

Iowa Elks Association
 "A Fraternal Organization"



Eleventh Hour



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Fall 2012

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Re-Creation Musical Variety Show Comes to the Iowa Veterans

Re-Creation musical variety show (Every Day People) made an appearance at the Marshalltown Veterans Home on June 8, 2012 with the help of the Iowa Elks association and the Marshalltown Elks Lodge # 312. Re-Creation began in 1976 when Hugh Brooks the founder of the group was the instructor at the Pennsylvania State University. While visiting practicum students, Brooks realized that very few institutions have opportunity to benefit from the therapeutic value of live entertainment. Concerned, he organized Re -Creation to offer this service to state centers, prisons, hospitals, nursing homes, and other care facilities. Entertainers were enlisted, and Re-Creation immediately began institutional performances in Pennsylvania. In 1982, the national entertainment program to the VA hospitals was in danger of being lost all together. There would no longer be a coordinated



From left to right
Tivus, Mitchell, Cherise, Rebecca, Hillary, Jordan, Carl, Bob Streeter (Marshalltown Lodge # 312), State Iowa Pres. Larry Manning (Grinnell Lodge # 1266), Elks First Lady Sandy Manning (Grinnell Lodge # 1266) Not pictured Joe Hunt (Marshalltown Lodge

nation-wide effort to provide our hospitalized veterans with good entertainment, certainly not entertainment that was designed to serve as therapy. Re-Creation assumed full responsibility for live entertainment to the VA Medical Centers in 1983. Since then they have attempted to raise necessary funding and present shows for Medical Centers across the nation. Re-Creation now presents more than 300 shows yearly. Pictured is the group Re-Creation with Marshalltown Elks Lodge #312 Secretary Bob Streeter, Iowa Elks President Larry Manning, Grinnell Elks Lodge # 1266 and Iowa Elks First Lady Sandy Manning, not pictured is P.E.R. Joe Hunt Marshalltown Lodge # 312.

ENF's record 2012-13 distributions.

The ENF Board of Trustees approved appropriations and distributions for the 2012-13 fiscal year totaling a record of \$23.6 million. These distributions will help Elks build stronger communities through programs that support youth, honor veterans, and meet needs in areas where Elks live and work. The Elks National Foundation added a new grant to the Community Investments Program - - Beacon Grants. All Lodges are eligible for these \$1,000 grants, to be used for an ongoing, Elks-driven, community project. Through the CIP, the ENF also offers Gratitude, Promise and Impact grants. Determine how the Lodge can best use these funds to serve the community. Check all information about these programs and more at www.elks.org/enf/appropriations.cfm and www.elks.org/enf/community

*From our President: **Larry Manning***



I hope everyone had a good summer, even though it was HOT . Sandy and I represented our state association at the 148th Grand Lodge Convention in Austin, TX., that was held in July. . Yes, it was hot but cooler than in Iowa.

It want to thank everyone for the opportunity to represent the state of Iowa and what an honor to present our state flag at the opening ceremonies, and to see my name in the lights. I had the pleasure of being a voting official which was a neat experience except for all the walking that went with it. Many resolutions were voted on and in the next few meeting at your lodge you will be voting on. One main resolution that was passed gives the Grand Trustees the authority to do what is necessary with Elks Nation Home. We all know that this has become a financial burden for our order.. This year our hospitality room was in the Grand Lodge hotel, and we ended up with a very small room. We had lots of visitors all the time and though some of us ended up sitting out in the hallway we all had a good time. Many friendships were made that will last a life time. Thanks to Jerry Long and Deborah for doing such a fantastic job with the hospitality room and all the Exalted Rulers and others who took turns helping out.

I hope many of the lodges held a Jr. Golf tournament and sent their winners on to the State Jr. Golf Tournament held in Perry.

With fall coming up lets remember the great programs that we have that include our youth. Such as the Dictionary Program, Drug Awareness, Hoop Shoot, and the Fire Trailers, to name a few The veteran's pork feed dinner will be held at the Iowa Veterans Home in Marshalltown on Saturday, October 20th. Plan to have a group from you lodge to help out., We can all let our veterans know that the Elks pledge is "**As long as there are veterans, we will never forget them.**" As Brenda Swope, reported in our spring newsletter, the veterans are very appreciative and love to visit with us.

