



The Rack

The Official Newsletter of the St. Cloud Elks #2843

April 2008

April Meeting

Thursday the 3rd & 17th, 2008

7:30 P.M. at

The East side VFW #4847

April, 2008 GER Message

May the tide be with you in the new lodge year.

A message from Grand Exalted Ruler F. Louis Sulsberger

To all district deputies, exalted rulers, officers and members:



Let me begin this message with my most heartfelt congratulations to the new exalted rulers and officers of the lodges around this great nation. You have been selected by the members of your lodge to lead them through the upcoming lodge year. It is an honor and position of trust that you have been chosen for. Take the charge you have been given seriously for you must guide your lodge and its membership through the uncharted waters that lay ahead over the new lodge year. I would hope that for each of you that those uncharted waters will be calm and uneventful. However, we must always be prepared for an uncertain storm. When that occurs, the lodge and its officers should seek the guidance of the past exalted rulers, the district deputy and Grand Lodge.

The resources of the entire Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks stand ready to assist you in making the lodge year successful. Review the manuals. These books provide answers to help the entire leadership and committees of your lodge be successful.

There is one manual I especially want you to look at. That would be the book on the Rituals of the Order. Memorize your part and work with the other officers in your lodge to ensure they memorize their parts. A quality rendition of the Ritual of Initiation will show new members the pride we all share in our Order. That good first impression will make that new member proud that he or she joined.

Spring is a time of rebirth and renewal. It is my dream that each and every lodge of our Order prospers this lodge year. I hope your lodge has set goals for participation in the Elks National Foundation and for working with our veterans. It is through our charitable works that we show our neighbors that "Elks Care – Elks Share."

From our Exalted Ruler

As we start a new lodge year, I would like to extend a thank you to all the members for making last year a great year. I hope that with your continued support we will make the upcoming year even better for the St. Cloud lodge.

One of my main goals for this year is to increase our fundraising activities so we can continue and improve our charitable works for our community. If you have any ideas please pass them on or present them at a meeting. At the last meeting in March, Dan Gravin presented a great fundraising opportunity for the lodge. UAP Professional Products, out of Big Lake, is allowing us to sell their MAX Lawn fertilizer products and the lodge would get six dollars on each bag. These are 36 pound bags that cover 10,000 square feet. This is the standard four step program for your lawn for the year. You do not need to purchase all four. The crabgrass preventer and the weed and feed sell for \$22 a bag and the lawn food and winterizer are \$20 a bag. If interested, contact Dan or myself, 320-253-0933 or by email jmmichael@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events:

-April 12th Metro Spring Conference being hosted by our Lodge here in St Cloud. (Keep this date in mind as with the District meeting being in St Cloud it would be nice to have a large contingency there. The tentative start time for this meeting is 2:00 pm with a rib dinner and karaoke to follow after. We will also be looking for people to help during the meeting and meals, if interested let me know.

-April 12th Installation of new Officers for St Cloud Lodge #2843. Time is set for 10:00 am; Minneapolis Lodge #44 will be here to aid in installing our new officers.

-May 9th – 11th Youth Camp Opener

-May 29th Fifth Thursday Get Together. The time and location will be announced.

2008-2009 Officers

Exalted Ruler

James Michael

Esteemed Leading Knight

Steven Zinken

Esteemed Loyal Knight

Marcia LaVine

Esteemed Lecturing Knight

Mark Eliason

Inner Guard

Craig Pogatshnik

Trustees

Brad Slocum 5th Year

Dan Gravin 4th Year

Jon Voth 3rd Year

Shirley Zager 2nd Year

Bob Zagar 1st Year

Secretary

Aaron Lundblad

Treasurer

Larry Nusbaum

Esquire

Rich McCarty

St. Cloud Elks #2843

PO Box 8

St. Cloud, MN 56302-0008

www.stcloudelks.org

-June 27th – 28th, 2008 State Convention, Grand Exalted Rulers Visit to Minnesota. The convention will be in Rochester – If you need a room contact Brad Slocum on his cell 320-761-1845 by May 15th. He has a block of rooms reserved for our lodge.

