Events for everyone scheduled in March

Congratulations to all the newly elected officers and five-year trustee of our lodge for the fraternal year of 2018-2019. You will notice no nominations were received for Exalted Ruler. Though just shy of 100 members attended the meeting, the lodge was silent during the three calls for nominations for that post.

Elected were: Est. Leading Knight Rex Goon, Est. Loyal Knight Paul Gillings, Est. Lecturing Knight Paul Hamilton, Secretary Linda Gardner, Treasurer Kristel Hammerquist and five-year Trustee Andy Gay.

Thank you all for stepping up for the future of our lodge. Remember, we all have a vested interest in our Elks Lodge. Without our Lodge, we have nothing. Please start thinking about next year and filling a lodge officer position.

Remember our Elks Regional Hoop Shoot is March 10 beginning at 1 p.m. at West Middle School. Competitors from Montana and North and South Dakota will be here. The winners will move on to Chicago, Ill., for the national competition. You are all welcome to come out and watch our youth compete, including two local “shooters.”

Easter Egg stuff will be at the Lodge on March 15 and 19, beginning at 5 p.m. Please note the change from March 12 to March 15. And, please donate candy to fit inside the eggs – we will stuff more than 6,500 eggs!

Easter Ham Bingo will be March 27. We will need donated hams for the event. Food will be available at 5 p.m. Bingo will start at 6 p.m. The cost will be $7 for adults, $3 for children 10 and younger and includes a pulled pork sandwich, chips, beans and one free Bingo card. Additional cards will be available after everyone has finished eating.

Our Elks Easter Egg Hunt will begin at 10 a.m. March 31. Pray for nice weather. We will need volunteers to hide the eggs for the children – please be at the Lodge by 8:30 a.m. Thank you.

On behalf of the Lodge, Secretary Dennis Riske applied for (and received) a one-time Anniversary Grant of $1,500 in recognition of the 150 years of Elkdom. The Lodge will donate it to Meals on Wheels. Thank you, Secretary Riske, for securing the grant for the Lodge and our community.

The Wild Game Feed will be March 14, beginning at 5 p.m. Prepare your favorite dish and bring it out to share. Morris Most and his helpers will begin serving fish at 5 p.m.

My Elk of the Month is Jim McKinstry, for all his work in the Armstrong Room and many other projects around the lodge. Thank you, Jim.

Exalted Ruler
Wm. ‘Skee’ Hamiel

ATTENTION: In an effort to make our Bar and Lounge a more contemporary, fun place to grab a drink, we will have music playing at all times and will increase the level of the music (to a level determined by the Board and the ER at the last board meeting) in the bar at 5:00 p.m. We also will have the TVs set to as many different sporting events as possible. Please DO NOT badger the staff about these changes, as this is not their decision. Please DO come to the Board with any feedback or ideas that you think would improve our great neighborhood bar!

Wildlife Feed - Fish Fry March 14!

Members, as always, will be asked to bring a favorite dish to share with everyone. Mak said the kitchen will not be available for cooking except for the fish fry.

Open to all members, family and the public
There will be a jar for donations for a local charity, to be decided.

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Here’s an Rx for that dreaded slice

Hello Golfers!

We are getting close! March is finally here and it won’t be long and we will be golfing, mowing and firing up the irrigation system.

The Pro Shop will be open on any and all nice days in March ready to sell season passes, cart storage etc. but we may not be open if the weather is less than desirable.

I will send out an e-mail updating everyone with golf course information regularly this season. If you are not on my e-mail list and would like to be, please send an e-mail to proshop@rcelks.org and we will add your name or you can stop in and give us your e-mail address.

This month I am going to try a tip to help people who Slice the golf ball or as a right-handed golfer miss the shot to the right.

A common cause of the dreaded slice is the golf club coming “over the top” or from the outside in as the club swings through the impact area. This movement leaves the club head open and causes spin on the ball which causes the ball to go off to the right or to slice.

Most amateurs, in an attempt to fix the problem, aim left of the fairway to hope the ball will land closer to the fairway by planning on the flight of the ball.