This years our GER Thomas Brazier motto is "Elks-A Beacon of Hope" as we reach out to serve our veterans, children and our communities. He also has challenged us to meet his goal of \$4.50 per member for the ENF.

Sandy and I are looking forward to visiting as many lodges as possible this year. ***I would also appreciated receiving your lodge bulletins, so please add my name to your list or send it by email.***

*From our President-Elect: **Tom Maher***



Greetings Brothers and Sisters, I hope this article finds you all doing well. The dog days of summer are here and fall will be here before you know it. Your year as chair officers is nearly half over. Now is the time to review your membership reports and start contacting those who are delinquent, contact them personally

and find out why they have not renewed. See if there is a solution to help them, make it a PERSONNEL conversation these are our brothers and sisters that have taken an oath with us they are a part of our family. When we say Elks care and Elks share that goes for our Brother and Sister Elks also.

Chair officers you should be planning your fall and winter programs now, contact some of your new members ask them to get involved in these programs if we do not involve membership we will lose them.

I mentioned earlier your year as chair officers is 1/2 over take time to keep a log or notes for the next chair officer to make the transition to the chairs easier. PROMTE-PROMOTE-PROMOTE are proactive about the events and programs your lodge does don't wait for the radio, TV or newspaper to cover you invite them in TV stations are always looking for news events in their area. Use the power of communication at your disposal **Facebook, Twitter** and e-mails. We want younger membership then we need to communicate with them on their terms.

Finally, I hear from most of the lodges about poor attendance at meetings and not being able to get members who would be potential chair officers because they are on shift work. I believe we need to take a long hard long at when we have our meetings, most of the times and days of the meetings where set when the lodge was instituted ,**HELLO!!** This is 2012 not the late 1800's or early 1900's. Times have changed the people we are trying to capture as members have a completely different personnel and professional life style than we had even 15 or twenty years ago much less 100 years ago. Take a look in your community on your meeting nights what are you competing against? Do you have a community with a lot of shift workers (usually 12 hr shifts) that would participate if there was a time or day change. Now is the time to be Proactive do not wait and be reactive. Talk to the VFW, Legion, Moose, Rotary and etc. try not to plan events on top of one another and don't be afraid to partner up on your Veterans events. I want to put my 2 cents worth.

Until we meet again I wish you all health and happiness and If I can be of service to you in any way please contact me.

Fraternally and Respectfully, Tom Maher



District Deputy Northwest, Jerry Roberts

Hope you have had a great summer! I sure did! What an honor and pleasure for my wife Hollie (Jefferson Lodge Loyal Knight) and I to be a part of the Iowa delegation at the 148th Grand Lodge Convention in Austin, Texas. Some of the highlights included watching our State President Larry Manning carry in the Iowa Flag....sharing time with the three other new District Deputies, Bill Courtney, Carl Jacob, and Toni Abbe...getting to know the new Exalted Rulers in the Northwest better.....watching and being part of the process that changed the Elks organization....seeing the impact on local lodges that the Elks National Foundation has through their grant and scholarship programs.....but mostly re-charging my enthusiasm for the coming year....We are a GREAT ORGANIZATION!

Apparently Pete's Dueling Piano Bar in Austin agrees. Each night at 11 O'clock the music stopped, the piano players hit 11 chimes and all Elks stood and shared the 11 O'clock Toast. This happened every night. It was quite impressive and treated with respect. They even did a tribute to veterans. Pete's #1.

There are changes coming. You will be voting in your lodges on whether to eliminate the Grand Lodge Treasurer. The convention delegates were 91% in favor. Now it is your turn to vote. New changes are coming in ritual. You will have an opportunity to vote on a new shorter ritual, keep the longer version, or allow for both. If you vote for the new version or both, your lodge will have to change the by-laws. This issue passed at the convention, now the decision is yours as to what you do in your lodge. There is a new clarification now on the procedure to drop members who are delinquent in their dues. 18 Resolutions were presented and 17 passed. I encourage you ask your Exalted Ruler or alternate who attended Grand Lodge, or attend the D.D. Clinic in your district to discuss all the changes.

