



Elk - - Gram

Home of Past Grand Exalted Ruler Vincent R. Collura, Past Grand Exalted Ruler George B. Klein, & Past Grand Secretary Jack M. Jensen

THE FAULTS OF OUR MEMBERS, WE WRITE UPON THE SAND - THEIR VIRTUES UPON THE TABLETS OF LOVE AND MEMORY

RITUAL TEAM NATIONAL CHAMPIONS!!

After two incredible performances, scoring 98.6 to win the Western Division and then scoring and almost unbelievable 98.2 in the final four competition, Lincoln's own Ritual team won the coveted Benjamin plaque, emblematic of the BEST RITUAL TEAM IN AMERICA.

The margin of victory over the second place team in the Western Division, New Mexico, was over one point and over the Florida team in the finals competition was just under a point. Usually the difference is a tenth of a point or a few hundredths, indicating how superior our team was in New Orleans.

Individually, the team excelled with 5 All Americans. To win an All American you must score higher than anyone else in the West in your chair. Larry Schwindt, Exalted Ruler; Larry Bratt, Leading Knight; Gerald Miles, Loyal Knight; Doug Rienks, Chaplain and Stephen Wirth, Coach all won their chair. Congratulations to the other team members who obviously scored very high: Mary Brooks, Lecturing Knight; Laurie Montag, Esquire and Troy Pedersen, Inner Guard.

In addition, the highest scoring officer of all the officers on all the teams was our own Larry Bratt. He won the William King award for the second time – a rare feat.

The team would like to Thank everyone, locally, who donated to our Ritual travel fund and thanks to the Nebraska State Elks Association, for without their generous support it would not have been possible for us to attend the contest.





Grand Exalted Ruler, 2014-2015

John D. Amen

Message from the GER
Grand Lodge Newsletter,
August 2014

*“Every Journey Begins With A
Single Step.”*

... and this is that first step. We have a wonderful climb ahead of us, but “together, we can!”

Marcia and I express our thanks and gratitude for the special help and support we have had from many Elks in leading up to this position, and we promise to fulfill your expectations to the best of our ability. We look forward to seeing you in our travels and making many new friends throughout our nation of Elkdom.

First, let me explain a little bit about our motto this year, “Elks: Elevating America.” Elks elevate, or lift up, America by their good works in their communities. The good works make America a better place to live and work. When we go into a Veterans hospital and entertain the patients with a game of cards or a healthy snack we are “Elevating America.” We make our country higher and better than before we performed that voluntary act. When we grant a scholarship to a student who would otherwise miss the opportunity to attend college, we “Elevate America.” The work to educate our young regarding the dangers of illicit drugs carries forward the theme: “Elks: Elevating America.” Likewise, when we help a fellow Elk who is sick or in distress, we are taking a step toward our motto: “Elks: Elevating America.” I think you now have the meaning of what is meant by our motto.

Our per capita goal for our great charity, Elks National Foundation, is continued at \$4.60 per Member. I am hopeful that every Lodge will work hard to meet or surpass this goal and become eligible for the Gratitude Grant and use it to “Elevate America.” There is no better way to show the world that “Care – Share” than a visible community project, financed by our great charity and our individual efforts to meet the per capita goal!

We must also be mindful that “charity begins at home.” We must be sensitive to needs within our ranks and we must keep our Lodges financially sound in order to do our great work. If we keep in mind the true meaning of charity and are loud and proud of our accomplishments, we will achieve our goals.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to serve this great Order as your national leader. Marcia and I look forward to making many new friends on our journeys and thanking them for “Elevating America.”

P.S. Remember to carry a tri-fold membership application in your pocket – you never know when you might need it.



Exalted Ruler Lodge No. 80 2014-2015

Larry R. Bratt

Greetings and Salutations to all. I wish to start this months comments with a big Thank You to all of you who so generously donated to our Ritual Fund. Without your support, we would have been unable to succeed as we did. Kudo's to all our Ritual Team Members and coaches as we had our two best performances of all times. We are very proud to bring home the National Championship to our Lodge, as well as having 5 All Americans on the team and the highest scoring officer. I can honestly say that we gave our all and left everything out on the floor during our performances.

I had the distinct pleasure and honor at the National Convention to nominate our own Bobby Clinkenbeard for Grand Lecturing Knight. Many of you might not realize that Bobby has been very active in the Elks not only locally, but in our State Association including State President, as well as having served for two different Grand Exalted Rulers as their secretary. This is quite an honor for not only Bobby and Suz, but for our lodge. Watching Bobby being installed as the Grand Lecturing Knight was quite moving.

Nancy and I would like to also thank the lodge for paying our way to the National Convention. It was a pleasure to represent all of you in our Lodge and attend the many functions. Next month I will be giving an overview report on the convention and some of the ideas that were presented in how to make our lodge even better and stronger.

