



# ELKORAMA

Volume 209, Issue 195

Brainerd Elks Lodge #615

February, 2014

## Exalted Ruler's Corner: February

How do I write an optimistic spring February ER note when it is January 4? Yes, the goodness-knows-what below zero it is and will be for the next 4-5 days January 4. I have been told that the Lodge in Honolulu is spectacular, I wonder if they would welcome a PER from American Siberia?

Enough digressing and back to business. By the time you read this, the new computer should be up and running. I wanted the Lodge to know that because we may be improving the security and may have a enabled guest access to the internet with a password. There will be more to follow but please be aware that the change may be coming.



Important to the Lodge is that March is when the PER's nominate and the Lodge elects the officers for the upcoming Lodge year. If you have ever dreamed of (or even if you haven't) being more involved, please let one of the PER's or officers know your interest. We really need some fresh blood and insights on the "board" and if you are a new member that wants to get involved, we can certainly find an appropriate position that is not inappropriately burdensome. Of course the previous comment is no reflection on any current officer and the Lodge and I thank you for the commitment you have made to our Lodge. Consider carefully and thoughtfully ways to increase your involvement.

If you are not chomping at the bit to be an officer, maybe you should coerce a friend into the Lodge that would be willing to serve. Seriously, ask someone to join our Lodge this year. Use the brochures in the Club to show them what Elks do and they will want to be part of the order.

I am looking forward to the next Lodge year as always and appreciate all the support I have received. Stay as warm as you can until spring comes, they say it will eventually.

**- Fraternaly submitted, Jim Dehen -**

# Super Bowl Party

*Sunday, February 2nd*

*Come and Bring your Friends*

*Club Opens at 3:00 p.m.*

*Prize Drawings*

*Starting At 4:30 p.m.*

*Cheer on Your Favorite Team*

*Game starts at 5:40 p.m.*

*Other Games & Prizes*

*Throughout the Afternoon*

*"Football Food" Buffet*

*\$5.00 per person*



*'VETERANS REMEMBERED'*



*'Elks Care & Elks Share'*

## Cowboy's

Lake Shore, Mn

Pull-Tab Brainerd Elks Lic. #00496



## Pull-Tab Location

Brainerd Elks

Lic. # 00496



## Be Our's!

Will you be the Elks National Foundation's valentine? There won't be chocolates, roses or teddy bears, but we promise you the tools to build stronger communities!

Using Community Investments Program Gratitude Grants, Brainerd Lodge No. 615 shows love for their communities by meeting local needs. The Lodge partners with the local chapter of Healthy Brains for Children to hold Brainerd Lakes Area "Pregnant Ladies Night Out" events. The goal is to educate young families of the importance of preventing prenatal exposure to alcohol.

"A fun experience is provided while learning about the importance of preventing prenatal exposure to alcohol," says CIP Project Co-Manager James Van Duyn. "Our grant project encourages young families to make a healthy pro active choice during pregnancy."

Elks love their communities—that's why so many volunteers work to meet the National President's 2013-14 per-member-giving goal of \$4.60 to qualify for a \$2,000 ENF Gratitude Grant. Visit [www.elks.org/enf/community](http://www.elks.org/enf/community) to see how other Lodges use Community Investments Program grants to show their communities how much they love them!

*A 501(c)(3) public charity, the Elks National Foundation helps Elks build stronger communities through programs that support youth, serve veterans, and meet needs in areas where Elks live and work. For more information on the ENF, visit [www.elks.org/enf](http://www.elks.org/enf).*

Lutefisk, Swedish Meatballs, Lefse Dinner

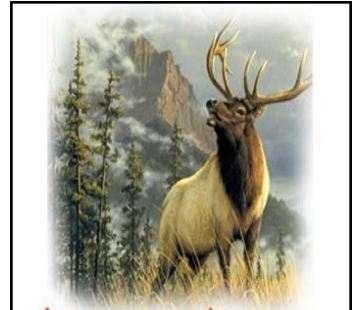
Wednesday, February 5



\$14.00

5:30 - Until gone,  
only 40 servings

Recommend buying tickets  
in advance,  
tickets sold at the bar



Elks Care - Elks Share

## Social Committee

Social Committee held their first meeting in 2014 on Wednesday, January 8th. A number of items were discussed including events for the upcoming year.

- ◆ Our Super Bowl party plans have been completed and we are on our way to having a day full of fun, games, food and of course "The GAME".
- ◆ The club will be open to celebrate St. Patty's day. We will provide the Irish Stew and Soda bread at a nominal fee. Join in the fun.
- ◆ One event discussed is getting a team together to walk in "The Race for the Cure" which is held the end of July. If there is an interest please let us know so we can get a signup sheet going and look into purchasing T-Shirts. We encourage ALL to consider this worthy cause. Men, women, children are welcome. Sign up a friend also. We would love to have a huge group.
- ◆ Our next meeting will be APRIL 2nd. We will be organizing our Kentucky Derby Party at that time.

