie for the office of director of the Association previous to the annual meeting.

Section V. The Association Secretary shall be elected from an Aerie which has entered at least one team in the tournament just previous to the Annual meeting. He need not be a director of the Association.

Section VI. Each elected director shall attend at least one meeting of the Board of Directors each year. In the event he fails to do so, the Annual meeting may declare the office vacant and elect a director for the unexpired term of the director who has so absented himself.

Section VII. In the event of vacancy in any elected office for any other cause than absence the chairman of the Board of Directors shall fill the vacancy by appointment, the appointee to serve until the next annual meeting of the Association.

Section VIII. Elected officers shall be chosen by majority vote of the representative of those Aeries which are present at the annual meeting. Each Aerie so present which has had entered at least one team in the Association Tournament just preceding the annual meeting shall have one vote.

Article VI Annual Meeting

Section I. The annual meeting of the Association shall be held on the third Sunday following the close of the Association Tournament in the host city. If such Sunday falls on a Holiday weekend or Mother's Day, the next succeeding Sunday which does not so fall will be the meeting date.

Section II. The Annual meeting shall elect officers, may choose the next tournament city, shall approve the prize list and winners in the preceding tournament, hear the reports of officers, and consider all other matters which may properly be considered for the good of the Association.

Section III. Each Aerie which has had one or more teams entered in the Tournament just preceding shall be entitled to one vote on all elections and business which may be presented to the Annual Meeting.

Section IV. Any Aerie in the State jurisdiction may present to the Annual meeting its bid for the next annual tournament. All such bids must be in writing, signed by the Aerie President and Secretary, and shall have been approved by a vote of the Aerie previous to being submitted. The Annual Meeting shall consider such bids and shall either choose the next Tournament city by majority vote, or may by like vote for good cause, authorize the directors to make further study and choose the Tournament city as soon as practical.

Section V. Any Aerie chosen as the host city for the next annual tournament must guarantee ten five man teams to be entered from their city, and such Aerie must pay to the Association the difference in the entry fees of the teams actually entered and the entry fees for ten teams.

Article VII Duties of Officers

Section I.—Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall hold an organization meeting immediately following the Annual Meeting of the Association and elect one of their members to be chairman thereof. As such chairman, he shall preside at all meetings of the Board and of the Association. The Board of Directors shall be the executive body of the ASSOCIATION. In addition to other duties herein authorized they shall meet on the first Sunday of November in the city where the next annual tournament is to be held and with the Tournament Secretary and the Bowling Committee of the host Aerie, and conduct all necessary business with regard to the coming tournament. The Board of Directors may also meet at any other time upon call of the Chairman or upon request of three members of the board and in either event, the Association Secretary shall notify all board members of such meeting by mail at least five days prior thereto.

The Board of Directors may also call a special meeting of the Association upon at least five days notice to all Aeries participating in the previous tournament and fix the place thereof, and the notice of such meeting shall contain the reason or reasons for such special meeting and the business to be conducted. Except as contained in such notice, no other business shall be considered at such special meeting of the Association.

The Board of Directors shall also:

1. Approve all posters, entry blanks, rules and regulations appearing thereon and shall specifically see that such entry blanks, include a notice that any check for prize money shall be void if not cashed by the 31st day of December of the year the tournament is held, and they shall further see that all official posters and entry blanks are mailed to all Aeries in the State jurisdiction not later than December 15, in the year preceeding the Tournament.

2. Approve all prize lists and trophies to be awarded the winners of the coming tournament.

3. Approve the alleys selected for the tournament and adopt the rules and regulations of the American Bowling Congress.

4. Adopt and amend suitable By-Laws to carry out the provisions of this Constitution.

Section II.—Association Secretary. The duties of the Association Secretary shall be as follows:

1. He shall attend and keep a true record of all meetings of the Association and of the Board of Directors.

2. He shall have charge of and conduct all correspondence of the Association; notify all members of meetings to be held, both regular and special, and make a full report at the close of his term of office to the Association of all matters arising during his term of office affecting the good of the Association.

3. In the absence of the Chairman of the Board of Directors he shall preside at all meetings of the Board and of the Association.

4. He shall furnish the Tournament Secretary with a financial statement of the previous bowling tournament for inclusion in the official entry program for the coming tournament.

Section III.—State Secretary. In addition to his duties as a director of the Association, the State Secretary shall also maintain jointly with the Tournament Secretary a special checking account in a Bank selected by the Directors and shall sign jointly with the Tournament Secretary all warrants or checks upon such account. This account shall be known as the "New York State Bowling Association Account."

Article VIII Tournament Secretary

Section 1. In addition to the foregoing officers there shall also be a managing head of the State tournament to be known as the Tournament Secretary. He shall be chosen by the host Aerie of the Tournament, subject to the approval of the Association Board of Directors. He shall serve under the general direction of the Directors and may be removed by the Board of Directors at any time for what is in their opinion just cause.

The Tournament Secretary shall have the following specific duties:

1. He shall be the managing head of the Annual State Bowling Tournament.

2. He shall receive all entries on behalf of the Association and file same promptly in the order received.

3. He shall receive all entry fees and bowling fees and deposit them promptly in a Bank or Banks designated by the Board of Directors of the Association in an account known as "The New York State Bowling Association Account" and all withdrawals therefrom shall be only on the joint signature of the Tournament Secretary and the State Secretary of the New York State Aerie of the Fraternal Order of Eagles.

4. He shall have charge of and be responsible for preparing, drafting and printing of the schedules for the annual tournament, and to change and amend the same for the best interests of the tournament, and so far as practical as requested by entrants to such tournament.

5. He shall arrange for all officials employed to act as score keepers, foul line judges, pin judges and such other help as may be necessary to facilitate the actual conduct of the tournament and an accurate and fair record of the participants therein.

6. He shall audit all charges and bills and certify to the State Secretary as to the correctness thereof which may be properly chargeable against the bowling account of the tournament, and which are necessary for the proper conduct of the tournament.

7. He shall make a complete report to the Directors of the tournament receipts and disbursements and shall submit a complete report of both receipts and disbursements and a prize list of winners to the Annual Meeting of the Association for its approval, together with such further reports as may be requested by the Directors or which should be brought before the Association for the good of the Association.

8. He shall report from time to time to the Association Secretary of the progress being made from time to time and may request a Special Meeting of the Directors if necessary to deal with any emergency which may arise affecting the success of the tournament.

9. Perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors which in their opinion is necessary for the actual conduct of the tournament.

10. Secure and include in the official program of the tournament a financial statement of the preceeding tournament as received from the Association Secretary, or the State Secretary of the New York State Aerie.

Article IX Salaries and Allowances

Section I. The Association Secretary shall receive a salary of \$25.00 per year and shall also receive necessary postage, stationary and similar expenses incidental to the office.

Section II. The Tournament Secretary shall receive as salary Seven and one-half cents (7½c) per line for all events bowled in the tournament.

Section III. All officers, directors, the Association Secretary and Tournament Secretary shall also receive for expenses in attending meetings of the Directors and the Association the same allowances for mileage, travel expenses and per-diem as are fixed for State Officers of the State Aerie for similar meetings of State Aerie Officers at the time such meetings are held.

Article X Amendments

Section I. This Constitution may be amended at any Annual Meeting of the Association by a 2/3 vote of those present and qualified to vote thereon.

Article XI Miscellaneous

Section I. All matters not covered herein for the conduct of meetings of the Association or the Board of Directors shall be governed by Roberts Rules of Order.

Section II. The failure of any Aerie to fully participate in any State Bowling Tournament shall cause any Association elective officer to vacate any office held by him at the time his home Aerie fails to participate.

As approved by the New York State Convention, Oneonta, New York, June, 1954.

Bro. Hogan on conclusion moved the approval and adoption of the new constitution, same seconded by Bro. Barringer #514 who stated the

1955 Tourney would be held in Jamestown, and urged the participation of all Aeries.

REPORT OF BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

By Bro. Walter J. Hogan for the By-Laws Committee

My Brothers:

The By-Laws Committee has but two proposed changes in the By-Laws for this year. This is because in all probability the Grand Aerie will, this year, completely revise the laws of the order, including Article 18, which governs the conduct of State Aeries. Therefore we propose only two changes in the By-Laws. We believe they are relatively non-controversial. The first proposed change would do away with the Zone Vice-Presidents. We have found they are principally honorary, have not worked well in practice, and are a source of considerable expense. It is therefore proposed the office of Zone Vice-President be eliminated.

Secondly we would add a new section to provide for the selection of the Convention City for the following year. We have and do propose that the State Secretary notify each Aerie at least thirty days prior to the convention that proposals or bids for the Convention for the next year shall be submitted, after having been approved by the local Aerie, and that the executive committee of the State Aerie choose the next Convention site from these bids during the Convention.

We believe both of these changes are sound and I will read them now, they do not need any action. They will be read again tomorrow, and at that time they can be approved, amended, or rejected. Thank you.

(Proposed changes read—See By-Laws in back of this Journal for text—Article three, Sec. 1, and Article 7, Sec. 2).

Bro. Costello #1117 stated that the F.O.E. had done some marvelous things for humanity and suggested that the N. Y. State Aerie sponsor a Grand Parents day, to be observed along the lines of Mother's Day and Father's Day. State President Astifan advised same should be referred to the Resolutions Committee. Bro. Costello stated the Resolutions Committee was not running the convention and asked action by the delegates. S.P. Astifan requested action by any interested Brother. No response.

Bro. Costello #1117 then suggested that any Eagle be allowed to attend the Convention this would rectify the dwindling attendance. S.P. Astifan advised that any member of the Order is allowed to sit in on the convention sessions.

State President Astifan asked for any further action under the Good of the Order. There being none the session adjourned until 9 a.m. Saturday morning.

SECOND SESSION

Saturday, June 26th, 1954

Second session called to order at 10 A. M. by State President Astifan in accordance with the F.O.E. ritual.

New Members were admitted to the State Aerie, and all present given the Obligation by PSP John Saxer.

SECOND REPORT OF CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE

Grand Aerie Representatives	3
State Officers	16
Past State Presidents	7
Delegates	122
Alternates	7
Past Worthy Presidents	50

Total Credentials issued 205

Moved by Brownell #482; Seconded by Kleeman #1260 that the report of the Credential Committee be accepted. Carried.

