



Calling all Elks

Hastings Lodge
#159



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A Fraternal Organization

Hastings, Nebraska

Brad's Message by Brad Norton, Exalted Ruler

'Tis the season of Caring and Sharing..the foundation of Elkdom and our highest virtue. As you celebrate this season and throughout the year, please remember our less fortunate neighbors, donate your time or extras when able and always greet everyone with a smile ... it's uplifting and contagious!

November was Veteran's Remembrance Month and we excelled again this year. We made front page news with Jim Meers proudly wearing his uniform on our float at the Mason's sponsored Veterans Parade on Nov 2nd. Duane Norris Emceed this event and I was very honored to have a ring side seat as the Air Force Parade Marshall.

The Doe's President, Pat Dubois, and I also attended the Veterans Day Memorial Service at the City Auditorium with several other Elks, including Duane Norris who also Emceed this event. Additionally, Rich Freeman and Dick Freeling attended a ceremony presented by the students at the Adams Central High School. They even shared lunch and relating "war stories" with these students. Thank you to everyone who participated in supporting our veterans and actively promoting the Elks in our community. We passed out over 200 "Stars" made by Anita Storehalder at the various activities we attended this month.

I'm proud to announce we received a ENF Beacon Grant to fund the Special Friends Christmas Party on Thursday evening, December 5th.

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From the Trustees by Randy Rippen, Chair

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you and your family from the Board of Trustees!

Many of you have been asking about the letter we sent regarding our new internal Line of Credit program. First, we want to thank Members who stepped forward. We are happy to report that we reached the maximum amount we were looking to borrow.

I think the majority of our members understand that we operate a very seasonal business. During the winter off-season months, our Clubhouse generates very little income. Most seasonal businesses "bridge" the slow times with an operating line-of-credit, and in discussing our financial needs for the winter we thought it made more sense to borrow from (and give the interest to) Members instead of the bank.

The Board views short-term winter financing as a "necessary evil" for the next three years. This internal Line-of-Credit program allows us to benefit Members while we also meet our obligations. Looking forward, we can all expect the golf course to move toward profitability over the next four years as our lease-to-purchase agreements on turf equipment and our golf cart fleet reach payoff.

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Bob Storehalder (center) and Jimmie Meers (right) were among the Veteran-Elks who rode on the "only float that floats" in the 2013 Veterans Recognition Parade in downtown Hastings. Exalted Ruler, Brad Norton, a retired Lt. Colonel, was one of four honorary Marshalls for the Parade, representing the United States Air Force. Our thanks to every Veteran!

Notes From the Secretary by Butch Lyons


HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE OFFICERS OF HASTINGS ELKS 159!

The Christmas Fund is under way. We will need help with wrapping and delivering of Christmas packages. The planned date is Saturday December 21st - wrapping at 9.a.m delivery at 1:00pm we like to. If you, it would be gratefully appreciated.

A grand Christmas gift would be a Lodge membership and or a golfing Membership one or both would be a great gift at Hastings Elks 159. If you have an eligible family member or friends please give it some consideration. If you wish to do this please contact the Lodge Secretary and the correct forms will be sent to you.

It is not too early to be thinking of helping the Elks Lodge, there are many committees that need your help.

Up coming events: DON'T FORGET THE TOM & JERRY PARTY JANUARY 1ST. Starting at 12:00 Noon. Reminder that we have only 1 meeting in December — on Tuesday December 10th starting at 8:00pm.



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