



The Rack

The Official Newsletter of the St. Cloud Elks #2843

JUNE, 2011

Meeting the 1st & 3rd Thursday
7:30 P.M. at
The East side VFW #4847

To All District Deputies, Exalted Rulers, Officers and Members:

A Message from the Grand Exalted Ruler Hon. Michael F. Smith

Three months into year: How's Lodge Report Card?

With many school years ending, perhaps we should check on our Lodge's progress. Examine your Lodge and committee objectives and determine if you are on track. With the first quarter of the Lodge year behind us, you need to have your delinquent Members contacted in person or by telephone to assure them the Lodge needs their support. Listing names in a bulletin will NOT remedy the issue. Your Members are the foundation of your Lodge; treat them as such.

We have many opportunities during the month of June to Promote Elks Passion.

Flag Day is a mandatory service that should provide your membership a purpose to participate. Put the necessary attention to this program and make your Lodge PROUD. Involve the membership and community. Flag Day could also provide your Lodge some VISIBILITY and offer an opportunity to attract new Members. After the program, provide some refreshments and a short program explaining what Elks represent. Invite the media to your event as well as the gathering afterwards. Be Proud...Be Loud...Be Visible.

Father's Day allows us to show gratitude to fathers as well as to share some fellowship. Why not have your Members bring their friends to help celebrate and learn more about our Order while enjoying the evening? Make the event fun and fruitful. Please keep in mind as we sponsor programs that we are permitted to enjoy the moment and share the opportunities with others. Share the Fun and keep it positive! There is enough "Yuk" outside our Lodge for those in need. Enjoy your membership, our good works and allow others to be a part of our Great Order.

During our travels, we have witnessed some tremendous projects. I challenge you to allow others in your community to learn about your Lodge and our Order. We also seem to abandon our new Members. We indoctrinate and initiate and then assume the Member feels welcome. Why not sponsor a meet-and-greet function to recognize all Members initiated in the past 12 or 18 months? Many Members do not attend Lodge meetings and therefore would not know the new Members. Embrace these valuable assets and make them feel wanted. I suspect your lapsation would greatly improve.



.....

Greetings to Minnesota Elks Members,

As Brenda and I travel to each Lodge we are constantly reminded of how great it is to be an Elk. I am so impressed with the benevolence and dedication of our members – not only in a monetary way, but in the time and effort so many give.

My goal this year was to improve on our enthusiasm of our members and to bring excitement into the state and Lodges. As I have stated many times when speaking at Lodges, I have received more than I have given over this past year, and I can honestly tell you that the membership in the state of Minnesota has NO shortage of enthusiasm!! Each Lodge has functions that make contributions unique to each community, and every community that has an Elks Lodge is a better place because of your presence and dedication to others. I am extremely proud to have served as your president, and I will continue to serve as an ambassador for each Lodge and for all of Elksdom.

Brenda and I are looking forward (in a bittersweet way) to staying home and spending more time with our family, especially with our grandkids. Yes – grandkids – as we have another one on the way!! And if he is anything like his big brother, we may need to send warnings out to all the little girls, for Ethan is a true charmer and a real jock at only 2 years old!!

Again – THANKS to all of you for what you do to make the lives of so many a little bit better –and in so many cases, a lot better. Brenda and I have the utmost respect and admiration for each of you. Keep up the good work, because we all know-

Elkdom - It's a Wonderful Life!

Fraternally,
Jerry Shoults
Minnesota State President



MESSAGE FROM THE EXALTED RULER



"Now"

Now as I sit outside on my deck writing this month's column, I am enjoying the longer days, the warmer weather, and most of all, the smells of living in the country..... Pig manure.

Now, I have grown accustom to this smell having lived out here most of my life and have come to know it by what my father fondly recalls it as "The money smell". FYI, he grew up on a farm in Iowa and it is hogs, not pigs. Soil not dirt, and most importantly, it is an ear of corn not a cob of corn. A cob is what the kernels are attached to. But I digress.

Now what makes this spring different is that for the first time in 20 years, my neighbors have pre-warned me to keep my windows and doors shut for the next few days because they will be spreading S _ _ T. Incidentally, this term supposedly came from back in the sailing days when they used to ship dried manure as fertilizer but it needed to be "shipped high in transit" so it would not get wet and smell. But I digress again.

Now I realize that my neighbors are well within their rights allowed by law to spread manure and that this is one of the pit falls to living in Ag country, but it was nice that they where courteous and respectful of the people around them. Something that seems be lacking in society these days.

Now if I can only get them to let me drive their tractors more often.

Thanks
Mark Eliason
ER

Vocabulary

As you know being from the South, I do talk a little differently than some of my fellow Elks. So with that said...new words: drather - do the opposite...I would drather go to town.

I still need kids!!!

It is youth camp time again, if you know of a child, age 9-13, that is interested in going to youth camp, please let Patches know so the paper work can be completed.

Deadline is: July 1st



As you can see we have a lot coming up... Mark your calendars, we need everyone's help

- | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| • Lodge Meeting | June 2, 2011 – 7:30 p.m. | VFW Post 4847 |
| • Meat Raffle | June 6, 2011 | JP's – Sauk Rapids |
| • Lodge Meeting | June 16, 2011 – 7:30 p.m. | VFW Post 4847 |
| • Meat Raffle | June 18, 2011 | JP's – Sauk Rapids |
| • State Convention | June 24-25, 2011 | Hopkins |
| • Fifth Thursday | June 30, 2011 | TBA |
| • St. Joseph Parade | July 4, 2011 | St. Joseph |
| • ELK'S GARAGE SALE | July 8-9, 2011 | Patches' House |
| • District Soccer Shoot | July 10, 2011 | TBA |
| • Youth Camp Week | July 17-23, 2011 | Youth Camp-Brainerd |
| • Grand Lodge | July 17-21, 2011 | Phoenix, AZ |
| • Elk's Golf Tournament | July 30, 2011 | Wadena |
| • Family Camp Out | August 12-14, 2011 | Youth Camp |
| • State Soccer Shoot | August 26-28, 2011 | TBA |
| • DD visit | September 9, 2011 | St. Cloud |
| • District Meeting | September 10, 2011 | VFW Post 4847 |
| • Brat Sale | September 23-24, 2011 | CashWise, WaitePark |
| • Fifth Thursday | September 29, 2011 | TBA |
| • Rib Night Mixer | October 20, 2011 – 5 pm – 7 pm | VFW Post 4847 |
| • Mid-year Convention | October 21-22, 2011 | Holiday Inn, St.Cloud |
| • Pancake Breakfast | October 23, 2011 | VFW Post 4847 |

- International Bonspiel
- Annual Memorial Service

November 19, 2011
December 4, 2011

Hibbing
VFW Post 4847

Keep your calendars open...we will need volunteers to work concessions. Scheduled games: June 4th, July 9th, and July 23rd

First Annual Elks Garage Sale is coming up soon – it will be Friday & Saturday, July 8th & 9th...start getting your donations together...help make it a big success!!

State Golf Tournament, July 30 - \$55.00 per person...deadline July 9th. Start getting your team together.



Message from the Chaplain

To those who have been under the weather, may you feel much better real soon and to those who have lost a loved one, the sympathy of the Lodge goes out to you.

See you all at the meeting! Sign up a new member. It's the only way we can guarantee that our lodge will survive. Membership is everyone's job!



If you have anything you would like to add to the newsletter, E-mail to me at:

patpr@charter.net

Or mail it to me at:

**124-37th Ave. N.
St. Cloud, MN 56303**