



# ELKORAMA

Volume 212, Issue 198

Brainerd Elks Lodge #615

May, 2014

## Exalted Ruler's Corner: May

Clichés. Cute and quaint phrases uttered too often sometimes. But many of them have staying power because the underlying tenet is valid and meaningful.

I am not sure who to credit to because I have heard from varied people over the years but I want to lay this one on you as it were: "Just one more."

We beat the drum of club involvement, membership, participation in Lodge leadership, etc. and people worry about the commitment in time and sometimes cost.

While I am not asking anyone to commit to something that is an excessive burden or cost, I would like you to use the phrase of the day: Just one more.

Can you participate in one more Club event, dinner, or Lodge event? Look at the calendar and see where you can do one more. Ask an officer, trustee, or PER if you have a question about an event or project.

Can you ask just one more person to become part of our Order? I suspect we all have friends that would support the programs and events we participate in. Show someone the "What Elks do." brochure and tell them they can be part of that and more. And then invite them down for a meal or drink. And then invite them to join our proud Order. Don't forget why we are really there.

Our membership number is sliding and the average age is increasing. Ask your accountant or math major child if that is a sustainable trend. While having a nice private Club for socializing and relaxing is nice, if we don't grow the Lodge membership then, quite frankly, the Lodge will die and the Club with it. I don't know what the critical low membership number is but we are far too close to where it would be. Let's end this next Lodge year with a net growth in membership of at least 10. Not a high or unobtainable target so let's hit or exceed it.

**- Fraternaly submitted, Jim Dehen -**



### FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

This is a report on the two major projects that the Brainerd Elks Lodge supports each year. They are the Elks National Foundation (ENF) and the Minnesota Elks Penny A Day (PAD). The amounts reported are for the past membership year, April 1, 2013 thru March 31, 2014.

The Brainerd Elks Lodge is in second place for ENF donations in the State of Minnesota for the 25 Elks Lodges in Minnesota, The total ENF donations given by Brainerd members and widows were \$12,146. This amounted to \$48.20 per member. One member gave a memorial gift of over \$8,000.

Brainerd members and widows contributed \$2,000 to the Minnesota Elks Penny A Day. This amounted to \$6.10 per member. All of the PAD monies donated are held in a Trust Account and only the earnings are spent to improve the Minnesota Elks Youth Camp.



### CPR Class At Brainerd Lodge

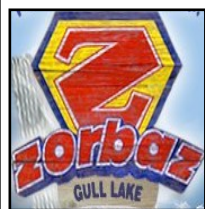
Wednesday, May 7, 2014  
at 6:30 PM

Cost is \$15 and will be limited to 20 people.

Payment for the class is at the time of signup.

Signup sheet at the Bar

New AED machine (defibrillator) arriving soon



**Pull-Tab  
Location**  
Brainerd Elks  
Lic. # 00496

# Cowboy's

Lake Shore, Mn

Pull-Tabs Brainerd Elks Lic. #00496



Officers for 2014-2015 are from left Herman Wisneski, treasurer; Jim Dehen, Exalted Ruler; Bill Bailey, Leading Knight; Shannon Dehen, secretary, Dan Graven, Lecturing Knight; and Jim Runberg, Loyal Knight.

## SPRING BINGO AT ST. CLOUD VETS

Friday, April 11 was a beautiful spring evening for a drive to the St. Cloud Veterans Medical Center. Eighty-one veterans plus a few staff people assembled to play bingo. The group was led by Herman Wisneski (Caller), Roy Schmidt, Ron Bower, Ethel Olson and Dick Ashmun, members of the Brainerd Elks Lodge #615. Once again, the Brainerd Lodge provided money for prizes and treats at break time. It was a fun evening. The veterans are always so appreciative of the fellowship and awards. The next bingo night at the Center is June 21.

### Elks Youth Camp Raffle

This is the 4th year that the Elks Youth Camp will be holding a raffle to raise much needed money to assist with updates and expenses at the Elks Youth Camp. The tickets are here and are on sale. We have been very fortunate each year to have a few winners from the Brainerd Elks Lodge and feel very good about having more this year. As you know, we have sold out of our allotted number of tickets each year so plan on purchasing early! If you have any questions, contact Dick Lyscio (218) 851-1753 to purchase or reserve your tickets. Good luck and hope you are a winner this year.

### Soccer Shoot

The local "Soccer Shoot" contest for boys/girls will be held on Saturday, May 17th, from 9:30 a.m. to Noon. The contest will take place at the Southdale Soccer Fields (High School Soccer Field) off County Road 48. This is the 12th Annual Soccer Shoot sponsored by the Brainerd Elks Lodge. The contest is open to all boys/girls between the ages of 6-13 (age as of August 1, 2014).