While driving back from the convention, I had the opportunity to reflect on why Ritual means so much to me. Not only is it the tradition of performing the ritual, but more the meaning of it in its entirety. The fact that we believe in and show ‘Brotherly Love’ to all, believe in “Justice” for all, are “Charitable” to others in many ways, and perform all these different acts with “Fidelity”. To me, we live and show all others the way to Live as an American along with showing what being an American Citizen is all about. Hearing the Ritual causes my heart to swell with pride every time. I believe we are truly the Best People On Earth and the best Fraternal; Order in the world. God Bless America and God Bless the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

Together we can make a difference in each others lives, our community and our Country. Remember:

Faith, Commitment, Be a Beacon



Knights Tales



The motto of the station of the Leading Knight is "Charity". Let's take a look at how we've been doing. So far this Lodge year, we have given away 31 scholarships worth over \$36,000, helped Forever Angels put on a fundraiser so they can continue aiding children in need, and helped send Abbigail Beaudette to diabetes camp. We have also donated to the Wounded Warrior Project, the Foster Care Closet, the Child Advocacy Center and the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), and the Lodge year has barely begun.

Looks like we've been doing a pretty good job! You could say that we take the "Charity" portion of our motto very seriously. If anyone has any ideas about how we can be of further service to our community, please let me know.

-Larry Schwindt, Leading Knight



Having just returned from the National Elks Convention in New Orleans, we heard some great messages from the leadership of Elkdom. Two scholarship winners were there to give us their message personally (wow, what a great pair to receive the national scholarship). Their backgrounds and personal histories were amazing.

Your Ritual team was honored to compete in the preliminaries and come together amazingly and win the trip to the final four great job team. In the final four, we set the bar high enough to end up the National Champions. I am very proud to have been able to compete with this team.

-Gerry Miles, Lecturing Knight



Greetings all,

Somebody pinch me, I still can't believe we are National Champions. All those many hours of practice really paid off. Scores above 98 are record setting. Our time for final four was a full house. So many came to see a team that could score that high in round one. Of course I was only focused on my team members and knowing that Coach Bobby was at the front table. So many from our state came to support us too. Everywhere we went, after we were announced as National Champions, someone recognized us and congratulated us. I felt like a rock star!

Thank you for all the support we received from all our lodge members and their families. Also thank you to our three All American Coaches. You so deserve it. None of this would be possible without your knowledge, support, and willingness to do all the practices with us. And a BIG THANK YOU to our State Elk's Association for their financial support and to all those who were present at the convention to witness our accomplishment. And last I must say thank you to my fellow team members. Our four All Americans brought so much to the team. Their support and advice to us three rookies was a huge benefit to our performance. They have all worked hard for many years to achieve this honor. Our Exalted Ruler, Larry Schwindt, was a perfect example of an award winning leader. His goal for the year was to attend National in New Orleans, achieve All American, and be the Number One Team and National Champions. Thank you for asking me to be a part of this great journey. Congratulations in doing it with class.

As a member, everyone of you can be proud to belong here. I challenge all of you to find a way to become more involved in our lodge. I promise you won't be sorry. To work with the B-est P-people O-n E-arth is an award in itself. Ask a friend or family member to join our lodge, volunteer for a committee or help with a dinner or fund raiser. Lodge 80 is great and national recognition of this kind can only help to make us better.

See you around the Lodge.

-Mary Brooks, Loyal Knight



...and now for the Quickies...

...Hopefully we've seen the end of the oppressive heat and humidity for the summer ... As you probably know by now, our Ritual Team won the National Championship at the Elks National Convention in New Orleans. Many of our Officers won All-American, and other top honors for their roles in the Ritual. Our team's winning score is thought to be the highest ever recorded. Larry Bratt won the coveted William King award, for having the highest point total of any Officer in any position, a two-peat from last year which is extremely rare. See the pictures and write up's elsewhere in this issue ... Salisbury steak dinner was a big hit, good attendance, good food. Next dinner is on August 23, so you have plenty of time to plan. Smoked chicken, and all sorts of goodies. Rumor has it the dessert includes something with lemon and a raspberry drizzle ... Even though things have been a little slow at the Lodge this last month, there are still plenty of opportunities to volunteer. Football concessions are upcoming, need to see Kelli Stanley Smith to get involved with that. Great time, great atmosphere ... Randy King was seen handing out flags at Eagle Scout Court's of Honor, several more upcoming as well ... midget football is on the horizon, see Scott Shrage about that ... fall is around the corner, planning will soon begin for the Haunted Armory event with the military kids, see P.E.R. Wirth to help with that ... If you've been in the Lodge lately, you can tell our new A/C units are working nicely, once again, a big Thank You to all who contributed to that project, they should provide comfort for many years to come ... stop past the Lodge for lunch and say "Hi" to Nancy or Roxy and the others. Great way to visit with other Elks and support your Lodge...remember, the Pub needs your participation to stay open; no sense preparing food if no one comes to eat it. See you at the Pub ...

