



**Grand Rapids Michigan Lodge #48**

Established 1886

Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks



Elks Care - Elks Share



# January 2012 Happy New YEAR!!!!

### Lodge Officers and Contact Info

**Exalted Ruler:**

Diane Dusendang\* .....453-3474

**Leading Knight:**

Norm Hudson\* .....322-3663

**Loyal Knight:**

Bob Kramarz, PER\* .....364-0989

**Lecturing Knight:**

Meredith Vasquez\* .....334-2543

**Secretary:** Mike Lampani, PER ...791-9422

**Treasurer:** Sue Murtland .....784-1850

**Chaplin:** Roger Gritters .....895-1172

**Esquire:** Ted Liberski, PER: .....453-3220

**Inner Guard:** Steve Freybler .....453-8123

**Tiler:** Bill Mesery .....453-9320

**Trustees:**

**Chairman:** Terry Brown, PER\* ...644-5857

**Trustee:** Bernard Fritz\* .....453-8730

**Trustee:** Greg Porter\* .....813-9635

**Trustee:** Rick Cross\* .....453-4504

**Trustee:** Open

\*denotes Board of Governors

**OFFICE: 616-453-2451 x 210, Club48 X 217, Bowling X 216**

**EMAIL: office48@grandrapidselks.org**

*This section is "under construction" - look for more committee contact information coming soon!*



Dear Members:

Whew! What a year! 2011 was not only a FUN/ BUSY year, at the Elks Lodge, we have celebrated many successes! Thank you to every member, spouse and kids who helped to make a difference in YOUR Lodge!

As I write this article and put the finishing touches on our newsletter, Christmas is just 5 days away. By the time this reaches mailboxes, most likely Christmas will have come and gone again. It goes without saying that we have much to be thankful for here at Grand Rapids Lodge 48 - but this was a standout year to me because of the wonderful members who have engaged in their Lodge and helped to make our events and our charitable works the success that they are. That, my brothers and sisters, is the BEST gift that you can give your Lodge.

I know I've written to you about recommitting to your Lodge, finding a way (or ways) that you can step out of your comfort zone and participate a little more than before. I'm sure that many of you saw the news-cast recently about buying American. The challenge was for each family to purchase one American made gift for Christmas this year, and how that one act would impact American jobs. We'll I'd like to apply that same theory to our involvement at the Lodge. Will you consider committing to participating in one more event or volunteer just one more time than you normally would in the next 12 months. Can you begin to imagine the impact that would make in our Lodge?

*Continued on page 2*

### Hot Dates for January!

**Jan 9 - Taco Night 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM \* Jan 11 - FINAL Knights Night Trivia Throwdown** to determine club championship THROWDOWN!! Trivia begins at 6:30! \* **Jan 21 - Chili Cookoff!** \* **Jan 28/29 Elks State Men's Bowling** Tournament in Battle Creek - go Lodge 48!

**Full Event Calendar listed on the back page!**

## Do you have your Elks Big Buck Calendar YET?

Don't miss out on these calendars that can win you \$\$! How???. The cost for the calendars are \$11.00 each.... How....?

Well, attached to each calendar is a number....when you fill out the form and send it in, you are automatically entered into the Michigan Elks State Raffle with a chance to win 6 days a week!

Each day, Monday through Friday, the Michigan State Lottery draws a four-digit number (Evening Drawing only). If YOUR number matches the one drawn that day (straight only) YOU ARE A WINNER!

Monday - Friday - \$50.00

Saturday - \$300.00

To purchase YOUR Calendar....contact the office, stop in the Club....and pick up a few! Calendars are \$11.00 each!



## 2012 Michigan State Elks Bowling Tournament Info!

The 2012 Michigan State Elks Bowling tournament is in Battle Creek with the Grand Rapids Lodge scheduled to bowl January 28 and 29. If you'd like to stop by and cheer on the Lodge 48 teams, please contact Jim Stover with ANY questions!

616-498-1006

### Cleaning Home & Office

Husband & Wife Team

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ER Message cont. from Page 1

We've had so many firsts and here's another: thank you to our favorite gals who came out to wrap Christmas presents to benefit ENF. At this writing, we have only had 1 afternoon of gift wrapping, but were blessed with members who just don't "like" wrapping gifts, and took great joy in having a cold beverage, while our Christmas Elves, Betty Lampani, Beth Stribley and Marilyn Wisnewski wrapped for them. The packages were absolutely gorgeous! Donations for ENF from that one day totaled \$90.00 thanks to our generous members!

