



Grand Rapids Michigan Lodge #48

Established 1886

Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks



Elks Care - Elks Share

July 2011 Lodge Bulletin



Dear Members:

Several months ago, I asked a question on the membership forum of the Elks National website. The question was: "WHY are you an Elk?" The responses were personal, funny, inspiring – and there was a common

thread; service to others.

While there is no right or wrong answer, I respectfully ask you to consider the reasons why you became an Elk. Being an Elk IS personal and I am very glad that you are a member – but I need your help. Volunteerism and participation in events at Lodge 48 is – well, not as spirited as it should be! We need to boost our participation and in turn, this will lead to a membership growth.

My personal reasons for becoming an Elk had to do with wanting to be able to attend the meetings and hopefully offer something. As many of you know, I've been around Lodge 48 for quite a few years and became involved in volunteering at events. When I finally decided to apply for membership, and went through my initiation, I knew I had made the right decision and wondered why I had waited so long.

For me, helping others is a huge reward. When my tank is empty and I'm running on fumes; when I have the opportunity to serve the Veterans a lunch, or cheer on the St. John's Home kids at bowling, or any of the many wonderful things Lodge 48 is involved with – my tank gets filled up to overflowing!

Another benefit for me is the opportunity to work with so many wonderful people! The volunteers here are simply the best – but we are a skeleton crew, none-the-less. We need new thoughts, fresh perspectives and many more hands to help. This will give you a chance to meet more members and it makes coming to our Lodge even more fun! I'm thankful for the many new friendships that I've formed and each day brings the chance to meet YOU!

Continued on Page 2

Michigan Major Projects Update!

Did you participate in the Purple Pig Italian Dinner last March? We'll once again be holding this fundraiser for MMP complete with Beautiful Things Silent Auction! While I realize it is pretty early to start talking about March of 2012 – if you are an artist that would like to contribute or create something specifically for the auction, please let me know! Last "year" we had 29 donated gift baskets and beautiful handmade items. It isn't too early to start thinking about what you'd like to contribute! We'll once again have dancing (and boy oh boy did we rip it up last year with great sing-a-longs to some classic rock songs!), raffle boards and of course the excellent home-made spaghetti and meatball dinner! We're off to a **GREAT 48** start with our Purple Pigs! We so far raised over \$300 in Penny a Day Banks! Thank you for remembering to pick up your purple pigs, filling them with change and returning them to the Lodge! YOU make a difference in special needs children's lives by this selfless act of generosity. If you'd like to show your support for MMP.....why not purchase a pin! We have the State gold crutch pin for sale at the Lodge for \$5.00. The pins cost \$3.00, we sell the pin for \$5.00 and the \$2.00 profit goes directly to MMP. OR, you can make a larger donation – and anything beyond the \$3.00 will be sent to MMP. Wear your pin proudly – show everyone that YOU support MMP!

Diane Dusendang
Grand Rapids Lodge 48 MMP Chair

"365 Bank" donations

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Tom Stribley | Ann Malewitz |
| Lee Host | Don Frebler |
| Dan Kozak | Dave Dusendang |
| Telzerow Family | Betty Lampani |
| Zdybel Family | Bernie Fritz |
| Paul Lindstrom | F. Vanoveran |
| Norm Hudson | Cathy Lindstrom |
| Diane Dusendang | Marilyn Wisnewski |

Lodge of Sorrows

Donald Rauser

Passed away May 31, 2011

Initiated October 26, 1973

Life Member April 1, 2003

A lifetime golf member at the Elks, played in many program events. There is a plaque and tree in his honor on hole #2. He loved the course and the many friends he made there. Thank you,
Judy Abbot, Don's loving and proud daughter.