Visitations by your District Deputies are in progress. Be sure and prepare for their visits. Remember part of the visit includes a safety check by the Esquire to the D.D. This is something you can be ready for. You do a monthly check, don't you? Your Grand Lodge Officers are there to help your Lodge. If you "wing-it" your information may not be complete and the visiting officers may be unsure of what your needs are. Do the necessary paperwork and the evening will go quickly.

Don't forget dictionaries for third graders, coloring books, comic books, red ribbons, and book marks make a visit to your local elementary school seem like Christmas. We have a lot to give!

I look forward to traveling to the Northwest District Lodges with this year's Esquire Ken Lillie of Sioux City Lodge #112. We hope to see a lot of members in our travels, share your victories, and help minimize your problems.

Remember, Your Lodge is the face of a Great Organization!!!



Elks National Foundation State Report by District

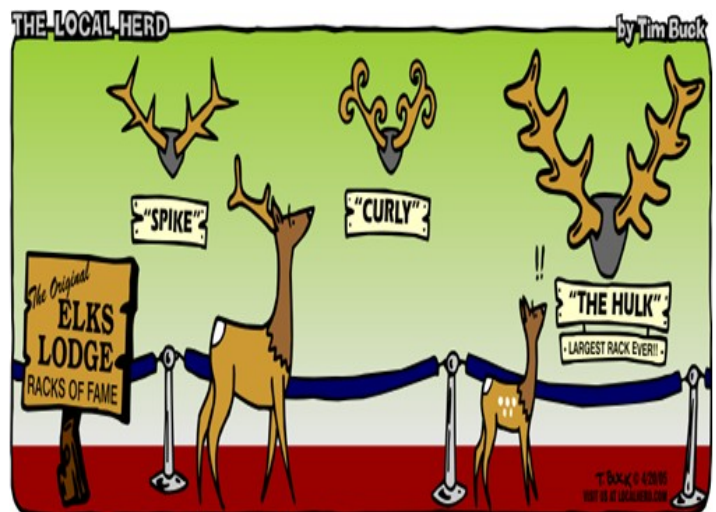
	Members	Donations	Per Capita	Bequests	Grand Total
NE District Totals	2,994	\$ 2,751.80	\$ 0.919	\$ 0.00	\$ 2,751.80
NW District Totals	1,282	\$ 1,826.00	\$ 1.424	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,826.00
SE District Totals	2,952	\$ 4,611.50	\$ 1.562	\$ 0.00	\$ 4,611.50
SW District Totals	2,765	\$ 7,597.43	\$ 2.748	\$ 0.00	\$ 7,597.43
State Assoc Totals	9,993	\$ 17,036.73	\$ 1.705	\$ 0.00	\$ 17,036.73

Trustee's Report John Ochanpaugh

What a summer! As Trustees, I hope we don't have to deal with anything quite as hot.

We will be having our Mid-Convention meeting on September 29, 2012 at the Airport Holiday Inn beginning at 8:30 AM. At this meeting we will be reviewing some of the budgets, discussing the Charitable Trust ticket sales, National and Fall Conventions and any additional issues that may have been brought up since our last meeting.

If anyone has an issue that needs to be addressed by the Board of Trustees, please feel free to contact a Trustee prior to the Fall Convention.



Exalted Ruler Division, Dan Olsen

Greetings from the Exalted Rulers Division, now that summer is almost at an end it is time to start getting ready for the busy season in Elkdom. The August DD clinics are completed and the Fall Convention approaches.

The Lodge Activities Committees should be busy planning the fall and winter events for their members. Remember: Members need activities and activities need members.

The Government Relations Committee remains ever vigilant to protect the rights of our members. Please make sure that your Lodge is in compliance with the No Smoking law and has a Sexual Harassment and Weapons Policy in place.