Another thank you to Tom Stribley who brought in his coin counting machine so I could get caught up with the Purple Pig Banks! Thanks Tom....I'm asking Santa to bring the Lodge this terrific gift!

As we wind down the year, I would be remiss by not thanking one of the most important people in my life: my husband Dave. Thank you for the gift of time - and allowing me to give it so freely at the Lodge, for being supportive and helpful. No ER can do this job without the support of others, and I am lucky to have Dave as well as wonderful officers, members and volunteers. Thank you.

We've got the final tally, and the Elks and community friends raised \$10,609.97 for the Slot family. Wow. Thank you to all of the many hard working, dedicated, talented and big-hearted volunteers and members who participated. You saw a need, and you filled it.

My wish and prayers are for you all to have a blessed and peaceful Christmas..

Fraternally yours,

Diane Dusendang

## From The Lanes

As the season progresses so have the scores! Congratulations to Ryan Ross with his 299 game and Ryan Mouw with his 777 series! Great bowling! Don't forget about our **4 Game Sweeper Tourney** on Saturday January 14th at 12:00 PM. This event is only for Elks Members and League Bowlers. Limited to the top 32 paid entries and it's filling up fast! It will be a great time so sign up today! Stop by or give Jim a call

616-453-2451 ext 216

**St. John's Home Giving Tree** Many thanks to all our members who donated to the St. John's Home Giving Tree. All of the gifts were delivered to the Home on December 19th in preparation for gift wrapping and Christmas. As always, your generosity is appreciated.



**Hoop Shoot!** THANK YOU to Chairman Pat Curtis and the MANY volunteers that showed up to help make the 2011 Hoop Shoot a success! Pat did a terrific job of coordinating this event, even when faced with a last minute forced change of venue. As always, because of Pat's experience and commitment, the morning went on without a hitch - and we all enjoyed watching the kids try their best! It is very inspiring! Our winners from each age category (boys and girls) will now move on to the District championships. Stay tuned for more updates. A special thanks to Jean and Don Freybler for once again providing the TERRIFIC trophies! The kids LOVED them!

### Scholarship Information

The Scholarship applications are IN.....Chairman Sue Murtland is in need of 3-4 volunteers to help judge the scholarship applications on January 3rd at 6:00 PM for approximately 2 hours. Sue is offering a snack and a drink on her and a chance to evaluate what great students we have in the Grand Rapids area! Contact Sue Murtland at the Lodge office to sign up! (616) 453-2451 x210 or email at [office48@grandrapidselks.org](mailto:office48@grandrapidselks.org)

### Lodge Clean Up and Fix-It Day!

Want to help make our Lodge look even spiffier? Then please sign up (sheet is located on the bulletin board) and come out and help us on February 4th! If you are a good cleaner, painter, woodworker, can change out a light fixture, whatever your talent is, we can use you! This will be a day of work, but a lot of fun as well as a chance to get some necessary things done to make our Lodge SHINE!! Questions? Contact ER Diane Dusendang....453-3474 For those unable to "work" - we're planning a potluck that day, so bring a dish to pass and have some fun at the Lodge!

### Thanks will never be enough.....

Our very own Bill Mesery has made the difficult decision after MANY years of service to the Grand Rapids Veteran's Home, he will be retiring. This leaves a huge hole in our volunteerism, as Bill has been a weekly fixture at the Home, conducting Bingo each Monday night. If there are members that are interested in stepping up to help with Bingo at the Home, please contact ER Diane Dusendang and we'll see if we can make this work. At a minimum, we will continue our commitment to our Veteran's through the annual fishing trip, Veteran's Dinner in November, the annual Veteran's carnival (Root Beer floats) and the Arts and Crafts Festival. We are also considering adding 1-2 more lunches here at the Lodge - and I hope we can step up our involvement in the Adopt A Vet Program. If you are interested in helping - please give me a call. And....the next time you see Bill - give him a big hug and thanks for his years of service. Bill - you have the gratitude of ALL of us at Lodge 48. Brother, you are a shining example of what Elks are!

**Euchre Sunday's!** Euchre is in full swing! Join your fellow Elks on **Sundays-3pm**, Club48. \$5 to play; \$1 additional to do the poker hand from your score card – top 3 places plus poker winners paid out. No partner? NO WORRIES! - we rotate players so that everyone is in a mix, which adds to the fun. Come and join us! If you have any questions, call Vikki Guiles @ 745-1234. Want to learn? We'll help!



