

**Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks  
Big Rapids Elks Lodge No. 974  
203 E. Pine St., Big Rapids, MI 49307 (231)796-5451  
www.brelks.com  
June, 2011**

**Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
Big Rapids, MI  
Permit No. 42**



Return Service Requested

**UPCOMING ACTIVITIES**

June 2 Dinner / Wii Bowling Tournament / Board meeting / Lodge meeting  
 June 14 FLAG DAY  
 June 16 Dinner / Wii Bowling Tournament / Lodge meeting  
**JUNE 30 ENJOY YOUR 4TH OF JULY WEEKEND**

**BIRTHDAY? ANNIVERSARY? WEDDING? RETIREMENT? Need a place to hold your special event?**

CONTACT THE LODGE AT (231) 796-5451 to reserve the Lodge facilities for your special event!!!  
 Your help would be appreciated.

Rental Rates & Deposit: Lodge Members is \$75.00 + \$100.00 refundable fee for cleaning.  
**Sound System Available**

LODGE OFFICERS 2011 - 2012	
<b>EXALTED RULER</b> Lynn Cook	<b>LEADING KNIGHT</b> Paul DesNoyers
<b>LOYAL KNIGHT</b> Laura Dean-Bonnell	<b>LECTURING KNIGHT</b> Nicholas Czinder
<b>ESQUIRE</b> Chad Currie	<b>CHAPLAIN</b> (vacant)
<b>INNER GUARD</b> Charlie Siegert	<b>TILER</b> Nick Kaye
<b>SECRETARY</b> Carl Boroff	<b>TREASURER</b> Will Iltis
<b>TRUSTEES</b> Jim Lindsey- 5 year Tom Mackowiak- 4 year Joyce Sonntag- 3 year Susan Johnson- 2 year Dan Wanink- 1 year	<b>GOVERNING BODY</b> Four Elected Chair Officers and Board of Trustees
Bulletin Editor: Jim Lindsey	

LODGE MEETINGS
7:30 pm on the first and third Thursday of each month except July & August meetings for the first Thursday.
The Club Room of the Lodge is open at 4:30 pm Wednesday, Thursday, & Fridays. On Saturday, Club Room opens at 3 pm. Closed Monday & Tuesday,
GUESTS & VISITORS
All guests must be accompanied by a member, and they must be signed in.
Visiting Members are asked to display their membership card.

## Exalted Ruler's Message:

My sincerest thanks to PER Bill Papo and his crew for putting on another terrific spaghetti dinner during our May 4th Youth Week Awards Program where graduating seniors from the 5 school districts were honored along with the MVP and "Gold Key" scholarship recipients and Kelsey Ray, our State Soccer Kick champion . Bonnie Jacoby, BRPS counselor, a MVP recipient herself, spoke of her experiences and congratulated all the honorees. Tom & Becky Mackowiak and Dave and Sue Krug did another outstanding job with the Scholarship Program.

May 21, Chad Currie again hosted a wonderful steak fry at the Lodge. As always Chad and his crew provided a delicious meal and a great evening. THANKS, Chad.

Part II of the changes to the Order that are being considered can be found on page 3 of this bulletin.

**JUNE 23RD - GOLF OUTING - FALCONHEAD CLUB COURSE**

**SEE SIGN-UP SHEET INCLUDED IN NEWSLETTER.**

Respectfully,  
Lynn V. Cook

### ***June Birthdays (members & spouses) and Anniversaries***

<b><i>Birthday - Member</i></b>		<b><i>Birthday - Spouse</i></b>	
<b>Day:</b>	<b>Member:</b>	<b>Day:</b>	<b>Spouse:</b>
2	Shawn Johnson	2	Sandy Lutz
	Gary McMillen	6	Jolene Tassoni
5	Robert Wyckoff	09	Mary Beth Vanderlist
6	Jack Holt	11	Joseph Strohkirch
8	Tim Dawkins	12	Linda Currie
9	Robert Stechschulte		Charlene Fisher
10	David Tassoni	18	Lucy Kent
13	James Fisher	19	Marjorie Hall
18	Bruce M. Forintos		Mary Henry
28	Joseph L. Wekenman		Elizabeth Solis
29	Paul E. Foreman	24	Brian Erickson
	Lonnie Lamadline		