Hot Summer Nights

August 23rd come and join us for:

Smoked Chicken
 Root Beer Baked Beans
 Vegetable Kabobs
 Mache & Pecan Salad
 Orlean Hush Puppies
 Watermelon
 Lemon Bars with Raspberry Sauce

Bring your friends and family for a good time and great food!

\$12 per person/\$15 at the door

12717

Salisbury Steak Dinner

On Saturday 7-26 we had a Salisbury steak dinner at the lodge. This was a successful dinner and many people enjoyed a great meal. Carrie Fiedler was again our head chef and along with Kim and Pat Wiseman and the Larry's. The guests were served not only Salisbury steak, but also mashed potatoes, corn on the cob, salad, and their choice of either Peach, Apple or Cherry pie ala mode for dessert.

This dinner was also a time to celebrate the Ritual Team's National Championship and see all the awards that they brought home. The attendance was good but not great, and I urge everyone to attempt to attend our dinners as I have stated before these dinners are the backbone of financial needs to keep our lodge open and operating. Thanks to all that showed and I challenge the rest of you to start attending these wonderful meals.

-Larry R. Bratt, ER



RANDOM

ELK

SIGHTINGS!



Our Members...

Sickness & Distress:

Ray Norris has cancer, is undergoing treatment.
 Connie Schwindt undergoing chemotherapy.
 Bill Overman has cancer, is undergoing treatment.
 Vi Berst

Deaths:

None.

Members for Consideration:

George Venteicher by Charles Zabokrtsky

Members for Reinstatement:

None.

Members Initiated in July:

None.

Hidden Number:

15498, Randy King, hidden in the Secretary's Corner.

Membership Drawing: There were no drawings for the July meetings because there were no meetings in July! It pays to come to meetings, come see where we are for August!

The Jolly Corker Pub is open for lunch starting at 11:30 Monday-Saturday. Now also serving light suppers!

Chef Salad specials on Wednesdays! Come in and enjoy good food and good company!

Committee Reports

Americanism - Sonny Lane - No Report.

Boy Scouts - Randy King - No Report.

Drug Awareness - Larry Bratt - No Report.

Girl Scouts - Stephen Wirth - No Report.

Hide Program - Jeff Sneller - No Report.

Hoop Shoot - Gerry Miles - No Report.

House Committee - House Committee / Trustees: No Report.

Hunter's Safety - Randy King - No Report..

ENF - Larry Bratt - \$9.29 as of June 8th, this year's goal is \$4.60.

Membership - Larry Schwindt - No Report.

Midget Football - Scott Schrage - No Report.

Retention - Jerry Wilson - No Report.

Scholarship - Dave Kirby - No Report.

Soccer Shoot - Doug Rienks - No Report.

Social Community Welfare - Doug Rienks - No Report.

Veterans Committee - Wade Graft - No Report.

2014-2015 Elks' Lodge #80 Officers

Exalted Ruler	Larry Bratt
Leading Knight	Larry Schwindt PER
Loyal Knight	Mary Brooks
Lecturing Knight	Gerald Miles
Esquire	Carrie Fiedler
Inner Guard	Laurie Montag
Tiler	Sam Carter
Secretary	Jerry Wilson
Treasurer	Imre Bonyhady
Chaplain	Troy Pedersen
Organist	Wauneta Peterson
Trustee 1 Year	Scott Schrage
Trustee 2 Year	Kim Wiseman
Trustee 3 Year	Daryll Thavenet
Trustee 4 Year	Terry Edwards PER
Trustee 5 Year	Robert Sindlar



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Elk-O-Gram Editor's Note

Articles Due: **August 21**

(Deadline is ALWAYS midnight of the Thursday after last meeting of the month)

Articles can be sent to Maureen and Kevin Sadler at: eog.lodge80@gmail.com

All past issues, lodge information, and more can be seen at www.elks80.org

Created and managed by webmaster Larry Klein

Secretary's Corner

July was a slow month, not much to write about, just business as usual. Check your dues card to make sure it shows 2014-2015, if not, please send in your payment. Dues were due April 1st. Delinquent members' names are published in this Elk O Gram. If you misplaced your dues statement, or you are not sure if you have already paid, or possibly your payment was received after this information was submitted to the printer; please call the office. Thanks.

Please, if you have any questions or comments of how I can better serve you, please contact me. My phone number is 402-570-2555 and there are two emails that you can use to contact me: lodge80secy@yahoo.com or lodge80secy@gmail.com. See you all around the lodge.