## FROM THE DESK OF THE SECRETARY

Elk members will be receiving their 2014-2015 dues statement in early February. You are asked to remit your dues in a timely manner.

According to our records the following members have not paid their 2013-2014 dues.

\*Thomas Doran  
\*Ted Johnson, Jr

\*Clifford Hansen  
\*Andrew McDonnell

\*Lawre Harris  
\*Mark Puschinsky

SAVE THE DATE...

Saturday, May 17th (Armed Forces Day)



Seattle vs Twins  
6:10 pm game



Enjoy an early baseball outing with our Veterans



On a Chartered Bus  
Details to follow



# Brainerd Elks Lodge #615

### Students of the Month

**Bret Mitchel Reed**, Pine River/Backus High School, is one of the Brainerd Elks Lodge February Students of the Month.

Bret is an extremely hardworking student who continually pushes himself by taking academically challenging college credit classes said Mary Ruth Sigan, counselor. He is well liked and has an excellent rapport with students and staff because of his genuineness, positive attitude and caring personality.

Extracurricular activity involves trap shooting and participating in the Minnesota State High School Clay Target League.

Bret has been a cashier at a local store and lists fishing as his favorite leisure time activity. He plans to attend the University of Wisconsin-Steven's Point to following a Conservation and Environmental Enforcement and Wildlife Ecology field.

**Ian Michael Smith**, Brainerd High School, is one of the Brainerd Elks Lodge February Students of the Month.

Despite being on his own for the last two years and essentially, being homeless, Ian has remained a focused, successful student at Brainerd High School. His goals include college and a career in training and athletics remarks Jeff Howard, counselor.

He is serving/has served on the student council, junior class cabinet, been a student ambassador and participated in football, track and boxing. He volunteers at the hospital, clinics and shelters.

What a list of leisure time activities this young man has on his agenda. Ian enjoys boxing, weight training, triathlons and race type events; reading and writing, learning languages, volunteering and cleaning and organizing.

Ian's future looks bright as he wishes to major in athletics training and coaching while attending St. Cloud State University.

### Thank You:

Dear Friend of Scouting, Thank you for your generous contribution to Scouting. Your continued support enables the Central Minnesota Council, Boy Scouts of America to teach, coach, and mentor over 5,000 young people in neighborhoods throughout our 12-county territory. Please visit our council website at [www.bsacmc.org](http://www.bsacmc.org) and see how your contribution makes a difference. Thank you for doing your best! Sincerely, George Schnepf, Board President Central Minnesota Council, BSA and David Trehey, Scout Executive CMC, BSA

### Thank You Lodge/Club Volunteers

- ♦ January was only half over when this list of volunteers was compiled. Alas, someone's name has possibly been omitted but your contribution is important none the less. It doesn't include behind-the-scenes people (trustees, officers) that make it happen. It takes a TEAM to keep the Best People On Earth participating. Volunteer where and when you have time. Keep the energizer bunnies hopping! Fifty plus people are making it happen
- ♦ Thank you to the computer selection volunteer team of Loran Schroeder, Dennis Lothspeich, James Dehen and James Van Duyn. A Lenovo laptop and Hewlett Packard printer were purchased.
- ♦ A special thank you goes to those who prepared and served the January Community Breakfast. This month's volunteers included Dave Smith, Scott Longanecker, Tom Borden, Herman Wisneski, Carol Brown Smith, Jim Runberg, Ron Bower, Jacob Borden, Jack Hickerson, Karol House, Susan Shortridge, Leona Johnson and Cheri Drake.
- ♦ Thank you to Joe VanWie, Jack Hickerson, Ed Koehler, Lance Smith, James Van Duyn and Conrad Bye for your continued volunteerism on the Scholarship Committee. Thanks Susan Shortridge for volunteering to lead the Americanism Essay Contest and to helpers Cheri Drake, Nedra Van Duyn, Herman Wisneski and James Van Duyn.
- ♦ Thank you to all that made a donation to the Mitten Tree, items for the Women's Shelter of Mid Minnesota. Cheryl Bailey collected 60 gift items and one check and delivered them to the Shelter. Thank you, Cheryl.
- ♦ Thank you Polish Sausage feeders. This month's team members included Mark Wheeler, Mike Jeppesen, bread Artisan Wayne Gutzman and Herman Wisneski.
- ♦ Thank you to the chefs and servers for the Tuesday dinners. Herman Wisneski, Dave Smith, Carol Brown Smith and servers Karol House, Terri Kautz, Tom Swanson, Donna Wheeler and Cheri Drake. Hosts for the veterans attending the dinners were Kelly Annabelle, Nedra and James Van Duyn. Thursday Burgers were Mel Ziebell, Herman Wisneski for The Shop.
- ♦ Thank you to Rick Herzog, Tom Swanson, Kelly Mogensen, Herman Wisneski, Bill Bailey, Nedra Van Duyn, Cheri Drake, Leona Johnson and Karol House for preparing and serving the Rohlfling Dinner.
- ♦ Thank you to Brad Busho for layout of the *Elkorama* and getting it printed; to Vern Busho for mailing the finished product.