REPORT OF THE AUDITING COMMITTEE

To the Officers and Delegates:

We, the members of the Auditing Committee for the N. Y. State Aerie of the Fraternal Order of Eagles, respectfully submit the following report:

We have made an examination of the records, receipts and books of account of the State Treasurer and State Secretary and found same to balance and agree. Your Committee has approved same. We have examined the books of State Secretary Ayers and found them to be in excellent condition, maintained in detail form, clear and concise. Postings are to-date, and expense vouchers are on file to support all expenditures.

State Treasurer Loren Swanson's are equally well kept, with records and bank balances in harmony and agreement with those kept by the Secretary.

Signed:

DAVID BROWNELL, Chairman
CHARLES B. SHERMAN
HERMAN E. CASSEDY

It was moved by Brownell #482; Seconded by Kleeman #1260 that the report be accepted, carried.

REPORT OF STATE TRUSTEES

To The Officers and Members:

We, your Board of Trustees, in compliance with the laws of the New York State Aerie, have carefully examined the report of the Auditing Committee and we are happy to relate that the books, records, accounts and checks, as submitted by the State Treasurer and State Secretary, agree and balance. We have also checked the itemized inventory of all furniture and equipment of the State Aerie and estimate the value of same to be \$750.00.

In conclusion, the State Board of Trustees recommends that all expenses of the Convention, held at Oneonta, New York, to be paid as soon as possible.

Signed:

JOSEPH L. WURZER, Chairman
EDWARD J. MADDEN
ROBERT MAGNAN
AARON SIEGLER

Moved by Wurzer #52; seconded by Esse #52 the report be accepted as read. Carried.

REPORT OF RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION No. 1

Read by Harris #52:

WHEREAS, a great number of people do extremely enjoy playing Bingo as an entertainment, and WHEREAS, there are a number of persons who do now conduct such Bingo Games and do not utilize the proceeds received for the welfare of the general public.

THEREFORE, be it recommended that the New York State Aerie endeavor to have legislation enacted to legalize the holding of Bingo games by duly constituted Fraternal, Church, Veteran, Volunteer Firemen and Police Benevolent organizations,

BE IT FURTHER, recommended that this resolution be turned over to the State Legal Advisor to draft appropriate legislation patterned after the existing New Jersey law so that a bill embodying the provisions set forth herein can be submitted to the New York State Legislature at the earliest possible date,

Proposed by Rochester Aerie #52.

Signed:

RAYMOND BOEHL,
Worthy President

Moved by Harris #52, seconded by Swanson #2145, carried.

RESOLUTION No. 2

Read by Lane, #0473:

WHEREAS, the New York State Aerie Hyde Park Ceremony is, and by rights should be, a National institution, it should be under the direction of the New York State Aerie and its Leaders, and

WHEREAS, the New York State Aerie, and local Aeries have, in the past borne the entire expense of the observance, and

WHEREAS, a set date and proper publicity would enhance the ceremony and add to the solemnity of same,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the New York State Aerie go on record to continue the Hyde Park Services in Memorium to our late President and Brother, Franklin D. Roosevelt, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Grand Aerie be contacted in regard to their financial assistance of this observance and their aid in obtaining proper publicity coverage of same.

Lewis #544 stated the purpose of this resolution is to bring the interest of the Grand Aerie to the signing of the Social Security Bill. We feel that it will give it National significance. It will not increase our budget. We have an appropriation of \$100.00 in the budget, but this is not enough. We have hopes that the Grand Aerie will help finance this Observance. I urge that you adopt this resolution.

Lane #0473 moved the adoption of the resolution, same seconded by Madden #97 and when put to vote carried.

RESOLUTION No. 3

Read by Esse #52:

With the knowledge that today, our Nation is placing more and more of the responsibilities of government on those of our citizens who are under 21 years of age, and

With the belief that in the subsequent years to come, our youth will be called to assume an ever increasing number of obligations, and

With the further conviction that these individuals between the ages of 18 to 21 years of age, who are, and may be, called upon to bear this burden of citizenship should be entitled to exercise the rights and privileges afforded to those who are over 21 years of age,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie No. 52 of the City of Rochester, on the 21st day of August, 1952, did make, second and duly pass a motion proposing the legislature of the State of New York place before the people of the State of New York for their referendum, an Amendment to Article II Section 1 of the Constitution of the State of New York, and to further have the legislature amend Section 150 of the New York Election Law whereby the qualification voting age be lowered from the now existing 21 years to 18 years, so that any citizen, upon attaining the eighteenth (18th) birthday, may vote in any election held within New York State, under regulations and conditions prescribed by the legislature. This action to be referred to the New York State Aerie.

Moved by Esse #52, that the resolution be adopted, seconded by Madden #97 and carried.

RESOLUTION No. 4

Read by Lagonegro #941:

WHEREAS, During the course of the past fiscal year, this Order has made outstanding changes in the administration of the affairs of our fraternity on a national level, and

WHEREAS, these changes in our basic law have enabled our State Aerie and our local Aeries to operate and to conduct their affairs with a far greater independence and in a true spirit of real fraternal democracy, and

WHEREAS, as a result of this freedom from National and Grand Aerie dictatorship, we are once again showing fraternal, numerical and financial progress, and

WHEREAS, as a result of the action taken at the now historic Indianapolis Convention, we can once again hold our heads high and be justly proud of our membership in a real fraternal society and not a commercial institution, and

WHEREAS, much of the credit for this giving of the "Eagles back to the Eagles" is due to the courage and convictions of our present Grand Aerie leaders, especially Robert W. Hansen, Grand Worthy President, and Maurice Splain, Jr., Secretary of the Board of Grand Trustees, and

WHEREAS, this fraternity is fortunate to have as our leaders, men with no thought of personal gain or sacrifice, but only with sincere desire to build a greater Eagledom for the members of today and for those that will follow,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, as delegates to this annual New York State Aerie Convention pledge our whole hearted support to Grand Worthy President Bob Hansen and the present Grand Aerie leaders, in the building of a truly democratic organization, a bigger and better Fraternal Order of Eagles, and as a result, the building of a bigger and better America.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANK LAGONEGRO,
W. President, Elmira Aerie No. 941
Elmira, New York

Attest: Herman Cassidy, Secretary

Moved by Lagonegro #941 the resolution be adopted, seconded by P.S.P. Kamas #941 and carried.

RESOLUTION No. 5

(Suggested by Vermont State Aerie)

Read by Harris #52:

Resolved: That whereas article 18, section 11 (a), Grand Aerie Constitution does read as follows: No person, other than a past president of a subordinate aerie, shall be eligible for the office of president, vice-president or secretary of a state, district or provincial aerie.

Whereas: In view of the above section it is impossible for officers, other than past presidents, of subordinate aeries to advance further than the office of chaplain in a state aerie.

Whereas: It is not fair, proper, or judicial for a person who is not a past president of a subordinate aerie to compete against a past president of a subordinate aerie, for all offices in a state aerie except president, vice-president or secretary.

Therefore, be it resolved that article 18, section 11 (a), Grand Aerie constitution, be amended to read as follows: No person other than a past president of a subordinate aerie, shall be eligible to hold any office except that of trustee, in a state, district or provincial aerie.

Be it further resolved that the secretary of the State Aerie be instructed to forward copy of this resolution to the Grand Aerie Resolutions Committee for their action.

The above stated resolution was passed by Champlain Aerie #793, Fraternal Order of Eagles, on Tuesday, May 4, 1954, and hereby is transmitted to the Vermont State Aerie through Brother James Shea, secretary of said aerie.

Champlain Aerie #793, Fraternal Order of Eagles, Burlington, Vermont.

JOSEPH R. MONTVILLE, President

Attest: Ray Marston, Secretary

The above resolution was passed by the Vermont State Aerie at its annual convention on July, 1954.

Following the reading of the above resolution, Harris #52 stated the committee did not believe the action a good one. No action.

RESOLUTION No. 6

Read by Lane #0473:

WHEREAS for the past several years the printing of obscene, suggestive, immoral, lewd and similar type "comic" books has been a source of serious concern to all parents of small children and

WHEREAS the widespread distribution and sale of such books has caused the creation of a special legislative committee to conduct hearings, report thereon to the legislature of the State of New York, and to introduce and support legislation aiming to abolish the evils found, and

WHEREAS at the session of the legislature of the State of New York just ended three bills were passed and sent to the Governor of the State of New York and which are only a partial solution to the problem, the legislative committee and members thereof feeling there is still further work to be done,

NOW THEREFORE, FORT JOHNSON AERIE No. 1575 of the Fraternal Order of Eagles does hereby

RESOLVE in regular meeting assembled and on behalf of more than 1100 men in the City of Johnstown, New York, that the work of the joint special legislative committee currently investigating this problem under the chairmanship of the Hon. James A. Fitzpatrick, Member of Assembly, be endorsed and approved and be it further

RESOLVED THAT THIS AERIE and individual members thereof lend any assistance possible to the work of this committee to the end that the evil indecent "comics" be removed from the State of New York, and be it further

RESOLVED THAT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION be sent to Hon. James A. Fitzpatrick, to Hon. Joseph P. Younglove, Member of Assembly from Fulton County, to Hon. Walter Van Wiggeran, Senator from the 40th Senatorial District of New York, and to Hon. Harvey W. Mansfield, Mayor of the City of Johnstown, and be it further

RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Resolutions Committee of the New York State Aerie of the Fraternal Order of Eagles for appropriate action by the New York State Aerie in its coming State Convention at Oneonta, New York, and with the active approval and support of Fort Johnson Aerie and its delegates to that Convention.

The foregoing is a copy of a resolution regularly offered and passed by Fort Johnson Aerie No. 1575, Fraternal Order of Eagles, Johnstown, New York, at a regular meeting of the Aerie held on March 25, 1954.

CARL W. BUSHOUER, President

Attest: Ernest Ford, Secretary.

Moved by Lane #0473 the resolution be adopted, seconded by Canfield #482 and carried.

RESOLUTION No. 7

Read by Esse #52:

WHEREAS, for many years, in the past, the Fraternal Order of Eagles operated successfully in cooperation with the subordinate Aeries in the furnishing of Field Auditors, and

WHEREAS, said program was discontinued after such Field Auditors found their primary function diverted to activities which created a lack of cooperation between the subordinate Aeries and the Grand Aerie, and

WHEREAS, there is a real need for Grand Aerie Auditors whose functions are confined to recommendations, help and cooperation with the subordinate Aeries,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the New York State Aerie recommend and urge the Grand Aerie to substitute a system of Field Auditing designed to counsel and assist the subordinate Aeries of the Order.