Our Americanism Chairman Wally Armberge urges you to get your essay materials to the schools and other youth organizations as soon as possible so they will be ready to enter this fall. The Iowa Elks Association sponsors the "What the Flag means to me" contest for sixth graders. Remember to send him the names of all the participants so they can be counted.

The goal of the Membership committee is Plus 1 this year. Remember that Involvement and controlling Lapsation are the two biggest keys to achieving our goal.

The Public Relations Committee asks that all the Lodges keep track of any news articles or mentions they have in their local media and then report them to their District Public Relations representative. Public Relations are one of the best tools to show the public what Elkdom is all about.

Our Elks National Foundation goals for the state of Iowa are:

1. To have all the Lodges donating to the Foundation. 100% participation is our priority this year.
2. That all Lodges have an ENF fundraiser in the month of October, which is National Foundation Month.
3. To meet the Grand Exalted Rulers per capita donation of \$4.50 per member.

All Exalted Rulers are encouraged to contact your respective State Chairs with any questions or suggestions they may have.

I look forward to seeing everyone at Fall Convention

Leading Knight Division, Bill Oetken

With all of the summer activities coming to a close as Leading Knights you need to be assisting the Exalted Ruler and the other officers in making sure that there are plenty of activities that are scheduled. Also make sure there are plenty of volunteers and help to make your functions successful.

With the winter months approaching make sure that your Accident and Prevention manager has done a full inspection of your facility and the grounds. It is sure easier to fix a sidewalk or some stairs while the weather is nice.

The year is in full swing and whether you memorize the Ritual or are reading it by now you should feel very comfortable and performing it well. The Ritual committee wants me to remind you that there will be a Ritual contest for all chair officers and Past Exalted Rulers. The ER's and the PER's will be performing the 11 o'clock toast while the other chairs will perform their own station Ritual.

The business and practices committee is becoming more involved in helping you. Terry Henson is providing training that should help in your lodge being proactive against future problems instead of being reactive when it is too late.

If you have any problems, questions or concerns please contact your Leading Knight Division committee person or contact me personally and we will help you in any way we can.

Fraternally yours, Bill Oetken

Lecturing Knight Division, Kaley Fleig

This will mark my first year as the Division Chair and I look forward to following in the big footsteps left before me. Now is the time to plan your Veterans events for this fall and winter also be making your contacts for your deer hides and getting your info together for Elk of the year.

Adopt A Vet: I recently spoke with Johnny Wright, your State Chairman. Two main points is that he currently has available a limited supply of handmade lap blankets to provide to veterans in homes and hospitals. Also now is the time to plan your events for your Vets Remembrance Month in November. A coffee or clothing drive can be one of the easiest and most rewarding things you can do. And please remember to record your hours and donations and send them to your district Chairperson. We are not recording all of the good deeds you have done!!

Bowling: Bowling registration info should be ready for you and handed out at fall convention.

Elks National Home: The Grand Board of Trustees has recently made some significant decisions. There will be information available at the Fall Convention to explain how these changes effect you.

Elks National Veterans Services: The fall Pork Feed is October 20th at Marshalltown. Please contact your District Chairperson if you are interested in helping. From speaking with those that have helped they have found this to be a rewarding and humbling experience, and only takes a part of a Saturday. If you have Veterans in your area that need assistance please contact Gary Barrett as well.

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My how the time flies, one third of the Elks year gone and it seems like we were just at the spring convention. The Elks youth golf tournament was hosted by Perry Lodge #407, on Friday, August 3rd, 2012, a real nice event. The summer camp program is not doing well. We have received only seven vouchers for the \$200.00 rebate from the Iowa Elks Association. That leaves 25 lodges that have not used the program and why, I don't know. You send a child to camp on a \$200.00 donation and you get the \$200.00 back. What a no brainer and think about the PR you receive. I hop that the dictionary committees are in full swing and ready for the school openings in about one month. **R.D. Streeter, Chairman**

Vice Presidents Reports

Northwest-Mark Shook

I would like to thank the Lodges in NW Iowa for the opportunity to serve as your Vice President. With the State Convention and April District Deputy Clinic behind us we can now look forward to the coming year. I hope all the officers of each Lodge are getting settled in and becoming familiar with your duties as new officers. I hope each officer has had the time to review the information that you received at the State Convention and will put it to use to improve your Lodge, and hopefully become recognized in your community for the great work that Elks do.

