



The Rack

The Official Newsletter of the St. Cloud Elks #2843

September 2008

September Meetings

Thursday the 4th & 18th, 2008

7:30 P.M. at

The East side VFW #4847

September, 2008 GER Message

A Message from the Grand Exalted Ruler Paul D. Helsel

District deputy visits begin this month

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

Hope you all had a wonderful summer complete with the typical family vacation, long weekends at the beach or wherever, or perhaps simply time spent relaxing and recharging the batteries. Now that you are recharged and the kids are back in school, it is time to get back to the routine. And for us the routine is, or should be, running a successful Elks lodge that is growing in size, operational stability and programs of service.

During this month the district deputies will again start their annual official visits to see how well the lodges are doing. They will assess the health and vitality of each lodge from the standpoint of participation in our programs, financial well-being, adherence to operational requirements and membership management. They will assess what you and your lodge are doing to Grow Elkdom and service your community!

How will you and your lodge stack up? Are you and your lodge actively recruiting new members; actively working to keep your existing members; actively participating in our programs; and helping our veterans and others in your community? Has your lodge reached the \$4.50 ENF per capita donation goal? Well, seven months remain in this lodge year, which is ample time to make significant progress and turn any negatives into positives or make the positives even greater.

In our visits to the states, Jane and I are continually amazed and impressed with all the wonderful work that is being done for and in the name of Elkdom. And that is with maybe 20 percent of our membership involved. We are certainly far from our potential, but to do more and grow as we should, we need every Elk involved in the effort. Get involved, get all Elks involved and help Grow Elkdom and your lodge!

Thank you for all that you are doing for your lodge and our beloved Order. Together we will Grow Elkdom and in doing so, demonstrate that "Elks Care – Elks Share"!



From our Exalted Ruler

I would like to thank Brad Slocum and Julie Lundblad for filling in for Patches and me for the last meeting.

The Metro District meeting and District Deputy Clinic will be held on Saturday, September 13, 2008 at Stillwater Lodge #179. Lunch will be served at the lodge at 11:00 am and the meeting will start at 1:00 pm sharp. At 5 pm there will be dinner and auction.

The District 11 O'clock Toast Contest and the Flag Charge Contest will be held prior to district meeting at 10:30 am. There will be divisions for both Exalted Rulers and Past Exalted Rulers for the 11 O'clock Toast Contest; the Flag Charge Contest is open only to current Exalted Rulers.

The youth camp closing will be September 19th-21st. If you are interested in going let me know so I have count for housing.

The Mid-Year Convention will be held in Winona October 17th-18th. I have eight rooms reserved at the Quality Inn. If you are planning on going let me know so I can release any extra rooms. We are planning to have a hospitality room at the Mid-Year convention as we currently have a bid in for the 2011 Mid-Year Convention.

The District Deputy's, Jeff Ellison, visit will be held on Saturday, November 1st. We will need to do an initiation.

Upcoming Events:

-Metro District Meeting / District Deputy Clinic will be held September 13th at Stillwater.

-Youth camp closing, September 19th-21st. If interested in going please let me know by the next meeting for housing reservations

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
Frank Presfield 3rd Year
Shirley Zager 2nd Year
Bob Zager 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

-2008 State Mid-Year Conference, October 17th – 18th, in Winona, MN

-Minnesota Elks Mixed Curling Bonspiel, November 21 - 22, 2008, in Hibbing

-State Ritual Contest, January 3, 2009, Red Wing

James Michael

ER

September, 2008 Veterans Message

Several years ago we started publishing statistics which reflect the generosity of members and their spouses who work so hard to keep our pledge to the veterans of our Armed Forces.

It is with a great deal of pride that the Elks National Veterans Service Commission lists the statistics for the 2007-2008 fraternal year.