**Attention Snowbirds!** It's that time of year when folks prepare to leave for warmer climates! Please call the office (or email to [office48@grandrapidselks.org](mailto:office48@grandrapidselks.org)) and let us know your name, date of departure and return and your winter address, so that we can make sure you continue to receive your newsletters! As always, you can opt out of the mailed version and receive your newsletters via email! Thank you

#### **STANDALE RECOGNITION**

**Don Freybler**  
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### **Michigan Major Project UPDATE!!**

Esteemed Leading Knight, Norman Hudson, and PR Committee Chair, Jacob Vasquez along with a wonderful friend, Cherish, jumped in the lake and raised \$617!!!! Many thanks to Norman, Jacob and Cherish for "taking the plunge" for kids! Save the DATE: the **Purple Pig Italian Dinner is scheduled for March 24th!** We are asking our talented members who have an interest in donating gift basket items for our silent auction to let us know! Diane Dusendang, MMP Chair

### **Membership and Lapsation**

Do you know of a lapsed member who might need an invitation to return? I'll help make a call! Betty Lampani, Membership Chair -616 - 862-2740

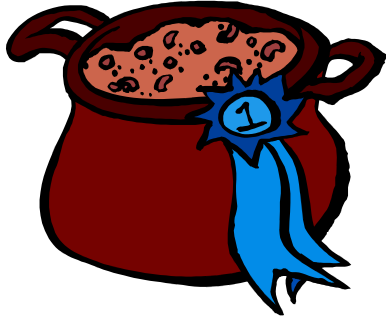
### **Club48 News**

Did you know about our Candy Bags? We've got little treat bags behind the bar with a few chocolate treats for those moments when you just want a little something OR maybe are late and need to bring a peace offering? :-) Tucked inside some of the bags, there are tokens for a free drink (up to \$3.50 value for 1 drink per token). The bags cost \$1.00 each! All proceeds benefit the Lodge! Check it out!



### **Dues Time!**

It's that time of year again! Annual Dues will be mailed in January - and as always our dues must be paid prior to April 1st. Please be sure to review the enclosed form that you will receive with your mailing and take a minute to update any email or address information. Also, the form will contain donations that can be made once a year to MMP, ENF, our (new) Lodge Fund (to help with small requests from members and the community - all with Lodge Floor approval!) and of course the Philanthropy Fund. Your help in getting your dues in promptly is greatly appreciated! If you have any questions, please contact Lodge Secretary, Mike Lampani!



## **ELKS LODGE #48 ANNUAL CHILI COOK OFF**

**Saturday, January 21, 2012**

Deadline for team reservations - **Jan 15, 2012**

Preparation time - **11:00 am**

(Use of commercial ingredients only)

Cook-off time - **12:00 pm**

Tasting - **3:00 pm**

Entertainment - **2:00 - 5:00pm**

By Jack Ward

\$25.00 per team - **ELK MEMBERS ONLY**

Call the Lodge office (453-2451 x210) with your team reservation & you will receive a table number. Please do not come the night before & put your cooking equipment on your table.

Thank you,  
Dave Abraham, Chairman  
Bill Quinn, Co-Chairman

B P O Elks  
Grand Rapids Lodge #48  
2715 Leonard St NW  
Grand Rapids MI 49504

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### Upcoming Events & Activities:

- Jan 3 - Scholarship Judging 6:00 PM - Contact Chairperson Sue Murtland
- Jan 8, 15, 22, 29 - Euchre, 3:00 PM
- Jan 9 - Taco Night 5:30 - 7:30 PM
- Jan 10 - BOG 6:00 PM, Lodge Meeting 7:00 PM
- Jan 11 - Knights Nite and Trivia THROWDOWN - This is the final Trivia night to determine club champs! Come join in the fun! Trivia starts (about) 6:30!
- Jan 15- Deadline to register for the Chili Cook OFF!!
- Jan 21 - Chili Cook OFF!! See inside for details!
- Jan 24 - BOG 6:00 PM, Lodge Meeting 7:00 PM
- Jan 28, 29 - Men's Elks State Bowling Tournament - Battle Creek (Go Lodge 48!)
- Jan 30 - Lodge Steak Fry - see eblasts for details, but come on down to the Lodge for dinner! Details and pricing to follow!

**Save the DATE: March 24th Purple Pig Italian Dinner!**