James Michael
ER

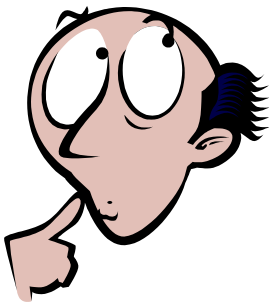
April, 2008 Vets Message
Medal of Valor for fallen soldiers

By Roger R. True, PGER Elks National Veterans Service Commission Chairman

In April 2007 we proudly announced the return of the "Medal of Valor." They are designed to be presented to deserving families of those who have made the supreme sacrifice in our war on terrorism and in the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

These medals are made in the United States and come in a presentation case. On the front are engraved the lines "Operation Iraqi Freedom" and "Operation Enduring Freedom." The back of the medal is suitable for engraving the name of the deceased service person. The cost of the medal is \$8, which covers all shipping charges. To date we have distributed more than 700 medals.

If you know of any family in your community who lost a loved one in Iraq or Afghanistan, you may want to honor that person by presenting a Medal of Valor to that family. You could set a time of presentation at the lodge or some other suitable venue in your area. Contact us at Elks Veterans Service Commission, 2750 N. Lakeview Avenue, Chicago, IL 60614-1889 or send an email to vets@elks.org to order your medal(s) and we will promptly ship them to you.



Ask the Esquire aka Rich McCurdy

Dear Esquire, my father who is a bit old fashion likes using older mechanical mice with his computer. Lately he has been having problems with his mouse. Can you help me? B.S.

Dear B.S. Pops is having a run in with the little creatures that help us move bits and bytes around?? Here is something that may help with older mice. If a mouse fails to operate or should it perform erratically, it may need a ball replacement.

Mouse balls are now available in many electronics shops. Because of the delicate nature of this procedure, replacement of mouse balls should only be attempted by properly trained personnel.

Before proceeding, determine the type of mouse balls by examining the underside of the mouse. Domestic balls will be larger and harder than foreign balls. Ball removal procedures differ depending upon the manufacturer of the mouse. Foreign balls can be replaced using the pop off method.

Domestic balls are replaced by using the twist off method. Mouse balls are not usually static sensitive. However, excessive handling can result in sudden discharge.

Upon completion of ball replacement, the mouse may be used immediately. It is recommended that each person have a pair of spare balls for maintaining optimum customer satisfaction.

Any customer missing his balls should contact the local personnel in charge of removing and replacing these necessary items.

Please keep in mind that a user without properly working balls is an unhappy user.

Roll on... Rich...

State Calendar of Events

- State Officers Budget Meeting, April 26, 2008, Eveleth
- Youth Camp Opening, May 9 - 11, 2008, Youth Camp
- Ladies Youth Camp Opening Weekend, May 16 - 18, 2008, Youth Camp
- 2008 State Convention, June 20 - 22, 2008, Rochester
- 2008 Grand Lodge Session, July 6 - 10, 2008, Anaheim, California
- 2008 Mid-Year Conference, October 17 - 19, 2008, Winona

Metro Dist. Calendar of Events

- Spring Conference / District Deputy Clinic, April 12, 2008, St. Cloud

Vocabulary

We as Elks, continuously strive to bring back civility and genteelism to a world that seems to have lost it. As such it was suggested by a member at a meeting recently that we try to bring some words that appear to be lost to history. The word for this month is: **Oculoplania**. Please endeavor to use this word in everyday conversation with friends, relatives, clergy, Exalted Rulers, and spouses.



!!Emergency Meeting!!

An emergency meeting of St. Cloud Elks Lodge #2843 was held at the home of ER James on March 29, 2008. At this meeting it was discussed and voted upon that yes it indeed was spring and beach weather would be arriving sometime in the future. Refreshments and appetizers were served immediately upon arrival of the members at the meeting place, during, and after the meeting.

**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!**