### ***June Anniversaries***

02	Paul and Gail DesNoyers	17	Earl and Ann Haight
05	Lynn and Brenda Cook	18	Timothy and Donna Ehtagotz
	David and Marjorie Hall	19	Thomas and Rebecca Mackowiak
08	Fred and Joyce Iltis		Jeffery and Vicki Rumsey
11	Peter and Linda Currie	20	August and Alice Jane Anderson
	Kenneth and Carol Kessler	23	Kenneth and Sueann Walz
12	Bernard and Ardy Johnson	27	Fred and Susan Howting
14	Mark and Mary Beth Vanderlist		James and Janet Williams
15	Robert and Patricia Moore	29	Steven and Monica Delaney
16	Chadwick and Christina Lacross		Paul and Paula Foreman

# INTERIM REPORT on Future of Elkdom Committee

## Part II

### **Suggestions made by Future of Elkdom Committee where NO Legislation is required:**

1. Local Lodges encouraged to make facilities available for use by civic groups so long as all laws are obeyed. [Passed & effective 2011]
  2. Local Lodges establish Mentoring Program for Lodge Officers. [Passed & effective 2011]
  3. If not already existing, Local Lodges to establish an Activities/Entertainment Committee. [Passed & effective 2011]
  4. A new "Member Welcoming Committee" for Local Lodges is seriously recommended. [Passed & effective 2011]
  5. Installation and use of electronic games (*ie; Wi-Fi*) and other games in "Game Room" of Local Lodges (*for members and children*). [Passed & effective 2011]
  6. Create a suggested format for State Association Meetings and Conventions with emphasis on less reporting and more training of Elks. [Passed & effective 2011]
  7. Suggested dress code for GL Advisory Committee after Sunday be optional for business casual. [Passed & effective 2011]
  8. National President appoint a Committee of five members knowledgeable and experienced in the Initiatory Ritual to study and make recommendations to the following Convention in Austin, Texas.
  9. DDGER will no longer receive Business Cards and it is no longer an allowed expense. [Passed & effective 2011]
  10. Eliminate Elks Training Program (*annual review of Statutes*). [Passed & effective 2011]
  11. Eliminate Membership Benefits Program. [Effective when present contract expires]
  12. Eliminate the printing of "GER Acceptance Speech" for audience Monday morning, and not in the daily Convention Newsletter. *The Elks Magazine* will keep it in a later issue. [Passed & effective 2011]
  13. Eliminate the spouses' entertainment on Tuesday morning. [Passed & effective 2011]
  14. Eliminate the "bull pen" roped off area for PGERs at the Exalted Rulers' Ball on Wednesday evening of the Convention. Attending PGERs will still be introduced. [Passed & effective 2011]
  15. Eliminate all "Honorable" titles for all Grand Lodge Officers. [Passed & effective 2011]
  16. Sunday OPENING SESSION to start at 4:00 p.m. until completion (*approximately 6-6:30 pm*) thus allowing for State Associations to conduct Sunday evening parties. [Passed & effective 2011]
  17. Grand Secretary will develop a bank of "Elks Building Plans" for purpose & use of and by Local Lodges in rebuild actions. [Passed & effective 2011]
  18. More meetings by Grand Lodge will be by electronic (*along this line, teleconferencing is being considered where it may be practical in costs*). [Passed & effective 2011]
  19. After February 2012, the February GL Advisory meetings and Grand Trustees meetings will be held in Chicago, without spouses attending. [Passed & effective 2012]
  20. Repeat Accident Prevention State Chairpersons attend their national seminar every other year. [Passed & effective 2011]
  21. Standard Elks Stationery for all. Personalizing is okay. [Passed & effective 2011]
  22. Create an "Elks Web Leadership School" on internet for access by Elks in Local Lodges. [Passed & effective – TBD]
  23. Reduce the GL Convention by one full day. [Passed & effective dependent upon hotel contracts – TBD]
  24. Eliminate all Grand Lodge Program Contests, except: Ritual, Web site, Convention State Exhibits, State Newsletters and All American Lodge. [Passed & effective 2012]
  25. **For Phoenix:** For Committee Chairpersons to have their written reports to be published on the Web site. Chairperson introduces the Committee Members and thanks Lodges for their support and participation. All awards will be published in the Daily Convention Newsletter and received at the booth. On Tuesday morning, the majority of the Session will be devoted to the discussions of aspects, presented by the Future of Elkdom Committee and approved by the Grand Lodge Advisory, by the Lodges and their representatives. [Passed & approved for Phoenix Convention]
- While the savings are needed, the Order is losing 100,000 members every 3 years (*by 2020 at this rate we will be down to about 500,000 members*) it is more important to change our focus, to stabilize and rebuild. Since shortly after World War II, when our membership was growing 20 to 40 thousand members per year, more and more programs have been sent by Grand Lodge to the Local Lodges. That was a change from traditional Elkdom when the Lodges focused on Community Activities. **The Community is the Future of Elkdom!** Thus our direction — reduce Grand Lodge, much more Community involvement, 21st Century appearance, retain our basics of Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love and Fidelity and our gift to America — **Elks Care—Elks Share**. We will build a better Elkdom!