This resolution suggested by Aeries of N. Y. District #1 assembled in Toronto. Approved and further recommended by the Officers of the N. Y. State Aerie.

Moved by Esse #52 the resolution be adopted, seconded by Pelley #543 and carried.

RESOLUTION No. 8

Read by Lagonegro #941:

WHEREAS, the St. Lawrence Seaway is to be constructed, and

WHEREAS, it is one of our beliefs that the standard of living should continue to be raised,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the New York State Aerie endeavor by every means possible, to urge the State of New York, the United States Government and the Canadian Government to assist, by way of improvements all the towns and cities which are located on the Great Lakes by every means at their avail, so that these cities and towns can benefit from any and all commerce and businesses that may utilize the St. Lawrence Seaway.

RAYMOND BOEHL,
W.P. Rochester Aerie #52

Moved by Lagonegro #941, seconded by Sherman #97 the resolution be adopted. Carried.

RESOLUTION No. 9

Read by Harris #52:

WHEREAS, the philosophy of the Fraternal Order of Eagles is to add to the sum of human happiness of the average person, and

WHEREAS, it is our belief that raising the working standards of the average individual will aid both them and their families.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that any printing purchased by the Fraternal Order of Eagles bear the union label.

Submitted by Rochester Aerie #52

RAYMOND BOEHL, Worthy President

Moved by Harris #52 the resolution be adopted, seconded by Glaser #52 and carried.

REPORT OF RITUAL COMMITTEE

Bro. Wm. Harris, Chr. #2447 Announced that Ritual competition would start in the convention hall at 1 p.m. and requested representatives of all teams competing meet with him immediately to complete the scheduling of the competition.

State President Astifan then introduced Grand Aerie Representative Bro. Al Williams, (Past State President of Pennsylvania):

MR. WILLIAMS: It is certainly a happy privilege that I have of coming here and representing our great Eagle and Worthy President, Brother Hansen. In his behalf, it gives me great pleasure to offer you Brothers his greetings.

Personally, I want to say that I have enjoyed the two days I have been here, and your fellowship. I believe that New York State is the greatest State I have been in, and I think you are a fine bunch of Brothers. I want you to know that I have really enjoyed being here. Yes, I think New York State is the biggest State in Eagledom, except Pennsylvania.

My Brothers, in behalf of the Trustees of the Memorial Foundation I want to thank the Chairman for his grand report yesterday and for the donation given the fund. I do not have to tell you what it is for, because you know, but I would like to give you some of its history. Since the change last August, Brother Hansen put the original chairman back and we had a meeting in South Bend on the Foundation. We found over \$700,000 invested in stocks. You know that we are going out of the Stock Market, and I am happy to say that we have gotten out of stocks and have invested in government bonds, legal securities, etc. Over \$800,000 is in a mortgage in Cincinnati. So far this money is still in there because we are getting good interest.

We found that we were stuck with carloads of Christmas Cards and no Aerie could be solicited. They cost 32c a box and we offer them at 36c to anyone who will take them off our hands. We would like to break even on these Christmas Cards and get the money back into the Memorial Foundation Fund. I would like to suggest that the Aeries put on a drive to sell these cards. We can not send them out because that is illegal. All we can do is ask you to take them off our hands.

We have paid all bills and we average 125 cases a month—at the present time about \$4,000 to \$6,000 a month. Thirty-six boys and girls are in colleges and universities throughout the United States in the past year, and I believe we will have 40 or 50 this coming year to add to these 36. Only the interest is used. The entire Fund amounts to two and one-half million dollars.

We have been asked what is going to happen to this Fund after this. We will start another charitable cause. However, no laws will be passed unless 51% of the Aeries throughout the country receive literature on the law and have a chance to vote on it before the convention. Going along on the interest, we feel we will hit the peak in 1956 and that the interest will not then be enough.

Please publicize our Memorial Foundation in your Aerie. Back it up more. I think it is one of the greatest achievements that we have and one of the greatest things we can be proud of by our Order. We hope you will start fund-raising campaigns, as you have done with the wonderful Damon Runyon Fund Drive, and then I am sure we will not have to worry about paying for the education of these children when the time comes. Some Aeries have asked members to contribute a penny at each meeting, and quite a bit of money has been collected in this way. Please realize that you are the parents of 1300 boys and girls whose fathers did not come back from the 2nd World War.

The purpose of this organization is to bring men together, because they can do more working as a team than they can do individually. I want to say, my Brothers, that today we need Fraternalism in America and throughout the world more than it has ever been needed in the history of our country. Years ago, lodges were well attended and I know you will agree with me that today they are not. If we had Fraternalism in this country and throughout the world today, we would not have Communism today. We have actually gotten away from Fraternalism. Man today seems to pull himself into a shell and does not seem to care about his neighbors or his nation. I would like to leave with the delegates in this Convention the thought that they pledge themselves to greater Fraternalism, and that we preach Fraternalism more today.

To the Brothers who have their 87th anniversary on the 21st of July, I want to wish them a Happy Birthday.

Brothers, let us keep preaching Fraternalism and let us take an interest in our community. We have the greatest Fraternal organization in the world today. We have nothing to sell but Fraternalism, and if we sell that, we are doing something for our families and our country. (APPLAUSE)

REPORT OF STATE OF THE ORDER COMMITTEE

Read by Chr. Costello #1117:

Although the State of New York has made large gains in membership for the year 1953-54, it is obvious that conditions which exist in many Aeries are very poor. These conditions are due to financial circumstances in many instances.

The Committee recommends the Organization Department make an effort to send men into these Aeries that have failed to make progress in membership, for advice and instructions to carry on.

Aeries showing progress have proven that it is essential to keep plugging for new members, reason, it is the largest asset to the Aerie, not only in carrying on our humanitarian programs but to build up the Social Funds that are so necessary to keep our Aeries active, to finance successful membership campaigns for further growth. Without new members these Aeries will fail.

The leadership of many Aeries has been of the highest caliber and the reward has been progress and a well-balanced membership. Your committee wishes to compliment all Aeries that achieved their membership quotas, also those Aeries that have honestly tried to build up their membership. We wish to thank Bro. Kenneth Decker, State Membership Director for the splendid job and services he has rendered to our State Aerie.

EDWARD COSTELLO, Chr. #1117
CLIFFORD BROOKINS, #616
LESTER BLOOM, #2119
WILLIAM FIELDS, #2590
EDWARD MARCOTT, #2130

REPORT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE

P.S.P. Edward Kamas #941:

We have given you plenty of time to present your candidates, and we hope that this report meets with your approval. Now we will present our report:

State President—Harold Crawford—#2621
State Vice-President—Keene M. Brown—#1253
State Chaplain—Frank Lewis—#544
State Secretary—Alfred Lane—#0473
Walter Hogan—#1575
State Treasurer—Loren Swanson—#2145
State Conductor—Charles Edwards—#514
State Inside Guard—Al Corneby—#2269
State Outside Guard—Robert Magnan—#2130
State Trustees—Kenneth Snyder—#2119
Jack Eggleston—#1260
Raymond Boehl—#52
William Harris—#2447

NOMINATIONS were then requested for ALL Offices with the additional nominations being made: For State Outside Guard; Bro. Lloyd Ryerson, Aerie #1042, nominated by Bro. Harry Dietrich of #1042.

State President Astifan thanked the nominating committee for their work and then recognized P.S.P. Ken Decker who stated that in the presentation of the Judiciary report he had advised there might be a change in the Order so that voting might be done on Saturday P.M. Decker moved that the Order be so changed, same was seconded by Schrout.

Under the Question, State Secretary Ayers stated that there were various details necessary to conduct the election. For example printing of a ballot, that a printer had been advised to stand by for preparation for a ballot for Sunday, possibly same could not be received in time for Saturday voting. Also that care should be taken not to rush such an important matter of business, every effort should be made to insure Justice and Democracy. Bro. Schrout #1116 suggested re-opening of the election on Sunday A. M.

Brothers Decker, Ayers, Esse and Manzer spoke further on the subject during which the suggestion was made that the candidates for Office where there were competition be queried regarding their wishes. There was no objection from any of the candidates and on being put to a vote the motion was carried.

State President Astifan then announced that the Election would be had in the Home of Oneonta Aerie from 3 p.m. until 6 p.m.

REPORT OF STATE SECRETARY

Once again it is my privilege to present to this State Aerie a report of the preceeding year's accomplishments. The record is similar to that of recent years, starting with the downward trend from 1947 on. Not favorable in some respects but producing sound hope for improvement in others. I wish it were possible for each of you to have the same contacts via phone, mail, etc. with the collective status of N. Y. Eagledom. In the next few minutes I will endeavor to present through this report my sincere impression in the following fundamental respect: Financial, Membership, and Fraternal.

It is a pleasure to state, that while there are no extra dollars available, and it is imperative that strict attention be paid to all financial matters, our State Aerie is fundamentally financially sound. Several years back we adopted the policy of paying as we go and that course should continue to be followed, not only in our State Aerie, but in ALL

AERIES. Each year a budget is prepared and presented to this State Aerie, that budget is based on the anticipated per capita tax from all Aeries, when same is not received, the operation of your State Aerie is further limited.

At present only eight Aeries are in arrears in State per capita tax payment as follows:

46—Buffalo	\$497.05
393—Brooklyn	45.00 Est.
1411—Tonawanda	73.65
2430—Albany	14.00 Est.
2448—Riv.-Kenmore	5.00 Est.
2467—Hoosick Falls	30.00 Est.
2628—Albion	10.00 Est.
2855—Westfield	10.00 Est.

The fore-going delinquency is for and previous to the tax due 11/30/53. Credit is due those Aeries that despite the same difficulties that face all of us—lay the cabbage on the line when due. You can readily see that only by all Aeries paying their share of the load can your State Aerie continue to operate. And may I point out that when our State or Grand Aerie start to dissolve and curtail because our local Aeries don't come through, the same problems must be faced that arise in our own Aeries when our members fail to come thru. The basic reason for the organization of your Aerie, our State and Grand Aerie, is to gain that which we can gain together but not alone.

Credit should be given to your State Officers who continue to hold regular quarterly meetings without compensation. Possibly I should draw your attention to an unfortunate fact that has been evident for the past several years, discussed by your State leaders and becoming increasingly necessary, and that is curtailing the major item of expense and that is your State convention costs. I firmly recommend that your State Executive Board consider conducting this State Aerie session on a two day basis with one session each day. Of equal importance is consideration of returning to the policy under which this State Aerie operated for many years, that in which the only officers compensated for attendance at the State session would be your State President and Secretary. If the local Aerie desires representation, they should be willing to pay the freight and at least send their representative in the State chairs as a delegate, thus eliminating this expense to the State Aerie.