We are expecting a good turn-out again this year. Some 300 flyers have been distributed to soccer kids enrolled in the area's Spring Soccer Program.

As in the past, we will need many Volunteer Helpers to put on the program from registration, tallying scores, and retrieving balls. There will be a sign-up sheet on the bar at the Elks, or call Bill Bailey 821-0483 to volunteer some time to help kids. A special thank-you to all of those that have helped in the past and hope that we can count on you again this year. Please sign up early as it does make it a lot easier.

### **GL Newsletter, May 2014 Fraternal Committee: Membership is everyone's job!**

**by DOUGLAS A. SCHIEFER  
Fraternal Committee Member**

We're one month into the new Lodge year. So, what does a snapshot of your Lodge membership look like? Are you happy with what you see or is there work to be done? If you're like the majority of our Lodges, it's the latter. So, what are you going to do about this picture you don't like seeing? You can't ignore it hoping it's going to get better looking. You need to take action now, to get busy and focus on: new Members – orientation/involvement and delinquent Members – retention.

A new Member's orientation/involvement process is key to him or her becoming an active, participating Lodge Member, and just maybe, a future Elks Legacy. A key means to this success is the new Member's proposer. The proposer, who usually has a close relationship with the new Member, needs to be a mentor especially during the first several months – a process similar to what a new hire experiences in the workforce. The new Member needs to see and experience what his or her proposer/mentor already knows. The Elks Lodge is a friendly place to be, with a variety of fun activities that include family friendly events. That Elks are active in their communities working our Elks programs: Charitable, CIP Grants, Youth, Veterans, Dictionary Project, Hoop Shoot, Soccer, Youth Golf, Drug Awareness, Americanism Essay Contest and many more ... to involve non-members to become new Members!

Most of us already know it's easier to retain a Member than to find a new one. Now is always the best time to review that list of delinquent Members and reach out to them. You may find that the most successful way to retain delinquent Members is through utilizing the Members who proposed them for membership. A personal contact can be the very key to their retention. The need to continually work the delinquent Members list is not easy work, but the fruits of your labor will grow Elkdom in your community!

Membership is everyone's job! And if you focus your effort on new Members orientation/ involvement and retention of delinquent Members, then the picture you re-take on March 31, 2015 will look a whole lot better.

*"Elks Live – Elks Give."* Enjoy being an Elk! God bless.



## Eagle Scout Banquet

Brainerd Elks Lodge #615 sponsored the Eagle Scout and Volunteer Recognition Dinner for the 56<sup>th</sup> year. Eagle Scouts present included Andrew Doucette and Justin McMillon. The Pine Tree District of the Central Minnesota Council of the Boy Scouts of America also received the Eagle Scout award but not present included Eric Smedsrud, James Cragun,

Kyler Drevelow, Tyler Jensen, Zachary Simmonds, Joseph Wells and Dacotah Roskop.

Each Eagle receives a US Flag that has flown over the White House. About 85 Scouts, volunteers and families attended the banquet.



## Brainerd Elks Support Good Sam Bowl

Special thanks to the Brainerd Elks for sponsoring 6 veterans to bowl at Good Sam Bowl. Stop by Jack's House on Monday, May 5 at 5 pm to cheer on *Jeff McCarther, Kelly Annable, Elizabeth King, Nick Belinski, Kasey Marshall* and *Shawn Harper* as they bowl for Elks #615.