# 2011 ELKS GOLF OUTING

The Big Rapids Elks Lodge #974 would like to take this opportunity to invite you to participate in our annual golf outing. This year's outing will be held at Falcon Head Golf Club, 13120 Northland Drive Big Rapids.

The outing is scheduled for **Thursday, June 23**. The entry fee this year is **\$65.00** which includes 18 holes of golf with cart, lunch at the turn, refreshments on the course and a steak dinner at the Elks Lodge with awards given out along with numerous other prizes. **Rain Date June 30, 2011.**

Flighted Four-Person Scramble  
SHOTGUN Start, **Registration, 10 am - TEE-OFF 11 am**  
Dinner: Starts between 5:30 and 6 PM at the ELKS Lodge

PRIZES:

**\$10,000.00 Hole in One on #5**

Other PAR 3 hole in one's prizes include items such as \$500 Visa gift cards, Music Systems

**Other Challenges:**

Longest Putt

Straightest Drive

Closest to the Pin

Opportunity to Participate in **PUTTING CONTEST.**

Tickets must be purchased by **Friday, June 17th**. Please return the attached form with check made payable to Big Rapids Elks and send to:

Elks Golf Outing 2010 C/O Nick Czinder  
PO Box 1118 Big Rapids, MI 49307 231-884-5222

## Ticket Request Form:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

# of tickets \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$65.00 each Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

1) \_\_\_\_\_ 2) \_\_\_\_\_



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# June 2011

## Calendar of Events

<b>Sun</b> CLOSED	<b>Mon</b> CLOSED	<b>Tue</b> CLOSED	<b>Wed</b> Opens at 4:30 p.m.	<b>Thu</b> Opens at 4:30 p.m.	<b>Fri</b> Opens at 4:30 p.m.	<b>Sat</b> Opens at 3:00 p.m.
			1	2 Wii Bowling Board 6:30p.m. Lodge 7:30 Dinner - Beef & Noodles	3 Fish Fry 6 - 8 p.m.  <b>Currie's</b>	4
5	6	7	8 Burger Night Pool	9 Wii Bowling	10 Fish Fry 6 - 8 p.m.  <b>PER's</b>	11
12	13	14 <b>FLAG DAY</b>  6:00 P.M.	15 Burger Night Pool	16 Wii Bowling  Lodge 7:30 Dinner - Fajitas	17 Fish Fry 6 - 8 p.m.  <b>Carl's</b>	18
19	20	21	22 Burger Night Pool	23 Golf Outing	24 Fish Fry 6 - 8 p.m.  <b>Trustees'</b>	25
26	27	28	29 Burger Night Pool	30 Wii Bowling	July 1  Fish Fry 6 - 8 p.m.  <b>Ladies'</b>	July 2



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E-mail: pcurrie@garytrimarco.com  
www.garytrimarco.com

**FAMILY DINNER NIGHT**

Change to the Thursday night agenda. We are featuring a different featured meal each week.  
Dinner will be available from 5:30-7pm. The cost for adults will be \$6.00 and for  
children 12 and under \$3.00. Come and enjoy a family dinner without cooking.