



# Calling all Elks

Hastings Lodge  
#159



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A Fraternal Organization

Hastings, Nebraska

## Brad's Message by Brad Norton, Exalted Ruler

Let me begin by expressing my sincere condolences on behalf of myself and the lodge, to Sherri and Gary Nelson's entire family. His passing leaves a great loss in our ranks, but he will never be forgotten. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with you throughout this difficult time. Please know that Elks are always here to provide you with comfort and support. I also want to thank my officers and extend to them the appreciation and compliments I've received on our memorial service.

Next, let me welcome you to mid-winter, known as the "Dark Ages" by Zoomies at the Air Force Academy. Its that time of year, perched at the base of the Rockies, we got only 7-8 hours of daylight. But fret not, I'm sure the ground hog won't see his shadow this year and we'll be back on the golf course early this Spring!

Valentine's Day is approaching and reminds me of one of the cardinal principles of our Order, Brotherly Love, symbolized by the antlers on our Altar. It is expressed in our motto: "The faults of our members we write upon the sand, their virtues upon the tablets of love and memory." During your initiation you were told that Brotherly Love softens the stern realities of life and manifests itself in good fellowship, in sympathy, and in kindness of thought, word and deed. Please take time out this month to enjoy the company of friends, greet everyone you meet with a smile, and comfort those struggling through the "Dark Ages".

I want to extend my thanks to Joe and Carol Thompson, Dale and Levada Nielson, Don Runcie, Dick Hansen, and Rich Freeman for hosting Bingo for the hospitalized veterans at the VAMC in Grand Island on New Year's Eve. Joe and Carol brought a box filled with party hats and horns which added to the evenings fun. We then adjourned to the Lodge party to finish the evening and welcome in 2014 with a great breakfast provided by our hosts, Kent and Julie Rothfuss. Great job, my hat's off to you both! Later that day at Tom & Jerry's we made enough in donations for Dale Grothen to purchase some badly needed utensils for our kitchen. I think he was tired of stirring your food with his finger:) Thanks Dale!

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Dick and Nancy Freeling enjoy Tom & Jerrys and a Husker bowl game victory on New Year's Day at the Elks Lodge.

## Notes From the Secretary by Butch Lyons

Members all,

The Lodge year is rapidly coming to an end. The month of February has some very important dates for us to keep in mind:

- Tuesday February 11th - Lodge Meeting will have Nomination of Officers for the 2014-2015 Lodge year.
- Sunday, February 16th - the Birthday of the Order of ELKS - Formed in New York in 1868.
- Tuesday February 25th - Lodge Meeting with Election of Officers for The 2014-2015 Lodge year. We'll be electing a Trustee (5 year term), Tiler (1 year term), Esquire and Inner Guard.

If you are interested in serving the Lodge as an officer please contact Secretary Butch Lyons at 402-460-6562.

Also, on Saturday, February 22nd and Sunday, February 23rd the Exalted Ruler / Secretary/Trustee Seminar will be held in Grand Island.

Dues notices will be mailed around the First of February. Those who pay their Dues by March 31st will pay 2013 prices. Anyone using monthly payments or paying after April 1st will pay the 2014-15 Golf Membership fees reflecting a 3.5% increase. There is NO increase in Lodge Dues.

Finally, I do not have everybody's current phone number and email address. When you receive your Dues Notice, you'll note I have added a place for Phone number and address. Please take a moment to provide me with that information.



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Friday, February 14th  
Dinner served 6:30 to 8:30

Your choice of:

- Prime Rib (\$16 per person)
  - Lime Tilapia (\$11 per person)
  - or Lemon Pepper Chicken (\$11 per person)
- Your choice of green beans or corn,  
baked or au gratin potatoes, salad, rolls & dessert.

Please RSVP with choice of entree to  
NANCY 402-463-6489 by February 7th