## Don't Miss the Kentucky Derby Party

**Mint Juleps**  
**Best Hat Contest**  
**Games & Prizes**  
**Fun Starts at 3:00**  
**Saturday May 3rd**



## Thank You

- ◆ Gratitude is extended to the volunteer crew that finalized the second campaign letter mailing: Leona Johnson, Terri Kautz, Cheri Drake, Nedra Van Duyn, Marilyn Henry, Bill Bailey, Doug Johnson, Jim Runberg and Jim Van Duyn.
- ◆ Delicious Tuesday dinners have been prepared and served by volunteers: Mark & Donna Wheeler, Karel House, Bruce & Kelly Mogensen, Cheri Drake, Bill Bongs, Dave & Carol Smith, Jim Runberg, Herman Wisneski, Jeanne Swanson & Cheryl Bailey while Jim & Nedra Van Duyn, Bill Bailey and Leona Johnson were hosts to the attending Veterans and their family.
- ◆ Success of the Elks participation in the Downtown Golf event was due to the efforts of Conrad Bye, Jack Antolak and Bruce Mogensen; Herman Wisneski prepared Sloppy Joes that were served by Karel House and Leona Johnson.
- ◆ A Power Lodge open house included an Elks booth organized by Ricky Herzog while Ron Stolski, Bill Bailey, and Jim Van Duyn volunteered shift work.
- ◆ Volunteers Scott Longanecker, Conrad Bye, Bruce Mogensen and Herman Wisneski provided shrimp & fish on Fridays during Lent.
- ◆ Ricky Herzog, Marilyn Henry, Scott Longanecker, Bill Bailey and Bob Osborne shared duties grilling burgers.
- ◆ For the continued community breakfast with great staff of Dave and Carol Smith, Herman Wisneski, Bill Bongs, Tom and Jake Borden, Jim Runberg and Dan Graven in the kitchen while Karel House, Mary Ann Bower, Terri Kautz, and Leona Johnson served guests. Ron Bower was the cashier.
- ◆ Herman Wisneski, Jim Van Duyn and Roy Schmidt served guests hamburgers at the District Deputy Clinic.
- ◆ Sharon Osborne, Roy Schmidt, Herman Wisneski, Nedra Van Duyn, Terri Kautz, Mark Wheeler, Scott Longanecker, Jim Runberg and Jim Van Duyn prepared and served the Eagle Scout banquet.
- ◆ For preparing and serving the Bass Club Party led by Chef Ricky Herzog with Conrad Bye, Jim & Alice Klang, Karel House and Donna Wheeler.

## May Birthdays

02 Rohlfing, Eric	18 Hess, Clifford R
VanWie, Joseph L	20 Klapmeier, James E
03 Benson, Gary	Loge, Gary L
04 Ludenia, William R	Lyscio, Todd
05 Mathews, John	21 Barker, David L
Molin, Conrad B	22 Derby, Shawn
Tollas, Harry	Jiran, Michael
06 Newman, James E	25 Bower, Ronald W
12 Andrew, Leland	Dullum, T H
14 Engen, Robert A	27 Aho, John
15 Berry, M Lorraine	31 Thompson, Eugene L
17 Henry, Marilyn I	

**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 June issue of the Elkorama will be May 15. Please email them to [vanuyns@charter.net](mailto:vanuyns@charter.net) or leave articles at the lodge. **Thank you.**

## SAVE THE DATE - SOCCER SHOOT

May 17, 2014 9:00 - Noonish  
 Southdale Park (High School field) Baxter  
 Volunteers needed \* Sign up at the Bar

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 General Surgery



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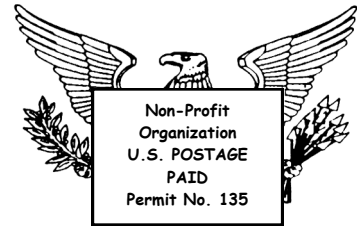


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 218-829-2643



**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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

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

**TRUSTEES**

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

Editor.....Brad Busho  
 Website: [www.BrainerdElks.org](http://www.BrainerdElks.org)  
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# May, 2014

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>LODGE/CLUB HOURS:</b> Daily 3:00-9:00 Saturday 12:00-8:00				1 5:30-7:00 Burgers	2 5:30-7:00 Chef's Choice	3 3:00 Kentucky Derby
4 8:00-12:00 Breakfast at the Elks	5 5:30 Trustees; 6:30 Lodge meeting	6 5:30-7:00 Family Dinner Night Entrée: Walleye	7	8 5:30-7:00 Burgers; 5:30 Scholarship Banquet; Youth Camp Opener	9 Youth Camp Opener	10 Youth Camp Opener
11 Mother's Day; Youth Camp Opener; 8:00-12:00 Breakfast at the Eagles	12	13 5:30-7:00 Family Dinner Night. Entrée: TBA	14	15 5:30-7:00 Burgers	16 5:30-7:00 Chef's Choice; Ladies Camp Opener	17 9:00-12:00 Soccer Shoot; Ladies Camp Opener
18 Ladies Camp Opener; 8:00-12:00 Breakfast at the VFW	19 5:30 Trustees; 6:30 Lodge meeting	20 5:30-7:00 Family Dinner Night. Entrée: TBA	21	22 5:30-7:00 Burgers; 5:00 Burgers for The SHOP	23	24
25 8:00-12:00 Breakfast at the Legion	26 Memorial Day	27 5:30-7:00 Family Dinner Night. Entrée: TBA	28	29 5:30-7:00 Burgers	30	31