



See a Social Security Number? Say Something!
Report Privacy Problems to <https://public.resource.org/privacy>
Or call the IRS Identity Theft Hotline at 1-800-908-4490



Form 990-EZ

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Short Form

Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations)

Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public.
Information about Form 990-EZ and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

OMB No 1545-1150

2016

Open to Public Inspection

A For the 2016 calendar year, or tax year beginning 04-01-2016, and ending 03-31-2017

B Check if applicable
☐ Address change
☐ Name change
☐ Initial return
☐ Final return/terminated
☐ Amended return
☐ Application pending

C Name of organization
BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS
LODGE # 231
Number and street (or P O box, if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite
14 NORTH FOURTH STREET
City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code
MARTINS FERRY, OH 43935

D Employer identification number
34-1314445
E Telephone number
(740) 633-2059
F Group Exemption Number
1156

G Accounting Method ☒ Cash ☐ Accrual Other (specify) _____

H Check ☒ if the organization is not required to attach Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF)

I Website: ☒ N/A

J Tax-exempt status (check only one) - ☐ 501(c)(3) ☒ 501(c)(8) (insert no) ☐ 4947(a)(1) or ☐ 527

K Form of organization ☒ Corporation ☐ Trust ☐ Association ☐ Other _____

L Add lines 5b, 6c, and 7b to line 9 to determine gross receipts. If gross receipts are \$200,000 or more, or if total assets (Part II, column (B) below) are \$500,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ. \$ 50,706

Part I Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances (see the instructions for Part I)		
Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Revenue	1 Contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts received	1
	2 Program service revenue including government fees and contracts	2
	3 Membership dues and assessments	3 13,638
	4 Investment income	4 560
	5a Gross amount from sale of assets other than inventory	5a
	b Less cost or other basis and sales expenses	5b
	c Gain or (loss) from sale of assets other than inventory (Subtract line 5b from line 5a)	5c
	6 Gaming and fundraising events	
	a Gross income from gaming (attach Schedule G if greater than \$15,000)	6a
	b Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ of contributions from fundraising events reported on line 1) (attach Schedule G if the sum of such gross income and contributions exceeds \$15,000)	6b
	c Less direct expenses from gaming and fundraising events	6c
	d Net income or (loss) from gaming and fundraising events (add lines 6a and 6b and subtract line 6c)	6d
	7a Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	7a 32,522
	b Less cost of goods sold	7b 13,543
	c Gross profit or (loss) from sales of inventory (Subtract line 7b from line 7a)	7c 18,979
	8 Other revenue (describe in Schedule O)	8 3,986
	9 Total revenue. Add lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5c, 6d, 7c, and 8	9 37,163
Expenses	10 Grants and similar amounts paid (list in Schedule O)	10
	11 Benefits paid to or for members	11
	12 Salaries, other compensation, and employee benefits	12 6,931
	13 Professional fees and other payments to independent contractors	13
	14 Occupancy, rent, utilities, and maintenance	14 11,271
	15 Printing, publications, postage, and shipping	15 1,350
	16 Other expenses (describe in Schedule O)	16 14,297
	17 Total expenses. Add lines 10 through 16	17 33,849
Net Assets	18 Excess or (deficit) for the year (Subtract line 17 from line 9)	18 3,314
	19 Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (from line 27, column (A)) (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return)	19 342,675
	20 Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)	20 0
	21 Net assets or fund balances at end of year Combine lines 18 through 20	21 345,989

Part II Balance Sheets (see the instructions for Part II)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part II ☒

	(A) Beginning of year	(B) End of year
22 Cash, savings, and investments	53,504	22 59,383
23 Land and buildings	288,954	23 288,954
24 Other assets (describe in Schedule O)	1,814	24 2,134
25 Total assets	344,272	25 350,471
26 Total liabilities (describe in Schedule O).	1,597	26 4,482
27 Net assets or fund balances (line 27 of column (B) must agree with line 21)	342,675	27 345,989

Part III	Statement of Program Service Accomplishments (see the instructions for Part III)	Expenses
-----------------	---	-----------------

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part III ☐ (Required for section 501(c)

What is the organization's primary exempt purpose?	(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations, except for
--	--

What is the organization's primary, exempt purpose?	organizations, optional for others.
FRATERNAL BENEFICIARY SOCIETY	

<p>Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. In a clear and concise manner, describe the services provided, the number of persons benefited, and other relevant information for each program title.</p>	<p>others)</p>
--	-----------------