Moving along to MEMBERSHIP and I need not dwell too long As State Membership Director Ken Decker presented an excellent detailed report yesterday. A year ago our New York State Aerie showed a gain of 26 members over the previous year. During the past year we showed a loss of 78. However, if the same progress had been obtained for the 1st half of the year that was obtained from January on—a sizable gain would have been recorded. I sincerely believe that the coming year will show outstanding membership progress but only if every Aerie does its full share. Let's forget the alibi, it can't be done—and get off our fannies and do it! Great credit should be given to St. Director Ken Decker and his Zone and District Directors for the accomplishments of the past year.

Moving along to what I consider the most important factor necessary for progress in this State Aerie and our entire Order as stressed by G.A. Representative Mike Gaffney, at yesterday's session, and that is FRATERNALISM. Much comment has been made since last August about the historic changes of the last Grand Aerie session. I think it should be noted that at the 1951 State Aerie session in Rochester, this State Aerie was advised as follows: "There can be no true progress without a sound, genuine, FRATERNAL, foundation." We must realize the true

value of genuine fraternalism and as, Mike Gaffney stated, "We have only one thing to sell today—and that is fraternalism."

I am sure at the conclusion of this convention that each of us, as we give an account of our stewardship during the past year, will go away, resolved that we will have a better understanding within our Order; that we will have a better understanding of fellowship; and a better understanding of our leadership, because you and I know that the forces that are working in the world today—if they would destroy us and that is their intent—realize that to do so they will have to destroy our social and spiritual bonds as well as the military and fraternal background of our country.

A detailed financial report is attached for printing in the proceedings of this State Convention. This concludes my final report as your State Secretary. Several months ago I advised the State leaders that it was not my intention to be a candidate for re-election. This decision was made because the load has just become too great to be handled justly. I have never concurred in the thoughts that any person is indispensable, in fact time proves that changes are healthy as they bring new ideas, new enthusiasm. The many requests of your delegates and your Aeries that I continue to serve makes me believe that to the best of my ability—the job has been done. It is my intention to be active, I just want a good rest. I hereby pledge all possible aid to my successor and your new officers.

In conclusion may I express to State President Astifan, Ken Decker, your State and Grand Aerie officers and leaders, and to the delegates in attendance, my sincere personal thanks for the many honors and favors which have been extended to me and my wife by this State Aerie over a period of years. To have served you was surely a great honor—to have enjoyed your friendship was a rich experience—to have benefited from your courtesies was a rare privilege for which I shall be genuinely thankful all the days of my life. May God bless each of you.

Respectfully submitted,

PAUL M. AYERS,
State Secretary

STATE SECRETARY'S FINANCIAL REPORT

June 1st, 1954

RECEIPTS:

	November	June	Total
Per Capita Tax From Aeries	\$2,697.40	\$2,431.55	\$5,128.95
Memorial Foundation Donations	54.45	150.50	204.95
#782—½ Bowling Prize	28.00		28.00
'53 Conv. Credential Comm.	211.42		211.42
Nat'l Conv. N. Y. Room	27.23		27.23
Ohio Supply Co. refund	1.00		1.00
Repayment advance to N. Y. Mem. Dept. :		142.50	142.50
	\$3,019.50	\$2,724.55	\$5,744.05
Balance June 1st, 1953			\$1,412.51
Total Cash Available			\$7,156.56

EXPENDITURES:

	November	June	Total
Salary of State Secretary	\$ 298.80	\$ 304.60	\$ 603.40
Salary of other Officers	25.00	25.00	50.00
Expenses Delegate G.A. Convention	150.00		150.00
Expenses Officers to State Convention	917.30		917.30
Memorial Foundation donations	439.06		439.06
Supplies from G.A.	2.59		2.59
Stationary, Printing, Postage	145.87	36.64	182.51
Bond Premium	62.50		62.50
State President Visitations	247.65	499.12	746.77
Other Visitations	312.53	289.11	601.64
Social Security	12.00	14.00	26.00
F.O.E. Pension	36.00	36.00	72.00
Federal Withholding Tax	79.20	77.61	156.81
Telephone & Telegraph	87.40	96.64	184.04
Misc. Convention Expense	530.77	22.00	552.77
Expenses of State Legal Advisor	99.40	52.00	151.40
Refund Per Capita Tax	74.95		74.95
Nat'l Conv. N. Y. Room	48.05		48.05
Bank Charges	3.00	1.51	4.51
Bowling Trophy	47.35		47.35
Hyde Park Service	100.00		100.00
Flowers		31.87	31.87
January Drive Posters		31.25	31.25
Bowling Assoc. Expense			106.25
	<u>\$3,719.42</u>	<u>\$1,623.60</u>	<u>\$5,343.02</u>
Balance June 1st, 1954			\$1,813.54
Total			\$7,156.56

REPORT OF DAMON RUNYON FROLIC COMMITTEE

New York State placed 12th among the Eagle jurisdiction for our 1953 Damon Runyon Cancer Fund Frolics. We never know what is going to happen tomorrow, so let's continue to stay behind this great humanitarian effort. It is my privilege to make a few presentations to the Aeries leading our N. Y. effort during the past year:

- 1st—Staten Island Aerie—#543
- 2nd—Fort Hamilton Aerie—#2621
- 3rd—Saratoga Springs Aerie—#2586
- 4th—Ossining Aerie—#1545
- 5th—Medina Aerie—#2424

1953 DAMON RUNYON CANCER FUND FROLIC REPORT

Aerie No.	Name	Aerie	Auxiliary	Joint Frolic	Total
52	Rochester	\$100.00	\$	\$	\$ 100.00
96	Auburn			100.00	100.00
0473	Yonkers	10.00			10.00
543	Staten Island			500.00	500.00
544	Middleton			102.00	102.00
583	Flushing		5.00		5.00
782	Watertown		30.00		30.00
825	Lockport	32.50			32.50
941	Elmira			175.00	175.00
1042	Tarrytown	75.00	10.00		85.00
1043	Norwich		5.00		5.00
1411	Tonawanda		10.00		10.00
1509	Long Island	5.00			5.00
1544	Rockaway Beach		26.00		26.00
1545	Ossining	232.00	50.00		282.00
2119	Binghamton		50.00		50.00
2191	Cortland		41.21		41.21
2299	Corning		35.00		35.00
2333	Owego		5.00		5.00
2348	Batavia	25.00	25.00		50.00
2424	Medina			276.00	276.00
2486	Glens Falls			80.00	80.00
2586	Saratoga Springs	305.75			305.75
2621	Brooklyn			400.00	400.00
2628	Albion		10.00		10.00
2687	Poughkeepsie	10.00			10.00
		<u>\$795.25</u>	<u>\$302.21</u>	<u>\$1,633.00</u>	<u>\$2,730.46</u>

It was moved by Swanson #2145 that the report be accepted, seconded by Glaser #52 and carried.

RESOLUTION No. 10

Read by Harris #52:
Oneonta, New York
June 26, 1954

WHEREAS, since we, the Fraternal Order of Eagles, have sponsored local and national, civic and charitable programs such as Boys' Town, Old Age Security, Mothers' Day and many others, and

WHEREAS, in the State of New York we have a most worthy and equally justified cause, namely, Girls' Town, now located in Brooklyn, New York, and

WHEREAS, since the Eagles have not sponsored any civic or charitable cause on the Eastern sea board and

WHEREAS, this section would benefit greatly from the peoples view point as to what the Fraternal Order of Eagles stand for,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Delegates of Fort Hamilton Aerie No. 2621, request that the State Aerie will consider rendering their support and assistance and submit their report at our next Convention, with findings on same being passed on to our Grand Aerie for due consideration.

Signed:
HERBERT K. OLDS, R.W.P.
SHERMAN J. CRAWFORD, Sec.

Submitted by Ft. Hamilton Aerie No. 2621, F.O.E., Brooklyn, New York.

Harris #52 moved the adoption of the resolution, seconded by Canfield #482 and carried.

REPORT OF OLD AGE AND SOCIAL SECURITY COMMITTEE

To the Officers and Delegates:

Dear Brothers:

Your Committee reports that it has actively continued its study of Old Age Assistance and Social Security Legislation. As usual, there have been introduced in the Senate and Assemblies, various bills designed to amend the Social Welfare Law.

We of New York State can be proud that our great Empire State is among the leaders in enacting Legislation protecting our workers, against wage loss from on-the-job accidents and sickness.

We feel that these are steps in the right direction and hereby pledge our constant watchfulness and all out effort of Old Age and Social Security improvements. We believe this activity to be worthy of the cooperation of all Aeries and all Eagles and earnestly solicit your support.

Respectfully submitted,
E. J. MADDEN, Chairman
JOSEPH E. SANBORN
ALTON CORNEBY
ALBERT SCHRAFT

Madden #97 moved the report be accepted, same seconded by Hall #825 and carried.

REPORT OF CIVIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

On this, the 56th anniversary of our Order, we are indeed proud to list the following Aeries—

Listed numerically and not according to the amount of activity. Twenty-three (23) Aeries have reported:

The following Aeries — # 46 Buffalo
053 Syracuse
97 Utica
0473 Yonkers
514 Schenectady
543 Staten Island
544 Middletown
782 Watertown
825 Lockport
1042 Tarrytown
1117 Washington Heights
1166 Port Chester
1253 Ithaca
1260 Oneonta
1545 Ossining
1575 Johnstown
2119 Binghamton
2333 Owego
2467 Hoosick Falls
2590 Watkins Glen
2691 Ft. Hamilton
2687 Poughkeepsie
2695 Cobleskill

Thanks to these co-operating Aeries we can gain a picture of what our Aeries are doing in civic affairs in their own communities. This is an Honor Roll of F.O.E. accomplishments.