This is the last thing you want to do. By aiming to the left you are actually making the ball go farther to the right.

To make the ball flight straighten out, try to practice aiming at your target or even to the right of your target. This will help the club to start coming down on a more inside out approach, putting less spin on the ball and reducing the slice.

Try this on the driving range using an old club shaft or small wooden dowel. Aim it at your target and hit 60 or 80 golf balls with an 8 or 9 iron until you get the feeling of it. Once you master the shorter irons you can implement the movement on up to your driver.

I hope this helps a little. If you have any questions on rules or tips I may be able to answer feel free to e-mail me and I will put them in my next article.

Hope to see all of us golfing and dining in the restaurant soon!

Aaron and the entire staff

Cheer the regional ‘Shooters’ March 10

Our Lodge will have two shooters competing with winners from Montana and the two Dakotas during the March 10 Regional Hoop Shoot. It begins at 1 p.m. at West Middle School. Winners will compete in Chicago in April.

A big ‘Thank You’ to all the volunteers who have been selected to assist. There wasn’t even any need for a sign-up sheet.

As in the past, the Elks Lodge will be host to an awards ceremony and dinner after the competition, about 5 p.m.

Does paint bowls to feed the hungry

The Does participated in the Pottery to Paint Feeding SD Empty Bowls project.

A dozen Does showed up to show off their talents (??) for a good cause.

Several of us will also be attending the Empty Bowls luncheon in April to further the cause.

Our Feb. 22 meeting kept us very busy playing catchup because of our crazy weather forced a cancellation. At this meeting we draped the charter of our long-time member Lois Haynes, who died Feb. 16 at the age of 99. Lois had been a member of our Drove for 57 years. She will be missed by all those who knew her and whose lives she touched.

We also initiated a new member at this meeting – welcome Rhonda Shock.

We are look forward to helping the Elks Easter Bingo with our Cookie Sales and we will spend a couple nights helping fill eggs with candy.

Karlene Schmidt
President

Mary Taylor and one of our new Drove members Sue Meyers were among the ‘painters.’
**MARCH 2018**

- **March 14**, Wildlife & Fish Fry, please bring your items cooked and in a warming container, as the kitchen will be available only to fry fish. The kitchen will be closed and only food served will be the wildlife and fish dishes. Thank you for your cooperation.
- **March 15 & 19**, Egg stuffing will begin, stop by for a drink and fill up a couple of eggs.
- **March 17**, will be our St. Patty’s Day Party with Food and Drink Specials in the bar all day long. Be sure to wear your green and watch out for those sneaky leprechauns.
- **March 24**, HAM BINGO bring your friends and come for a fun night of Bingo, food, drinks and fun. This year’s menu will be pulled pork sandwiches, beans and chips – 5 p.m. food served, 6 p.m. Game time!!! See you then. (We are taking donations for Hams. Please drop off your donations at the lodge before the 21st of March, Thank you).
- **March 31**, Elks Annual Easter Egg Hunt, 10 a.m. (weather permitting) .Bring the kids for a great morning egg hunt on our course. We are always looking for volunteers so let us know if you can share some of your time to help. Thank you in advance.
- **April 1**, the lodge will be hosts for Easter Bunch again, $17.99 for members and $18.99 for non-members. Keep an eye out on Facebook for the menu. We will start taking reservations March 10. Serving times are 9 to 3 p.m. and the last reservation is 2 p.m.

**Happy Hours have changed:**
- 4 to 5 p.m. drink specials
- 7 to 9 p.m. drink and app specials

Please follow us on Facebook or on our website
Thanks for all your support. We look forward to seeing you soon!
Makayon and the entire lodge staff

**Winter Bar Hours**
- Sun-8:30-CL; Mon-4-CL; Tues-CL; Wed-11-CL; Thurs-4-CL; Fri-4-CL; Sat-11-CL

**Winter Restaurant Hours**
- Sun-8:30-1 p.m.; Mon-4-9; Tue-CL; Wed-5-9; Thurs-5-9; Fri-5-CL; Sat-11-9.

**Easter Buffet**
Make reservations for Easter Buffet starting March 10

Brunch every Sunday from 8:30 a.m. until 1 p.m.
Kids, 6.99; Seniors 10.99; Adults 11.99