I am a past Exalted Ruler and Lodge Secretary, so as I make my visitations this year, I would be happy to answer any questions that you might have. As always, membership will be an important topic not only in my own Lodge, but all of NW Iowa Lodges. Now would be a good time to work on any delinquents in your membership rolls before they get to old.

I am looking forward to meeting all the officers and as many members of each Lodge in the coming months.

Southwest-Chris Elsberry

All visitations in the SW have been completed; all lodges are staying strong and moving forward to better this wonderful organization that we have all become a part of. Each lodge is different as are the members in what works for them and their community. The Iowa Elks State Convention will soon be here. I encourage all members and officers of the SW District to attend the convention. I have always been proud to be an Elk and always proud of what our order does. Keep up the good work in SW and lets finish the year strong with lodges meeting their goals that were set by the Exalted Ruler in April.

Northeast - Kim Birch

Hello to all. As you read this school has started and we are on our way to fall. Hopefully everyone had a wonderful summer and you were able to accomplish many events at your Lodge and in your community. It is time now to get geared up for your fall and winter activities.

Our State President's motto is Serving our Youth and Veterans, I encourage you to keep that in mind when planning Lodge events. Remember, November is Veterans Month with Veterans Day being November 11. Please try and have an event honoring the veterans in your community. Information was provided to the Lodges during the August DD Clinic about the use of stars from old American Flags. That is an easy way to honor our military personnel and their families.

It is never too early to begin planning your Hoop Shoot program. You need to schedule your gym time as soon as possible to ensure that you can get the date you want. Don't forget about the Flag Essay contest, Red Ribbon Week, and the Dictionary program. These are very simple projects to complete and expose a large number of people to Elks programming.

Please keep track of all your charitable hours as you complete them. It is much easier to fill out the report as you complete each event, rather than waiting until the end of the Lodge year.

The State Convention will be held this November again at the Airport Holiday Inn. I hope each Lodge will encourage all of its Officers and Trustees to attend as well as all other members. There is a wealth of information provided at the convention and gives all of us an opportunity to network with other Lodges.

By the time you are reading this, I will have completed a few of my visitations. I do thank those Lodges I have visited for their hospitality and look forward to completing the remainder of the visits.

I wish all of you a fantastic fall, a successful Lodge, and a happy holiday season.

Southeast-Chris Davis

Greetings to all from the South East District

I would like to thank all the lodges for their hospitality during my VP visitations.

It is interesting to hear all the different challenges facing the various lodges in my district, and how they handle them. Each area has its own set of circumstances and competition for the entertainment dollars. My best advice is to find your own nitch, some event that works for you that you have fun with and might not be available right down the block.

It is great to see the programs that are very successful, they include: Family steak nights, Feeds in general ; turtle, rocky mountain oysters, wild game, shimp, prime rib & mexican. These can all be good opportunities for raffles, card tournaments etc. Others include Karoke nights, Comedy nights, Golf Outtings, Family Pizza nights with movies and games for the kids, Celebrity bartender nights which you can fix food and raise money for lodge projects. Invite all your friends and have some fun. Outdoor activities include Live music, Beer Gardens & Movies. Take advantage of your towns celebrations. Use our great P.R. tools like the Drug

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Lodge News

Grinnell Lodge #1266

With a change in officers this year there are slow changes being made at Grinnell Lodge. These are changes in the mindset of the members and officers and an increasing positive attitude toward what we as Elks stand for.

Now, what has Grinnell been doing?

1. Volunteered at the fish fry at Veterans Home in Marshalltown.
2. We held our annual youth banquet recognizing youth of the Grinnell area.
3. Scholarships were presented to (2) outstanding senior of Grinnell High School on awards night.

For the 18th straight year we served hot dogs and sodas to over 150 parents and kids at the community library during registration for "Kids Summer Reading Program".

Flag Day Memorial service was conducted after which the local scout troop performed ceremony for the retiring of battered US flags.