## February Birthdays

01 Lane, Richard E	17 Ehrich, Fred L
02 Fruth, Gary N	Harting, Robert
04 Blacktin, James	Lyscio, Richard G
14 Doran, Thomas J	19 Swenson, Dale
Johnson, Arnold S	25 Heglie, Rodney L
	26 Marchand, Jeff
	Ployhar, Roy

**Happy Birthday!**

The *Elkorama* is published monthly by the Brainerd Elks Lodge #615. 215 South 6th Street, Brainerd, MN 56401 It is mailed to members, widows and widowers of members.

The deadline for anyone wishing to place an article in the March issue of the *Elkorama* will be February 15. Please email them to [vanuyns@charter.net](mailto:vanuyns@charter.net) or leave articles at the lodge. **Thank you.**

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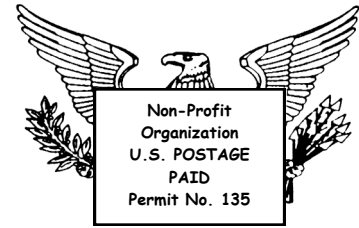
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 Brainerd, MN 56401  
 218-829-2643



**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Officers of Brainerd Lodge #615  
 2013-2014**

Exalted Ruler.....Dr. James Dehen, PER  
 Leading Knight.....Bill Bailey, PER  
 Loyal Knight.....Vacant  
 Lecturing Knight.....Dan Graven  
 Secretary.....Don Stang, PER  
 Treasurer.....Vacant  
 Esquire.....Jay Johnson  
 Chaplain.....Jack Antolak  
 Inner Guard..... Bruce Mogensen  
 Tiler..... Vacant

**TRUSTEES**

1<sup>st</sup> Year Trustee.....Dave Smith  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Trustee..... Bob Verkennes  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Trustee..... Conrad Bye  
 4<sup>th</sup> Year Trustee.....Bruce Mogensen  
 5<sup>th</sup> Year Trustee.....Jack Antolak

Editor.....Brad Busho  
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 Email: [info@brainerdelks.org](mailto:info@brainerdelks.org)

# February 2014

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>LODGE/CLUB HOURS:</b> Daily 3:00-9:00 Saturday 12:00-8:00						<b>1</b> State Elks Bowling Tournament @ Willmar
<b>2</b> 8:00-12:00 Breakfast at the Elks; Super Bowl Sunday; State Elks Bowling Tournament @ Willmar	<b>3</b> 5:30 Trustees; 6:30 Lodge meeting	<b>4</b> 5:30-7:00 Family Dinner Night Entrée: BBQ Ribs	<b>5</b> 5:30-until gone Lutefisk, Lefse, Meatball Dinner	<b>6</b> 5:30-7:00 Burgers	<b>7</b> 5:30-7:00 Chef's Choice; State Elks Bowling Tournament @ Willmar	<b>8</b> 12:00-Baxter Bass Snatchers meet—Brats served; State Hoop Shoot @ Hutchinson; State Elks Bowling Tourney @ Willmar
<b>9</b> 8:00-12:00 Breakfast at the Eagles; State Elks Bowling Tournament @ Willmar	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 5:30-7:00 Family Dinner Night. Entrée: Ham Dinner	<b>12</b> 11:00-1:00 Polish Sausage, Sauerkraut, Beans & Artisan Breads; 5:30 Social Committee meeting	<b>13</b> 5:30-7:00 Burgers; 5:00 Burgers for The SHOP	<b>14</b> Valentine's Day; St Cloud Vets Hospital visit; State Elks Bowling Tournament @ Willmar	<b>15</b> State Elks Bowling Tournament @ Willmar
<b>16</b> 8:00-12:00 Breakfast at the VFW; State Elks Bowling Tournament @ Willmar	<b>17</b> 5:30 Trustees; 6:30 Lodge meeting	<b>18</b> 5:30-7:00 Family Dinner Night. Entrée: Cashew Chicken	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 5:30-7:00 Burgers	<b>21</b> 5:00-7:00 Chef's Choice: Tacos; State Elks Bowling Tournament @ Willmar	<b>22</b> State Elks Bowling Tournament @ Willmar
<b>23</b> 8:00-12:00 Breakfast at the Legion; State Elks Bowling Tournament @ Willmar	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 5:30-7:00 Family Dinner Night. Entrée: Chicken Cordon Bleu	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 5:30-7:00 Burgers; 5:00 Burgers for The SHOP	<b>28</b> Elks International Bonspiel @ Hibbing	