The Drug Awareness Committee is now forming. We will have a booth at the Family Picnic this year and would love to have you stop by and see what we have to offer to our community. Please contact Meredith at Meredith@yahoo.com if you are interested in becoming involved in this great community outreach!
Meredith

Officer's Golf Outing Update

It was with deep regret that we had to cancel the Officers Gold Outing this month. But due to lack of interest, we had no other choice. We are going to try reschedule the event for Oct 13, 2011, so there will be plenty of time to get a foursome together and enjoy the great fall season! Let your friends know and please pass the word! The cost is \$70 per person and golf members pay \$50. We have some fun events planned on different holes and lots of chances to put your betting skills to work. Earn extra money, great prizes, fun with your friends and the enjoyment of mixing and meeting with other Elk members, so mark your calendars. See you in October.

On June 14th, Lodge 48 was honored to perform the Flag Day Ritual at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans. This public and patriotic ceremony is understandably a very special day for our Veterans. I'd like to thank the following Lodge Officers for doing such an outstanding job: Leading Knight Norm Hudson, Loyal Knight Bob Kramarz, Lecturing Knight (stand in) Dave Dusendang, Esquire Ted Liberski, Chaplain (stand in) Mike Lampani and Tiler Bill Mesery.

Immediately following the ceremony, which was broadcast throughout the Home for those unable to attend, the Officers served cake and ice cream to our Veterans. We will be certain to share photos soon. As your Exalted Ruler, I've never attended this ceremony before, and was humbled by the help offered by our tenured Officers and PER's. We produced a beautiful program for our deserving Veterans, and I feel humbled and blessed to be a part of Grand Rapids Elks No. 48.

Diane Dusendang, Exalted Ruler

ER Message cont. from Page 1

I wish I could bottle up the feelings of satisfaction, happiness, fun and camaraderie that I have and share it with each one of you! It is so important that each of our members feel connected to our Lodge in the way that meets their needs, while supporting the Lodge. Grand Rapids Lodge 48 needs you. It is really as simple as that. Take the opportunity to reach out to a member you haven't seen for a while, and make a date to visit the Lodge!

We've got several new activities planned, such as Knights Night (where your Leading Knight, Loyal Knight, Lecturing Knight or your Exalted Ruler will serve you a snack when you come in for a drink!)...or how about supporting your Lodge by coming down for one of our pancake breakfasts? Read through the newsletter, check out our webpage – we are working very hard to provide great options to participate, have fun....get to know your fellow Elks and all the while, support your Lodge, so we can in turn help others in our community!

I am reaching out to you – again and right now.....will you take a moment and consider how YOU can help to make a difference by committing some time and positive energy towards the success of YOUR Lodge?

Fraternally yours,
Diane Dusendang
Exalted Ruler

Grand Rapids Lodge 48

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News about Scholarships

Congratulations to all, the seniors who submitted applications to our Elks Lodge this year. There were 17 applications, and based on a certain criteria, we sent 3 young men and 3 young ladies to District. The process continued and four were sent for State judging. One young man, John Becker, was presented for National judging and won a \$4,000 scholarship for his college education. We at the Elks are very proud of all the young men and women and wish them well as they continue their education.

We have several scholarship opportunities here at Elks Lodge #48. Based on the principle that charity begins at home, the Elks National Foundation (ENF) offers three scholarship programs. This program is second only to the US government in the amount of scholarships it awards annually each year. All applications are available in September, 2011 either online or the student's guidance office. Please watch for a specific date for availability of applications. For more information or questions answered, please contact Sue Murtland at suemurtl@sbcglobal.net or call the Lodge office

Legacy Awards are for any child or grandchild (or step-child, step-grandchild, or legal ward) of a living Elk who joined the order on or before April 1, 2008, or a charter member of a Lodge that was instituted on or after April 1, 2008 is eligible to apply. The Elk must be a paid up member through March 31, 2012.

The Legacy Award applicant must be a high school senior. Applications are online at www.elks.org/enf/scholars and must be submitted online.

Most Valuable Student is available to any high school senior who is a US citizen. Male and female compete separately for identical awards. Applications can be found online at www.elks.org/enf/scholars, but must be submitted to our Lodge for judging by Dec 1, 2011.

