

**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  
October, 2011**

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



Return Service Requested

**UPCOMING ACTIVITIES**

- October 6 - Lodge meeting/BOG meeting
- October 13 - DDGER visitation / Dinner - Roast Pork
- October 20 - Lodge meeting
- October 27 - DVP/DVC visitation / Dinner - Chicken Cacciatore
- October 31 - Pumpkin Patch at MOISD
- November 7 - FEATHER PARTY
- November 10 - Veteran's Dinner ( Spaghetti and/or SOS) all Vets eat free
- November 11 - Veteran's Day Luminary - Highlandview Cemetery

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

**LODGE MEETINGS**

7:30 pm on the first and third Thursday of each month  
except July & August meetings for the third Thursday.

The Club Room of the Lodge is open at 4:30 pm  
Wednesday, Thursday, & Fridays. Closed Monday,  
Tuesday and Saturday (except for special event)

**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:

I must begin this month's message with a very special THANK YOU to Sue and Dave Krug for all the Thursday night dinners that they put on during the summer and giving others a chance to catch their breath and get ready for the fall.

Sue and Dave Krug, you are terrific members and the Lodge's heart felt thanks and appreciation is extended to you for your efforts over the summer. Members, when you see Sue and Dave at the Lodge, please thank them for their dedication to Elkdom and their unselfish giving to the Lodge. They covered the entire cost of all the Thursday dinners that they prepared and served. Thank you, you both epitomize the true meaning of Elks.

The Skating/Pizza Party for the area's middle school students was a complete success. Over 110 students were there for the 5 hour skate. My sincere thanks to Lois Brennan, owner, and her entire staff (all of whom volunteered their time) and to Mike Mohke, owner of Pizza King for their efforts in making this event one to remember.

The annual Pumpkin Patch for the "Special Needs" students at the MOISD Center is fast approaching. Volunteers are needed. If you can help, please let me know. Once you participate in this event, you'll want to continue every year.

## NOVEMBER 7 - FEATHER PARTY

Respectfully,  
Lynn V. Cook, ER

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

#### ***Birthday - Member***

#### **Day: Member:**

04 Robert T. Horan  
Greg Johnson  
William A Johnson  
08 Lavail Hull  
09 Chad Lacross  
10 Tony Ruppel  
17 Kevin Tucker  
18 John Kailunas  
19 Norman L Silvernail  
23 Todd Purcell  
24 Gary Horn  
25 Steven Stellard  
27 Mike Beard

#### ***Birthday - Spouse***

#### **Day: Spouse:**

05 Mabel Scheid  
08 Patti Sole  
16 Carol Stader  
20 Bunnie Rau  
21 Debra Currie  
23 Lorna Carney  
Greg Olson  
Wanda Taylor  
26 Penny Schuberg  
29 Nanci Brissette  
31 Janet Williams

#### ***Anniversaries***

03 Megan and Brian Erickson  
06 Michael and Joanne Brown  
Dave and Susan Krug  
14 Ronald and Karen Gail Rowe  
20 James and Carolyn Chipman  
22 Peter and Lucy Kent

## ***Requests for Life Membership***

The following members have complied with the Laws of the Order and the Lodge By-laws and have submitted written requests for Life Membership for the 2011—2012 Lodge year. All have met or will meet the requirements of paying annual dues for a period of not less than 30 consecutive years, with at least the last 10 years of being with this Lodge and all have attained or will attain the age of not less than 65 years.

**Members:**  
Fred Iltis

**Eligibility Date:**  
September 30, 2011

Balloting on these requests will take place during the regular Lodge meeting on October 6, 2011.



## ***2011 Elks Student Scholarship Applications***

Information regarding the Elks National Foundation 2011-2012 Most Valuable Student Scholarship, the ENF Legacy Award Scholarship, and the Gold Key Scholarship for high school seniors has been forwarded to counselors at schools within our Mecosta-Osceola Intermediate School District. You may download forms from [www.elks.org](http://www.elks.org) for the Most Valuable Student and Legacy Awards, and [www.mielks.org](http://www.mielks.org) for the Gold Key Scholarship located under the “Forms” tab.

The **Elks Most Valuable Student Scholarship** is open to any high school senior who is a U.S. citizen. Male and female students compete separately for identical awards. We highly encourage students with very high ACT and SAT scores to apply for this scholarship. It is very competitive but awards run from \$1,000 a year for four years to \$15,000 a year for four years. Have students submit completed applications no later than **December 2, 2011** for the Most Valuable Student Scholarship.

The **ENF Legacy Award Scholarship** is for any senior who is a child or grandchild (not a great grandchild) of a living Elk who joined the order on or before April 1, 2009, and who has been in good standing and paid through March 31, 2012. The recipient will receive \$1,000 a year, for up to four years. The ENF Legacy Award Scholarship must be submitted on or before **February 1, 2012 (online only)** at the following address: [www.elks.org/enf/scholars](http://www.elks.org/enf/scholars).