We had the Drug Awareness trailer in the local 4th of July parade at which drug awareness literature was distributed to young people along the parade route.

Exalted Ruler, James Shults and his wife Marcia attended the Grand Lodge Convention in Austin this summer.

July 5th to 8th, the lodge hosted a luncheon, class reunion dinner and a Sunday breakfast during Grinnell HS All School Reunion weekend. Member volunteered at the All School Reunion street dance held on the 7th.

On July 14th, the lodge had a gathering of old and new, past and current members to celebrate the start of Grinnell's 100 year anniversary. BBQ pork sandwiches and potato salad was the evenings menu and a DJ played everyone's favorite tunes. In between times the spring and summer lodge members volunteered to do some refurbishing of our lounge and lodge rooms by giving everything a fresh coat of paint.

Upcoming events for the lodge members are a golf fun day, volunteering at the concession stand for the first HS football game, going to the vets home and helping out at the fall pork BBQ lunch and having a 100 year anniversary dinner for special invitees and guests. By the way, if you did not realize it, our State Association President and First Lady, Larry and Sandy Manning, are from Grinnell so there is always something special going on. All of Grinnell are very proud of Larry and Sandy. Hope to you at State Convention in Des Moines this fall.

Vern Jarvel, Secretary

Des Moines Lodge #98

Just wanted to share with everyone a statement I read on an elk web page that moved and inspired me and describes are lodge to a tee. Our lodge is more than just a bar it is where neighbors come together, families share meals, and children grow up. We as elks invest in our communities through programs that help our children grow up healthy and drug free. By undertaking projects that address unmet needs, and by honoring the service and sacrifices of our veterans and active duty personnel. My family and I are very proud to be Elks and members of are great lodge #98 are calendar is full and we have lots going on to support are projects. Elks are always welcome at are lodge so if you're in Des Moines stop by we would glad to have you as a guest at are lodge. **Mark Steele, Exalted Ruler**

Marshalltown #312

We hosted the Fire house trailer out of Charles City the first part of July with a good turn out of children and lots of help from the Marshalltown Fire Department.

We just finished up our sweet corn fund raiser, boy what a hot summer project. We also held our annual sweet corn and chicken feed with a great turnout.

We are under construction building a new bar and lounge area, with a November finishing date in mind with most of the work being done by volunteers. "God Bless Volunteers" **R.D. Streeter, Secretary**

Charles City #418

Greetings! Time has been going pretty fast so far this Lodge year. Here are a few highlights from us.

On May 5th, the Lodge sponsored our Youth Banquet to celebrate the accomplishments of our area students. In addition to other special guests, the Lodge was excited to host State President Manning and his wife Sandy. We were proud to hand out numerous awards and scholarships that evening! In addition to a great meal, several great essays were read regarding D.A.R.E and "Our Flag, What it Means to Me". It is always refreshing to see the pride and positive attitudes that are instilled in the future generation!

In April the Lodge held our annual Easter Egg Hunt for all our area children to enjoy. As always, everyone involved had a great time.

On June 14th, we enjoyed celebrating the history and heritage of our American flag. Charles City is lucky to have such a beautiful venue, our own Central Park, in which to hold that ritual. We had a great day to hold the event, although it was a bit windy, it was nice to see all those flags standing at attention!

July brought us the National Convention in Austin, TX! I would venture to say a great time was had by all who attended. Besides myself, Chief Justice of the Grand Forum Mark Huegel, his wife Iowa NE State Vice President Kim Birch, DDGER Carl Jacob, and his wife Susan our Loyal Knight were present from Charles City.

I am also happy to report the success of a couple new happenings in our lodge that has proved to be a hit with our members. Club Manager Becky McEnany and Lecturing Knight Tommy Sosack have instituted Burger Night on alternating Tuesdays and Taco Night on opposite Thursday evenings. So now, four nights a month we have a great reasonably priced meal to enjoy!

Shenandoah #1122

Listen my Elks and you shall hear tales from Shenandoah Lodge so close and dear, the resolutions we passed but first let us hark'n back to the past.