Emergency Education Grant was established to help the children of Elks members who lost their lives or became incapacitated as a result of serving in the Armed Forces during WWII. Since that time, the EEG has been expanded to include all children from families where an Elk parent is deceased or totally incapacitated. This is for students that are attending an accredited, degree-granting US college or university as a full-time (12 semester hours) undergraduate student, unmarried and under the age of 23 as of Dec 31. Application can be found at www.elks.org/enf/scholars.

Gold Key scholarships are for "Special Needs" students who could not otherwise continue their education or training past high school at either an accredited college or university, or licensed trade or vocational school. For the purpose of this scholarship, "special Needs" are defined as being physically or mentally challenged as may be approved by the Gold Key Commission of the Michigan Elks Association. Applications are available by contacting our Lodge office.

STANDALE RECOGNITION

Don Freybler
4163 Lake Michigan Drive
453-8613
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Awards and more!

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Family Picnic

Our family picnic is scheduled for August 7, 2011. Please watch the calendar for an update. We have lots of fun things planned – dunk tank, three legged races, ring toss, and much more. Plus free food!! You can't beat it!! Invite all your friends and family and come on down. We will also need volunteers to help. Please consider giving one hour of your time. Call the Lodge office or email Sue Murtland at suemurtl@sbcglobal.net.

Why we are Elks – Testimonials:

As a child I had orthopedic problems I needed surgery my family could not afford. The Elks came to the rescue. I will never forget the generosity and kindness shown. And I will continue my part through the Elks to benefit my community. (Daniel Doty, Lodge #2826)

I joined the Elks after moving to a new town and stayed with the Elks because I found a Community. (Keith Helling Lodge #1536)

I am an Elk because someone asked me! I continue to be an Elk because of our charitable and patriotic beliefs and because of the veterans and youth programs. It makes me feel good. (Gary Hamlet Lodge #2017)

I was an orphan at the age of four. And I will never forget the local Elks inviting kids like me to their lodge. They had a Santa who gave us a brand new one dollar bill and a stocking of hard candy. We were fed well and it was always topped off with an ice cream sundae. That act of kindness has stayed with me forever. I do all I can today as an Elk member to repay those dedicated members from my past and to help another child in need today. (Leonard Smallacombe Lodge #1520)

We are Elks because we care and WE WANT THOSE ELKS WHO'VE LAPSED, BACK! Know someone who has dropped their membership? Moved to another Lodge? Talk with your friends and family. What do we need to do as a lodge to get these members back? Your ideas, discussions and suggestions are needed. Contact me at 616-862-2740 or blampani@comcast.net.

Betty Lampani
Membership Lapsation

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

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Elks Lodge #48 Contact Information

Office ...616-453-2452

Fax616-453-4243

www.grandrapidselks.org

Email.....office48@grandrapidselks.org

LODGE OFFICE HOURS 11:00am - 1:00pm

Club48..... ext. 217

Bowling Alley..... ext. 216

Pro Shop.....453-1504

Dugan's/Glendevoon ext. 215



Lodge No. 48 Officers

2011/2012

email Lodge officers at
office48@grandrapidselks.org

Exalted Ruler:

Diane Dusendang
453-3474

Leading Knight:

Norman Hudson
322-3663

Loyal Knight:

Bob Kramarz, PER
364-0989

Lecturing Knight:

Meredith Vasquez
334-2543

Secretary:

Michael 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:

C.J. Shroll, Chair
437-0305

Joe Arbanas
453-3760

Bernard Fritz
453-8730

Greg Porter
813-9635

Rick Cross
453-4507

Upcoming Events & Activities:

July 2 – Dress A Dog 12:00 – 4:00

July 2 – Silent Auction Basket Raffle
2:00 PM

July 4 – Club48 closed

July 6 – Knights Night 5:00 – 7:00
PM

July 9 – Pancake Breakfast 7:30 AM
– 11:00 AM

July 15 – Grill Night 5:00 – 7:30 PM

July 20 – Stay tuned.....we're work-
ing on something fun!

July 23 – Dress A Dog 12:00 – 4:00
PM

August 7 - Family Picnic

GUESTS & VISITORS

All guests must be accompanied by a member, and they must be signed in by the member. Visiting Members are asked to display their membership card.