Programs in which the F.O.E. have either sponsored or aided are too long to enumerate wholly but we would be sadly amiss not to recognize the variety of material aid given freely by our fellow members:

Employment of physically handicapped
Crusade for safety—F.O.E.
Crusade for Freedom—Battle for Peace
Berlin Youth Program
Damon Runyon Program (Cancer Frolics)
Memorial Foundation—F.O.E.
American Heritage—Safe guarding the rights of American Youth
I am an American Day
Mothers Day—F.O.E.—Ted Malone (The Roving Reporter)
Bond a Month Drive
On the Job training
Eagles Birthday
Bill of rights—Equality of All Americans
County Home Parties
Cerebral Palsey—P.A.L.—Salvation Army
Heart Fund Drive—American Cardiac
Children's Xmas Parties
Red Cross—T.B. Fund
Halloween Party—Juvenile Delinquency
Community Chest—Children Days
Little League—Babe Ruth—Junior League
KLOTHES for Korea—March of Dimes
Hospital Funds Drive
Boys Town
Boy Scout
Girl Scout
Cub Scout

Fraternally submitted,

FRANK H. LEWIS #544,
Chairman

CHARLES J. KORHERR #1253

CHRIS MITCHELL #1545

Moved by Lewis #544 the report be accepted, seconded by Lagonegro #941 and carried.

Bro. Wm. Harris #2447 announced the following schedule for Ritual Competition:

1 p. m.—Gloversville—#482
2 p. m.—Ithaca—#1253
3 p. m.—Rochester—#52
4 p. m.—Utica—#97

There being no further business to come before the State Aerie. The Session was adjourned to meet again at 9:30 A.M. Sunday.

THIRD AND FINAL SESSION

Sunday, June 27th, 1954

The final session of the 1954 State Aerie Convention was called to order by State President Astifan at 10 a.m., in accordance with the F.O.E. Ritual.

New members were admitted to the State Aerie and given the Obligation by PGWP William H. Mostyn.

REPORT OF GRIEVANCE AND APPEALS COMMITTEE

TO THE OFFICERS AND DELEGATES:

We, as members of your Grievances and Appeals Committee consider it a privilege to serve you. We have been continuously available throughout this Convention to hear any grievances or appeals which any Delegate or Past Worthy President may have to submit.

Today, it is our pleasure to report that not one grievance or appeal has been brought to our attention.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANK PELLEY, Chr. #543
EDWARD F. POLLARD #491
HAROLD DUNHAM #2333

Chr. Pelley moved the adoption of the report. Same was seconded by Magnan of #2130 and carried.

REPORT OF YOUTH GUIDANCE COMMITTEE

To the Delegates to the 48th Annual Convention:

The report of your Youth Guidance Committee is such that we feel that much has been accomplished this past year in favor of the youth of not only our individual Communities, but in State-wide and National scope.

We have taken advantage of the offers made by the Youth Guidance Council of the Grand Aerie by the distribution of the Ten Commandments Scroll. We have promoted Youth Activities in the Aeries from which we have realized new members and young blood.

We of the Committee feel that this sort of activity means the future of our Order and we should use our every effort to assure the continuance of this program.

CHARLES P. EDWARDS, Chr. #514
ALTON CORNEBY #2269
LESTER P. BLOOM #2119
EDWARD MARCOTT #2130
WILLIAM FIELDS #2590

Chr. Edwards moved the adoption of the report, same seconded by Bros. Sattler, #941 and Sherman #97 and carried.

REPORT ON HYDE PARK SERVICE

The last Sunday in August of last year was the occasion of our annual observance of Social Security Program Memorial. This was held at the last resting place of one of our most famous Brothers, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, as has been our custom for the past five (5) years, and was a very appropriate site.

The Ladies' Aux. of Gloversville Aerie exemplified the Memorial Services at the famous grave. Madam Past State President, Mrs. Miriam Wolrath led the team which was captained by Mrs. Arline Rocca. New York State President Louis Astifan acted for the New York State Aerie following the Services at the grave. Sister Elinor Roosevelt held an audience on the lawn in front of the Roosevelt Mansion, which is now under the administration of the U.S. National Park Service.

A large group of visitors were grouped around the teams and their escorts. Delegations were present from Gloversville—headed by W.P. Merle Canfield. Also Eagles from Middletown, Poughkeepsie, and Watertown were present. This program went off very smoothly and reflected to the benefit of the Fraternal Order of Eagles. Mrs. Roosevelt spoke of her own interest in the F.O.E. and said that her husband thought very highly of the Order. Mrs. Roosevelt suggested that the F.O.E. keep close check on proposed legislation in the future.

Fraternally submitted by 1953
Hyde Park Committee,

FRANK H. LEWIS #544
Co-Chairman

Chr. Lewis moved the adoption of the report, same seconded by Brown #1253 and carried.

REPORT OF THE "IN MEMORIAM" COMMITTEE

Oneonta, New York, June 27, 1954

WHEREAS, during the past year, death hath struck many times at the door of Veteran Leaders of our Grand Aerie and State Aerie, among whom of which were Thomas R. Kennedy, Organizer and first Vice-President of the New York State Aerie; Ernest J. Mahoney, Past State President; and, during the past few weeks, John DiMaggio, serving as State Trustee with our current board, together with Charles Robinson a member of the State Aerie and the oldest living Charter Member of Schenectady Aerie No. 514, who passed away during our Convention.

This has saddened us greatly. These Leaders have been called to the Grand Aerie beyond and are now contributing to that body as they did in the Grand Aerie on earth for many years.

During the last year, the New York jurisdiction has lost, in its various subordinate Aeries, hundreds of active members, all loyal to this Order.

We mourn our losses, yet realize there is a power greater than any or all of us who, in His wisdom, guides our destinies and we bow to His will.

But we keenly miss the Fraternal associations and wise counsels of our absent Brothers who devoted themselves to the cause of Eagledom. It is no more than fitting that we pause, at this time, to give expression to our grief.

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the New York State Aerie of the Fraternal Order of Eagles in Convention assembled in Oneonta, N. Y., this year of 1954, do hereby take official notice of these leaders and rededicate ourselves to carry on the task of continuing to build up our beloved Fraternal Order of Eagles, the work which they were compelled to stop, by the strong arm of death.

Signed:

MERLE CANFIELD, Chr. #482
THOMAS FALVEY #583
KEENE M. BROWN #1253
HERBERT K. OLDS #2621

Fitting and proper Memorial Service was then conducted by Brothers Canfield; Corneby; and Olds; concluding with a period of silent prayer in tribute to our departed Brothers.

It was then moved by Olds, #2621, seconded by Scharf #46 that the report be adopted. Carried.

FINAL REPORT OF RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RESOLUTION No. 11

Read by Laconegro #941:

June 27, 1954

WHEREAS, Charles M. Robinson, a Past Worthy President and a Charter member of Schenectady Aerie No. 514, has passed to the Great Beyond, and

WHEREAS, we, the State Aerie in session here in Oneonta, N. Y. on this 27th day of June, 1954 realize the loss to Schenectady Aerie No. 514 and to Eagledom as a whole, and

WHEREAS, this outstanding member of our Order, whom we believe was the oldest living member of the F.O.E. in the Eastern part of our Country;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that this State Aerie Convention in session here in Oneonta, N. Y., go on record to express our profound sorrow on word of the passing of a fine Brother Charles M. Robinson, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this expression be spread on the minutes of this Convention and a copy be forwarded to Schenectady Aerie No. 514.

Signed,

MYLES J. BURKE, P.W.P., Chr.

Submitted: By Schenectady Aerie No. 514, F.O.E.

It was moved by Magnan, #2130, seconded by Barringer #514 and carried.

Read by Lane #0473:

RESOLUTION No. 12

WHEREAS: The New York State Aerie has been fortunate the several years in having a more than competent State Secretary, and

WHEREAS: Paul M. Ayers has given freely of his time, money and effort to promote the best interests of New York Eagledom, and

WHEREAS: The time has come, when he feels that a little more consideration should be given to his family, and that he owes himself a good vacation,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That this Convention and the Delegates assembled, go on record in expressing its appreciation for his loyalty and conscientious operation of the office of State Secretary, and that this Convention demonstrate their appreciation by a rising vote of thanks.

Respectfully submitted,

WAYNE HARRIS, Chr. #52
GEORGE ESSE #52
FRANK LACONEGRO #941
ALFRED W. LANE #0473

It was moved by Lane #0473, seconded by Costello #1117 carried and so ordered by State President Astifan.

RESOLUTION No. 13

Read by Laconegro #941:

THANKS TO HOST CITY

WHEREAS, the City of Oneonta has extended to the New York State Aerie a friendly hand of welcome, and

WHEREAS, the City and County Officials, including Mayor Roger Hughes and Chief of Police Robert Simmons, have given of their time to insure the success of our convention, and

WHEREAS, the local Convention Committee, headed by John Eggleston, have planned and arranged an outstanding program and entertainment for the delegates and their wives, and

WHEREAS, the civic groups and clubs of this city have extended to us every courtesy, and the local Aerie, its Officers and Members, have done everything needed to insure a memorable Convention, and

WHEREAS, the Editors, Reporters and Photographers of the local press have cooperated in making this Convention an outstanding one, and,

WHEREAS, the citizens of Oneonta have given to the Eagles a welcome and friendly reception that no city has exceeded, now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the New York State Aerie, in Convention assembled, express our appreciation for the hospitable and fine program arranged for the delegates and visitors at this Convention.

Adopted: 6/27/54

Attested:

LOUIS ASTIFAN,
State President

PAUL M. AYERS,
State Secretary

It was moved by Laconegro #941, seconded by Boehl #52 that the resolution be adopted. Carried.

FINAL REPORT OF CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE

Read by C. Astifan, #782:

Grand Aerie Representatives	3
State Officers	16
Past State Presidents	8
Delegates	123
Alternates	7
Past Worthy Presidents	62

TOTAL credentials issued 128

It was moved by C. Astifan #782 that the report be accepted, seconded by Marcotte #2130 and carried.

REPORT OF BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

Brother Walter J. Hogan read for the second time two proposed changes in the State Aerie By-Laws, the first proposed change eliminating the office of State Zone Vice-President, and the second, adding to the State Aerie By-Laws a new Article 7, Section 2 with reference to the choice of cities for the State Conventions, and moved their adoption into law.

Duly seconded and unanimously carried.

(See By-Laws in back of this Journal for text—Article three, Sec. 1, and Article 7, Sec. 2).