The summer days must end and to school we send, dictionaries to all our 3rd grade friends. In towns all around these books can be found, with smiles from students seen all around.

On this day of Patriots, 11 September, our veterans we honored, their brave deeds remembered. With pasta, bread and tea so savory we honored their bravery.

Off to convention in Des Moines we send, our delegates and wives, our money to spend. Good fellowship, old friends we find, and the good work we do no reward can define.

With days so short and snow on the ground, the wee ones threw balls through hoops so round, the best we hailed and toured them around. Doug's pride knows no bounds.

With winter blues all around a remedy we have found, comedy to turn frown upside down. A Show we put on, laughs and fun good humor all around.

Lodge News (cont.)

Shenandoah (Cont)

The time has come for Turbo to step down, a good leader we had found. He did his time and when the need did come, he volunteered to give it another round. His leadership did not falter, his loyalty did not waver a vacation is his due for the time he gave.

With March came winter's thaw and Cub Scouts one and all. Into their camp we came to teach our flag's history with fun and games. The event was a success to test will come, will they pass their history test.

Again to Dees Moines we make the trek, did Allen bring a check? Roger McQueen did his ENF thing, and we all learned a new trick. A new year for Eldom, new leaders sworn in lets have some fun the youth and vets will win!

Youth appreciation the mayor did sign the future they design. Great responsibility our prosperity, we must guide them, help them, we must love them.

On Memorial Day, our hallowed ground the Elks did stand. To remember our honored brave who stood their ground. Some died in war others in peace, on foreign land they bleed. "Veterans will always be remembered", we stand by our creed.

Flag Day came we reminded ourselves of our flags history, the history of ourselves. The vets, some wept, other paused to reflect. How the nation earned global respect.

Off to Austin some of us set sail, others left 4th of July they hailed. In parades the Elks did ride, showing off their Elksdom's pride. At twilight before rockets' red glare, a crowd did form for Patriots pride the Elks did perform. The ritual we know and love, the historical history of the flag we know and love. With a mood the Elks did set, 4000 flags were laid to rest.

With the year we have past I feel I must ask, "Why did the chicken cross the road?" To get away from the Emmy of her chicken buffet!

Iowa Falls Lodge #1674

The bridge is done and what a wonderful addition to Iowa Falls! For those who don't recall the bridge that crossed the Iowa River on US Highway 65 had to be replaced. They started in September of 2010 and finished late November in 2011. This bridge is only one block away from our Lodge so it was hard to direct visiting members to our location. Now we have a beautiful three lane expansion bridge which adds to the artistic view from our Lodge's deck.

What a crazy year for weather. But thanks to the early planting of sweet corn we were able to hold our annual sweet corn & chicken stag early. There have been some years we

had to go close to Missouri to find sweet corn. These next few months are going to be busy for the Iowa Falls Lodge. We have our annual Appreciation meal for all firemen, law enforcement agencies, and ambulance and rescue volunteers. In November we hope to hold our Veterans dinner where we invited all Veterans and their spouses for an evening meal. We have the fire trailer reserved for a week and maybe the drug trailer too.

Not for sure when this is being published but our Pontoona-rama has been changed to October 20th. This were we have boat rides on the river with a meal to follow.

We made the ENF goal again this year. We have applied, received and spent our Gratitude Grant. We donated money to the DARE program to help educate our six graders on drug use; to our Christian Ed preschool so they will have an abundant of supplies; to the Best Buddy organization that gives students that are mentally challenged a chance to go to summer camp and meet new friends; and to the Pack Back Buddies that helps feed those students who goes hungry on weekends. We are planning on Applying for a Promise and Impact Grant.

We have a new Manager. She has started making meals on Tuesdays and Friday s. So if you are in town please stop in. We are open at 3pm every day but Sunday.

Sioux City Lodge #112

Serving our veterans!