28		
----	--	--

See Additional Data Table		
---------------------------	--	--

(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here . . . ☐ **28a**

29	29a
----	-----

(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here . . . ☐

20	30
----	----

(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here . . . ☐

21. Other program services (describe in Schedule O)		
---	--	--

(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here . . . ☐ **31a**

32 Total program service expenses (add lines 28a through 31a)		32
--	--	-----------

Part IV		List of Officers, Directors, Trustees, and Key Employees (list each one even if not compensated — see the instructions for Part IV)
----------------	--	--

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part IV. ☐

[illegible]

Part V Other Information (Note the Schedule A and personal benefit contract statement requirements in the instructions for Part V) Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part V ☒

	Yes	No
33 Did the organization engage in any significant activity not previously reported to the IRS? If "Yes," provide a detailed description of each activity in Schedule O	33	No
34 Were any significant changes made to the organizing or governing documents? If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the amended documents if they reflect a change to the organization's name. Otherwise, explain the change on Schedule O (see instructions)	34	No
35a Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year from business activities (such as those reported on lines 2, 6a, and 7a, among others)?	35a	No
b If "Yes," to line 35a, has the organization filed a Form 990-T for the year? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O	35b	
c Was the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization subject to section 6033(e) notice, reporting, and proxy tax requirements during the year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III	35c	No
36 Did the organization undergo a liquidation, dissolution, termination, or significant disposition of net assets during the year? If "Yes," complete applicable parts of Schedule N	36	No
37a Enter amount of political expenditures, direct or indirect, as described in the instructions ▶ 37a 0		
b Did the organization file Form 1120-POL for this year?	37b	
38a Did the organization borrow from, or make any loans to, any officer, director, trustee, or key employee or were any such loans made in a prior year and still outstanding at the end of the tax year covered by this return?	38a	No
b If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II and enter the total amount involved	38b	
39 Section 501(c)(7) organizations Enter		
a Initiation fees and capital contributions included on line 9	39a	
b Gross receipts, included on line 9, for public use of club facilities	39b	
40a Section 501(c)(3) organizations Enter amount of tax imposed on the organization during the year under section 4911 ▶ , section 4912 ▶ , section 4955 ▶		
b Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations Did the organization engage in any section 4958 excess benefit transaction during the year, or did it engage in an excess benefit transaction in a prior year that has not been reported on any of its prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I	40b	
c Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations Enter amount of tax imposed on organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under sections 4912, 4955, and 4958 ▶		
d Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations Enter amount of tax on line 40c reimbursed by the organization ▶		
e All organizations At any time during the tax year, was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction? If "Yes," complete Form 8886-T	40e	No
41 List the states with which a copy of this return is filed ▶ OH		
42a The organization's books are in care of ▶ JAMES L NICHELSON Telephone no ▶ (740) 633-3355 Located at ▶ 305 SOUTH FOURTH STREET MARTINS FERRY, OH ZIP + 4 ▶ 43935		
b At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in or a signature or other authority over a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)?	42b	No
If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country ▶		
See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for FinCEN Form 114, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts (FBAR)		
c At any time during the calendar year, did the organization maintain an office outside the U S ?	42c	No
If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country ▶		
43 Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-EZ in lieu of Form 1041 - Check here ▶ <input type="checkbox"/> and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the tax year ▶ 43		
44a Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ	44a	No
b Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ	44b	No
c Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the year?	44c	No
d If "Yes," to line 44c, has the organization filed a Form 720 to report these payments? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O	44d	
45a Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?	45a	No
45b Did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," Form 990 and Schedule R may need to be completed instead of Form 990-EZ (see instructions)	45b	

		Yes	No
46	Did the organization engage, directly or indirectly, in political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I		No

Part VI

Section 501(c)(3) organizations only

All section 501(c)(3) organizations must answer questions 47-49b and 52, and complete the tables for lines 50 and 51. Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part VI ☐

		Yes	No
47	Did the organization engage in lobbying activities or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II		
48	Is the organization a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E		
49a	Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization?		
49b	If "Yes," was the related organization a section 527 organization?		