REPORT OF THE FINANCE AND BUDGET COMMITTEE

June 27th, 1954

BALANCE JUNE 1st, 1954 \$1,813.54

BUDGET NEW YORK STATE AERIE
June 1st, 1954—June 1st, 1955

ESTIMATED RECEIPTS (Per capita tax) 5,000.00

CONTEMPLATED EXPENDITURES

State President's Salary	\$ 4.00
State Secretary's Salary	800.00
State Treasurer's Salary	50.00
Printing, Postage Stationary'	250.00
Telephone, Telegraph, Insurance, Bonds	250.00
State Convention Officers Expenses	750.00
Printing Proceedings	300.00
Stenographer	100.00
Delegate to G.A. Convention	150.00
Flowers	50.00
Hyde Park Ceremony	100.00
State President's Visitations	750.00
Other Visitation	750.00
State Bulletin	196.00
Contingent Fund (Special Activities)	500.00
	<hr/>
	\$5,000.00

RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCE AND BUDGET COMMITTEE

Now therefore be it resolved, that the Per Capita tax for the fiscal year 1954-55 be fixed at 30c per person.

Fraternally submitted,

CHARLES LAKE, Chr. #514
AARON SIEGLER #543
FABIAN GLASER #52

Finance and Budget Committee
City of Oneonta, N. Y.
June 27th, 1954

Read by State Secretary Ayers for Chairman Lake, No. 514:

It was moved by Costello #117, seconded by C. Astifan #782 and carried.

State President Astifan then introduced PGWP William Mostyn.

MR. MOSTYN: I know I have a reputation for being a longwinded speaker. I heard Al Williams from Pennsylvania say that he had the reputation of being one of the shortest speakers. I want to assure you that I am going to beat his record this morning. I know you have listened to a lot of oratory and are getting a little tired.

It was my privilege, the last couple of weeks, to attend the Virginia and Maryland State Conventions, and they asked that I bring to you the greetings of these two fine groups of Eagles, and so I am doing that right now.

I am not going to take up a great deal of your time but I am going to mention that there is a new deal in the Fraternal Order of the Eagles. I hope it continues because today, as Al Williams said yesterday, the world needs Fraternalism. Today, more than at any time in the world, we need Harmony and Fraternalism as we have never needed them before.

I am sorry I was unable to be here the first day of the Convention because there was something I was particularly interested in. Just now one of the biggest aeries in the country is having a little difficulty. I believe that what they need is a little pat on the back—a little build-up from all over the State, and I would suggest that if there is any possible way we can give some, that we should do just that. I believe that if we can do something for them, it will be beneficial not only for the Aerie of Buffalo but for the State of New York.

We have started a Goodwill Membership Campaign. I know Ken Decker will bear me out when I tell you that this was a means of stimulating membership activity, and there was quite an increase not only in Montreal but in the City of Rochester. Last night I gave away a portable radio, and at the same time we also agreed that the Aerie which won the contest would be presented with \$50 from each of the other Aeries.

Bob Magnan, to you as the winner of the International Goodwill Campaign, I am presenting the amount of \$50 from the Rochester Aerie because of the fact that you are the victors in that campaign.

MR. MAGNAN: All our thanks go to the Rochester Aerie and Bill Mostyn for the marvelous idea that they had of boosting the membership Campaign by a Goodwill Contest. Until the very last month of the campaign we were lagging far behind but, with a boost from Bill Mostyn, on the very last day of the month we were glad to bring in 42 new members and this brought our new members up to 75, and this was too much for Rochester to match with their three-to-one bid. Next year we hope to have an even contest and again I hope we shall beat Rochester. At this time I would like to present Brother W. P. (Montreal).

MR. MOSTYN: I have studied very carefully the records of Pennsylvania and New York. More Aeries made their quota in New York than they did in Pennsylvania, and I want to compliment you. I was wondering if, because of the harmony and fraternalism which exists today, we could arrange some kind of contest between New York State and Pennsylvania, based on the number of Aeries they have and the number of aeries we have. I know a contest can be arranged between these two great States of our Union. I believe some action should be taken.

I was very happy to see on the back part of the program some words which were taken from a speech of President Roosevelt, and I am going to ask you to bear with me while I read them: "I am confident that in the final analysis we shall find that the security of our government depends not so much on our armies and navies, but rather we will have to depend on the fraternity of humanity as represented in our Fraternal Orders. This government will endure just as long as we protect—represented in our Fraternal Orders."

We need more Brotherhood today, we need more Fraternalism, and more Love for our Brothers. I am sure if we have these, we need have no fear of the threat of Communism.

I say men, let us go back to our respective Aeries and let us participate in community interests. Let us take this order to not only one million, but to ten million, and make it truly the backbone of this country. (APPLAUSE).

State President Astifan turned the chair over to PSP Donald Manzer of Utica, who introduced PSP and State Membership Director Ken Decker of Ithaca.

At this time, I want to introduce to you again one of our Past State Presidents, who will make the awards in behalf of the Membership Committee, Brother Ken Decker.

MR. DECKER: State President and delegates assembled. At the dinner last night there were a number of presentations made and this morning we are going to repeat that performance. We have a number of awards here that are going to be given away. As you know a letter was sent out to all Aeries in January, telling them there was a trophy to be given to the Aerie with the largest percentage of gain in the State of New York. However, I did not know there were two cups floating around the State of New York and, as there was no stipulation, it happens that one Aerie won both of the cups. Next year we hope to set up one award for the largest percentage of gain and one for the largest percentage of members initiated, and that will give both Aeries a chance to win an award. I am going to ask the good Brother from Poughkeepsie to step forward to receive the award for the gain of 40% in membership for the month of January. Brother Schlesinger it is with a great deal of pleasure that I present you with the State Membership Trophy which is yours until next year. I also want to present you with the Michael T. Gaffney Trophy which is yours also. I hope you will get the trophies again next year but you will have to work to beat Rochester.

MR. OLDS: Next year he is going to have to fight for it.

MR. DECKER: There is going to be a lot of competition for these cups next year and any Aerie winning a cup for three consecutive years, will keep it permanently.

At this time, I would like to make a motion. I move that, inasmuch as our State Secretary is retiring and you have heard about the fine job he has done, we should have a Paul Ayres Cup. (The motion made by Decker was seconded by Sherman #97 and carried by a rising vote.)

There is also a trophy from the Grand Aerie Membership Committee and I would like to ask Bob Magnan or Michaud to accept this trophy

for their Aerie for having won the competition between you, Toronto, and Rochester.

Along with that, your State Membership Committee offered a check of \$25—being put through for these three Aeries. Here is a check for Montreal. (This was received by Bob Magnan.) It gives us great pleasure to present this to you, Brother Magnan.

At this time we have a couple of Bowling Trophies to be presented. One is for the winning team with the highest score. As Lancaster has no representative here this morning, we will ask Paul Ayres to accept this trophy and see that it gets to the winner.

MR. AYRES: I am glad to do this and shall be very happy to see that they get it.

MR. DECKER: I hope you are noticing all the beautiful trophies being handed out, because they are going into competition again next year. We also have a consolation prize at this time and we have a trophy for Rochester. Brother Boehl please come up.

Another year has gone by the boards and next year we will have another drive for membership, and we will have another Bowling Tournament. I hope we shall have the opportunity of presenting these trophies at our next State Convention.

Every year you get a letter from the Membership Committee asking you to get the jump in June. There were two prizes offered—one for the first Aerie reporting, and the other for the Aerie reporting the most new members for the month of June. Again we have a double winner. Elmira not only was first to report, but they also got the most members. (This trophy was accepted by Brother Satler.) It is with a great deal of pleasure that I give my neighbors to the South this check, and I am going to get over there to help them spend it.

MR. SATLER: We are more than pleased to accept this check.

MR. DECKER: I am going to ask Brother Don Manzer to make this presentation.

MR. MANZER: As is customary at these Conventions, we make a presentation to the man who has done all the traveling this year. We know the job he has done, how much he has travelled, and how much he has had to spend. So, in behalf of the State Aerie, I take great pleasure in presenting this little gift to our State President, Louis Astifan.

MR. ASTIFAN: Thank you on behalf of myself. I accept your gift and I appreciate it very much. At this time we would like to have all the guests—ladies and all—come into the room. Please escort our good lady Mary Ayers to the rostrum.

Delegates, you know we have a girl up here who has done a lot of work for her husband as far as the State of New York Aerie is concerned. No one knows this better than I do and all of you have come in contact with this young lady. We all know her as Mary, and at this time the boys feel we should show our appreciation for the fine work that Mary has done, and it is a great pleasure to give you this little token to thank you for all you have done, and to show you that our heart is in the right place.

MARY AYRES: For two or three years you have been trying to get me up here but this time you fooled me—you sent Bill Mostyn after me. I think you are a grand bunch of fellows. Thank you.

PAUL AYERS: I do appreciate the very many fine mentions about the work of the State Secretary, and I want to say that I could not have done it without the good help of my wife.

REPORT OF LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Read by Walter J. Hogan, Legal Advisor and Chairman Legislative Committee:

As suggested in last year's report presented at Schenectady, N. Y., there were a number of matters involving legislation in which the State Aerie was interested. During the past year the Committee chose to continue its efforts toward the passage of those proposals made at Schenectady, and we are proud to report that in some instances we were successful while in others further work is needed.

As in past years your Committee carefully screened every bill presented to the Legislature, and we are happy to report there were no bills introduced and seriously considered which would in any way restrict or regulate the activities of local Aeries.

In respect to the Workmen's Compensation Act in New York, your Committee urged reasonable increases in Workmen's Compensation benefits.

Happily Governor Dewey and the Legislature were likewise in favor of such legislation and as a result bills were introduced and passed into law increasing Workmen's Compensation maximums to as high as \$36.00 per week.

We do not feel that even this is adequate. It is a known fact that our Public Welfare agencies are still supporting many families where the wage earner is injured and must supplement the Workmen's Compensation payments.

This is a hidden cost to the people of the State and is humiliating to the workmen and their families involved.

Unfortunately economic conditions are a factor and State Legislative leaders are reluctant to greatly increase the cost of Workmen's Compensation, for fear new business will turn elsewhere. Yet, it is still a fact that approximately 60% of premiums paid for Workmen's Compensation Insurance is lost in the administration of the money and in medical care, and only 40c on a dollar paid by the employer reaches the worker or his widow and children.

We recommend to the new Legislative Committee that continued efforts be made to raise the maximum benefit payable, preferably by more efficient administration supplemented by such legislation as may be required.

We are continuing our efforts toward amendments to the State Constitution which will legalize fund-raising activities in the nature of bingo and allied programs for religious, fraternal, veterans, fire associations and similar non-profit organizations.

This is a continuing fight which has wide popular support but no individual group seems willing to take the lead in advocating the same before the Legislature.

Your Legislative Committee has contacted other organizations similarly interested and believes that before long some positive action will be taken to bring the matter squarely before the Legislature.