An idea turned into a reality. Last winter we had a member offer us the use of his land if we would construct an above ground blind that is handicapped accessible and to be used for disabled veterans to hunt deer. Never shying away from a challenge and not wanting to pass up and opportunity to further serve our veterans, we took on the project. Fundraising activities quickly started and gained momentum. Donations of materials and equipment and delivery were steady throughout the entire project. A total of 300 man-hours were put into the project and they drove 740 miles in trips to and from the sight. The deer stand is complete and ready to be used. We are in the process of finding disabled vets that want to hunt and lining up the crew to assist them. Elks will accompany and assist each hunter with getting into the stand as well as caring for the deer after it has been harvested. There is already talk of another stand being erected and another member has offered the use of his land for the same cause. Stay tuned for first year results from the stand.

West Des Moines #2752

West Des Moines #2752 has had a very busy summer! In addition to our inaugural pool party, and family picnic / camping weekend, we

participated in the ground breaking of the Urbandale Veterans Memorial, distributed drug awareness material in the Windsor Heights and Urbandale 4th of July parades, as well as the Windsor Heights National Night Out.

We will have extended weekend hours during football season, and continue to serve great meals at a great price on Wednesday and Friday evenings. We are open every day and would like you to visit when you are in Des Moines. You can find our calendar and event info on our website - www.wdmelks.com

Council Bluffs Lodge #531

Council Bluffs Has had a very good start to the year 2012-2013. So far we have initiated 17 new members into our Lodge and have our lapsation numbers down to 17. We are well on our way to having a plus one or more for the year.

We launched a new drug awareness program this year by getting the Drug trailer involved in the annual Council Bluffs pride parade. With the help of many members and "Elroy" it was a huge success and attracted a lot of attention to our drug awareness program.

This was followed up the next day with a Kids day program held at the Big Lake city park. The Drug Trailer was set up with all the literature available for handouts. Free hot dogs and cotton candy was available for all the big and little kids alike. And of course the big hit of the day was Elroy our drug awareness mascot. We estimated around 450 Kids and Parents were in attendance. We are hoping to make this an annual event.

Other highlights so far this year have been our continuing Burgers and Brats being served on Tuesday nights. All of these proceeds go toward our Veterans program. Also we continue to have good crowds for our TGIF steak nights. Many thanks to all the volunteer cooks who help to make these events possible.

With the continuing help of our members we are looking forward to the rest of the year being as successful as the first half.

Commentary

From all of the Lodges in the State, have a Great Fall.

Also, help your lodge by volunteering to help for scheduled events. It will go a long way to make your lodge profitable.

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Awareness and Fire Safety trailers for Parades, Festivals, Health fairs, what ever summer events your town holds.

All of these can be done with volunteer help. Get new members involved so it is not always the same few people doing all of the work. Getting more people involved makes it more enjoyable for all the people involved.

See you all at fall Convention

Cont Page 5 Kaley Fleig Lecturing Knight Division

Golf: The Elks Golf Tournament was held on September 8th and 9th in Des Moines. The committee has told me that while the course has been a great location the last few years that they are in the process of finding a new location to add a little variety. If you know if a course that would be a good fit please contact a committee person.

Judiciary/Laws/ Resolutions: Questions or concerns contact Lake Crockham

Major Projects: Information on where and how to get one of the Fire Safety trailers for your event can be found in the directory or on the Elks.org website. Also we have made some improvements to the Fire Safety Initiative and entering our second year of supporting the State Fire Marshall's initiative to put working smoke detectors in ever K-6th grade students homes, with the eventual goal of having working smoke detectors in every home in Iowa. Contact a committee person if you would like to know more about how you can support this program.

State Elk Of The Year: During the January VP Clinic nominations will be entered for the District and State Elk of the Year. Don't wait until then to find a candidate in your lodge. Now is the time to start thinking of persons in your lodges for Elk of the year.

Variety Club: We are asking for a \$104.00 double miracle pledge from each lodge. We would also like to see a volunteer to chair this committee in the SE District. Please contact me or the State Committee chairperson if you know of someone that would be interested in serving this role.

Veterans Leather Program: We slipped to #2 in the nation last year as Missouri overtook us. Let's take it back-the key is to get the word out early to those bow and early muzzleloader season hunters. No contribution is too small- if you need help in setting up a program please contact a committee person. They are very knowledgeable and will be a great resource for you.

See you at Convention