



PALM COAST ELKS LODGE #2709, INC

News Release

April 17, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Elks Donate \$2,000 to Project To Purchase Flagler K9 Vests

PALM COAST, FL – On April 16th the Palm Coast Elks Lodge #2709 President Vincent Gough presented the Blue Knights President Bill Gallagher and Vice President George Zampella a check for \$2,000.00 kicking off the effort to outfit Flagler County K9 Officers with Ballistic protective vests. Brother Elk George Zampella related that currently none of the six working K9s are equipped with protective vests. "This year has been particularly rough for police dogs across the country," he said. "Twelve K9 partners were killed in the first three months of 2016. Our goal is to raise enough money to provide vests for all six K9 partners. Each \$1,600.00 raised covers the cost of a protective vest that lasts for five years." President Vincent Gough related "This Elks National Foundation Gratitude Grant kick starts our partnership with the Blue Knights to fund this important community project to properly equip our K9 officers." If you would like to support this project, please plan to attend the Deputy Dog Walk at the Beach Front Grill Saturday October 8th at 10:00am.



Pictured front Flagler County Sheriff Deputy Robert Tarczewski and his partner K9 Officer Tag, left to right, first Vice President Ralph Dodge, Lodge Esquire Rick Bame, Trustee Mark Fontana, Trustee Jerry Dickens, Blue Knight Vice President George Zampella, Elk Lodge President Vincent Gough, Blue Knight President Bill Gallagher, Trustee Fred Szwed, Trustee Jack Lyons, third Vice president Louis Barletta, Trustee Jerry O'Gara, and Andy Jekabsons.

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With more than 800,000 members, over 1,900 Lodges nationwide, and 60,000 members and 100 Lodges in Florida the Elks are providing charitable services that help build stronger communities across the United States. To learn more visit www.Elks2709.com.