We are continuing our efforts toward universal blood typing of school children and for automobile operators.

The school program is a matter of expense but there is good reason to believe that the proposal is sound, and we hope that continued effort will result in more wide-spread interest.

There appears to be administrative indifference to the automobile operator proposal based largely on the theory that an operator's license should not contain material other than that already relative to the identity of the operator and his qualification to drive an automobile. Continued agitation and advocacy should be continued in this field.

In the combat of cerebral palsy, there is wide-spread support being organized in many directions, and it is but a matter of time before this highly important subject will receive the consideration it deserves.

It appears, however, the cause of cerebral palsy and the method of cure therefor is a matter of widespread difference of opinion in the medical profession. While the cause is pretty generally recognized as injury to the nervous system of the child during the actual childbirth, there are many differences of opinion as to how to minimize or prevent the injury. Considerable success has been had in New York City by eminent surgeons puncturing the spine of the new born infant and relieving the pressure of the spinal fluid in cases where there has been difficult labor and it appears this method can prevent the symptoms and after effects of cerebral palsy. Other eminent surgeons feel that this method is dangerous to the new born infant and not necessarily successful.

The problem is an essential one for medical research which it is hoped in time will be solved with a resultant cure.

In the meantime, your Committee is supporting every reasonable bill before the Legislature to aid those children already afflicted.

In this respect the long term program of the State as to how this can best be done is being supported, and your Committee recommends that future appropriations for this problem be continued.

One new matter was actively urged before the Legislature and that was the support of the eighteen year old voting. Four different bills were introduced to reduce the voting age to 18 years. In this respect your Committee Chairman and Wayne Harris of Rochester Aerie collaborated in a forum discussion over the Television Station W R G B, Schenectady, and your Committee Chairman made another Telecast at the request of the Station.

Unfortunately, Governor Dewey took no interest in the program and it was not backed by the Republican majority in the Legislature although strongly advocated by President Eisenhower.

The matter became political and upon a motion to discharge the Republican controlled committee from consideration of the bill, the Legislature received the unanimous support of the Democratic minority of the Assembly, while the Republican majority voted solely to keep the legislation in committee where it died.

We believe that continued support of a Constitutional amendment lowering the voting age to 18 years will eventually result in this legislation being enacted into law. Many of the Republican legislators are in favor of the same but when the issue was raised under a motion to discharge from committee, the Republican majority was faced with a repudiation of its own committee and the Republican majority thereof and voted to sustain their committee.

Your Committee feels that continued effort by the incoming Legislative Committee should be made to keep the program hereinbefore set forth constantly before the Legislature in the coming year. With continued support of Eagles throughout the State, we believe that all of the program will eventually be enacted into law for the benefit not only of our Order but of all the people of the State.

In closing, we are happy to state that by the direction of the Governor we received a letter of thanks and appreciation for our interest in the matter of Workmen's Compensation from the personal counsel to the Governor.

Respectfully submitted,
WALTER J. HOGAN, Chairman

Moved for adoption by Chairman Hogan, seconded and unanimously carried.

It was moved by Glaser #52 seconded by Kleeman #1260 that the report be accepted. Carried.

PGWP Mostyn of Rochester urged that New York Eagledom support the current action to legalize bingo stating that the funds resulting could be used for many worthwhile programs such as aiding the Cerebral Palsy Fund.

State Secretary Ayers stated that few N. Y. Eagles were aware of the large amount of time and effort extended by Bro. Walter Hogan who has served for the past several years as State Legal Advisor. All services has been gratis with the exception of a total of \$218.00 expenses attending various State meetings during the several year period.

REPORT OF ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

Read by Harold Britton, Chairman, #88:

116 Ballots cast—0 void.

STATE SECRETARY

Walter J. Hogan—Aerie No. 1575 124
Alfred W. Lane—Aerie No. 0473 94

STATE TRUSTEE

Robert Magnan—Aerie No. 2130 181
Lloyd Ryerson—Aerie No. 1403 34

Election Committee:

HAROLD BRITTON, Aerie # 88
AARON SIEGLER, Aerie #543
FABIAN GLASER, Aerie #52

It was moved by Britton #88, seconded by Kleeman #1260 that report be accepted. Carried.

The chair was turned over to PSP Manzer, who entertained a motion by Canfield of #482 that State President Astifan be designated as the New York State Aerie delegate to the 1954 Grand Aerie convention, and Paul M. Ayers be the alternate. This motion was seconded by Kleeman #1260 and carried.

REPORT OF STATE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Read by Wurzer, #52:

Oneonta, New York, June 27, 1954

To the Officers and Delegates:

Dear Brothers:

It is with pleasure that the Executive Board of the New York State Aerie, F.O.E. report at this time that the 1955—49th Annual New York

State Aerie, Fraternal Order of Eagles Convention is awarded to Elmira Aerie No. 941, Elmira, New York, subject to completion of mutually agreeable Convention agreements.

Factors considered in making this decision were the 50th Anniversary of Elmira Aerie No. 941, to be observed in connection with the 49th Annual State Convention, and the opinion that it would be difficult for the Montreal Aeries to benefit from the Convention due present limited facilities.

Your Executive Board desires to express its sincere thanks to the Officers and Members of Montreal Aerie No. 2130 for its interest and Convention bid. Also, the hotels, resorts and other interested parties.

Respectfully submitted,

JOS. L. WURZER, #52, Chrm.
AARON SIEGLER, #543,
replacing John DiMaggio
LOUIS ASTIFAN, #782,
State President
PAUL M. AYERS, State Secretary

It was moved by Wurzer #52, seconded by Magnan #2130 and Bar-ringer #514 and carried.

REPORT OF RITUALISTIC COMMITTEE

Read by Harris, #2447:

To The Officers and Delegates of the New York State Aerie:

Dear Brothers:

Your Ritualistic Committee commends those Aeries who participated in the 1954 New York State Aerie Ritualistic Competition and submit the following report:

CLASS A—No competition
CLASS B—1st place—Oneonta Aerie #1260 with a score of 93.6
CLASS C—1st place—Rochester Aerie #52 with a score of 96.3
2nd place—Ithaca Aerie #1253 with a score of 96.2
3rd place—Utica Aerie #97 with a score of 94.6
4th place—Gloversville Aerie #482 with a score of 88.3

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM G. HARRIS, Chr., #2447
JOSEPH SANBORN, #544
GEORGE SATTLER, #941
THOMAS PHILPOTT, #2311
ALTON CORNEBY, #2269
MILFORD HALL, #825

It was moved by Harris #2447 seconded by Sherman #97 that the report be accepted. Carried.

The Degree Team of Gloversville Aerie #482 extended its congratulations to the winners.

State Conductor Frank Lewis #544 moved that the Zone and District Directors be empowered to challenge Pennsylvania for a membership contest during the coming year. Seconded by Bro. Sanborn #544 and carried. G. A. Representative Bro. Al Williams of Penn., stated that he felt he could accept the challenge and a membership contest therefore is on for the year 1954-55 on a percentage basis.

State President Astifan appointed PGWP Mostyn and G. A. Rep. Al Williams as installing officers and instructed them to proceed with the installation. The following Officers were duly installed as the Officers of the New York State Aerie for the ensuing year:

LOUIS ASTIFAN—#782.....Jr. Past State President
 HAROLD F. CRAWFORD—#2621.....State President
 KEENE M. BROWN—#1253.....State Vice-President
 FRANK H. LEWIS—#544.....State Chaplain
 WALTER J. HOGAN—#1575.....State Secretary
 LOREN A. SWANSON—#2145.....State Treasurer (by Proxy)
 CHARLES P. EDWARDS—#514.....State Conductor
 ALTON CORNEBY—#2269.....State Inside Guard
 ROBERT MAGNAN—#2130.....State Outside Guard

STATE TRUSTEES

LOUIS ASTIFAN, Jr. P.S.P.# 782
 JOHN EGGLESTON.....#1260
 RAY BOEHL.....# 52
 KENNETH L. SNYDER.....#2119
 WILLIAM G. HARRIS.....#2447

The newly installed State Officers expressed their appreciation of the honors bestowed upon them and pledged every effort to build up our New York State Aerie and our Order.

State President Crawford stated: It has been a long, hard fight but we finally made it. I can not express my feelings at this moment. In order to convey them to you, you would have to stand here in the position I am. I pledge myself to carry on the position of State President to the best of my ability.

We have had a wonderful Convention and the Oneonta Aerie has done a very good job. The State Police have been very helpful, and they have taken very good care of us. Some of the rookies are getting ready to become Eagles.

I sincerely feel that the officers who have assumed their new responsibilities here today, feel the same as I do. I want to congratulate Brother Astifan for the fine job he did while he was State President. I also want to say that this coming year, I fully believe, will be the biggest year in the Order of Fraternal Eagles, and I hope we will break all records in getting new members. I would like everyone to be 100% active and get on the bandwagon and help us. I feel that the Empire State can assume its rightful place as the leader. We have gotten off to a good start this last six months, but we still have a lot of work to do. We must all work together to reach our goal. Remember that you are a member of one of the greatest Fraternal organizations in the world. As far as membership is concerned, I am going to make an appointment right now. Brother Ken Decker is State Membership Director for the next year.

I hope that this year we will keep on growing until we lead the whole country, and we will with your support. We need new Aeries, too, and there are spots where we could get new Aeries. We want you to watch for them. Do not hesitate to call on us for help.

Please pledge your support with me and my official staff here to make your Aerie the biggest Eagle Aerie in the whole United States. I want to thank Oneonta for inviting us here.

Bro. Sattler, W.P. Elmira #941 stated that the Delegates had just enjoyed a wonderful convention and invited all to attend the 1955 State Convention in Elmira.

State President Crawford announced there would be a meeting of the Board of State Trustees immediately following the close of the session. Also requested all officers to remain for a photo.

State Secretary Ayers advised it would be impossible to issue all vouchers at present that same would be mailed within a day or two.

Bro. Snyder #2119 stated that his Aerie Binghamton had initiated 83 members on a quota of 36 and thus had doubled their quota proving it could be done.

PGWP Mostyn moved that the State Aerie go on record in favor of the present Grand Aerie leadership and that the State Secretary be instructed to advise the Grand Aerie leaders of our appreciation of their efforts and pledge our continued support. Seconded by Costello #1117 and carried.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the 1954—48th Annual Convention of the New York State Aerie, Fraternal Order of Eagles, adjourned in form at 12:40 p.m. on Sunday, June 27th, 1954.