**Lodging**

- **Morgan Monday** $2.75
- **Tanqueray Tuesday** - $3
- **Windsor Wednesday** $2.50

**Prime Rib Specials**
Jack Daniels-Jim Beam $3

**Board meetings**
March 6 and 20, 7 p.m.

**PERs meeting**
March 7, 6:15 p.m.

**Lodge Meeting**
March 7 & 21, 7 p.m.

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**At A Glance**

**MARCH**

March 6 -- Board meeting, 7 p.m.
March 7 -- PERs meeting, 6:15 p.m.
Lodge meeting, 7 p.m.
March 10 -- Regional Hoop Shoot
March 14 -- Wild Game-Fish Feed, 5 p.m.
March 15 & 19 Stuff Easter Eggs, 5 p.m.
March 20 -- Board Meeting, 7 p.m.
March 21 -- Lodge meeting, 7 p.m.
March 24 -- Ham Bingo, food 5 p.m.
March 31 -- Easter Egg Hunt, 10 a.m.
April 1 -- Easter Buffet, get reservations

With a new year at hand, invite some friends out to see what the Lodge has to offer.

**Around the Lodge in Bits and Pieces**

“You could have heard a pin drop,” ER Hamiel said recounting the absence of any voices after calling the requisite three times for nominations for Exalted Ruler at the Feb. 21 election meeting.

There was a very healthy turnout for that meeting, 96 Elks!

As the ER wrote in his monthly message, it is time to be thinking about next year as well as what needs to be done during the 2018-2019 fraternal year. If, after giving some thought to serving as an officer -- maybe even stepping up to be Exalted Ruler -- contact Hamiel or another of the officers or trustees.

It can’t be said too often -- volunteers are the lifeblood of Elksdom and helping hands will be needed March 15 and 19, beginning at 5 p.m., to stuff candy into some 6,500 eggs! And donations of candy to fill those eggs would be appreciated as well.

And, if you are in the spirit, come out to the lodge on March 31 about 8:30 a.m. and help hide those eggs (assuming Mother Nature cooperates).

Don’t miss the fun at the annual Ham Bingo Night March 24. Food service begins at 5 p.m. with the game starting at 6 p.m. Family fun is guaranteed, they say.

Speaking of food, the annual Wild Game and Fishing Feed is scheduled March 14 and Morris ‘Buster’ Most and his gang of chefs promise all manner of favorite and exotic dishes. They will begin serving at 5 p.m.

National Veterans Service Committee Chairman Neil Harris announced during the Feb. 7 meeting that he has committed the lodge to continue monthly Bingo nights for the vets at the Fort Meade VA Medical Center.

Also in his report that evening, he noted that he had been host to 10 veterans, two family members and three staff members for a quarterly meal at the Lodge dining room.

“As always, Kelli and Sydney were most gracious hosts and provided prompt, courteous service to the attendees and Megan prepared a delicious meal.

“Thank you all,” Harris said, "so very much for making this a memorable experience for the veterans. And a big ‘Thank You’ to the Social /Welfare Committee for picking up the tab.”

One Jan. 18, Linda Gardner and Harris were hosts for 12 veterans and one staff member at Fort Meade for the monthly Bingo night.

They served donuts and sodas and distributed $70 in cash prizes.

And, they delivered several calendars donated by Lodge members.

“We have received cards from the Fort Meade staff thanking the Elks membership for all the wonderful donations and support for activities at the Fort Meade VA Medical Center.

As ER Hamiel noted, the Lodge received a $1,500 Anniversary Grant which will go to help Support Meals on Wheels. While the Grand Lodge celebrated a 150th birthday anniversary in February, keep in mind Elks Lodge 1187 can celebrate 118 years of answering the call in meeting a variety of needs in the community! That’s a legacy to be cherished, but it needs the commitment of every Elk for the legacy to continue. If you have a spare hour or more, let one of the officers or trustees or the Lodge Secretary know. They can find a task just for you.