Survey of Volunteer Veterans Service Programs for Fraternal Year April 1, 2007 – March 31, 2008

Compiled by the Office of the Grand Secretary

Participants in Programs:	1,158,402
Elks Who Worked	143,750
Helpers	<u>92,460</u>
Combined Total	236,210
Hours Donated:	
Elks	725,251
Helpers	<u>340,469</u>
Total Combined Hours	1,065,747
Cash Value of Donated Hours*	\$20,686,149.00
Miles Traveled: Elks	
Elks	3,135,079
Helpers	<u>1,439,398</u>
Total Combined Miles	4,574,477
Cash Value of Miles traveled**	\$2,332,983.00
Contributions:	
Cash	\$3,507,121.00
Non-Cash	4,838,802.00
Hours Worked	20,686,149.00
Miles Traveled	2,332,983.00

Total Contributions \$31,365,055.00

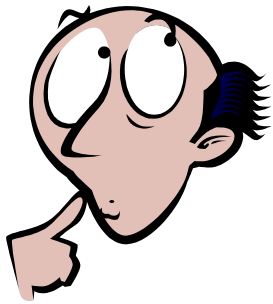
*The Federal Government has determined that the cost of work done by charitable organizations like the Elks would average out to \$19.41 per hour if performed by social care and government agencies.

**Mileage computed at \$.51 per mile.

These statistics don't tell the complete story. A dollar value cannot be attached to the care and love our volunteers put into their work with those who served America in times of peril.

We thank our wonderful volunteers as they continue Serving Our Nation's Veterans.

— Robert M. Hennings, director, Elks National Veterans Service Commission



Ask the Esquire aka Rich McCurdy

Dear Esquire, My kids are heading back to school this month and they were asking me what holidays are in September. Apparently they are already looking for when they will get out of school. Can you help??? Mr. C.P.

Dear C.P: The little rascals should be in school year round all day... But I fear that we wouldn't be able to afford keeping them in school that long the way the school districts run things... Any who, here is a short list of holidays in

September:

SEPTEMBER IS...

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| <i>September is...</i> | <i>Be Kind to Editors and Writers Month
National Bed Check Month
National Chicken Month
National Mind Mapping Month
National Papaya Month</i> |
| <i>September 1 is...</i> | <i>Emma M. Nutt Day
Labor Day</i> |
| <i>September 2 is...</i> | <i>National Beheading Day</i> |
| <i>September 3 is...</i> | <i>Skyscraper Day</i> |
| <i>September 4 is...</i> | <i>Newspaper Carrier Day</i> |
| <i>September 5 is...</i> | <i>Be Late For Something Day
Cheese Pizza Day</i> |
| <i>September 6 is...</i> | <i>Fight Procrastination Day
Read a Book Day</i> |
| <i>September 7 is...</i> | <i>Grandparent's Day - first Sunday after Labor Day
Neither Rain nor Snow Day</i> |
| <i>September 8 is...</i> | <i>International Literacy Day
National Date Nut Bread Day - or December 22!?</i> |

Pardon Day
 September 9 is... *Teddy Bear Day*
Sewing Machine Day
Swap Ideas Day
 September 11 is... *Make Your Bed Day*
No News Is Good News Day
 September 12 is... *National Chocolate Milkshake Day*
National Video Games Day
 September 13 is... *Defy Superstition Day*
Chinese Moon Festival 15th day of 8th Lunar month
Fortune Cookie Day
National Peanut Day
Positive Thinking Day
Uncle Sam Day - his image was first used in 1813
 September 14 is... *National Cream-Filled Donut Day*
National Pet Memorial Day -second Sunday in September
 September 15 is... *Make a Hat Day*
Felt Hat Day
 September 16 is: *Collect Rocks Day*
Step Family Day
Mayflower Day
Mexican Independence Day
Working Parents Day
Stay Away From Seattle Day
 September 17 is... *National Apple Dumpling Day*
Citizenship Day
Constitution Day
 September 18 is... *National Play-doh Day*
National Cheeseburger Day
 September 19 is... *International Talk like A Pirate Day*
National Butterscotch Pudding Day
POW/MIA Recognition Day - Third Friday of September
 September 20 is... *National Punch Day*
Oktoberfest, begins, date varies
 September 21 is... *International Peace Day*
Miniature Golf Day
National Women's Friendship Day - third Sunday in September
World Gratitude Day
 September 22 is... *Business Women's Day*
Elephant Appreciation Day
Hobbit Day and Dear Diary Day
 September 23 is... *Dogs in Politics Day*
Checkers Day
 September 24 is... *National Cherries Jubilee Day*
 September 25 is... *National Comic Book Day*
 September 26 is... *Johnny Appleseed Day*

