



The Rack

The Official Newsletter of the St. Cloud Elks #2843

August 2009

Thursday the 20th, 2009

7:30 P.M. at

The East side VFW #4847

(Remember we only meet once in July & August)

August 2009 GER Message

Message from Grand Exalted Ruler James L. Nicholson

It is great to be your Grand Exalted Ruler!

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

Mary Carolyn and I are very excited that I have been selected your National President. We cannot wait to visit you and to see all the good work you are doing in your Lodges and in your states. We feel we are all in this together and we will be two voices singing your praises to anyone who will listen.

My goal for the Elks National Foundation this year remains at \$4.50 per Member. We know you believe in the importance of ENF to your Lodge, to your state's charitable efforts and to the programs of the Order. Please make ENF a high priority. I am sure I will see good progress when we make our visit.

In addition to the Elks National Foundation, I am emphasizing our Veterans Programs in my travels. The all-volunteer armed services, the families of soldiers, seamen and airmen, and all Veterans need our support as much as ever. It is our solemn Elks' vow we will never forget our Veterans.

Thank you for this wonderful opportunity to serve as Grand Exalted Ruler. We look forward to seeing you down the road. Remember, "Elks Make A Difference"!



From our Exalted Ruler



We are upon the last month of summer. The month of July was very busy to start. First was the fourth, the lodge marched in the St. Joseph parade; We packed 1,500 drug awareness bags in June to hand out and also brought an extra 500 drug awareness coloring books for the parade and we still ended up running out about two thirds of the way through. Also on that day Patches and a group of volunteers picked up the kids we sponsored from youth camp. They all had a great time. I then attended the Elks National Convention in Portland. It ran from the 5th to the 9th. There was only one meeting this month, at it we approved to help pay for a new roof on the VA half way house. Last we finished up the month with our social gathering, the fifth Thursday, at John and Dickie Voth's home. We were lucky enough for the rain to clear just in time.

Last month Aaron Lundblad started his campaigning for District President. He has visited Faribault #1166. He will also be visiting Stillwater #179 on August 5th and Minneapolis #44 August 19th.

Steven Zinken
ER



August 2009 Veterans Message:



Adopt-A-Veteran today!
by C. Valentine Bates PGER
Vice Chairman

For nearly thirty years the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks has been actively involved in our Adopt-A-Veteran Program. It is a very popular program that every Elks Lodge should participate in. The Elks' commitment, "So long as there are Veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them," is as relevant today as it was many years ago. We must not ignore the needs of our Veterans, especially those who are without family and friends close by. We can help brighten their lonely days by adopting them and involving them in Lodge activities, providing outings and dinners and making them feel special and honored for their sacrifices.

Lodges can become involved by following these four simple steps:

The VAVS Representative (or chairman at a state facility) secures the names of Veterans without family or friends nearby and forwards the list to the State National Veterans Service Chairman.

The State Chairman will divide the list among the Lodges in close proximity to the facility and forward the names to the appropriate District Chairman.

The District Chairman will determine how many Veterans each Lodge wishes to adopt. He will then provide the Lodges with a like amount of names.

The Lodge should publish the names and birthdays (without year) of its adopted Veterans in its bulletin each month and encourage Members and their families to schedule visits. Gifts for Veterans should consist of personal care items, reading material, games and similar inexpensive items. Luncheons and dinners at a restaurant or the Lodge are also recommended.

Get involved; get your Lodge involved; Adopt-A-Veteran today!

For information about how your Lodge can get involved contact:

Stewart G. Israel, Chairman
Adopt-A-Veteran Program

40225 Newport Drive
Plymouth, MI 48170-4739
(734) 455-4567
E-Mail: stewizzy@yahoo.com



Ask the Esquire aka Rich McCurdy

That was great but too short, one more month on the beach and I'm back at you relaxed and ready to go. Rich

State Calendar of Events

- 2009 Mid-Year Conference October 16 - 17, 2009 Faribault

Metro Dist. Calendar of Events

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: **Tarantism**. Please endeavor to use this word in everyday conversation with friends, relatives, clergy, Exalted Rulers, District Deputies, District Presidents, State Presidents and spouses.

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!



Advertise your business or special event, shout-out here.
nusbrew@gmail.com for more information

This newsletter is mailed to you complements of the PER association.