- Jerry Wilson

Did you see something missing? Was there something that the Lodge has coming up that you want to announce? Did you have an advertisement that you wanted to add? Do you have pictures from a recent Lodge activity? Have suggestions or updates?

Please! Contact the Editors at: eog.lodge80@gmail.com with any tidbits you would like to see included in your Elk-O-Gram.

Remember, if it's important, let us know! You might have been the only one to remind us...

DOES News

We need 12 volunteers for each home football to help sell concessions. If you can help, or know some one that would like to help, please call Kelli at [402-467-5595](tel:402-467-5595)! The kick off times have been set for first few games. The first one is 2:30 p.m. and second is 11:00 A.M. Then next two are night games!!

As always, if you hear of any one who would like any information about our organization, please call Pres. Marjorie Wyant at [402-423-5939](tel:402-423-5939).

2014-2015 Committees

Accident: Randy King, Chpers.
Americanism: Sonny Lane PER, Chpers.
Auditing: Duane Vanderbeek, Chpers.
Benevolence: Richard Todd PER/PDD, Chpers.
Community Activities: Stephen Wirth PER, Chpers.
Drug Awareness: Larry Bratt, Chpers.
ENF: Larry Bratt, Chpers.
Eagle Scouts: Randy King, Chpers.
Flag Day: Doug Rienks, PER, Chpers.
Gold Award: Stephen Wirth PER, Chpers.
Gov. Relations: Richard Todd PER/PDD, Chpers.
Hide Program: Jeff Sneller, PER, Chpers.
Hoop Shoot: Gerald Miles, Chpers.
Hunters Safety: Randy King, Chpers.
Indoctrination: Larry Bratt, Chpers.
Investigation: Larry Bratt, Chpers.
Retention: Jerry Wilson, Chpers.
Lodge Activities: Richard Todd PER/PDD, Chpers.
Membership: Larry Schwindt PER, Chpers.
Midget Football: Scott Schrage, Chpers.
Public Relations: Stephen Wirth PER, Chpers.
PER Association: Doug Rienks PER, Chpers.
Ritual: Stephen Wirth PER, Chpers.
Scholarship: David Kirby PER, Chpers.
Soccer Shoot: Doug Rienks, PER, Chpers.
Veterans: Wade Graft, Chpers.
Visitation: Wade Graft, Chpers.
Youth Activities: David Kirby PER, Chpers.

Our July EOG Folders were: Randy King, Maureen Sadler, Larry Schwindt, Troy Pedersen, Lars Pedersen, Larry Bratt, and other Elks who wish to remain anonymous.

Please join us August 26th after Beer 'n Burger Nite to assemble the Elk O Gram for June. *Remember, many hands make light work...*

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|---|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Akin, Betty J. • Aman, Charles J. • Bredemeier, Dixie • Bruhn, Leon • Carney, Rick • Caskey, Leland L. • Cox, PER, Timothy E. • Ebeler, Eric • Eliason, Nicholas, G. • Hardesty, Patrick | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holland, Thomas D. • Hoppel, Lon • Hunter, Tonia • Keller, Dr. Scott • Krupicka, Ken • McCready, Alan • Messing, Todd • Mock, Joe • Olson, Dr. Leif | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ostrander, Karla • Overman, William A. • Petersen, Neil C. • Pickering, Roger L. • Pumel, PER, Glen D. • Russell, Jack • Smalley, Sally • Sprague, Phillip C. • Stettinger, Phillip R. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stone, Jack D. • Tenhulzen, Kenneth D. • Thone, Charles • Tucker, Melvin E. • Walker, Karen E. • Wicht, Rhonda • Wingrove, Dirk |
|---|---|--|---|

Happy August Birthdays!

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 - Bouwens, Ronnie L.
Buckmaster, Gary
Gearhart, Ivan 2 - Hoppe, Ward F. 3 - Tucker, Melvin E.
Vermaas, John, D.
Weber, Gary L. 11 - Schenkel, Larry D.
Urban, Ronald 12 - Megrue, Dan D.
Stettinger, Phillip R. 13 - Aman, John F.
Wilson, Jerry L. 15 - London, Damon M. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 16 - Gustin, Fred W. 17 - Logan, Marvin W. 20 - Wieting, Virgil 21 - Mussack, Paul L.
Smalley, Sally 23 - Wirth Stephen F. 24 - Burns, Deborah L. 30 - Reinhardt, Robert G. 31 - Thavenet, Daryll L. |
|---|---|



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Lodge 80 GOAL: \$4.60. As of 6/8/14: \$9.29

Don't forget to look for the member number in this issue. If you find yours, call the Lodge for your prize!

August 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Room Rented
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 Beer N Burger 5.30	13 Room Rented	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Lodge Meeting	21 American Legion	22	23 Hot August Nights Dinner
24/31	25	26 Beer N Burger 5.30	27	28	29	30