50 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated employees (other than officers, directors, trustees and key employees) who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None "				
(a) Name and title of each employee	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation

f	Total number of other employees paid over \$100,000	▶	
---	---	---	--

51 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated independent contractors who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None "		
(a) Name and business address of each independent contractor	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation

d	Total number of other independent contractors each receiving over \$100,000.	▶	
---	--	---	--

52	Did the organization complete Schedule A? NOTE. All Section 501(c)(3) organizations must attach a completed Schedule A	▶	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
----	---	---	--

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Sign Here	***** Signature of officer		2017-09-28 Date		
	JAMES L NICHOLSON TREASURER Type or print name and title				
Paid Preparer Use Only	Print/Type preparer's name BRIAN J GEREVICS CPA	Preparer's signature	Date 2017-10-17	Check <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> if self-employed	PTIN P01450144
	Firm's name ▶ GEREVICS & ASSOCIATES LLC			Firm's EIN ▶ 46-2061428	
	Firm's address ▶ 110 EAST MAIN STREET ST CLAIRSVILLE, OH 43950			Phone no. (888) 570-5525	

	May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions	▶	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
--	---	---	---

Additional Data

Software ID:
Software Version:
EIN: 34-1314445
Name: BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS
LODGE # 231

Form 990EZ, Part III - Statement of Program Service Accomplishments

Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. In a clear and concise manner, describe the services provided, the number of persons benefited, and other relevant information for each program title.		Expenses (Required for section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations; optional for others.)	
28 MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITIES AS PROVIDED IN CHARTER AND BYLAWS (Grants \$ 0) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here . . . ► <input type="checkbox"/>		28a	0

TY 2016 Transfers Personal Benefits Contracts Declaration

Name: BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS
LODGE # 231

EIN: 34-1314445

Declaration: THE ORGANIZATION DID NOT, DURING THE YEAR, RECEIVE ANY FUNDS, DIRECTLY,OR INDIRECTLY, TO PAY PREMIUMS ON A PERSONAL BENEFIT CONTRACT.THE ORGANIZATION, DID NOT, DURING THE YEAR, PAY ANY PREMIUMS, DIRECTLY,OR INDIRECTLY, ON A PERSONAL BENEFIT CONTRACT.

SCHEDULE O
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization
BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS
LODGE # 231

Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ

Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on
Form 990 or 990-EZ or to provide any additional information.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

▶ Information about Schedule O (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at
www.irs.gov/form990.

OMB No 1545-0047

2016

**Open to Public
Inspection**

Employer identification number

34-1314445

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990-EZ, PART I, LINE 4 - OTHER INVESTMENT INCOME	DESCRIPTION INTEREST INCOME AMOUNT 560

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990-EZ, PART I, LINE 7 - SALES OF INVENTORY	INCOME GROSS RECEIPTS 32,522 RETURNS AND ALLOWANCES 0 LESS COST OF GOODS SOLD 13,543 GROSS PROFIT 18,979 COST OF GOODS SOLD INVENTORY AT BEGINNING OF YEAR 1,814 MERCHAN DISE PURCHASED 13,285 COST OF LABOR 0 MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES 578 OTHER COSTS 0 INV ENTORY AT END OF YEAR 2,134 COST OF GOODS SOLD 13,543

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990-EZ, PART I, LINE 8 - OTHER REVENUE	DESCRIPTION SALE OF USED SAFE AMOUNT 50 DESCRIPTION FUNDRAISING - NET AMOUNT 3,936 TOTAL TO FORM 990-EZ, LINE 8 3,986

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990-EZ, PART I, LINE 16 - OTHER EXPENSES	DESCRIPTION CONVENTION AND DISTRICT MEETING EXPENSES AMOUNT 863 DESCRIPTION DUES (NATIONAL, DISTRICT) AMOUNT 5,580 DESCRIPTION INSURANCE AMOUNT 3,190 DESCRIPTION OFFICE SUPPLIES AMOUNT 124 DESCRIPTION MISC DONATIONS AMOUNT 708 DESCRIPTION GENERAL BUSINESS TAXES AND LICENSES AMOUNT 3,620 DESCRIPTION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EVENT AMOUNT 176 DESCRIPTION BANK CHARGES AMOUNT 36 TOTAL TO FORM 990-EZ, LINE 16 14,297

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990- EZ, PART II, LINE 24 - OTHER ASSETS	DESCRIPTION INVENTORY BEG OF YEAR AMOUNT 1,814 END OF YEAR AMOUNT 2,134

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990- EZ, PART II, LINE 26 - OTHER LIABILITIES	DESCRIPTION ACCOUNTS PAYABLE BEG OF YEAR AMOUNT 1,597 END OF YEAR AMOUNT 4,482