Respectfully submitted,
 PAUL M. AYERS, State Secretary

**BY-LAWS OF THE
 NEW YORK STATE AERIE, FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES**

ARTICLE 1. MEETINGS

SECTION 1. This State Aerie shall meet subject to written authority of the Grand Worthy President, annually at such time and place as may be fixed by the Executive Committee of the State Aerie.

ARTICLE 2. PER CAPITA TAX & VOTES

SECTION 1. Each Subordinate Aerie shall pay an annual per capita tax to the State Aerie in a sum of not less than 20 cents per member per year; the same to be paid in two installments, December 1st and June 1st of each year.

SECTION 2. Each member subordinate Aerie which has filed its required reports and paid its per capita tax and all other indebtedness in full, and is otherwise qualified by the laws of the Grand and State Aeries shall be entitled to one vote for each 100 members on whom per capita tax has been paid, or major fraction thereof, on its rolls in December, preceeding such Convention.

ARTICLE 3. OFFICERS

SECTION 1. The New York State Aerie shall have among the officers selected as provided in Article 18, Grand Aerie Laws, FOUR (4) Zone Vice-Presidents, and FIVE (5) Trustees, of whom the retiring Jr. Past State President shall be one, four others to be selected from the State as a whole.

ARTICLE 4. SALARIES AND EXPENSES OF OFFICERS & COMMITTEEMEN

SECTION 1. All serving Officers and Past State Presidents serving as members of any committee appointed pursuant to the provisions of Article 18, Grand Aerie Laws, attending the sessions of the New York State Aerie, shall receive \$10.00 per diem, plus actual Pullman or Rail fare, unless travelling by auto, in which case the travel allowance shall be 5c per mile.

SECTION 2. The State President shall receive a salary of \$4.00 per year, payable quarterly. The State Secretary shall receive an annual salary of \$800.00 per year, payable monthly. The State Treasurer shall receive an annual salary of \$50.00 per year, payable semi-annually.

SECTION 3. An annual allowance shall be made to the State President and State Secretary for their respective office and travel expense in such amounts as shall be fixed in the State Budget as adopted by the State Aerie, such amounts to be paid upon voucher to be submitted for each item and trip of visitation.

SECTION 4. Deputy State Presidents and State Aerie representatives appointed pursuant to Article 18, Grand Aerie Laws, shall receive the same per diem and travel expense as State Officers, except that on one day visitations the per diem shall be \$7.50, plus actual hotel bill, not to exceed \$7.50, if necessary to stop or remain overnight.

SECTION 5. Provision is made for a State Aerie Legal Advisor who may be paid a retainer fee, if not in excess of One Hundred Dollars per year, payable quarterly if provision is so made in the State Budget. The State Legal Advisor is to counsel and advise with the State Aerie Officers on matters of legal nature which are of concern to the welfare of the State and Subordinate Aeries. He shall attend the State Aerie Conventions and such other sessions of the State Officers, Executive Committee, Special Committees and meetings as may be called lawfully and when his presence is necessary or desirable and he shall be paid the same per diem and travel expense provided for in Sec. 4 preceeding.

In event the Legal Advisor is called upon to represent the State Aerie in any legal action or proceeding which requires his appearance or attendance in any court, or to so appear on behalf of any Subordinate Aerie he shall be allowed such legal fee as is commensurate with the services rendered. Such fee to be paid by the State Aerie or Subordinate Aerie, whichever is involved.

ARTICLE 5. REPORTS

SECTION 1. The secretary of each subordinate Aerie shall make a semi-annual report to the State Secretary on such form as may be prescribed in conformity with the laws of the Grand Aerie. Failure of the Secretary to furnish such semi-annual report on or before June 30th or December 31st, of each year to the State Secretary will subject the Aerie involved to a fine of \$5.00. Any change in the office of a subordinate Aerie Worthy President or Secretary shall be forthwith reported to the State Secretary by such subordinate Aerie.

ARTICLE 6. DISTRICTS

SECTION 1. The State Aerie shall be divided into Districts or Zones and they shall be provided by the Grand Aerie Membership Department.

SECTION 2. The Officers or representatives of each District or Zone and their respective duties shall be designated by the Membership Department of the Grand Aerie. They shall function in keeping with the directives of the Grand Aerie Membership Department, the By-laws of this State Aerie and the laws of the Order.

ARTICLE 7. COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. In addition to the committees provided by Article 18 of the Grand Aerie Laws, the State Aerie shall have a Nominating committee consisting of not less than FIVE (5) members of the State Aerie. THREE of whom shall be Past State Presidents and the remainder of whom shall be duly qualified Delegates to the convention. They shall be appointed by the State President on or before the opening of the State Convention. They shall report to the convention their recommendations for State office, after which report nominations shall be open from the floor for every State office.

SECTION 2. The State Secretary shall notify all Aeries in the jurisdiction, at least thirty days prior to the Annual Convention, that any Aerie desiring the following State Convention must submit bids in writing under the signature of the President and Secretary of the Aerie and after approval by the Aerie. The executive committee of the State Aerie shall meet and consider all bids and announce the next Convention City during the convention.

ARTICLE 8. MISCELLANEOUS

SECTION 1. Pursuant to the provisions of Sec. 49 (c) of Article 18, of the Grand Aerie Laws, the State Aerie representatives to the Grand Aerie Sessions shall receive as his expense and travel allowance, such sum as may be fixed in the State budget, in a sum not to exceed Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00).

SECTION 2. The registration fee of delegates to the State Convention shall be not more than \$10.00, the actual registration fee to be fixed by the Executive committee at or about the time the convention agreements are approved.

SECTION 3. Any violation of these by-laws by any member, officer, delegate or Subordinate Aerie shall constitute a violation of the laws of the Order and may be charged, tried and punished in the same manner as a violation of the constitution for Subordinate Aeries, and in addition thereto, any Subordinate Aerie may be punished or expelled from the State Aerie.

SECTION 4. No amendment, alteration or addition to the By-laws shall take effect unless made in accordance with the requirements of Article 18 of the Grand Aerie Laws.

ARTICLE 9. EFFECT OF GRAND AERIE CONSTITUTION AND/OR GRAND AERIE LAWS

SECTION 1. If any portion of these By-laws shall be found in conflict with the Grand Aerie Constitution or Grand Aerie Laws, or for any other reason invalid, the remaining portion hereof shall not be affected thereby but shall be in full force and effect.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by Delegates of the New York State Aerie, in Convention assembled at Schenectady, New York on this 28th day of JUNE, 1953, that we hereby adopt the foregoing as the By-Laws of the New York State Aerie and the same shall take effect and be in full force immediately upon their approval by the Grand Secretary-Treasurer.

Original reading: A.M. June 27th, 1953

Final reading: A.M. June 28th, 1953

WILLIAM H. MOSTYN,
H. B. DECKER,
WALTER J. HOGAN,
By-laws Committee

Brother Walter Hogan of Aerie No. 1575 Moved the adoption of these By-Laws on second reading. Seconded by Vincent Scharf of Buffalo Aerie No. 46. Vote was carried without opposition. Adopted this 28th day of June, 1953.

PAUL M. AYERS,
State Secretary

LOUIS ASTIFAN,
State President

Approved this 16th day of June, 1954.

WILLIAM G. WATSON,
Grand Secretary

NEW YORK STATE AERIE CONVENTIONS

Year and City

1907—Rochester (Institution)	1931—Oswego
1908—Saratoga Springs	1932—Rochester
1909—Little Falls	1933—Lockport
1910—Rockaway Beach	1934—Johnstown
1911—Rochester	1935—Ithaca
1912—Cohoes	1936—Olean
1913—Carthage	1937—Auburn
1914—Olean	1938—Watertown
1915—Auburn	1939—Gloversville
1916—Rochester	1940—Lockport
1917—Buffalo	1941—Rochester
1918—Geneva	1942—New York City
1919—Syracuse	1943—Auburn
1920—Niagara Falls	1944—Batavia
1921—Saratoga Springs	1945—Rochester
1922—Binghamton	1946—Middletown
1923—Mount Vernon	1947—Utica
1924—Rockaway Beach	1948—Saratoga Springs
1925—Niagara Falls	1949—Saratoga Springs
1926—Watertown	1950—Rochester
1927—Binghamton	1951—Rochester
1928—Syracuse	1952—Binghamton
1929—Schenectady	1953—Schenectady
1930—Elmira	1954—Oneonta

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JOHNSTOWN, N. Y.

LIST OF PAST STATE PRESIDENTS

JOSEPH M. SCHERER, Long Island City Aerie No. 1509	1919-1920
JOSEPH M. STRITCHER, Buffalo Aerie No. 46	1923-1924
WILLIAM B. HUTCHINSON, Buffalo Aerie No. 46	1926-1927
WILLIAM H. ALF, Buffalo Aerie No. 46	1931-1932
WALTER E. McGRATH, Bronx Aerie No. 491	1932-1933
ALBERT B. LEONARD, Rochester Aerie No. 52	1933-1934
ERNEST J. MAHONEY, Rochester Aerie No. 52	1934-1935
JOHN P. SAXER, Buffalo Aerie No. 46	1935-1936
JOHN J. SHORTELL, Olean Aerie No. 616	1936-1937
CHARLES G. MARALDO, Staten Island Aerie No. 543	1937-1938
RAYMOND R. BARBER, Ithaca Aerie No. 1253	1938-1939
WILLIAM H. MOSTYN, Rochester Aerie No. 52	1939-1940-1941
R. LESLIE McDERMOTT, Lockport Aerie No. 825	1941-1942
CHARLES J. DOLZEN, Schenectady Aerie No. 514	1942-1943
KENNETH DECKER, Ithaca Aerie No. 1253	1943-1944
HENRY KOHAUT, Yonkers Aerie No. 0473	1944-1945
JOHN R. TAGGERT, Buffalo Aerie No. 46	1945-1946
GEORGE A. GREEN, Gloversville Aerie No. 482	1946-1947
FRANCIS H. BRECHUE, Auburn Aerie No. 96	1947-1948
EDWARD M. KAMAS, Elmira No. 941	1948-1949
PAUL M. AYERS, Lockport No. 825	1949-1950
DONALD MANZER, Utica No. 97	1950-1951
CHARLES F. BOYLE, Buffalo No. 46	1951-1952
JOSEPH L. WURZER, Rochester No. 52	1952-1953
LOUIS ASTIFAN, Watertown 782	1953-1954