The **Michigan Elks Association Gold Key Scholarship** is for Special Needs students who are physically or mentally challenged. It is intended for qualifying students to continue their education or training beyond high school, either at an accredited college, university, or licensed trade or vocational school. This award is for \$2,000 a year for up to four years. The Big Rapids Elks Lodge has had several recipients of this scholarship. Have students submit completed applications no later than **November 15, 2011** for the Gold Key Scholarship.

Applications for the Gold Key and Most Valuable Student should be addressed to:

**Thomas Mackowiak, Scholarship Chairperson**  
**13590 Seneca Parkway**  
**Big Rapids, MI 49307**

**(231) 796-3368**      **trmack@charter.net**

## **October 2011 Veterans Message: November is Veterans Remembrance Month**

by James L. Nichelson, PGER  
Commission Member

Some 22 million veterans live in our communities. Grand Exalted Ruler David R. Carr has proclaimed November as Veterans Remembrance Month to encourage us to find local veterans and help them with their needs.

As Elks, we proudly state, "So long as there are Veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks with never forget them". Elks are present in every VA hospital. We adopt veterans (<http://www.elks.org/vets/AdoptAVeteran.cfm>). Elks support families with our Army of Hope. We place POW/MIA tables in our Lodges. Elks participate in the National Veterans History Project ([www.loc.gov/vets](http://www.loc.gov/vets)). We happily pack and distribute Comfort Care Kits. We do a great deal for our veterans. To learn more, visit [www.Elks.Org.vets/programs.cfm](http://www.Elks.Org.vets/programs.cfm)

But, more can be done. The Iraq and Afghanistan Wars have generated more than 2 million young veterans. Many have returned home with disabling injuries. More than 18 percent of new Veterans suffer from PTSD (2008 Rand Corporation study). These young Veterans and all Veterans and their families have sacrificed something for us. In November, let's thank our Veterans and remember them in some special way. It is the least we can do.

Finally, should you see someone in a uniform of our Armed Services, please march right up to him or her and say, "Thank you for your service. Have a great day!"

### ***Veteran's SOS / Spaghetti Dinner***

**Thursday November 10, 2011**  
5:30PM - 7:30PM  
Elks Lodge 203 Pine St Big Rapids

Dinner starts at 5:30 with a short program and presentation of the "Military Table of Honor" at 6:15PM. All

Veterans and their families as well as the public are invited. Dinner is free to all Veterans and family, friends and general public \$5.00 each

Lodge members who are Vets please contact Carl Boroff, Susan Johnson or me. Any Member from our Lodge who is a Vet will have his/her name on one of the luminary bags that night in their honor.



**MECOSTA COUNTY  
MEDICAL CENTER**  
605 Oak Street Big Rapids, MI 49307

**Suzie Pierce, RN, BSN**  
Director, Inpatient Rehabilitation Center/  
Admissions Coordinator

231-552-4454 Cell 231-250-7548 Fax 231-692-4273  
[spierce@mcrcbr.com](mailto:spierce@mcrcbr.com)

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# October 2011 Calendar of Events

| Sun<br>CLOSED | Mon<br>CLOSED                            | Tue<br>CLOSED | Wed                           | Thu                                                                                     | Fri                                                   | Sat<br>CLOSED |
|---------------|------------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
|               |                                          |               |                               |                                                                                         |                                                       | 1             |
| 2             | 3                                        | 4             | 5<br>Burger Night<br>Pool     | 6<br>Wii Bowling<br>Board<br>6:30p.m.<br>Lodge 7:30                                     | 7<br>Fish Fry<br>6 - 8 p.m.<br><br><b>Currie's</b>    | 8             |
| 9             | 10                                       | 11            | 12<br>Burger Night<br>Pool    | 13<br>DDGER<br>Visitation<br>4:00 p.m.<br><br>DINNER<br><b>Roast Pork</b>               | 14<br>Fish Fry<br>6 - 8 p.m.<br><br><b>PER's</b>      | 15            |
| 16            | 17                                       | 18            | 19<br>Burger Night<br>Pool    | 20<br>Wii Bowling<br>Lodge 7:30                                                         | 21<br>Fish Fry<br>6 - 8 p.m.<br><br><b>Carl's</b>     | 22            |
| 23            | 24                                       | 25            | 26<br>Burger Night<br>Pool    | 27<br>DVP/DVC<br>Visitation<br>4:00 p.m.<br><br>DINNER<br><b>Chicken<br/>Cacciatore</b> | 28<br>Fish Fry<br>6 - 8 p.m.<br><br><b>Trustees'</b>  | 29            |
| 30            | 31<br><b>PUMPKIN<br/>PATCH<br/>MOISD</b> | Nov 1         | Nov 2<br>Burger Night<br>Pool | Nov 3<br>Wii Bowling                                                                    | Nov 4<br>Fish Fry<br>6 - 8 p.m.<br><br><b>Ladies'</b> | Nov 5         |



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