September 27 is...	<i>Native American Day - fourth Friday of the month</i> <i>Crush a Can Day</i>
September 28 is...	<i>International Rabbit Day - Fourth Saturday in September</i> <i>Ask a Stupid Question Day</i>
September 29 is...	<i>National Good Neighbor Day</i> <i>Poisoned Blackberries Day</i>
September 30 is...	<i>Confucius Day - Try your luck. Get a Fortune Cookie.</i> <i>National Mud Pack Day</i>

I believe Hallmark has a card for all the above holidays.

Make sure the dog eats the homework for me... Rich

State Calendar of Events

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|------------------|
| • Youth Camp Closing | September 19 - 21, 2008 | Youth Camp |
| • 2008 Mid-Year Conference | October 17 - 18, 2008 | Winona |
| • Minnesota Elks Mixed Curling Bonspiel | November 21 - 22, 2008 | Hibbing |
| • (for information contact Charlie or Becky Radika) | | |
| • State Ritual Contest | January 3, 2009 | Red Wing |
| • Exalted Ruler Seminar | January 24 - 25, 2009 | Wadena |
| • State Elks Bowling Tournament | February, 7, 14, 21, 28, 2009 | Stillwater |
| • State Hoop Shoot Contest | February 14, 2009 | Hutchinson |
| • Elks International Bonspiel | February 28 - March 1, 2009 | Thunder Bay |
| • Regional Hoop Shoot | March 14, 2009 | Iowa City, IA |
| • State Officers Budget Meeting | April 25, 2009 | Brainerd |
| • Youth Camp Opening | May 8 - 10, 2009 | Youth Camp |
| • Ladies Youth Camp Opening Weekend | May 15 - 17, 2009 | Youth Camp |
| • 2009 State Convention | June 26 - 27, 2009 | Eveleth |
| • Grand Exalted Rulers Visit to Minnesota | | |
| • 2009 Grand Lodge Session | July 5 - 9, 2009 | Portland, Oregon |
| • 2009 Mid-Year Conference | October 16 - 17, 2009 | Faribault |

Metro Dist. Calendar of Events

- | | | |
|--|-------------------------|---------------|
| • PER Auction | September 12, 2008 | Stillwater |
| • Fall Conference / District Deputy Clinic | September 13, 2008 | Stillwater |
| • Murder Mystery Dinner Show | September 26 - 27, 2008 | Minneapolis |
| • ENF Night & Silent Auction w/a Turkey Fry | October 10, 2008 | Hopkins |
| • Minneapolis Home Parties at the Lodge | October 11, 2008 | Minneapolis |
| • Rosemount Halloween Trail | October 25, 2008 | Dakota County |
| • Wine Tasting & Silent Basket Auction | November 22, 2008 | Faribault |
| • Minneapolis Toy Dance | December 6, 2008 | Minneapolis |
| • Red Wing Member Christmas Party/Silent Auction | December 5, 2008 | Red Wing |

- Christmas Party December 7, 2008 Dakota County
- Ice Fishing Tournament January 7, 2009 Red Wing
- Bahama Mama Night January 21, 2009 Minneapolis
- Winter District Deputy Clinic January 17, 2009 Minneapolis
- Lodge Luau with the Fabulous Love Handles January 24, 2009 Faribault
- District Hoop Shoot January 25, 2009 Minneapolis
- Minneapolis PER Auction February 28, 2009 Minneapolis
- Spring Conference / District Deputy Clinic April 18, 2009 Dakota County

Past Exalted Ruler's (PER) Section

This space reserved for our Past Exalted Rulers to pontificate from... Stay tuned to see if they have anything to say/share.... (Nothing arrived this month; they must all be exhausted from the summers PER activities/duties)



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: **Emunction**. 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!

